JCoR Guide to the 2024 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

8-17 July 2024

# Justice Coalition of Religious

This guide was produced by the [Justice Coalition of Religious](https://jcor2030.org) (JCoR), a coalition of 23 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](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/?fbclid=IwAR3XeaaMuMtX0g8Cr9IOdEGkTi_ELBu1-W3tfGIsQ7rocIv8-e40rWxUMU0) (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](https://hlpf.un.org/2024) (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 on progress towards achieving the SDGs.

## **Thematic Focus**

The 2024 HLPF theme is “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.“

## **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](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/) 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 2024 HLPF will focus on the following SDGs: (1) no poverty, (2) zero hunger, (13) climate action, (16) peace, justice and strong institutions, and (17) partnerships for the goals. See the following pages to learn more about each of these focus SDGs.

## **Outcome**

At the HLPF, UN Member States will negotiate and adopt what is called a Ministerial Declaration. This declaration is meant to assess progress on, and challenges to, achieving the SDGs, as well as highlight concrete actions that will accelerate implementation efforts. [Click here](https://hlpf.un.org/2024/outcomes) to learn more about the Ministerial Declaration and read the most recent draft.

# SDG 1: No Poverty

## End poverty in all its forms everywhere

### To achieve Goal 1, Governments have agreed to:

* Eradicate extreme poverty\* for all people everywhere
* Reduce poverty\*\* by at least 50%
* Implement social protection\*\*\* systems for all, including social protection floors\*\*\*\*
* Ensure that all people have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services
* Build the resilience of the most vulnerable so that they are better protected from climate-related extreme events, like floods and droughts, and other economic, social, and environmental shocks

\*Extreme poverty is currently measured as people living on less than $1.25USD a day.

\*\*Poverty is defined at a national level.

\*\*\*Social protection refers to policies and actions that: enhance the capacity of all people, especially the most vulnerable, to escape from poverty, or avoid falling into poverty, and better manage risks and shocks (e.g., income security and access to essential services)

\*\*\*\*Social protection floors refer to standards of income, housing, healthcare, nutrition, etc. that enable one to live in dignity

[**Click here to learn more about SDG 1**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/)

# SDG 2: Zero Hunger

## End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

### To achieve Goal 2, governments have agreed to:

* End hunger and all forms of malnutrition by ensuring access for all people to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food
* Increase agricultural production and income of small-scale farmers, especially women and indigenous peoples, through equal access to land and other resources such as knowledge, markets, and financial services
* Promote sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that help maintain ecosystems and biodiversity
* Protect the variety of species of seeds, crops, and animals, and fairly distribute the benefits of these resources
* Invest in rural infrastructure, agricultural research, and technology to enhance agricultural capacity, particularly in developing countries

[**Click here to learn more about SDG 2**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/)

# SDG 13: Climate Action

## Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

### To achieve Goal 13, governments have agreed to:

* Improve education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation,\* adaptation,\*\* and early warning systems
* Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity, ensuring people are well-prepared for climate-related hazards and disasters
* Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning, including the allocation of resources to combat climate change
* Implement the [UN Framework Convention on Climate Change](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change)

\*Climate mitigation refers to efforts to reduce or prevent the emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, to make the impacts of climate change less severe.

\*\*Adaptation is the process of taking action to reduce the current and expected effects of climate change.

[**Click here to learn more about SDG 13**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-change/)

# SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

## Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

### To achieve Goal 16, governments have agreed to:

* Significantly reduce violence and related deaths everywhere
* End the abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence and torture against children
* Promote the rule of law at national and international levels and and ensure equal access to justice for all
* Reduce illicit financial and arms flows
* Combat crime and corruption in any form
* Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels
* Strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
* Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

[**Click here to learn more about SDG 16**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice/)

# SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

## Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

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

* Allocate resources to achieve the SDGs, and developed countries commit to mobilizing financial resources to support implementation of the Goals in less-developed countries
* Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, engaging with organizations that have been working for many years on concerns that relate to the SDGs because their experience and support are essential
* Enhance international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and promote knowledge sharing
* Ensure governments improve their data and statistics management to be able to assess progress toward achievement of the SDGs
* Ensure all countries have met the SDGs by 2030

[**Click here to learn more about SDG 17**](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/globalpartnerships/)

# HLPF Essential Details and Information

### When

8-17 July 2024

### Where

In-person at the UN Headquarters in New York

### Watch

Join online to follow the proceedings of the forum at [UNWebTV](http://webtv.un.org) (streamed in multiple languages)

### Programme

8-18 July, 10:00AM - 6:00PM (New York Time)

* 8 July: Opening ceremony
* 8-11 July: Panel discussions on priority SDGs (1, 2, 13, 16, 17)
* 12, 15-17 July: Voluntary National Reviews (Reports from national governments on the progress they are making toward the achievement of the SDGs)
* 15-17 July: General debate, “From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future”
* 18 July: Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration & Conclusion
* Every day: Events sponsored by civil society (non-governmental organisations)

Visit the HLPF [programme webpage](https://hlpf.un.org/2024/programme) for additional details, the list of official [side events](https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/2024-06/HLPF%202024%20SIDE%20EVENTS%20SCHEDULE_0.pdf), and a schedule of [special events](https://sdgs.un.org/2024-hlpf-special-events)

### Official Website

For additional information, visit the [HLPF 202](https://hlpf.un.org/2024)4 [website](https://hlpf.un.org/2024)

# 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](https://hlpf.un.org/2024/vnrs) to learn m﻿ore and access your government's cu﻿rrent and past VNRs (click [here](https://jcor2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/VNR-2024-instructions-english.pptx) for step-by-step instructions). You can also access reports from civil society on SDG progress in your country [here](https://jcor2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/SDG-progress-reports-2024-English.pptx).

