

# High-Level Political Forum

On **Sustainable Development**



10-20 July 2023



# Justice Coalition of Religious

This guide was produced by the [Justice Coalition of Religious](#) (JCoR), a coalition of 22 non-governmental organizations that are accredited to collectively represent over 200 congregations of Roman Catholic women and men Religious at the United Nations (UN). For centuries, congregations of Religious have served people who have been rendered poor, vulnerable, oppressed, and marginalized by existing global systems. Through our membership in JCoR, we have united with our sister and brother organizations to enhance collaboration among our members – at UN Headquarters and around the world – in our common mission: to improve quality of life for people who are living in poverty and to enhance our stewardship of the natural environment.

**The primary aim of our collaboration is to strengthen the capacity of Catholic Religious and their partners to address the root causes of human and environmental suffering.**

We work toward this goal by coordinating national, regional, and global efforts of Religious to call on political leaders to take action for a just, equitable, and rights-based implementation of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), the United Nations' Agenda for 2015–2030.

**We hope these pages will help empower you join us in this mission!**





# High-Level Political Forum

## on Sustainable Development

### Introduction

The [High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#) (HLPF) is the central United Nations platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level. During the HLPF, UN Member States and civil society organizations are invited to report progress towards the SDGs. This year's HLPF is particularly significant because it serves as the lead up to the [SDG Summit](#) (18–19 September 2023), which marks the mid-point of the commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Therefore, the Forum will emphasize the opportunity to share information about new and ambitious initiatives and actions to accelerate progress on sustainable development.

### Thematic Focus

The 2023 HLPF theme is “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels.”

### Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 commitments made by every government represented at the United Nations. They aim to end extreme poverty and inequality, protect the planet, and ensure all people enjoy prosperity and peace by 2030. Visit the [Sustainable Development Goals website](#) to learn more and take action.

### Focus SDGs

Each year, the UN selects particular SDGs to focus on for a more in-depth review. The 2023 HLPF will focus on the following SDGs: 6 clean water and sanitation, 7 affordable and clean energy, 9 industry, innovation and infrastructure, 11 sustainable cities and communities, and 17 partnerships for the goals. See the following pages to learn more about each of these focus SDGs.

### Outcome

The President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) will prepare a summary of the key messages that emerge from the 2023 HLPF discussions. This summary will be followed up by a negotiated [political declaration](#) to be adopted during the SDG Summit. The current [draft](#) of the political declaration highlights shared determination, progress, remaining gaps and challenges, and the call to action to accelerate progress towards sustainable development.

# SDG 6

## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



## Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

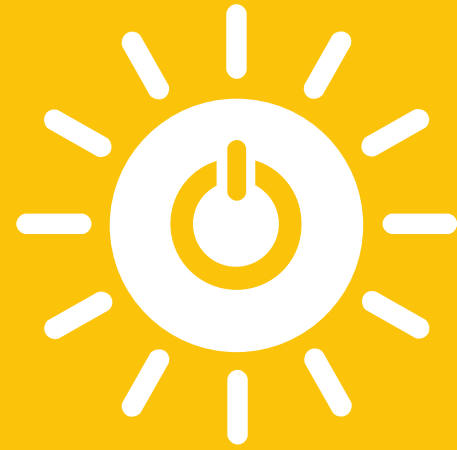
## To achieve Goal 6, governments have agreed to:

- Ensure all people have access to safe water
- Ensure all people have access to sanitation (such as safe sewage disposal and proper waste management)
- Ensure all people have access to public education on healthy hygiene habits
- Monitor water quality and prevent chemicals and contaminants from being discarded into water sources
- Improve water use and reutilization
- Protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

[Click here to learn more about SDG 6](#)

# SDG 7

## 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



## Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy

To achieve Goal 7, governments have agreed to:

- Ensure access for all people to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services through improved technology and new infrastructure
- Promote energy efficiency and develop technology that wastes less energy
- Increase the use of renewable energy sources
- Work together to research and develop renewable and clean energy resources

[Click here to learn more about SDG 7](#)

# SDG 9

## 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



## Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure,  
promote sustainable  
industrialization and foster  
innovation

To achieve Goal 9,  
governments have agreed to:

- Ensure all people have access to the internet and new technologies
- Develop sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being
- Allocate resources for research to improve technology
- Provide small businesses with access to credit and technical support for their development
- Ensure that companies promote sustainable development and do not harm the environment

[Click here to learn more  
about SDG 9](#)

# SDG 11



## Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

To achieve Goal 11, governments have agreed to:

