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Statements submitted by Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statements, which are being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

Theme: Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all

Theme of the general debate: Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030

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1. Accept International

Youth in armed conflict, particularly Youth Associated with Non-State Armed Groups (YANSAG), continue to face multiple, intersecting and structural challenges. Many of these young people become associated with such groups due to complex and often coercive circumstances, including abduction, threats, and socio-economic marginalization. Not a few began their association as child soldiers.

Today, many remain in their teens and twenties and, as individuals directly affected by and involved in armed conflict dynamics, they possess unique insights and perspectives that are essential for designing effective peacebuilding efforts.

However, despite this, even within key frameworks such as SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda, the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, as well as human rights agendas concerning children in armed conflict, the identity of these individuals as youth, the importance of their roles in sustaining peace, and their experiences, challenges, and needs remain insufficiently reflected. This is particularly concerning given that their inclusion is not peripheral, but central to the resolution of armed conflict.

Looking ahead, within the YPS agenda, which has played a critical role in advancing international discussions on youth participation in sustaining peace, the pillar of Disengagement and Reintegration has not received sufficient attention compared to other pillars, despite its fundamental importance. Strengthening this pillar is essential not only to ensure the protection of youth in armed conflict but also to support their practical and sustainable transition into peaceful and constructive roles within society.

Furthermore, within the SDGs and human rights-oriented discussions, it is crucial to engage more deeply with perspectives such as child rights and children in armed conflict. In particular, by advancing conceptual and policy discussions that explicitly address youth in armed conflict, not a few of whom are former child soldiers or were previously categorized as children in armed conflict, it becomes possible to pursue the objective of leaving no one behind, including those who have been directly involved in armed conflict.

Advancing this agenda ultimately goes to the heart of whether these frameworks can make a meaningful and substantive contribution to the realization of sustaining peace.



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2. Action contre les Violations des Droits des Personnes Vulnérables

L'Action Contre les Violations des Droits des Personnes Vulnérables (ACVDP) remercie les Nations Unies pour l'opportunité offerte aux organisations de la société civile de contribuer à la session de haut niveau de l'ECOSOC 2026. Cette plateforme demeure essentielle pour faire entendre la voix des populations vulnérables et promouvoir des actions concrètes en faveur de la réalisation du Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030.

Dans un contexte mondial marqué par des crises multiples conflits armés, inégalités croissantes, changements climatiques et instabilité économique les personnes vulnérables continuent de subir de manière disproportionnée des violations de leurs droits fondamentaux. Les femmes, les enfants, les personnes vivant avec handicap, les personnes déplacées ainsi que les communautés marginalisées sont particulièrement exposés. Ces défis compromettent sérieusement l'atteinte des Objectifs de développement durable (ODD), notamment ceux liés à la réduction des inégalités, à la justice sociale et à la paix.

Le thème du Forum politique de haut niveau 2026 met l'accent sur des actions transformatrices, équitables, innovantes et coordonnées. À cet égard, l'ACVDP souligne que toute transformation durable doit être fondée sur une approche centrée sur les droits humains. Les politiques publiques doivent garantir la participation effective et inclusive des personnes vulnérables aux processus décisionnels. Sans cette inclusion, les efforts de développement risquent de rester incomplets et inéquitables.

L'ACVDP recommande en priorité le renforcement des mécanismes de protection des droits humains aux niveaux national et international. Cela implique l'application rigoureuse des cadres juridiques existants ainsi que la lutte contre l'impunité. Il est également crucial d'investir dans des systèmes de protection sociale inclusifs, accessibles et adaptés aux besoins spécifiques des groupes vulnérables afin de réduire la pauvreté et renforcer la résilience face aux crises.

Par ailleurs, l'innovation doit être mise au service de l'inclusion. Les technologies numériques offrent des opportunités importantes pour améliorer l'accès à l'éducation, à l'information et aux services essentiels. Toutefois, des efforts doivent être entrepris pour réduire la fracture numérique et garantir un accès équitable, en particulier dans les pays en développement.

La coordination entre les différents acteurs États, organisations internationales, société civile et secteur privé est indispensable. L'ACVDP appelle à des partenariats renforcés, transparents et responsables, fondés sur la confiance et l'engagement à ne laisser personne de côté.

Enfin, l'ACVDP exhorte les États membres à accélérer la mise en œuvre des ODD par des actions urgentes et concrètes. Malgré les défis actuels, il est encore possible d'inverser les tendances à condition de faire preuve d'une volonté politique forte et d'un engagement collectif renouvelé.

L'ACVDP réaffirme son engagement à promouvoir et protéger les droits des personnes vulnérables et à contribuer activement à la construction d'un avenir durable, inclusif et équitable pour tous.



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3. Africa Child Foundation Mission of Tanzania

Africa Child Foundation Mission of Tanzania welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council. As a grassroots organization dedicated to improving the well-being of vulnerable children and families in Tanzania, we bring forward community-based perspectives on accelerating progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.

Despite notable global commitments under the 2030 Agenda, many communities in developing countries continue to face persistent challenges including child malnutrition, limited access to quality education, and inadequate social protection systems. In Tanzania, these issues are particularly evident in rural and underserved areas, where poverty and inequality hinder children's ability to reach their full potential.

Our experience at the community level demonstrates that transformative change requires locally driven, inclusive, and sustainable approaches. School feeding programs, for example, have proven to be effective in improving school attendance, enhancing learning outcomes, and addressing child hunger simultaneously. However, such initiatives remain underfunded and are often dependent on short-term support. There is a critical need for sustained investment and integration of these programs into national development frameworks.

Furthermore, strengthening partnerships between governments, civil society organizations, and international stakeholders is essential. Local organizations play a vital role in reaching marginalized populations, yet they frequently lack adequate financial resources and technical support. Increased direct funding to grassroots organizations will significantly enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of development interventions.

Innovation must also be inclusive and context specific. While technological advancements offer new opportunities, solutions must be adapted to local realities to ensure accessibility and long-term impact. Community engagement and ownership should remain central to all development strategies.

In line with the theme of the 2026 High-Level Political Forum, we call for urgent and coordinated actions that prioritize equity and inclusion. Governments and development partners should:

- Increase investment in child-focused programs, particularly in education, nutrition, and health
- Strengthen social protection systems to support vulnerable families
- Promote community-led development initiatives
- Enhance accountability and transparency in the implementation of SDG-related programs

Achieving the SDGs by 2030 requires accelerated efforts and a renewed commitment to leaving no one behind. Children represent the foundation of sustainable development, and investing in their well-being is essential for building resilient and prosperous societies. Africa Child Foundation Mission of Tanzania reaffirms its commitment to supporting national and global efforts to achieve the SDGs. We stand ready to collaborate with all stakeholders in advancing transformative, equitable, and sustainable solutions for the benefit of present and future generations.



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4. Afrique Espérance

Afrique Espérance NGO is honored to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment debate under the auspices of ECOSOC. As the world approaches the final stretch toward 2030, it is evident that incremental progress will not suffice. The urgency of interconnected global crises—ranging from climate change and economic inequality to food insecurity and fragile health systems—demands transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated actions that leave no one behind.

Transformation must begin at the community level. Across Africa, local actors are already demonstrating resilience and ingenuity in addressing development challenges. However, these efforts remain underfunded and underrepresented in global decision-making processes. We call for a shift from top-down approaches to inclusive frameworks that empower grassroots organizations, women, and youth as co-creators of sustainable solutions. True transformation requires redistributing power, resources, and opportunities to those closest to the challenges.

Equity must be at the heart of all interventions. Persistent inequalities—both within and between countries—continue to hinder progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Vulnerable populations, including rural communities, persons with disabilities, and displaced populations, face disproportionate barriers to accessing education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Afrique Espérance urges governments and partners to adopt equity-focused policies, strengthen social protection systems, and ensure fair access to digital technologies and financial resources. Without equity, sustainable development cannot be achieved.

Innovation plays a critical role in accelerating progress. Digital technologies, renewable energy solutions, and community-driven innovations offer unprecedented opportunities to leapfrog traditional development pathways. Yet innovation must be inclusive and context sensitive. We advocate for investments in local innovation ecosystems, capacity-building, and knowledge-sharing platforms that enable communities to adapt and scale solutions tailored to their realities. Bridging the digital divide is essential to ensure that innovation benefits all, not just a privileged few.

Coordination is equally vital. Fragmented efforts and siloed approaches have limited the effectiveness of development initiatives. Strengthened partnerships among governments, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations are necessary to maximize impact. We emphasize the importance of aligning national development strategies with the SDGs, improving data systems for evidence-based decision-making, and enhancing accountability mechanisms. Regional cooperation across Africa must also be reinforced to address cross-border challenges such as climate change, migration, and trade.

Financing remains a critical enabler. We call for increased investment in sustainable development, including through innovative financing mechanisms, debt relief initiatives, and strengthened domestic resource mobilization. Development partners must honor their commitments and ensure that funding reaches local actors efficiently and transparently. In conclusion, achieving the 2030 Agenda requires bold and collective action. Afrique Espérance stands ready to collaborate with all stakeholders to advance a future that is just, inclusive, and sustainable. The time to act is now—decisively, inclusively, and in solidarity—for the benefit of all people and the planet.



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5. Alliance Creative Community Project

Establishing a Permanent Indigenous Expert Advisory Council (IEAC) for UN Institutional and SDGs Programs Optimization

I. Introduction:

The Alliance Creative Community Project (ACCP) asserts that evading 2030 Agenda targets is rooted in a critical paradox: we cannot solve global crises using the institutional systems that created them. Transformative action requires moving beyond theoretical innovation to integrate Ancestral Intelligence, a pre-tested, high-functioning social intelligence system managed through verified lineages. This 100,000-year track record of success has maintained ecological and social stability through every major epochal shift in human history.

II. The Proposal: The UN Indigenous Expert Advisory Council (IEAC)

The ACCP formally recommends establishing a Permanent Indigenous Expert Advisory Council (IEAC). While vital platforms such as the UNPFII and EMRIP exist for advocacy and human rights, the IEAC is a specialized, high-level Technical Consultative Arm. It integrates directly into the 'engine room' of UN agencies (UNDP, UNESCO, WHO) and National Development Architectures to optimize institutional programs through lineage-based Indigenous knowledge.

III. Strategic Areas of Coverage & SDG Alignment

While the IEAC provides foundational intelligence to accelerate all 17 SDGs, it offers immediate institutional optimization across four critical pillars:

- **Regenerative Enterprise (SDG 8 & 9):** Shifting from extractive models to circular economic principles, zero-waste and communal reinvestment, honed over millennia to ensure long-term economic resilience.
- **Contextual Literacy (SDG 4):** Integrating indigenous observational science into modern curricula to equip the next generation with practical sustainability skills and ethical grounding.
- **Strategic Environmental Directives (SDG 13 & 15):** Leveraging 100,000 years of successful biodiversity management to assist National Authorities in ecosystem protection through community-led custodianship.
- **Integrated Wellness Protocols (SDG 3):** Bridging modern clinical health with indigenous preventative systems to achieve equitable, culturally rooted health access.

IV. Conclusion: A Call for Institutional Synergy

The mandate of the IEAC is not limited to specific targets; its scope encompasses the holistic restoration of global sustainability. This initiative achieves UN SDGs Programs Optimization by offering solutions that have survived the ultimate test of time. To achieve a sustainable future for all, the international community must move beyond theoretical goals and partner with the lineage of humanity's most enduring successes. We offer the proven intelligence of Indigenous heritage as the operational engine to provide cultural meaning for our shared and sustainable future.



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6. AlterContacts

Advancing SDG 11 through rural youth engagement: a Beyond GDP approach

For decades, progress has been measured in terms of gross domestic product (GDP), overlooking vital aspects of human wellbeing and placing importance on activities that deplete the planet. Consequently, we live in times of hypergrowth infused by ambition to raise profits at an unprecedented rate or to have one of everything for oneself. The issues it causes are self-evident: from a day-long traffic jam to a housing crisis. The cities are growing faster than their carrying capacity.

The concentration of population in urban centers has become a reason for many issues in rural areas: population decline; aging; lack of employment; brain drain; and environmental degradation. Besides, rural areas see much less development of the infrastructure and transport system than the urban centers. Access to medical services and education remains a challenge and the job options are limited.

Beyond placing the infrastructure and technology in remote areas, it is important to find ways to attract the population and recreate the socio-economic fabric. The main hope to address SDG 11, stop unsustainable hypergrowth of cities, and eventually move beyond GDP – is to enable and train people, especially the younger generation, from rural areas to bring change back to their own communities.

In many rural areas, local customs perpetuate gender inequality and unsustainable practices. It is not just jobs and universities that young people do not find there, it is also the support for their ideas. "It has always been done this way, why do we have to change it?" – that is what a 15-year-old hears at home or a 25-year-old hears in her family business. After a while, they either give in or they leave to a large city.

Since 2022, Think Tank AlterContacts has been conducting field research in rural areas of Mediterranean and Eastern Europe with special focus on youth- and women-led entrepreneurship. Its findings show that to revitalize rural places, we have to rebuild them together to allow ownership to each participant. Any initiative should start with a community town hall that invites current residents of all ages together to speak and co-create. Involving youth in the work of local businesses and farmers – where they can have a say in building more sustainable business models and modernizing the processes to have a positive or zero impact on the environment – can give them a strong reason to stay.

The rural areas are our chance to create a more sustainable future. We need to help young people learn how to channel their energy and fulfil their potential without leaving their villages and without being ostracized for embracing change.



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7. ASOCIACIÓN AWAQ ONGD

Awaq ONGD aligns with the 2026 High-Level Segment priorities by emphasizing the urgent need to strengthen the connection between global Sustainable Development Goal frameworks and their effective implementation at the territorial level. Despite significant international commitments, a persistent structural gap remains between policy design and localized execution, particularly in vulnerable ecosystems and underserved communities.

Current development approaches often fail to integrate environmental conservation, economic sustainability, and community participation into a unified operational system. This fragmentation limits scalability and long-term impact, reducing the ability of local actors to contribute effectively to global agendas. As a result, the implementation of the SDGs continues to face systemic inefficiencies that hinder measurable progress and coordinated action across sectors.

In response, Awaq ONGD promotes the development of Biological Stations as integrated territorial systems that combine scientific research, ecosystem conservation, and community-based economic models. These stations function not only as research and innovation centers but as operational infrastructures enabling real-time implementation of sustainable development strategies. Within this framework, our Awaq Bio-Tech (ABT) program operates as an applied, AI-enabled system supporting environmental monitoring, data-driven decision-making, and the generation of actionable insights at the local level, demonstrating the practical viability of this approach.

A defining element of this model is its foundation on multi-stakeholder collaboration, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 17. Through partnerships with universities, research institutions, and public and private sector entities, Awaq ONGD contributes to the co-creation of knowledge, strengthens technical capacities, and ensures that implementation is supported by scientific rigor and institutional cooperation.

These partnerships enhance the credibility, adaptability, and scalability of the system across diverse contexts. By embedding advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence into territorially grounded systems, this approach enables continuous feedback between ecosystems, communities, and governance processes. It supports more resilient local economies while reinforcing environmental stewardship, facilitating the transition from isolated interventions to integrated and adaptive development models.

Pilot experiences in Latin America demonstrate the effectiveness of this integrated system. Through the deployment of Biological Stations supported by ABT and strengthened by institutional partnerships, Awaq ONGD has contributed to building local capacities, fostering sustainable livelihoods, and improving ecosystem resilience. These initiatives provide evidence of how coordinated, technology-enabled systems can bridge the gap between global frameworks and local realities.

To accelerate progress, Awaq ONGD calls for the recognition of integrated, partnership-driven territorial systems as essential instruments within international development strategies. This includes fostering enabling policy environments, facilitating access to blended financing, and strengthening cross-sector collaboration. Such measures are essential to ensure that global commitments translate into measurable, scalable, and lasting impact.

Awaq ONGD reaffirms its commitment to advancing sustainable development through innovative, inclusive, and collaborative approaches. By integrating science, technology, and partnerships into unified systems, it is possible to transform how development is implemented on the ground and contribute effectively to addressing the complexity and urgency of today's global challenges.



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8. Asociatia Geyc

Delivering Better: Accelerating the 2030 Agenda through Coordinated Youth-Led Frameworks for Quality, Digital Citizenship, and Resilience

GEYC emphasises that "delivering better" for the 2030 Agenda requires a fundamental shift toward youth-led, evidence-based, and coordinated systemic interventions. To accelerate progress toward the SDGs, we underscore the imperative of institutionalising youth participation through three transformative frameworks: quality-driven coordination, digital citizenship, and climate resilience.

I. Strengthening coordinated actions (PRISMA Framework)

Accelerating the SDGs necessitates a transition from fragmented, project-based work to the "coordinated actions" envisioned by the 2026 HLPF. With the European Commission support through CERV programme, GEYC leverages the PRISMA European Network as a strategic coordination framework to scale youth initiatives while maintaining rigorous accountability through the EQYP Quality Standard. This ensures that transnational solidarity is translated into equitable, high-impact outcomes that align with international best practices in project management and partnership development.

By fostering a "collaborative culture" over individual project identities, the PRISMA framework provides a replicable blueprint for civil society actors to synchronise methodologies, thereby enhancing the collective capacity to deliver systemic change across regions.

II. Advancing innovation through European Digital Citizenship Week (EDCEWeek)

GEYC2030 Strategy seeks to transform the youth sector into a "tech-savvy" and "policy-influencing" force. Through the annual **European Digital Citizenship Week**, organised alongside the International Day of Democracy, we address the critical gap between digital consumption and active digital creation. EDCEWeek promotes **Digital Citizenship Education(DCE)** in line with the Council of Europe recommendations, equipping youth with the competencies to navigate a data-driven society, engage in AI ethics, and leverage digital tools for democratic participation and SDG advocacy. This initiative serves as a vital pedagogical model, empowering young people to act as responsible "**creators**" of digital solutions as well as active parties of AI and internet governance rather than passive subjects of technology.

III. Translating participation into policy and resilience: COMPASS and water4eu

Meaningful progress requires translating youth participation into **evidence-based policy input**. Through **COMPASS**, GEYC connects structured youth dialogue with strategic priorities such as strategic autonomy and the Clean Industrial Deal, ensuring youth are primary contributors to decision-making rather than only beneficiaries of SDG implementation.

Meanwhile, the **water4eu** initiative addresses the urgent global need for water security and resilience. By training youth as sustainability ambassadors, water4eu facilitates the grassroots-level implementation of water access in public spaces in eight Romanian communities. As confirmed during the 2026 UNICEF Youth consultation, this model demonstrates that youth-led environmental advocacy, when integrated with scientific inquiry and local governance planning, effectively mitigates climate-related vulnerabilities, directly contributing to the **realisation** of **SDGs 6, 11, and 13**

Conclusion

To deliver a sustainable future for all, Member States must bridge the communication gap between public authorities and youth by institutionalising frameworks like PRISMA, EDCEWeek, and water4eu. We urge the United Nations to move beyond symbolic representation and empower youth as equal stakeholders in the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Youth do not merely manage the future; through these actions, they are the primary architects of the urgent transformation required to achieve the SDGs.



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9. Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD)

Strengthening Sustainable Finance for Inclusive and Resilient Development

Time is running out to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, yet progress remains off track. According to the UN's 2025 SDGs Report, only 35% of the 169 targets are on track, nearly half are progressing too slowly, and 18% have regressed. The compounding pressures of the climate crisis, geopolitical tensions, and economic instability are limiting nations' capacity to respond effectively. This makes clear that incremental improvement will not be enough. What is needed now is structural transformation rooted in equity and driven by bold, innovative solutions.

Within SDG 9, the finance and investment sectors are essential to accelerating sustainable development. Yet one of the main reasons progress has stalled is the lack of robust financial and institutional foundations. Many financial institutions still operate with a short-term, profit-first mindset, falling short of driving the transition to sustainable industries. However, amid these structural constraints and uncertainties, some companies are embedding sustainability into their financial operations. One notable example is DB Securities, a leading financial investment firm in South Korea. The firm stands out for its proactive and innovative ESG management, going beyond the traditional role of a financial institution. Under CEO Bong Seok Kwak, who took office in 2023, ESG has been positioned at the core of the firm's strategy. The company has built a governance structure centered on a Board-level ESG Committee and expanded the proportion of outside directors, strengthening transparency and accountability.

Since 2022, DB Securities has aligned its ESG goals with group strategy and promoted employee carbon neutrality initiatives, embedding sustainability across the organization while directing capital toward sustainable industries. It has also strengthened its internal foundations, earning Family-Friendly Company certification in 2022, and supporting job creation for people with developmental disabilities. This highlights that industrial development must go hand in hand with social value, not solely economic growth.

Beyond internal initiatives, the firm is accelerating the transition to eco-friendly industries through green financial products and climate response strategies, demonstrating how financial institutions can act as key enablers of sustainable production and innovation. This progress has been supported by steady leadership and strong risk management capabilities of CEO Bong Seok Kwak. Taken together, this case shows that the financial sector has the potential to move beyond providing capital and become a central actor in driving the transition to a sustainable industrial structure.

Looking ahead, the Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD) aims to strengthen the private financial sector's role in delivering the SDGs and accelerating the transition to a sustainable economy, bridging finance, industry, and society to turn sustainable development from aspiration into real-world change.



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10. Association Jesuit Worldwide Learning - Higher Education at the Margins

Education is key to the realisation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. Our world, in turmoil, needs critical-thinking, community-focused leaders who take action for a more equitable, peaceful, and humane world. Through education, individuals and communities develop knowledge, skills, and qualities which can lead to the identification and implementation of innovative solutions to social and environmental challenges at local and global levels.

But not all have access to education, including higher education, in particular communities most affected by conflict and environmental challenges, such as refugees, Indigenous communities, religious minorities and disenfranchised young women.

Education in challenging contexts is possible and is already a reality, through strategic collaborations and leveraging of technology. Let us work together to strengthen and broaden pathways towards equal access to education, empowering individuals and communities across the globe with the knowledge and skills they demand to create just and sustainable solutions for a more peaceful and humane future, and care for our common home.



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11. Association Nationale pour Promouvoir la Société Civile et la Citoyenneté

Faire mieux : accélérer l'action urgente et transformatrice pour atteindre les ODD d'ici à 2030

Lorsque le bureau de l'appui intergouvernemental et de la coordination pour le développement durable du Département des affaires économiques et sociales des Nations Unies lance un appel à contributions orales et écrites pour le segment de haut niveau (HLS) de l'ECOSOC de 2026, cela sous-entend que le pourcentage de réalisation des 17 Objectifs de Développement Durable demeure très bas à cause des crises qui ont retardé cette action dont la pandémie du covid19, la faim, la pauvreté, l'instabilité et le changement climatique qui règnent dans les régions les plus démunies du monde, et que si on ne procède pas à un changement de paradigme pour faire face à ce retard, l'agenda 2030 serait voué à l'échec.

Dans ce contexte, une urgence transformatrice s'impose ; il est donc impératif de passer des petits projets isolés à des transformations structurelles à grande échelle, afin d'atteindre les 17 objectifs capables d'éradiquer la pauvreté, protéger la planète et assurer la prospérité pour toute l'humanité d'ici 2030.

Pour y arriver trois actions s'imposent ;

- Augmenter les investissements en mobilisant des ressources publiques et privées afin de combler le déficit de financement des ODD.
- Adopter des politiques nationales intégrées liant le climat la santé et l'économie afin de renforcer les capacités Promouvoir des technologies à faibles émissions de carbone et utiliser des données fiables.
- Collaborer entre gouvernements société civile et secteur privé afin de concrétiser un partenariat renforcé.

En conclusion, il faut agir rapidement de manière intégrée dans les domaines qui freinent la réalisation des ODD en passant à une transition rapide vers les énergies renouvelables afin d'assurer la protection des écosystèmes pour une agriculture durable capable d'éliminer la pauvreté tout en rationalisant la gestion de l'eau potable, sans omettre de promouvoir l'inclusion sociale, véritable moteur de toute transformation positive et durable. Cela implique de cibler les plus vulnérables, d'accroître les ressources et les services de base et de soutenir les communautés touchées par les conflits et les catastrophes liées au climat.



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12. Associazione Made in Trieste

Associazione Made in Trieste, in accordance with ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, submits its written statement on high-impact initiatives. Made in Trieste aims to promote the Free Port of Trieste and its surrounding territory as a strategic hub for addressing global challenges, as discussed at the UN Business and Human Rights Forum in the past years, and other UN platforms since 2017. The importance of the Free Port is now even more relevant, especially in consideration of energy transition and the storage and distribution of critical materials.

In 2024 the Association focused on the international legal status of the Free Port within the Free Territory of Trieste (a UN Territory as per 1947 Peace Treaty and Security Council resolution 16- 1947), in relation to the opportunities for sustainable solutions in the maritime sector. These include electrification systems, renewable energies and the sustainable development of green hydrogen production. The initiative also envisions cross-border cooperation for the joint management of pipelines and intermodal terminals. In addition, the Free Port has a network of 70km of internal rail tracks connected to Central and Eastern EU, it's an ideal platform for fostering startups focused on innovative energy solutions. Furthermore, the free port's bonded warehouses could serve as a central EU hub for critical minerals, essential for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. Its unique legal status offers customs advantages and VAT exemptions, encouraging international investment aligned with SDGs 7, 8, and 17.

Our recommendations, Made in Trieste, recognize that there are some barriers to the development of the above-mentioned SDGs; in the specific, the Port is partially abandoned and underused due to the current occupying power's administration, which, through the past 70 years, has reduced its operational capacity and workforce.

In order to allow the Free Port to operate at its maximum potential, including providing jobs, It's important to unlock the Port's full potential, and it's essential that the UN implement its obligations as described above, thereby supporting sustainable development and economic revitalization for the local population, and providing a replicable case scenario to other undeveloped areas of the World.



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13. Bahrain Women Society

The Bahrain Women Society submits this statement to contribute to the discussions of the Economic and Social Council High-level Segment and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The statement aims to highlight the importance of human-centered approaches in accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Despite the increasing number of initiatives and programmes worldwide, a persistent gap remains between policy design and sustainable impact. This gap is not solely due to limited resources, but also to insufficient investment in building awareness, values and responsible behavior at the individual and community levels. Addressing this gap is essential to achieving transformative and lasting progress.

Through its work, the Bahrain Women Society focuses on translating global commitments into practical outcomes. In 2025, the Association implemented and contributed to more than 30 initiatives and programmes, and produced over 100 awareness materials targeting diverse segments of society. These efforts contributed to advancing 12 Sustainable Development Goals across three interconnected areas: women's empowerment, child protection and environmental awareness.

In women's empowerment, the Association works not only to expand opportunities, but also to strengthen psychological and social well-being and ensure the sustainability of empowerment outcomes. In the area of childhood, it promotes awareness and supports the development of balanced and responsible individuals, alongside efforts to ensure protection. In the environmental field, it emphasizes that sustainability begins with daily practices and responsible behavior.

In the context of increasing global instability and conflict, the urgency of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is greater than ever. The absence of justice, awareness and inclusive participation continues to contribute to these challenges.

The Association therefore calls for strengthened partnerships between governments, civil society and international institutions. It further emphasizes the need to integrate human-centered approaches into policies and programmes, prioritizing awareness, values and behavioral change alongside technical and economic interventions. Such approaches are essential to accelerate implementation, enhance accountability and ensure that development efforts lead to meaningful and sustainable impact for all.



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14. Batey Relief Alliance Inc

Introduction: From Community Action to National Policy

Batey Relief Alliance, drawing on 28 years of longitudinal data, submits this statement to illustrate how "delivering better" requires a transition from direct service to systemic integration. Our work across the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Peru proves that community-led health and economic models can, and should, be scaled into national agendas to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

A Blueprint for Health Infrastructure (SDGs 3, 6, and 17)

The hallmark of transformative action is sustainability through partnership. Batey Relief Alliance pioneered the first modern health infrastructures in the Dominican Republic's rural plantations "bateyes", providing comprehensive care and Antiretroviral Therapy to 350,000 individuals over a ten-year period. Critically, this infrastructure was successfully transitioned to the country's Ministry of Health, institutionalizing specialized care within the national health agenda. This model—complemented by the distribution of 347 million liters of clean water, 2,600 metric tons of food, millions of doses of micronutrients and antiworm medicines—demonstrates how NGO-led innovation can fortify public health systems that impacted over 4.5 million lives.

Economic Equity and Food Security (SDGs 1, 2, and 8)

To move beyond aid, we integrated health services with economic empowerment. Over 9,000 rural women (and farmers) transitioned from clinic patients to entrepreneurs through micro-loans and skills training. By engaging in income-producing agricultural activities, these individuals have moved from dependency to household food security. This multi-sectoral approach—supported by partners including U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Clinton Global Initiative, USAID, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Procter & Gamble, Vitamin Angels, Direct Relief—proves that SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) is inseparable from SDG 8 (Decent Work).

Innovative Solutions to Educational Inequity (SDGs 4 and 5)

Innovation must be data driven. Our 2021 Menstrual Health Inequity study revealed that 20% of schoolgirls in rural Dominican Republic were missing significant school days due to a lack of sanitary products. In response, Batey Relief Alliance launched community-led production of reusable sanitary pads and spearheaded legislative proposals to increase product accessibility. Addressing menstrual equity is not merely a health issue; it is a fundamental requirement for educational parity (SDG 4) and gender equality (SDG 5).

Recommendations for the 2030 Agenda

1. **Prioritize Handover Models:** Encourage Member States to adopt and fund proven NGO-led health infrastructures to ensure long-term service continuity.
2. **Integrate Health and Economy:** Fund programs that link primary healthcare with micro-enterprise and agricultural training to break the cycle of poverty.
3. **Institutionalize Menstrual Equity:** Adopt legislative frameworks that recognize menstrual health as a barrier to education and economic participation.

Conclusion

Batey Relief Alliance's 28-year history offers a roadmap for the "accelerated and transformative action" required in 2026. We remain committed to bridging the gap between marginalized communities and national policy to ensure a sustainable future for all.

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15. Beijing Guangming Charity Foundation

Beijing Guangming Charity Foundation, in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, submits this statement to support the 2026 high-level segment and High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and to put forward practical proposals for accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Foundation fully supports the 2026 joint theme of transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all. It also endorses the general debate theme of accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. For years, the Foundation has actively participated in the Human Rights Council, the Commission on the Status of Women, the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and other United Nations processes. Focusing on vulnerable groups protection, youth development, social inclusion and community resilience, the Foundation has carried out the Star Project and Youth Development Initiative to provide equitable care and mental health support, advance social inclusion and empower young people, contributing to the implementation of multiple Sustainable Development Goals.

To promote standardized, scalable and coordinated global action, the Foundation plans to launch the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals International Standardization Forum. The forum will enhance knowledge sharing, build cross-sector partnerships and strengthen collaborative solutions among civil society, practitioners and international stakeholders.

The Foundation calls on the international community to strengthen multi-stakeholder cooperation, support the meaningful participation of civil society, and adopt innovative and coordinated measures to speed up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Joint actions are essential to deliver tangible progress and build a fair, inclusive and sustainable future for all.

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16. Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges

Beijing NGO Association for International Exchanges (hereinafter referred to as “Beijing NGO”), actively participated in global ecological and environmental governance under the guidance of SDGs, is dedicated to promoting the exchanges and cooperation between NGOs in Beijing and international, national as well as regional NGOs around the world, and making efforts to strengthen practical cooperation in tackling climate change, energy conservation, environmental protection, and advocate sustainable development.

Beijing NGO, holding observer status under the UNFCCC, has participated in four sessions of the UN Climate Change Conferences, bringing more than 20 NGOs and local enterprises from the environmental sector to engage in. Through side events and thematic exhibitions, we have shared Beijing’s contributions to climate action and its successful practices in building an ecological, green city.

Beijing NGO has cooperated with WWF Beijing for ten consecutive years to hold the “Earth Hour” event, people from over 118 countries and regions participated in it. What’s more, Beijing NGO has hosted “Beijing International Friendship forest” tree planting event from 2015 to 2025, fostering people-to-people ties through green development, and promoting mutual learning among civilizations. Cumulatively, it has engaged over 2,900 participants from more than 120 countries, planting and nurturing over 12,000 trees and seedlings. In the next five years, in partnership with the Temple of Heaven Park, Beijing NGO will also carry out ancient tree conservation work, benefiting more than 3,500 trees.

In 2019, Beijing NGO organized its member units and relevant social organizations to visit Mongolia, where they engaged in cultural exchanges and project matchmaking with local NGOs. Extensive cooperation intentions were reached in areas such as energy conservation, environmental protection, and technological innovation. Seven documents on people-to-people exchange and cooperation projects, including the donation of household solar lighting lamps, were signed, and a material donation ceremony was held.

At present, mankind is in a period of great development, change and adjustment. Beijing NGO is willing to establish and strengthen contacts with NGOs from various countries, practice multilateralism, take actions and actively play its role, jointly advancing the exchange and mutual learning of ecological civilization, contributing actively to the realization of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.



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17. Carlsron Initiative for Peace and Human Rights

The present statement contributes to the 2026 Economic and Social Council High-level Segment and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development by emphasizing the centrality of peace, human rights, climate action, and inclusive governance in accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It underscores the need for urgent, transformative, and coordinated action that integrates social justice, institutional reform, and innovation to deliver more effective and inclusive outcomes for all.

