



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs



**ACTION, IMPACT, PARTNERSHIP**

# UN DESA AT COP28

**30 NOVEMBER – 12 DECEMBER 2023  
DUBAI, UAE**

**SUMMARY REPORT**



Photo by COP28 / Anthony Fleyhan



# SNAPSHOT OF ACTIVITIES

**120**

organizing partners

**100+**

hours of YouTube Livestream

**30**

UN DESA-led engagements



**80**

SDG Pavilion events



**90+**

countries represented at SDG Pavilion

**12**

days of activities







# CONTENTS

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## Table of Contents

- 02. Introduction
- 03. Main outcomes of COP28
- 06. UN DESA's Engagement at COP28
  - 07. UN DESA Leadership Engagement at COP28
  - 10. UN Systemwide Events and Other High-level Events
  - 14. SDG Pavilion
- 17. Digital Communications and Outreach
- 19. Recommendations and Next Steps – Assessing the Impact
- 22. Annex 1: SDG Pavilion Programme Highlights
- 61. Annex 2: Main Partners



# INTRODUCTION

In a critical moment for our planet, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has called for an urgent course correction, urging world leaders to come together behind a rescue plan for people and planet — a rallying cry for synergistic action. With a mere 15 percent of SDG targets being on track according to the 2023 assessment, the juncture between sustainable development and climate stability demands swift and unified responses.

For the past five years, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) has been at the forefront, championing the alignment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. With a history of active engagement at the annual COPs, UN DESA has evolved into a catalyst for global collaboration, aligning diverse stakeholders in pursuit of shared goals.

Under the leadership of Under-Secretary-General Mr. Li Junhua, UN DESA's mission at COP28 in Dubai went beyond participation; it set the stage for a dynamic platform of integrated action on all levels. This platform spotlights tangible, synergistic solutions, steering a holistic transition toward a world marked by justice, equity, and sustainability. This report captures UN DESA's multifaceted engagement and paves the way for an intensified, scaled-up approach in the years to come.







# MAIN OUTCOMES OF COP28

The 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28), which took place from 30 November to 13 December in Dubai, marked a pivotal moment in the global pursuit of sustainable climate solutions. Termed the “UAE Consensus,” the outcomes of COP28 encapsulate transformative agreements, shaping the trajectory of international efforts to combat climate change. Below is a concise overview of the key components established during this landmark conference.

## 01

### Global Stocktake (GST)

The foremost outcome of COP28 is encapsulated in the conclusions and decisions shaping the first Global Stocktake (GST). This historic international agreement spans the entire spectrum of climate issues, providing crucial guidance for the upcoming round of National Determined Contributions (NDCs) due in 2025. Remarkably, it includes a groundbreaking call to “transition away from fossil fuels,” defying pressures from fossil fuel interests. The first annual GST dialogue, scheduled for the June 2024 UNFCCC meeting, will facilitate countries in sharing best practices for integrating the GST outcomes into their future NDCs. The “Roadmap to Mission 1.5°C” will be advanced collaboratively by the UAE, Azerbaijan, and Brazil Presidencies, fostering international cooperation to elevate ambition within these NDCs.

## 02

### Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience

A significant stride emerged from COP28 in the form of a framework designed to guide nations in safeguarding their populations and ecosystems against climate change. This development represents a substantial advancement for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), originally conceived to elevate the profile of adaptation alongside mitigation in the UN climate process. A work program, commencing in 2024, aims to fortify the indicators integral to the new framework, with countries contributing written inputs by March 2024.



03

## Just Transition Work Programme

Embedded within the Sharm el-Sheikh implementation plan, the Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) held its inaugural high-level ministerial round table during COP28. Preparing its activities for the next five years, decisions at COP28 outline at least two dialogues before COP29, employing a hybrid format for inclusivity. Countries are expected to furnish additional written evidence and inputs for the work program by March 2024.

04

## Mitigation Work Programme

The final text ratified on the concluding day of COP28, though primarily procedural, sets the stage for the Mitigation Work Programme. COP28 decisions call for two global dialogues throughout 2024, with countries submitting proposals for the topics they address by February 2024.

05

## Presidency Youth Climate Champion

A significant institutionalization occurred at COP28, with the appointment of the first official Youth Climate Champions by the COP28 and COP29 Presidencies, emphasizing the pivotal role of youth in climate advocacy.



United Nations  
Climate Change



COP28UAE

DUBAI 2023







# 06

## On Climate Finance

On the financial front, while decisions were deferred to the following year, the theme of climate finance permeated negotiations across various tracks. COP28 achieved historic outcomes, operationalizing Loss and Damage from its inception and securing early pledges totaling \$792 million. However, developing countries emphasized the necessity of financial support to implement agreed outcomes, particularly the key elements of the GST. The focus in the coming year will revolve around discussions on the post-2025 climate finance goal, replacing the \$100 billion pledge—termed the **New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)**. Anticipated as a central agenda item at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, countries have engaged in dialogues, involving experts and ministers, laying the groundwork for this critical decision.



**“The Global Stocktake clearly reaffirmed the imperative of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees which requires drastic reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions in this decade.**

Antonio Guterres  
Secretary-General of the United Nations





# UN DESA ENGAGEMENT AT COP28

UN DESA played a pivotal role at COP28, aligning its efforts with the conference's objectives and the overarching vision of the Presidency. The organization contributed by sharing diverse experiences, good practices, and knowledge, thereby propelling the synergetic implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement. A strategic emphasis was placed on communicating key messages from pertinent intergovernmental discussions, leveraging UN DESA's extensive portfolio in areas such as energy, forests, oceans, transport, water, science, technology and innovation (STI), financing for sustainable development, the Global Sustainable Development Report, and the Climate-SDGs synergy report and conferences.

UN DESA strategically planned its engagement around four focal points:

- 1. UN DESA Leadership Engagement**
- 2. UN System-Wide Events and other High-Level Events**
- 3. SDG Pavilion at COP28**
- 4. Digital Communications and Outreach**

Outside of these activities, the team successfully engaged in:



## Partnership-building and Consultations

UN DESA team engaged in fruitful partnership-building and consultations with existing and new partners on key issues related to energy, climate change, forests, and more. This proactive approach enhanced collaboration and contributed to the broader impact of UN DESA's work.





## Representation and Speaking Engagements

UN DESA team represented the organization and actively spoke at various meetings and side events held by other institutions, reinforcing the organization's presence and influence in wider climate discussions.



## Negotiations Monitoring and Reporting

The team diligently followed the negotiations and major announcements made at COP28, providing real-time updates on the progress of key issues. This commitment to comprehensive reporting ensured that UN DESA's stakeholders remained well-informed and engaged.

# UN DESA Leadership Engagement at COP28

Guiding the charge for UN DESA at COP28, Mr. Li Junhua, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, assumed a pivotal role. Engaging actively in both physical and virtual dimensions of COP28, Mr. Li, supported by the team on the ground, left an indelible mark on the conference.



**“At this pivotal moment, we must harness all opportunities to promote synergistic solutions that address both climate change and the SDGs.**

Li Junhua  
Under-Secretary-General of the  
United Nations Department of  
Economic and Social Affairs



Participating in a spectrum of events, Mr. Li's agenda encompassed high-level consultations, the inaugural ceremony of the SDG Pavilion, and bilateral meetings. In his interventions, Mr. Li consistently underscored the strategic importance of UN DESA's role in climate action, emphasizing the interconnectedness of actions on the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. His advocacy echoed the commitment of UN DESA to support and propel the outcomes of COP28 into the future, with a particular focus on key UN events in 2024. These include 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (where the SDG 13 will be under review), the Summit of the Future, as well as the Fifth Climate and SDG Synergies Conference. These high-level events served as strategic arenas where UN DESA will steadfastly demonstrate commitment and action to advancing sustainable development goals and climate action on the global stage.

The series of high-level events at which he participated is as follows:

<p><b>Official Opening of the SDG Pavilion at COP28 “Achieving Climate and SDGs Together”</b></p>	<p>Friday, 1 December, 5:30 - 5:50 at the SDG Pavilion</p>	<p>Provided opening remarks during the event, attended by PGA, USG DESA, UNFCCC, Youth.</p>
<p><b>World Glaciers’ Preservation Actions</b></p>	<p>Saturday, 2 December, 9:30 – 10:00 at the National Pavilion of Tajikistan</p>	<p>Provided opening remarks during the high-level side event organized by Tajikistan</p>
<p><b>Circular Economy: A Path to Climate Solutions and Sustainable Development</b></p>	<p>Saturday, 2 December, 10:30 – 11:45 at the SDG Pavilion</p>	<p>Provided opening remarks during the high-level event organized by ClimateWorks</p>
<p><b>Rising Ocean at COP28</b></p>	<p>Saturday, 2 December, 3:30 – 5:00 at the Ocean Pavilion</p>	<p>Provided opening remarks during the high-level event co-sponsored by France and Costa Rica</p>





**On the Road to the 4th SIDS Conference - Making Climate Finance Work for SIDS**

Sunday, 3 December, 11:00 at the AOSIS Pavilion, with OHRLLS, Antigua & Barbuda, UK and DESA

Provided opening remarks during the high-level event attended by the PM Samoa, OHRLLS-USG, Antigua & Barbuda PM/Minister

**Unlocking the Future: A Paradigm Shift in Global Development (MVI Event)**

Monday, 4 December, 9:00-10:30 at the UNOPS Pavilion

Provided remarks during the high-level event

**Leveraging Special Drawing Rights for Climate and Development**

Monday, 4 December, 11.30am-12.30pm at the Al Saih Roundtable, Blue Zone

USG Li provided remarks, delegated by UN Secretary-General

**Global Energy Interconnection: Advancing Just and Inclusive Energy**

Tuesday, 5 December, hosted by GEIDCO

Provided opening remarks in a pre-recorded video message





# UN Systemwide Events and Other High-level Events

A series of UN Systemwide Events and Other High-level Events have been organised by the various UN DESA divisions.

