

## **Leaders Dialogue 2:**

### **Accelerating the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals: Critical Entry Points**

(Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 10.05-11.00)

The true transformative potential of the 2030 Agenda lies in achieving the SDGs and targets through an integrated approach that builds on the interlinkages between the goals, maximizing the synergies while alleviating the trade-offs. An integrated approach requires finding entry points where the potential interlinkages are particularly strong, so that addressing them jointly and effectively would accelerate progress in implementation towards a broad sweep of the Agenda. One such entry point identified in the GSDR is strengthening human well-being, which implies eradicating deprivations, closing opportunity gaps and expanding capabilities, including through access to quality education. Other entry points include: (i) shifting towards sustainable and just economies, (ii) building sustainable food systems and healthy nutrition patterns, (iii) achieving energy decarbonization with universal access to energy, (iv) promoting sustainable urban and peri-urban development and (v) securing the earth's shared natural resources in the global environmental commons. Each of these areas encompasses multiple SDGs and targets and are entry points for cross-cutting progress across the 2030 Agenda within relatively short timelines. But entry points for transformation are not exclusive of these examples.

Other entry points may be best suited to specific regional, national or local contexts. The SDG Progress Report also identifies eight systemic and cross-cutting areas where urgent action is required and they are (i) leaving no one behind; (ii) mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing; (iii) strengthening effective and inclusive institutions for implementing integrated solutions; (iv) accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs locally; (v) building resilience; (vi) investing in data for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda; (vii) realizing the benefits of science, technology and innovation for all; and (viii) solving challenges through international cooperation

#### *Objective*

This session will consider how strategic actions can be applied by multiple actors and institutions at critical entry points for transformations that will accelerate progress across multiple SDGs. It will focus on how an integrated approach to policy-making and partnerships for the 2030 Agenda can be applied in practical terms through tangible entry points and actions in systemic and cross-cutting areas.

#### *Guiding Questions*

- What are some specific examples of actions that can be taken through some of the above entry points to generate positive synergies across the 2030 Agenda?
- What kind of policies are needed to accelerate action in cross-cutting areas?
- What new partnerships and institutional arrangements are needed to strengthen integrated approaches for action across the SDGs? How can different actors and institutions be encouraged to work across sectors?
- An integrated approach is likely to reveal trade-offs as well as synergies. How can the science-technology-policy interface be strengthened to help inform actions and to transfer knowledge across different contexts?