

# High-Level Political Forum

On **Sustainable Development**



7-15 July 2026



# Justice Coalition of Religious

This guide was produced by the [Justice Coalition of Religious](#) (JCoR), a coalition of 24 non-governmental organizations that are accredited to collectively represent over 200 congregations of Roman Catholic women and men Religious at the United Nations (UN). Congregations of Religious sustain the long-standing tradition of serving people who experience the marginalisation, oppression, and vulnerability resulting from unjust global systems. At the grassroots, Sisters, Brothers, priests, and their mission partners are leaders in the provision of essential services. While these efforts offer vital temporary assistance, our common home cries out for lasting global transformation, a transformation that requires addressing the root causes of human and environmental suffering. We are thereby called to the work of advocacy.

JCoR coordinates the efforts of Religious and their ministry partners - across more than 100 countries - in pursuit of our common mission: *To facilitate collaboration among members and partners of Catholic Religious congregations working at the grassroots and at the United Nations in order to: (1) strengthen one another's capacity for advocacy and (2) advocate collectively for social, economic, and environmental justice and peace in international, regional, and national fora.*

Guided by Catholic Social Teaching and the Universal Human Rights Framework, JCoR envisions a just and peaceful world where the dignity of every person, particularly the most marginalized, and the sanctity of all creation are upheld. In this world, all people can fully participate in the social, economic, political, and cultural life of society, working together to foster the common good. We strive to realise this future world by coordinating the 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 on progress towards achieving the SDGs.

### Thematic Focus

The 2026 HLPF theme is *"Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all."*

### 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 2026 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

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](#) to learn more about the Ministerial Declaration and read the most recent draft.

# SDG 6



## Clean water and sanitation

Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

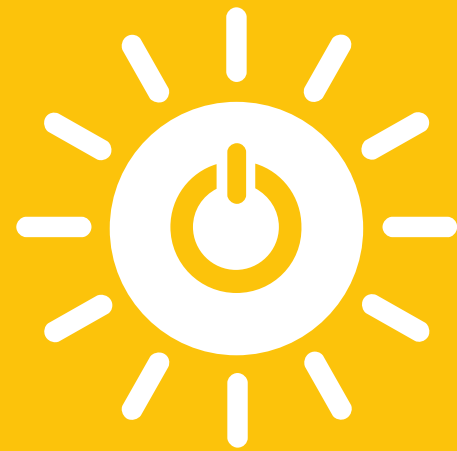
To achieve Goal 6, governments have agreed to:

- 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 (Such as solar, wind, and hydropower)
- 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:

- Develop sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being
- Ensure all people have access to the internet and new technologies
- 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
- Increase accessibility and safety of open, public spaces
- Prepare communities to manage their resources properly and to tackle climate change

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

# SDG 17

## 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



## Partnerships for the Goals

Revitalize the global  
partnership for sustainable  
development

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

- 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
- Increase the flow of monetary aid for development from highest income countries to the lowest-income countries
- Relieve or restructure the debts of highly indebted low-income countries
- Enhance cooperation among ministries, departments, and policies within each country's government to ensure they are supporting a common approach to development
- Ensure governments improve their data and statistics management to be able to assess progress toward achievement of the SDGs
- Support each other in efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030

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

# High-Level Political Forum

Essential **Event Details** and Information

## When

7-15 July 2026

## 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

7-15 July 2026, 10:00AM - 6:00PM (New York Time)

- 7 July: Opening ceremony
- 7-9 July: Panel discussions on priority SDGs (6, 7, 9, and 11)
- 10, 13-15 July: Voluntary National Reviews (Reports from national governments on the progress they are making toward the achievement of the SDGs)
- 13-15 July: General debate, “Delivering better: accelerating urgent and transformative action to achieve the SDGs by 2030”
- 16 July: Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration & Conclusion
- Every day: Events sponsored by civil society (non-governmental organisations). See the following pages of this guide for event recommendations.

Visit the HLPF [programme webpage](#) for additional details, the list of official on-site [side events](#), the list of official [off-site and virtual events](#), and a schedule of [special events](#)

## Official Website

For additional information, visit the [HLPF 2026 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). You can also access reports from civil society on SDG progress in your country [here](#).



As governments report to this global forum on a voluntary basis, not every government presents a report each year. The 36 countries listed on right-hand side of this page will be presenting VNRs in 2026. 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

### 10 July

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

1<sup>st</sup> Panel: [Jamaica](#), [Burkina Faso](#), [Guinea](#)

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Panel: [Estonia](#), [Liberia](#), [Republic of the Marshall Islands](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Panel: [Burundi](#), [Mozambique](#)

4<sup>th</sup> Panel: [Guinea-Bissau](#), [Togo](#)

### 13 July

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

1<sup>st</sup> Panel: [Cabo Verde](#), [Italy](#), [Senegal](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Panel: [Saudi Arabia](#), [Switzerland](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Panel: [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), [Tunisia](#)

### 14 July

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

1<sup>st</sup> Panel: [Albania](#), [Kiribati](#), [Uruguay](#)

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Panel: [Cameroon](#), [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#), [Tonga](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Panel: [Tanzania](#), [United Arab Emirates](#)

4<sup>th</sup> Panel: [Norway](#), [Somalia](#)

### 15 July

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

1<sup>st</sup> Panel: [Gabon](#), [Jordan](#), [Republic of Moldova](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Panel: [Bahrain](#), [Malawi](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Panel: [Algeria](#), [Brazil](#)

3:00pm-4:00pm (New York time)

4<sup>th</sup> Panel: [Egypt](#), [Rwanda](#)

# JCoR SDG Lab at the 2026 HLPF

All sessions will be held from **10:00am-12:00pm** (New York time)

High-Level Political Forum  
on Sustainable Development

2026

JCoR SDG LAB

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

Register now

9:00am-11:00am (New York time)

27 July: SDG 6  
28 July: SDG 7  
29 July: SDG 9  
30 July: SDG 11  
31 July: SDG 17

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:

- 27 July: **SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation** <https://bit.ly/sdg6lab>
- 28 July: **SDG 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy** <https://bit.ly/sdg7lab>
- 29 July: **SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** <https://bit.ly/sdg9lab>
- 30 July: **SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities** <https://bit.ly/sdg11lab>
- 31 July: **SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals** <https://bit.ly/sdg17lab>

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 2026 webpage](#) 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.

As you will find on our “HLPF 2026: Recommended Events” webpage, JCoR is also offering an in-person **welcome gathering for the 2026 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**. This event will be held for delegates of Religious NGOs who intend to participate in some part of the HLPF and it will take place on **7 July 2026**. The gathering will serve as an opportunity to meet other delegates, to pray and reflect on hopes and intentions for engagement with the HLPF process, and to ask questions about how to participate.



# Social Media Advocacy

Who to **follow and tag**

## Justice Coalition of Religious (JCoR)

Facebook: [@JCoR2030](#) Instagram: [@JCoR2030](#) LinkedIn: [JCoR2030](#)

## United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Facebook: [@UNECOSOC](#) Instagram: [@un\\_ecosoc](#) Bluesky: [@un-ecosoc](#)

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

Facebook: [@joinUNDESA](#) Instagram: [@undesa](#)

LinkedIn: [United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#)

## UN Sustainable Development Platform

Facebook: [@SustDev](#)

## UN Account for the Global Goals for Sustainable Development

Facebook: [@GlobalGoalsUN](#)

## 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



## Hashtags

[#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](#) website to learn more about how you can take action, today, to promote sustainable development.

*“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”*

- Pope Francis (Laudato Si', 160)