As governments report to this global forum on a voluntary basis, not every government presents a report each year. The 37 countries listed on right-hand side of this page will be presenting VNRs in 2024. 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](http://webtv.un.org) at the specified time.

## Schedule

### **12 July**

**11:30am-1:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Georgia](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/georgia), [Kenya](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/kenya), [Palau](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/palau)

**3:00pm-6:00pm** (New York time)

2nd Panel: [Belize](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/belize), [Chad](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/chad), [Zimbabwe](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/zimbabwe)

3rd Panel: [Eritrea](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/eritrea), [Samoa](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/samoa), [Syrian Arab Republic](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/syrian-arab-republic)

### **15 July**

**3:00pm-6:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Peru](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/peru), [Spain](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/spain), [Uganda](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/uganda)

2nd Panel: [Azerbaijan](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/azerbaijan), [Lao People’s](https://hlpf.un.org/countries?f%5B0%5D=year%3A2024) [Democratic Republic](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/lao-peoples-democratic-republic)

3rd Panel: [Armenia](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/armenia), [Nepal](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/nepal)

### **16 July**

**11:45am-1:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [South Sudan](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/south-sudan), [Yemen](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/yemen)

**3:00pm-6:00pm** (New York time)

2nd Panel: [Colombia](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/colombia), [Guinea](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/guinea), [Libya](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/libya)

3rd Panel: [Honduras](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/honduras), [Sierra Leone](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/sierra-leone)

4th Panel: [Mauritania](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/mauritania), [Solomon Islands](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/solomon-islands)

### **17 July**

**10:00am-1:00pm** (New York time)

1st Panel: [Austria](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/austria), [Equatorial Guinea](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/equatorial-guinea), [Mauritius](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/mauritius)

2nd Panel: [Congo](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/congo), [Ecuador](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/ecuador)

3rd Panel: [Namibia](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/namibia), [Oman](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/oman)

**3:00pm-5:00pm** (New York time)

4th Panel: [Brazil](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/brazil), [South Africa](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/south-africa)

5th Panel: [Costa Rica](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/costa-rica), [Mexico](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/mexico), [Vanuatu](https://hlpf.un.org/countries/vanuatu)

# JCoR SDG Lab at the 2024 HLPF

## All sessions will be held from 9:00am-10:45am (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. Click on the following links to register:

**22 July: SDG 1 - No poverty** [https://bit.ly/4cFW6Fb](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEudu-rqDMrE9Xn5W7Xq1MeIpF0TFlQY2AK)

**23 July: SDG 2 - Zero hunger** [https://bit.ly/3xAnN3w](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpduihqz0qHNdbL7uTE65zpVTizFFIzAN5)

**24 July: SDG 13 - Climate action** [https://bit.ly/3zk6EeS](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsceGqrTMrH9DGOaGN665fVTOqnG7t1VZr)

**25 July: SDG 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions** [https://bit.ly/3W2TvQr](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vd-2pqzgsH9IhESM_cUz0W2PyWm0jn3s6)

**26 July: SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals** [https://bit.ly/4blfQwN](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-qhrT0oE9TqHmTddVEmmbj2gx4kqs4E)

All are welcome to attend these JCoR SDG Lab sessions. Please register to join us for one or more of the sessions! Interpretation will be available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

# Recommended Events

Please visit JCoR’s [HLPF 2024 webpage](https://jcor2030.org/hlpf2024/) to access a curated list of HLPF side events and parallel events that are recommended by JCoR and our Religious community at the United Nations in New York.

# 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](https://twitter.com/i/lists/1482757410452385795) to access a Twitter list of JCoR members

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

Twitter: [@UNDESA](https://twitter.com/UNDESA) Instagram: [@undesa](https://www.instagram.com/undesasocial/?hl=en)

### **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](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LH6FQ0-beeTK6awtixQ-cteETmeeXw_UHY7WDKfODZM/edit?usp=sharing) to access a list of many congregations' NGO social media details

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

## Hashtags

#HLPF2024 or #HLPF

#SDGs

#SDG (insert number here)

#LeaveNoOneBehind

#2030Agenda

# 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](https://www.un.org/en/actnow) web﻿site to learn more about how you can take action, today, to promote sustainable development.

***The well-being of people around the world, the health of our planet, and the survival of future generations depend on our willingness to come together around a commitment to collective problem-solving and action...We don’t have a moment to lose.***

- United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres