Updates on 2020 High-Level Political Forum and SDG Moment at the General Assembly

11th Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs, 3 November 2020
Much of the Forum’s attention was dedicated to the impact of COVID-19 on the SDGs and how to get back on track to achieve the SDGs.

47 countries carried out voluntary national reviews (VNRs) of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with 26 presenting for the first time, 20 for the second time, and 1 for the third time.

See HLPF landing page: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020
HLPF IN NUMBERS
HLPF 2020 -- The FIRST Virtual HLPF

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- **DAYS**: 8
- **MEETINGS**: 18
- **HEADS AND DEPUTY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, MINISTERIAL LEVEL OFFICIALS**: 137
- **SPEAKERS IN PANELS**: 134
- **VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS**: 47
- **REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS**: 1,123

- **VNR LABS**: 17
- **SIDE EVENTS**: 194
- **SPECIAL EVENTS**: 9
- **EXHIBITIONS**: 10
- **VIEWS ON UN WEBTV**: 125 K
High Level Political Forum: Data and Statistics

- **HLPF formal Session**: Launching the decade of action at a time of crisis: Keeping the focus on the SDGs while combatting COVID-19
- **VNR Lab**: Evidence-based VNRs in the time of COVID-19 Pandemic
- **Key Message on Data**: Timely and reliable data and statistics are essential to both the immediate COVID-19 response and the longer term recovery through achievement of the SDGs, so as to support the development and targeting of effective policies and monitoring impacts and progress.
  - LNOB: called for disaggregated data to identify the most vulnerable populations and undertake evidence-based policymaking.
  - VNRs: Countries identified key areas for accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda including partnerships, coordination and collaboration, advocacy for the 2030 Agenda, innovation, **strengthening data, monitoring and reporting on the SDGs**.
The SDG Report 2020

• **Key findings** from the report:
  
  o One-third of the way into the SDG journey, our global efforts were coming up short to deliver the 2030 Agenda.
  
  o COVID-19 is having a devastating impact on all 17 Goals and threatening the achievements already made in many areas.
  
  o The poorest and most vulnerable are affected disproportionally by the pandemic.
The Sustainable Development Goals Progress Chart 2020 presents a snapshot of global and regional progress toward the SDGs through a traffic light dashboard.

For most Goals, the pace of progress has been insufficient and substantial acceleration is needed.
The first SDG Moment of the Decade of Action, on 18 September 2020, is mandated by the UN General Assembly and convened by the UN Secretary-General.

It provided a reality check of the implementation of the Goals at the global, regional and local levels, looking at implications of the present trajectory for achieving the targets and at solutions.

It gave voices to the Member States and stakeholders: 22 countries identified the challenges they have faced, the huge progress they were able to achieve, and their plans to meet the SDGs. Meeting the Goals requires a concerted and integrated efforts of all relevant actors, including finance stakeholders, business, cities, universities, NGOs and other civil societies organizations.
General Assembly Event on SDG Moment

• The way ahead – 4 major shifts will be central to fulfill the 2030 Agenda.
  1. Investing at scale in those critical interventions – social protection, the green economy and gender equality.
  2. Improving the international financial architecture.
  3. Making greater and better use of data. The SDG Moment showed how the lack of data is a considerable impediment to the achievement of the SDGs.
  4. Boosting international cooperation.
Thank you.