**Faithfulness Score**: 100/100 - Excellent

# “Key Insights and Progress from the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (2021-2023)”

**Date**: 2024-05-22

**Location**: The principal location where the events/documents originate is the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States.

## Executive Summary

The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, convened under the Economic and Social Council, has focused on the urgent need for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic while advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2023 session emphasized the interconnected challenges of poverty, food insecurity, and climate change, with 38 countries presenting Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to share progress and strategies. Key messages highlighted the necessity for increased financing, innovative partnerships, and a commitment to leaving no one behind, particularly for vulnerable groups. The forum underscored the importance of multilateral cooperation and the role of science, technology, and innovation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As the world approaches the 2023 SDG Summit, there is a collective call for transformative actions to address ongoing crises and ensure sustainable, inclusive recovery efforts.

## Characteristics

* The HLPF sessions focus on sustainable development, addressing the impacts of COVID-19 and other global crises on the SDGs.
* Emphasis on multilateral cooperation, innovative financing, and partnerships to achieve the 2030 Agenda.
* Key themes include climate action, gender equality, and the need for inclusive policies that leave no one behind.
* Countries present Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to share progress and challenges in implementing the SDGs.
* The forums highlight the importance of localizing the SDGs and engaging vulnerable populations in decision-making processes.
* Calls for urgent action to address systemic inequalities and enhance data collection for effective monitoring of SDG progress. ## Actors

| Category | Actors |
| --- | --- |
| Political Actors | 1. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); 2. United Nations; 3. Secretary-General of the United Nations; 4. Heads of State and Government; 5. Ministers and Vice Ministers; 6. European Union; 10. Local authorities; 14. Small Island Developing States (SIDS); 15. Least Developed Countries (LDCs); 16. Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs); 17. Middle-Income Countries (MICs); 18. International organizations; 20. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); 23. World Trade Organization (WTO); 25. UN Women; 26. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); 27. International Labour Organization (ILO) |
| Civil Society Actors | 7. Major Groups and other stakeholders; 8. Youth representatives; 9. Women and girls; 12. Civil society organizations; 13. Indigenous peoples; 19. Non-governmental stakeholders |
| Economic Actors | 11. Private sector; 21. World Bank; 22. International Monetary Fund (IMF) |
| Research and Innovation Actors | 24. International Resource Panel |

## Main Themes

| Sub-category | Themes |
| --- | --- |
| Digital Policy | 1. Digital Transformation & Strategy |
| Digital Skills Development | 2. Digital Transformation & Strategy |
| Data Governance | 3. Data & Governance |
| Cybersecurity | 4. Data & Governance; 44. Data & Governance |
| Gender Equality in Tech | 5. Inclusion & Social Development |
| Digital Inclusion | 6. Inclusion & Social Development |
| Social Cohesion | 7. Inclusion & Social Development |
| Global Digital Cooperation | 8. Regional & International Cooperation |
| Multilateralism | 9. Regional & International Cooperation |
| ICT Innovation | 10. Technology & Innovation |
| Sustainable Tech | 11. Technology & Innovation |
| Innovation in Computing | 12. Technology & Innovation |
| Artificial Intelligence | 13. Technology & Innovation |
| Cloud Computing | 14. Technology & Innovation |
| Blockchain | 15. Technology & Innovation |
| High-Performance Computing | 16. Technology & Innovation |
| Quantum Technologies | 17. Technology & Innovation |
| Data Protection | 18. Data & Governance; 43. Data & Governance |
| Digital Rights | 19. Data & Governance; 42. Data & Governance |
| Digital Ethics | 20. Data & Governance; 49. Data & Governance |
| Digital Governance | 21. Data & Governance; 41. Data & Governance |
| Data Privacy | 22. Data & Governance |
| Internet Governance | 23. Data & Governance; 48. Data & Governance |
| Digital Identity Management | 24. Data & Governance; 47. Data & Governance |
| Digital Access | 25. Data & Governance; 46. Data & Governance |
| Cyber Risk Management | 26. Data & Governance; 45. Data & Governance |
| Digital Regulation | 27. Data & Governance; 39. Data & Governance; 50. Data & Governance |
| Digital Sustainability | 28. Data & Governance; 51. Data & Governance |
| Digital Trade | 29. Data & Governance; 52. Data & Governance |
| Digital Infrastructure | 30. Data & Governance; 53. Data & Governance |
| Digital Ecosystem | 31. Data & Governance; 54. Data & Governance |
| Digital Investment | 32. Data & Governance; 55. Data & Governance |
| Digital Acceleration | 33. Data & Governance; 56. Data & Governance |
| Digital Platforms | 34. Data & Governance; 57. Data & Governance |
| Digital Transitions | 35. Data & Governance; 58. Data & Governance |
| Digital Research | 36. Data & Governance; 59. Data & Governance |
| Digital Decade | 37. Data & Governance; 60. Data & Governance |
| Digital Agenda | 38. Data & Governance; 61. Data & Governance |
| Digital Economy | 40. Data & Governance |

## Practical Applications

* **10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns**: A universal framework adopted in 2012 to accelerate the shift to sustainable consumption and production at regional and national levels, with ongoing reporting and initiatives.
* **Sustainable Public Procurement Programme**: Launched to leverage public procurement as a tool for advancing sustainable consumption and production, including a flagship initiative to mainstream circularity in the construction sector.
* **Consumer Information for Sustainable Consumption and Production Programme**: Promotes consumer protection policies and sustainability information, including the EcoAdvance project in Latin America to create incentives for cleaner production.
* **Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme**: Supported the development of G20 High Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, emphasizing stakeholder engagement for sustainable production and consumption.
* **Sustainable Food Systems Programme**: Convened a global conference to discuss food systems transformation and launched a Food Systems Knowledge Hub for guidance and tools.
* **Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism**: Engages the tourism sector in climate action, with 80 new signatories in 2023 committing to sustainability measures.
* **Global Circularity Protocol for Business**: A business-led initiative to provide a framework for companies to report and disclose their circularity performance.
* **Building Circularity into Nationally Determined Contributions**: A practical toolbox launched to help countries integrate circular economy approaches into their climate action plans.
* **Tech Access Partnership**: An initiative to increase access to health technologies in least developed countries, launched by the UN Technology Bank, UNDP, and WHO.
* **Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)**: 38 countries presented VNRs in 2023, showcasing their actions and commitments towards the SDGs, with a focus on inclusive participation and stakeholder engagement.
* **Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI)**: Proposed as a tool to assess vulnerabilities of countries, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), to improve development finance allocation.
* **Global Water Conference Outcomes**: Emphasized the need for improved water management and financing for water and sanitation systems, following the success of the UN Water Conference in March 2023.
* **SDG Stimulus Proposal**: A call for an annual investment of $500 billion to support sustainable development and climate action, particularly for developing countries facing financial constraints.

## Future Commitments

* A call for an SDG Stimulus of $500 billion per year needed for investments in sustainable development and climate action by 2025.
* A commitment to increase development financing by at least USD 500 billion by 2025.
* A pledge to mobilize an additional USD 1.3 trillion by 2025 and an additional USD 3.5 trillion by 2030 for climate action in emerging and developing country economies.
* A commitment to ensure universal access to clean and affordable energy, particularly for least developed countries and sub-Saharan Africa.
* A proposal for the establishment of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) to improve the allocation of global financial flows to developing countries.
* A commitment to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 through deep energy decarbonization.
* A call for countries to adopt a national sustainable consumption and production roadmap, with specific components to be developed by 2024.
* A commitment to increase the number of countries reporting on their sustainable consumption and production policies to 64 by 2024.
* A pledge to enhance the use of the digital toolbox for building circularity into nationally determined contributions, with pilot implementations in three countries (Ecuador, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe) by the end of 2023.