



*Briefing on the High-Level Political Forum
on Sustainable Development*

The Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice
June 30, 2021

*Participation and Engagement of Major Groups and other Stakeholders
in the High-Level Political Forum*

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The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Adopted in September 2015 by the UN General Assembly to guide sustainable development efforts from 2016 to 2030
- Focused on people, the planet, prosperity, peace and partnership
- Universal, applicable to all countries, considers different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respects national policies and priorities
- A plan of action: 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets
- Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible, and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental
- The 2030 Agenda is comprised of four main parts:
 - 1) a Declaration;
 - 2) the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - 3) the Global Partnership and Means of Implementation and
 - 4) the Follow-Up and review
- Principle of interconnectedness in all its dimensions and at all levels
- A global partnership for sustainable development



Seventieth session
Agenda items 15 and 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1)]

70/1. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly

Adopts the following outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda:

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Preamble

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet.

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Please recycle



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Principles of follow-up and review:
 - Voluntary and country-led
 - Track progress
 - Long-term
 - Open, inclusive, participatory
 - People-centered
 - Build on what already exists
 - Rigorous and evidence based
 - Require support
 - Supported
- The follow-up and review framework operate at three levels:
 - National level: by each government
 - Regional level: Regional Forums for Sustainable Development convened by UN Regional Commissions (ESCAP, ECA, ESCWA, ECLAC, and UNESCE)
 - Global level: High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

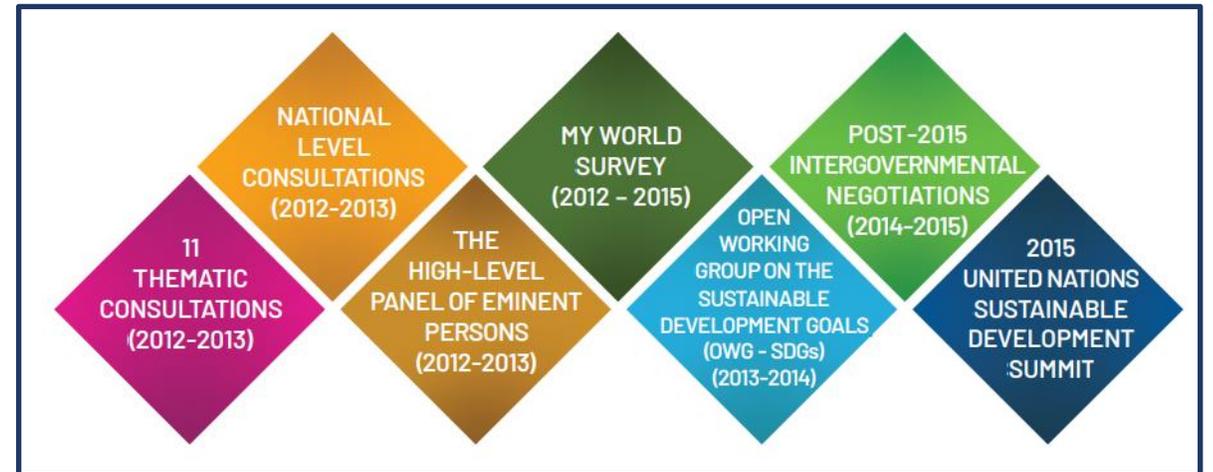
PARTS OF THE 2030 AGENDA



Source: [Stakeholder Engagement and the 2030 Agenda: A Practical Guide, UNDESA & UNITAR, 2020](#)

Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS)

- “Major Groups and other stakeholders” (MGoS): terminology used to refer to the participation of diverse sectors at intergovernmental deliberations at the global level
- MGoS have been a crucial part of the process to define the 2030 Agenda, involved in every step of the process
- The 2030 agenda is an Agenda “*of the people, by the people and for the people*”, expected to be implemented with the participation of “*all countries, all stakeholders and all people*”
- The success of the 2030 Agenda will depend on Governments effectively engaging national parliaments, local authorities, **civil society**, the scientific and academic community and the private sector in follow-up and implementation efforts
- MGoS must continue to meaningfully participate in the implementation and review process of the 2030 Agenda, respecting the principles of openness, inclusion and participation



Source: Stakeholder Engagement and the 2030 Agenda: A Practical Guide, UNDESA & UNITAR, 2020

2021 High-Level Political Forum under the Auspices of ECOSOC

- The HLPF is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs. The HLPF meets annually under the auspices of ECOSOC and every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly.
- Dates: From Tuesday, 6 July, to Thursday, 15 July 2021, under the auspices of ECOSOC. This includes the three-day ministerial meeting from Tuesday, 13 July, to Thursday, 15 July 2021
- Theme: *"Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"*
- SDGs under review: 
- 43 countries will also carry out voluntary national reviews (VNRs) of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda:
 - Africa: 10
 - Asia Pacific: 14
 - Europe: 8
 - Latin America and the Caribbean: 11
- The HLPF will adopt a Ministerial Declaration as the outcome of its session. The President of ECOSOC will also prepare a summary to capture the key messages of the discussions

Composition of 21 Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS)

Earth Summit Conference (1992), "Agenda 21": 9 Major Groups



Organizing Partners
(2 per MG)



Coordination Mechanism of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders:
2 Co-chairs, Organizing Partners and Focal Points

Rio + 20 Conference (2002), "The Future We Want", HLPF (2013): Other Stakeholders

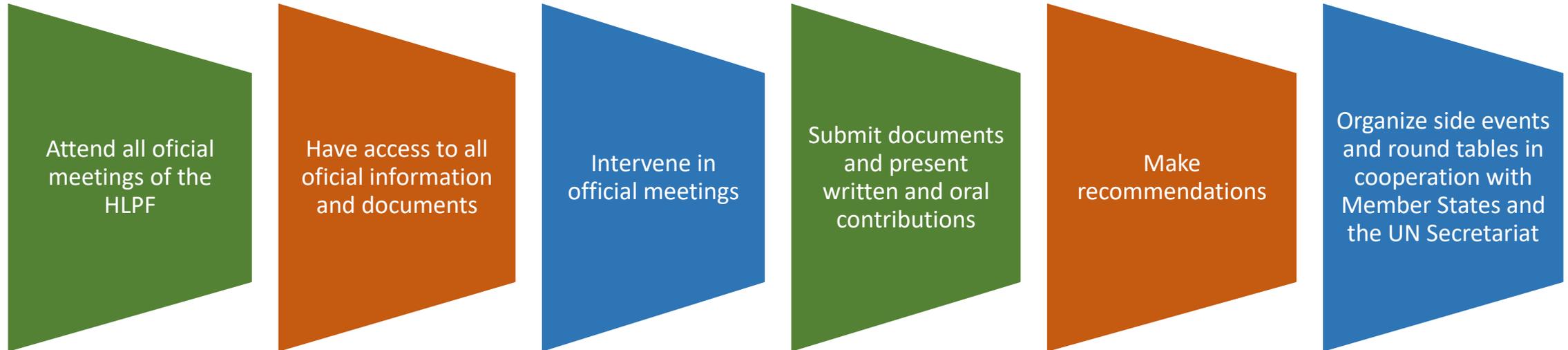


Focal Points
(2 per OS)



Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS):

- According to the paragraph 15 of the resolution 67/290, MGoS are allowed to:



- The objectives of the MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism are as follows:
 - Ensure broad, open, transparent and inclusive participation in the HLPF
 - Facilitate the coordination among, and promote the participation of, all stakeholders that are involved in the HLPF process and want to contribute to it, including organizations and groups that are not part of the MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism
 - Convene an annual forum for MGoS at which an annual review of engagement activities is presented, including recommendations for future action
 - Potentially expand the rights of access and inclusive participation of MGoS in the HLPF