Two official COP28 side events have been organised:



**Redefining Success: A Just and Equitable Transition through greater Climate Action and SDGs Synergies**

Organised by UN DESA and UNFCCC  
6 December,  
Watch the event [here](#).

On 6 December, UN DESA and UNFCCC secretariat co-hosted the official UN system Side Event during the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28), brought together a diverse group of stakeholders. Participants included members of the Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergy, alongside representatives from Japan, Denmark and Brazil, and non-state actors actively engaged in advancing the intersection of climate action and SDGs.

Distinguished speakers underscored compelling evidence demonstrating the substantial benefits of concurrently implementing climate policies and SDGs, emphasizing synergies over trade-offs. The discussion built on the key findings of the recently launched first global report on climate and SDG synergy “Synergy Solutions for a World in Crisis: Tackling Climate and SDG Action Together”. Recognizing this integrated approach as pivotal for recalibrating our collective trajectory in meeting the objectives of both the Paris Agreement



and the 2030 Agenda, the discussions highlighted the necessity of aligning efforts.

Experts contributed by sharing valuable perspectives, drawing from their experiences, and proposing actionable steps to expedite progress in operationalizing synergies. Throughout the discourse, a commitment to upholding principles of equity and ensuring just transitions was paramount, reinforcing the importance of a balanced and inclusive approach to addressing the complex interplay between climate action and sustainable development goals.



## Forests for our Common Future: Halting and Reversing Deforestation by 2030

Organised by UN Forum on Forests Secretariat  
10 December  
Watch the event [here](#).

On 10 December, UN Forum on Forest Secretariat held the High-level Dialogue of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) “Forests for our common future: Halting and reversing deforestation by 2030” at the COP28 Global Climate Action Hub. The event brought together heads and principals of the CPF member organizations, and attracted over 100 COP28 delegates from Member States, partners and stakeholders. The event was opened and moderated by Ms. Juliette Biao, UNFFS Director and Vice-Chair of the CPF. The opening remarks were provided by Mr. Wu Zhimin, Director for the FAO Forestry Division / CPF Chair, and Mr. Simon Steill, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC. Following the opening, the event held the high-level panel discussion with the participation of heads and principals of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Tropical Timber Organization, and the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry, International Union of Forest Research Organizations, and the World Bank.

The High-level Dialogue provided an opportunity for the leaders of the UN agencies and other CPF members to share their perspectives and outline their individual and joint actions to accelerate efforts to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030.





The discussions held during the event highlighted the critical importance to take a coherent approach to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Global Forest Goals by 2030 and other forest-related goals and objectives through joint actions and initiatives of the CPF, and support countries in enhancing and implementing their Nationally-determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement and strengthening the International Arrangement on Forests through its midterm review at UNFF19 in 2024.

Other events that have been organized by UN DESA and those where UN DESA leadership participated in, include:



### UN Forum on Forest Secretariat

1. **Climate Change and Courts: Judicial Perspectives on Climate Litigation** | Organized by the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment (GJIE) and UNEP | 10 December, Global Climate Action Hub
2. **Forest Landscape Restoration for Net Zero Carbon and Urban Adaptation including Potential for Scale Up** | Organized by Thailand | 10 December, Thai Pavilion



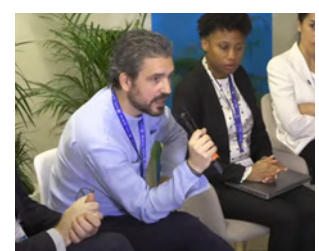
### UN Office for Sustainable Development

1. **Jurisdictional Approach of Cooperative Approaches under Art. 6** | 5 December, Korea Pavilion, Blue Zone
2. **Fast-Tracking the Energy Transition through Hydrogen Production** | 5 December, Korea Pavilion, Blue Zone
3. **Blue Carbon research and policy toward Carbon Neutrality in Republic of Korea - Toward Green Shipping by 2050** | 9 December, Korea Pavilion, Blue Zone



### Small Islands Developing States Unit

1. **On the Road to the 4th SIDS Conference - Making Climate Finance Work for SIDS** | 3 December, AOSIS Pavilion
2. **From Agreement to Action: Harnessing 30x30 to Tackle Climate Change** | 9 December, Blue Zone, Al Waha Theatre
3. **A Breakthrough Moment for Mangroves: Delivering Global Action on Mangrove Restoration and Protection** | 9 December 2023, Green Zone
4. **Powering Ocean Breakthroughs through sustainable Ocean Planning** | 9 December 2023, Blue Zone







# SDG Pavilion

The SDG Pavilion, a cornerstone of the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) held in Dubai, UAE, was a testament to collaborative efforts in advancing climate goals and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Organized by the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of UN DESA in collaboration with UN Climate Change (UNFCCC) and UN Department of Global Communications (DGC), this space, in its fifth consecutive year, unfolded as a dynamic hub for fostering hope and catalyzing collective action.

From November 30 to December 12, 2023, the SDG Pavilion warmly welcomed partners and a diverse audience. It stood as a pivotal platform where global experts and policymakers convened to share insights and propose actionable solutions, addressing the intricate interplay between climate change and the SDGs.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

01

### Sustained Impact

For the fifth time, UN DESA orchestrated the SDG Pavilion in the Blue Zone of the UN Climate Conference. Over two weeks, this vibrant space hosted a rich tapestry of some **80 panel discussions** and fireside chats.



During the last five years, the space has garnered increasing attention from new collaborators and emerged as a focal point for SDG advocacy in COP discussions. This commitment will persist into the future.







## 02

### Diverse Participation

The SDG Pavilion hosted events by over **120 multistakeholder partners**, with representation spanning **all regions of the world**. This collective engagement brought together delegates from around **90 countries**, contributing to the diverse and global atmosphere at the Pavilion. The Pavilion not only welcomed events organized by partners from UN entities, Member States, academia, and youth groups but also showcased UN DESA's commitment to its core priorities. The efforts contributed to the capacity-building of stakeholders, showcased the analysis, and created a space for discussions feeding into the intergovernmental dialogues.



In the past five years, the collaborative partner network has experienced exponential growth, presenting an opportunity for more enduring collaboration and shared ownership of the space.

## 03

### Outreach and Key Messages

UN DESA's and its partners events at the Pavilion played a crucial role in amplifying awareness raising through outreach efforts. They provided a platform for interactive discussions that delved into critical topics such as the ocean, water, energy, forests, climate and SDG synergies, finance, and partnership. All sessions were well-attended by in-person audience and where openly available live to the remote public. For the first time ever, all SDG Pavilion events were livestreamed on the official UN DESA YouTube channel.



Over the last five years, the visibility and accessibility of SDG Pavilion events have significantly increased, providing additional opportunities for outreach through partners' platforms and enhancing mutual visibility.





The below **19 events** have been organized the at the SDG Pavilion by the various UN DESA divisions:

- The Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance - Mobilizing Private Capital to Ensure a Just Transition and Deliver on the SDGs
- Green Digital Action: A Fireside Chat with ITU Deputy Secretary-General Tomas Lamanauskas
- SDG Pavilion Inauguration
- “Achieving Climate Goals and SDGs Together
- Interview with Mr. Fernando Arlandis, Deputy Manager Director, Canal de Isabel II
- Interview with Mr. Luis Miguel Paiz, Executive President, ASAZGUA, Guatemala
- The Road to Antigua: A Preview of the 2024 Conference on Small Island Developing States
- Fireside chat with Mr. Peter Thomson, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean
- Fireside Chat with Mr. Dario Mejia Montalvo, Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Energy Compacts: Advancing Commitments towards SDG7 from Billions to Trillions
- Advancing Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation through Integrated Innovative Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions
- Fireside chat with Juliette Biao, Director of the UN Forum on Forests Secretariat
- Small Islands leading the way towards 100% renewables
- Towards the Global Stocktaking on SDG 7 in 2024
- COP28 SDG Pavilion Sustainable Transport Day Events
- Science-Based Policies for Climate and SDG Synergies: A UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue
- Climate & Canopy: Amplifying Action for SDG 13 and 15 through Primary Forest Conservation
- Bridging Science, Policy, and Society: Tackling Climate and SDGs in Synergy
- Interview with SolShare CEO on Article in the Natural Resource Forum Special Edition
- SIDS’ Integrated Nature-Climate Action Roadmap in Coastal Areas: Round-Table Discussion between Members and Friends of the SIDS Coalition for Nature

**More details about the events at the SDG Pavilion can be found in Annex 1.**



# DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

A robust communication strategy synergized with on-the-ground endeavors has been designed, amplifying the resonance of UN DESA's contributions during COP28. Below is outlined the harmonized narrative that unfolded across digital platforms, seamlessly complementing the unfolding events at the SDG Pavilion and around the Dubai venue.

