



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#HLPF #SDGs #GlobalGoals sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020

MEDIA ADVISORY

2 July 2020

Annual UN gathering on sustainable development to seek solutions for building back better

COVID-19 reversing decades of progress on poverty, health and education, warns UN report

6-17 July 2020

[UN Web TV](#)

As the global death toll from COVID-19 exceeds 500,000, and more than ten million cases have been confirmed, the annual **High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development** (7 to 16 July) has taken on even greater significance as countries seek the best way forward to recover from the pandemic and create a future that is healthier, more inclusive and resilient.

Bringing together representatives from government, civil society, businesses and finance in a virtual gathering, the Forum will look at how the world can effectively respond to the pandemic, through a strengthened multilateral approach and build back better by scaling up global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – the blueprint for a more sustainable world.

The theme for the Forum is ***“Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.”*** 47 countries are expected to share their plans to advance the SDGs while tackling the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the Forum, new actions will be announced – by governments and non-state actors – to support the Decade of Action for Sustainable Development, which urges governments, businesses, civil society and others to increase efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030. The “SDG Acceleration Actions to Build Back Better” event on 14 July will be one of several virtual side events taking place during the Forum.

The day before the HLPF, Member States of the Economic and Social Council will meet to hear the analysis and recommendations from the United Nations entities and the Council’s expert bodies on the impact of COVID-19 on the SDGs and how to recover better and fairer. The HLPF will be followed by a high-level conversation on 17 July 2020 on the kind of multilateralism needed today to respond to global crises such as COVID-19.



Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#HLPF #SDGs #GlobalGoals sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020

The ten-day event will attract high-level participants, among them, H.E. Ms. Sanna Mirella Marin, Prime Minister of Finland; H.E. Ms. Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway and SDG Advocate; Mr. Kevin Rudd, former Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations; and Mr. Klaus Schwab, Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum.

Other major events include **the Chief Sustainability Officers for SDGs** (14 July), **the SDG Learning, Training and Practice Capacity Building Workshops** (7 to 13 July), **the SDG-6 Global Acceleration Framework Launch** (9 July), **the Local and Regional Governments Forum on the 2030 Agenda** (13 July), and **the Launch of the State of the Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020 Report** (13 July).

The launch of the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020 will take place on 7 July - the opening day of the Forum. The annual statistical report shows that the pandemic has reversed decades of progress, especially for the most vulnerable populations.

Press Briefing

Launch of the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020, on the occasion of the opening of the High-Level Political Forum

Who: Mr. Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

Ms. Francesca Perucci, Chief, Statistical Services Branch, UN DESA's Statistics Division

Ms. Yongyi Min, Chief, Sustainable Development Goal Monitoring Section, UN DESA's Statistics Division

When: Tuesday, 7 July 2020: Guests at the UN Secretary-General's Spokesperson's Noon Briefing, approximately 12:30 p.m.

Where: Live through <http://webtv.un.org>

All HLPF events will be live-streamed on UN Web TV: <http://webtv.un.org>

SDG Media Zone (14-16 July)

The SDG Media Zone, to take place on the side-lines of the Forum, will look at the power of **solutions, solidarity** and **sustainability**—qualities that can help us build back better, stronger, together—as seen through the vision of global leaders and experts at the forefront of the crisis.



Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#HLPF #SDGs #GlobalGoals sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020

As governments, civil society, businesses, academia and other sectors, committed to social good and responsibility, come together to take stock of the progress on the SDGs, the Media Zone conversations will look at best-case scenarios for a post-COVID-19 world—one that can lead us back to the Decade of Action towards a fairer and healthier planet.

The programme and list of speakers is available at un.org/sdgmediazone. Watch all sessions on [UN Web TV](#).

For more information, please visit:

- High-Level Political Forum: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020>
- Programme: <https://bit.ly/38a3glf>
- Voluntary National Reviews: <https://bit.ly/3eJ0Om9>
- Integration Segment: <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/25553375>
- High-level Segment of ECOSOC: <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/node/25553369>
- Other Events: <https://bit.ly/3eIN2C7>
- The 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Report: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs>
- SDG Acceleration Actions: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions>

Media contacts:

UN Department of Global Communications:

Dan Shepard, T: +1 (212) 963-9495 | E: shepard@un.org

Sharon Birch-Jeffrey: T: +1 (212) 963-0564 | E: birchs@un.org

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Helen Rosengren, T: +1(212) 963-9492 | E: rosengrenh@un.org

Paul Simon, T: +1(917) 367-5027 | E: simonp@un.org



Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development