The NGO Major Group:

- One of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders
- Tasked with facilitating the participation and enhancing the engagement of NGOs in the processes directly and indirectly related to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)
- Brings the voice of NGOs to the HLPF by consolidating expertise and developing advocacy towards the various processes that feed into the HLPF
- Organization: Organizing Partners, Thematic Clusters, and Task Groups



Organizing Partners to guide the work at different geographic levels:

- 3 Global Organizing Partners
- 12 Regional Partners: Africa (Eastern, Northern, Southern, Western), America (North, Caribbean and South), Asia and Central Asia, Europe, Middle East, and Pacific

Thematic Clusters to generate content on specific issues:

- Animal Issues
- Commons
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Food & Agriculture
- Health
- Human Rights
- Peace Issues
- Urban

Task Groups to prepare for the HLPF:

- Ministerial Declaration
- Position Paper
- Side-event
- Speaking Opportunities: Expert Group Meetings, Lead Discussants and Interventions “from the floor”
- Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)

The MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism: Areas and Task Teams

Areas of Coordination and Task Teams MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism (*)

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Overall Coordination</p> <p>Coordinate preparations with DESA and ECOSOC pre-HLPF and at-HLPF</p> | <p>Advocacy & HLPF Reform</p> <p>Facilitate and coordinate dialogue with MS and advocacy campaigns</p> | <p>MGoS Collective Events & Side-events</p> <p>Organize the MGoS Official session at HLPF.</p> <p>Facilitate dialogue with DESA to optimize application and selection of side/events</p> | <p>VNR Engagement and Q&A</p> <p>Organize and facilitate drafting teams for VNR Sessions.</p> <p>Support speaking arrangements for each of the VNR sessions</p> | <p>Selection Processes</p> <p>Organize selection of Lead Discussants, interventions from the floor, funded participants, EGM participants and other related events</p> | <p>MGoS Websites</p> <p>Review the MGoS pages on the DESA website, ensure regular updating and explore options to address existing site limitations</p> | <p>MGoS Organization & Development</p> <p>Review new constituencies applications and propose action to CM.</p> <p>Regularly review the CM composition</p> |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|

(*) Non-exhaustive task list, only one example per area of coordination and task team.

Major Groups and other Stakeholders in 2020 HLPF:



Challenges and room for improvement:

- Widely dissemination of the role of MGoS in the HLPF
- Improve and strengthen MGoS coordination and communication with UN DESA in preparation of the HLPF and during the HLPF
- Improve and strengthen coordination among MGoS. Enhance cooperation to form alliances and make the most of every opportunity for civil society engagement and participation at the HLPF
- Strengthen coordination within the NGO MG at different levels: Global Organizing Partners, Regional Organizing Partners and grass-root organizations at national and local level. Improved coordination will allow the NGO MG to help feed the national SDG review process into the UN Regional Forums for Sustainable Development and into the global level at the HLPF
- Be mindful of the digital gap and strongly advocate for the *“leaving no one behind principle”*: half of the world population has not access to internet so participation and engagement in virtual HLPFs is adversely affected
- Strongly advocate for the principle of inclusion: digital gap is connected to digital barriers and to low literacy rates. Lack of training, expertise and confidence excludes many civil society organizations from participating in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

List of useful resources with links:

- [Transforming our world: Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development](#)
- [The Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Sustainable Development Platform](#)
- [High-Level Political Forum 2021 under the auspices of ECOSOC](#)
- [Major Groups and other Stakeholders](#)
- [Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Report of the Secretary-General](#)
- [Discussion papers on the theme of the 2021 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, submitted by Major Groups and other Stakeholders: Note by the Secretariat](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement and the 2030 Agenda: A Practical Guide](#)
- [NGO Major Group](#)
- [NGO Major Group Position Paper to HLPF 2021](#)
- [Dianova and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

