

**Expert meeting in preparation for HLPF 2017
Readying institutions and policies for integrated approaches to
implementation of the 2030 Agenda**

Vienna International Centre, 14 to 16 December 2016, Board Room C, 4th Floor

Annotated provisional agenda

Day 1 – Wednesday, 14 December 2016

Chaired by UNDESA

09:30 – 10:00 Opening

Mr. Li Yong, Director General, UNIDO

H.E. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zimbabwe to the United Nation, President of the Economic and Social Council

Ms. Marion Barthélemy, Acting Director, Division for Public Administration and Development Management, UNDESA

10:00 – 12:00 Panel 1 – Understanding important interactions among the SDGs

The SDGs are all interconnected. These interrelations are complex. Some goals and targets interact with others more strongly than others. Some targets reinforce each other (synergies). Others may conflict with one another (trade-offs). Some may be necessary for others to be achieved (enablers). Government plans and policies need to take these complex and dynamic interactions into account. This requires building, strengthening or equipping institutional arrangements to facilitate effective integrated approaches. As they launch the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in motion, many countries have been putting in place inter-ministerial or other mechanisms to mobilize coherent action by the whole government. Integration also needs to be pursued between specific sectors or subsector. While acknowledging that interactions among SDG targets may vary across and within countries, for practical policymaking this process may start from a specific SDG and map out, score and qualify interactions in relation to the other sixteen goals and their targets. Strongly positive, or negative, interactions lend themselves to building strategies across sectors. In this session, participants will hear of recent research findings on interactions among the SDGs for review at the HLPF in 2017 (1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14) and other SDGs. The discussion will serve as a starting point for the subsequent sessions.

Guiding questions:

What are important linkages among the targets of Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14 as

well as between them and the other SDGs?

Which SDG or targets may be expected to bring benefits across all SDGs?

What plans, strategies and institutional arrangements are being put in place at the moment to implement the SDGs?

What is the experience thus far with national sustainable development plans and coordinating structures in readying institutions for integrated approaches to the SDGs? What are the implications for ongoing SDG implementation efforts?

How could governments and other stakeholders contribute to mapping important interrelationships among the SDGs?

Moderator: Mr. Nikhil Seth, Executive Director, UNITAR

Speakers:

Mr. Uchita de Zoysa, Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, Sri Lanka

Mr. Måns Nilsson, Research Director, Stockholm Environment Institute, and Professor of the Practice of Policy Analysis, KTH Royal Institute of Technology

Ms. Mathilde Bouyé, Associate, SDG Delivery Team, World Resources Institute

Lead discussant:

Mr. Stefan Jungcurt, Editor and Team Leader, Earth Negotiations Bulletin, International Institute for Sustainable Development

General discussion

12:00 – 13:45

Break

13:45-15:45

Panel 2 – Eradicating poverty as a foremost objective of institutions and policies across the SDGs

Poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. It is related to the achievement of every SDG and is critical to realizing the principle of leaving no one behind. Public services and investments in education, health, nutrition, livelihoods, climate resilience, social protection, environmental protection, financial inclusion and participatory decision-making are among the many determinants of success in eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world. Inclusive growth is also critical. The multiple dimensions of poverty imply a need for designing integrated policies and linking the actions of a diverse range of institutions and actors at national and local levels. This session will explore critical interactions and the related institutional arrangements and public administration practices that are known to support integrated approaches to poverty eradication

and strongly reinforce synergies among related SDG targets.

Guiding questions:

Which targets have the greatest impact on reducing poverty and are there critical trade-offs in the short- or long-term?

What institutional mechanisms are in place to address the interlinked challenges of poverty eradication at the national and local levels as well as in the area of development cooperation? What has worked and why?

What policy lessons can be learned from past experiences with engagement of marginalized groups and other key stakeholders with regard to implementation of SDG 1?

How has poverty eradication been 'mainstreamed' across government planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation?

Moderator: Mr. José Cuesta, Chief, Social and Economic Policies Unit, Office of Research, UNICEF

Speakers:

Ms. Jiang Xiheng, Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Department, Development Research Centre of the State Council, China

Ms. Sabina Alkire, Director, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, Department of International Development, University of Oxford

Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Social Protection Department, ILO

Lead discussant:

Mr. Roberto Bissio, Coordinator, Social Watch

General discussion

15:45 – 16:00

Break

16:00-18:00

Panel 3 – Ending hunger and achieving food security: what can we learn from the key linkages with other SDGs?

In order to overcome food insecurity and hunger, action is needed to transform food systems so that they are more productive, environmentally sustainable and resilient while preserving and enhancing livelihood benefits and well-being. Some experts recommend strengthening inter-ministerial coordination at the centre of government and consolidation of national laws. Others propose closer cooperation on food security among key agencies and stakeholders. This session will be

devoted to a discussion of the cross-sectoral challenges of ending hunger and achieving food security, and the institutional arrangements that are most likely to lead to much needed policy coherence in this area.

Guiding questions:

What institutional arrangements are most likely to lead to positive interactions among policies designed to achieve SDG 2 and other SDGs?

What are successful examples of integration of infrastructure and technology for achieving food security and promoting sustainable agriculture? How can finance and technology be further leveraged to promote integrated approaches?

What is the role of the centre of government in successful implementation of SDG 2? How and when should inter-ministerial coordination be strengthened?

Moderator: Mr. Ernesto Soria Morales, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy Coherence for Development Unit, OECD

Speakers:

Ms. Laura Sommer, Policy Adviser, International, Sustainable Development and Food Systems Unit, Federal Office for Agriculture, Switzerland

Mr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Professor and Tun Hussein Onn Chair of International Studies, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia and former Assistant Director-General, FAO

Ms. Cecilia Tacoli, Principal Researcher and Leader of Urban-Rural Linkages Team, International Institute for Environment and Development

Lead discussant:

Mr. Patrick Caron, Chairperson, Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, Committee on World Food Security

General discussion

18:00 – 20:00

Reception

Day 2 – Thursday, 15 December 2016

Chaired by UNIDO

10:00 – 12:00 Panel 4 – What do the SDGs tell us about the determinants of health and their policy implications?

Many factors that affect the health of individuals and communities are beyond the ambit of health ministries. Factors such as where one lives, the state of the physical environment, gender, genetics, income, education levels, and relationships with friends and family all have considerable impacts on health, possibly greater than access, quality and use of health care services. Water, transport and energy can also have major impacts on health. There is also a need to consider the growing impacts of climate change, ecosystem degradation, urbanization, industrialization and other national and international challenges on health at the local level. Health ministries need to understand and follow the activities of other sectors that have an impact on health. They also need to have the necessary clout to work with other sectors in developing holistic approaches to health policies.

Guiding questions:

How could institutions with a strong influence on health outcomes be incentivized to give greater consideration to health-related targets in policy-making?

What are examples of institutions and policies outside the health sector proper that support improved health outcomes?

What institutional arrangements are needed to resolve possible trade-offs between national economic development and the health of individuals and communities?

Moderator: Ms. Agnes Soucat, Director, Department of Health Systems Governance and Financing, WHO

Speakers:

Mr. Patrick Kadama, Director of Health Policy and Strategy, Africa Centre for Global Health and Social Transformation

Mr. Obijiofor Aginam, Director Ad-Interim and Officer-in-Charge, Head of Governance for Global Health, UNU-International Institute for Global Health

Lead discussant:

Mr. Saroj Jayasinghe, Professor, Department of Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo

General discussion

12:00 – 13:45 **Break**

13:45 – 15:45 **Panel 5 – Can the SDGs accelerate progress towards gender equality?**

SDG 5 is linked with all SDGs, with close connections in particular to poverty eradication, health, inequalities, climate action and peaceful, just and inclusive societies. For example, equal access to justice and protection from all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, is directly related to realization of SDG 5. Gender mainstreaming entails reforming policies to integrate a gender perspective and injecting the concern for gender equality into plans, budgets and investment decisions. It also requires ensuring adequate institutional arrangements for mainstreaming gender equality as well as bolstering the capacities and influence of national machineries for the advancement of women and other arrangements. Gender inequality is deeply rooted in economic, social and cultural structures as well as discriminatory institutions. The SDGs can accelerate progress towards gender equality provided there are changes to overcome the systemic discrimination women face in social, environmental and economic areas.

