

HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM



Opening of the Forum

After two years of Covid Pandemic, the 2023 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development took place at the United Nations' Headquarter in New York. Thousands of delegates from around the globe converged to present their voluntary National reviews and discuss their views with regard to the efforts of realizing the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This forum was hybrid.



The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was held from 10 July to 20 July 2023, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. At the midpoint of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, participants acknowledged that the world is not on track to meet most of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.



There has been progress in some areas while other areas are moving much too slowly or has regressed. They called on everyone to rally in the second half to achieve the Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, overcoming the setbacks caused by climate change, conflict, the COVID-19 pandemic, and debt. The 39 Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) addressed efforts to accelerate recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic while strengthening resilience to new crises.

What is High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) ?

The High-Level Political Forum is a central platform for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals which were adopted by all UN member states in 2015.



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

2023 HLPF Theme: Accelerating the recovery from the Corona virus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels.

Sustainable Development Goals reviewed in 2023

SDG NO. 6: on clean water and sanitation

SDG NO. 7: on affordable clean energy

SDG NO. 9: on industry, innovation and infrastructure

SDG NO. 11: on sustainable cities and communities

SDG NO. 17: on partnerships for the goals



Countries that presented their Voluntary National Reviews (VNR)

39 countries presented their VNRs. The European Union presented for the first time. Among the countries that presented were countries where the Society has presence:

- ▶ Belgium
- ▶ Canada
- ▶ Chile
- ▶ Democratic Republic of Congo
- ▶ France
- ▶ Ireland
- ▶ Poland
- ▶ Vietnam

NGOs' Participation

- ▶ Every year, the UN invites members of different states, International organizations, NGOs and members from the private sector to participate in the HLPF.
- ▶ The journey of JCoR member delegates to HLPF began in January with online monthly orientation meetings.
- ▶ These were followed by HLPF labs where members shared analysis of the VNRs from their governments in relation to reality on the ground.



Side events, special events and Parallel events

- ▶ While the HLPF was on, member states and organizations sponsored and run different events tackling topics related to the HLPF theme and the SDGs.



Main Challenges experienced by Countries that submitted their VNR

- ▶ Data gaps
- ▶ Limited finances
- ▶ Regression due to Covid-19 pandemic
- ▶ Increased public debt
- ▶ Russian war in Ukraine
- ▶ Climatic crisis
- ▶ Violence In different parts of the globe
- ▶ Poverty and food crisis

Possible responses to accelerate implementation for SDGs

- ▶ Reform of multilateral financial institution and architecture
- ▶ Need for more efficient resilience
- ▶ Advanced policies that leave no one behind
- ▶ Have accessible, timely, disaggregated data and generative Artificial Intelligence
- ▶ Partnerships and closing digital divide

Possible responses to accelerate implementation for SDGs

- ▶ Reach agreements on global taxes
- ▶ Scaling up concrete transformative action
- ▶ Accessible, equitable and sustainable global financial system
- ▶ Strengthen national and sub national public sector capacity and accountability
- ▶ Bolster multilateralism

Main messages from the HLPF 2023

- ▶ No body should be left behind, leaving one behind is not an option, reach the furthest behind first.
- ▶ Inclusiveness is key in achieving the SDGs.
- ▶ There is need to bring SDGs back on track and not to lose momentum.
- ▶ We are halfway there but no where near to achieving the SDGs.
- ▶ We have made progress in some areas but not others.
- ▶ The world needs funds (47 trillion dollars) to finance the SDGs.

Main messages from the HLPF 2023

- ▶ Challenges we meet need to make us resilient.
- ▶ We are still in the game, but the game need to change.
- ▶ Climate change is critical for many of the SDGs to be achieved, we need to accelerate decarbonization.
- ▶ Our collective future will be shaped by the choices we make now!
- ▶ We need to develop common good and not self interest and to prepare to pass the planet to the future generation.

Closing of the HLPF event

The HLPF ended on July 20th with a High-Level Segment on: Overcoming short-termism to secure a better future.

If you would like to read a full report about HLPF/SDGS Please download the following link;

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/>



Will you join the HLPF next year?