## SDG Pavilion at COP28 Website

<http://>



The official SDG Pavilion website can be accessed here:

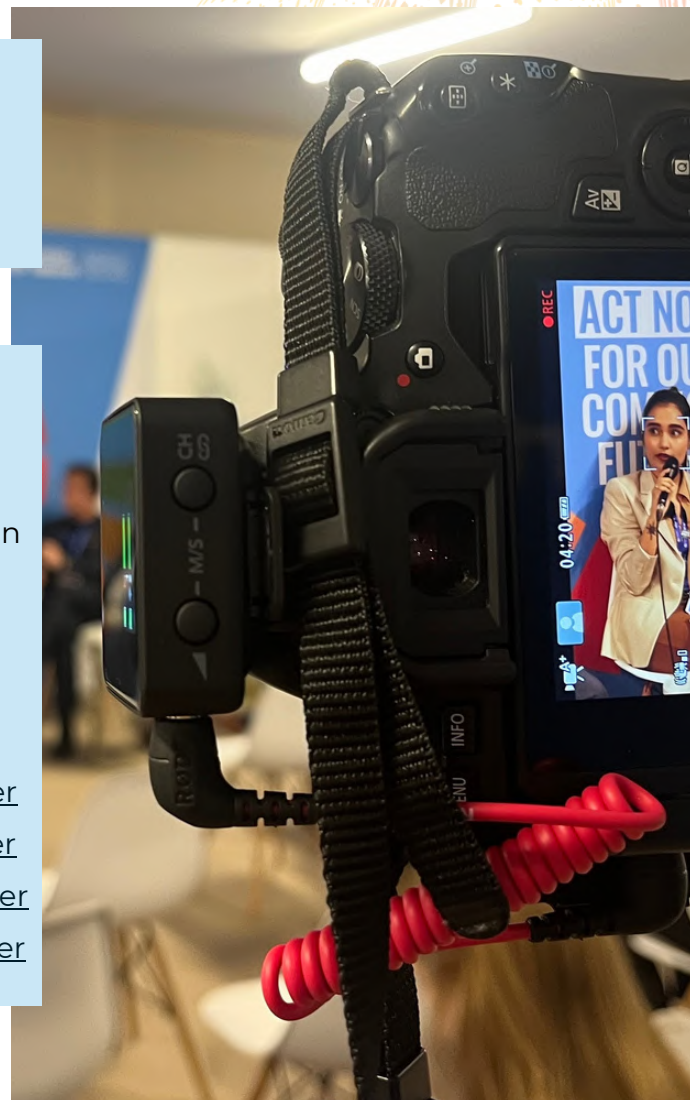
[www.un.org/en/COP28/SDGPavilion](http://www.un.org/en/COP28/SDGPavilion)

## SDG Pavilion Daily Newsletter



The SDG Pavilion daily newsletter has been released each day of DESA engagement during COP28. Each edition provided a comprehensive summary of events held at the Pavilion with photos and link to resources. All newsletter editions can be viewed below.

<a href="#">29 November</a>	<a href="#">3 December</a>	<a href="#">8 December</a>
<a href="#">30 November</a>	<a href="#">4 December</a>	<a href="#">9 December</a>
<a href="#">1 December</a>	<a href="#">5 December</a>	<a href="#">10 December</a>
<a href="#">2 December</a>	<a href="#">6 December</a>	<a href="#">12 December</a>







### Web News and Announcements






A Series of web stories have been published on the [UN DESA website](#), highlighting the most salient points of COP28 and department’s engagements throughout the conference. Find them below:

- [Join UN DESA at the SDG Pavilion at COP 28!](#)
- [SDG Pavilion opens at COP28 with focus on youth in achieving climate goals and SDGs together](#)
- [COP28: To save the planet, we need a just and fair renewable energy revolution](#)
- [COP28 ends with call to ‘transition away’ from fossil fuels; UN’s Guterres says phaseout is inevitable](#)



### Social Media Outreach

On social media, the UN DESA flagship Facebook and X accounts, as well as the targeted SustDev Twitter and Facebook accounts, were active throughout COP28, promoting the highlights from the SDG Pavilion. Please see the links below to view the content:

- UN DESA accounts:   
- SustDev accounts:  



### Photos

All of the photos from the SDG Pavilion are available in a dedicated [Trello Board](#) available for the public.



# RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

## ASSESSING THE IMPACT

The culmination of UN DESA's five-year engagement at the UNFCCC COPs underscores the pivotal shift in recognizing the intricate interlinkages between climate action and sustainable development. As we reflect on the past and look toward the future, strategic recommendations and next steps emerge to fortify and scale up UN DESA's impact in the ever-evolving landscape of climate negotiations and sustainable development.

### KEY FINDINGS

01

#### Growing Recognition of Synergies

The COP decisions increasingly recognize the importance of synergetic action, as seen in the explicit references to sustainable development in the GST text. This trend highlights the vital role played by UN DESA and UNFCCC in fostering collaboration and accelerating the achievement of both the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

02

#### Annual Dialogues and Expert Group Contributions

The annual dialogues on [Climate and SDG Synergy](#), backed by the [Expert Group's first Global Report](#), have contributed significantly to advancing this critical topic throughout the year in addition to the COP engagements. The upcoming 5th Global Conference on Climate and SDG Synergies signals a continued commitment to deepening understanding and informing deliberations.



# 03

## SDG Pavilion’s Impactful Role

The SDG Pavilion – one of its kind in the climate action arena - has served as a dynamic platform, hosting an ever-increasing number of events and growing interest from partners over the last five years. Its thematic emphasis on climate-SDG synergies aligns with UN DESA’s priorities and leadership and supports its efforts in fostering inclusive discussions on global challenges. This is a prominent opportunity for the Department to position itself as a global leader in accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda through climate action.

### CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The evolving landscape now positions climate change as a driver for achieving sustainable development, expanding the discourse beyond environmental concerns. Thematic issues resonating with the SDGs, traditionally outside climate negotiations, are now gaining prominence. While this presents an opportunity for deeper engagement, it also calls for reflections on potential implications for the post-2030 development agenda.

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

#### Enhance Multistakeholder Partnerships

- Increase the number of partners advocating for climate and SDG synergy.
- Explore co-ownership of the SDG Pavilion and co-hosting of official side events.
- Strengthen partnerships, including in-kind support (technical, communications, logistical, financial).

#### Expand Outreach through Media Partnerships

- Explore partnerships with external platforms for broader event streaming and involving partners globally.
- Collaborate with media organizations, such as the SDG Media Compact, to increase event visibility.
- Leverage media involvement to reach a wider audience and promote SDG Pavilion events.

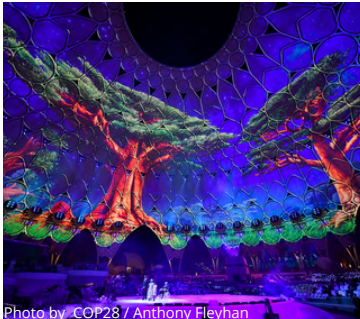
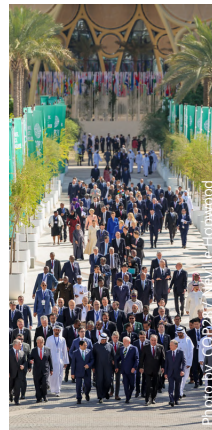
#### Strategic Resource Mobilization

- Prioritize resource mobilization for scaling up Climate and SDG synergies.
- Explore innovative funding mechanisms to sustain and expand initiatives.





As we navigate the evolving landscape of climate negotiations and sustainable development, these recommendations and next steps offer a strategic roadmap for UN DESA. By fortifying partnerships, leveraging media engagement, empowering divisions, and strategically mobilizing resources, UN DESA can amplify its impact, fostering a future where climate action and sustainable development are intertwined, driving global progress. This collective effort is not only a response to the challenges of today but an investment in a sustainable and resilient future for generations to come.







# ANNEX 1

# SDG PAVILION

# PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER



## Unbearable Heat & Unbreathable Air – Finding Win-Win Solutions for Climate and Health

Lead Organization: World Health Organization  
Organizing Partners: World Bank Group, Clean Air Fund

Watch the event [here](#).