The global community continues to face interconnected challenges, including persistent inequality, democratic deficits, climate vulnerability, and rapid technological transformation. These challenges are widening implementation gaps and undermining progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. Weak institutions, exclusionary governance systems, and insufficient protection of human rights continue to limit the effectiveness and sustainability of development efforts. The interdependence between peace, development, and human rights remains insufficiently translated into coherent policy and practice.

Accelerating progress requires a shift from fragmented interventions toward integrated, inclusive, and accountable governance frameworks. Addressing structural inequalities, including gender disparities, youth exclusion, and limited civic participation, is essential for equitable development. Innovation must extend beyond technology to include institutional reform, participatory governance, and strengthened accountability mechanisms. Coordinated action across all levels is critical to ensuring that no one is left behind.

Civil society engagement demonstrates that peace education, human rights awareness, and community-driven initiatives are vital for resilience and social cohesion. However, their impact is constrained by limited access to sustainable financing, insufficient institutional support, and restricted participation in decision-making processes. Strengthening partnerships among governments, international institutions, and civil society are therefore essential.

Accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals requires strengthening inclusive and representative governance systems to enhance accountability and effectiveness. Greater investment in peace education, gender equality, and youth empowerment is necessary to address structural drivers of inequality. Climate and technology policies must be grounded in human rights principles to ensure equitable outcomes. Expanding support for civil society organizations will further strengthen local implementation and accountability.

In conclusion, delivering better and accelerating progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals requires a renewed commitment to inclusive governance, strong institutions, human rights, and sustainable peace. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without peace, and peace cannot be sustained without justice, inclusion, and accountable institutions. Advancing these priorities is essential to realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring a more just and sustainable future for all.



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18. Centre Africain de Recherche Industrielle (C.A.R.I.)

Depuis 2015, lorsqu'on a migré des OMD aux ODD, les Chefs d'Etat et des Gouvernements se sont convenu se rencontrer en 2030 pour, évaluer en quelque sorte la mise en œuvre des objectifs convenus.

La République Démocratique du Congo (RDC) est parmi les pays qui, en 2015, n'avaient atteint aucun Objectif du Millénaire pour le Développement (OMD) ni réaliser les 247 indicateurs adossés aux cibles des ODD. Pour éviter le même sort aux 17 ambitieux ODD, le gouvernement se déploie avec ses partenaires pour mener des actions conduisant à l'atteinte desdits objectifs.

Tous les pays n'ayant pas le même niveau de développement, n'ayant pas tous les mêmes capacités financières et managériales, n'étant pas tous dans une même situation socio-politique, n'ont pas aussi la même chance de réaliser l'agenda 2030 et atteindre ses 17 objectifs.

Le pays a certes connu des avancées significatives au cours de deux dernières décennies, mais le système statistique connaît encore des graves difficultés ne lui permettant pas de relever de manière satisfaisante le défi du suivi et de l'examen des ODD.

S'agissant des actions transformatrices et innovantes nécessaires pour faire avancer la réalisation des ODD, il convient de mettre l'accent sur les réformes à engager dans la gouvernance. Dans notre système statistique. La réforme psychique et mentale nous évitera de naviguer à vue, d'engager des débats interminables sans toucher à l'essentiel.

La re visitation de certaines lois : code minier, code foncier, code forestier, etc. s'avère nécessaire pour baliser le chemin vers l'atteinte des ODD.

La reconfiguration de notre système éducatif, la réforme de la politique publique, la promotion de l'entrepreneuriat des jeunes, la formation professionnelle des filles et des femmes, etc. sont autant des réformes nécessaires pour accompagner la réalisation de l'agenda 2030 et ses Objectifs de Développement Durable.

Notre société est en pleine évolution ainsi que la science et la technologie. Les nombreux défis en face de nous ne peuvent pas constituer un obstacle car notre cerveau peut faire plus que ce que nous pensons. Un avenir durable pour tous est possible si nous le voulons.

Ne nous voilons pas la face, voyons sans indulgence l'état de notre conscience. La lutte pour l'hégémonie militaire et économique, peut-elle nous permettre à réaliser un avenir durable pour tous ? Je pense que non.

Les budgets colossaux consacrés à la recherche militaire pour la démonstration des forces, orientés vers les secteurs essentiels, produiront tout ce dont on a besoin pour un monde en paix et durable, pour la réalisation de l'Agenda 2030 et ses ODD.



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19. China Federation of Internet Societies

The digital economy is booming, and new business forms represented by new e-commerce have become a new engine for global economic growth. At the same time, it poses practical challenges in terms of digital inclusion and internet governance. China has actively engaged in global digital economic cooperation and established a practical system that attaches equal importance to development and regulation, which is reflected in four core aspects:

First, advance digital inclusion and bridge the digital divide. We support developing countries in integrating into digital trade through the Silk Road E-commerce Initiative. Relying on the China New E-commerce Conference hosted and the China New E-commerce Development Report released by China Federation of Internet Societies, China shares experience and extends the dividends of digital development to all.

Second, improve the legal framework and regulate the development of new business forms. The E-commerce Law and the Data Security Law have clarified platform responsibilities. We have accumulated experience through pilot projects in comprehensive cross-border e-commerce pilot zones and actively aligned with multilateral e-commerce rules.

Third, strengthen technological empowerment and foster growth drivers. We advance the integration of new technologies and the real economy, and support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs to expand markets via new e-commerce. China Federation of Internet Societies has implemented a high-quality streamer cultivation program to consolidate e-commerce talent support and promote the sharing of experience in payment and logistics.

Fourth, uphold open cooperation and jointly build a sound governance ecosystem. China participates in digital cooperation under the United Nations framework and promotes the development of a win-win global digital cooperation architecture.

To advance pragmatic global cooperation on new e-commerce, three practical proposals are put forward: First, establish a regular policy dialogue mechanism. Focusing on key areas such as new e-commerce regulation and data governance, we will build communication channels under the UN framework and clarify cooperation rules. Conduct targeted skill training, develop cross-border e-commerce service platforms for small and medium-sized enterprises, and strengthen the endogenous development capacity of developing countries through technical assistance and experience sharing. Third, build a multi-stakeholder cooperation network. We will strengthen coordination among governments, enterprises and academic circles, carry out practical programs including joint pilots and standardization discussions, and drive the secure, inclusive and sustainable development of new e-commerce.

China stands ready to work with all countries to deepen pragmatic cooperation, share the achievements of digital economic development, and jointly build a prosperous global digital future.



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20. China International Association of Promotion of Science and Technology

China International Association for Promotion of Science and Technology has the honour to submit this statement to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), proposing a strategic framework to bridge the implementation gap of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by harmonizing global synergy with technical precision.

Coordinated Innovation via a Global Representative Mechanism

To accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, it is imperative to transition from fragmented technological clusters toward a coordinated global ecosystem. We advocate for the operationalization of the "International Alliance for Regional Innovation and Standardization" as a globally representative collaborative mechanism to synchronize regional strengths. By fostering a genuine model of "North-South Co-creation," this platform ensures that technological advancements are not merely exported, but collaboratively developed to align with local socio-economic contexts, transforming regional disparities into complementary strengths that expedite the delivery of sustainable solutions.

Inclusive Standardization to Address Systemic Dependencies

The scalability of such a collaborative network is contingent upon the removal of technical barriers. We propose the implementation of "Inclusive Digital Standards" intended to streamline technical requirements and reduce the costs of digital adoption for developing nations. By prioritizing interoperability and open standards over proprietary frameworks, ECOSOC can facilitate a more equitable distribution of digital dividends. Such an approach ensures that the digital transition serves as a catalyst for inclusivity, mitigating digital divides and systemic dependencies rather than exacerbating existing divergences.

Ensuring Impact through Quantifiable Delivery Metrics

To ensure that high-level policy intentions translate into tangible outcomes, we propose the adoption of a standardized "SDG Delivery Metric System." By augmenting qualitative descriptions with quantifiable, evidence-based benchmarks, Member States will be better positioned to identify implementation bottlenecks in real-time and optimize the allocation of resources. This transition toward a data-driven accountability framework ensures that progress is not only reported but demonstrably achieved.

Conclusion

China International Association for Promotion of Science and Technology stands ready to provide the Economic and Social Council with the technical expertise and the representative execution network—underpinned by the aforementioned Alliance—necessary to operationalize this framework, transforming the 2030 Agenda into a measurable, equitable, and sustainable reality.



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21. China International Council for the Promotion of Multinational Corporations

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

As an NGO in special consultative status with ECOSOC, the China International Council for the Promotion of Multinational Corporations (CICPMC) submits this statement on the 2026 HLPF theme: “Transformative, Equitable, Innovative and Coordinated Actions”.

Only 35% of SDG targets are on track, with an annual SDG financing gap of US\$2.5–4 trillion. Multinational corporations are key drivers of change. China’s 15th Five-Year Plan explicitly seeks to enhance green development by accelerating the transition toward carbon peak and carbon neutrality, including establishing 100 national zero-carbon industrial parks. Based on our work, we propose four actionable recommendations:

1. Transformative action: Align with China’s zero-carbon parks

In April 2026, CICPMC launched its “Sustainable Development and Zero-Carbon Partnership Working Committee”, bringing together dozens of multinationals such as Veolia and TotalEnergies. We call on the UN to support multinationals in building a “Zero-Carbon & Sustainable Innovation Platform”, using China’s 100 national zero-carbon industrial parks as a practical cooperation blueprint for global industrial park green transitions.

2. Equitable implementation: Share ESG practices via the Global South Blue Book

China’s 15th Five-Year Plan includes systematic measures such as a corporate carbon management system and a carbon footprint accounting framework. CICPMC released “ESG Selected Case Studies of MNCs in China” in 2025. We encourage regional think tanks to collaborate on annual ESG Blue Books, sharing China’s green policy experience with the Global South.

3. Innovative financing: Promote innovation in SDG blended finance tools

We call for a UN-guided “SDG Blended Finance Toolkit” that uses guarantee mechanisms and risk-sharing structures to catalyze private capital for renewable energy, inclusive digital technologies and sustainable infrastructure, helping close the massive SDG financing gap.

4. Coordinated action: Recommend promoting ESG requirements along supply chains

China’s 15th Five-Year Plan includes over 10,000 kilometers of zero-carbon transport corridors. We recommend promoting the extension of ESG compliance requirements from anchor firms across supply chains, enabling millions of micro, small and medium-sized suppliers to achieve green transformation and digital upgrading. CICPMC stands ready to turn these recommendations into tangible outcomes for a sustainable future



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22. China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE)

Non-State Actors' Local Solutions Closing Global Development Gaps, Tapping Potentiality to Accomplish SDGs before 2030

Introduction

Aligned with the 2026 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), with the theme of “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for a sustainable future for all”, and general debate of the 2026 ECOSOC High-level Segment (HLS) themed “Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030”, this statement demonstrates how non-state actors’ community-driven and locally adapted solutions can close gaps for SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

It highlights several flagship initiatives underscoring their commitment, accelerating and scaling South-South and triangular cooperation based on field-tested solutions. It also puts forward achievable expectations and policy recommendations for the UN to enhance global governance, development effectiveness, and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Local Actions, Global Progress

Widening gaps in low agricultural productivity, youth out-migration, gender inequality, and insufficient inclusive participation in global development governance have become barriers directly slowing the progress toward SDGs and undermining the urgency of transformative action called for in 2026 the HLPF and HLS themes.

As non-state actors at the forefront of people-to-people cooperation and grassroots development practice, China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE) and China Agricultural University (CAU)--have translated their commitments into tangible, scalable action to advance the 2030 Agenda.

As China’s largest umbrella organization with General Consultative Status of UN ECOSOC, CNIE dedicated itself to international exchanges and cooperation. It is mainly composed of NGOs from various social fields engaging in peace and disarmament, social development, science and education, culture and art, health care, environmental protection, democracy and human rights, ethnic and religious affairs, policy advocacy and law, business and commerce, public welfare and charity, poverty alleviation and disability assistance as well as women and youth affairs.

Together with its global partners, CNIE has turned commitments into concrete action through wide-ranging people-to-people cooperation. CNIE launched the Action on Silk Road People-to-People Connectivity, establishing nearly 600 partnerships with social organizations and implementing more than 300 livelihood projects covering education, medical care, poverty alleviation, and cultural exchanges. These efforts strengthen mutual trust, bridge differences, and promote common development across developing countries.

CNIE also initiated China's first non-governmental 5,000-ton oceangoing medical rescue vessel. Equipped with advanced medical equipment, professional operating rooms, and a helicopter deck, the ship will offer free medical treatment, disaster response training, and emergency humanitarian relief to communities in Southeast Asia, the South Pacific, and Africa, supporting local health systems and disaster resilience.

As the first university with Special Consultative Status of UN ECOSOC in mainland China, CAU translates its roles of research, education, social services, and global partnerships into scalable grassroots action in rural communities at home and abroad.

First, “Small Technology, Big Harvest” and “Small Beans, Big Nutrition” projects provide a **small-but-smart model** advancing SDG 1 (poverty reduction), SDG 2 (zero hunger) and SDG 5 (gender equality). Starting in 2011 from Peapea and Mtego wa Simba pilot villages in Tanzania's Morogoro Region, in partnership with the 4 levels of central, regional, district, ward authorities, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), and village communities, CAU promotes locally adaptable agricultural technologies, including rational dense planting, tether ranging, maize-soybean intercropping, and improved soil management. Between 2018 and 2021, with an increase of demo farmers from 1 to over a 1,000, benefiting 10 villages, it was awarded as one of the “best practices” of South-South and triangular cooperation by UN Office of South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), lifting maize yields from 900 kg/hectare (60 kg/*mu*) to 3 tons/hectare (200 kg/*mu*), enhancing dietary diversity and strengthening nutrition for lactating women, children under five, and pupils in primary schools. By positioning women as central agents of change and placing them at the heart of technology adoption and household food management, the affordable and labor-friendly soy milk production skills have increased women's confidence over family nutrition and livelihood stability. Today, this proven model has been scaled to Uganda, bringing the same practices to more smallholder families in the Global South. It exemplifies how a university embeds deeply in rural communities and builds mutually beneficial university–rural partnerships in the Global South.

Second, the CAU-Tencent Global South Rural Development Initiative (GSRDI) builds on China's proven **“Rural CEO” model**. It emerged in the 1990s, nurturing young managers for collective economic organizations. Encouraged by this trend, national occupations related with young agricultural managers have been created by China's Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security. The CAU-Tencent Pro-Village Rural CEO Program was launched in November 2021, with the first cohort starting training in January 2022. The training curriculum features five core modules: (1) Entrepreneurship; (2) Digital Agriculture & Smart Farming Skills; (3) Community Organization; (4) Green Development; (5) Rural Governance. In 2025, this role was officially professionalized as an occupation in China. By the end of 2025, it has completed three cohorts and trained over 110 formal Rural CEOs nationwide. As of 2026, the program has expanded to 20 provinces, with more than 400 grassroots participants engaged in its training and incubation activities. By institutionally investing in youth, such a project-to-occupation model directly advances SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth). In 2021, this model went global when CAU launched the African Youth Rural Revitalization Program--the precursor to today's GSRDI--recruiting young leaders aged above 25 from rural areas of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Indonesia, and Laos. Supported by e-commerce platforms, hybrid learning, and mentorship from academia and the private sectors, young leaders launch village-level enterprises, develop local value chains, and create decent jobs by activating idle resources, linking villages to markets, stimulating economic growth, and tackling rural depopulation.

Third, CAU's targeted **“Closing Global Development Gap” approach** strongly advances SDG 17, fostering inclusive global partnership for sustainable development. Emerging from a historic journey from its first receiving international agricultural and poverty-reduction assistance in the 1980s, to gradually shifting to support fellow Global South countries since 2011, CAU has built a distinct theoretical understanding of international development cooperation and South-South cooperation. It centers on inviting sector-specific experts with hands-on experience, instead of general development experts, peer-to-peer dialogue, positive

image building, reciprocal learning, and community with a shared future. Grounded in China's internationally-recognized agricultural heritage systems, it integrates traditional ecological wisdom, smallholder farming solutions, and rural governance experience into global collaboration. CAU has applied this **“mutually empowering” model** across rural China from Hebian Village, Mengban Town, Mengla County, Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province to African and Southeast Asian localities, forming multi-stakeholder partnerships with universities, governments, communities, and enterprises in both the Global North and South. Through this approach, it promotes co-design and joint experimentation among researchers, grassroots practitioners, technicians, and marginalized groups. This model helps fill the administration, incentive, and participation gaps in global public goods production and provision.

A Way Forward: Expectations and Policy Recommendations

To truly “deliver better” and accelerate urgent, transformative action for the SDGs, the UN is uniquely positioned to strengthen inclusive governance, improve development effectiveness, and expand multi-stakeholder collaboration. We urge the UN system to advance the following three priorities.

First, to uphold and operationalize the Right to Development (RTD), by strengthening the voice and agency of marginalized and grassroots actors. Many local communities, smallholders, youth, women, and rural institutions remain underrepresented in global decision-making. Their indigenous knowledge, innovative mechanisms, and practical solutions are often overlooked. The UN should enable grassroots stakeholders to participate, contribute, lead, and increase their influence in development frameworks, resource allocation, and monitoring processes. Local practices must be visible, people's voices heard, indigenous and community knowledge valued, and successful local models scaled.

Second, to improve development effectiveness through integrated and embedded collaboration across stakeholders, so as to break the silos between local communities, governments, academia, private actors, and international organizations at the global level. It could be found that the UN organizations have been renovating their work styles from “norm internalization” to “model grafting” onto exotic communities who are in need of existing proven experience. Listening, adapting, and co-creation makes development intervention more responsive, tangible, and meaningful in order to avoid the “Samaritan's Dilemma” of aid fatigue. Effectiveness of international development cooperation could only be possible when the assisted have the imminent potentiality shifting from unconditional handouts to a self-sufficient livelihood.

Third, to advance diversified, inclusive public-private partnerships (PPPs) that share responsibilities, resources, and benefits, mobilizing finance, technology, and expertise. Multi-stakeholder support must be predictable, accountable, and focused on reducing inequality and expanding opportunities. The South-South Galaxy, as a global knowledge platform to elevate community-led solutions, local technologies, and grassroots innovations has been quite considerate to encourage exchanges. However, there is still in need of targeted capacity building systems, such as “UN Poverty Alleviation Universities” bringing in know-how by field-related training modules, or “South-South Cooperation Labs” under UN-facilitated programs, encouraging sector-specific experts going global to disseminate professional and flexible solutions, or “Global Public Goods Market”, like the carbon markets, providing incentives for diverse actors to provide public goods in a market-oriented institutional umbrella.

We stand ready to deepen collaboration with the United Nations, member states, non-government organizations, and private-sector partners to advance accelerated action for the 2030 Agenda.



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23. CIBJO - The World Jewellery Confederation

For the World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO), an NGO with special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), we are committedly to actively advancing the 2026 theme of transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all. CIBJO traditionally has focused on SDG3, 5, 8, 14, 17, and over the past year we are increasing activities related to SDG 13, 14 and 15.

As a key industry association and in collaboration with its member organizations, CIBJO's looks to empower industry communities and stakeholders create sustainable opportunities as the grassroots level.

On World Water Day, March 22, 2026, a new fresh-water reservoir in the Indian state of Gujarat, was formally inaugurated, and named CIBJO Lake. It is a part of part of the Gagadiya river rejuvenation initiative, which is strengthening water security in Gujarat's drought-prone Saurashtra region, and being financed and carried out by the Dholakia Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Hari Krishna Group, a CIBJO member. Covering an area of 15 acres, the lake has a storage capacity of 156 million litres, and will support five villages in the area, benefiting around 12,000 farmers. Farmers, in the area, who earlier were only able to manage single crop cycle over a 12-month period are now able manage three cropping cycles annually.

CIBJO, one of the first jewellery associations develop a formal approach to ESG, is completing the first edition of its ESG and Sustainability Reference Guide for the Jewellery Sector. The 65-page document will serve as roadmap for companies throughout the jewellery supply chain over the next 5-10 years. It condenses the vast array of ESG topics into a structured and prioritised framework tailored to the specific needs of jewellery sector. Taken as a whole, the document offers a clear set of reference points to enable CIBJO members focus their resources on the most material ESG issues in an efficient and effective manner.

For CIBJO, aligning with the SDGs allows companies in the jewellery sector to focus on areas where they can have the most significant impact, informing strategy, drive innovation, and opening new markets. Many of the challenges addressed by the SDGs, such as climate change and resource scarcity, pose direct risks to the sector and addressing these can help and ensure long-term business resilience.



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24. Joint statement by CLAN (Caring & Living as Neighbours) Incorporated and Lehigh University

This joint statement aligns with the 2026 High-Level Political Forum theme of advancing transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action toward the Sustainable Development Goals. It highlights the urgent need to accelerate progress in child and adolescent health, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, through scalable innovation, data-driven systems, and sustained global partnerships.

The global commitment made at the 2025 United Nations High-Level Meeting on non-communicable diseases underscores four critical targets: improving access to essential medicines and technologies, strengthening financial protection, implementing multisectoral policies, and advancing surveillance systems. Achieving these targets, alongside SDG3.2 and 3.4, demands integrated approaches that extend beyond health.

Strategic innovation (SDG9) must prioritize affordability and accessibility. This includes the development of low-cost biomedical technologies, decentralized care models, and sustainable material systems that enable local manufacturing and reduce dependency on fragile global supply chains. Cross-sector collaboration, including linkages to water systems, environmental health, and early-life determinants of disease, is essential to ensure that interventions are both preventative and scalable.

Data systems represent a second critical pillar, particularly when they support evidence-based decision making and enable governments to identify high-impact interventions across diverse settings. Investments in interoperable, secure, and inclusive digital health infrastructure, including artificial intelligence-enabled tools, can transform surveillance and care delivery. These systems must function across diverse contexts, including low-resource and conflict-affected settings, ensuring continuity of care and equitable access to health insights (SDGs 6, 7 and 11).

Partnerships (SDG17) remain the foundation of transformative progress. A compelling example is the recent commitment by New Zealand to support implementation of newborn screening for congenital adrenal hyperplasia and congenital hypothyroidism in Tonga. This will build on longstanding collaborations between the Solomon Islands, Australia, Vanuatu and Fiji, and represents a pivotal step for the Pacific region. It demonstrates how targeted investments, regional knowledge sharing, and culturally grounded educational resources can catalyse scalable solutions.

Importantly, there are already plans to expand learnings across neighbouring countries, offering a model for coordinated regional action. Similar partnership-driven approaches are urgently needed in conflict-affected settings such as Sudan, where coordinated efforts can help address the compounded effects of displacement, climate stress, and weakened health systems, particularly for vulnerable populations.

Building on such efforts, we recommend: prioritizing equitable access to essential medicines, diagnostics and technologies through local manufacturing and policy reform; investing in AI-enabled, interoperable data systems; and strengthening cross-sector and cross-country partnerships that centre the needs of children and vulnerable populations.

The pathway to 2030 requires not only innovation, but intentional collaboration. By aligning technology, data, and partnerships with an equity-first approach, and by grounding decisions in evidence and system-level understanding, we can accelerate meaningful progress toward a sustainable and healthy future for all.

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25. Cœur d'Afrique - Fondation Roger MILLA

Cœur d'Afrique Fondation Roger Milla welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council under the theme of accelerating transformative, inclusive and innovative actions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Africa's youth population represents one of the greatest opportunities for sustainable development globally. However, millions of young people continue to face unemployment, limited access to quality education, and significant social and health inequalities. These challenges require urgent, coordinated and transformative responses.

Investing in youth empowerment is essential. Strengthening entrepreneurship ecosystems, improving access to finance, and developing practical skills are key to fostering inclusive economic growth. Youth-led businesses play a crucial role in innovation, job creation and poverty reduction across the continent.

At the same time, social challenges, particularly in the health sector, remain a major concern. The persistence of preventable diseases and unequal access to healthcare services continues to affect vulnerable populations. Strengthening healthcare systems and promoting equitable access to essential services must remain a global priority.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires integrated approaches that connect economic development, social protection and human well-being. Governments, international institutions and stakeholders must support locally driven and sustainable solutions, especially in Africa.

Cœur d'Afrique Fondation Roger Milla remains committed to empowering youth, promoting entrepreneurship and improving access to health and social services.

Only through collective, innovative and inclusive action can we build a sustainable future for all.



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26. Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries

Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries respectfully submits this statement to the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

At this critical stage in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the global community is not facing a lack of solutions, but a lack of integration. Across nations, systems addressing poverty, homelessness, health, and inequality often operate independently, resulting in short-term stabilization rather than lasting transformation.

Despite sustained global commitment, millions remain trapped in cycles of vulnerability. Housing is frequently treated as a temporary intervention rather than foundational infrastructure. Health and behavioral services remain disconnected from long-term recovery. Justice systems often respond to poverty-related conditions through punitive measures instead of restorative approaches. Young people transitioning from care systems enter adulthood without the stability necessary to succeed.

These structural gaps undermine progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals, including those related to poverty eradication, health and well-being, inclusive economic growth, reduced inequalities, sustainable cities, and global partnerships. The result is a pattern of managing vulnerability rather than resolving it.

Experience demonstrates that sustainable outcomes are achieved when services are integrated into a unified, human-centered system. Stable, dignified housing must be recognized as essential infrastructure for development. When combined with accessible support services, it creates the conditions for individuals to pursue employment, education, and recovery.

Justice systems should prioritize diversion for non-violent, poverty-related cases, connecting individuals to structured rehabilitation and workforce pathways rather than incarceration. Young people aging out of care systems require structured environments that provide mentorship, education, and accountability.

Economic empowerment must be embedded within these systems through workforce development linked to real opportunities, including community revitalization and infrastructure efforts. At the same time, behavioral health and recovery services must be delivered through continuous, integrated care models that support long-term stability.

To accelerate progress, Member States and stakeholders are encouraged to adopt integrated funding approaches, strengthen cross-sector partnerships, and prioritize long-term outcome measurements focused on independence, employment, and permanent housing.

The pathway to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is clear. By moving from fragmented interventions to coordinated systems centered on dignity and accountability, it is possible to shift from managing poverty to ending it.

The time for transformative, coordinated action is now.



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27. Ecoforum of NGOs of Uzbekista

Your Excellencies, Esteemed Delegates, and Fellow Changemakers,

Equitable SDG Implementation Starts with Communities

Ecoforum of NGOs of Uzbekistan welcomes the HLPF theme and stresses that real, equitable and lasting change begins in communities. Across Uzbekistan and the wider region, climate variability is increasing pressure on livelihoods, while poverty and weak infrastructure limit people's ability to cope with shocks. As a result, water, energy and food insecurity are deepening for many rural and marginalized people, including families dependent on agriculture, households living far from centralized services, and communities with limited access to reliable information and technologies.

We also observe that national strategies and development plans often do not translate into practical results at the local level. Without meaningful participation of local communities—especially women and other vulnerable groups—adaptation and development programs risk becoming “top-down” and short-lived, rather than transforming everyday conditions.

For this reason, we urge Member States and partners to:

- **Prioritize community-led adaptation**, so that local people—particularly women and other vulnerable groups—decide priorities for water, energy and agricultural solutions. This should include inclusive consultations and mechanisms that allow communities to influence planning, budgeting and monitoring, not only to receive information after decisions have been made.
- **Scale affordable, locally appropriate green technologies** and support small-scale production of water and energy systems. Solutions such as decentralized solar, low-cost irrigation can lower costs, reduce pressure on ecosystems, improve reliability of services, and contribute to emission reductions. Such technologies also help reduce dependence on expensive centralized infrastructure, especially in rural and remote areas.
- **Take into account that NGOs can play a large role in supporting government efforts on climate change issues.** In particular, it is difficult to find a replacement for NGOs to solve the problems of mobilizing local communities to address the issues of adaptation and mitigation of the consequences of climate change at the local level.
- **Invest in hands-on capacity building and information sharing**, ensuring that NGOs and community-based organizations can train people to adopt, maintain and reproduce practical solutions. Communities need technical guidance, learning materials and support networks so that solutions remain functional and can be replicated through local initiative.

- **Mobilize blended finance and remove regulatory hurdles** so that smallholders, households and SMEs can access and produce sustainable technologies. When finance is aligned with local needs and procedures are simplified, more actors can participate in implementation and scaling.
- **Formalize NGO–government cooperation** in national adaptation and SDG planning, so that local lessons inform policy and implementation. NGOs and civil society organizations can help connect communities with decision-makers, translate field evidence into policy options, and strengthen accountability for results.

Our and our partners' work in Central Asia (2018–2025) demonstrates that community training and locally produced green solutions are practical, affordable and scalable.

Ecoforum of NGOs of Uzbekistan stands ready to work with governments, UN agencies and donors to replicate these models, strengthen partnerships and deliver resilient water, energy and infrastructure outcomes for all

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28. Educational Foundation for African Women

In the consideration of transformative equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a Sustainable future for all, our organization Educational Foundation for African Women (EFAW) is particularly concerned about a restructuring/realignment of the digital space in terms of the global north and the global south. The gap which appears to increase with each passing year must be narrowed significantly. Our organization has as her primary concern - girl child education, especially in Sub Saharan Africa. We have noticed a not too vibrant commitment on the part of our leadership- Politicians and government- to this sector which is critical to effective development of education and the achievement of quality education .Most of our schools especially at the primary and secondary levels (and indeed some tertiary level institutions) can hardly boast of a well- equipped, functional computer facility In many Sub-Saharan African countries accessing the internet is a nightmare! We suggest greater cooperation/coordination between the north and south in addressing this issue of bridging the digital gap; if the 2030 agenda must have some significant overall impact on all, across board.

For delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030, our organization, Educational Foundation for African Women would suggest that governments commit more funds to the SDGs especially in these ‘last days’ as it were, barely three years to go. While this may seem a bit difficult going by the turmoil in the Middle East that has negatively affected the economy it’s still desirable if some good result would be achieved, especially in some of the more pressing issues captured by the SDGs.



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29. Empowerment Thru Spoken Word Poetry - TAPN2U

Advancing practical and people-centered pathways for a sustainable future for all

This statement is submitted in connection with the 2026 High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the 2026 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). It offers a perspective grounded in community engagement, emphasizing how individual awareness and participation support progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

The 2030 Agenda provides direction through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), addressing well-being, environmental sustainability, economic stability, and peaceful societies. Despite progress, many communities continue to face economic uncertainty, social inequalities, mental and emotional well-being challenges, and environmental concerns. These conditions highlight the need to accelerate action in effective and inclusive ways.

The theme of the 2026 High-level Segment emphasizes transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action. These elements are essential; however, their impact depends on how they are experienced within communities. When strategies do not connect with people's realities, progress may remain limited.

Experience shows that community-based efforts are more effective when individuals experience a meaningful connection with the process. When people understand how broader goals relate to their lives, including the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, they are more likely to participate. This connection fosters ownership, belonging, and responsibility, strengthening outcomes.

Encouraging reflection and awareness supports this connection. When individuals consider their thoughts and interactions, they gain clarity about how to contribute positively. Creative forms of engagement, including spoken word and storytelling, provide accessible ways to share perspectives, foster dialogue, and communicate ideas.

People-centered approaches, including Peace In Practice, a framework emphasizing the connection between individual awareness and community engagement, highlight the importance of integrating internal awareness with external action. This connection supports cooperation and strengthens relationships.

Innovation can also be understood through how people are engaged. Approaches that create open participation expand engagement and support peaceful interaction. Progress is strengthened when individuals, organizations, and communities work together with shared purpose.

Civil society organizations play a key role through their close connection with communities, enabling practical implementation. Strengthening collaboration among partners enhances outcomes.

Looking ahead, integrating awareness, participation, and inclusive dialogue into efforts that support stronger communities can improve the connection between global goals and local action. When individuals have access to information and opportunities, they are better prepared to respond to challenges.

In conclusion, achieving the 2030 Agenda requires coordination and meaningful participation. When individuals are engaged, aware of their role, and recognize that their voice matters, they contribute more constructively. By combining shared effort with approaches that encourage awareness, participation, and peaceful interaction, it is possible to advance inclusive, stable, and peaceful communities for all.



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30. Ethiopia Africa Black International Congress Church of Salvation

Freedom, Redemption, International Repatriation, and Reparation

Delivering Better: Accelerating Urgent and Transformative Action to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires an immediate and urgent shift in global consciousness. Nations endowed with the innate desire for wisdom and learning must be inspired and guided on how to effectively sustain their development. These stated sustainable development goals are directly concerned with the fundamental basic needs of billions of people; particularly throughout Africa and the Caribbean, who have historically been left behind with little or no hope for a sustainable future.

The enormity of the task of transforming these goals requires strategic financing, rigorous prioritization, and innovative, data-driven solutions to overcome the slow progress experienced over the past five years. To bring nations and communities back on track, we must focus on deep policy alignment and the scaling of proven solutions, such as investing heavily in climate change resilience and making global food systems more robust and reliable. We must improve the delivery of quality education and foster renewed partnerships among governments, the private sector, and civil society. Nations must work in harmony with each other to mobilize both financial resources and technical know-how.

