2021 HLPF Special Event on SDG Acceleration Actions
"SDG Acceleration Actions Towards Sustainable Recovery and Development"

Thursday, 8 July 2021
8:00 - 8:50 am EST, Virtual Meeting

Concept Note

The global COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the urgent need to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at all levels to foster a sustainable recovery worldwide.

In an effort to gather information about new efforts by governments, the UN system and other stakeholders to implement the SDGs and to inspire others to take action, the UN DESA has created an online **SDG Acceleration Action platform** (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions). With around 300 notable initiatives from around the world, this platform continues to be used to mobilize action by governments and other stakeholders alike, including in connection with the annual sessions of the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and related special events[1].

In order to shine the spotlight on inspiring new SDG Acceleration Actions and to galvanize more ambition and commitments, UN DESA is organizing a special event titled *"SDG Acceleration Actions Towards A Sustainable Recovery and Development",* on the margins of the 2021 HLPF with the following format and programme.

Format

The event will be held virtually via the Webex platform on 8 July 2021, from 8:00 to 8:50 a.m. EST, immediately before the opening of the SDG thematic review "SDG in focus" at 9:00 a.m. EST.

Draft Programme

Moderator: Christy Davis, Executive Director of the Lien Centre for Social Innovation, Singapore Management University

Welcoming remarks:

1 For more information about 2021 HLPF special events, please see: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#other

- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
- H. E. Mr. Munir Akram, President of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Examples of SDG acceleration actions:

- H.E. Dr. Hala Elsaid, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Government of Egypt
- H.E. Mr. Zasy Angelo, Vice Minister of New Cities and Housing, Government of Madagascar
- H.E. Mr. Carlos Rognoni, Vice Minister of Agricultural Development, Government of Panama
- Mr. Simon Bakker, Founder and CEO, Kennemer Foods, The Philippines
- Mr. Juan Mari Aburto, Mayor of Bilbao, Spain