- Ensure all people have access to quality, safe housing and basic services
- Provide safe and organized transportation
- Engage communities in discussions and planning for improvement of their cities
- Increase resilience to disasters
- Ensure monitoring of waste management and air quality
- Prepare communities to manage their resources properly and to tackle climate change

[Click here to learn more about SDG 11](#)

# SDG 17



## Partnerships for the Goals

Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

## To achieve Goal 17, governments have agreed to:

- Ensure all countries have met the SDGs by 2030
- Ensure each country allocates resources to achieve the SDGs, and developed countries should commit to supporting implementation of the Goals in less-developed countries.
- Engage with organizations that have been working for many years on concerns that relate to the SDGs. because their experience and support is vital to success
- Ensure governments improve their data and statistics management to be able to assess progress toward achievement of the SDGs

[Click here to learn more about SDG 17](#)



# High-Level Political Forum

Essential **Event Details** and Information

## When

10–20 July 2023

## Where

In-person at the UN Headquarters in New York

## Watch

Join online to follow the proceedings of the forum at [UNWebTV](#) (streamed in multiple languages)

## Programme

10–20 July, 10:00AM – 6:00PM (New York Time)

- **10 July:** Opening ceremony
- **10–13 July:** Panel discussions on priority SDGs (6, 7, 9, 11, 17)
- **14, 17–19 July:** Voluntary National Reviews (Reports from national governments on the progress they are making toward the achievement of the SDGs)
- **17–20 July:** General debate, “Building momentum towards the 2023 SDG Summit: Transformation for accelerating implementation of the SDGs”
- **20 July:** Conclusion
- **Every day:** Events sponsored by civil society (non-governmental organisations)

Visit the HLPF [programme webpage](#) for additional details

## Official Website

For additional information, visit the [HLPF 2023 website](#)



# Voluntary National Reviews

## Introduction to VNRs

At the HLPF, government leaders report on their national progress toward achievement of the sustainable development goals. These reports, called voluntary national reviews (VNRs), aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

Visit the [VNR webpage](#) to learn more and access your government's current and past VNRs (click [here](#) for step-by-step instructions).



As governments report to this global forum on a voluntary basis, not every government presents a report each year. The 40 countries listed on right-hand side of this page will be presenting VNRs in 2023. Click on the name of your country to access a written copy of its report, and if you would like to watch your government present its VNR live, tune into [UNWebTV](#) at the specified time.

## Schedule

### 14 July

**11:00am–1:00pm** (New York time)

Panel: [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), [Comoros](#), [Liechtenstein](#), [Zambia](#)

**3:00pm–6:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Barbados](#), [Rwanda](#), [Vietnam](#)

2nd Panel: [Burkina Faso](#), [Cambodia](#), [Syrian Arab Republic](#)

### 17 July

**3:00pm–6:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Guyana](#), [Romania](#)

2nd Panel: [Central African Republic](#), [Chile](#), [Uzbekistan](#)

### 18 July

**10:45am–1:00pm** (New York time)

Individual: [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)

Panel: [Bahrain](#), [Belgium](#), [Croatia](#), [United Republic of Tanzania](#)

**3:00pm–6:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Brunei Darussalam](#), [Iceland](#), [Timor-Leste](#)

2nd Panel: [France](#), [Lithuania](#), [Singapore](#)

### 19 July

**9:00am–1:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Canada](#), [Poland](#)

2nd Panel: [Saudi Arabia](#), [Maldives](#)

Individual: [European Union](#)

3rd Panel: [Ireland](#), [Mongolia](#), [Tajikistan](#)

**3:00pm–5:30pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Kuwait](#), [Slovakia](#), [Turkmenistan](#)

2nd Panel: [Fiji](#), [Portugal](#)

# Recommended Events

For a full list of [side events](#), click [here](#)

2023 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

**JCoR SDG LAB**

This series will showcase Catholic Religious and their partners' perspectives on progress and good practices towards sustainable development

10 July: SDG 6  
11 July: SDG 7  
12 July: SDG 9  
13 July: SDG 11  
17 July: SDG 17

**Register to join us!**

## JCoR SDG LAB

**All sessions will be held from 8:00am–9:45am (New York time)**

In addition to reports from governments, the HLPF also includes events sponsored by civil society groups, to highlight their perspectives on implementation and progress toward the SDGs in their respective countries. JCoR will join the conversation by offering a series of virtual discussion spaces, which we are calling the "JCoR SDG Lab." This series will showcase Catholic Religious and their partners' perspectives on progress and good practices towards sustainable development. JCoR's SDG Lab will consist of one session dedicated to each of this year's priority SDGs:

- 10 July: SDG 6 – water and sanitation
- 11 July: SDG 7 – clean, affordable energy
- 12 July: SDG 9 – innovation, infrastructure, internet
- 13 July: SDG 11 – sustainable cities
- 17 July: SDG 17 – partnerships for the SDGs

All are welcome to attend these JCoR SDG Lab sessions. Please register to join us for one or more of the sessions!