Targeted actions are strictly required for gender equality, digital inclusion, and social protection to ensure that no one is left behind in this journey. While some progress has been achieved over the last five years, it has not been significant enough to improve global peace and security. The financing gap is widening rapidly; therefore, core strategies must include the immediate implementation of a \$500 billion stimulus to bridge this divide and empower the developing world.

With only five years to bridge the gap, we must transform these lagging statistics into living proof of our sacred commitment to global equity and justice. There must be an urgent, unified push to mobilize businesses, governments, and individuals to buy into this transformative vision. Progress demands collective leadership from every stakeholder. The fusion of education and technology is the engine that will drive gender equality, defeat the threat of climate change, and see an end to global hunger; securing a future of infinite possibilities.

As the SDGs build momentum through their natural interconnection, progress in one area will inevitably catalyse progress in others. Nations and local communities must use these goals as a roadmap to build a world defined by equality and justice. When fully implemented, these seventeen goals will end poverty, control climate change, reverse systemic injustices, and increase equality for all people.

People working together will shine a bright light on solutions, driving sustainable innovation and finally giving young people the chance to lead with courage. We must all share the collective responsibility for this transformation. The Ethiopia Africa Black International Congress Church of Salvation will never cease to devote its full efforts and energies to help achieve these vital goals for the betterment of all humanity.



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31. Euro Atlantic Diplomacy Society Association

As the world approaches the 2030 horizon, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) stand at a decisive turning point. The collective efforts of diverse stakeholders across sectors have fostered global alignment around a shared vision for human dignity, environmental stewardship, and inclusive prosperity, yet progress remains uneven and insufficient. The aftermath of the 2030 Agenda must therefore mark the beginning of a more adaptive, grounded, and transformative phase of global cooperation, prioritizing measurable, real-world impact - particularly for those most affected by inequality and escalating global risks.

The post-2030 framework should be anchored in three reinforcing transitions. First, a shift from targets to trajectories, enabling flexible pathways that adapt to evolving realities and support continuous progress. Second, a transition from isolated approaches to integrated systems, recognizing that development challenges are interconnected and require coordinated responses. This includes stronger horizontal and vertical coordination across the quadruple helix - governments, academia, industry, and society - to ensure coherence, shared ownership, and scalable impact. Third, a move from commitments to accountability ecosystems, ensuring that pledges translate into action through transparent and measurable mechanisms.

A key lesson from SDG implementation is that progress has too often been reflected in reports rather than in lived realities. There is a need for transparent, pragmatic, and context-sensitive KPIs that measure outcomes and are grounded in local contexts. Data must be leveraged not only to track progress but also to anticipate risks and opportunities, enabling more proactive, evidence-based decision-making. The post-2030 agenda must also confront disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and decision-making power, ensuring equity becomes a measurable outcome.

Particular attention must be given to the Global South, recognizing its diversity and distinct pathways. While values, principles, and knowledge can be supported globally, their application must be locally grounded. Local ownership, strengthened through mentorship and coaching, is essential to enable institutions and communities to define priorities and lead implementation. Countries should focus on a limited set of priority areas to maximize impact. Grassroots solutions, indigenous knowledge, and youth-led initiatives must be recognized as key drivers of change. Furthermore, disinformation undermines trust and risks turning sustainable development into a polarized debate, making transparent communication and media literacy essential.

Innovation must be understood as the ability to rethink systems and scale solutions that work. In a context of overlapping crises, resilience and business continuity are critical. Insights from the UN Global Risk Report highlight the cascading nature of risks, reinforcing the need for integrated, risk-informed planning. Financing and accountability remain decisive to ensure sustainable development becomes a lived reality for all. The post-2030 era demands not only renewed ambition, but concrete action to ensure that sustainable development is no longer an aspiration, but a measurable reality for all.



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32. EUROMIL EV

EUROMIL EV welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. This statement highlights the importance of integrating the human dimension of public service into efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires sustained attention to the people who ensure the functioning, resilience and legitimacy of public institutions. Personnel working in defence and security sectors form an integral part of the public service workforce and should be fully included in policies aimed at delivering sustainable and inclusive development outcomes.

Across Europe, these personnel are facing increasing demands, including in crisis response, international deployments and support to civil authorities. At the same time, structural challenges persist in relation to recruitment and retention, working conditions and the recognition of occupational risks. These challenges are directly relevant to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth. Ensuring fair working conditions, adequate social protection and proper recognition of occupational diseases is essential to maintaining effective and sustainable institutions.

In addition, the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 3 on good health and well-being is evident in the growing exposure of personnel to psychosocial risks, including stress, burnout and trauma. Preventive approaches, systematic monitoring and access to appropriate support services are necessary to safeguard their well-being and ensure their continued contribution to society.

These considerations are closely linked to Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions. Strong and accountable institutions depend on the fair and respectful treatment of their personnel. Upholding fundamental rights, including access to representation and social dialogue, contributes to institutional resilience, transparency and public trust.

EUROMIL EV therefore encourages Member States and relevant stakeholders to adopt a more integrated and human-centred approach to Sustainable Development Goal implementation. This should include strengthening national frameworks for occupational health and psychosocial risk prevention, ensuring inclusive and fair working conditions across all public service sectors, and recognising the role of social dialogue in effective governance. Greater attention should also be given to integrating personnel-related indicators into national reporting on Sustainable Development Goal progress.

A sustainable future for all requires that no group contributing to public service delivery is overlooked. Integrating the human dimension into policy planning and implementation is essential to achieving the transformative ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.

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33. Europe Business Assembly Limited

The global economic and social landscape continues to face complex and interconnected challenges, particularly in developing regions where structural inequalities, limited infrastructure, and restricted access to opportunities persist. In response, the Europe Business Assembly Limited (EBA) highlights the importance of advancing economic productivity and innovation alongside the promotion of decent work and continuous workforce development.

EBA underscores that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) must be embedded as a core element of all business activities. Enterprises that drive economic growth and employment should also contribute to socially oriented initiatives that foster inclusive and sustainable development. Integrating CSR into business models is essential for delivering transformative, equitable, and coordinated progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Governments play a pivotal role in enabling this transition by creating supportive policy environments. This includes encouraging investment in innovative and technologically advanced sectors, as well as infrastructure development, through incentives such as reduced taxation, grants, and streamlined processes. At the same time, businesses must prioritize education, staff training, and job security, ensuring workforce development remains central to sustainable economic growth. Recognizing and promoting best practices can further incentivize responsible and forward-looking business conduct.

EBA and its partners have contributed to these objectives through the establishment of specialized initiatives that bridge academia, industry, and policy. In 2024, the Sheikh Donald Roy Joseph Abed Department of Industrial Catering and Facility Management was created to advance research in sustainable catering practices, efficient facility management, and innovative technologies, while fostering collaboration with industry stakeholders. In 2025, the Simone Torres Labour Law Department was established to strengthen labour standards, promote best practices, and enhance the protection and education of employees. Additionally, EBA expanded its international cooperation through a diplomatic mission in partnership with the University of Skopje in North Macedonia, supporting educational programmes that promote socially responsible business and innovation.

These examples demonstrate that structured collaboration and knowledge-sharing are critical to accelerating progress. EBA therefore emphasizes that strengthening dialogue and establishing effective cooperation mechanisms in private sectors can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs by 2030, ensuring a more sustainable and inclusive future for all.



34. Fondation Ostad Elahi - Ethique et Solidarité Humaine

Dans le cadre du 11^{ème} Objectif de Développement Durable pour 2030, la Fondation Ostad Elahi souligne que la construction de villes « ouvertes à tous, sûres, résilientes et durables » ne peut être envisagée uniquement sous le seul angle architectural ou infrastructurel. Si l'urbanisme, la planification et l'investissement public constituent des leviers essentiels, ils demeurent insuffisants sans un ancrage éthique solide. En effet, la ville n'est pas uniquement un espace physique et matériel ; elle est aussi un espace relationnel et moral. Sa durabilité dépend autant de la qualité de ses infrastructures que de la qualité des comportements individuels et des relations sociales qui s'y déploient.

La pensée d'Ostad Elahi éclaire cette exigence à travers une observation d'une grande portée : « Il y a deux bienfaits que les hommes n'apprécient pas à leur juste valeur, bien qu'il n'y en ait pas de supérieurs : la santé et la sécurité ». Cette maxime met en évidence un risque anthropologique : la tendance naturelle à négliger ce qui paraît acquis. Or la santé et la sécurité constituent les conditions premières de la vie et du vivre-ensemble. Elles ne relèvent pas uniquement de dispositifs techniques et architecturaux, mais à la fois d'une vigilance consciente partagée et de pratiques vertueuses assurant confiance, vigilance, attention et respect des droits de chacun.

Dans cette perspective, l'éthique doit être envisagée comme une discipline du choix humain appliquée à la vie en société. L'individu, doté de libre arbitre, est appelé à réguler ses comportements en considération de leurs effets sur autrui ainsi que sur l'espace commun et urbain. Respect des règles civiques, attention aux plus vulnérables, usage responsable des ressources, refus de l'indifférence : ces attitudes doivent traduire l'intériorisation du souci d'un bien commun. Une ville véritablement inclusive et résiliente repose ainsi sur une double infrastructure : matérielle et morale.

En conséquence, la Fondation Ostad Elahi invite les États membres, les collectivités territoriales et les institutions concernées à intégrer explicitement la dimension éthique dans la mise en œuvre de l'ODD 11. Comme un complément aux initiatives et leviers traditionnels de développement urbain, elle recommande :

- D'inscrire l'éducation au vivre-ensemble et à la responsabilité individuelle dans les politiques éducatives ;
- De développer des programmes de sensibilisation à la valeur de la santé et de la sécurité collectives et des enjeux éthiques et pratiques ;
- De soutenir les initiatives locales favorisant l'inclusion, la solidarité et la participation citoyenne.



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35. Fondazione di ricerca scientifica ed umanistica Antonio Meneghetti

Building Social Infrastructure for Resilient Rural Development

Building on its participation in Italy's *Festival of Sustainable Development*, a national multi-stakeholder initiative advancing the 2030 Agenda, the Antonio Meneghetti Scientific and Humanistic Research Foundation has contributed to initiatives in rural territorial regeneration.

Rural revitalization policies often prioritize physical infrastructure—such as transport, connectivity, and utilities—while overlooking social infrastructure: the relational networks, knowledge systems, and governance capacities that enable communities to function and sustain development over time. In many rural areas across regions, there is a well-documented lack of effective systems for intergenerational knowledge transfer, limited pathways for youth economic participation, and insufficient mechanisms for inclusive local governance. These gaps contribute to depopulation and weaken territorial resilience.

In this context, the experience of Borgo Lizori in Umbria, a medieval village, where youth engagement in cultural heritage and local governance has demonstrated a concrete and replicable place-based model, offers a relevant example of sustainable territorial regeneration. Such approaches contribute to building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable human settlements, while fostering locally rooted innovation. Addressing these challenges requires recognizing social infrastructure as a foundational component of development. This approach also addresses territorial inequalities and fosters innovation through participatory and place-based development models.

These approaches directly advance SDG 9 (resilient infrastructure), SDG 11 (sustainable settlements), and SDG 17 (multi-stakeholder partnerships) through youth-led territorial innovation. In this regard, three areas of action can be highlighted:

First, development frameworks should systematically integrate social infrastructure alongside physical investments, including measurable mechanisms for knowledge transfer, youth participation, and local governance capacity. Second, initiatives that enable experiential and place-based engagement of young people should be strengthened, supporting their active role in local economic and social development. Third, governance models should promote multi-stakeholder collaboration, ensuring the inclusion of youth perspectives in territorial planning and implementation processes.

Strengthening social infrastructure through these approaches offers replicable pathways for transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action toward the 2030 Agenda, particularly for rural and marginalized communities.

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36. Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale ONLUS

The 2030 Agenda is at a critical inflection point. With fewer than four years remaining, current trends are diverging from the vision of sustainable development — and children and young people are bearing the heaviest consequences. This statement, grounded in 96 submissions to the Universal Periodic Review mechanism of the United Nations Human Rights Council covering more than 50 countries, identifies three compounding trends and calls for the transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated action the 2026 High-Level Political Forum demands.

Structural underinvestment in education is documented across multiple countries in our network. In Madagascar, public spending on education stands at only 2.8% of Gross Domestic Product — well below the 4–6% benchmark recommended by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Across low- and middle-income countries, overcrowded classrooms and understaffed schools systematically undermine children's right to quality learning, with disproportionate impact on girls facing additional barriers including early marriage and gender-based violence.

A global mental health crisis is emerging across all income levels and regions. In Singapore, a national study reported a lifetime prevalence of non-suicidal self-injury at 25% among youth aged 15 to 35, with a median onset age of 14. Across every region where we work, children carry emotional burdens without access to support. This crisis is not a health sector issue — it is a development emergency directly undermining Sustainable Development Goal 3, Goal 4, and Goal 16.

Climate change is already destroying children's rights across Pacific and other climate-frontline communities. In Vanuatu and Fiji, natural disasters regularly destroy school infrastructure and displace communities, interrupting education for months — undermining not only Goal 4 but Goal 11's commitment to resilient, sustainable settlements. Climate vulnerability compounds every other social and economic disadvantage, leaving the same children exposed to multiple, overlapping risks.

The Marist International Solidarity Foundation calls on Member States to meet the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization benchmark for education financing; to adopt national mental health strategies for children with binding service benchmarks; to integrate child rights into National Adaptation Plans and climate finance mechanisms, including child-centred indicators in Goal 11 national reporting frameworks; and to recognise civil society organisations grounded in children's direct voices as essential, funded partners in delivering the 2030 Agenda — not peripheral actors.

The children and young people we work with are not statistics. They are active agents of sustainable development — if the systems meant to protect them are made to work.



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37. Fondazione Proclade Internazionale - Onlus

This statement, presented by Fondazione Proclade Internazionale - Onlus reflects the voices and experiences gathered from grassroots communities engaged in advancing sustainable development across diverse regions. It contributes to the theme of the 2026 High-Level Political Forum by highlighting lived realities and emerging responses toward the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Across contexts, communities identify persistent challenges, including poverty, inequality, limited access to basic services, environmental degradation, migration pressures, and governance gaps. Vulnerable populations—particularly rural communities, women, migrants, and marginalized groups—are disproportionately affected. This shows that sustainable development cannot be achieved without addressing the root causes of exclusion.

A consistent concern emerging from these reflections is that development efforts are often slowed by structural inequalities, lack of transparency, and limited access to resources. Despite these challenges, communities are actively developing innovative, locally grounded solutions that offer pathways for transformative change.

1. **Local livelihood initiatives**, though often small in scale, contribute to sustaining families and communities. These efforts reflect a search for more inclusive and dignified economic practices, even if broader systemic support remains limited. (SDGs 1, 8, 10).
2. **Access to basic services** such as education, healthcare, and social support remain a priority. Strengthening these at the local level is essential for reducing vulnerability and promoting inclusion. (SDGs 3, 4).
3. **Community and Indigenous knowledge and cultural practices**, including those rooted in local traditions, continue to guide sustainable ways of living and caring for the environment, even if they are not always formally recognized. (SDGs 13, 15).
4. **Collaborative partnerships**—especially among faith communities, local organizations, and external supporters—play a key role in sustaining initiatives and responding to community needs. (SDG 17).
5. **Voices from the grassroots** increasingly express the need for greater accountability, transparency, and participation in decision-making processes that affect their lives. (SDG 16).

Based on these experiences, we propose:

- Strengthening support for locally rooted livelihood initiatives
- Expanding social protection systems to ensure access to essential services for vulnerable populations
- Recognizing and valuing community knowledge and practices
- Encouraging partnerships that reach and empower grassroots actors
- Promoting transparency and accountability in governance systems and address structural inequalities

In conclusion, accelerating the SDGs requires greater attention to local realities, where communities continue to act despite limitations. Their experiences remind us that sustainable development is achievable when rooted in solidarity, participation, shared responsibility, and respect for human dignity.

We call on Member States, UN agencies, and the international community to recognize and support these grassroots efforts as essential contributions to achieving the 2030 Agenda.



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38. Forest Stewardship Council AC

Esteemed Excellencies and Observers,

As we approach 2030, the urgency to implement actions towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 goals has never been greater. Forests are indispensable for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15). Globally, the 4.1 billion hectares of forests are natural pillars of sustainable development. They regulate water cycles, sequester carbon, and provide ecosystem services valued at approximately USD 150 trillion- essential for biodiversity. Forests also support the livelihoods of over one billion people worldwide and for them to thrive, transformative and immediate actions must be taken. Decades of experience have shown that forests thrive best when:

Strong political leadership and ambitious coalitions champion responsible forest stewardship. The Halting Deforestation and Degradation Roadmap, led by the Brazilian Cop30 Presidency is a unique opportunity to drive coordinated efforts across national policies, international conventions, and financial instruments, ensuring forests are central to achieving climate and biodiversity goals.

Forest stewards, especially Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and forest economy workers, are critical to the resilience and health of forests. Recognizing and institutionalizing their rights through strong legal frameworks and equitable benefit sharing mechanisms is essential for effective forest governance. Providing direct financing in tandem with partnerships with the private sector can ensure forests remain resilient and economically valued by production and ecosystem services markets.

Harmful subsidies that drive deforestation are systematically redirected toward sustainable land use and conservation. Currently, for every US dollar 0.20 invested in forest-based solutions, USD 1 is spent on subsidies that worsen deforestation. Reversing this imbalance is critical to scaling restoration efforts and protecting forest ecosystems.

Global financing and fiscal frameworks are realigned to reward the value of standing forests. Innovative mechanisms, such as The Tropical Forest Forever Facility, green bonds, payments for ecosystem services, and debt-for-nature swaps, can mobilize resources for sustainable forest management, especially when blending public and private capital.

As 2030 approaches, the stakes for forests and their critical role in achieving the SDGs are higher than ever. The Forest Stewardship Council AC is committed to enabling the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. By combining political leadership with market-based pragmatism, we can accelerate transformative actions and secure a sustainable future for forests, communities, and the planet.



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39. Forum méditerranéen pour la promotion des droits du citoyen

As we approach 2030, progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Morocco, as in many countries, remains uneven and faces structural challenges, including social disparities, limited access to justice, and insufficient inclusion of local actors in public policy. Despite ongoing efforts, accelerating progress requires more comprehensive and effective approaches grounded in human rights.

The Forum Méditerranéen pour la Promotion des Droits du Citoyen emphasizes that sustainable development in Morocco depends on linking development policies to practical, locally-driven solutions that respond to citizens' needs.

We propose three strategic priorities:

1. **Implement a Human Rights-Based Approach with Local Execution**

- Translate human rights principles into actionable programs at the local level.
- Integrate social justice indicators into public policies.
- Ensure equitable access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and justice.
- Empower local communities with tools for monitoring and evaluation.

2. **Strengthen Governance and Accountability**

- Establish independent mechanisms to monitor policy implementation.
- Engage civil society in assessing and evaluating development programs.
- Ensure transparency of public data to build trust and accountability.

3. **Support Local Innovation and Empower Civil Society**

- Fund local initiatives with tangible social impact.
- Expand civic education and human rights awareness programs.
- Increase youth participation in local decision-making.

On the ground, the Forum Méditerranéen pour la Promotion des Droits du Citoyen implements initiatives to raise awareness of citizens' rights and strengthen civic engagement, demonstrating that local solutions are crucial for tangible and sustainable impact.

Achieving sustainable development in Morocco requires a shift from program-based approaches to results-oriented strategies and from centralized decision-making to empowering local actors. Integration across social, economic, and human rights policies is critical.

In conclusion, accelerating the 2030 Agenda in Morocco requires practical, rights-based solutions, backed by strong political will and effective partnerships. Only through these coordinated, locally-informed measures can we ensure inclusive development that leaves no one behind and translates SDG commitments into measurable impact.



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40. Foundation for International Development/Relief

Recently, low- and middle-income countries have experienced rapid economic and social growth. These developments represent important progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. While places in conflict-affected contexts or countries with the most severe circumstances gather attention from international community, however, challenges in relatively stable and steadily developing countries are likely to be overlooked.

Foundation for International Development/Relief (FIDR) has, through supporting displaced people in Cambodia following the Cambodia-Thailand border conflict, witnessed that international attention largely declined after a ceasefire was agreed, leaving tens of thousands of people who lost their housings and income sources. Behind the façade of stability, there remain individuals and communities that continue to face complex vulnerabilities. FIDR has sought to reach these populations being left behind amid overall positive development trends.

Turning eyes on isolated communities such as Kampong Leng District in Cambodia, FIDR has recognized great significance for addressing multiple dimensions of community life—including health, nutrition, education, agriculture, and local industry—to strengthen the overall capacity and resilience of the residents. Development interventions are often designed and delivered along sectoral lines, reflecting the perspectives of aid organizations and administrative system rather than the realities of the local lives. It is essential for policy makers and aid providers to adopt cross-sectoral approach, considering specific needs and lived experiences.

As emphasized in Goal 17, collaboration among various stakeholders brings valuable perspectives. Engagement with the private sector, for example, can introduce innovative ideas and practical knowledge that aid organization alone may hardly identify. In cooperation with a range of private companies in Japan, FIDR has been implementing community-based initiatives, leveraging their expertise and experience to co-create context-specific solutions. These partnerships have yielded positive changes across countries.

In light of the above considerations, this statement calls upon the international community to strengthen efforts in the following areas:

1. Renew attention to people and communities that remain left behind in relatively stable and steadily developing countries.
2. Promote people-centered and cross-sectoral approaches that reflect interconnected nature of human well-being and prioritize the needs and lived experiences of communities.
3. Encourage greater collaboration with the private sector, leveraging the knowledge, experience, and innovative perspectives to generate new solutions.

As the international community faces growing pressure to accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is equally important to reflect on development pathways through the lens of “Leave No One Behind” to build sustainable societies for the future.

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41. Fundación Luz María**Transformative Action Through Women's Leadership, Investment, and Inclusion**

Fundación Luz María is honoured to submit this statement to the 2026 Economic and Social Council High-level Segment and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. In alignment with the themes of accelerating transformative action for the 2030 Agenda, we underscore the urgent need to focus on women's leadership, economic empowerment, and human rights as fundamental drivers of sustainable development.

As the international community approaches 2030, progress remains uneven. Despite global commitments to gender equality, millions of women and girls continue to face systemic barriers to education, healthcare, financial resources, and participation in decision-making. These inequalities are further intensified by poverty, conflict, displacement, and discrimination, limiting women's ability to contribute fully to society.

Fundación Luz María's work demonstrates that investing in women generates measurable and sustainable impact. Women are not only beneficiaries but leaders and agents of change. When equipped with education, financial tools, and leadership opportunities, they strengthen families, drive economic growth, and build resilient communities. Yet women-led and grassroots organizations continue to face significant barriers in accessing funding, as global financing mechanisms often remain complex and inaccessible.

At the same time, women remain underrepresented in decision-making at all levels. This exclusion weakens the effectiveness and inclusiveness of policies. Ensuring women's meaningful participation leads to more equitable, responsive, and sustainable outcomes.

The current global context—including rising inequality, climate change, economic instability, and conflict—further highlights the urgency of action. Women and girls are disproportionately affected, particularly in fragile settings, yet they remain critical to peacebuilding and recovery.

To accelerate progress, Fundación Luz María proposes five key priorities:

First, scale up direct and flexible investment in women-led and grassroots initiatives by removing barriers to funding and leveraging innovative financing and private sector partnerships.

Second, expand access to education and economic opportunities, including vocational training, digital literacy, and financial inclusion, to prepare women for emerging economies.

Third, ensure women's full and meaningful participation in decision-making through policies that promote gender parity and inclusive governance.

Fourth, strengthen partnerships among governments, civil society, international organizations, and the private sector to deliver coordinated and scalable solutions.

Fifth, reinforce accountability through gender-sensitive data, monitoring, and evaluation to ensure commitments translate into tangible outcomes.

In parallel, efforts must address social norms and cultural barriers that perpetuate inequality. Legal reforms must be accompanied by community engagement and advocacy to drive lasting change.

Delivering on the 2030 Agenda requires moving from commitments to action. It demands political will, strategic investment, and a commitment to equity. Empowering women is not only a moral imperative—it is the most effective path to achieving sustainable development.

Fundación Luz María calls on all stakeholders to prioritize women's leadership and investment. By doing so, we can accelerate progress toward a more just, inclusive, and sustainable future for all.



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42. Good People International (GPI)

Good People International (GPI) is an international relief and development NGO that strives to create a world free from poverty, diseases, and inequality. Good People International conducts both domestic and overseas projects to reach marginalized communities in their times of need and help them reach their fullest potential.

In light of the theme of this year's High Level Political Forum, Good People International reaffirms its commitment to working closely with local partners throughout all stages of the project cycle. Good People International believes that truly transformative development programs must be grounded in local-ownership as much as they are in evidence-based actions.

SDG 6. Safe water, sanitation, and hygiene are some of the most basic human needs. In the aftermath of humanitarian and natural disasters, the swift and reliable provision of these services can prevent the outbreak of waterborne diseases and greatly mitigate the risk of public health crises. Good People International's work focuses not only on the accessibility of services, but also strengthening local capacity through hygiene education and community-based systems that build long-term resilience.

In this regard, the organization is implementing a project in urban slum communities in Dhaka, Bangladesh, to improve access to safe water for over 14,000 individuals. The project installs water booths to provide affordable access to purified water through a rechargeable card system for vulnerable households. In addition, it distributes insecticide-treated mosquito nets to prevent dengue outbreaks. Community hygiene campaigns and self-monitoring groups strengthen awareness, improve sanitation practices, and enhance disaster preparedness at the local level.

Good People International is also implementing a school-based project in Angeles City, Philippines, in partnership with the Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-Water). The project improves access to safe drinking water and sanitation in five public schools through filtration systems, rehabilitation of sanitation facilities, and strengthened hygiene education and school-based management systems, reaching over 60,000 beneficiaries.

In the advent of the third United Nations Water Conference this year, Good People International emphasizes that trust, collaboration, and knowledge exchange between governments, local communities, and civil society are key to closing the gap in access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene across the world. Inasmuch as Good People International endeavors to closely align its interventions with national development strategies and policy frameworks, it is crucial that Member States adopt strategies and policies that are coherent, human rights-based, and conforming with the global commitment outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



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43. Grae Matta Foundation

The Grae Matta Foundation welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council.

We commend the focus on transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action to accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda. However, a critical barrier to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remains insufficiently addressed: the global mental health crisis.

Mental health is a fundamental enabler of sustainable development. It directly impacts progress across multiple SDGs, including Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3), Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), and Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10). Despite this, mental health systems remain fragmented, under-resourced, and largely reactive.

To deliver meaningful progress by 2030, a shift is required from awareness to implementation. The Grae Matta Foundation advocates for the development and adoption of international mental health standards across key sectors, including higher education, workplaces, and industry.

Standardised frameworks provide consistency, accountability, and scalability. They enable early intervention, promote prevention, and ensure that mental health support is not determined by geography or institutional capacity. Without such standards, inequalities in access and outcomes will persist.

Innovation and technology must also play a central role. Digital platforms and artificial intelligence offer opportunities to expand access, identify early risks, and deliver timely support. However, these solutions must be implemented responsibly, ensuring inclusivity, ethical governance, and accessibility for all populations.

Early intervention is essential. Many mental health conditions emerge during adolescence and early adulthood, yet delays in access to care remain widespread. Investing in prevention and timely support reduces long-term social and economic costs while improving individual outcomes.

Achieving impact at scale requires coordinated, multi-stakeholder collaboration. Governments, educational institutions, employers, international organisations, and civil society must work together to embed mental health into policy, systems, and practice.

The Grae Matta Foundation recommends the following actions:

1. Recognise mental health as a cross-cutting priority across all SDGs
2. Develop and implement international mental health standards
3. Invest in early intervention and prevention strategies
4. Leverage technology responsibly to expand access to care
5. Strengthen data collection and accountability mechanisms
6. Promote equitable access to mental health services globally
7. Foster public-private partnerships to scale solutions

The window to achieve the SDGs by 2030 is narrowing. Incremental change will not suffice. Transformative action must place mental health at the centre of sustainable development efforts.

The Grae Matta Foundation stands ready to collaborate with Member States and partners to advance this agenda and support the delivery of a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

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44. Green Mentoring and Solutions Private Limited

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

I am Dr. Virendra Rawat, President of Green Mentoring and Solutions Private Limited.

As we advance the 2030 Agenda under the theme “Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action,” it is imperative to recognize that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires systemic transformation across our institutions—particularly in higher education.

Universities represent one of the most powerful yet underleveraged platforms for advancing sustainable development. They are uniquely positioned to integrate science, technology, and innovation with education, policy, and practice. However, to meet the urgency of our time, universities must evolve from knowledge centers into active drivers of sustainable and inclusive green economies.

Green Mentoring and Solutions Private Limited. is working globally to support this transformation by enabling universities to function as living laboratories—embedding sustainability into curriculum, campus operations, research, and student engagement. Such approaches directly advance Sustainable Development Goals 4, 9, 12, 13, and 17.

In a world increasingly shaped by climate stress, resource constraints, and geopolitical uncertainty, universities must play a central role in building resilience. Practical initiatives—such as low-carbon campus models, sustainable food systems, and green skills development—can translate global commitments into measurable local impact.

In this context, we respectfully recommend three actions:

First, strengthen global partnerships to support the transformation of universities into sustainability-driven ecosystems.

Second, integrate sustainability competencies and green jobs pathways across higher education systems.

Third, promote campus-based innovation platforms that connect students, researchers, and policymakers in delivering scalable solutions for sustainable development.

Transforming universities is not only an educational priority—it is a strategic pathway to accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Green Mentoring and Solutions Private Limited. stands ready to collaborate with Member States and stakeholders in advancing this global transition. Thank you.



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45. Haro Riksg., Valfrihet Jämställdhet Föräld. Skap

Time for Children: Re-centering Sustainable Development on the Needs of Young Children.

Haro Riksg., Valfrihet Jämställdhet Föräld.skap submits this statement to emphasize that the conditions under which young children grow and develop must be placed at the center of efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The earliest years of life are uniquely formative. Evidence from child development and neuroscience demonstrates that young children depend on stable, continuous, and responsive relationships for healthy brain development. Emotional security, closeness, love and attentive care from primary caregivers are foundational for learning, health, and social participation throughout life.

Care in early childhood is therefore not only a service or a labor issue, but the context in which the next generation is formed. The presence, time, and responsiveness of caregivers in the early years have long-term implications for both individual development and societal cohesion. When young children are given sufficient time, presence, and responsive care, this strengthens not only individual outcomes but the long-term resilience of societies. When these needs are not met, the consequences are real and visible, affecting both children and the social fabric as a whole.

Across societies, much of this care is provided as unpaid work, most often by women. This reflects established patterns of responsibility and the continued need for greater recognition of care within economic and social frameworks.

Within the European Union, the Barcelona targets set benchmarks whereby 45 per cent of children under three years of age, and 96 per cent of children between three years and compulsory school age, are expected to participate in early childhood education and care. These targets are explicitly linked to increasing women's participation in the labor market. They illustrate how early childhood policy can be shaped by labor market priorities rather than considerations of child development and family diversity.

A sustainable approach requires that early childhood policy be grounded in current knowledge of child development and the importance of stable and continuous relationships in the earliest years. Policy design should ensure that families have real conditions and flexibility to make decisions in the best interests of their children.

To accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda, we call for strengthened policy coherence that places early childhood development at the center of decision-making, ensures genuine support for families, and safeguards meaningful choice in how care is organized during the early years.

Time for children is time for the future.



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46. Health and Environment Justice Support e.V.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Health and Environment Justice Support (HEJSupport) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 High-Level Segment of ECOSOC and the HLPF. We strongly support this year's theme. With only a few years left until 2030, incremental progress is no longer sufficient. Transformative and systemic change is needed—addressing unsustainable production and consumption while ensuring equity.

From our work on chemicals, waste, health, and environmental justice, we highlight a critical gap: the role of chemicals in materials and products, and the lack of transparency across value chains. Across sectors, products contain thousands of chemicals, including hazardous substances such as endocrine disruptors, carcinogens, and persistent pollutants. These contribute to serious health impacts and environmental damage. Yet, chemicals in products remain insufficiently addressed in SDG implementation, despite their relevance to SDGs 3, 6, 12, 14, and 15.

Transparency is essential. Today, information on chemical content is fragmented or missing, limiting risk management, enforcement, and safe circular economy practices. Without traceability, recycling risks perpetuating toxic exposures and shifting burdens to vulnerable communities.

Emerging initiatives—such as UNEP Digital Product Information Systems (DPIS), EU Digital Product Passports (DPP), and the Global Framework on Chemicals—offer an opportunity to create harmonized global systems. However, these must include binding requirements on what information is disclosed, particularly chemical composition, and ensure global accessibility and interoperability. Targets B2 and B3 under the Global Framework on Chemicals are key. Their indicators should prioritize comprehensive, harmonized disclosure systems over voluntary standards, which often lack consistency and completeness.

The ongoing plastics treaty negotiations highlight the urgency: plastics containing hazardous chemicals are incompatible with a safe circular economy. Without transparency and the elimination of harmful substances, circularity risks reinforcing exposure and pollution.

Equity must remain central. Communities in low- and middle-income countries face disproportionate exposure and lack access to information, monitoring capacity, and safe waste management. Transparency systems must be globally accessible and supported by capacity-building and financing. Innovation, particularly digitalization, must be guided by strong policy frameworks to ensure accountability and sustainable outcomes. At the same time, coordination across international and regional processes is essential to avoid fragmentation.

Finally, meaningful participation of civil society and affected communities must go beyond consultation to real influence. Delivering on the SDGs requires systemic change: binding transparency, global coordination, and a commitment to health, equity, and justice.



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47. Helen Woodward Animal Center

Helen Woodward Animal Center submits this statement to the High-Level Political Forum to emphasize the critical role of animal welfare in achieving sustainable development as the 2030 Agenda approaches. As a leader in animal welfare, this organization has supported partners in areas affected by conflict, including Ukraine, and provided essential resources to under-resourced animal shelters during times of distress throughout the United States. These efforts not only address immediate needs for rescue partners but also demonstrate wider goals of compassion, biodiversity, and community well-being. As the dialogue begins with the High-Level Political Forum, it is imperative to review some of the standing sustainable development goals and the role that animals play in each of them.

Helen Woodward Animal Center addresses Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) through various means, especially through its humane education programs and disaster recovery work. Having been present for the aftermath of various natural disasters and relief efforts, companion animals are impacted when lack of access to clean water or sanitation is evident.

The key to achieving Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) must contemplate the impact on animal welfare organizations because they support companion animals that are susceptible to the negative impacts of energy pollution and unsustainable energy practices. Animal rescue facilities depend on energy infrastructure to keep proper environments for animals, maintain food supplies, and prevent the spread of disease and infection, and many of these animal rescue organizations operate at a deficit.

Animal welfare should be considered when addressing Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure). In the area of Industry, production systems can have a varying impact on animals, and they should be protected from cruelty, habitat destruction and harmful side effects of expanding infrastructure in spaces where animals normally live. Additionally, innovations in products should carefully consider the impacts on animals, furthermore, there should be investment in veterinary medicine and research that improves the lives of animals.

As it pertains to Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), Helen Woodward Animal Center strongly asserts that responsible pet adoption awareness programs, disaster relief programs for pet owners, and humane education programs will continue to inspire citizens to practice more sustainable efforts in their community to improve their quality of life. For example, through the inception of Animal Fan Club programs in India, Helen Woodward Animal Center has brought awareness to how important it is to promote kindness towards animals through community engagement efforts. This in turn will help people realize their role in contributing to a more sustainable and resilient community that is focused on protecting resources and species.

Helen Woodward Animal Center urges the international community to recognize animals as stakeholders in achieving a higher level of sustainable development as the 2030 Agenda is developed and call on member states to look on non-governmental organizations as partners to achieve a more holistic approach to sustainability.



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48. IBREA Foundation

Transformative Human Capacity Development for Accelerating SDG Action

IBREA Foundation submits this statement to contribute to the 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment and High-Level Political Forum under the theme of accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The purpose of this statement is to highlight human capacity development as a foundational driver and accelerator of sustainable development.

Despite global commitments, progress on the SDGs remains uneven, insufficient and slow. Persistent challenges, including inequality, climate change, and declining social cohesion—underscore the need for more integrated, people-centered approaches. IBREA Foundation’s work emphasizes “brain education,” which develops self-awareness, emotional regulation, and ethical decision-making. These competencies foster resilience, cooperation, and responsible action. In alignment with the 2026 themes, transformative and equitable progress requires not only policy innovation but also strengthening individuals’ inner capacities to adapt, collaborate, and lead change.

In the context of rapid technological advancement, including artificial intelligence and digital transformation, human capacity development becomes even more critical. Technology has the potential to significantly accelerate progress toward the SDGs; however, its impact depends on the values, awareness, and intentions of those who design and use it. Strengthening ethical leadership, critical thinking, and a sense of global responsibility is essential to ensure that technology serves as a force for inclusion, sustainability, and shared prosperity rather than exacerbating existing inequalities.

Education systems that integrate mental well-being, global citizenship, and responsible technology use can better equip individuals—especially youth, to navigate complexity and contribute to sustainable innovation.

To accelerate SDG implementation, IBREA Foundation proposes the following:

1. Integrate human capacity development, including social-emotional learning, ethical leadership, and responsible technology use, into national education policies and SDG strategies.
2. Prioritize youth empowerment by investing in education that strengthens resilience, critical thinking, collaboration skills, and digital responsibility.
3. Promote cross-sector collaboration among governments, civil society, and international organizations to align technological innovation with human-centered and sustainable development principles.
4. Support research and knowledge-sharing on innovative educational approaches that link inner development with sustainable and technology-enabled outcomes.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires coordinated action that addresses both systemic and human dimensions of change. IBREA Foundation remains committed to advancing education and capacity-building initiatives that support a sustainable future for all.



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49. India Thowheed Jamaath Trust

Controlled Power, Fair Economy, and Safe Society

India Thowheed Jamaath Trust (INTJ) welcomes the 2026 High-Level Segment and its timely focus on "Delivering better" through transformative and coordinated actions. As the international community navigates the final years of the 2030 Agenda, it is imperative to acknowledge that systemic global inequalities cannot be solved through traditional, top-down aid alone. True acceleration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires a fundamental restructuring of how global policy interacts with grassroots social movements.

The current global landscape is defined by a widening "inclusion gap," where marginalized communities in the Global South remain disproportionately affected by economic volatility and climate-induced displacement. INTJ argues that the only path toward an equitable future is to empower local civil society organizations to lead the transition from crisis management to permanent resilience. Our evidence-based model in Tamil Nadu, India—which targets the construction of **5,000 sustainable housing units** and a daily **nutrition program for 4,000 individuals**—serves as a scalable global blueprint for addressing **SDGs 1, 2, and 11**.

However, for such micro-level transformations to become a macro-level reality, the UN must facilitate a more inclusive global financial architecture. A critical innovation in our work is the deployment of **community-led micro-bonds** paired with financial literacy. This approach bypasses predatory lending cycles and fosters localized economic sovereignty. We propose that such innovative financing mechanisms be adopted as a global standard for grassroots development.

To "Deliver Better" on a global scale, INTJ urges the Economic and Social Council and Member States to adopt the following three transformative mandates:

First, there must be a radical **reform of international funding streams**. The UN should establish direct, recurring grant-in-aid mechanisms for NGOs in consultative status. Reducing the bureaucratic friction between global capital and local execution ensures that aid is not lost to administrative overhead but is instead converted into tangible infrastructure for the poor.

Second, we call for the creation of **International Legal Safeguards for Localized Finance**. Community-led financial instruments, such as micro-bonds, must be protected from global market shocks through UN-backed insurance frameworks. This would protect the savings and investments of the world's most vulnerable populations from external economic shifts.

Third, we demand **Equitable Digital Governance**. To ensure coordinated action, grassroots organizations must be granted access to high-fidelity AI and real-time data monitoring tools. This technology should not be a luxury of the Global North but a standard utility for the Global South to track SDG progress with accuracy and transparency.

Transformation is not a top-down mandate; it is a grassroots reality. India Thowheed Jamaath Trust remains committed to working alongside the United Nations to ensure that the promise of the 2030 Agenda—a sustainable and dignified future for all—is finally fulfilled.



Economic and Social Council

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50. Institution of Occupational Safety and Health

The Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) welcomes the theme of the 2026 High-level Political Forum (HLPF). With evidence suggesting we will not meet the 2030 Agenda, it is clear that progress across the SDGs depends on stronger collective and coordinated actions, with closer attention to interconnections across the SDGs.

At IOSH, we have evidenced and highlighted the contribution – both directly and indirectly – of good occupational safety and health (OSH) to the SDGs. We have said that good OSH contributes to 51 targets. However, as our thinking evolves, we are beginning to realise this number could actually be much higher. We have also identified and published IOSH's 10 Principles of good OSH, which can be used to promote a safe and healthy working environment as a fundamental principle and right at work. When we prevent harm to our workforce, we can create environments where people are safe and healthy and can thrive, which increases productivity, performance and sustainable development.

IOSH is the world's largest professional body for OSH professionals, with a vision of a safe and healthy world of work. We support the International Labour Organization's designation of a safe and healthy working environment as a fundamental principle and right at work. This is not only central to SDG 8 on decent work, it is also a critical enabler of progress across many other goals—particularly those under review at HLPF 2026.

SDG 6: access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is an essential element of workplace welfare provision, with these requirements embedded in national OSH law as well as international labour treaties.

SDG 7: the global transition to sustainable energy requires major investment in energy infrastructure and the workers who design, plan, build, operate and maintain it. Ensuring that these projects are safe by design and supported by effective OSH systems is essential.

SDG 9 and SDG 11: infrastructure and urban development are delivered by people working across complex supply chains and hazardous environments, exposing them to a variety of OSH risks. Embedding OSH principles throughout the full life cycle of infrastructure—planning, construction, use, maintenance and decommissioning— and within use of new technology, is fundamental to building inclusive, resilient and sustainable cities.

SDG 17: progress across the SDGs depends on effective governance, reliable data, and strong partnerships between governments, businesses, professional bodies and civil society. Good OSH contributes directly to policy coherence, accountability and capacity-building.

IOSH calls on governments and international institutions to place the prevention of work-related injury, ill-health (both physical and psychosocial), and fatalities at the heart of sustainable development. We also want to see ratification of OSH conventions, particularly C155 and C187. Investing in safe and healthy working environments keeps people in productive employment, reduces pressure on social protection systems, and supports inclusive, long-term economic and social development. Achieving the SDGs by 2030 will not be possible without safe, healthy and decent work. IOSH stands ready to work with governments, UN agencies and partners to translate this ambition into collective action.



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51. Instituto Ceu Estrela Guia

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished authorities, global leaders and civil society representatives. It is with profound honor that I address this assembly at the 2026 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, whose theme calls us to action: “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda”.

I speak today not only as a spiritual leader, but as a living witness to the pain and hope that inhabits the streets, the invisible homes and the forgotten hearts. I speak on behalf of those who often have no voice — those who face the cruelty of deprivations every day: hunger.

Hunger is not just the absence of food. It is the absence of dignity, opportunity and future. But today, I also bring a message of hope. Brazil, after years of profound challenges, once again fell off the hunger map. This feat is not the work of chance. It is the result of coordinated public policies, the strengthening of social protection networks, and above all, the mobilization of civil society, which decided not to accept poverty as destiny.

However, we need to understand that leaving the hunger map does not mean definitively overcoming hunger. It means we've taken an important step — but the journey continues. The 2030 Agenda calls us to transformation. And transformation requires courage to innovate, humility to cooperate and commitment to act.

In our experiences in Brazil, we learned that fighting hunger requires more than food distribution. It requires productive inclusion, access to education, respect for local cultures and appreciation of solidarity as a public policy. It requires seeing the human being in its entirety. Solidarity kitchens, food security programs and community initiatives show that, when the State and society work together, hunger recedes. But the world still faces an alarming scenario. Millions of people still do not have access to the basics to survive. This imposes a collective responsibility on us. Hunger anywhere in the world must be a wound for all humanity.

We cannot accept a sustainable future as long as there are children sleeping hungry.

Therefore, I call on this assembly: that we can transform commitments into concrete actions. May we finance, implement and monitor policies that put life at the center of decisions. May innovation be guided by equity. May development be measured not only by economic growth, but by the ability to guarantee dignity for all. And may we never lack compassion — because it is what transforms numbers into lives, and policies into hope. I end with the conviction that a world without hunger is not utopia. It's a choice.

**Economic and Social Council**

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52. International Association of Independent Journalists Inc

Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 could be achieved with the added support of the general public involved with the SDGs through popular votes!

At the United Nations many stakeholders will contribute there, but the most important stakeholders are all the actual individuals who are affected by the decisions made there. They deserve to have all their voices heard, and this could be done through smartphones potentially giving everyone on earth a vote through a popular vote on the SDGs by 2030. This vote would be held through an application on their smartphones, and these iOS and Android applications already exist as coded by our organization and can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Such applications could be downloaded by a smartphone user to their device and opening the application would allow that user the ability to vote in a popular vote on issues such as the SDGs by 2030.

We at the International Association of Independent Journalists Inc. made a report on this very subject (“Improving the Online Participation of the General Public at United Nations Events”) and the information that follows is from that report and updates. The numbers increase yearly, but in 2024 there were about 5.5 billion or 68.75% of the earth’s population who are online, and of that approximately 5.28 billion or 96% (that are online) use mobile devices to access the internet (Statista). The study also showed that 72.34% when polled would endorse this form of public participation at the United Nations. It was then shown that the total burden on the internet of a one-day global vote of 7.7 billion people on earth would only increase daily data usage by one eighth of one percent. Finally, the study showed that the Preamble and Article 8 and Article 71 of the “Charter of the United Nations”, permit men and women without discrimination to participate at the United Nations in all its organs. Therefore, a public worldwide vote can happen at the United Nations as endorsed by the “Charter of the United Nations”.

As the ultimate stakeholders, all our voices matter, so a public popular vote at the United Nations would have much merit, either in preventing war or contributing to better policy making and urgency for the SDGs by 2030

**Economic and Social Council**

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53. International Federation of Business and Professional Women

The International Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW International) welcomes the 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment and its call to deliver better in the final years of the 2030 Agenda. Founded in 1930 and holding General Consultative Status with ECOSOC, BPW International connects over a quarter of a million business and professional women across more than 100 countries on five continents. Under the 2024–2027 triennium theme “Inspire, Innovate, Empower, Transform: Together We Shape a Sustainable Future,” BPW International affirms that gender equality, women’s economic agency, and inclusive governance are not secondary concerns but structural prerequisites for all sustainable development.

Central to BPW International’s mission is the conviction that the empowerment of women is not only a development imperative but a prerequisite for lasting peace. For nearly a century, BPW has worked across borders and sectors to advance women’s economic independence, leadership, and full participation in public life – understanding that societies in which women are empowered are more stable, more equitable, and more resilient. This commitment is captured in BPW International’s higher vision: Peace through Women’s Empowerment. It is a vision that recognises peace not as the mere absence of conflict, but as the presence of justice, inclusion, and opportunity for all – conditions that are inseparable from the standing of women within any society. As the international community convenes to accelerate action on the 2030 Agenda, BPW International brings this vision to the table as both a moral framework and a practical guide.

BPW International affirms that the urgency of the 2026 HLPF theme is inseparable from progress on gender equality. With fewer than five years remaining until 2030 and the SDGs severely off-track, progress on SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals) will be neither transformative nor durable if women continue to be excluded from the design, financing, and governance of these systems. Women and girls bear disproportionate burdens when water is scarce, energy is inaccessible, infrastructure is absent, and cities are unsafe. They must be proportionately represented as agents of the solutions.

On SDG 6 and SDG 7, the absence of clean water and reliable energy falls most heavily on women’s time and labour. Women who spend hours collecting water or managing household energy are denied time for education, employment, and entrepreneurship. Investment in these areas is therefore also investment in women’s economic participation. BPW International urges Member States and international financial institutions to apply gender-disaggregated analysis to SDG 6 and SDG 7 programming and to ensure women’s organisations are meaningfully consulted in national planning processes.

On SDG 9, the persistent gender gap in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and in the digital economy, must be addressed as a structural barrier to innovation. Innovation systems that exclude women are less effective. BPW International calls for targeted financing mechanisms, mentoring programmes, and procurement policies that actively support women's participation and leadership in innovation ecosystems, and for civil society organisations to serve as accountability bridges in public-private partnerships.

On SDG 11, safe and inclusive cities require that women and girls can move through them freely, that informal housing does not leave women without legal protection, and that urban planning genuinely includes women's voices. BPW networks in cities across five continents document realities – from inadequate public lighting to exclusion from local governance – that must inform policy. We urge Member States to adopt gender-responsive urban governance frameworks and to align National Urban Policies with the Beijing Platform for Action.

On SDG 17, BPW International underlines that women's civil society organisations are not peripheral stakeholders but delivery partners, knowledge holders, and accountability mechanisms. The global BPW network reaches women entrepreneurs, professionals, and community leaders who are themselves implementing the 2030 Agenda. Strengthening SDG 17 means investing in the financial sustainability and participatory capacity of these organisations, not merely convening them for consultation.

BPW International calls the attention of the High-Level Segment to the Pact for the Future and to the Beijing+30 Action Agenda, whose six priority areas – the digital revolution, freedom from poverty, zero violence, equal decision-making, peace and security, and climate justice – are deeply interlinked with the SDGs under review in 2026. BPW International therefore calls on Member States to integrate gender-responsive analysis into all Voluntary National Reviews addressing these SDGs; to give women's organisations structured roles in the design and review of national SDG action plans; to increase gender-equitable financing in line with the Seville Commitment from the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development; and to ensure the 2026 Ministerial Declaration explicitly names gender equality as a cross-cutting condition for achieving SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11, and 17. Together, we shape a sustainable future – or we do not shape one at all.

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54. International Federation on Ageing

Population ageing is one of the defining global transformations of the twenty-first century. Longer lives reflect profound human progress, yet they also expose a critical gap between demographic reality and the systems designed to support people across the life course. The International Federation on Ageing submits this statement to emphasise that achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will depend in part on whether societies become “longevity-ready”: equipped to support health, participation, security and dignity across extended lives.

This statement contributes to the theme of the 2026 High-level Political Forum and the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council by highlighting the need for transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated action that integrates population ageing across all Sustainable Development Goals, including those under in-depth review.

The global population is ageing rapidly and unevenly. By 2050, it is projected one in six people will be aged 65 years or over, and in many countries older persons will soon outnumber younger generations. This shift intersects with urbanisation, climate change, technological transformation and economic restructuring. Critically, many countries are ageing before achieving high levels of income, infrastructure development or social protection. This “ageing before development” dynamic places additional pressure on systems that are not yet equipped to support longer lives.

This demographic transition presents both a profound challenge and a significant opportunity. Without forward-looking policies, countries risk entering a cycle where increased longevity is accompanied by rising inequality, fiscal strain and unmet care needs. With the right investments, however, longer lives can drive new forms of economic participation, innovation and social cohesion.

A central challenge is that ageing continues to be treated as a sectoral or late-life issue rather than a cross-cutting, life-course imperative. Policies related to poverty, water and sanitation, energy, decent work and economic growth, infrastructure, cities and partnerships are rarely designed with demographic shifts and longevity in mind. This is particularly challenging in low- and middle-income countries where demographic change is accelerating most rapidly, and the absence of integrated planning risks locking in structural inequities for decades.

Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all requires attention to accessibility, safety and usability across the life course. Older persons, particularly those with functional limitations, face barriers in accessing safe water and sanitation that must be captured in infrastructure planning. Similarly, access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy must consider the needs of ageing populations, including energy poverty, thermal comfort, and the role of energy in enabling health, care and digital connectivity in later life.

Efforts to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive industrialisation, support decent work and economic growth and foster innovation must recognise the growing importance of the “longevity economy”. Population ageing is reshaping labour markets, consumption patterns and innovation ecosystems. Ageing populations and the reality of longer lives must be considered within economic planning and renewed economic structures. Sustainable economic growth hinges on ensuring people can continue to participate and contribute as they age, including through the availability of decent work and continued health and wellbeing. Yet investment remains fragmented and insufficiently aligned with the opportunities and needs associated with demographic shifts and longer lives. More coordinated approaches are required to ensure that innovation supports inclusion, accessibility and equity.

Cities and human settlements are at the frontline of demographic change. Urban environments that are not designed for ageing populations can exacerbate isolation, limit mobility and increase vulnerability to climate-related risks. Conversely, age-friendly and inclusive urban design can enhance health, participation and intergenerational cohesion. Integrating ageing into urban planning is therefore essential to achieving safe, resilient and sustainable communities.

Underlying all these challenges is the need to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise global partnerships. Population ageing is a universal experience, yet responses remain fragmented across sectors and regions. There is a need for stronger coordination, knowledge sharing and alignment between governments, international organisations, civil society, academia and the private sector. Partnerships must also be more inclusive, ensuring that the voices and experiences of older persons and underrepresented regions are central to decision-making processes.

The International Federation on Ageing emphasises that addressing population ageing requires a shift from reactive, siloed approaches to integrated, system-level transformation. This includes embedding ageing considerations across policy domains, strengthening intersectoral governance, and investing in data, evidence and capacity to inform decision-making.

Planning for demographic change must become a core element of sustainable development strategies. This includes anticipating shifts in dependency ratios, labour markets, care demand and fiscal sustainability, and aligning investments accordingly. Countries require forward-looking policy frameworks that integrate demographic data into planning across sectors, ensuring that development pathways remain viable in the context of ageing populations.

In this context, the following priorities are proposed as a way forward. First, governments and international institutions should integrate healthy ageing and longevity into national and global development strategies across all Sustainable Development Goals. This requires adopting a life-course approach that recognises the cumulative impact of social, economic and environmental determinants on health and wellbeing in older age.

Second, there is a need to invest in age-inclusive infrastructure and services, including water, sanitation, energy and housing systems that are accessible, affordable and resilient. Standards and design principles should reflect diverse functional needs and be informed by the experiences of older persons.

Third, countries should strengthen health and care systems to support functional ability across the life course, including prevention, primary health care and long-term care. Community-based and integrated care models are essential to ensuring that people can age with dignity and independence.

Fourth, innovation and digital transformation must be guided by principles of inclusion, equity and human rights. Technologies such as artificial intelligence and assistive devices have significant potential to support healthy ageing, but only if access, affordability and ethical considerations are addressed.

Fifth, there is an urgent need to recognise and invest in the care economy as both a social and economic priority. This includes supporting the care workforce, recognising unpaid caregivers, and developing sustainable financing models for long-term care systems.

Sixth, global and regional partnerships should be strengthened to accelerate knowledge exchange, capacity building and coordinated action. Platforms that connect stakeholders across sectors and regions can play a critical role in translating commitments into implementation and scaling effective solutions.

Finally, efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals must explicitly address ageism and promote the human rights of older persons. This includes advancing legal and policy frameworks that protect dignity, autonomy and participation, and fostering narratives that recognise the contributions of older persons to society. In this regard, the United Nations Human Rights Council's recent resolution to advance a legally binding instrument on the rights of older persons ([A/HRC/RES/58/13](#)) represents a critical opportunity to strengthen global accountability and align policies with human rights obligations.

The International Federation on Ageing stands ready to work with Member States and partners to support these priorities through convening, knowledge mobilisation and policy engagement. As a global connector and knowledge broker, the International Federation on Ageing contributes to aligning evidence, practice and policy to accelerate progress towards longevity-ready societies.

The 2030 Agenda cannot be achieved without recognising and responding to the realities of population ageing. Transformative, equitable and coordinated action must therefore place healthy ageing and longevity at the centre of sustainable development planning. The choices made today will determine whether demographic change constrains progress or becomes a catalyst for inclusive and sustainable growth.



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55. International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development

Rebuilding Resilient Future through Agenda-30 in LDCs

Excellences, distinguished delegates,

We submit this statement as a leading human rights organization based in Nepal, one of the world's least developed countries, where we advocate for graduation from LDC status to middle-income status by December 2023, while supporting the broader 2030 Agenda. The 2030 Agenda is an affirmation of dignity, justice, and sustainability for all. Yet LDCs like Nepal face real and persistent barriers to achieving these goals such as structural vulnerabilities, climate shocks, excessive debt, and an extremely constrained fiscal space. Moving forward requires transformative, equitable, and coordinated actions that genuinely put people first.

Climate change is an existential threat to LDCs. In Nepal and across the developing world, glaciers are melting, monsoon patterns are growing unpredictable, sea levels are rising, and droughts and floods are intensifying. Mountainous countries and small island nations bear the heaviest burden of these changes despite contributing the least to the crisis. The time for urgent action is now. Further delays will deepen poverty, drive displacement, and erode already fragile ecosystems. Global solidarity and meaningful climate justice are not optional, they are essential to ensuring LDCs can build a resilient future.

Reliable and affordable financing remains a cornerstone of progress. Debt cancellation and regional solidarity funds can open new pathways while reducing over-reliance on traditional donors. Digital tools hold enormous promise for improving education, health, and governance, and affordable internet access paired with genuine digital literacy can empower even the most marginalized communities. Renewable energy, nature-based solutions, and community-led adaptation are equally vital. Women-led cooperatives, youth enterprises, and indigenous knowledge are not peripheral, they are central to real, lasting change. Social innovation matters just as much as technology, and scaling these homegrown models builds ownership, trust, and long-term sustainability.

No country reaches the SDGs on its own. Fair trade, inclusive multilateralism, and genuine technology transfer are the foundations of partnerships that actually serve LDC development priorities. The evidence is already there: community micro-hydropower projects in Nepal have brought electricity to rural households, reducing both poverty and emissions. Mobile health platforms across Africa have saved lives by connecting mothers to real-time maternal care. Indigenous communities across the Pacific have embedded climate adaptation into their national plans, deepening social cohesion in the process.

We urge the establishment of a global SDG acceleration fund tailored specifically to LDC needs to prioritize debt relief, sustainable investment, and community-driven innovation with robust technical and financial backing. Universal digital access by 2030 is achievable, but it demands affordable infrastructure and credible accountability mechanisms to ensure that the promise of the SDGs reaches everyone and that no one is left behind and offline!



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56. International Mayor Communication Centre Limited

We are in a time of profound geopolitical transformation, marked by the lingering shadows of war, the increasingly severe challenge of global climate deterioration and the impact of the digital wave. Cities are evolving from subordinate units of their countries into autonomous geopolitical actors. International Mayor Communication Centre Limited (also known as the International Mayors Communication Centre) is more committed to its mission “to convey culture and promote sustainable development,” uniting city decision-makers from diverse cultural and institutional backgrounds, continuing the “Dialogue with Global Mayors” roadmap, and promoting the sharing of urban civilization and technological progress achievements between city stakeholders in China and other countries.

In 2025 and 2026, we were invited to several events held by the UN-Habitat to promote the “New Urban Agenda,” including the Global Stakeholder Forum and the first and second global stakeholder dialogues with the executive director. We have maintained close interaction with global partners. Jin Lan (Lily Jin), founder of our organization, was selected from 247 experts worldwide to join the 15-member Drafting Committee for the outcome document of the Global Stakeholder Forum. She made several recommendations for the development of UN-Habitat’s 2026-2029 Strategic Plan. Among them, her recommendations on revitalizing global partnerships, improving digital city governance capabilities, bridging intergenerational poverty caused by the digital divide, strengthening the leading role of local governments in the construction of urban public spaces, innovating green finance products, and establishing a global volunteer alliance were adopted in the Global Stakeholder Forum Declaration to the UN-Habitat Assembly. In December, 2025, Dr. Ash Pachauri, Mr. Zhiyao (Yao) Ma, and Ms. Yang Yang joined our Board of Directors. These new generation directors born in the 1980s and 1990s have injected innovative vitality into our organization.

In March 2026, the project of “Shenzhen Shuiwei 3D Community – From urban defects to vibrant affordable housing community” submitted by our organization was selected as a demonstration project in the UN-Habitat Call for Housing Practices. The project’s achievements are set to be showcased at the 13th World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku, Azerbaijan in May 2026, and will be included in the UN-Habitat’s online database. It is Shenzhen’s first pilot project to revitalize an “urban village” into an affordable housing community for talents. It is one of those “transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions” as mentioned by the theme of the 2026 High-level Political Forum. We hereby call on global stakeholders to respond to our organization’s focus for 2026: transforming cities, making green and low-carbon living a belief for every city, community, and citizen of the earth in protecting our blue planet, and advocating for global unity to build a community with a shared future for the earth!



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57. International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development

Transformative and Just Action: Civil Society Perspectives for Accelerating the SDGs toward 2030

With only four years remaining until 2030, the SDGs are in critical condition. The UN SDGs Report 2025 notes that only 35% of targets are on track, while 48% are progressing slowly and 18% have regressed. In the Asia-Pacific, UNESCAP 2024 projects that none of the 17 SDGs will be achieved before 2062, 32 years behind schedule. CSO Indonesia People's Scorecard 2025 highlights this at the national level. Based on the CSO Indonesia PSC 2025 survey, Indonesia's SDG progress falls in the "very low progress" category, scoring just 13.72 out of 100 (INFID).

Three key structural barriers urgently need to be addressed: (1) Widening inequality, 1 in 10 people still lives in extreme poverty, and UNSTATS 2023 reports that developing countries' debt burden reached USD 1.4 trillion in 2023, narrowing fiscal space; (2) Weak governance and accountability, policy commitments are often not followed by effective implementation; (3) Marginalization of vulnerable groups, women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and remote communities are excluded due to the absence of GEDSI-disaggregated data. The climate crisis compounds all these barriers.

Call to Action

To Member State Governments:

1. Strengthen transparency, accountability, and inclusive governance: ensure SDG monitoring mechanisms are accessible to civil society with disaggregated data, and meaningfully engage CSOs in planning, budgeting, and evaluation at all levels.
2. Align development plans with SDG targets, allocate adequate budgets, and provide accessible funding for local-level SDG implementation.
3. Adopt ambitious climate policies in line with the Paris Agreement: end fossil fuel subsidies, terminate environmentally harmful programs, and protect the land rights of affected indigenous communities.
4. Protect civic space and vulnerable groups — especially women, children, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples — including by ending the criminalization of human rights defenders, activists, and journalists.

To the UN and the International Community:

1. Fulfill the ODA commitment of 0.7% of GNI per the Monterrey Consensus and deliver on climate finance pledges. The SDG financing gap is estimated at USD 4.2 trillion per year.
2. Advance global tax justice through a binding international tax cooperation framework under the UN (not only the OECD) to halt illicit financial flows and tax avoidance that harm developing nations.
3. Support fair and multilateral debt restructuring mechanisms for developing countries to preserve fiscal space for SDG investment.
4. Expand civil society engagement in the HLPF and ECOSOC, including grassroots organizations, women, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples as decisive voices in shaping global solutions.

INFID calls for the remaining four years of Agenda 2030 to be seized as a moment for transformative and just action. "No One Left Behind" must be a binding commitment, not merely a slogan



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58. International Organization of Employers

Employers are engaged and committed to High Level Political Forum “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda”.

Employers remain actively engaged and committed to the HLPF theme of “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda,” recognising the essential role of the private sector in delivering sustainable and inclusive development outcomes. This statement highlights key priorities and challenges from the perspective of employers, and outlines areas where strengthened collaboration is urgently needed. From job creation to contributing to the development of both hard and soft infrastructure, the private sector is engaged at global and local levels. It continues to leverage innovation, technology, and data to advance the 2030 Agenda supporting economic growth, decent work and improving livelihoods.

With some 2.2 billion people without access to the Internet, there is a significant risk that many will be left behind, especially in an era of increasingly shaped by technology and artificial intelligence. While digitalisation is essential, it must be accompanied by adequate investment in soft infrastructure, including educational systems, training programmes, and skills development. Without these, employers will face growing challenges in accessing the talent needed to drive productivity, innovation and economic growth.

Conducive business environment remains a fundamental requirement. We have been discussing the importance of a business-enabling environment, but we must step up to address issues such as corruption, lack of infrastructure, informality, poor legal frameworks, and insufficient adherence to the rule of law. Addressing these barriers is critical to unlocking investment in small and medium-sized enterprises, including those led by women, particularly in small island developing states and least developed countries, as well as in nations facing urgent demographic pressures for job creation. Through its role as co-chair of the Business and Industry Major Group, and its leadership engagement with the International Labour Organization and other organizations, the International Organisation of Employers remains committed to working both globally and at the country level. This includes engagement with the United Nations Resident Coordinators to support the design and implementation of policies and projects that enable business to grow and contribute effectively to national development goals.

While welcoming ongoing efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of High-Level Political Forum and the Economic and Social Council, employers note with concern a declining level of engagement from business community in these processes. There is a need for more focused, efficient and result oriented engagement. Streamlined processes, reduced procedural burdens, and more targeted discussions on priority Sustainable Development Goals would enhance participation and impact. As mentioned in many forums at the UN, employers emphasize the importance of strengthening private sector engagement within the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. As the 2030 timeline draws nearer, efforts must focus on both accelerating implementation and ensuring continued collaboration beyond 2030 to support lasting and inclusive development outcomes.



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59. International Shinto Foundation (ISF)

Harmony in Action: Japan's Vision for Equitable and Innovative SDG Implementation

Japan stands committed to advancing the 2030 Agenda through the lens of our foundational principle of "monono-aware"—a deep appreciation for the interconnectedness of all things. This philosophy guides our approach to transformative action for sustainable development.

As an aging society with a shrinking population, Japan recognizes that demographic challenges are not obstacles but catalysts for innovation. Our experience in developing inclusive technologies, green infrastructure, and circular economy models demonstrates that constraints breed creativity. We invite the global community to learn from our journey of doing more with less, transforming demographic headwinds into opportunities for sustainable prosperity.

Japan's commitment to the SDGs is inseparable from our regional responsibilities in Asia-Pacific. We champion the concept of "quality infrastructure"—not merely building roads and bridges, but creating systems that enhance human dignity and environmental stewardship. Through our Development Cooperation Charter and Indo-Pacific Vision, we invest in partners' capacities to achieve self-reliant, sustainable growth.