*“Fossil fuel subsidies need to stop, and fossil fuels need to be phased out rapidly in order to prevent global temperatures and air pollution levels from exceeding the limits of human survivability across large swathes of the planet.”*

The main objective of the event was to explain how extreme heat and polluted air are the most direct outcomes of climate change and its drivers on health, and suggest win-win solutions, arguing for greater inclusion of health in the UNFCCC agenda. The event highlighted the need to talk about health and climate change, since health has not been properly on the COP agenda during the UNFCCC process since the start in 1992. It has been pointed out that the heat is not only unbearable – it is lethal; human beings cannot survive temperatures above a certain level for more than a few hours, especially if it’s humid. Finally, 1 billion people in LIC lack access to a health facility with adequate energy to power basic health services, the scale of investments needed is large, but they pale in comparison to the profits fossil fuel industry are making.



THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER



### Sustainable School Meals in World Metropolis: Promoting Urban Agriculture

Lead Organization: Sao Paulo City Hall

Organizing Partners: ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

Watch the event [here](#).

This session at the SDG Pavilion discussed urban policies on food security, highlighting the City of Sao Paulo's approach. The city aims to align with SDGs 2, 3, 7, 11, and 12, as well as the Milan Food Pact and climate commitments. By introducing vegetable-based menus in public schools, they engage students, families, and communities in raising awareness, support local farming, reduce waste, and encourage healthier habits. This initiative strives to foster sustainable eating practices, especially in vulnerable communities, while emphasizing quality meals and sharing knowledge about regional biodiversity. The City of Sao Paulo's integrated policy stands as a beacon for nurturing healthier, eco-conscious communities while supporting local agriculture and promoting a sustainable food ecosystem.

### The Role of Digitalization in Accelerating Decarbonization and for Meeting Climate Goals for China and Beyond

Lead Organization: Innovation Center for Energy and Transportation

Organizing Partners: Tencent

Watch the event [here](#).



*"Our vision for TanLIVE is that all the low carbon innovators can find the best resources, ideas, and partners they need to scale up."* Digital technologies can reduce emissions by 15%. Such tech should be accelerated by inclusive collaboration, resource sharing, and knowledge exchange where TanLIVE can support. At COP28's SDG Pavilion, tech, banking, energy, and NGO experts discussed strategies for decarbonizing key sectors via green tech innovation. Tencent emphasized the necessity of inclusive collaboration, resource sharing, and knowledge exchange to expedite the journey toward a low-carbon future. Platforms like TanLIVE are pivotal in aiding this acceleration by providing necessary support to low-carbon innovators.





FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER



**The Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance: Mobilizing Private Capital to Ensure a Just Transition and Deliver on the SDGs**

Lead Organization: Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance  
 Organizing Partners: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

At COP28, GISD Alliance representatives discussed the private sector’s role in ensuring a just transition and delivering on the SDGs. While emphasizing the private sector’s commitment to contributing to these agendas, the session outlined the key risks - including currency, project, and political risks – that need to be addressed to mobilize additional private capital for sustainable development and climate action in emerging markets and developing economies. Speakers welcomed coordinated efforts and encouraged GISD to promote dialogue between the private sector, policymakers, and regulators, especially in the context of the UN’s upcoming fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

**The Future of Africa’s Sustainable Cities: Why Clean Cooking Matters**

Lead Organization: Clean Cooking Alliance, United Nations Foundation  
 Organizing Partners: CCA & ICLEI Africa



The event highlighted the new report, “The Future of Africa’s Sustainable Cities: Why Clean Cooking Matters,” written by the Clean Cooking Alliance in partnership with ICLEI Africa. The report launch session included a discussion with a panel of experts on why clean cooking is a priority for African cities to achieve a just transition and improve the health of rapidly growing urban populations. As one panelist noted, “*cities are the key to unlocking the rapid clean cooking transitions that can deliver benefits for people and planet.*”



FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER



**Towards a Just Ecological Transition for People and Planet**

Lead Organization: Igarapé Institute

Watch the event [here](#).

*“The Brazilian Ecological Transformation Plan offers developing countries the chance to lead and leapfrog, recalibrating international dynamics for a future replete with renewable energy, biodiversity, and planetary well-being.”*

To unveil Brazil’s Ecological Transformation Plan, the event featured special advisor Rafael Dubeaux, presenting a strategy aligning economic growth with robust environmental sustainability. Amid the triple planetary crisis, developing nations face both challenges and opportunities, with the burden of ecological disruption presenting a window for sustainable development. Developing countries, including Brazil, must stimulate sustainable economic growth, reduce emissions, and transition to circular economies, aligning with global commitments such as the Paris Agreement and Kunming-Montreal framework. The Brazilian Ecological Transformation Plan, described as Brazil’s best opportunity to implement a Pact for People and Planet, is positioned not only to benefit Brazil but also to set a precedent for the developing world.

**Meeting the SDGs and Climate Goals: Are Renewables the Most Sustainable Energy Source?**

Lead Organization: REN21

Watch the event [here](#).







FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER



### SDG Pavilion Inauguration “Achieving Climate Goals and SDGs Together”

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

The SDG Pavilion at COP28 was inaugurated on 1 December. Mr. Dennis Francis, President of the 78th Session of the UN General Assembly, noted that the Pavilion is a testament to the power of the SDGs that will inspire us to keep pushing for delivery of both the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement. Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General of UN DESA, said that we must harness all opportunities to promote synergistic solutions that address both climate change and the SDGs. Mr. Daniele Violetti, Senior Director for Programmes Coordination at UNFCCC, noted that the movement to build climate and SDG synergies has been gaining considerable support. A youth call to action was featured at the event, moderated by Ms. Asma Rouabhia, global focal point for the SDG7 Youth Constituency. An 11-year-old activist from India, Ms. Prasiddhi Singh, said that the SDGs provide an agenda for climate action and the next seven years are a "dire" opportunity to achieve these. Mr. Josh, a youth activist from Scotland, stated that the SDG Pavilion provides hope, that it is only through this kind of holistic, systems thinking, that we can achieve the climate and SDG goals.

### Green Digital Action: A Fireside Chat with ITU Deputy Secretary-General Tomas Lamanaukas

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

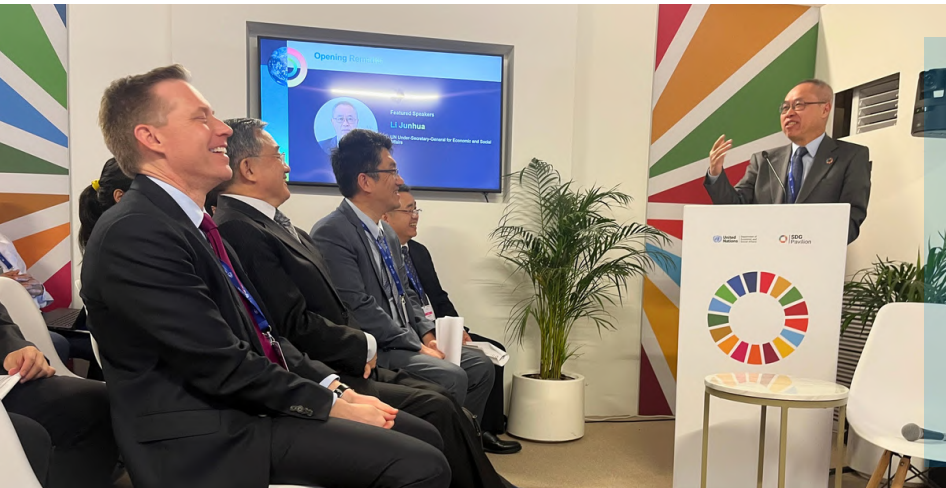


Ahead of the launch of the Green Digital Action track at COP28, Tomas Lamanaukas, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, spoke with UN DESA about how this initiative can help companies be more accountable for their digital carbon footprint. He also discussed how digital technology can be an invaluable tool in the fight against climate change, and how to ensure that no one is left behind in accessing these benefits.





SATURDAY, 2 DECEMBER



### Circular Economy: A Path to Climate Solutions and Sustainable Development

Lead Organization: Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Organizing Partners: ClimateWorks Foundation (CWF) National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, China (NCSC)

Watch the event [here](#).

Convening influential policymakers, thought leaders, industry experts and youth, this event aims to explore circular economy’s critical role in addressing climate change and advancing SDGs. The event highlighted the vast emission-cutting potential of circular strategies across key sectors like plastics, food and built environment, showcasing global progress with a spotlight on China’s efforts. Enhanced international dialogue is key, with COP28 offering a unique opportunity to integrate circular economy principles into the global climate agenda. Liu Zhenmin remarks, “The circular economy is about much more than just tackling climate change; it provides a universal solution to some of the world’s most pressing sustainable development challenges.”

### The Climate Awards: #Climatesolutions Video

Lead Organization: United Nations Department of Global Communications, Agora

Watch the event [here](#).



The event served as an opportunity to announce the winners of the #ClimateSolutions Video Award in support of the UN’s ActNow campaign. This award provides an opportunity for individuals and organizations to showcase their efforts in addressing the current climate crisis.