Guiding questions:

What has 30 years' experience with national machineries for the advancement of women taught us about institutional mechanisms and means for promoting integrated approaches to gender equality?

What should be the relationship of national machineries for the advancement of women with other areas of government?

What institutional changes are being made to build on the specific linkages between SDG 5 and other SDGs and accelerate progress towards gender equality?

Moderator: Ms. Christine Brautigam, Director, Intergovernmental Support Division, UN-Women

Speakers:

Ms. Emilia Reyes, Coordinator, Gender Policies and Budgets, Equidad de Genero: Ciudadania, Trabajo y Familia, A.C.

Ms. Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, Women in Europe for a Common Future

Lead discussant:

Ms. Ranjani Krishnamurthy, Independent Researcher and Consultant on Gender, Poverty and Development

General discussion

15:45 – 16:00 **Break**

16:00-18:00 **Panel 6 – Maximizing the impact of infrastructure and industry on all SDGs**

All the SDG have industry-related targets because of industrialization's association with job creation, sustainable livelihoods, innovation, technology and skills development, food security, green technologies and equitable growth. Industry has a strong multiplier effect on economic activity by providing decent jobs and expanding the fiscal revenues needed for social investments, and can boost capacity for socially inclusive development. Traditional infrastructure and business infrastructure also accelerate economic linkages and networks through the integration of transport with logistics, value chains and the creation of enabling business environments. Agglomerations and other growth benefits can, for example, be realized from productive and innovation hub development around transport nodes and important urban centres. Resilient infrastructure contributes to lowering the carbon and environmental footprint of industry and facilitates the optimal location of industrial agglomerations, thereby minimizing associated health, safety and environmental risks. Mobilizing financial resources from the private sector through public private partnerships plays an important role.

Guiding questions:

How can the impact of infrastructure, industry and innovation on all other SDGs be maximized?

Are there examples of countries that have started aligning their national industrialization and infrastructure plans with this kind of integrated thinking, and if so what are some initial ideas?

What arrangements are needed to ready institutions and policies for integrated approaches to SDG 9?

Moderator: Mr. Philippe Scholtes, Managing Director, UNIDO

Speakers:

Mr. Marcos Alegre Chang, Vice Minister of Environment, Peru

Mr. Pavel Kabat, Director General and Chief Executive Officer, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

Mr. Yao Shenhong, Alternate Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of China to UNIDO

Lead discussant:

Ms. Meera Venkatesh, Director, Division of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, IAEA

General discussion

Day 3 – Friday, 16 December 2016

Chaired by UNDESA

10:00 – 12:00 Panel 7 – Integrated actions for oceans

Without the realization of SDG 14, it would be difficult to achieve other SDGs, such as combatting climate change and its impacts, food security and improving nutrition, reducing inequality, and sustainable consumption and production,. Several other SDGs are also related to and can contribute to achieving SDG 14 on oceans and seas, such as poverty eradication, water and sanitation, energy, economic growth, infrastructure, cities and human settlements, sustainable consumption and production, and biodiversity. Increased scientific knowledge and research capacity, access to technology and resources, protection of livelihoods for small-scale fishers, and respect for international law are all crucial. Given the global nature of marine conservation, efforts need to take into account synergies and trade-offs among local, national and international actions.

Guiding questions:

What are successful arrangements at the national level to enhance the benefits from the use of marine resources to the economy and to poor communities in particular?

What lessons can be taken from decades of experience in integrated coastal zone management, which tries to implement integrated approaches to the development of coastal areas?

How do countries relate ocean authorities to other institutions? Are there any interesting country cases where institutional changes are introduced in accordance with the need for integrated approaches to oceans?

What are examples related to means of implementation including partnerships that help enabling integrated approaches to address the specific needs of small island developing States?

Moderator: Mr. Julian Barbière, Head, Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, UNESCO

Speakers:

Mr. Mark Gaffigan, Managing Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office, United States

Mr. Widi Agoes Pratikto, Executive Director, Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security

Ms. Biliana Cicin-Sain, President, Global Ocean Forum, and Director, Gerard J. Mangone Center for Marine Policy, College of Earth, Ocean and Environment, University of Delaware

Lead discussant:

Ms. Asha Singh, Head, Oceans Governance, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Commission

General discussion

12:00 – 12:30 **Wrap-up**