Innovation remains Japan's cornerstone. From hydrogen technology to AI-driven solutions for healthcare and education, we demonstrate that technological advancement must serve human flourishing. We pledge to accelerate technology transfer and capacity-building partnerships, particularly for least developed countries and small island developing states. However, transformation requires addressing systemic inequities. Japan acknowledges the gendered nature of sustainability challenges and commits to advancing women's leadership in climate action, economic participation, and peacebuilding. We recognize that indigenous knowledge systems, including those in our own communities, hold invaluable insights for sustainable resource management.

The urgency of 2030 demands coordinated action across sectors. Japan calls for strengthened partnerships between governments, private sector, civil society, and academia. Our "Society 5.0" model—integrating digital, physical, human systems—offers a framework for achieving multiple SDGs simultaneously while ensuring no one is left behind. As we accelerate toward 2030, Japan commits to:

- Enhancing climate action and nature-based solutions
- Expanding inclusive education and lifelong learning opportunities
- Strengthening resilience in vulnerable nations
- Mobilizing sustainable finance for SDG implementation

The 2030 Agenda is not a destination but a transformation of how humanity relates to itself and the planet. Japan, drawing on centuries of harmony-seeking traditions and contemporary innovation, dedicates itself to this sacred responsibility.



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60. International Student Surgical Network

The International Student Surgical Network, representing students, trainees and early-career professionals committed to advancing safe, timely and affordable access to surgical, obstetric, trauma and anaesthesia care for all, welcomes the 2026 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and its focus on transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions to advance the 2030 Agenda.

As implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals accelerates, it is increasingly evident that progress depends not only on commitments across sectors, but on the ability of systems to deliver essential services in an integrated, reliable and equitable manner. Service delivery offers a critical interface through which the effectiveness of policies on water and sanitation (SDG 6), energy (SDG 7), infrastructure and innovation (SDG 9), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), and partnerships (SDG 17) can be meaningfully assessed. In this context, the ability to deliver emergency, critical and operative care serves as a practical indicator of whether these systems function cohesively in practice.

The provision of emergency, critical and operative care illustrates this interdependence. Safe care cannot be delivered without adequate water, sanitation and hygiene systems to ensure infection prevention and control. It relies on continuous and reliable energy for essential equipment, oxygen delivery and life-saving interventions. It depends on functional infrastructure, including transport systems and supply chains, to enable timely access to services. It is shaped by the design and organization of communities, which determine whether individuals, regardless of location, can reach care when needed. These interconnected requirements highlight that service delivery is not confined to the health sector but reflects the performance and coordination of multiple systems.

Persistent gaps in access to essential care are therefore indicative of broader systemic challenges. These gaps disproportionately affect populations facing structural inequities, undermining efforts to achieve inclusive development and resilience. At the same time, strengthening integrated service delivery contributes to poverty reduction, economic participation and preparedness for shocks, including those linked to climate and environmental change. The functioning of care systems is also closely connected to planetary health, as environmental pressures increasingly shape both the demand for services and the capacity of systems to respond.

The International Student Surgical Network calls upon Member States and stakeholders to adopt coordinated, cross-sectoral approaches that explicitly recognize the interdependence of these domains. Investments in water and sanitation, energy, infrastructure and community systems should be designed and evaluated based on their ability to support the delivery of essential services under real-world conditions. This includes prioritizing equity, strengthening system integration, and fostering innovation that enhances reliability, sustainability and reach. Furthermore, partnerships under SDG 17 should actively engage youth and early-career professionals as contributors to contextually grounded and forward-looking solutions. Interdisciplinary collaboration will be essential to ensure that systems are responsive, adaptable and capable of meeting evolving needs.

As the High-level Political Forum advances dialogue on pathways toward 2030, the International Student Surgical Network underscores that the capacity of systems to deliver essential, life-saving services in a timely, equitable and coordinated manner will remain a defining measure of progress across the Sustainable Development Goals.



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61. International Tunnelling Association

Kathak Academy, an organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, respectfully submits this statement to the 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

The International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA) supports the mission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) by advancing solutions for sustainable, resilient infrastructure through the responsible use of underground space. As global cities and regions face mounting pressures from climate change, rapid urbanisation and resource constraints, underground solutions offer decisive contributions by reducing land-use conflicts, protecting ecosystems and strengthening climate adaption. ITA promotes the strategic integration of subsurface infrastructure within broader development policies, aligning closely with the High-Level Segment's call for action. By combining engineering excellence, policy dialogue and international knowledge exchange, ITA contributes to accelerating progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through its global network of experts, ITA fosters equitable access to infrastructure in both developed and emerging economies. Its work directly advances SDG 9 (Industry Innovation and Infrastructure) by enabling safe, efficient, and low-carbon transport systems, and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through improved urban resilience, land use and more liveable cities. ITA actively contributes to SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering collaboration between governments, academia, industry and international organisations.

ITA contributes to the critical role of underground space to efficient, inclusive and sustainable progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Its technical expertise and global perspective position it to advocate for innovative and coordinated actions that not only address immediate infrastructure needs but also support long-term sustainability and resilience.

ITA's technical committees play a central role in translating global sustainability ambitions into practical outcomes. The ITA Committee on Education and Training (ITACET) builds global capacity through training programmes and dissemination of best practices. The ITA Committee on Underground Space (ITACUS) promotes the strategic use of underground space in urban planning, while the ITA Committee on Operational Safety of Underground Facilities (ITA COSUF) advances best practices and knowledge exchange on the safe and secure operation of tunnels and underground facilities. Innovation is advanced through the ITA Committee on Technologies (ITAtch), and the Special Purpose Sustainability Committee provides common frameworks and metrics to assess project performance.

Furthermore, ITA's extensive network of 15 Working Groups delivers technical guidance, recommendations and reports across key areas such as risk management, urban integration, energy efficiency and digitalization. Together these activities ensure that ITA's contributions are technically robust, globally inclusive and closely aligned with ECOSOC's mandate to advance coordinated actions towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



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62. Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF)

Transformative Youth Leadership for the 2030 Agenda by Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF)

The Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum submits this statement to the 2026 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to emphasize the indispensable role of young people in advancing transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As the international community enters the final phase toward 2030, this statement highlights how youth-led initiatives and partnerships can accelerate urgent and transformative action.

Youth represent a driving force for sustainable development, yet they continue to face structural barriers in access to quality education, decent employment, digital opportunities, and meaningful participation in decision-making processes. These challenges are particularly pronounced in developing countries, where economic instability, climate change, and technological disparities risk widening existing inequalities. Addressing these gaps is essential to deliver better outcomes and ensure that no one is left behind.

The Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum recognizes that achieving the objectives of the 2026 High-level Political Forum requires a shift from commitment to implementation. Through its programs in entrepreneurship, leadership development, and capacity-building, the Forum has supported young people in contributing directly to sustainable development across regions. In April 2026, the Forum implemented a Young Climate Volunteers Camp, equipping young participants with practical skills in environmental sustainability, climate adaptation, and community-based response mechanisms. This initiative demonstrated how youth-led, locally grounded actions can strengthen resilience and support sustainable communities.

Experience shows that when young people are equipped with skills, digital tools, and opportunities for engagement, they become key contributors to sustainable solutions. Youth-led innovation not only advances economic development but also enhances social cohesion and environmental sustainability. However, scaling such impact requires stronger coordination among governments, international organizations, and civil society.

The way forward requires integrating youth perspectives into national and international development frameworks. Governments are encouraged to institutionalize youth participation in planning and implementation processes related to the Sustainable Development Goals. Increased investment in education systems aligned with future labor market needs, including digital and green skills, is essential. Furthermore, expanding cross-border partnerships will facilitate knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and capacity-building among young people from different regions.

The Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum calls for a transition from symbolic inclusion of youth to meaningful partnership. Strengthening support for youth-led initiatives, fostering innovation ecosystems, and promoting inclusive policies will accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. Empowering young people today is essential to ensuring a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient future for all.



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63. Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology Deemed to be University

Delivering better through cultural diplomacy and global citizenship: The India Trek model”

The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology Deemed to be University (KIIT-DU), is a multidisciplinary University hosting over 40,000 students from more than 65 countries, representing a globally engaged academic institution advancing global citizenship, multilateral dialogue and the advancement of Sustainable Development Goals through education and partnerships. In alignment with the 2026 ECOSOC theme, “*Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030*”; KIIT-DU demonstrates how education led engagement can translate global priorities into meaningful action.

India Trek, the flagship programme of KIIT-DU serves as a strategic platform for advancing cultural diplomacy, global citizenship and multilateral engagement, contributing directly to the Sustainable Development Goals particularly SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institution) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). The initiative demonstrates people-centered engagement and cross-cultural exchange to accelerate inclusive and effective SDG outcomes. It brings together students, scholars and emerging leaders globally to interact with India’s policy, governance and development ecosystem through a blended policy dialogue, academic exchange, grassroots exposure and cultural immersion.

A key contribution of India Trek lies in strengthening global citizenship as a driver of sustainable development. Through direct engagement with diverse stakeholders, participants build competencies in intercultural understanding, systems thinking and collaborative problem solving, equipping them to contribute to multilateral processes and SDG implementation across contexts.

The initiative also advances cultural diplomacy as a tool for international cooperation, promoting mutual understanding, trust-building and sustained institutional relationships. India Trek supports the shift from dialogue to delivery, crucial for accelerating progress toward the 2030 Agenda. By connecting participants with development models and policy ecosystems, India Trek demonstrates how integrated and coordinated approaches can generate tangible impact, highlighting the importance of aligning global commitments with context-specific implementation.

From a policy perspective, the India Trek model highlights key approaches for delivering better SDG outcomes:

- Strengthening cultural diplomacy and global citizenship as enablers of international cooperation
- Promoting engagement-driven, people-centered partnerships
- Facilitating multi-level collaboration across policy, academic and community ecosystems
- Leveraging soft power to build trust and sustained global partnerships
- Advancing action-oriented learning models that translate knowledge into impact

The India Trek model offers a replicable model of engagement-driven global collaboration, demonstrating how education, culture and partnerships can converge to deliver more inclusive, coordinated and transformative SDG outcomes. It underscores a critical shift toward approaches that are not only collaborative but also grounded in shared responsibility and sustained action.



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64. Kathak Academy

Kathak Academy, an organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, respectfully submits this statement to the **2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment**.

We welcome the continued commitment of the international community to accelerate progress towards the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. At a time of growing global inequality, climate vulnerability, youth unemployment, public health challenges, and social exclusion, it is essential to strengthen inclusive, community-driven, and people-centered development strategies.

From our experience working with vulnerable and marginalized communities, we have observed that sustainable development can only be achieved when local communities, youth, women, and civil society organizations are recognized as key development partners. Their participation is critical in shaping practical, equitable, and lasting solutions.

Kathak Academy calls upon Member States, United Nations agencies, development partners, and financial institutions to prioritize:

1. **Inclusive community development**, especially for underserved and vulnerable populations;
2. **Youth empowerment and leadership**, including skills development, civic participation, and employment opportunities;
3. **Quality education and digital inclusion**, ensuring equal access to knowledge, innovation, and technology;
4. **Climate resilience and environmental sustainability**, particularly for communities facing the effects of climate change, disasters, and ecological degradation;
5. **Accessible public health and social protection systems**, especially for women, children, persons with disabilities, and low-income households.
6. **Stronger support for civil society organizations**, including financing, capacity-building, and participation in decision-making processes.

We further emphasize the importance of **international cooperation, technology transfer, and equitable financing** to support developing countries in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals effectively and without delay.

The ECOSOC High-Level Segment offers a vital platform to renew multilateral commitment, strengthen partnerships, and ensure that no one is left behind. We urge all stakeholders to translate commitments into measurable actions that improve the lives of people at the grassroots level.

Kathak Academy remains committed to supporting the work of the United Nations and contributing to inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable development for all.



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65. Knowledge Mill International Foundation

Knowledge Mill International Foundation Nigeria has submitted for consideration at the 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment and the High-Level Political Forum its highlights transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions required to accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. It presents the Foundation's long-term educational vision and its flagship African Heritage Accord as strategic contributions to global reconciliation, peace and sustainable development. It reaffirms its commitment to advancing people-centered solutions that strengthen social cohesion, inclusive development and support the international community's efforts to deliver better outcomes for all.

Transformative Pathways for a Sustainable and Peaceful Future

The world is at a critical juncture where uneven progress, widening inequalities, and persistent social fractures continue to slow the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. For countries with complex social identities such as Nigeria, the challenges of multi-ethnic, multi-religious, multi-cultural, and multilingual realities require approaches that go beyond conventional development interventions. The Foundation works at the intersection of education, social entrepreneurship, and community development, recognizing that sustainable transformation must begin with people, identity, and the systems that shape socialization. The Foundation's thirty-year generational education agenda is designed to address these structural issues by engaging learners from kindergarten to tertiary levels in a holistic process that nurtures civic consciousness, national unity, and a level playing field for all. This long-term approach aims to alter traditional boundaries and cultivate a shared sense of belonging essential for peaceful and inclusive societies. In addition to its educational work, the Foundation advances the African Heritage Accord, global plan for reconciliation and peace draws inspiration from the United Nations proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, which emphasizes recognition, justice and development. Building on this global mandate, the Accord provides a framework for healing historical divides, strengthening relationships between Africa and its global diaspora and promoting solidarity across communities. By fostering dialogue, cultural understanding and collaborative action contributes to the realization of peaceful, just and inclusive societies supporting the broader vision of coordinated global efforts for sustainable development.

Looking ahead, the Foundation encourages the international community to prioritize long-term, people-centered strategies that address the root causes of fragmentation and inequality. Investments in transformative education models, such as the generational agenda can equip young people with the values, skills and identity frameworks needed to sustain peaceful and resilient societies. The Accord offers a scalable model for reconciliation that can strengthen partnerships and accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. Greater support for community-driven initiatives, enhanced cooperation between governments and civil society and renewed commitment to inclusive development will be essential for achieving better and meaningful results by 2030.



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66. Krityanand UNESCO Club Jamshedpur

Krityanand UNESCO Club, Jamshedpur, welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 ECOSOC High-level Segment, with a focus on advancing **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)** and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires both inclusive economic progress and strengthened collaboration across all sectors of society.

On SDG 8, persistent challenges such as youth unemployment, underemployment, and limited access to skills development continue to hinder inclusive growth. There is an urgent need to invest in market-relevant education, digital inclusion, and entrepreneurship support. Promoting sustainable and green jobs can further align economic growth with environmental responsibility.

On SDG 17, effective partnerships are essential to accelerate progress. Governments alone cannot achieve the SDGs. Collaboration with civil society, local organizations, academia, and the private sector enhances innovation, mobilizes resources, and ensures context-specific solutions.

Krityanand UNESCO Club emphasizes the following recommendations:

- Strengthen skill development systems aligned with evolving labor market needs and future economies.
- Promote youth entrepreneurship and innovation, especially at the community level.
- Enhance multi-stakeholder partnerships that facilitate knowledge sharing, funding, and capacity building.
- Support grassroots organizations as key implementation partners in achieving the SDGs.

Local initiatives play a critical role in translating global commitments into tangible outcomes. Partnerships that are inclusive and equitable can amplify impact and foster sustainable change.

In conclusion, accelerating progress on SDG 8 and SDG 17 requires coordinated, inclusive, and partnership-driven approaches. By investing in people and strengthening collaboration, we can build resilient economies and achieve sustainable development for all.

Krityanand UNESCO Club calls upon ECOSOC and Member States to prioritize inclusive growth and meaningful partnerships to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.



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67. La Verità Onlus - International Diplomacy

We welcome the 2026 High-Level Segment of ECOSOC and its focus on “delivering better” through transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated actions to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With only four years remaining until 2030, the urgency to move from commitments to measurable impact has never been greater.

From our perspective, the current pace of implementation remains insufficient and uneven. While important policy frameworks exist, gaps persist in financing, inclusion, accountability, and local ownership. Communities most affected by poverty, inequality, climate change, and conflict continue to be excluded from decision-making processes that directly impact their lives. This undermines both the legitimacy and effectiveness of SDGs implementation.

We emphasize that transformation must begin at the local level. Civil society organizations, including youth groups, women-led initiatives, Indigenous communities, and informal networks, are already driving innovative solutions. However, they face structural barriers such as limited access to funding, shrinking civic space, and insufficient recognition as equal partners. We call on ECOSOC and Member States to institutionalize meaningful participation of civil society in all stages of policy design, implementation, and monitoring.

Equity must be placed at the center of all actions. This includes addressing systemic inequalities, ensuring gender equality, and prioritizing those furthest behind first. Without targeted efforts, the SDGs risk reinforcing existing disparities rather than reducing them. Social protection systems, universal access to quality public services, and inclusive digital transformation are key enablers of equitable progress.

Innovation should not be understood solely in technological terms. Social innovation, community-led practices, and traditional knowledge systems are equally critical. Scaling up these approaches requires flexible funding mechanisms, cross-sector partnerships, and a shift away from top-down models toward co-creation with communities.

Coordination across sectors and governance levels remains a major challenge. Fragmentation leads to inefficiencies and missed opportunities. We recommend strengthening policy coherence, aligning national development strategies with local realities, and enhancing collaboration between governments, UN agencies, financial institutions, and civil society.

We stand ready to partner with ECOSOC and the United Nations to deliver on the promise of the 2030 Agenda. Achieving the SDGs requires not only ambition, but trust, inclusion, and shared responsibility. Only through genuine collaboration can we build a sustainable future for all.

Recommendations to Member States

1. Increase direct, accessible, and flexible funding for civil society organizations, particularly in the Global South.
2. Protect and expand civic space to enable safe and meaningful participation.
3. Strengthen accountability mechanisms, including transparent data systems and community-led monitoring.
4. Invest in education, capacity-building, and digital inclusion to empower local actors.
5. Promote integrated approaches that address climate, social, and economic challenges simultaneously.

**Economic and Social Council**

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68. Legion of Good Will

We, from the Legion of Good Will (LGW), hereby present our contributions to the theme of the 2026 High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC): “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all.” The 2026 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), recognizing the integrated, indivisible, and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), will conduct in-depth reviews of SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11, and 17.

We are a Brazilian non-profit organization with general consultative status with the UN/ECOSOC. Supported by donations from individuals and private sector, the LGW was founded on January 1, 1950 (World Peace and Universal Fraternity Day), in Rio de Janeiro/RJ, Brazil, and is currently presided over by journalist and radio broadcaster Francisco Periotto. We operate in the field of Social Assistance and provide basic and technical vocational education, in addition to developing humanitarian, cultural, social communication, and educational initiatives, always focusing on the complete development of the human being. Beyond Brazil, this work is also carried out in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States, and Uruguay, and sustained by donations from the populations of each of these countries

The LGW reaffirms its commitment to the 2030 Agenda since its establishment, as it develops ongoing initiatives that contribute to building more just, solidary, and sustainable societies. Its work is grounded in a systemic approach to the SDGs, recognizing the eradication of poverty (SDG 1) as a fundamental pillar for achieving the other goals.

Socio-economic Context and Structural Challenges

In Brazil, the year 2025 was particularly challenging. Inflation—especially in food and essential services—continued to strain the budgets of low-income families, in a context where 18.9 million Brazilian households still face some level of food insecurity (National Household Sample Survey – Continuous PNAD, released in October 2025 by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics - IBGE). Despite improvements in employment indicators, a large portion of the population remained in informal work, with limited social protection and unstable income—factors that contributed to rising household debt.

Compounding this scenario is the worsening impact of extreme weather events, such as floods, prolonged droughts, intense cold, and heatwaves. These events primarily affected peripheral communities and regions in situations of greater vulnerability, compromising housing conditions, access to safe drinking water, and food security.

In this context, the operations of the Legion of Good Will—offering more than 11 million services and benefits in 2025—demonstrate the strategic role of social assistance as a public social protection policy. It aims to mitigate multidimensional vulnerabilities, respond to emergencies, promote access to rights, and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations. The Organization also provided 3,539,782 snacks and meals for children, adolescents, youth, adults, and older people assisted daily across its more than 80 units; as well as 1,209,360 services and benefits specifically directed to the elderly population. More than 321,000 people were impacted by the LGW's socio-educational work.

LGW's Contribution to the SDGs

Within the scope of **SDG 6 — Clean Water and Sanitation**, despite its water abundance, Brazil still faces significant inequalities in access to safe drinking water and sanitation. This primarily affects the North and Northeast regions, rural areas, and urban peripheries, with direct impacts on health and quality of life. Although not directly involved in water infrastructure, the LGW utilizes rainwater harvesting systems for reuse in several of its units and promotes ongoing awareness campaigns and socio-educational actions regarding responsible water use and sanitation education.

Regarding **SDG 7 — Affordable and Clean Energy**, the LGW's contribution occurs indirectly, by ensuring the continuity of its work in vulnerable territories. Through consolidated institutional structures, trained teams, and stable organizational processes, the Organization also promotes responsible and efficient resource management, aligned with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) best practices. This underscores energy as an indispensable element for guaranteeing the basic rights of populations, especially the most fragile.

With respect to **SDG 9 — Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**, the LGW stands out in the field of innovation. Its service units operate as socio-educational support hubs, creating opportunities and reducing inequalities in access to essential services. The Organization applies an innovative educational line developed by educator Paiva Netto (1941-2025), consisting of the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy. Grounded in Ecumenical Spirituality, this approach combines reason (mind) with feeling (heart) and is oriented toward the complete development of the human being. By valuing ethics, emotions, individual talents, and high-quality intellectual development, the LGW promotes violence-free environments with a zero-dropout rate, demonstrating the consistent and lasting impact of its human-centered social innovation across physical, psychological, spiritual, and social dimensions of individuals.

In this context, the *Good Will Apprentice Program* is also noteworthy. It prepares adolescents and young people for the labor market through technical and vocational training combined with the development of socio-emotional, civic, and digital skills. The initiative is carried out in partnership with the private

sector—totaling 338 companies—and contributes to workforce qualification, expanding opportunities and fostering the productive inclusion of historically vulnerable groups.

The LGW's work is significantly aligned with **SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities and Communities**, particularly in territories with high social vulnerability. Through its socio-educational and humanitarian efforts, the Organization contributes to strengthening community resilience, promoting social coexistence and a Culture of Peace, extending the reach of its initiatives beyond the locations where it maintains physical facilities.

Among its best practices, the socio-educational track “Me and the City,” developed within the scope of the *Children: the Future in the Present!* bonding-strengthening service, is directly aligned with this SDG by encouraging social participation and territorial engagement.

In Goiânia/GO, Brazil, children and adolescents assisted by the LGW visited public facilities, learned about their functions, and created the “City Heroes.” In the outskirts of São José/SC, the activity addressed social responsibility and care for shared spaces. An example of this impact is the experience of 10-year-old Jackson Emanuel Cardoso de Oliveira. Motivated by the proposed reflections, he took action to improve his surroundings. Concerned about the condition of a river and a park near his home, he sought support from the local government to clean the area, successfully contributing to its revitalization. In addition, he encouraged residents to collaborate in preserving the space and began taking daily care of the square, strengthening a sense of belonging and community responsibility. Initiatives such as this not only raise awareness about caring for local environments but also promote access to information on rights and the use of public spaces. This knowledge extends to participants' families, amplifying the social impact of the LGW's actions.

Environmental education practices are also noteworthy. In a context marked by rising greenhouse gas emissions and the unsustainable consumption of natural resources, the Organization has intensified its socio-educational actions, workshops, and campaigns. These efforts stimulate conscious consumption, responsible water use, proper waste management, recycling, and the fight against waste. These initiatives strengthen civic engagement, critical thinking, and collective commitment to environmental preservation, enhancing communities' capacity to address socio-environmental challenges in a sustainable manner.

One example is the partnership with Indústria Fox through the *ElectroSolidarity* project, which promotes the environmentally sound disposal of household appliances and electronics, converting them into resources to maintain the Organization's socio-educational services and programs. The project already includes more than 150 collection points, contributing to the strengthening of the circular economy, the expansion of the e-waste recycling chain, and the promotion of more sustainable practices involving both the productive sector and civil society. In approximately two years, the initiative enabled the proper disposal of more than 52,000 kilograms of e-waste, preventing the emission of tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), reducing soil and water contamination, and decreasing pressure on natural resource extraction. These results demonstrate concrete contributions to more efficient, environmentally responsible production processes aligned with sustainable development guidelines.

With regard to **SDG 17 — Partnerships for the Goals**, the LGW stands out for its engagement with multiple sectors (public authorities, the private sector, and civil society). This strategy is vital given the international consensus that none of the SDGs can be fully achieved without effective multi-stakeholder cooperation. The Organization strengthens its cooperation network through the continuous mobilization of diverse actors, including donors, volunteers, institutional partners, media outlets, and civil society organizations, thereby expanding the reach and impact of its actions. It also actively promotes and participates in national and international events, forums, and institutional spaces, aligning its management practices with ESG factors and the Sustainable Development Goals to enhance its capacity for impact.

In 2025 alone, the LGW supported 530 organizations through its socio-assistance campaigns to combat poverty. Of these, 47% were public entities, such as social assistance departments, public schools, and Social Assistance Reference Centers. This effort is directly linked to the target of “encouraging and promoting effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships,” building on the experience and resource mobilization strategies of these partnerships. Additionally, 5,588 specialists shared their expertise and knowledge through social and educational communication on various topics, including Education, Health, Labor, Environment, Technology, Sports, Culture, Human Rights, Innovation, Sustainability, Public Interest, Ecumenical Citizenship, and the Third Sector.

Final Considerations

The Legion of Good Will demonstrates its effective contribution to achieving the 2030 Agenda through actions that integrate social development, education, and Ecumenical Spirituality, promoting the strengthening of social bonds, dignity, and comprehensive care for the human being. The Organization understands that there is no sustainable development without continuous investment in the human person, particularly in their ethical, intellectual, and spiritual development—essential pillars for building a truly just, solidary, and resilient society.

In alignment with the theme of this important international meeting, the LGW also shares the fraternal and ecumenical message of its Honorary President-Consolidator, José de Paiva Netto, which summarizes this vision: *“It is urgent to instruct, educate, and spiritualize human creatures so that they can manage their lives, their livelihood, and that of their families in these turbulent times humanity is experiencing”* and *“Globalization cannot be synonymous with a standardized culture based on a single model. Let us promote a global consciousness—therefore fraternal and solidary—while respecting local singularities. The path toward this is called Ecumenism of the Heart. After all, we constitute one single humanity, living in a shared home: planet Earth.”*

The LGW reaffirms that educating, caring, and spiritualizing are complementary and indispensable paths for building a solidary global consciousness capable of driving lasting transformations in favor of human dignity, the promotion of a Culture of Peace, sustainability and unity among peoples, always aligned with the principle of leaving no one behind.



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69. Lutheran World Federation

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), a global communion of 154 member churches in 99 countries representing over 78 million people. We affirm that peace is not only a political aspiration, but a moral imperative.

The current global context is marked by deepening fragmentation. Armed conflicts are increasing in scale and complexity, inequality is widening within and between countries, and trust in multilateral institutions is eroding. At the same time, intersecting crises, climate change, forced displacement, economic instability, and democratic backsliding, are undermining the conditions necessary for sustainable development.

The protection and promotion of human rights remain the cornerstone of peaceful and just societies. Yet, in many parts of the world, we are witnessing an alarming erosion of rights-based frameworks. Civic space is shrinking, discrimination is intensifying, and accountability mechanisms are weakening.

Peace cannot be sustained where rights are denied. The rules of law, access to justice, and inclusive governance systems are essential for building trust between institutions and communities.

Gender inequality continues to be both a driver and a consequence of conflict. Women and girls disproportionately experience the impacts of violence, displacement, and economic exclusion, yet they remain underrepresented in decision-making processes. This imbalance weakens the effectiveness and sustainability of peace-building efforts.

The climate crisis is fundamentally reshaping the conditions for peace and security. Environmental degradation, resource scarcity, and climate-induced displacement are exacerbating tensions and increasing the risk of conflict. Climate justice must therefore be recognized as an essential component of peace.

The Lutheran World Federation emphasizes the importance of a coherent approach that integrates humanitarian, development, and peace-building efforts. Coordinated strategies that prioritize local leadership, community resilience, and inclusive development are required.

Peacebuilding requires deliberate and sustained investment. It must be inclusive, participatory, and responsive to the rights, needs and aspirations of affected communities.

The Lutheran World Federation advocates peace-building approaches that prioritize dialogue, reconciliation, and social cohesion. Faith-based organizations play a critical role in this work. Their presence at the community level, combined with their moral and spiritual resources, enables them to foster trust, mediate conflicts, and support healing.

Achieving sustainable peace requires more than technical solutions, it demands a renewed commitment to the moral principles that underpin the United Nations system.

The Lutheran World Federations calls on ECOSOC and Member States to:

- Reaffirm their commitment to international human rights norms and to invest in systems that ensure equitable access to justice;
- Prioritize justice and human rights as the foundation of peace;
- Advance gender equality as a core component of all peace and development efforts;
- Act urgently and equitably on the climate crisis;
- Strengthen integrated approaches across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus; and
- Ensure inclusive participation in all peace-building processes.



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70. Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences

“Delivering impact through partnerships: The KISS model for inclusive and transformative action”

The Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) represents a globally recognized model of integrated, partnership-driven development. Its work demonstrates how multi-stakeholder collaboration can translate global commitments into measurable, scalable and inclusive outcomes, directly contributing to SDG 17 and the broader 2030 Agenda.

Consisting of a school, college and university KISS provides holistic and transformative education to over 40,000 Indigenous learners from Std. I to Doctorate levels. It integrates education with accommodation, nutrition, healthcare, skill development and sports amongst other services-absolutely free of cost. This comprehensive model reflects a system-based approach to development, addressing interconnected challenges of poverty, inequality and exclusion through coordinated interventions.

A defining feature of its ecosystem is strong engagement with UN partnerships and global platforms. As part of the **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)** University Volunteers programme, its Indigenous students work with UN agencies through development initiatives which reinforces the role of volunteerism and youth leadership as key accelerators of sustainable development.

KISS is also part of the **UNSSC led Nelson Mandela Project for Social Change**, a global initiative collaboratively enhancing leadership, social innovation and participatory governance. This partnership positions KISS within a global knowledge and leadership ecosystem, contributing to capacity-building for transformative SDG action.

KISS has contributed to the **UNESCO supported Sports and Physical Activity Impact (SAPA) Framework for India**, creating tools to evaluate the social impact of sports and youth development projects. KISS also engaged with **UNESCO-MGIEP** through initiatives focused on social, emotional and ethical learning (SEL/SEEK).

KISS has featured on global platforms such as the **Doha Solutions Platform for Social Development, under the Second World Summit for Social Development**, showcasing practical examples of partnership-driven solutions targeting poverty eradication and social inclusion.

Beyond UN partnerships, KISS collaborates with other stakeholders like governments, academic institutions and grassroots communities that enable policy research, knowledge exchange and capacity-building, strengthening the interface between local implementation and global frameworks.

From a policy perspective, the KISS experience highlights key priorities for accelerating SDG delivery:

- Strengthening multi-level partnerships that connect global frameworks with local implementation
- Expanding youth engagement and volunteerism as drivers of SDG acceleration
- Promoting value-based education and leadership development through global platforms

KISS model demonstrates that delivering better requires not only expanding partnerships, but deepening their effectiveness, inclusivity and alignment with local realities. By bridging global collaboration with grassroots implementation, KISS offers a replicable and policy-relevant pathway for accelerating transformative SDG action.



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71. Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights

From Commitment to Change: Making the 2030 Agenda Work in Practice

The Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights (MFHR), in special consultative status with ECOSOC, submits this statement to the general debate of the 2026 High-level Segment.

As the 2030 deadline approaches, the central challenge is no longer vision but delivery. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent an ambitious framework; what is urgently needed is political will, institutional capacity and civil society engagement to translate that ambition into lived reality.

The Implementation Gap

Progress on the SDGs has been uneven. In many countries, the gap between commitment and implementation reflects deficits in resources, governance, and accountability. International frameworks remain aspirational where domestic legislation, budgets, and enforcement mechanisms are weak. Accelerating action requires addressing structural barriers, including fragmented institutional responsibility, insufficient financing, weak monitoring systems, and exclusion of affected communities from decision-making.

Ownership and Legitimacy as Conditions for Success

Goals perceived as externally imposed or insufficiently grounded in national realities are unlikely to endure beyond political cycles. For the 2030 Agenda to be sustainable, its goals must be owned at all levels: by governments, local authorities, civil society and communities. This requires participation, transparent reporting and integration of international human rights law into national SDG strategies. States' human rights obligations form its legal foundation. Without this foundation, targets risk becoming procedural rather than transformative.

Civil Society, Human Rights Mechanisms, and Accountability

Civil society organizations play a critical role in advocacy, implementation, monitoring and accountability. In this context, they complement formal accountability structures established under international law. UN human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and regional monitoring mechanisms provide evidence-based assessments of State compliance with human rights obligations relevant to SDG implementation. Their findings and recommendations remain underutilized. The Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights urges States and the UN system to treat engagement with these mechanisms as integral to the 2030 Agenda.

