



ECOSOC 
Partnership
Forum



2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

30 January 2024

SDG Action Segment

Concept Note

Goal 13 - Climate Action

03:00 PM – 04:00 PM,
Trusteeship Council Chamber,
UNHQ

Organized by **UNDRR, UNEP,**
OHCHR, Indigenous Peoples
Major Group, LGBTI Stakeholder
Group



SDG Action Segment for Goal 13 – Climate Action

30 January 2024, 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Part of the 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

Organizers:

- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Indigenous Peoples Major Group
- LGBTI Stakeholder Group

Background

Climate action is intrinsically linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and targeted climate partnerships can accelerate progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals. The 2023 United in Science Report finds that climate-resilient agricultural practices, resulting from global partnerships, led to a 20% increase in crop yields in vulnerable regions, simultaneously addressing hunger (SDG2) and climate action (SDG13). Similarly, the 2023 Global Climate Report underlined that climate action partnerships focused on low-income and marginalized communities have shown promising results in reducing inequalities (SDG10). Likewise, investments in dryland agriculture, mangrove protection, and water management that ensure the integration of the traditional knowledge and governance of affected communities will make a vital contribution to disaster risk reduction, building resilience to climate change, and generating benefits around four times the original investment. These actions highlight the transformative potential of inclusive climate partnerships in creating a more equitable world.

Climate change poses disproportionate risks to different populations. People who are socially, economically, culturally, politically, institutionally, or otherwise marginalized are especially vulnerable to climate change (IPCC, 2014). Marginalized communities, including Indigenous Peoples and LGBTI populations, persons with disabilities, migrants, and others, face heightened vulnerability and are disproportionately impacted by climate change, which consequently exacerbates pre-existing inequalities. Younger and older persons, especially those who face multiple and intersecting discrimination, also face increased exposure to risks. While marginalized groups face increased risks, they are still inadequately included in actions and partnerships aimed at addressing the climate crisis, including disaster response.

People and ecosystems are inseparable. At times, solutions being implemented to address the climate crisis exacerbate the adverse impacts that Indigenous Peoples and other marginalized communities are facing brought about by development imposed in their territories. At the heart of the 2030 Agenda is the pledge to leave no one behind, with the need to centralize the poorest, most vulnerable, and those furthest behind in policies, programs and partnerships addressing the climate crisis. Special considerations for marginalized groups, communities, and ecosystems are crucial in adaptation planning and implementation.

Partnerships between and among governments, the private sector, educational institutions, scientific bodies, media, investors, and businesses and civil society can significantly enhance the effectiveness of climate action initiatives and climate-resilient development. These partnerships not only advance technological and financial solutions but also foster policy frameworks, across governance levels, sectors, and timeframes that are vital for sustainable development. Moreover, effective partnerships, particularly with traditionally marginalized groups play a crucial role. These partnerships thrive if anchored on the respect for human rights with supportive political leadership, well-established institutions, adequate resources, including finance, and access to climate services, information, and decision support tools.

Objectives of the segment

- Highlight partnership approaches that employ innovative approaches to accelerate climate action, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Global Biodiversity Framework, and other international agreements.
- Galvanize momentum towards a more inclusive, rights-based approach to partnerships on SDG13.

Outcomes and outputs

- Highlight the needs, concerns, and experiences of marginalized groups participating in and implementing climate change-related partnerships.
- A report will be drafted that showcases the main ideas discussed during the event that will be included in the forum report for Member States.
- Key messages and recommendations that can help scale up impactful SDG-focused multi-stakeholder partnerships (to be reported during the closing segment of the ECOSOC Partnership Forum).
- Detailed summary of the proceedings to be circulated.

Agenda

Time	Item
3:00 pm - 3:10 pm	<p>Scene Setter</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Bridget Burns, Women's Environment and Development Organisation</p> <p>Opening Remarks: Ms. Paola Albrito, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Director of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction</p>
3:10 pm - 3:35 pm	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Jimmy Khayog, Executive Director of Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services on behalf of Strengthening Indigenous Peoples Stewardship of Nature Initiative ● Ms. Ruth Metzler, Global Restoration Lead, Conservation International ● Ms. Maria Teresa Bento Parreira, Head of Curation, Reboot ● Ms. Victoria Tauli Corpuz, Former Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and current co-convenor of IPMG ● Ms. Rebecca Iwerks, Director, Global LEJ Initiative <p>Guiding Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key factors you have seen that are required for successful climate action, and how can partnerships help amplify and strengthen these efforts? What successful initiatives to highlight these? 2. What strategies or mechanisms most effectively ensure sufficient and equitable climate adaptation finance, and how can we overcome the current challenges in mobilizing resources for climate resilience projects? 3. How can we leverage data to accelerate impact on climate action globally? 4. What are some of the critical issues facing LGBTI and IIPP populations, among other vulnerable groups, regarding

	<p>climate change, and how can working with diverse stakeholders and in partnerships meet their needs?</p> <p>5. What are the human rights challenges associated with infrastructure projects related to climate actions, and ways to address and how these projects are acknowledged and include the experiences of vulnerable populations and Indigenous Peoples?</p>
3:35 pm - 3:55 pm	Interactive Segment
3:55 pm - 4:00 pm	Closing video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTS1Pif-trM)

About our speakers

Ms. Bridget Burns, Executive Director, Women's Environment and Development Organisation



A feminist, environmental activist & Executive Director of WEDO, Bridget specializes in policy advocacy, research and movement building at the intersection of gender equality, women's rights and environment/climate justice. For several years, she has been particularly focused on integrating gender equality into the decisions and outcomes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In addition, Bridget serves as the co-Focal Point of the Women and Gender Constituency, which supports the political participation of women's rights advocates into the climate process. Prior to WEDO, Bridget worked at LEAD International coordinating a global network of environmental leaders and conducting leadership training. She obtained a Masters from the London School of Economics in Gender, Development and Globalization, where the focus of her research was on eco-feminism, strategic essentialism and its deployment in literature and policy, as well as a Bachelors in International Policy. Through this work and study, Bridget has also spent time completing on site practicum on a wide variety of development issues in several countries: renewable energy infrastructure in Beijing, global health issues in Tunisia, disaster risk and resilience in Bangkok, and women's economic development in Costa Rica. She has been and is currently engaged in a number of local and international climate activist groups, as well as a feminist writing collective.

Ms. Paola Albrito, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Director of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



Ms. Paola Albrito has served in the United Nations System since 1999, holding a position in the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Djibouti and having experience in the United Nations Staff System College in Turin and the International Labour Organisation. Ms. Albrito joined the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in 2004 for the Second UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction. While based in Geneva, Switzerland, she addressed policy issues (between 2005-2008) and served as UNDRR Regional Coordinator for Europe (between 2008-2010). She moved to Brussels, Belgium in 2010 to take up the post of Chief of the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia. During this period, she acted as Representative to the European Institutions and directed activities to support disaster resilience and partnership building actions within the region's 55 countries.

In her subsequent role as Chief of UNDRR's Intergovernmental Processes, Interagency Cooperation and Partnership Branch (from 2019), Ms. Albrito coordinated interagency efforts in supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and partnership building initiatives related to risk informed investments and actions. She was appointed as UNDRR Director on 1 October 2022, then designated as Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction from 1 January 2024 until the appointment of the new SRSG.

Ms. Albrito holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Political Science from the University of Turin, Italy and is a member of the International Institute of Strategic Studies (London, United Kingdom). She has widely published internationally on disaster risk reduction and governance issues, and is an Editorial Advisor at the Crisis Response Journal, London, United Kingdom. She speaks Italian, French, English and some Russian.

