

Fourth Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Delivering a Just Transition through Climate and SDG Synergies

16 July 2023, UN Headquarters, New York

Draft Concept Note

As of 20 April

CONTEXT

Despite increasing efforts and commitments over the past few years, we are not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and we are lagging behind on the Paris goals. As stated by the Secretary-General “Climate action is the 21st century’s greatest opportunity to drive forward all the Sustainable Development Goals”.

Integrated planning, coherent policies, and economic stimulus investments designed to meet both the SDGs and climate challenges can generate significant co-benefits and speed up progress. Aligning actions on climate and SDGs can yield US\$26 trillion before 2030 in economic gains, produce over 65 million new green jobs and save approximately 7 million premature deaths per year. As such, maximizing on the interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement by leveraging [climate action and SDG synergies](#) has the potential of achieving both agendas faster, while ensuring a just and equitable future.

The 2023 upcoming critical milestones such as the High-Level Political Forum, the SDG Summit, and the Global Stocktake at COP28, will assess our collective progress toward meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. These landmark events also serve as moments to take a deep look at synergistic action between these two critical agendas, including on national instruments such as the NDCs and the VNRs, towards just, equitable, and climate compatible pathways.

FOURTH GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE AND SDG SYNERGIES

The Global Conference on Climate and SDGs Synergies is convened by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to take stock of progress on synergistic action at all levels and to plan ahead on prioritizing areas with most need.

The 4TH Global Conference will assess progress made against a set of [key recommendations](#) emerged from the previous conference, including the need to include principles of just transition at the center of each integrated planning. In the margins of the High-Level Political Forum, the conference will deliver:

- **A forward-looking summary**, with a set of key recommendations for enhancing synergistic implementation of the SDGs and climate action at the political level as well as practical levels.
- **A set of empirical evidence** on climate action and the SDGs co-benefits, including how member states are progressing in delivering jointly on these two agendas and transitioning towards just, equitable, and climate compatible pathways.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

The Conference will open on July 16th with a plenary segment, followed by a number of breakout parallel sessions focused on key themes related to scaling up climate and SDG synergies.

10:00 – 13:00 Opening plenary

15:00 – 17:00 Breakout parallel sessions

17:00 – 18:00 Closing plenary

The Conference is a multi-stakeholder event, with representatives from a variety of stakeholders including youth, civil society, private sector, and member states. Representatives of Member States, UN agencies and multi-stakeholders are invited to register and attend the Conference. Full programme with list of speakers will be developed and made available on the conference website in due course.