



Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Concept Note

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition

— A High-Level Event Call to Action

(as of 10 July 2023)

Monday, 10 July 2023 | 1:30-2:30 pm

Conference Room 4 | [Registration](#)

Background

The world is now halfway towards 2030, the year by which the global community pledged to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. However, the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition shows that most of the SDGs are moderately or severely off track. Cascading and mounting crises have derailed early favourable trends in SDG implementation. Current trends show the SDGs in jeopardy, with millions facing hunger, extreme poverty, learning losses, retracted gender equality, among others, all while in the grips of a climate emergency. In this special edition of the SDG report, the Secretary-General outlines five major recommendations, aiming to act as a rescue plan for people and the planet. These recommendations are an urgent call to action to accelerate implementation and bring the world on track to achieve the SDGs between now and 2030.

During the High-level Political Forum, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) will host a high-level event to launch *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition*. In addition to the policy recommendations, the report tells the stories of SDG progress with charts, infographics and maps and presents an in-depth analysis of selected indicators. It is prepared by UN DESA with inputs from more than 50 international and regional organizations. In addition to the global trends, this report also highlights regional progress and analyses. A visually appealing format is employed in this report to ensure that trends and progress on the achievement of the SDGs are accessible not only to a technical audience and policymakers, but also to the widest audience possible.

This high-level event is an opportunity for Member States, the private sector, civil society and the public to come together, share their reactions to the report, and explore ways to amplify the recommendations in the lead-up to the SDG Summit. It's a chance to turn the tide toward urgent, accelerated action to achieve the SDGs, ensuring a better future for all.





Objective and scope

The main objectives of the high-level event are as follows:

- Highlight *The SDG Report 2023: Special Edition* launch and discuss the latest data and recommendations on progress towards the SDGs
- Provide a platform for leaders to share their insights and calls to action for accelerating progress towards the SDGs
- Identify opportunities for accelerating the implementation of the SDGs, including leveraging technology and artificial intelligence to drive progress and enhancing engagement and action with stakeholders from persons with disability, youth, government and SDG Advocates.
- Call for urgent action to reap the data dividend as data is a strategic asset for the implementation of the SDGs

Format and Agenda

Moderator: Ms. Pamela Falk, CBS Correspondent at UNHQ

Video Remarks:

- H.E. Ms. Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados and SDG Advocate
- H.E. Mr. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada and SDG Advocate

Panel Member Dialogue:

- H.E. Ms. Isma Yatun, Head of the Board of National Auditor of Indonesia
- H.E. Mr. Jaap Sloopmaker, Vice-Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UN DESA
- Dr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy, Co-Chair of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities, and Director for Capacity Building and Advocacy, Global Initiative for Inclusive Information Communication Technologies (G3ICT)
- Mr. Alex Diaz, Senior Manager, AI for Social Good and Crisis Response, Google

Questions from the audience