Mr. Jimmy Khayog, Executive Director of Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services on behalf of Strengthening Indigenous Peoples Stewardship of Nature Initiative

Mr. Jimmy Khayog belongs to the Bontoc Indigenous Peoples in the Cordillera Region in the Northern Philippines. He is involved in community development and humanitarian assistance for three decades now. He is currently the Executive Director of the Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services (CorDisRDS), a non government organization that was established in 1987 after an earthquake. His organization works among disaster survivors and disaster affected Indigenous communities in disaster response or emergency assistance, disaster preparedness and on disaster risk reduction through community based disaster risk management (CBDRM).

Ms. Ruth Metzel, Global Restoration Lead, Conservation International



Ruth Metzel works as Global Restoration Lead at Conservation International, driving the organization's work to realize the global scaling of ecosystem restoration as a natural climate solution through leading programs around the world through leveraging the power of multilateral finance and collaboration with the private sector. Before joining CI in December 2020, Ruth was Assistant Director for the Global Warming Mitigation Project where she accelerated the work of the Keeling Curve Prize, given annually to innovators and entrepreneurs working on financial, energy, carbon capture and storage, transportation, and social and cultural pathways to mitigate the impacts of global warming. Ruth also worked for over a decade in Panama to restore tropical dry forest as the Executive Director and co-founder of [Fundación Pro Eco Azuero](#). Throughout that time Ruth worked with a diversity of stakeholders ranging from local communities to national ministries and international donors to inspire action on environmental entrepreneurship, education, sustainable land management, ecological restoration and reforestation. Her research and publications have explored the agriculture-forest interface, scaling of climate solutions, and the ways in which actors from multiple sectors interact to achieve integrated climate and landscape management objectives. She has worked with UNEP-DTU, CGIAR, Drawdown, and The Forests Dialogue. Ruth holds a Bachelor's degree in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, with a focus on Environment, Public Policy and International Relations from Princeton, a Master of Forestry from Yale School of the Environment, and an MBA from Yale School of Management.

Ms. Victoria Tauli Corpuz, Former Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and current co-convenor of Indigenous Peoples' Major Group



Victoria Tauli-Corpuz was appointed as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples by the Human Rights Council in 2014, and served until April 2020. She is an indigenous leader from the Kankana-ey Igorot people of the Cordillera Region in the Philippines. As an indigenous activist, she has worked for over three decades on building movement among indigenous peoples and as an advocate for women's rights.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz is the former Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005-2010), and has served as the chairperson-rapporteur of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. As an indigenous leader, she was actively engaged in drafting and adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007. She has founded and managed various NGOs involved in social awareness raising, climate change

and the advancement of indigenous peoples' and women's rights. She currently the co-convenor of the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development (IPMG) and the Executive Director of the Indigenous Peoples International Centre for Policy Research and Education (TEBTEBBA).

Ms. Rebecca Iwerks, Director, Global Land and Environmental Justice Initiative, Namati



As the Director of Global Land and Environmental Justice Initiative at Namati, Rebecca supports land and environmental justice warriors find new ways to scale and sustain the impact of their work.

Before joining Namati, Rebecca fostered movements for change and capacity development on access to justice issues ranging from natural resource revenue management to land tenure. Rebecca also has roots advocating for gender justice, drawing from experience directly representing survivors of trafficking and gender-based violence in New York. Her career began working alongside the Burmese democracy movement in Thailand and India. Rebecca earned a Juris Doctorate from Fordham University and a B.S. in astronomy from the University of Massachusetts. She has three children who she tries to convince to enjoy recipes that she collects from her travels.

Maria Teresa Parreira, Head of Curation, Reboot



Maria Teresa Parreira is a PhD student at Cornell University and a European Climate Pact Ambassador since 2021. She is the head of Communication and Curation at Reboot, a Portuguese NGO for the inclusion of all in Climate Action and Awareness. She is also a youth delegate for MGCY, with a background in the Green Transition, Climate Finance, Circular Economy, and Science Communication.

Additional information

For more information, please visit the webpage here:

<https://sdgs.un.org/2024ECOSOCPartnershipForum#background>

For any additional questions, please contact the segment organizers

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