Recommendations

The Foundation calls on States and the United Nations system to:

- i. Integrate human rights obligations and recommendations from monitoring mechanisms into national SDG implementation frameworks and Voluntary National Reviews;
- ii. Strengthen coordination, financing and monitoring systems;
- iii. Ensure effective participation of civil society and affected communities in all stages of SDG planning, implementation and review;
- iv. Protect civic space and guarantee the safety and independence of human rights defenders;
- v. Enable transformative action by ensuring respect for international law, supporting human rights monitoring mechanisms, and guaranteeing the meaningful participation of those most affected by inequality and injustice;
- vi. Enhance the use of existing human rights mechanisms as tools for accountability within the follow-up and review of 2030 Agenda



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72. Motus Health Initiative

Introduction:

Tremendous strides have definitely been made by attuned stakeholders towards the materialisation of the SDGs by 2030. Astutely manoeuvring nay-saying cynicism and self-doubt with tone-deaf and tunnel-visioned like focus. However, conclusive attainment of the SDGs remains the only option as no counter position is tenable.

Overview of the issues:

Current cascading global occurrences evidenced by humanitarian, food and health crisis in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East and some Asian enclaves have further deepened the cavernous debacle which help birth and necessitate the visioning of the SDGs. An unflinching attainment-focus must still be maintained with a considerably widened aperture to accommodate these inevitabilities and unforeseen developments for the foreseeable future.

A Way Forward:

Our specific policy recommendations are as follows:

Channelled resource optimisation through strategic priority stratification.

Objective pragmatism obscuring optimism in view of prevailing vicissitudes.

Championing common multistakeholder alignments, collaborations and advocacy/activism drives forestalling resource utilisation parallels.

Optimisation of favourable metrics indicating near-fulfilment of specific SDGs should propel drive towards their immediate achievement and subsequent sustenance maintained.

Weak and idle contributors identification and evaluation among the stakeholders.

Implementation of continuous improvement (Kaizen) at every axis of the global value stream of SDGs.

Integration of Artificial Intelligence Centred performance stabilisation system for the SDGs



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73. Muhammadiyah Association

Towards an Ecosystem-Based Transformation of Global Development

Muhammadiyah wishes to contribute to the 2026 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum, including the theme of the general debate on Sustainable Development: “Transformative, Equitable, Innovative and Coordinated Actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” and “Sustainable Development Goals for a Sustainable Future for All.” We offer a critical yet constructive reflection on the current global development trajectory.

The international community is confronting a deepening global development emergency, with progress on the 2030 Agenda uneven and, in many areas, off track. While challenges are often framed in technical terms, such as data gaps, policy incoherence, and limited institutional capacity, these explanations risk obscuring structural drivers of inequality embedded in the global system.

Persistent asymmetries between the Global North and Global South continue to shape access to resources, decision-making power, and development outcomes. The Sustainable Development Goals remain limited in addressing interconnected structural inequalities and power imbalances. Consequently, implementation is frequently fragmented and insufficiently transformative.

The United Nations remains indispensable to global cooperation. However, its effectiveness has been increasingly constrained by systemic challenges, including geopolitical fragmentation, uneven commitments among Member States, and institutional processes that are not sufficiently adaptive to rapidly evolving crises. Over time, these constraints have contributed to a widening gap between global frameworks and lived realities.

Addressing this gap requires incremental reform and reorientation in how development is conceptualized and practiced. Muhammadiyah offers a practice-based perspective through an ecosystem-based approach. This emphasizes interconnectedness over isolated interventions, shifting focus from individual targets to the quality of relationships among institutions, communities, and economic systems. Sustainable progress depends on institutional arrangements that enable coherence, alignment, and mutual reinforcement across sectors.

Development requires redistribution of agency. State-led mechanisms remain essential, but not sufficient. Effective systems are those in which states, civil society, faith-based organizations, economic actors, and epistemic communities function as co-contributors, strengthening one another through coordinated action, shared resources, and aligned incentives. This shift moves beyond competition toward collaboration grounded in shared purpose.

Considering these challenges, two directions are proposed. First, the United Nations should strengthen its role in advancing ecosystem-based multilateralism, fostering deeper integration across sectors and actors, and enabling more inclusive participation in shaping development pathways.

Second, it is essential to begin laying the foundation for a post-2030 development framework grounded in interdependence, equity, and systemic transformation. Such a framework should be informed not only by global negotiations, but also by the lived experiences of institutions and communities already implementing integrated approaches.

Muhammadiyah reaffirms its commitment to contributing to this transformation, through implementation and sharing its experience in advancing integrated, ethical, and community-rooted systems of development.



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74. Nanjing World Youth Development Service Center

The Nanjing World Youth Development Service Center submits this statement to the 2026 Economic and Social Council High-level Segment and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, under the theme of transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Achieving a sustainable future for all requires stronger, inclusive and action-oriented global partnerships. Young people are essential drivers of innovation and cooperation, yet barriers remain in access to international exchange, capacity-building, and meaningful participation in global processes.

Since its establishment, the organization has reached and served over 300,000 young people across regions, with a strong presence in the Asia-Pacific. Through flagship initiatives such as “Future Sculptor”, “China Course”, and “Youth World Tour”, it has developed scalable models for youth empowerment. In addition, through platforms including the University Cooperation Alliance, Youth Practice Alliance, and Young Entrepreneurs Alliance, the organization connects youth, academic institutions, and industry partners, providing structured opportunities for learning, internships, exchanges, and collaborative practice.

Complementary initiatives, such as global sharing sessions and competency training programmes led by leading scholars and practitioners, further strengthen youth capacity in research, innovation, and international engagement. These efforts demonstrate that large-scale, network-based youth exchange can effectively advance Sustainable Development Goal 17 by fostering trust, knowledge-sharing, and cross-sector collaboration.

To accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the organization proposes expanding accessible and inclusive international exchange platforms, particularly within and across the Asia-Pacific; strengthening long-term partnerships among governments, universities, and the private sector; and supporting scalable youth-led initiatives that translate global goals into practical outcomes. It is also essential to enhance digital and hybrid engagement mechanisms to broaden participation and ensure continuity of global cooperation.

Furthermore, integrating youth more systematically into policy dialogue and implementation processes will help align global frameworks with local action. Investment in mentorship, skills development, and cross-border collaboration platforms is critical to building the next generation of globally competent leaders.

The Nanjing World Youth Development Service Center remains committed to empowering youth, strengthening global partnerships, and contributing to coordinated action towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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75. National Peace Corps Association

I write today on behalf of the National Peace Corps Association, representing the almost 250,000 Americans who have served as Peace Corps volunteers and the many hundreds of thousands of host-country partners who have worked alongside them in 142 countries over the past 65 years.

Returned volunteers like myself have learned first-hand through these partnerships that the best way to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of development work is through close collaboration with the local communities who are the intended targets of such efforts.

As we consider the ways in which the global community can ensure that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is applied equitably and impacts the lives of those most in need of support, we urge all nations and non-governmental organizations to prioritize working hand-in-hand with local populations in all steps of the process, as well as to prioritize partnerships with groups that have on-the-ground experience with community development work.

Collaboration and partnership are key to realizing our common cause, as defined by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and every community has something to contribute. There are local change-makers everywhere, and they need to be empowered to share their perspectives on effective approaches to development work.

As the community of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, many of whom remain engaged in community development and peacebuilding work long after their two-year service ends, we are here to reinforce the importance of these principles and appreciate all stakeholders' efforts to uphold them as well.



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76. Nonprofit Incorporated Association Africa Insight

Who Speaks for Africa? Narrative Equity as Infrastructure for Transformative SDG Action

The 2030 Agenda cannot be delivered without addressing a critical blind spot: who gets to define the narrative of development itself. One of the most consequential barriers to transformative, equitable, and coordinated action remains the persistent asymmetry in how entire regions are represented — and how these narratives shape political will, public support, and institutional design for SDG implementation.

Africa Insight is a Korean civil society organization that has worked for over a decade at the intersection of cultural diplomacy, public engagement, and advocacy to challenge distorted perceptions of Africa in East Asia. Founded in 2013, registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, and recognized with a Ministerial Commendation, we offer a perspective seldom heard in global forums. As one of the few Asian civil society organizations engaging this issue from a non-Western perspective, we bring insight into how narrative inequity operates not only in traditional donor-recipient dynamics, but across broader South–South and South–East cooperation.

The structural problem. In East Asia — home to major development partners and hundreds of millions of potential allies for African-led agendas — public understanding of the 55 African Union member states remains overwhelmingly filtered through crisis-driven media, outdated stereotypes, and aid-centric institutional framing. This is not a communications gap. It is a structural imbalance that undermines the equitable partnerships required to achieve the SDGs.

Evidence from practice. Through the Seoul Africa Festival — now in its ninth edition, co-hosted with the African Group of Ambassadors and held at Seoul’s Dongdaemun Design Plaza — Africa Insight has built a replicable civic platform where African communities lead their own representation. Over nine years, the festival has engaged more than 350,000 visitors, collaborated with over 200 partner organizations across 30 countries, and demonstrated that sustained cultural engagement can measurably shift public perception and build grassroots support for international cooperation. In 2022 and 2024, Africa Insight led civil society policy recommendation processes for Korea–Africa intergovernmental engagement, mobilizing 61 organizations from 21 countries and contributing to formal policy dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Recommendations.

First, narrative equity should be explicitly incorporated into SDG 17 monitoring frameworks, including Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), by assessing whether affected communities hold meaningful agency in shaping development narratives and partnership frameworks.

Second, dedicated funding mechanisms should support diaspora-led civic platforms that amplify African voices in non-Western contexts, recognizing diaspora communities as underutilized bridges for cross-regional solidarity.

Third, municipalities and civil society organizations should be formally integrated into Africa–Asia cooperation frameworks as frontline actors in public perception and narrative transformation.

Conclusion

Until African communities are centered not only in development delivery but also in global narrative-making, equity will remain aspirational. We call on the international community to recognize storytelling power as infrastructure — as essential to the 2030 Agenda as financing, technology, and policy reform.



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77. Nor Luyce Mentoring Center for Youth

This statement is provided by Nor Luyce to highlight the urgent need to recognize structured mentoring systems as essential social infrastructure for advancing equitable, inclusive, and resilient societies.

Across Armenia, adolescent girls and young women - particularly those from orphanages, low-income households, rural communities, and internally displaced families - continue to face intersecting vulnerabilities. Displacement, social fragmentation, and economic instability compound existing structural inequalities, limiting access to stable education pathways, psychosocial support, and long-term opportunity networks. These conditions increase the risk of intergenerational exclusion, especially for children growing up in fragile or disrupted family and community environments.

These challenges directly relate to the 2026 HLPF and High-level Segment priorities, including Sustainable Development Goals 4, 5, 10, 11, and 17. While global efforts focus on infrastructure, innovation, and economic transformation, insufficient attention is given to the relational and psychosocial systems that shape human development and determine whether investments in sustainability translate into equitable outcomes.

Nor Luyce addresses this gap through a structured three-phase model: mentoring, skills development, and higher education support. This model strengthens agency, resilience, and educational attainment, contributing to SDGs 4 and 5 by expanding equitable access to learning and advancing gender equality. It also advances SDG 10 by reducing disparities in social capital and opportunity access for vulnerable and displaced adolescents.

Furthermore, this work supports SDG 11 by reinforcing psychosocial safety and belonging as foundational elements of inclusive and resilient communities. Without such relational infrastructure, efforts toward sustainable cities and societies remain incomplete. Through SDG 17, Nor Luyce demonstrates how international collaboration - particularly with Lehigh University - and national partnerships with civil society organizations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia can strengthen implementation capacity and bridge local realities with global policy frameworks.

Nor Luyce calls on Member States and stakeholders to recognize structured mentoring ecosystems as essential social infrastructure within Sustainable Development Goal implementation frameworks. We recommend integrating psychosocial resilience into SDG 11 strategies, embedding inequality-reduction approaches into youth development systems under SDG 10, and expanding cross-sector partnerships under SDG 17 to scale community-based, evidence-informed mentoring models. Investing in these systems is critical to ensure that vulnerable and displaced children are not left behind in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda but are active participants in shaping inclusive and resilient futures.

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78. Organization for the Professional Empowerment of Women Civil Nonprofit Company**Accelerating the 2030 Agenda by recognising what women already do: field evidence from regional Greece**

Organization for the Professional Empowerment of Women Civil Nonprofit Company works to advance the economic inclusion of women through empowerment, institutional change and community infrastructure. This statement draws on eight participatory action-research studies conducted between 2023 and 2025 with 351 women, 19-75 years old, across mountainous, island, industrial and agricultural municipalities of Greece. It contributes to the 2026 High-level Political Forum review of SDG 9, 11 and 17 and the wider debate on accelerating transformative action.

Across the Aristotelis, Faistos, Kalamata, Farsala, Olympia, Kato Nevrokopi and Doxato, Naxos and Kalymnos municipalities, one pattern recurred. Women sustain communities — through agricultural, domestic, care and seasonal labour, but their contribution remains largely uncounted. In Olympia and Farsala, women work the fields but are not registered as farmers. On Naxos, thirty-seven years of agricultural work yielded a pension of four hundred euros and for other women, seasonal labour due to the summer season remains equally informal. On Kalymnos, seafarers' wives run households and local economies during long absences without formal economic recognition. In Faistos and Kalamata, women reported that the day was not long enough for the paid and unpaid labour they perform.

The 2030 Agenda accelerates what it measures and fails what it does not. Treating women's unpaid agricultural, care and seasonal labour as economic activity is the single structural change that accelerates SDG 9, by broadening what innovation and inclusive industrialisation mean, SDG 11, by making visible the labour that sustains resilient and inclusive communities, and SDG 17, by partnering statistical systems with grassroots evidence.

We therefore urge Member States and United Nations entities to formally recognise and remunerate women's unpaid agricultural, care and seasonal labour within national accounts and social-protection systems; to extend pay-transparency and labour-rights frameworks to seasonal, island and agricultural economies; and to co-design rural, island and mountain development policy, in partnership with organisations that bring women's voices into evidence. Each of these steps is concrete, coordinated, and transformative, and each accelerates what the joint theme of the High-level Segment and the High-level Political Forum calls for.

The pattern our research documents in regional Greece is a pattern familiar to small-island, mountainous, agricultural and post-industrial communities everywhere. Transformative action for the Sustainable Development Goals needs to be delivered in communities like these, or it will not be delivered at all.

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79. Joint statement by OutRight Action International and Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie Van Homoseksualiteit - COC Nederland

OutRight Action International and Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie Van Homoseksualiteit - COC Nederland submit this statement to the 2026 Economic and Social Council Highlevel Segment. With 2030 approaching quickly, the question is how to implement commitments at the required scale. Delivering better requires accelerated action rooted in human rights and meaningful participation — and delivering with those most affected. Civil society is indispensable to Sustainable Development Goals delivery, yet civic space is shrinking through restrictive legislation and harassment.

On Sustainable Development Goal 6, discrimination limits access to water and sanitation facilities, including for transgender and gender-diverse people, deterring participation in public life. States should prioritise resilient, accountable water systems and ensure inclusive facility design that protects privacy and safety.

On Sustainable Development Goal 7, a just energy transition must combine renewable expansion with social protection. For lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons facing family rejection or workplace discrimination, energy poverty compounds housing precarity. Governments should ensure eligibility rules do not assume traditional household structures and that community services can access clean energy.

On Sustainable Development Goal 9, infrastructure and innovation must reduce exclusion, not entrench it. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex communities face harassment in public transport, exclusion from digital identification and disproportionate surveillance. Human rights due diligence and non-discrimination safeguards should be required in infrastructure projects.

On Sustainable Development Goal 11, treating housing as an investment asset drives displacement and disproportionately affects those facing discrimination, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons. Cities should scale social and affordable housing, regulate discrimination in rental and shelter access, adopt Housing First approaches for homeless people, and ensure urban planning includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons, migrants and youth as rights-holders.

On Sustainable Development Goal 17, partnerships must deliver for people, not markets. Disaggregated data is essential to reveal exclusion but must be grounded in human rights safeguards — particularly where data on sexuality or gender identity may be misused. Sustained resourcing for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex-led civil society is essential. Rapid digitalisation and artificial intelligence expand risks through digital divides and algorithmic bias; governance must ensure transparency.

To accelerate transformative action by 2030, we urge Member States and United Nations entities to move from commitments to measurable implementation. Delivering better requires prioritising those most excluded — including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons — and recognising intersectional realities across age, disability, race and poverty. What is not named cannot be addressed.

We stand ready to support the Economic and Social Council in advancing inclusive, rights-based implementation of the 2030 Agenda.



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80. Panoramic Charity Foundation

Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Building a Shared Better Future for All

Dear friends:

Hello everyone! The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a common blueprint for all humanity to pursue development and protect our home. To achieve a sustainable future for all, we need consistent actions that are transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated. It requires all countries to work together and forge ahead hand in hand.

We must persist in taking transformative actions to break through development obstacles. In the face of real problems such as poverty gaps, ecological crises, and development imbalances, we need to change our development concepts and innovate our development models. We should break away from the old path of extensive development and promote social progress in all aspects through green transformation and comprehensive governance. We should embark on a development path where humans and nature coexist harmoniously and safeguard the foundation of development for generations to come.

We must adhere to the bottom line of fairness and ensure that no one is left behind. Developmental achievements should be shared by all. We need to narrow the development gaps among regions, groups, and countries, pay attention to disadvantaged groups and remote areas, ensure equal rights in education, healthcare, ecology, and employment, and uphold fairness in opportunities and balanced resources. We should practice the concept of common development and ensure that everyone enjoys a stable life and development opportunities.

We should base ourselves on innovation-driven development to activate development momentum. By solving development problems through technological innovation, institutional innovation, and conceptual innovation, we should delve into green technologies, low-carbon industries, and inclusive public services.

We should promote efficient resource utilization and expand sustainable paths through smart and low-carbon development. We should inject lasting momentum into long-term development by deepening multilateral cooperation and uniting the efforts of governments, society, and the public. We should work together at all levels and across all sectors to form a powerful synergy for joint progress.

Looking to the future, we bear responsibility. We will implement the sustainable development goals with practical commitment, adhere to our original aspirations, and forge ahead with determination, striving towards a sustainable and shared future of long-term peace and stability.



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81. Paz y Cooperación

The purpose of this statement is to highlight the fundamental role of education in promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies, in line with the theme of the 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment (HLS): “*Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030*”.

In a global context marked by rising conflict, it is essential to strengthen the link between Sustainable Development Goal 4, quality education, and Goal 16, peace, justice and strong institutions. Quality education is not merely a tool for economic growth, but the foundational infrastructure for peace. When education systems integrate the values of non-violence, human rights and intercultural dialogue, they become the most effective defence against the roots of instability.

Paz y Cooperación reaffirms that its commitment to early childhood education, young people and democratic values is not merely circumstantial, but fully consistent with its founding principles. Building a sustainable and equitable future requires recognising that the autonomy and resilience of societies begin with education. Ensuring that future generations have equitable access to knowledge, science and quality learning opportunities is an indispensable condition for sustainable development. There can be no technological autonomy without equal opportunities, no leadership without social cohesion, and no sovereignty without education.

From this perspective, championing education as a tool for peace, development and global citizenship implies recognising its role in fostering responsible scientific, technological and leadership skills. We must prioritise innovative pedagogical approaches that empower young people to become active agents in conflict resolution and the sustainable management of resources; because today’s global challenges are addressed not only in political decision-making forums, but also in the classroom, because, before a satellite takes off, someone had to have had the opportunity to learn about it and imagine it.

Accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals requires coordinated public policies that strengthen teacher training, foster pedagogical innovation and ensure safe, violence-free educational environments. Education for peace must be established as a cross-cutting theme within education systems, promoting values of tolerance, respect for human rights and peaceful conflict resolution.

At Paz y Cooperación, we urge Member States to increase investment in peace education programmes that incorporate social and emotional skills, global literacy and responsible citizenship, and to ensure that the digital transformation of education is carried out in accordance with the principles of equity and inclusion, thereby preventing existing gaps from widening. It is also essential to strengthen partnerships between governments, civil society and the education community to design and implement effective strategies that address current challenges.

The path to 2030 requires a coordinated effort in which peace is not seen as the absence of war, but as the presence of justice and educational opportunities. We call on the Economic and Social Council to recognise that the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda depends on our ability to educate for a culture of peace. By fostering cooperation and transformative action today, we ensure a stable and equitable world for future generation



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82. Peace Worldwide

This statement highlights the urgent need for transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated actions to accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Drawing from its work in Pakistan, Peace Worldwide emphasizes the importance of advancing human rights and promoting the inclusion of marginalized and minority communities as a foundation for sustainable development.

Despite global commitments, many minority and marginalized groups continue to face systemic barriers that limit their access to basic services, economic opportunities, and participation in public life. Inequalities in access to clean water and sanitation, sustainable energy, infrastructure, and safe living environments persist, particularly for underserved communities. These challenges are often reinforced by social exclusion, discrimination, and limited representation in decision-making processes, hindering equitable progress across multiple areas of sustainable development.

Peace Worldwide has implemented community-based initiatives that aim to address these interconnected challenges through a human rights-centered approach. Its work focuses on improving access to essential services, supporting inclusive infrastructure development, and promoting community engagement to ensure that marginalized voices are heard. By strengthening local capacities and fostering partnerships at the community level, these initiatives contribute to building more inclusive and resilient societies.

To accelerate progress, there is a need for stronger coordination between governments, civil society, and international stakeholders to ensure that development efforts are inclusive and rights-based. Policies must prioritize equitable access to resources and services, address structural inequalities, and create enabling environments for minority communities to participate fully in social and economic life. Strengthening partnerships, investing in community-led solutions, and promoting accountability are essential to delivering more effective outcomes.

Peace Worldwide calls for increased recognition of the rights and contributions of minority communities in sustainable development efforts. Ensuring that no one is left behind requires deliberate and sustained action to address inequalities and empower those most affected by exclusion. By aligning national and global efforts with principles of equity, inclusion, and human rights, meaningful progress towards the sustainable development goals can be achieved.



83. Population Résilience Internationale - PRI

« Mieux faire : accélérer l'action urgente et transformatrice pour atteindre les ODD d'ici à 2030 » sans la paix sociale ? Une équation impossible.

L'ambition d'accélérer la mise en œuvre des Objectifs de Développement Durable (ODD) d'ici 2030 repose sur un principe fondamental : la stabilité des sociétés. La paix sociale constitue le socle indispensable sur lequel se construisent des transformations économiques, sociales et environnementales durables.

Sans paix sociale, les efforts visant à améliorer les conditions de vie, renforcer les économies et protéger l'environnement sont fragilisés, voire compromis. Les tensions sociales, les conflits et l'instabilité institutionnelle entravent la mobilisation des ressources, ralentissent les investissements et affaiblissent la confiance entre les acteurs publics, privés et communautaires.

Par ailleurs, la réalisation des ODD exige une collaboration étroite entre gouvernements, entreprises et citoyens. Cette dynamique ne peut s'inscrire durablement que dans un climat de confiance, de justice et de cohésion sociale. Ainsi, la paix n'est pas seulement un objectif en soi, mais un levier transversal qui conditionne la réussite de l'ensemble des autres objectifs.

Accélérer l'action transformatrice implique donc de placer la paix sociale au cœur des priorités stratégiques. Cela suppose de promouvoir le dialogue inclusif, de renforcer les institutions, de réduire les inégalités et de garantir une gouvernance équitable et transparente.

Afin d'accélérer efficacement la mise en œuvre des ODD, il est impératif d'intégrer la paix sociale comme un pilier central des stratégies de développement.

Premièrement, il convient d'institutionnaliser la paix sociale en l'intégrant dans toutes les politiques publiques, à travers des mécanismes de prévention des conflits et de promotion de la cohésion sociale.

Deuxièmement, le renforcement de la gouvernance et de l'État de droit est essentiel. L'amélioration de la transparence, de la redevabilité et de l'efficacité des institutions permet de restaurer la confiance entre citoyens, autorités et acteurs économiques.

Troisièmement, la promotion d'une croissance inclusive doit être priorisée. Il s'agit de garantir un accès équitable aux opportunités économiques, de soutenir les petites et moyennes entreprises et de favoriser la création d'emplois décents, notamment pour les jeunes et les femmes.

Quatrièmement, l'investissement dans le capital humain demeure indispensable. L'accès à une éducation de qualité, à la formation professionnelle et aux services de santé contribue à réduire les inégalités et à prévenir les tensions sociales.

Cinquièmement, il est crucial de renforcer les partenariats multi-acteurs en mobilisant le secteur privé, la société civile et les partenaires internationaux autour d'initiatives à fort impact.

Enfin, la promotion du dialogue inclusif et de la participation citoyenne permet de prévenir les conflits et de consolider la cohésion sociale.

L'urgence d'agir pour atteindre les ODD d'ici 2030 ne doit pas occulter une réalité essentielle : il n'y a pas de transformation durable sans paix sociale. Accélérer ne signifie pas seulement aller plus vite, mais avancer ensemble sur des bases solides.

Sans paix sociale, les ambitions restent fragiles. Avec elle, elles deviennent réalisables.



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84. Prosami

Midwifery, Telemedicine, and Partnership: Promotion de la Santé Maternelle et Infantile (PROSAMI)

Promotion de la Santé Maternelle et Infantile, a non-governmental organisation, is registered in the United States of America and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Founded in 2009, its mission is to reduce preventable maternal, newborn, and infant mortality in under-resourced communities through evidence-based midwifery education and high-quality, person-centered care. The statement highlights the organization's contribution to the 2030 Agenda.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo records a maternal mortality ratio of 427 per 100,000 live births, despite 85 percent attended by health personnel — a paradox exposing a crisis of care quality rather than access alone. Its pilot centre in Mbuji-Mayi addresses this through the Midwifery Model of Care: autonomous midwives in Midwife Obstetric Units delivering Midwife-Led Continuity of Care, supported by telemedicine with the University of Virginia. Since 2018, the centre has recorded 2,536 deliveries with zero maternal deaths and a neonatal mortality rate of 2 per 1,000, against a national average of nearly 26. Community trust was established. In 2025, joining the national Health Solidarity Fund and eliminating user fees saw deliveries rise by 329 percent — from 217 to 714 — revealing poverty as the last barrier separating urban women from the care they trusted.

The organisation's model speaks to each Sustainable Development Goal under review. An Atmospheric Water Generator provides clean water independent of city infrastructure (Goal 6). Solar panels, gel batteries, and a generator kept maternal care running when electricity cables were stolen across Mbuji-Mayi (Goal 7). Telemedicine with the University of Virginia embodies the innovative health infrastructure of Goal 9. Membership in the Health Solidarity Fund removes the financial barrier to quality care for urban women in poverty, advancing Goal 11's call for basic services accessible to all. A training-of-trainers programme across all 19 provincial health zones exemplifies the partnerships of Goal 17.

The organisation draws three lessons for Member States and development partners. First, competency-based midwifery education with training-of-trainers replication is a cost-effective investment to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality at scale. Second, water, energy, and telemedicine infrastructure must be essential components of maternal health systems in conflict-affected and resource-constrained settings. Third, universal health coverage financing must eliminate out-of-pocket costs for maternal care: when women trust the quality of care, affordability is the decisive intervention. Zero preventable maternal deaths are achievable when innovation, infrastructure, partnership, and equitable financing are coordinated with purpose.



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85. Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan

Transforming Communities, Achieving the SDGs

Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan (RSKS India) stands as a grassroots-driven force advancing the 2030 Agenda through transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action. Working across some of the most underserved communities in Rajasthan, RSKS India translates global commitments into tangible local impact ensuring that no one is left behind.

Aligned with the theme of the 2026 High-Level Political Forum, RSKS India's approach is rooted in community ownership, gender equality, and sustainable livelihoods. The organization has empowered over 250,000 women and girls by promoting education, vocational skills, and entrepreneurship. Through targeted interventions, women are not only gaining financial independence but also emerging as decision-makers within their households and communities directly contributing to SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

RSKS India addresses multidimensional poverty through integrated programs. Its livelihood initiatives equip marginalized families with skills and resources, fostering income generation and resilience. Simultaneously, efforts in child rights, nutrition, and sustainable agriculture combat hunger and malnutrition, strengthening food security and advancing SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).

Education remains a cornerstone of RSKS India's work. By ensuring access to inclusive and quality learning opportunities, especially for girls, the organization nurtures a generation equipped to break the cycle of poverty. Health and hygiene interventions including awareness campaigns, sanitation support, and access to essential services improve community well-being and align with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

Recognizing the urgency of climate action, RSKS India integrates environmental sustainability into its programming. From afforestation drives to community awareness on climate resilience, the organization actively contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land), ensuring that development today does not compromise the future.

RSKS India's work exemplifies the power of coordinated action bridging communities, local governance, and global frameworks. Its measurable outcomes, participatory approach, and commitment to equity reflect a model of "delivering better" at the grassroots level.

As the world accelerates efforts toward 2030, RSKS India reaffirms its commitment to scaling impact, fostering innovation, and strengthening partnerships. The organization believes that sustainable development is achievable only when it is inclusive, locally driven, and globally supported. Through continued dedication, RSKS India is not just implementing the SDGs it is bringing them to life where they matter most.

The global community must shift toward locally led, inclusive development, where communities especially women and youth are central to planning and implementation. Decentralized SDG hubs and stronger partnerships with grassroots organizations can ensure last-mile delivery, accountability, and equitable impact.

At the same time, sustainable livelihoods must be integrated with innovation. Promoting green micro-enterprises, climate-resilient agriculture, and digital inclusion can generate income while protecting the environment, creating resilient and future-ready communities.

Finally, achieving the SDGs requires a whole-of-society approach, engaging men, youth, and local leaders in driving behavioral change. Global cooperation must focus on scaling proven grassroots solutions, ensuring that development is not only faster but fair, transformative, and lasting.



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86. REEF Scuba

Excellencies and distinguished delegates,

The ocean is in compounding crisis. Land-based pollution, coastal development, and unmanaged human pressures are steadily eroding reef resilience, and climate change is driving mortality events that weakened reefs cannot survive. The latest science tells us that without these local stressors, reefs would have meaningfully greater capacity to withstand heat stress alone. Reef collapse is not solely a climate problem; it is a failure of integration across the Sustainable Development Goals under review at the 2026 High-level Political Forum.

Goal 6 connects directly: reef health depends on watershed water quality. Goal 11 connects directly: coastal communities depend on reefs that buffer storms, sustain fisheries, and underwrite local economies. Goal 9 connects directly: scaling restoration requires new monitoring technologies and data infrastructure. Goal 17 connects directly: no single state, agency, or sector can deliver this work alone.

REEF Scuba is a marine conservation non-governmental organization in Special Consultative Status. Since 2020, we have managed scientifically monitored coral restoration projects in Honduras, Thailand, the Philippines, and Malaysia. We train dive professionals to monitor reefs, run intervention experiments including coral shading trials, and conduct restoration meeting research-grade standards. The resulting data informs open-access tools used by managers, scientists, policymakers, and the diving community. This model is helping convert hundreds of thousands of dive professionals into a distributed conservation network at a fraction of conventional cost.

The Copenhagen Framework on Citizen Data, endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2025, provides the foundation. Implementation is underway: Lesotho incorporated citizen data into its 2025 Voluntary National Review; Kenya prioritized it in its second National Strategy for the Development of Statistics; Côte d'Ivoire is embedding it in its 2026-2030 strategy. The architecture exists. What remains is to extend it systematically to marine ecosystems.

We urge Member States to operationalize community-based marine monitoring as a recognized data source for Sustainable Development Goal reporting and Voluntary National Reviews; to integrate citizen data collected by trained professionals into national ocean accounts and management plans; and to allocate resources for the methodological guidance, capacity building, and quality assurance protocols that the Copenhagen Framework identifies as the principal barriers to adoption.

REEF Scuba stands ready to support Member States, United Nations agencies, and partner organizations in designing protocols, building data pipelines, training networks to scientific standards, and contributing to the Collaborative on Citizen Data.



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87. Sambhali Trust

Sambhali Trust is a grassroots organisation based in Rajasthan, India. For many years, it has worked at the community level in the areas of women's empowerment, education, livelihood support, inclusion, and access to opportunity.

From our experience on the ground, meaningful development is strongest when it reaches people in a practical, respectful, and locally relevant way. At the community level, progress is often built through small but steady steps - education, skill-building, confidence, access to information, and supportive local systems.

The theme of the 2026 High-level Segment is important for grassroots organisations because long-term development depends not only on vision, but also on coordination, continuity, and implementation. Sustainable progress is strengthened when community realities, institutional support, and broader development goals move together.

In many local settings, women and vulnerable communities show great strength and willingness to move forward when they are given fair opportunities, guidance, and an enabling environment. Community-based efforts, when carried out with dignity and consistency, can help strengthen self-reliance, participation, and social confidence.

We believe that the 2030 Agenda is best advanced when development remains connected to local realities and when grassroots experience is valued as part of wider efforts. Practical cooperation between communities, civil society, and public systems can help make development more meaningful and lasting.

Sambhali Trust remains committed to constructive, community-based work in a spirit of respect, cooperation, and shared responsibility. We believe that sustainable development becomes stronger when it is rooted in dignity, inclusion, learning, and opportunity at the local level.



