

Setting the Stage

Sustainable Development Transition Forum 2018

29-31 October

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2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: three years on ...

- High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development themes:
 - 2016: Ensuring that no one is left behind
 - 2017: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world
 - 2018: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies
 - 2019: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality
- Voluntary National Reviews:
 - 2016: 22 countries including China, Colombia, Germany, Republic of Korea
 - 2017: 43 countries including Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Ethiopia, India, Japan
 - 2018: 46 countries including Australia, Canada, Ecuador, Ireland, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam
 - 2019: 51 countries including Cambodia, Cote d'Ivoire, Fiji, France, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, South Africa

Upcoming review of HLPF

In resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, UN General Assembly:

“29. Further decides to review at its seventy-third session the format and the organizational aspects of the forum, unless otherwise decided;”

In resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, UN General Assembly:

“21. *Decides* to review progress in implementing the present resolution and resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum at its seventy-fourth session, in order to benefit from lessons learned in the first cycle of the forum as well as from other processes under the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

-- Review of HLPF moved to 74th session [starting Sept 2019] to align with the QCPR (Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review) of UN Development System, and to benefit from lessons learned during the first HLPF cycle.

'SDG Summit' planned for Sept 2019

- Meeting of HLPF at highest level – Heads of State/Gov't
- What would be on your wish list for the following:
 - What happens at the SDG Summit itself?
 - What political messages are contained in the Declaration emanating from Summit?
- Back-to-back with UN Secretary-General's Climate Summit
- How if at all should links be made between the two September summits?

This year's Sustainable Development Transition Forum

- Take a look at where we are with SDG, 2030 Agenda, 3 years in ...
- Ask ourselves whether institutions are serving us well in supporting implementation
 - At the global level: High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)
 - At national level in our own countries
 - At local level
 - At regional level
- Can we identify concrete proposals for strengthening those institutions, to be more effective in delivering, monitoring progress?

Overview of sessions

- **Opening Session**
- **Session 1: How can HLPF provide the most useful policy guidance for SDG implementation?**
- **Session 2: How can the HLPF's thematic reviews be enhanced?**
- **Session 3: Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs): What have we learned? How to enhance impact moving forward?**
- **Session 4: Public Institutions at National and Local Level: How ready are they to implement the 2030 Agenda?**

Overview of sessions (cont'd)

- **Session 5: Towards Strong and Active Stakeholder Engagement at the Global Level**
- **Session 6: Data, Indicators, and Science for Tracking Progress on the SDGs**
- **Session 7: Mobilising awareness and action to make the SDGs work**
- **Session 8: Means of implementation and partnerships for SDG achievement: What more needs to be done by whom?**
- **Session 9: Making the HLPF Fit for Purpose: What is needed?**

Structure of sessions and roles of actors

- Facilitator: guides discussion, Q&A; manages time; highlights two or three key messages at conclusion
- Keynote speech (sometimes given by facilitator)
- [Reflections: by experts (in sessions 1 and 9)]
- Roundtable discussion: panelists each have a few minutes to speak
- Open discussion: Q&A with speaker, panelists; discussions among all participants

Outcomes of SDTF 2018

- Key messages, proposals on strengthening HLPF, institutions for SDG, 2030 Agenda implementation, review ... to be conveyed to UN Member States, UN Secretary General in Incheon communique [in principle to be agreed on day 3]
- Summary of the proceedings, discussions – to be prepared by the UNOSD and issued a few weeks after Forum

SDTF – an informal discussion forum

- Bringing together actors from different walks of life, from researchers to policy makers to practitioners in international organizations, to civil society and local government representatives
- Golden opportunity to have dialogue across these communities ... cross fertilization of ideas
- Use all opportunities to engage – meals, coffee breaks, social hours
- Field trip: on Wed afternoon – to see what is happening on the ground in Korea to advance implementation of the 2030 Agenda