SATURDAY, 2 DECEMBER



### Impact of Climate Change on Human Development and the Way Forward

Lead Organization: UNDP Yemen  
Organizing Partners: UNDP, EPA, PARDEE, MoWE

Watch the event [here](#).

The event showcased UNDP Yemen’s work in the areas of environment, green energy, and climate change in Yemen. Yemen is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change as well as one of the least ready to adapt. Without building and growing adaptive capacity in the country, communities in Yemen will continue to face severe water scarcity, fragility of coastal and mountain ecosystems, continued land degradation, and declining productivity in fisheries and agriculture sectors. The newly launched Impact of Climate Change on Human Development in Yemen Report will provide local and international partners with key knowledge and instruments to increase local adaptive capacities.

### Accelerating the Development of National Knowledge Ecosystems

Lead Organization: Loughborough University  
Organizing Partners: Climate Compatible Growth (CCG) is an FCDO-funded consortium of leading UK universities (including University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, Imperial College London, University College London, and others.

Watch the event [here](#).



This side event marks the official launch of a groundbreaking publication titled “Addressing Challenges in Long-Term Strategic Energy Planning in LMICs: Learning Pathways in an Energy Planning Ecosystem.” Published in the Energies journal’s Special Issue “Changes of Global Energy Systems: Bridging the Gap between Policy, Education, and Research,” this collaborative effort involves 19 contributors from diverse backgrounds, representing institutions worldwide, including notable entities such as Strathmore in Africa, and institutions in the UK, Canada, and Sweden. Link to paper [\[here\]](#).





**SATURDAY, 2 DECEMBER**



### **Synergistic Approach for Environmental Sustainability and Just Transition: A Follow-up to Think-7 Summit 2023**

Lead Organization: United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

Watch the event [here](#).

This session explored how synergistic action on climate and sustainable development can support just transition, with a focus on energy and food systems. It built on the outcomes of the Think7 Japan Summit (April 2023) to identify approaches for enhancing policy coherence in these areas and beyond. Speakers from governments, UN organizations, civil society and think tanks shared insights and perspectives from Africa, Asia, and Europe, highlighting the interlinked social dimensions of the sustainability transition in multiple sectors. The discussion underlined the need for more research to generate evidence on the opportunities and potential benefits of integrated action.

### **The Role of RTIs in Endorsing Recommitment to the SDGs**

Lead Organization: G-STIC/VITO  
Organizing Partners: TERI, FIOCRUZ

Watch the event [here](#).







SUNDAY, 3 DECEMBER



**Adaptation: A Voice of the Commons**

Lead Organization: South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE), UNDP-AFCIA, APN-GCR (Japan), CAFRI-ICAR (India), ASSOCHAM (India), BSMR Agril University (Bangladesh)

Watch the event [here](#).

*“Novel mechanisms for accessing climate finances to promote locally-led adaptations will start a turbine of resilience at the grassroots, that can generate sustainability for the globe. We must not be late.”* The event deliberated on the accessibility to climate finance for promoting locally-led adaptations at the grassroots, and it also discussed innovative financing models briefly. Locally led adaptations are being globally promoted for climate resilience but equitable access to fiscal resources is still lacking for the commons. There are policies, and financial instruments available to bridge the policy practice gap, but it needs lots of awareness building, and digital literacy in particular to streamline the same. Innovative financing mechanisms like the AFCIA program of UNDP and the adaptation innovation marketplace [AIM] of UNDP are some sustainable solutions to this end. Association of Chamber of Commerce, India, highlighted the possibilities, of collaborative interventions at the regional level, for sustainable upscaling of locally-led adaptations.

**From Growth to Wellbeing: How to Monitor Successful Just Transition**

Lead Organization: Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ  
Organizing Partners: South Africa's Presidential Climate Commission; World Resources Institute (WRI)

Watch the event [here](#).





SUNDAY, 3 DECEMBER



### Rethinking Displaced People's Positionality in Climate and Energy Interventions

Lead Organization: United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)  
Organizing Partners: GPA, Ashden, Chatham House, Global Refugee-led Network, Carbon Trust

Watch the event [here](#).

The event provided innovative and continued discussion to ensure Africa's displaced people are not left behind in the interventions for transition to sustainable energy solutions. Some key messages emerged, including the need to prioritize collaborative approaches for sustainable energy solutions, adopting the "Nothing About Us Without Us" strategy to involve displaced communities in decision-making, and advocating for meaningful participation in humanitarian energy programming. The overall emphasis is on fostering inclusive and ethical discussions that actively involve both displaced and host communities in shaping and implementing energy solutions within the context of displacement.

### Climate Change and Gender-Based Violence are Connected. Here's How.

Lead Organization: Spotlight Initiative - Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General

Organizing Partners: Spotlight Initiative

Watch the event [here](#).



Spotlight Initiative - one of the 12 High-Impact Initiatives of the SDG Summit 2023 - hosted a conversation on how investing in women and girls is the world's greatest and underused path to accelerate the full achievement of the SDGs. The event served to engage and educate audience on the realities of the impacts of climate change on violence on women and girls, with messages conveyed by trusted experts, influencers and advocates. It also showcased how Spotlight Initiative's comprehensive programming model drives progress not only on SDG 5 (gender equality), but across all SDGs.





SUNDAY, 3 DECEMBER



### Multi-Sectoral Rural Development through Renewable Energy Access

Lead Organization: UN-ESCWA  
Organizing Partners: SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency)

Watch the event [here](#).

“Expanding REGEND is as important as ever considering the situation in the Arab world.” The event highlighted the achievements of the Regional Initiative to Promote Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region (REGEND) which was implemented by ESCWA with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. (SIDA). The discussion underscored some key messages: 1) decentralized renewable energy is key in providing a just and inclusive energy transition, especially to countries in crisis to achieve the SDGs and address climate actions; 2) a gender and human based approach is necessary when understanding community energy needs for an accelerated recovery and development; 3) an integrated approach involving multiple stakeholders is the most efficient way to impact rural communities. Public-private cooperation is necessary for success.

### The Climate Awards: #PlanetEarth Photography

Lead Organization: United Nations Department of Global Communications, Agora

Watch the event [here](#).



This event served to announce the winners of the #PlanetEarth Photography Award in support of the UN’s ActNow campaign. This award celebrates the beauty of our planet and aims to remind us of what we might lose if we don’t take action.





MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



### Unleash the Potential of Solar-plus Solutions in Africa: Innovative Collaboration Opportunities between China and Africa

Lead Organization: ClimateWorks Foundation  
Organizing Partners: China Renewable Energy Engineering Institute, Impact Hub Shanghai, and the Administrative Center for China's Agenda 21

Watch the event [here](#).

This COP28 workshop highlighted the transformative potential of solar-plus solutions for over 600 million people without electricity. Aligned with SDGs and considered pivotal in China-Africa cooperation, the solar-plus approach aims to combat energy poverty, reduce emissions, and improve livelihoods, accelerating renewable development in Africa.

The workshop successfully established a dialogue platform among governments, enterprises, and NGOs, emphasizing the inherent value of China-Africa cooperation. Keynote speeches by Hannah Ryder and Dr. He Jijiang stressed the crucial role of energy transition and outlined promising opportunities in China-Africa energy collaboration. The agenda included a diverse panel discussion with representatives from Impact Hub Lagos, Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria (REAN), Tencent, and the Global Environmental Institute.

### The Mangrove Experience: Driving Action through Tech and Culture

Lead Organization: United Nations Department of Global Communication, Elyx Foundation

Watch the event [here](#).



This event presented a new VR experience about the regeneration of mangroves, which features the illustrated character, Elyx. The project focuses on how our actions contribute to the regeneration of ecosystems.



MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



Interviews with Canal de Isabel II, authors of organizations with scholarly articles selected for publication in the Natural Resource Forum: A United Nations Sustainable Development Journal

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

Interviews with ASAZGUA, authors of organizations with scholarly articles selected for publication in the Natural Resource Forum: A United Nations Sustainable Development Journal

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).



On the occasion of the launch of the Special Issue on “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions” published by the Natural Resources Forum, a UN Sustainable Development Journal, interviews were conducted at the SDG Pavilion with representatives of organizations whose scholarly articles were selected for publication. Representatives of Canal de Isabel II and ASAZGUA provided details about water-energy nexus issues addressed in their papers. This is the first time this journal has dedicated a Special Issue to this critical subject. These organizations are members of the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network, and their papers are among only ten selected worldwide for publication.





MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



**Health as Entry Point for SDG / Climate Synergy: A Focus on Cities, Air Pollution and Justice**

Lead Organization: University of Cambridge, UrbanBetter

Watch the event [here](#).

The session explored with panelists the windows of opportunity for intersectoral policy making and advocacy at the health-SDG-climate interface. The expert panelists also explored how they perceive the link between implementation realities and what policies provide for; and how advocacy initiatives can support transformative ideas that seek to bridge this gap. Two data-driven presentations on the interlinkages between health and climate change set the scene for the open discussion. Here, participants contributed with a number of key examples of policies and advocacy approaches that they personally worked on, and which directly contribute to strengthening the synergistic implementation of climate and SDGs through the lens of health.

