



JCoR response to call for stakeholder input into the 2019 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Summit

What are your key expectations for the Summit and how can stakeholders best contribute?

- Acknowledgement of data indicating that, at this stage, no SDG is on track to be completed by 2030
- Intergovernmental exchange of feedback on the effectiveness of SDG implementation, follow-up, and review mechanisms, including concrete proposals for improvement in areas of weakness
- Interspersion of opportunities for oral delivery of feedback from civil society stakeholders between Member States' statements rather than after all government representatives have spoken and left the room

What are the most important areas of progress and main gaps and challenges since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda?

Progress:

- Intergovernmental, multi-stakeholder process to develop, and General Assembly adoption of, the *Global Compact for Migration* (nominally aimed at Target 10.7 but acknowledging shortcomings on all SDGs as drivers of forced displacement and forced displacement as a driver of shortcomings on all SDGs)
- Civil society's uptake of SDG framework as common language that integrates service to the common good in all issue areas and at all levels

Gaps/Challenges:

- Lack of education/awareness of SDGs among general population
- Lack of State and private support of strong civil society practices for implementation of SDGs and lack of invitation/facilitation of their participation in follow-up and review
- Persistent mis-prioritization of universal economic growth over universal economic sustainability and inclusion, which requires growth in some contexts and de-growth in others
- Lack of financial support for the least developed and most climate vulnerable States who require concrete support to cover the material costs of climate adaptive infrastructure (e.g. climate proofing wharves and air strips) as well as capacity building (e.g. training in community consultation, construction methods)

Please, share best practices from your own experience of working with the SDGs that can serve as inspiration to others ahead of the Summit.

Development of curricula and other educational materials for women and men Religious and their partners in ministry at the grassroots to support their continued implementation of the SDGs; enhance the extent to which they see their ministries as situated within the agenda of the UN and commitments of their

national governments; and promote their engagement of political, economic, and spiritual leaders for a more unified pursuit of SDG achievement

Examples:

- 20 NGOs' formation of the Justice Coalition of Religious, which will soon be offering workshops to build Religious' capacity for the above (www.jcor2030.org)
- Development of the *Critical Hope for the SDGs* curriculum (<https://bit.ly/30zuLk1>)
- Development of a practical guide to grassroots monitoring of SDG6 and a companion document linking SDG6 with the values and moral mandates of several spiritual traditions (<https://bit.ly/2nyEupZ>)

List three political messages that could be outlined by the Summit in order to accelerate implementation, including for the mobilization of means of implementation and promotion of partnerships.

1. Promote State participation in the development of the Treaty on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations in order to accelerate its completion, ratification, and implementation. Silent acquiescence to the status quo of corporate exploitation of human and natural resources significantly undercuts progress toward all SDGs by systematically facilitating the net flow of funds and resources away from those populations who are already the most vulnerable and furthest behind.
2. Produce primary and secondary school multimedia curricula in all official UN languages on the SDGs and environmental care. Call for Member States' progress updates on these materials' translation into local languages, integration into public education systems, and accessibility to all, regardless of social, geographic, or economic circumstances.
3. Offer guidance and support to all Member States for the facilitation of national consultations of NGOs and civil society on SDG progress and for the systematic inclusion of their input into Voluntary National Review reports. Include guidance on national outreach via social media and other platforms to raise public awareness of how to participate in the consultation.

How could the principles of 'leaving no one behind' and 'reaching the furthest away first' be reflected in the Summit?

- Devote significant time to the delivery and discussion of the latest reports on global, regional, and national trends in social, economic, and environmental inequality. To the greatest extent possible, highlight data that is disaggregated by gender, age, race/ethnicity, income, and migration status. Position these trends as a key barometer for the measurement of progress on the 2030 Agenda as a whole, reiterating the concept that progress toward individual targets and indicators that fails to reach the furthest behind is no progress at all. Generate inequality-focused targets and indicators and follow up on them in future summits.
- Designate a space for the showcasing of *local* SDG implementation efforts as well as *community-level* impressions of the impact of national implementation efforts. Putting people and planet first requires engaging with the leaders and residents of local communities in planning, implementation, and evaluation of any SDG program. This space should ensure the integration of indigenous peoples' perspectives as well as those of local government officials, faith-based community leaders, and other representatives of municipalities.