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>

**Details:** <https://bit.ly/3PnzzEM>

\*\*\*Interpretation will be available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish\*\*\*

# Recommended Events



## **ALL IN FOR 2030: KEEPING THE PROMISE TO ACCELERATE THE SDGS THROUGH EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS**

**13 July, 8:00am–9:30am (New York time)**

The NGO Major Group is sponsoring this in-person event, held in UNHQ Conference Room 5.



For the most up-to-date list of recommended events, please visit the JCoR website at <https://jcor2030.org/communications-guides/>

# Social Media Advocacy

Who to **follow** and tag

## Justice Coalition of Religious (JCoR)

Twitter: [@JCoR2030](https://twitter.com/JCoR2030) Facebook: [@JCoR2030](https://www.facebook.com/JCoR2030)

## JCoR Members

Click [here](#) to access a Twitter list of JCoR members

## UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Twitter: [@UNDESA](https://twitter.com/UNDESA)

## UN DESA Sustainable Development

Twitter: [@SustDev](https://twitter.com/SustDev)

## UN Account for the Global Goals for Sustainable Development

Twitter: [@GlobalGoalsUN](https://twitter.com/GlobalGoalsUN)

## United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Twitter: [@UNECOSOC](https://twitter.com/UNECOSOC)

## Your congregation's NGO at the United Nations

Click [here](#) to access a list of many congregations' NGO social media details

## Your government's permanent mission to the United Nations

JCoR would like to help spread the word.

**@JCoR2030**

Tag us so we can share your social media posts and increase the reach of your advocacy messaging!

## Hashtags

#HLPF2023 or #HLPF  
#SDGs

#SDG (insert number here)

#LeaveNoOneBehind

#2030Agenda



# Sample Social Media Messaging

Participate in virtual **advocacy**

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



**#HLPF2023** (July 10–20) is a space where **@UN** Member States and civil society gather to assess progress on the **#SDGs** and work together to build a better world, for all of humanity, by 2030.

**#LeaveNoOneBehind**

Learn more & participate: <https://jcor2030.org/communications-guides/>

The 2023 **#HLPF** will bring together governments & civil society to discuss progress & challenges to achieving the **#SDGs**. We call on world leaders to urgently accelerate progress toward **#SustainableDevelopment** & ensure we **#LeaveNoOneBehind**. Watch the Forum at [webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org)

At **#HLPF2023** we call on **@UN** Member States to [...] **#LeaveNoOneBehind**

CALL TO ACTION! Even if you cannot join the **#SDG** discussions at the **#HLPF2023**, there are many positive actions you can take to make real change for our common future. What action will you take today? **#SDGaction**

Choose your issue and make an impact today: <https://www.un.org/en/actnow>

# Sample Social Media Messaging

Participate in virtual **advocacy**



Access to clean water & sanitation is a human right. Water availability is becoming less predictable & 1/2 the world is already experiencing water scarcity. At **#HLPF2023** we call on govts to uphold their commitment to **#SDG6** & take **#WaterActionNow**.

Info: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>

**#SDG6** calls us to work toward ensuring the availability & sustainable management of **#water** & sanitation for all. To hear the voices of Catholic Religious speak about their good practices & progress toward **#SDG6**, join the JCoR **#HLPF** SDG Lab on 10 July: <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>



Our current reliance on fossil fuels is unsustainable & harmful to the planet. We must change the way we produce & consume energy. At **#HLPF2023** we call on world leaders to take urgent action to accelerate progress on **#SDG7**: affordable & clean energy.

Info: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/energy/>

**#SDG7** urges us to accelerate the transition to affordable & **#SustainableEnergy** systems: invest in renewable energy, prioritize energy efficient practices, & adopt clean energy infrastructure. Join the **SDG7** conversation at JCoR's 11 July **#HLPF** SDG Lab: <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>

# Sample Social Media Messaging

Participate in virtual **advocacy**



Why is **#SDG9** important? Functioning, resilient, & sustainable infrastructure is the foundation of every successful community. To meet future challenges, technology & infrastructure must be upgraded. Join us at **#HLPF2023** to push for action on SDG9.