**The Road to Antigua: A Preview of the 2024 Conference on Small Island Developing States**

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).



Facing rising sea levels, excessive flooding and extreme storms, small island developing States (SIDS) suffer the worst effects of climate change despite contributing least to global carbon emissions. The Fourth International Conference on SIDS, to take place in Antigua and Barbuda in May 2024, aims to highlight actions SIDS can take now to prepare for their future. Li Junhua, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and SIDS Conference Secretary-General, offered a preview of what to expect from this important 2024 forum.



MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



**Fireside chat with Mr. Peter Thomson,  
United Nations Secretary-General's  
Special Envoy for the Ocean**

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

UN DESA spoke with the Special Envoy for the Ocean about the need to end our reliance on fossil fuels now for the health of the ocean. He also noted how the ocean community has raised its profile at recent UN climate conferences as the science continues to show how climate change and ocean health are intertwined, and he encouraged ocean and climate activists frustrated with the slow pace of climate progress to funnel their anger into action.

**Fireside Chat with Mr. Dario Mejia  
Montalvo, Chair of the UN Permanent  
Forum on Indigenous Issues**

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).



In a dialogue the Chairperson of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (a subsidiary of ECOSOC) highlighted that at COP28, some 300 Indigenous Peoples delegates are participating to ensure that funding to offset the impacts of climate change reaches their communities; ensure Indigenous knowledge, practices and innovations are seen as solutions to climate change; and prevent governments and private actors from violating their rights, especially as those actors pursue green energy projects. In this regard, the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples' at levels is key to prevent violations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples are guardians of biodiversity and State parties need their support to achieve the vision of Paris agreement.





MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



### Energy Compacts: Advancing Commitments towards SDG7 from Billions to Trillions

Lead Organization: UN-Energy  
Organizing Partners: UN DESA as UN-Energy Secretariat, SEforALL

Watch the event [here](#).

*“In the journey towards universal energy access, our collective commitment to smart city solutions and inclusive collaboration will be the driving force for a sustainable future.”* This panel discussion explored how to accelerate global sustainable development through the Energy Compacts, fostering collaboration for universal access to clean and affordable energy (SDG7). Panelists emphasized integrated urban infrastructure as a catalyst for clean energy transitions in smart cities worldwide. Commitments from diverse stakeholders showcased innovative solutions, from hydrogen initiatives to resilient grid upgrades, advancing the Energy Compacts.

### Fireside chat with Juliette Biao, Director of the UN Forum on Forests Secretariat

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).



What is the role of forests in the first global stocktake of the progress made towards the objective of the Paris Agreement? UN DESA spoke with Juliette Biao, Director of the UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, about how to accelerate the global response to climate change using forests as a climate mitigation tool. She also offered a preview of the 19th Forum on Forests coming in 2024.



MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER



### Advancing Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation through Integrated Innovative Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions

Lead Organization: UN DESA  
Organizing Partners: UN DESA and the Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network (SWESN)

Watch the event [here](#).

This event offered an opportunity to exchange and disseminate knowledge and experiences related to integrated and innovative sustainable water and energy solutions designed to ensure efficient use of resources while supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation. Panelists discussed the benefits and positive impacts of integrated innovative water-energy systems and programmes on terrestrial and water ecosystems. Participants who joined the event benefitted from the dissemination of best practices and innovative approaches, the identification of synergies between water and energy solutions, and the exploration of the social, economic, and environmental benefits of integrated systems. Additionally, they learned how the promotion of such integrated systems can make concrete advances towards climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives.

### Driving Accountable and Actionable Climate Solutions in Africa

Lead Organization: United Nations Global Compact  
Organizing Partners: Africa Business Leaders Coalition, UN Climate Change High Level Champions Team

Watch the event [here](#).



This event, through a dialogue with public and private stakeholders in Africa, discussed the path forward to accelerate progress against climate commitments, scale up climate action and financing while ensuring a just and fair transition for all. It also addressed barriers to private sector climate action and emphasized the need for accountability and transparency through reinforcing the call to action to the private sector, governments, civil society, and the international community. Through this discussion, this event promoted public-private partnerships to turbocharge climate financing, and highlighted the role of gender, trade and youth.





TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER



### Small Islands Leading the Way Towards 100% Renewables

Lead Organization: UN-DESA

Organizing Partners: Greening the Islands Foundation

Watch the event [here](#).

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) can be ideal test beds for new technology and innovation, which if replicated, could help lead the global transition to renewable energy. Co-hosted by UN-DESA and Greening the Islands Foundation, “Small Islands leading the way toward 100% renewables” discussed key challenges and lessons learned, including the importance of political will, access to finance, aligning incentives between key stakeholders and strong and durable partnerships to support the transition in SIDS. Greening the Islands Foundation announced pilot studies in frontrunner islands: Tonga, Rodriguez (Mauritius) and Curacao to be presented at the upcoming Fourth International Conference on SIDS.

### The Importance of the Private Sector and Local Governments in the Fight against Climate Change and their Contribution to the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda

Lead Organization: UNALA

Organizing Partners: Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network, UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Center for Latin America, Canal de Isabel II, Government of the State of São Paulo

Watch the event [here](#).



Effective collaboration between local governments and the private sector is pivotal for goals within global sustainability agendas. This involves continuous dialogue, fostering active collaboration, and generating tangible actions. Such synergy not only enhances efficiency in implementing sustainable measures but also strengthens the capacity to address emerging challenges. Prioritizing the well-being of people and preservation of the environment is crucial for prosperity. Inclusive collaboration is urgently needed, ensuring active contributions from all parties to shape a transformative future. Accelerating concrete actions is imperative, requiring closer collaboration between local governments and the private sector for a sustainable and equitable future.



TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER



### Towards the Global Stocktaking on SDG 7 in 2024

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

The event discussed global progress on SDG7 and how to accelerate energy transition in support of net zero emissions. The Global Stocktaking on SDG7 under the UN General Assembly in 2024 was highlighted as an opportunity to strengthen commitment and expedite action, bringing together all stakeholders. Speakers included H.E. Dr. Satya Widya Yudha, Member of the National Energy Council of the Republic of Indonesia; H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN; Ms. Monica Gullberg, Senior Policy Specialist Energy, SIDA; Mr. Hongpeng Liu, Director of the Energy Division, UNESCAP, and Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director, Energia

### Global Accountability and Innovations for GHG Measurement, Reporting, and Verification

Lead Organization: United Nations Office for Sustainable Development  
Organizing Partners: UNFCCC Climate Change Global Innovation Hub, UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Watch the event [here](#).



UNOSD organized a side event on “Global Accountability and Innovations for GHG Measurement, Reporting, and Verification”. The side event featured national experiences from South Korea and Ghana, thought leaders and solutions for the application of digital MRV systems, and greater global cooperation for enhanced transparency.

Mr. Massamba Thioye noted that with innovations in data flows and streamlining voluntary carbon markets, a woman operating a cookstove in rural Africa could immediately receive finance from carbon credits in her digital wallet. The Republic of Korea noted their use of satellite data in GHG emissions and Ghana also shared their regional leadership in MRV for transparent carbon finance and reporting. UNFCCC concluded noting that “you can only manage what you can measure”.





TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER



### Tackling Climate and SDG Action Together. Call for Minister-level Working Group on Climate-SDG Synergy

Lead Organization: Government of Denmark, Government of Rwanda

Watch the event [here](#).

Against the backdrop of climate emergency and insufficient progress towards the SDGs, the need to act in a synergistic approach to address both agendas is clearer than ever. This event at the SDG Pavilion, hosted by the governments of Denmark and Rwanda, did a soft launch for a High-Level Working Group with a clear purpose of addressing the topic of climate development synergies at the highest level. The Ministers represented, the Administrator of UNDP and Executive Secretary of UNFCCC called for a stronger political commitment to merge the climate and SDG agenda and maximize the impact. After the introduction to the Minister-level Working Group, a technical panel discussed the findings from first global report from the Independent Expert Group on Climate-SDG Synergies entitled “Synergy Solutions for a World in Crisis - Tackling Climate and SDGs Together”, and mapped the road ahead to maximize co-benefits of increased synergies between the two agendas.

### Pathways to 1.5°C: Accelerating Global Energy Transformation

Lead Organization: UN Office for Partnerships

Watch the event [here](#).



“People are standing up, particularly in the face of government inaction.” The event was convened to highlight how green energy transitions can achieve a climate-safe future in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Many key messages came out from the discussion. More importantly, Governments must come together to pledge in tripling the renewable capacity by 2030 and in doubling the energy efficiency. If we see these two things happening, we will see the significant reduction in fossil fuel demand.



## TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER



### Achieving Universal Access and Net-Zero Emissions by 2050: A Global Roadmap for Just and Inclusive Cooking Transition

Lead Organization: World Health Organization (WHO)

Organizing Partners: World Bank, UN-Energy/UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).

Transitioning the cooking sector to net-zero emissions emerges as a pivotal and economically viable strategy for attaining the global energy sector's 2050 net-zero emission target and for limiting the global temperature rise to within 1.5 degrees Celsius. This event launched the final UN-Energy policy brief "[Achieving universal access and net-zero emissions by 2050 - A global roadmap for just and inclusive clean cooking transition](#)", prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Bank with the support of UN-Energy. This document presents a comprehensive global action plan, pinpointing essential milestones and prioritized measures to ensure a just and inclusive transition towards net-zero emissions in the cooking sector by 2050.

## WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER

### Bridging the Infrastructure Divide: Catalyzing Infrastructure Investment to Meet the SDGs

Lead Organization: Millennium Challenge Corporation

Watch the event [here](#).



The Millennium Challenge Corporation highlighted its impact on partner countries, featuring representatives discussing sustainable infrastructure in their unique contexts. Interagency partners provided insights on leveraging best practices for designing sustainable infrastructure.





WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER



### COP28 SDG Pavilion Sustainable Transport Day Events

Lead Organization:

Organizing Partners: UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Association of Public Transport (UITP), International Union of Railways (UIC), UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Watch the event [here](#).

*“Transportation is a secret weapon when it comes to combating the impacts of climate change.” – Carlos Monje, Under Secretary of Transportation Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation*

A high-level policy dialogue and two panel discussions took stock of regulatory and practical efforts aimed at decarbonizing inland and urban transport and at strengthening climate change preparedness. It discussed technology and best practices for local and national climate action in the transport sector, and what is needed for a paradigm shift that supports SDGs was discussed. The high-level policy dialogue segment offered a unique platform for member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to take stock of ongoing and planned regulatory and practical efforts aimed at decarbonizing the transport sector, in particular inland transport, and at strengthening transport system climate change preparedness through the adoption of appropriate adaptation and resilience measures. Deliberations raised awareness of the importance of the transport sector in combating climate change, building resilience and promoting commitment to effective actions in this sector. In addition, discussions led by non-government stakeholders shared innovative action and solutions and provided a better understanding of the relationship between policy, action and impact to improve urban mobility with more and better public transport, rail and active mobility.





WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER



### Science-based Policies for Climate and SDG Synergies: A UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue

Lead Organization: UN DESA

Organizing Partners: WMO

Watch the event [here](#).

“Evidence-based policies would help both the implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement,” said authors of the Global Sustainable Development Report 2023 (GSDR) at a UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue on “Science-based Policies for Climate and SDG Synergies,” held in the SDG Pavilion on Wednesday. The dialogue highlighted suggestions for improving the science-policy-society interface. Taking ideas from both the GSDR and the recent United in Science 2023, a multi-agency UN report spearheaded by the World Meteorological Organization that highlights the crucial, yet often under-recognized and under-utilized, role weather-, climate- and water-related sciences play in achieving the SDGs. Applying technological advances to solve climate change “is the biggest economic opportunity of the century,” said Bertrand Piccard, the renowned explorer, innovator, head of the Solar Impulse Foundation and UN Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador, in keynote remarks.

### Local Leadership in the Renewable Energy Transition and Green Hydrogen Economy

Lead Organization: United Nations Office for Sustainable Development

Organizing Partners: Green Hydrogen Organisation, UN HABITAT

Watch the event [here](#).



UNOSD organized a side event on “Local Leadership in the Renewable Energy Transition and Green Hydrogen Economy”. The side event consisted of presentations and dialogues among the experts on how local leaders can ensure a just transition to renewables and advance a hydrogen economy to ensure a sustainable and low-carbon urban future for all.





Chun Kyoo Park opened by stating that “it is essential to recognize that cities stand at the forefront of combating climate change and spearheading sustainable energy transitions”. Ines Marques emphasized the importance of value creation to facilitate green hydrogen economy on a local level echoed by Dukwoo Jun who introduced the circular biohydrogen value chain scheme and successful green hydrogen production cases in Korea.

In addition, Rohit Sen elaborated on cities in Kenya, Argentina, and Indonesia implementing 100% renewables initiatives while Vincent Kitio accentuated that green hydrogen can be a “game changer” that can alleviate global energy issues in which more than 660 million people still live without access to energy.

## FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER



### ACE for the Future: Youth Participation in NDC

Lead Organization: YOUNGO ACE Working Group

Organizing Partners: Animal, Climate and Health Save India; Plant Based Treaty; Imperial College London; Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

Watch the event [here](#).

This session raised awareness about Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) which refers to Article 6 of the UNFCCC and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement, highlighting the work of the YOUNGO ACE Working Group and showcasing opportunities for active engagement. Discussions in the event covered various aspects of ACE, its significance for youth activism, and the broader ACE Working Group’s activities. They emphasized the important involvement of youth in ACE initiatives and decision-making to address the climate crisis and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. This event also focused upon the need to recognize ACE in Nationally Determined Contributions to ensure that official commitments are made by the member states to implement ACE at the national level.



FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER



### Climate & Canopy: Amplifying Action for SDG 13 and 15 through Primary Forest Conservation

Lead Organization: UN DESA, UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Global Environment Facility

Watch the event [here](#).

The event unveiled the groundbreaking strategy of the UN Forum on Forest and its partners to champion primary forest conservation, seamlessly intertwining the objectives of SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land). Spotlighting collective endeavours from diverse stakeholders, it emphasized the pivotal role primary forests play in both climate mitigation and preserving terrestrial ecosystems. Through an engaging panel conversation interspersed with audience engagement activities, attendees explored real-world challenges, innovative solutions, and the immense opportunities that lie at the intersection of these two critical SDGs – while also advancing the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF).

### Interview with SOLshare CEO on Article in the Natural Resource Forum Special Edition

Lead Organizer: UN Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network, UN DESA

Watch the event [here](#).



On the occasion of the launch of the Special Issue on “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions” published by the Natural Resources Forum, a UN Sustainable Development Journal, UN DESA conducted an interview with Sebastian Groh, CEO of ME SOLshare, whose scholarly article was selected for publication. Dr. Groh provided details about water-energy nexus issues addressed in the paper. This is the first time this journal has dedicated a Special Issue to this critical subject. ME SOLshare is a member of the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network, and its paper is among only ten selected worldwide for publication.





FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER



**Bridging Science, Policy, and Society: Tackling Climate and SDGs in Synergy**

Lead Organization: UN DESA/ Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergy and other partners

Watch the event [here](#).

This event shed light on how to address the disconnect between the science-policy-society interface towards acceleration of synergic action on climate and the SDGs. Many countries face a number of barriers, including access to sound data, methodologies and tools that can help translate scientific findings into digestible and actionable policies. This was also one of the key findings of the recently published Expert Group Report on Climate and SDG Synergies, an overview of which was presented by the co-chair of the Expert Group at the event. Speakers shared insights and concrete examples at the national, regional, and local levels on challenges and opportunities in enhancing the interconnection between science-policy-society interface. The importance of inclusive processes that take into account participation from a wide range of stakeholders, including youth, civil society and the private sector was highlighted. In closing, the co-convening organizations expressed their commitment to continuing their support towards deepening the evidence base and translating evidence into action leveraging the upcoming milestones in 2024 such as the SDG13 review of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), Summit of the Future, COP29, and the Fifth Global Conference on Climate and SDG Synergy, and COP29.

**ACTnow: Empowering Individuals to Drive Change**

Lead Organization: United Nations Department of Global Communications, AWorld

Watch the event [here](#).



This event highlighted the importance of individual climate education and action for system change. Guest speakers raised awareness for the UN's ActNow campaign and shed light on how it can be an important tool for both individuals and organizations to drive climate action.



FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER



### Religions in Action for Forests, Climate and Indigenous Peoples: Innovations from the Interfaith

Lead Organization: Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, UNEP

Organizing Partners: Rainforest Initiative in Brazil, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Peru

Watch the event [here](#).

The world's religions are making forest protection and restoration a priority strategy in addressing climate change. Through the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative (IRI), senior religious leaders are rallying their communities to act, educating their communities to become advocates for forest protection and restoration, and calling on governments and the private sector to adopt policies that protect forests and the rights of indigenous peoples. This event featured innovations from IRI country programs in Brazil, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Peru on their work in five countries that contain 70% of the world's remaining rainforests. Each country representative brought forward concrete policy proposals for their respective governments to put the protection, restoration and sustainable management of the world's forests at the center of the climate agenda and included a global call to action to end tropical deforestation.

### Investing in Local Solutions: How Inclusive Community-centered Approach can Strengthen Climate and SDG Synergies

Lead Organization: GEF Small Grant Program (SGP), UNDP

Organizing Partners: Government of Germany, Global Environmental Facility

Watch the event [here](#).



