



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Side events – 2022 HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC UPDATED GUIDELINES

In view of the current situation regarding COVID-19, and due to the lifting of restrictions at UN Headquarters in New York, **SOME** Side-events are now possible to be held in-person. Priority will be given to countries presenting their Voluntary National Reviews at the HLPF and events with Ministerial participation. Please kindly indicate if you would be interested in having an in-person Side-event when submitting your request.

Kindly note: the HLPF Secretariat will only consider in-person events based on the above and virtual events. Hybrid events will not be considered.

We invite interested parties (member states, UN System organizations, accredited IGOs, Major Groups and other Stakeholders and NGOs in consultative status with the UN) to submit their applications to organize a side event during the 2022 HLPF following the guidelines and criteria below.

Side-events will be held on the margins of the 2022 HLPF (under the auspices of ECOSOC) and organized by Member States, the UN system, Intergovernmental Organizations, Major Groups and other Stakeholders and Non-Governmental Organizations with accreditation and consultative status with the United Nations.

These Side-events of the HLPF- held outside the official programme - provide great opportunities to discuss the theme and SDGs under review at the HLPF, deepen the discussion on Voluntary National Reviews, identify new and emerging issues, listen to all voices, and help spread greater awareness of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Criteria for side events

Countries, Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) and UN entities, Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) and other organizations with UN accreditation can be main organizers for the side events.

Although Side-events will be held virtually, the HLP Secretariat- in view of the large number of requests anticipated- will continue to consider only **ONE** application per entity.

- In cases where countries, IGOs, UN entities and other organizations submit more than one request to organize a Side-event, they will be asked to consolidate their events. Regrettably, more than one event per entity cannot be accommodated.
- The Side-events should be open to all participants. Organizers of closed events or by invitation only events aiming for an exclusive audience are kindly advised to make alternate arrangements outside of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

- Proposed Side-events should be closely related to the work of the HLPF and should have as a main focus the theme for the 2022 session, “**Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**”.

The HLPF in 2022 will also review in-depth SDG 4 on quality education, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 14 on life below water, SDG 15 on life on land, and SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals. The HLPF will take into account the different and particular impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across all Sustainable Development Goals and the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals.

- Priority will be given to events that show clear interlinkages between the SDGs and/or the theme of 2022 HLPF as well as events related to Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).
- Panels held at Side-events should ensure geographic and gender balance and are a mix of countries and other actors.
- A major group organising an event represents a network of partners.
- In the case of events proposed by one of the presenting countries, there is an explicit link to your VNR.

Overall, events will be reviewed and selected so that the overall programme of Side-events gives attention to the theme under review and is balanced in terms of geography and thematic focus. A group in the HLPF Secretariat will review the applications and select the Side-events based on those criteria.

Process:

The proposal should provide a detailed description of the Side-event, including its thematic focus, speakers/presenters- even if tentative at the time of submission- and its potential contribution to the HLPF. It should also clearly indicate the main organizer of the event and their contacts.

All non-state and non-UN actors managed by the MGoS coordinating mechanism and steering group can organize Side-events. These entities should go to the following link to see if you are eligible:
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/mgos>

The full schedule of approved Side-events will be posted as part of the 2022 HLPF programme under the auspices of ECOSOC at the website <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2022#programme>

The Secretariat will not produce fliers, distribute notices, or run other publicity efforts for Side-events. Publicizing a Side-event is the responsibility of its organizers.

Official interpretation services from the UN Secretariat are not available for Side-events.

All queries related to Side-events should be addressed to
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/contact/>

The deadline for application is 31 May 2022. The HLPF Secretariat will review all submissions after the deadline and organizers will receive information about their side events by mid-June 2022.



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Annex

Kindly note that this is for informational use only, to inform organizers on what to expect on the official questionnaire when applying for- and submitting their- application to organize a Side-event during the 2022 session of the HLPF.

- Q1: Organization Name
- Q2: Type of organization
- Q3: Complete name of the contact person
- Q4: Your official work e-mail
- Q5: Cellphone

For organizers not based in New York, if you have a NYC liaison office, please provide the following:

- Q6: NY Contact Complete name
- Q7: NY Contact Official work e-mail
- Q8: NY Contact Cellphone
- Q9: Name of co-organizers

- Q10: Topic
- Q11: Event Title
- Q12: Brief description of the event (max 250 words)
- Q13: Preferred Dates and Times (please select a maximum of 3 options)