Info: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/infrastructure-industrialization/>

**#SDG9** calls us to action: We need to develop sustainable & resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being. What does this mean for you & your community? Join JCoR's **#HLPF** SDG Lab on 12 July to share your perspectives: <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>



Why does **#SDG11** matter? Cities occupy 3% the Earth's land but account for 60–80% of energy use & 75% of carbon emissions. We can choose to build cities where all citizens enjoy quality of life without exacerbating **#ClimateChange**. **#SDGAction #HLPF2023**

Info: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cities/>

Our commitment to **#SDG11 means** that by 2030 we must ensure access for ALL to adequate, safe & affordable housing, & basic services. Join JCoR's 13 July **#HLPF** SDG Lab to contribute your voice to the conversation on this **#SustainableDevelopment** goal: <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>



# Sample Social Media Messaging

Participate in virtual **advocacy**



Why is **#SDG17** (Partnerships for the Goals) so important? Given the integrated & interlinked nature of the **#SDGs**, they can only be achieved if the international community works together. Let us join hands at **#HLPF2023** & build a better future for all.

Info: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/globalpartnerships/>

**#SDG17** : Global investments, support, and partnerships, are vital to solving the world's problems and to ensuring **#SustainableDevelopment** for all. **#LeaveNoOneBehind**

Learn more about SDG17 at JCoR's **#HLPF** SDG Lab on 17 July: <https://bit.ly/3CNY8Do>

# Additional Resources

## Civil Society Networks Monitoring Development Progress at National & Regional Levels

- Argentina: Red Encuentro (EENG) Sociedad Civil en Red
- Australia: SDSN Australia, New Zealand & Pacific, Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS), Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)
- Bolivia: Unidas La Unión Nacional de Instituciones para el Trabajo de Acción Social Red Internacional Promotores ODS Bolivia SDSN Bolivia SDSN Amazonia SDSN Andes
- Botswana: Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (BOCONGO) AfroBarometer-Botswana
- Brazil: Associação Brasileira de ONGs (ABONG)
- Burkina Faso: SDSN Sahel, Secrétariat Permanent des Organisations Non Gouvernementales (SPONG), Réseau de Plateaux Nationales D'ONG D'Afrique de L'Ouest et du Centre (REPAOC)
- Cambodia: Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC)
- Cameroon: Collectif des ONG Agréées du Cameroun (CONGAC) SDSN Sahel AfroBarometer-Cameroun
- Canada: British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC); Cooperation Canada; SDSN-Canada; Global Compact Network-Canada
- Chile: Central Unitaria de Trabajadores de Chile (CUT) Asociación Chilena de ONG (ACCION)
- Colombia: Confederación Colombiana de ONG (CCONG), SDSN-Amazonia, SDSN Andes, SDSN-Caribbean, Red de Ciudades Cómo Vamos

**Civil society networks monitoring development progress at national and regional levels:**

Click [here](#) to view the list with links.

## SDG Progress Reports from National & Regional Civil Society Networks

- Australia: 2018: Australian SDGs Summit 2018: Unlocking the Opportunities of the Sustainable Development Goals: Outcomes Report
- Bolivia: 2020: Propuestas de incidencia en políticas públicas para la implementación del PDES y la Agenda 2030; Atlas Municipal de los ODS's en Bolivia
- Canada: 2020: Reading Between the Lines: Accelerated Implementation Of Agenda 2030: Where Canada Stands Series: 2017 2018 2019
- Chile: 2019: Informe Alternativo de Organizaciones de Sociedad Civil y Sindicatos Sobre los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible y la Agenda 2030 en Chile 2017: Acción para el Desarrollo Sostenible Informe de la Sociedad Civil
- Colombia: 2020: Quinto Monitoreo
- Costa Rica: 2021: Sustainable Development Report: Costa Rica
- Democratic Republic of the Congo: 2022: SDSN-DR Congo profile, 2021: AFRICA 2030: SDGs Within Social Boundaries - Leave no One Behind Outlook Report (résumé-FA)
- Dominican Republic: 2018: Informe de Seguimiento a la Implementación de la Agenda 2030 en República Dominicana
- Ecuador: 2018: Sociedad Civil y Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) en Ecuador (última versión)

**SDG Progress reports from national and regional civil society networks**

Click [here](#) to view the list with links.

**If you have a resource to add, please send it to:  
[communications@jcor2030.org](mailto:communications@jcor2030.org)**

# Call to Action

Even if you cannot join the SDG discussions at the HLPF, there are many positive actions you can take to make real change for our common future. Visit the United Nation's [Act Now](#) website to learn more about how you can take action, today, to promote sustainable development.

*We should all commit ourselves to promoting and implementing the development goals that are supported by our deepest religious and ethical values.*

- Pope Francis