88. Saudi Green Building Forum

Evidence of Implementation Gaps in the Built Environment

The challenge is no longer a lack of commitment, but the absence of measurable and verifiable implementation in the built environment. The building and construction sector accounts for approximately 37% of global energy- and process-related carbon dioxide emissions, while urban populations are projected to reach around 68% of the global population by 2050.

In the Arab region, where more than 60% of the population lives in urban areas, pressures on water, energy, and materials are intensifying under climate stress. Current approaches remain referenced on efficiency improvements, which are insufficient to offset rising demand. This has led to fragmented implementation, weak alignment between policy and delivery, and persistent gaps in data, measurement, and verification.

Many sustainability approaches continue to be developed outside regional contexts, with limited adaptation to local environmental, economic, and social conditions. In the Arab region, this has reduced effectiveness, particularly in addressing water scarcity, climate stress, and rapid urbanization. The result is a widening gap between global ambition and local implementation, underscoring the need for context-specific, evidence-based models.

A Sufficiency-First, Conformity-Based Approach

In response, Saudi Green Building Forum advances a conformity-based approach grounded in a “sufficiency first” principle—prioritizing demand management before efficiency optimization. The approach aligns with SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11, and 12, and introduces demand-based indicators addressing absolute resource consumption.

It institutionalizes measurement and verification, including the saaf® Conformity Assessment Scheme, as core requirements to ensure transparency, accountability, and comparability across projects, while emphasizing investment in data systems, digital tools, and professional capacity.

Applied across 312 green projects in 22 Arab countries, covering approximately 785,000 square meters, the approach demonstrates reductions in emissions and pressure on water and energy systems—equivalent to approximately 62,800 tons of CO₂ avoided annually.

At national level, 120 initiatives in the Qassim region of Saudi Arabia since 2015 show how localized approaches strengthen resilience to evolving supply and demand dynamics. It also contributes to regional consultations led by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, in cooperation with the League of Arab States and the United Nations Environment Programme.

Strengthening Policy, Data, and Accountability

To address these gaps, regional action calls for multilateral agreement on three priorities:

1. Integrating demand-based indicators into national and regional monitoring frameworks aligned with SDGs to address absolute resource consumption.
2. Institutionalizing measurement and verification as standard requirements across policies and reporting systems to ensure transparency and accountability.
3. Investing in data infrastructure and professional capacity to enable evidence-based implementation at scale.

Sustainability requires measurement, and measurement requires verification. The time for commitment alone has passed. Immediate, coordinated action is required to deliver the 2030 Agenda in the Arab region through accountable, data-driven, and verifiable implementation.

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89. School News Nationwide, Inc.

Education remains one of the most powerful yet underutilized tools for advancing global stability, social cohesion, and sustainable development. In a time marked by rising polarization, misinformation, and cultural division, there is an urgent need to transform education into a system that not only informs but also shapes values, critical thinking, and responsible citizenship.

School News Nationwide has spent over three decades developing innovative educational models that integrate history, human rights, and civic responsibility into immersive, experience-based learning. Through initiatives such as Tour for Tolerance, a pioneering mobile educational platform, our work has reached more than 250,000 students across over 500 schools, demonstrating measurable impact in fostering empathy, ethical awareness, and cross-cultural understanding.

Our approach directly supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). By engaging students with real-world narratives, including Holocaust survivor testimonies and interactive educational technologies, we address the root causes of intolerance and promote meaningful dialogue across diverse communities.

Despite these advancements, many education systems worldwide remain fragmented and insufficiently aligned with the challenges of today's global society. There is a clear gap between academic instruction and the development of ethical, socially responsible individuals capable of navigating complex social realities.

We respectfully call upon Member States and international stakeholders to prioritize integrating experiential, values-based education into national and global education frameworks. Education must evolve beyond traditional models to become a transformative force that prepares individuals to engage constructively in diverse, interconnected societies.

Furthermore, we encourage strengthened collaboration between governments, NGOs, and educational institutions to scale proven, high-impact educational initiatives. Investment in innovative education is not optional; it is essential for building resilient, inclusive, and peaceful societies.

The future of global stability depends not only on policy and economics, but on the mindset and values of the next generation. By transforming education, we can address the root causes of division and build a more just and unified world.



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90. Settlement Services International Incorporated

This statement is submitted by Settlement Services International (SSI), an Australian non-governmental organisation advancing inclusion and participation for refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and multicultural communities.

In FY25, SSI supported over 53,000 individuals across Australia, including more than 12,000 refugees and migrants and 27,000 people with disability to access essential services and opportunities.

As the international community approaches 2030, progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remains uneven. Rising global displacement, cost-of-living pressures, and increasingly constrained protection environments, particularly across the Asia-Pacific are intensifying vulnerability and inequality. Through its service delivery, advocacy, and partnerships, SSI contributes to SDGs 3, 5, 8 and 10.

SDG 3 – Good health and well-being

SSI delivers culturally responsive health and wellbeing programs that improve access to essential services and strengthen community capability. In FY25, SSI supported 1,670 individuals through emergency relief and assisted 1,430 people seeking asylum to access healthcare, housing and basic needs.

Settlement services remain critical to long-term wellbeing outcomes. SSI supported 9,482 refugees through the Humanitarian Settlement Program, with all clients exiting the program securing long-term accommodation.

SDG 5 – Gender equality

SSI continues to prioritise gender equality through targeted support for women experiencing violence, economic exclusion and social isolation. In FY25, SSI supported over 300 individuals to access domestic, family and sexual violence services, alongside prevention and early intervention initiatives.

Programs promoting social participation reached 420 women and girls, strengthening inclusion and community connection.

SSI has developed e-learning resources that support leaders to build confidence and skills in preventing and responding to family, domestic and sexual violence. These resources were developed through national consultation and collaboration with faith and community leaders, service providers, and people from migrant and refugee communities with lived experience of violence.

Through regional partnerships, SSI also supports women-led responses in crisis settings, including capacity building for Afghan women lawyers and Rohingya women-led networks. These initiatives demonstrate the effectiveness of community-driven approaches in addressing gender-based violence under increasingly restrictive conditions.

SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth

SSI continues to drive inclusive employment outcomes. In FY25, SSI supported over 4,000 individuals through employment programs, with more than 1,000 people securing or maintaining employment.

In addition, 212 individuals accessed small business support, with many progressing to business creation or expansion. These outcomes highlight the significant economic contribution of migrant and refugee communities.

The Activate Australia’s Skills campaign lead by Settlement Services International promotes decent work by removing barriers that prevent skilled migrants from working in jobs that match their qualifications, enabling fairer employment opportunities and better use of their skills and capabilities. By improving skills recognition and reducing underemployment, the campaign also drives economic growth

Through partnerships with APRRN, APNOR, and others, SSI contributes to global refugee protection efforts and inclusive policy dialogue. SSI remains committed to working collaboratively across local, regional and global levels to ensure that no one is left behind.



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91. Sigaw ng Kabataan Coalition

Sigaw ng Kabataan Coalition (SKC), a civil society organization in the Philippines working across communities on governance, policy engagement, and civic participation, respectfully submits this statement to the 2026 High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The objective of this statement is to underscore the importance of strengthening quality public services, protecting marginalized populations with special attention to youth, and advancing inclusive governance as essential drivers of sustainable development. SKC's engagement at the grassroots level spans various communities across the Philippines, where it works alongside local stakeholders to strengthen civic participation, support community-led initiatives, and contribute to more responsive and accountable governance.

Across many communities, access to quality public services remains uneven, particularly in underserved, rural, and conflict affected areas. These disparities limit access to essential services such as education, healthcare, social protection, and livelihood opportunities, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups including youth, women, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized populations. Such conditions hinder equitable participation in social, economic, and civic life. Addressing these gaps requires coordinated efforts that align with the priorities of 2026 ECOSOC High-Level Segment and High-Level Political Forum, particularly in advancing integrated, inclusive, and transformative approaches to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Progress depends not only on policy commitments but also on strengthening institutional capacity to deliver services effectively and equitably at the local level. Civil society remains a critical partner in bridging gaps between institutions and communities by facilitating dialogue, encouraging participation, and supporting localized solutions.

Civil society organizations contribute to governance processes through advocacy, capacity-building, and collaboration with public and private stakeholders. However, their effectiveness is often constrained by limited civic space, unequal access to resources, and insufficient mechanisms for meaningful engagement in decision-making processes. Strengthening partnerships between governments and civil society is essential to ensure that governance systems are inclusive, participatory, and grounded in the realities of communities. Youth participation is a vital component of this ecosystem, contributing to forward-looking perspectives and innovative approaches to long-term development challenges.

Innovation and digital transformation, including the responsible use of artificial intelligence, present significant opportunities to enhance public service delivery and governance. AI enabled systems can support data-informed decision-making, improve administrative efficiency, and help identify service gaps more effectively. Digital tools can also expand access to information and facilitate more inclusive participation in governance processes. However, the benefits of digital transformation must be accompanied by safeguards that ensure ethical use, transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights. Addressing disparities in digital infrastructure, connectivity, and digital literacy is equally important to prevent widening inequalities and to ensure that technological progress contributes to inclusive development.

SKC calls on Member States and stakeholders to prioritize investments in strengthening public institutions to deliver accessible, high-quality, and people-centered services. It is essential to institutionalize meaningful participation of civil society in governance processes and to protect and expand civic space as a foundation for inclusive development. Special attention must be given to addressing intersecting vulnerabilities while enabling youth and other marginalized groups to meaningfully engage in shaping policies that affect their lives. Efforts to advance digital transformation and the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence should be supported through inclusive policies, capacity-building, and multi-stakeholder collaboration. Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires governance systems that are inclusive, accountable, and responsive. By reinforcing quality public services, enabling meaningful civil society participation, and advancing responsible digital innovation, Member States can create conditions that support equitable, resilient, and sustainable development for all.



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92. Society for the Widows and Orphans

This presentation focuses on accelerating meaningful and urgent actions needed globally to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. It emphasizes the need for transformative approaches rather than business as usual strategies.

Overview:

The Sustainable Development Goals consist of 17 interconnected goals designed to address global challenges. They are integrated, meaning progress in one affects other, and requires strong global partnerships to achieve development. Major barriers to achieving Sustainable Development Goals include insufficient funding, weak governance systems, conflicts and lack of reliable data for decision-making. Economic challenges such as rising National debts and unequal growth patterns, negatively impact poverty reduction and livelihoods. Social challenges include increasing inequality, gaps in access to education and weaknesses in health care systems. Environmental issues such as climate change, deforestation and pollution threaten sustainability and human survival.

A way Forward:

To overcome these challenges, transformative actions like policy reforms, inclusive growth strategies, climate action, and digital innovation are necessary. Governments, especially countries in Africa, Nigeria to be specific, should align policies with Sustainable Development Goals, strengthen institutions and be more sincere and intentional in mobilizing resources and managing expenditures. They should focus more on interventions that will improve the lives of the most vulnerable and poorest of the poor in the country, especially in the rural communities, if they actually want to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals target by 2030.

The private sector should be more intentional in contributing through sustainable investments, technological innovation and partnerships with governments.

Civil society organizations support Sustainable Development Goals achievement through advocacy ensuring accountability, engaging communities and supporting service delivery. They need enabling environment, sincere partnership and support from the governments to ensure results are achieved.

There is need to genuinely mobilize domestic resources, strengthen international partnerships and adopt innovative financing mechanisms. Reliable data systems are essential for tracking progress, informing policies and ensuring accountability in Sustainable Development Goals implementation.

There should be case studies which provide real-world examples of successful Sustainable Development Goals initiatives, lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up. All these can be achieved if we all focus on accelerating implementation, strengthening partnerships and prioritizing Vulnerable populations.

Conclusively, there is urgent need for collective global action and commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.



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93. Society for Upliftment of Masses, The

Access to safe drinking water is recognized as a human right. Everyone is entitled to get safe, sufficient and physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses.

A 2018 report from NITI Aayog made the shocking revelation of nearly 2 lakh people dying annually in India due to inadequate access to safe water! This was a major wake-up call and led to the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in 2019. It is estimated that, as of 2026, over 81% households have access to tap water.

However, water quality remains a critical challenge, requiring stronger enforcement of purification standards at treatment plants and stricter monitoring of municipal supply lines.

As per survey carried out by LocalCircles in March, 2025, with over 30,000 responses from households across 302 districts, water quality in urban India is a big challenge, with a staggering 62 per cent of urban households relying on some form of modern filtration mechanism, such as water purifiers, reverse osmosis (RO) systems, or boiling, to make their water safe for consumption. Further, 3% purchase bottled water for drinking and cooking.

Our media has highlighted water-related distress time and again. For example, in January, 2026, there were reports of several deaths in Indore due to water contamination. Even in Delhi, our national capital, water crisis is a recurring problem. In winters it is due to ammonia spike in the river Yamuna and inability of the treatment plants to handle ammonia concentrations beyond 1 part per million (ppm). And in summer it is due to the demand far surpassing the available supply, leading to frequent water cuts and rationing.

India is one of the fastest-growing bottled water markets in the world, valued at approximately ₹32,040 crore (USD 3.6 billion) in 2025, with a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 12–13%, significantly outpacing the global average of 5%. This rapid growth of bottled water industry speaks volumes regarding the quality of water being supplied by the municipal authorities!

Tap water needs no packaging while bottled water produces ever-increasing tons of plastic waste, endangering our soil and marine life. Plastic has seeped into our food chain, our tap water, also in our blood

We suggest that following steps be taken by all stakeholders to tackle this menace effectively:

- For providing safe drinking water leaky pipes and outdated systems should be replaced and a system of preventive maintenance introduced.
- Laws regarding banning of plastics should be rigorously enforced.
- Vigorous awareness campaigns about safe water practices are the need of the hour.



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94. South West Grid for Learning Trust

Delivering coordinated global action to address non-consensual intimate image abuse as a barrier to sustainable development

South West Grid for Learning Trust, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, welcomes the focus of the 2026 High level Segment on accelerating transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This statement highlights non-consensual intimate image abuse as an urgent and under addressed barrier to delivery across multiple goals, particularly gender equality, health and wellbeing, justice, and participation in the digital environment.

Non-consensual intimate image abuse is a rapidly expanding form of technology facilitated gender-based violence, increasingly enabled by artificial intelligence and operating across borders. It undermines safety, dignity and trust, and restricts the ability of women and girls to participate equally in digital spaces. Despite growing recognition, responses remain fragmented across jurisdictions, with inconsistent legal frameworks, limited cross border cooperation, and insufficient systems for reporting, prevention and support. This fragmentation reflects a wider implementation gap where commitments are not matched by coordinated delivery.

Article 16 of the UN cybercrime convention provides an important legal foundation by requiring criminalisation of the intentional and unlawful dissemination of intimate images without consent. However, implementation requires system wide coherence across legal frameworks, law enforcement, industry practices and victim support. Without coordinated approaches, the cross-border nature of this harm continues to limit national responses.

A global consultation is underway to develop a Model National Framework for non-consensual intimate image abuse. This framework sets out a comprehensive and survivor centered approach to national implementation, bringing together legislation, criminal justice, prevention, industry responsibility, victim support and research. It provides a shared structure through which Member States and stakeholders can align efforts and enable coordinated action consistent with international standards.

Practical delivery mechanisms support this approach. StopNCII.org enables individuals to protect intimate images without uploading them and has been used to protect more than two million images online. The Global Clearing Centre is being developed to strengthen coordinated international reporting and removal, enabling more effective cross border cooperation and reducing the burden on victims.

Accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda requires strengthened means of implementation that connect policy, infrastructure and delivery. We call on Member States, regulators, industry and United Nations partners to adopt coordinated national framework supporting preventive technical systems and invest in integrated reporting and support mechanisms that ensure timely responses for victims. Achieving sustainable development requires digital environments in which all individuals can participate safely and with dignity. Addressing nonconsensual intimate image abuse through coordinated global action is essential to delivering that outcome.



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95. Stichting Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT) Foundation

Accelerating Transformative Progress for the 2030 Agenda through a Unified Global Goal and Regional Action for Sustainable, Low-Carbon Transport

The Stichting Partnership on Sustainable, Low-Carbon Transport (SLoCaT) Foundation welcomes the opportunity and submits this written statement to highlight the strategic necessity and urgency of integrating sustainable, low-carbon transport as a primary contributor to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

[SLOCAT](#) is a multi-stakeholder partnership of over 100 organisations, accelerating the transformation of transport systems and services towards inclusive, healthy, green and resilient solutions for people and the planet. This submission presents a comprehensive framework for transformative, equitable, and coordinated actions, focusing on establishing a Unified Global Transport Goal, the regionalisation of impact, and the integration of transport across the Sustainable Development Goals.

Transport is the second largest and fastest growing emitting sector. To address the systemic challenges, SLOCAT presents the adoption of a Unified Global Transport Goal as a strategic solution to serve as a high-level, politically resonant "North Star" for the global climate movement. Thus, SLOCAT asks Member states to consider the need to start a process to adopt a Simple, Actionable, Unified Global Goal for Transport in the Ministerial Declaration, and the high-level events at HLPF 2026 SLOCAT is establishing Regional Hubs and a Champion Countries network to translate global frameworks into regionally contextual advocacy and support.

These hubs ensure that global commitments, such as the Global effort to promote resilient and low-Emissions transport systems declaration advanced by the Republic of Chile, through the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications and [endorsed by 10 countries at COP30](#), which aims to reduce transport energy demand by 25 per cent by 2035 with one-third of that energy coming from renewable sources and sustainable biofuels, are adapted to local socio-economic contexts. SLOCAT stands ready to support the member states to translate the high-level outcomes to strategic localised implementation at the national and subnational level through Policy to Practice packages.

A Just transition ensures that all transformative actions reflect the lived realities of those most frequently left behind like Global South Voices. SLOCAT is convening non-state actors to contribute to the monitoring of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Transport and contributing to the 2028 Global Stocktake through leading a multi-actor Global Transport Stocktake.

Leveraging its partnerships, SLOCAT stands ready to support Member States in unlocking transformative action.



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96. Technical Centre for Fine Art and Computer Studies CIG

The Technical Centre for Fine Art and Computer Studies CIG (TechCeFaCos) presents this statement to the 2026 High-Level Political Forum to highlight practical, inclusive, and innovation-driven approaches to accelerating progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With less than five years remaining, global progress is uneven and increasingly threatened by rising inequality, youth unemployment, digital divides, and climate change, demanding urgent and transformative action.

A key challenge identified is the disconnect between global commitments and local implementation. Many communities, especially in developing regions, remain excluded from decision-making and lack access to resources and skills needed to contribute to sustainable development. At the same time, opportunities in digital transformation, creative industries, and youth entrepreneurship are underutilized.

TechCeFaCos emphasizes that inclusion must be treated as a strategic driver of development. It promotes integrated innovation ecosystems where arts, technology, and entrepreneurship intersect to create pathways for education, decent work, and social cohesion. Its initiative shows that equipping youth and marginalized groups with creative and digital skills enhances resilience and economic participation.

Youth engagement is central to achieving the SDGs. Young people must be recognized as co-creators of solutions through meaningful participation in policy processes, support for youth-led innovation, and stronger intergenerational collaboration.

The organization also highlights the importance of arts and culture as tools for dialogue, inclusion, and social cohesion, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings. Combining arts-based approaches with technological and economic interventions strengthens holistic development outcomes. Economic transformation, especially through digital economies, presents both risks and opportunities. Without inclusive policies, inequalities may deepen. TechCeFaCos advocates investments in digital infrastructure, skills development, and creative industries to ensure equitable participation and access to decent work. Addressing social challenges such as migration, displacement, and fragmentation requires community-driven and participatory approaches. Experiences from TechCeFaCos demonstrate that engaging local stakeholders and fostering entrepreneurship and cultural integration can strengthen resilience and cohesion.

On environmental sustainability, the organization stresses the need for inclusive climate action. Vulnerable populations must be actively involved in climate solutions, supported by community-based initiatives and green skills development. Achieving the SDGs will require stronger coordination across governments, the UN, civil society, and the private sector. Multi-stakeholder partnerships and platforms for dialogue are essential to mobilize resources and scale impact. However, a shift from dialogue to measurable implementation, accountability, and monitoring is critical.

TechCeFaCos calls for institutionalizing inclusive innovation platforms, empowering youth as decision-makers, expanding investment in digital and creative sectors, promoting culturally grounded approaches, and strengthening accountability frameworks. It also emphasizes the important role of civil society in bridging local realities with global policy. In conclusion, accelerating the 2030 Agenda requires bold, coordinated, and inclusive action. By prioritizing innovation, community empowerment, and collaboration, stakeholders can deliver meaningful progress and ensure no one is left behind.



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97. The Bahrain Young Ladies Association

The Bahrain Young Ladies' Association (BYLA) works to empower women economically and socially through two flagship projects: the Family Counselling Centre, which supports survivors of violence and serves approximately 200 women annually, and the Female Breadwinners Empowerment Project, which supports 30 women each year on their journey toward economic independence. Drawing from this direct field experience with vulnerable and often invisible groups of women, we present the following proposals.

I. Supporting Innovation and Entrepreneurship — Goal 9

Many female breadwinners establish small businesses as the sole source of income for their families. However, they often operate within the informal economy, a sector characterized by a lack of accurate data and statistics. The absence of social insurance coverage for this group remains a fundamental barrier to the sustainability of their enterprises. We therefore recommend the following:

- Extend social insurance protections to include workers in the informal economy, specifically female breadwinners who own micro-businesses.
- Launch a national statistical system to monitor the size of the informal economy and provide gender-disaggregated data.
- Encourage Private Sector Partnerships with women's organizations to provide flexible job opportunities tailored to the circumstances of female breadwinners.
- Define "Female Breadwinners" as a distinct category in official Bahraini statistics. The absence of this classification leaves these women invisible in public policy and hinders the design of effective programs to improve their living standards and quality of life.

II. Safe and Inclusive Communities — Goal 11

Our experience at the Family Counselling Centre reveals that women experiencing violence do not require isolated services, but rather an integrated ecosystem that combines psychological counselling, legal protection, and economic rehabilitation in a single, dignified setting. We call for the strengthening of these integrated community centres and their expansion across all governorates of the Kingdom to ensure accessibility for all women in need.

III. Effective Partnerships for Sustainable Development — Goal 17

Civil society organizations cannot operate in isolation from government and private institutions. We call for strengthened cooperation between women's organizations and government bodies—such as the Labor Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), "Tamkeen" (Labor Fund), and the Supreme Council for Women—to ensure services reach the most vulnerable groups. Furthermore, we advocate for sustainable, long-term funding for community organizations working with vulnerable women, recognizing these organizations as strategic partners rather than mere service providers.

Conclusion

Female breadwinners and survivors of violence in Bahrain do not seek sympathy; they require clear policies, accurate data, and genuine, sustainable protection. Investing in these groups is a direct investment in family resilience, social stability, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. We call upon all local and international partners to work together toward a future where no woman is left behind.



Economic and Social Council

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98. The Brooke

Working animals as invisible water and urban infrastructure

In growing cities around the world, the demand for transport, construction, water, and waste management services is growing. It is working animals - horses, donkeys and mules - that carry water, people, goods and waste across cities, and from rural to urban areas. They are essential, yet invisible, infrastructure for water (SDG 6) and sustainable cities (SDG 11).

In Pakistan's largest city, Karachi, the population of over 24 million produces 12,000 tons of solid waste every day. Currently, only 40% of this waste is removed by local authorities, leaving the huge task of removing the rest to people – and their donkeys.

Working animals ensure access to water for households, food production and other animals, and relieve the chores of women who otherwise need to travel long distances to reach water points.

In Ethiopia, by assisting a family to collect water, donkeys save each household \$126 a year and help them reclaim 16.5 hours a week.

With growing threat from climate change, working animals make communities more resilient before, during and after disasters. Where vehicle access is impossible, donkeys carry the wounded out of disaster areas, and bring emergency supplies in. Later, they help rebuild damaged infrastructure and restart livelihoods. However, their persistent exclusion from policies compromises the sustainable, safe, healthy and inclusive development of cities.

Recognizing the role of working animals and integrating them into urban planning and water policies helps strengthen urban sustainability, reduce poverty, decrease traffic accidents, promote gender equality and improve equitable access to basic services, in line with SDGs 6 and 11. We call on stakeholders at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, UN Water Conference and the UN Decade on Sustainable Transport to come together to recognize working animals as vital, yet invisible, infrastructure for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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99. The Donkey Sanctuary

Protecting working animals to pave the way for sustainable development

In 2015, the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) marked a call to action to change our world: a universal policy agenda with pledges for common action. It is widely acknowledged that progress towards the goals has not kept pace with ambition and that, without transformative and coordinated action, a sustainable future for all is at risk. Animal welfare, while still on the periphery of many policy spaces, demonstrates practicable connections with health, resource security, climate and disaster resilience and economic and social development.

Working animals represent a historical human-animal connection across generations and lifeline for many communities today. Their multifaceted contributions demonstrate alignment across the SDGs, providing transport and draught power to support agricultural production in subsistence and smallholder systems, income generation to fund household needs, investment in work, education or social capital and facilitating access to essential resources and services, such as food, water and healthcare. In the face of disasters, their continued (or often increased) presence in these roles has been shown to mitigate impact and support recovery.

Recognised as “productive assets” within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and acknowledged within United Nations General Assembly resolutions as warranting protection as part of efforts to achieve the Goals, working animals bridge otherwise siloed sectors and therefore need appropriate policy recognition.

Translating this awareness and the crucial connections outlined in the Animal welfare–environment–sustainable development nexus resolution into tangible action should be a next step in delivering better for the future:

- Recognising animal welfare as a crucial component of achieving the Sustainable Development Agenda and reflecting this in implementation plans.
- Incorporating animal welfare, especially that of working animals, into disaster preparedness policy to safeguard animals as part of wider resilience measures, such as national adaptation and disaster management plans.
- Further integrating a One Health approach into development frameworks, particularly around transboundary movements and pandemic preparedness.

The Donkey Sanctuary continues to support the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity and encourages the coordinated integration of working animal welfare across policy and implementation to ensure that no human or animal is left behind.



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100. The Fyera Foundation

Physiological Coherence Self-Regulation: A Transformative Inner Infrastructure for Achieving the 2030 Agenda

Fyera Foundation expresses deep gratitude to all UN global stakeholders who continue to advance the SDGs with courage and commitment. As we approach 2030, this forum's call for transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action is precisely what our work training physiological coherence skill building achieves.

True transformation requires not only new systems and structures, but a shift in the inner capacity of those who must design, implement, and sustain them. This is a crucial element in implementation architecture: the inner capacity of people — as individuals, communities, and institutions — to respond to complexity with clarity, creativity, and cooperation rather than stress, division, reactivity and fear. The latter measurably impairs the thinking, empathy, communication, and collaboration required to achieve equitable and innovative action. These physiological responses can be changed in measurable ways through trainable skills.

The Fyera Foundation works in close partnership with the HeartMath Institute, a scientific research nonprofit, to advance evidence-based physiological coherence self-regulation as a scalable intervention. Peer-reviewed research demonstrates that these low-cost, high-impact, cross-cultural techniques reduce stress, increase resilience, improve ethical and innovative decision-making, and strengthen the cooperative capacity essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda. The intersection of this work with the SDGs is foundational because all require human systems capable of sustaining the innovation and solidarity these goals demand.

Tashinga village in Zimbabwe offers an example that highlights the goals under review. Years of failed drilling attempts created deepening discouragement until community members were trained in self-regulation and physiological coherence. They shifted from frustration and helplessness to empowerment and collaborative problem-solving. They overcame obstacles, engineering a self-sustaining solar-powered borehole from a previously overlooked source that provides clean water to 2,800 people. A school garden followed, improving food security and generating revenue. This single intervention advanced Goals 6, 9, 11, 17 simultaneously through building core human capacity on the ground.

The 2023 G20 ratified policy we co-authored to integrate this type of social-emotional learning into global education and employment, based on strong evidence of its impact.

We invite Member States and stakeholders to contact The Fyera Foundation for support in embedding physiological coherence self-regulation into public health, education, governance, and partnerships as a foundational capacity for the transformative actions the world urgently needs. The physiology from which we act shapes everything we build. Let us build from the inner infrastructure of heart coherence. Because everyone has a heart, no one is left behind



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101. The Global Centre for Risk and Innovation

The Global Centre for Risk and Innovation, the Global Risks Alliance and the Global Risks Forum submit that delivering better by 2030 requires recognition of a new class of digital public goods: sovereign-respecting compute and connectivity infrastructure for water–energy–food–health nexus resilience. The central challenge is no longer only the accumulation of risks, but the transformation of how risks interact, accelerate and cascade across public systems, economies, territories and communities. The next phase therefore requires shared operating infrastructure for an all-hazard and whole-of-society approach, through which all responsible public and private actors can see build, test options, activate standards, protect data and coordinate action without surrendering sovereignty or confusing participation with authority.

Water, energy, food and health form one operating reality. Water insecurity weakens food production, energy reliability, sanitation, public health and migration stability. Energy disruption affects water treatment, hospitals, cold chains, transport, communications and emergency response. Food-system shocks affect nutrition, livelihoods, public finance and community cohesion. Health-system stress reduces workforce capacity, institutional continuity and emergency readiness. These systems cannot be governed adequately through episodic, sector-bounded coordination alone. We therefore invite Member States, United Nations entities, regional organizations, international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, standards bodies, research institutions, public authorities, civil society, infrastructure operators and responsible private actors to recognize by 2030 the need for sovereign-respecting nexus infrastructure as core delivery infrastructure for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Such infrastructure should include three mutually reinforcing capabilities. First, a distributed observability and intelligence capability: nationally and regionally grounded nodes for sovereign-respecting monitoring, trusted data environments, early warning, simulation, evidence preparation, baseline formation and local-to-global risk intelligence. Second, interoperability and cooperation capability: the technical, institutional and standards layer for compute, connectivity, data governance, safeguards, common grammar, public-safe records, correction ability and cross-sector comparability. Third, a high-performance testbed and convening capability: a time-bounded annual environment in which advanced networking, high-performance computing, challenge tracks, public-authority learning, technical stress tests and readiness exercises can be assembled around high-stakes water–energy–food–health scenarios, with lessons returned to permanent national and regional capacity. This invitation does not seek to replace existing institutions, create supranational authority, displace national ownership, centralize sovereign data, direct procurement or perform regulated financial execution. Its purpose is to strengthen the connective layer through which evidence, governance, readiness, portfolios and public-interest de-risking can become more coherent.

The way forward is a sovereignty-safe cooperation arc: nationally owned, regionally informed, globally intelligible, standards-based, rights-respecting and capable of turning fragmented risk signals into shared public-private-planet resilience action. The submitting organizations are working to develop and convene these universal nexus capabilities as a public-interest contribution and invite Member States and partners to advance them toward recognition of Nexus Ecosystem and use by 2030.



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102. The Lee Tae Seok Foundation

Digital learning infrastructure in least developed countries: scaling classroom artificial intelligence for Sustainable Development Goal 4

The Lee Tae Seok Foundation has operated in South Sudan for fifteen years, continuing Lee Tae Seok's medical and educational legacy. This statement proposes that primary and secondary education in least developed countries can be accelerated by treating classroom instruction guided by artificial intelligence as part of national learning infrastructure.

South Sudan has among the lowest secondary completion rates in the world. The recent closure of the United Kingdom's Girls' Education South Sudan programme has widened an already severe funding gap, while a persistent shortage of qualified teachers limits what recruitment alone can achieve by 2030.

Through its Jolly Academy initiative, The Lee Tae Seok Foundation is piloting a classroom platform led by teachers and supported by AI, integrating a tablet and display with lesson sequences aligned to the national curriculum of South Sudan. The platform supports primary and secondary instruction in mathematics, English, and public health, and extends to teacher training and continuous professional development. It is designed for shared device classrooms with intermittent power and connectivity.

Treated as digital learning infrastructure, Jolly Academy is equitable because it functions in the conditions least developed country classrooms actually face. It is innovative because structured pedagogy shapes the AI integration from the design stage. It is transformative because every lesson generates structured learning data that feeds national Education Management Information System reform, allowing classroom delivery and national education planning to advance on the same track.

The Lee Tae Seok Foundation offers the following recommendations:

- UN agencies supporting national education planning, including the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, should partner with non-governmental organizations already operating AI-supported classroom platforms in fragile contexts, using these deployments to accelerate progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 4.
- Ministries of Education in least developed countries should adopt AI-supported classroom platforms as components of national digital learning strategies and Education Management Information System architectures, so that pilot deployments graduate into core sectoral planning.
- Member States with mature education technology capabilities, including the Republic of Korea, should expand triangular cooperation with these Ministries to support classroom level digital learning infrastructure, with The Lee Tae Seok Foundation's South Sudan deployment available as one reference model.



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103. Tianjin Eco-city Friend of Green Eco-Culture Promotion Association

As a Chinese NGO holding special consultative status with the ECOSOC, we have been rooted in grassroots communities for 26 years, practicing the commitment of "leaving no one behind" through science-based actions. We firmly believe that genuine sustainable transformation must transcend boundaries, integrate innovation into communities, and uphold equity throughout all actions.

Centering on the *Blue Guardianship without Borders* project, we adopt a dual-driven approach combining domestic and international engagement, as well as practical action and advocacy. Domestically based in Tianjin's Bohai Bay, we carry out regular beach clean-ups, marine litter monitoring and volunteer marine conservation activities. We empower women and cultivate community practitioners for marine protection through popular science training to consolidate local ecological security. Internationally, we organized volunteers for the first time to conduct joint marine litter clean-up with local communities on Randall's Island, New York. We have pioneered the model of cross-border volunteering and localized implementation, removing 42.6 kilograms of marine litters through standardized professional procedures. This weight represents far more than waste removal; it symbolizes cross-border trust, knowledge exchange and coordinated joint efforts. Selected into *the Compilation of Cases on Chinese Social Organizations' Contributions to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda*, the project stands as a benchmark for China's cross-border civil environmental cooperation.

The initiative vividly demonstrates the transformation, equity, innovation and coordination highlighted by HLPP. Civil society serves as a vital bond to connect the world and promote mutual understanding. Marine conservation rights and obligations ought to be shared equally by all communities. Our replicable cooperation framework provides viable solutions for resource-constrained organizations, and synergizes with local communities in China and the US, as well as the framework of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

We solemnly propose to upgrade Blue Guardianship into a global marine cooperation network with regional hubs across continents and unified docking mechanisms. All organizations, regardless of size and resources, may connect with local partners to share methodologies, data criteria and localized experience, making coastal conservation actions visible, replicable and interconnected worldwide.

Change originates not merely from conference halls, but also from ordinary coastlines. We are prepared to fully open our project model and join global partners to forge a boundary-free blue protection network for shared marine sustainability.



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104. Joint statement by Türkiye Yesilay Cemiyeti, Al Najm, Association Green Crescent (Croissant Vert-Mali) de Sikasso, Conectados Pela Vida, Croissant Vert Nigérien (CVN), Croissant Vert Senegal, Green Crescent Australia, Green Crescent Health Development Initiative, Green Crescent Indonesia Foundation, Green Crescent of Congo, Green Crescent South Africa, Green Crescent Zimbabwe, Green Moon, Health & Economy, Madinaty, Pertubuhan Bulan Sabit Hijau Malaysia (Green Crescent), Public Association "Green Crescent Society", Public Association "Zhasylai", Rwanda Youth Impact, Sudanese Green Crescent Society, Tanzania Green Crescent Community, Thai Green Crescent, The Jordan Anti Drugs Society, Türkiye Yesilay Cemiyeti, Udruženje gradjana Zeleni polumjesec u Bosni i Hercegovini, Uganda Green Crescent Society, Zeleni krst, Zeleni Polumjesec (Green Crescent), and Zərərli vərdislərə qarşı ictimai birliyi.

This joint statement represents a unified call by 28 civil society organizations with ECOSOC consultative status, all of whom are members of the International Federation of Green Crescent—a global expert network active in over 70 countries dedicated to addiction prevention. We have aligned our expertise to address substance and behavioral dependencies as a core priority of the Sustainable Development Goals. By contributing to the 2026 High-level Segment, we highlight the urgent need for transformative action, underlining that prioritizing prevention is essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Addiction remains a cross-cutting challenge that undermines progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals, including health, education, poverty reduction, and peaceful societies. The growing complexity of addiction—encompassing alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and emerging behavioral dependencies such as digital and gambling addictions—requires integrated and evidence-based responses. Vulnerable populations, including youth, migrants, refugees, and individuals living in socioeconomically disadvantaged conditions, are disproportionately affected. To leave no one behind, legal barriers preventing these groups from accessing essential prevention services must be removed. Without targeted and inclusive interventions, inequalities will deepen, and progress toward the 2030 Agenda will remain uneven.

In line with the theme of accelerating transformative action, we emphasize the importance of innovation, particularly the use of digital tools and artificial intelligence, in identifying risk patterns and delivering tailored prevention programs. We call upon Member States to prioritize prevention by allocating dedicated and sustainable funding—ideally as a defined percentage of national health expenditures—to evidence-based programs targeting youth and at-risk communities. Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms aligning health, education, social protection, and justice systems should be strengthened alongside international cooperation to facilitate knowledge-sharing.

In conclusion, preventing addiction is not only a health priority but a prerequisite for sustainable development. By adopting coordinated, innovative, and inclusive strategies, the international community can accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda. The collective commitment of Green Crescent organizations under the umbrella of the International Federation of Green Crescent reflects a shared vision: a world where individuals and communities are empowered to lead healthy, productive, and addiction-free lives.



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105. Universal Versatile Society Nagathana, Ta./Dist.: Washim

The Asia-Pacific region stands at a critical crossroads. Regardless of substantial investments in sustainable development and climate resilience over the past decade, progress toward the 2030 Agenda is disturbingly stalled. Disparities persist in food security, water management, access to clean energy, sustainable urbanization and inclusive partnerships.

According to the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2025, the world is not on track to meet most SDG targets through 2030. Goals including SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water), SDG 7 (Clean Energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships) are stagnating or reversing due to geopolitical tensions, resource insecurity, climate change, and unequal access to technology and finance. The Asia-Pacific SDG Progress Report 2025 further indicates that the region is lagging significantly, with only a small percentage of goals achieved. Systemic barriers such as insufficient institutional capacity, widening inequality, climate-induced degradation, and an evidence gap stymie progress. While the region remains innovative and resilient at the community level, disjointed governance, inadequate investment, and limited youth engagement continue to impede transformative change. Notably, water-energy-food-ecosystem nexus challenges are escalating, posing threats to agriculture, energy systems, and urban resilience.

Anchored in this year's theme for better delivery, transformation and solidarity, **Universal Versatile Society (UVS)** inspires youth ecopreneurs to reinforce SDG 17 and explores how strengthened cross-sectoral collaboration can drive progress on SDGs 2, 6, 7, 11 and 17 as a catalyst through participatory governance, emerging technologies, and inclusive finance. Youth changemakers have been consistently encouraged to highlight climate-smart technologies, regenerative agri-food systems, and climate finance reforms as enablers of a just, equitable net-zero transition. **UVS recently awarded the Jal Yoddha Award 2025** for its remarkable water conservation work, a national honor sponsored by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Meanwhile, UVS has showcased its water stewardship approach at COP30, New York Climate Week, UNFCCC SB62, and the 12th UN APFSD. Key discussion topics include, but are not limited to, bridging local-global alignment and cross-sector collaboration (SDG 17); integrating water stewardship, regenerative agriculture, and climate-resilient communities (SDGs 2, 6, 11); upholding youth-driven clean energy innovation and systems thinking for a just transition (SDG 7); and scaling community-based nexus solutions (SDG 17)

Call for Action

Urgent and coordinated action is essential. Governments, UN agencies, and youth networks must collaborate to bridge gaps and scale regenerative, climate-smart agrifood systems. Nexus-based approaches should ensure that water management, food production, and urban resilience are no longer treated as stand-alone cases. Regional platforms must be strategically connected to enhance youth green skills, ecopreneurship, and technological integration. Above all, enabling conditions including equitable financing and inclusive governance ought to be established to replicate community-anchored solutions across the Asia-Pacific. The time for fragmented efforts has passed. Now is the moment for solidarity, transformation, and decisive action toward Agenda 2030.



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106. VAAGDHARA

Indigenous communities have always been custodians of a culture, long upholding and safeguarding development and ecology in harmonious way. Their relationship between people and nature is not merely philosophical but deeply embedded in everyday life. Rooted in ancestral wisdom and transmitted across generations, their traditional knowledge represents a living repository of ecological intelligence, cultural endurance, and decentralized governance practices that prioritize collective well-being. Although we are moving closer to the 2030 horizon, ongoing conflicts and crises across world are deepening challenges and pushing us further away from achieving sustainable and equitable development. At the same time, interconnected issues such as climate change, environmental degradation, growing inequalities, and concerns around food nutrition sovereignty continue to intensify.

The indigenous communities have contributed the least to climate change, they are among those most severely affected by its impacts. Especially indigenous women continue to encounter systemic exclusion from decision-making processes, limited access to resources, and inadequate recognition of their knowledge and leadership. They are agents of change, managing natural resources, sustaining household economies, and nurturing community resilience. Their social, cultural, and ecological wisdom has significantly contributed to transformation in indigenous communities, these contributions largely remain under-recognized, and they continue to face discrimination based on gender and socio-economic status. It is increasingly evident that meaningful and lasting social transformation emerges when development is inclusive, innovative, coordinated, and grounded in equity. When women are recognized as knowledge holders and co-creators, development outcomes become more contextually relevant, accountable, and impactful. Their lived experiences help redefine development priorities, ensuring alignment with ecological realities, cultural values, and community aspirations.

Indigenous women in Western Central India are leading community-led ecological restoration, playing a central role in agro-ecological practices, seed preservation, water conservation, local food systems, and nutrition management. Various community-led natural resource management efforts by them have resulted in regenerating local ecosystems, reinforcing the interdependence between ecology and their living income. By integrating traditional ecological knowledge with contemporary innovations like digital applications, decentralized renewable energy solutions, and digital monitoring systems, women in this region are demonstrating and contributing to strengthen community resilience. Their initiatives with hybrid approaches illustrate that sustainability is most effective when it builds upon existing knowledge systems and actions rather than replacing them. Their lived experiences help redefine development priorities, ensuring alignment with ecological realities, cultural values, and community aspirations.

VAAGDHARA believes that involving indigenous women in development frameworks is essential for achieving just and sustainable outcomes. The practices followed by them offer multiple solutions to global challenges, and it is important to frame policies, honouring their social rights, equity, and culture. Enabling women across all sustainable development goals would be important to build equitable, inclusive, and prosperous communities.



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107. Victim Support Europe

Victims of crime are too often excluded from sustainable development efforts, despite the serious impact victimisation has on equality, resilience, public trust and social cohesion. Crime can cause long-term psychological harm, economic insecurity and social exclusion, preventing individuals and communities from contributing fully to society. Sustainable Development Goals on gender equality, sustainable communities, peace, justice and partnerships cannot be achieved without addressing victimisation and its consequences.

Globally, victims face growing and changing harms. Technology-facilitated violence, online hate, fraud, exploitation and organised crime are expanding rapidly. Women and girls are disproportionately targeted through online harassment, stalking, image-based abuse and coercion, creating major barriers to equality, education, employment and public participation. Criminal networks continue to profit from trafficking in persons, labour exploitation and illicit markets, while victims often remain hidden and unsupported.

Victims of cross-border crime face additional obstacles. Many must navigate unfamiliar legal systems, overcome language barriers, as well as navigate inconsistent support services and justice systems, often at significant personal costs. When justice and support systems stop at national borders, victims are denied equal access to rights, protection and recovery. This not only deepens their vulnerability, but also erodes trust in institutions, weakening the foundations of international cooperation.

Victim Support Europe represents 80+ organisations in 36 countries, supporting more than three million people affected by crime each year. Our experience shows that victim-centred systems strengthen societies. When victims receive timely emotional, practical and legal support, recovery improves, the risk of repeat victimisation diminishes, and trust in public institutions is strengthened.

To accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, governments should adopt comprehensive national victim support frameworks that guarantee all victims access to justice, information and specialised services. Such frameworks should ensure coordination between police, courts, health, education and social services, so that victims are not left navigating fragmented responses.

States should also address emerging forms of crime, especially digital-enabled violence, through updated laws, stronger prevention measures and accountability for online platforms. Cross-border cooperation must be strengthened so victims can access support and remedies regardless of where the crime occurred.

For this to be achieved, long-term investment in victim support services is essential. Stable funding enables continuity of care, mental health support, legal aid and social reintegration. Training for justice, healthcare and frontline professionals should embed trauma-informed and victim-sensitive approaches to reduce secondary victimisation. A whole-of-society response is essential. Communities, civil society and the private sector all have a critical role in prevention, safety and recovery. By placing victims at the centre of policy, Member States can foster more just, inclusive and resilient societies, ensuring that no one is left behind.



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108. Vivekananda Sevakendra-O-Sishu Uddyan

Vivekananda Sevakendra – O – Sishu Uddyan (VSSU), a grassroots organization working in the climate-vulnerable Sundarban delta of India since 1986, is honored to contribute to the 2026 High- Level Segment, aligned with the theme of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

With over four decades of sustained engagement across 10 administrative blocks and more than 900 villages, VSSU has developed a community-driven and self-sustaining development model that contributes directly to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in ecologically fragile and socio-economically marginalized regions.

Poverty alleviation and women’s empowerment remain central to VSSU’s interventions, contributing to SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality). Through community-based microfinance and enterprise development programmes, over 180,000 marginalized individuals— predominantly women—have gained access to financial services, skills development, and sustainable livelihood opportunities. With more than USD 25 million mobilized in community credit, women-led micro-enterprises have significantly reduced dependency on forest resources while strengthening household resilience and local economies.

In advancing SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), VSSU promotes climate- resilient and sustainable agriculture. Climate-adaptive farming practices across 150 acres have supported over 10,000 marginal farmers through organic cultivation, rainwater harvesting, and integrated fisheries. These interventions address salinity intrusion, water scarcity, and declining agricultural productivity, thereby enhancing food security and environmental sustainability in vulnerable coastal ecosystems.

Recognizing the intrinsic link between livelihoods and ecosystems, VSSU contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land) through mangrove restoration and ecological conservation. The plantation of over 100,000 mangroves, alongside nearly 900,000 trees, has strengthened coastal resilience, reduced disaster risks from cyclones, and supported nature-based livelihoods. These efforts demonstrate the effectiveness of ecosystem-based approaches in addressing climate vulnerability while safeguarding biodiversity.

Notwithstanding these achievements, significant challenges persist, including limited access to climate finance, inadequate market integration, and gaps in technical capacity. In this context, VSSU recommends:

- Scaling up community-based microfinance and women-led enterprises as key drivers of inclusive growth
- Increasing investment in climate-resilient agriculture and nature-based solutions
- Strengthening capacity-building and skills development for rural women and youth
- Enhancing inclusive financial systems and market linkages for small producers
- Fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships to replicate proven community-led models

VSSU emphasizes that accelerated progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals requires locally anchored, community-owned, and integrated approaches that address the interlinkages between poverty, gender, environment, and livelihoods.

As the international community approaches the 2030 deadline, VSSU calls upon ECOSOC and Member States to reinforce commitments toward inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development pathways, ensuring that no one—particularly those in climate-vulnerable regions—is left behind.



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109. Women's Board-Educational Cooperation Society

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development represents a global commitment to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all. As the world approaches the final stretch toward 2030, it has become evident that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will require more than incremental progress. What is urgently needed are transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated actions that address structural inequalities, accelerate inclusive growth, and strengthen resilience, particularly in developing regions such as Africa.

For Africa and Nigeria, the 2030 Agenda remains both a roadmap and a moral imperative. The continent's demographic dynamism, abundant natural resources, and growing innovation ecosystem offer immense potential. However, persistent poverty, inequality, climate vulnerability, conflict, youth unemployment, and limited access to quality education and healthcare continue to threaten sustainable development. The war in the Middle East threatens to wipe away any gains made. The resulting high energy costs are affecting every sector of the economy.

Transformative, equitable, innovative, and coordinated action is the best way to advance the SDGs and ensure that no one is left behind. Transformative action requires confronting the root causes of underdevelopment rather than addressing symptoms. Equity is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda. Without deliberate, equity-focused policies, development gains risk being uneven and unsustainable; innovation is a critical enabler for achieving the SDGs.

Our organization contributes to this transformation through Hospitality programmes that equip women and girls with employable skills, professional standards, and entrepreneurial competence. The programmes support decent work and economic inclusion, particularly for women from low-income backgrounds. In 2025, we provided National Skills Qualification (NSQ) to young women and men through sponsorship from the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA). This intervention promoted both equity and innovation by intentionally including young men, recognizing that gender equality is a powerful accelerator of sustainable development.

The SIFA-NSQ programme ran for six months - three months training and three months internship, and covered four hospitality modules at NSQ Level 2: Bakery and Patisserie, Food Production, Housekeeping, and Bartending and Mixology. A total of sixty-one persons benefited. Of these, 67.2% have completed internship, 32.8% are still undergoing internship, and 36.6% of those who completed their internship were retained. The trainees were equipped in English language, life skills, computer literacy, and entrepreneurship to enable them thrive in the workforce or become business owners.

As the 2030 deadline approaches, coordinated action is indispensable for effective SDG implementation. Our organization partners with communities, institutions, and civil society actors to deliver people-centred programmes that bridge policy and practice. We believe stronger coordination between government, civil society, and the private sector is essential to scale impact and ensure policy coherence across national and subnational levels.



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110. Women's Health and Education Center

Women's Health and Education Center's Response Framework

Our Focus on SDG 6, 7, 9 and 17. The **Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)** is dedicated to the well-being of all people and guided by science, supports this initiative, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in schools, in Kerala, India. Urgent action is needed globally and locally to achieve safe and sustainably managed WASH for all, in order to prevent devastating impacts on health of millions of people. The world is seriously off-track to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 on water and sanitation for all, by 2030. WASH-related health burden ranging from – child death, diarrheal disease, enteric infections and related sequelae, malnutrition, maternal and neonatal infections, infections from unsafe healthcare waste management and antimicrobial resistance to name a few. Impacts on well-being: Dignity, personal safety (fear, anxiety, stress), school attendance, livelihoods (economic productivity, poverty). [SDG Action # 49770](#).

When people *perceive* or *experience* a lack of privacy and safety, during open defecation or when using sanitation infrastructure, this can negatively influence their mental and social well-being. the authors of this study found that perceptions and experiences of privacy and safety are influenced by contextual and individual factors, such as location of sanitation facilities and user's gender identity, respectively. Privacy and safety require thorough examination when developing sanitation interventions and policy to ensure a positive influence on the user's mental and social well-being. The world has seen a dramatic increase in out-of-school rates, for both girls and boys in developing countries. [SDG Action # 50616](#).

WHEC's publications are aimed at a broad range of audience, and it is hoped the everyone who reads this comes away with a realization of the complexity of the issues at stake. To strengthen coherent policymaking and strengthening trust in Education & Health Partnerships. The planning should reflect country's strengths and weaknesses in science, technology and innovation and highlight the connections (and missing links) between national needs and objectives and the UN 2030 Agenda.

Our recommendations for safe drinking water in schools and healthcare facilities are:

1. Projects and programs should be tailored to meet people where they live and support women's leadership in every aspect of water management and distribution.
2. Safe, clean drinking water means protection from preventable diseases and freedom to focus on school curriculum, play and work.
3. Equitable water access bolster community resilience, improve equitable access and promote women's and girls' education and leadership.
4. Measuring and reporting on progress to achieve water equality at regional, national and international levels.

Join our initiatives. We welcome everyone!



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111. World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies

The World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (WFCMS) stands in full alignment with the 2026 ECOSOC HLS theme: “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for a sustainable future for all.”

Facing the urgency of the 2030 deadline, WFCMS is steadfast in its commitment to advancing SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through the integration of Traditional Medicine. Our extensive network, comprising 303 society members across 78 countries and regions, serves as a robust foundation for coordinated, transformative action.

To modernize traditional practices, WFCMS has established 176 international TCM standards. These standards act as the bedrock of our transformative efforts, rigorously ensuring safety and efficacy. By promoting these standards globally, we are cultivating a more equitable healthcare landscape, ensuring that patients from diverse backgrounds have access to reliable treatment.

Innovation remains vital to the modernization of traditional knowledge. Annually, WFCMS facilitates education and training for professionals through its global network. Furthermore, our operation of 187 specialized branches—focusing on fields such as gynecology and pediatrics—ensures the intergenerational transmission and professionalization of TCM, thereby supplying the global health system with highly skilled practitioners.

With a view to the future, we are dedicated to building coordinated partnerships. We aim to advocate for TCM's integration into national healthcare systems, promote collaborative research and regulation, foster cultural exchange, and leverage innovation to modernize and globalize TCM.

WFCMS remains dedicated to accelerating action. Through our coordinated global network and innovative standardization, we will deliver tangible contributions toward achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



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112. World Muslim Congress

The World Muslim Congress, established in 1926, is one of the oldest international Muslim organizations dedicated to promoting human rights, fostering interfaith dialogue and advancing humanitarian cooperation. The organization holds class-I consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1967 and observer status with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. With affiliates in over forty countries, its work reflects a long-standing commitment to intercultural understanding, protection of human dignity, sustainable development and strengthening multilateral cooperation. Drawing upon its global network and historical legacy, the organization continues to advocate for inclusive and equitable development rooted in shared human values.

The World Muslim Congress submits this statement to the 2026 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in response to the joint theme: “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all,” and the general debate theme: “Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.” This statement seeks to highlight key systemic challenges, underline the urgency of coordinated global action, and present practical and ethically grounded recommendations to accelerate progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The global community stands at a critical juncture. With less than five years remaining to achieve the 2030 Agenda, progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals remains uneven, fragile and, in some cases, reversing. While notable gains have been made in certain regions, persistent inequalities and structural imbalances continue to undermine collective efforts. Developing countries, particularly those affected by conflict, economic instability and environmental degradation, face compounded challenges that limit their capacity to meet development targets.

Access to clean water and sanitation remains a pressing concern in many parts of the world. Climate change has intensified water scarcity, disrupted natural ecosystems and exacerbated vulnerabilities among already marginalized communities. In parallel, energy access remains unequal, with millions still lacking reliable and affordable electricity. The transition towards sustainable and renewable energy systems is progressing, yet disparities in financing, technology and capacity hinder equitable implementation.

Industrial development and innovation, essential components of sustainable economic growth, are constrained by limited access to capital, technological barriers and inadequate infrastructure. The digital divide continues to widen, preventing many developing countries from fully participating in the global knowledge economy. Without targeted interventions, these disparities risk entrenching existing inequalities and limiting opportunities for inclusive growth.

Rapid urbanization presents both opportunities and challenges. While cities serve as engines of economic development, unplanned expansion has led to increased pressure on housing, transportation systems and public services. Informal settlements continue to expand, often lacking basic amenities and exposing residents to environmental and health risks. Sustainable urban planning, resilient infrastructure and inclusive policies are essential to address these challenges.

Equally concerning is the weakening of global partnerships. Multilateral cooperation, which lies at the heart of the 2030 Agenda, faces growing strain due to geopolitical tensions, economic competition and declining trust among stakeholders. Fragmentation in international cooperation mechanisms undermines the ability to coordinate responses to shared challenges such as climate change, pandemics and economic crises.

At the same time, the human dimension of development must not be overlooked. Sustainable development is not solely a technical or economic endeavor; it is fundamentally about people. Issues such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and social exclusion require holistic and inclusive approaches. In this context, the role of culture, ethics and values becomes increasingly important in shaping policies that are both effective and equitable.

The World Muslim Congress emphasizes that sustainable development must be grounded in the principles of human dignity, justice and shared responsibility. These principles are not abstract ideals but practical foundations for building inclusive societies. Faith-based organizations and civil society actors have a critical role to play in promoting these values, fostering social cohesion and supporting community-level implementation of development initiatives.

In light of these challenges, a renewed and coordinated global response is urgently required. The World Muslim Congress proposes several key areas of action.

First, there is a need to strengthen international financial mechanisms to support developing countries. This includes expanding concessional financing, addressing unsustainable debt burdens and ensuring equitable access to climate finance. Financial systems must be reoriented to prioritize sustainable development outcomes and support long-term resilience rather than short-term gains.

Second, technology transfer and capacity-building must be significantly enhanced. Developing countries require access to affordable and appropriate technologies to accelerate progress in areas such as renewable energy, water management and digital infrastructure. Partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society can facilitate knowledge-sharing and innovation.

Third, the digital divide must be addressed as a matter of priority. Digital technologies have the potential to transform economies, improve service delivery and enhance access to education and healthcare. However, without inclusive policies and investments, these benefits will remain unevenly distributed. Efforts should focus on expanding connectivity, improving digital literacy and ensuring that technological advancements are accessible to all.

Fourth, sustainable urban development must be prioritized. Governments should adopt integrated approaches that promote inclusive housing, efficient public transportation, green spaces and climate-resilient infrastructure. Urban planning should be participatory, ensuring that the voices of marginalized communities are heard and incorporated into decision-making processes.

Fifth, community-based and locally driven approaches must be strengthened. Local institutions, civil society organizations and faith-based groups are often best positioned to understand and address the needs of their communities. Empowering these actors through resources, capacity-building and inclusive governance frameworks can enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of development initiatives.

Sixth, multilateral cooperation must be revitalized. The international community must reaffirm its commitment to cooperation, dialogue and shared responsibility. Strengthening global institutions, enhancing transparency and ensuring equitable representation are essential to rebuilding trust and fostering effective partnerships.

Seventh, ethical and value-based frameworks should be integrated into development policies. Sustainable development requires not only technical solutions but also moral commitment. Policies should reflect principles of fairness, accountability and respect for human dignity. Intercultural and interfaith dialogue can play a significant role in promoting mutual understanding and cooperation among diverse communities.

Eighth, particular attention must be given to conflict-affected and vulnerable regions. Sustainable development cannot be achieved in the absence of peace and stability. Efforts to promote development must be accompanied by initiatives to prevent conflict, support post-conflict reconstruction and address the root causes of instability.

The World Muslim Congress also underscores the importance of inclusive participation. Women, youth and marginalized groups must be actively involved in decision-making processes. Their perspectives and contributions are essential for developing solutions that are responsive, innovative and sustainable.

Furthermore, monitoring and accountability mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure that commitments are translated into tangible results. Data collection, transparency and regular reporting are essential for tracking progress and identifying gaps. International cooperation in data-sharing and capacity-building can support these efforts.

The urgency of the current moment cannot be overstated. The challenges facing the global community are complex and interconnected, requiring coordinated and sustained action. Incremental progress will not be sufficient to achieve the transformative change envisioned in the 2030 Agenda. Bold and innovative approaches are needed to accelerate implementation and deliver meaningful outcomes.

The World Muslim Congress calls upon Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector to work together in a spirit of partnership and solidarity. Collective action, guided by shared values and a commitment to equity, is essential to overcoming the challenges ahead.

In conclusion, the achievement of the 2030 Agenda requires a renewed sense of urgency, purpose and cooperation. The World Muslim Congress urges all stakeholders to move beyond commitments and focus on implementation that is transformative, inclusive and sustainable. By aligning policies with principles of human dignity, justice and shared responsibility, the international community can create a future that is equitable and sustainable for all.



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113. Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia

Transformative School-Based Nutrition: Advancing Indonesia's Free Nutritious Meal Programme (MBG) for Sustainable Development Goals 2, 3, and 4.

Introduction

As a non-governmental organization, Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia (YPI) underscores the vital connection between quality education (SDG 4) and nutritional security. We reaffirm our strong and continued support for Indonesia's Free Nutritious Meal Programme (MBG), recognizing its importance to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) ahead of 2026 in-depth review of SDGs.

Key Issues

One year after its launch in January 2025, the MBG programme has made remarkable progress. It has reached more than 60 million beneficiaries, including schoolchildren and pregnant mothers. Student attendance has increased, learning outcomes have improved, local economies have benefited through community kitchens, and early signs of stunting reduction have emerged.

However, the programme's extremely rapid rollout has also revealed significant challenges. Several incidents of mass food poisoning have occurred due to inadequate kitchen standards, insufficient hygiene training, and weak sanitation. These issues have triggered public criticism — some constructive, others politically motivated — which risks eroding public trust. Despite these setbacks, the MBG programme remains essential for advancing quality education and developing high-quality human resources in Indonesia.

Way Forward

To ensure the programme becomes more effective, equitable, and sustainable, we recommend the following concrete improvements:

1. Establish a clear legal framework that defines institutional roles and includes independent oversight mechanisms to prevent commercialization and corruption risks.
2. Strengthen local and innovative solutions by providing professional training for kitchen managers, enforcing strict food safety certification, and prioritizing fresh ingredients from smallholder farmers to build resilient community-based food systems.
3. Integrate nutrition literacy and Education for Sustainable Development into the school curriculum to raise awareness of healthy eating, hygiene, and environmental responsibility.
4. Enhance equitable access through real-time digital monitoring, transparent procurement processes, and targeted support for remote areas.
5. Improve accountability via regular independent audits, open budget reporting, and constructive feedback mechanisms that protect the programme's integrity.

YPI remains committed to supporting the MBG programme through community-based education activities, teacher training on nutrition awareness, and grassroots engagement. We call upon all stakeholders to treat school-based nutrition programmes as a strategic investment for inclusive and sustainable development. By addressing current weaknesses through coordinated and innovative approaches, the MBG programme can become a successful global model for achieving Zero Hunger, quality education, and a brighter future for all Indonesian children and future generations.



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114. Yayasan Wadah Titian Harapan

Women as Drivers of Transformation from Within: Accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals through Food Self-Reliance, Multistakeholder Collaboration and Character Education

Yayasan Wadah Titian Harapan, in special consultative status with the ECOSOC since 2016, has empowered 154,170 marginalized individuals across Indonesia. The SDGs Report 2025 warns that fewer than one fifth of the targets are on track. In response to the 2026 High-level Segment on transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated action, we affirm that acceleration must be rooted in communities and driven by women as agents of change from within.

The name “Wadah” derives from “Wanita dan Harapan” (Women and Hope), reflecting our core conviction. Our data show that 66.2 per cent of community leaders are women, and the groups they lead achieve higher programme sustainability and stronger intergenerational impact. Women are drivers of transformation, not objects of assistance, accelerating Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8.

In Koa Village, East Nusa Tenggara, where the stunting rate stood at 48.3 per cent (2021 Indonesian Nutritional Status Survey), 17 women cadres now lead “Dapur Gizi” (The Nutritious Meals Programme), a community-based food security programme providing nutritious meals and local employment. This model replaces dependency with self-reliance and unites Goals 2 and 8 in a single, concrete action.

Women’s impact multiplies through integrated collaboration with Governments, the private sector, academia, business actors, civil society and individuals. Our cross-sectoral partnerships have brought solar power to 1,478 households across four districts, enabling children to study at night and adults to pursue economic opportunities, while the “Usaha Bersama Simpan Pinjam” (Joint Savings and Loan) provides capital for small entrepreneurs. Accountable multistakeholder collaboration is an irreplaceable impact multiplier.

Well-being endures only if mindsets change. Through our “Universal” character education, we instill integrity, responsibility and a spirit of contribution so that self-reliance does not revert to dependency. Character education sustains transformation and strengthening Goal 4 as guardian of all other SDGs.

To accelerate the SDGs by 2030, Yayasan Wadah Titian Harapan calls upon the Council and Member States to take three actions. First, to open formal leadership space for women as village heads, local government leaders and decision makers through affirmative quotas and political mentoring. In Indonesia, only 5.5 per cent of village heads are women, yet villages led by women record higher levels of self-reliance. Second, to replicate community-based food security models such as “Dapur Gizi” to break the cycle of dependency. Third, to integrate character education into the Sustainable Development Goals framework as a foundation for long-term social sustainability.

Genuine transformation begins from within, driven by women, sustained by character, and strengthened by collaboration. Yayasan Wadah Titian Harapan is committed to bridging the global agenda and grassroots action.



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115. Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations

Building Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements: Contribution from Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations

Introduction

Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations, granted special consultative status with ECOSOC in 2022, submits this statement in support of the 2026 High-level Political Forum theme “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all”. With a particular focus on Sustainable Development Goal 11, this statement highlights how a representative non-governmental organization from Beijing, China, has been promoting inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable urban development through cross-sectoral collaboration, capacity building, and regional coordination.

Overview of Issues

As a flagship umbrella organization in Beijing’s innovation ecosystem, Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations has actively bridged diverse stakeholders, including technology enterprises, research institutions, and community groups. It has optimized the science, technology and innovation ecosystem, enhanced professional service capacities of social organizations, and facilitated industrial synergy and international cooperation. These efforts contribute directly to SDG 11 by making cities more inclusive (through broad stakeholder engagement), safer (through improved governance and service delivery), and more sustainable (through innovation-driven solutions).

Furthermore, Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations has expanded cross-sectoral resources to support the construction and improvement of subdistrict offices and neighborhoods in its jurisdiction. Through a series of activities, salons and conferences, it has effectively addressed practical challenges encountered by other social organizations in their day-to-day operations. Such grassroots engagement fosters resilience at the local level and ensures that no community is left behind.

In its daily work, Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations has consistently supported the coordinated development of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, a key national policy of China. By facilitating knowledge sharing, resource allocation, and joint projects across the three areas, Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations helps make the entire region more livable, equitable and sustainable. This regional approach amplifies the impact of local actions and contributes to building a network of resilient and sustainable human settlements.

Way Forward

Based on its experience, Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations recommends that:

Local governments and international partners invest in multi-stakeholder platforms that connect innovation hubs with community development needs, ensuring that technological advances directly benefit urban inclusivity and safety.

Capacity-building programmes be scaled up for social organizations, especially those working at the neighbourhood level, to strengthen their ability to respond to emerging challenges such as climate adaptation, digital divide, and social inclusion

Regional coordination mechanisms, like the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei model, be promoted as a tool for achieving SDG 11 across administrative boundaries, with a focus on equitable access to infrastructure, services and green space.

Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations remains committed to working with ECOSOC, UN agencies and global partners to transform our cities and human settlements into places where everyone can thrive