In this joint event, grant-makers, civil society partners, and donors reflected on the significance of a community-focused approach and the impacts of their supported local initiatives in tackling intertwined challenges of climate change and sustainable development. The discussions centered on highlighting the role of local communities and civil society as pivotal agents of change in advancing climate and sustainable development goals collectively. The crucial role of partnerships and financing in addressing climate challenges and promoting SDGs was also emphasized, underscoring the pivotal role of local communities and civil society in effecting global change.





**FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER**



### **Circular Economy: How SMEs can Transform the Economy for People, Planet and Prosperity**

Lead Organization: ILO, UNEP, SEED, The Coalition for Innovation, Circularity, and Entrepreneurship

Watch the event [here](#).

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), the backbone of global economies, employ over two-thirds of the workforce, fostering job creation and GDP growth. Yet, they face challenges like low productivity, subpar working conditions, and susceptibility to economic, political, and environmental shocks. As SMEs are vital to employment in most countries, they must receive support to partake in the transition to climate neutrality and circular economies. This event, organized by the ILO, UNEP, and SEED, introduced the audience to the global efforts on promoting circularity in smaller businesses that create more, better, and greener jobs for people around the world.

**SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER**

### **Integrating Actions for Climate and Biodiversity: Opportunities and Potential**

Lead Organization: UNRCO-UAE  
Organizing Partners: University of Durham;  
University of Oxford; Anwar Gargash  
Diplomatic Academy

Watch the event [here](#).



On Nature, Land Use and Oceans Day at COP28, the UN Resident Coordinator Office and partners launched a Primer on Integrating Actions for Climate Change and Biodiversity. The primer discusses the interlinks between the UNFCCC and UNCBD processes, and how COP28 can build on the outcomes of CBD COP15 in advancing the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity framework. Beyond the launch of the Primer, the event included a panel discussion on the science argument for moving forward on both agendas in tandem, including nature-based solutions for mitigation and the benefits of ecosystem-based adaptation for climate action and beyond. The event concluded with the centrality of the Global Stocktake to advancing both agendas.



SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER



**Life in Harmony with Nature: Biodiversity, Climate and the Sustainable Development Goals**

Lead Organization: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Organizing Partners: Project Everyone

Watch the event [here](#).

The world needs accelerated action to achieve the Paris Agreement on Climate and the Sustainable Development Goals agreed in 2015. The Global Biodiversity Framework, agreed in Montreal in 2022, represents an opportunity for the world to reach these climate and sustainable development aspirations, while ensuring a focus on people and human rights. In this event, speakers from the climate and biodiversity processes, women, youth and indigenous peoples and local communities, explained how action for nature under the Global Biodiversity Framework is also action for climate, for justice and for a sustainable future for all, and mapped out the major actions to take place in the years to come.

**Strengthening the Role of Youth in decisions and NDCs Implementation to achieving the SDG**

Lead Organization: Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice  
Organizing Partners: PACJA, Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network

Watch the event [here](#).



With COP 28 underway, this side event aimed to create a space for intergenerational dialogue, showcasing and promoting youth innovation in achieving SDGs. The Paris Agreement, signed by over 193 countries, including 54 from Africa, emphasizes Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). However, with less than 50 countries revising their NDCs in over 10 years, this event explores insights from alumni of the Nairobi Summer School on Climate Justice (NSSCJ) and youth, focusing on innovative contributions to NDCs, sharing country-specific challenges, and identifying policy bottlenecks hindering youth engagement. The event's objectives included amplifying the role of youth in NDC implementation, promoting knowledge sharing among young climate justice experts, and sustaining momentum for Climate Justice from an African perspective.





SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER



### Tackling Climate Change for Sustainable Livelihood in Island and Coastal Communities

Lead Organization: Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation  
Organizing Partners: Palau Conservation Society, National Institute of Oceanography and Marine Sciences of Sri Lanka, University of Namibia, Maldives National University, University of West Indies, Colombian Institute for Marine and Coastal Research, Inter Press Service

Watch the event [here](#).

Climate change, along with other factors, has severely impacted island and coastal communities, manifesting in intensified wind, rainstorms, seawater warming, coastal erosion, and increased sedimentation and acidification. These changes, compounded by rising fuel and material prices due to warfare, maritime transport disruptions, and economic downturns from the pandemic, pose significant challenges. Island and coastal communities, particularly artisanal fishermen, experience growing difficulties in income, food, and livelihood. Recognizing the widening economic disparity, the event emphasized the importance of social collaboration and partnerships to facilitate sustainable use of marine and coastal resources. By addressing challenges, showcasing good practices, and exploring future partnerships, the event aimed to pave the way for achieving sustainable livelihoods in island and coastal communities.

### Energizing the Tracks: Exploring the Future of Hydrogen in UAE's Transportation, with a Focus on Railways

Lead Organization: Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, Etihad Railway

Watch the event [here](#).





SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER



### A Regenerative Blue Economy as Means to Harmonizing Climate Action: A post-2030 Framework beyond Sustainability

Lead Organization: Water Revolution Foundation

Organizing Partners: University of Genoa; Italy Ministry of Environment; UNDP; Saudi Red Sea Authority

Watch the event [here](#).

The event addressed the urgent ecological crisis in coastal and marine environments, where a call for a transition from the conventional Blue Economy to a “regenerative blue economy” was emphasized. This innovative approach seeks active restoration of biodiversity, ecosystem services, and economic prosperity, going beyond traditional sustainability. The event highlighted the proposal of a life cycle-based framework, introducing Regenerative Climate Contribution Units (RCCUs) to contribute to global net-zero emissions. The collaborative effort involves governments, industries, communities, NGOs, and tourists, collectively reshaping marine conservation and socioeconomic growth. The event not only facilitated discussions led by influential advocates on the vision beyond 2030 but also showcased groundbreaking projects.

### Improving Access to Energy for the Urban and Peri-urban Poor through Multi-functional Clean Energy Centres (MCECs)

Lead Organization: UN-HABITAT  
Organizing Partners: UN-HABITAT, NORCAP, Shelter Afrique, SEforALL

Watch the event [here](#).



In response to the escalating energy crisis in informal urban settlements of the Global South, UN-Habitat introduces Multifunctional Clean Energy Centres (MCECs). These Energy Hubs integrate essential services, such as energy, sanitation, and water, with solar energy systems, creating a sustainable model for impoverished communities. The event, organized by UN-Habitat and NORCAP, aimed to share best practices and lessons learned, emphasizing the need for innovative, replicable, and community-friendly energy technologies. By presenting the MCEC model, the session sought to facilitate its replication, addressing the energy needs of urban and peri-urban poor populations and promoting economic development and social cohesion.





**SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER**



### **Water-Climate-Biodiversity Nexus: Integrated Solutions to Tackle the Triple Planetary Crisis**

Lead Organization: German Federal  
Ministry for the Environment, Nature  
Conservation, Nuclear Safety and  
Consumer Protection

Organizing Partners: UN-Water, UNEP

Watch the event [here](#).

This joint high-level event showcased how water-related challenges can be addressed by strengthening the Water-Climate-Biodiversity Nexus. After an impulse presentation on the link between climate change and biodiversity loss with global water resources, ministerial country representatives from Senegal and Singapore presented their experiences on integrated solutions along the Water-Climate-Biodiversity Nexus. Panelists then turned towards the implementation at global policy level and discussed how a better political integration and usage of synergies along the Water-Climate-Biodiversity Nexus can lead to accelerated and more efficient implementation of the related global agendas.

### **United In Science 2023 – Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Sciences for Sustainable Development**

Lead Organization: World Meteorological  
Organization

Organizing Partners: UN Environment  
Programme, Global Carbon Project, UN  
Women, Sustainable Energy for All, UN Institute  
for Training and Research

Watch the event [here](#).



This side event brought together diverse stakeholders across the science-policy-society interface to highlight the recent United in Science 2023 report on weather-, climate- and water-related science for sustainable development. This side event highlighted the state of science and how extreme weather events and climate change are setting back progress towards the SDGs as well as examples of how weather-, climate- and water-related sciences and services are supporting achievement of SDG 2 – Zero Hunger, SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 7 – Clean and Affordable Energy and SDG 13 – Climate Action. The event concluded by emphasizing synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of uniting diverse stakeholders to boost the impact of science to achieve these global frameworks.



SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER



### SIDS' Integrated Nature-Climate Action Roadmap in Coastal Areas: Ministerial-Level Roundtable Discussion Between Friends and Members of the SIDS Coalition for Nature

Lead Organization: The Secretariat of the SIDS Coalition for Nature

Organizing Partners: SIDS Coalition for Nature Secretariat, CBD Secretariat, UNDESA SIDS Unit

Watch the event [here](#).

The SIDS Coalition for Nature was pleased to host a 'closed-door' Ministerial-level Roundtable Discussion between its SIDS Members and Friends on December 10th at the SDG Pavilion at COP28. The main objective of the Roundtable event was to catalyze support for the implementation of the Coalition's recently released "SIDS' Integrated Nature-Climate Action Roadmap in Coastal Areas: Strengthening Marine Protected Areas as Nature-based Solutions to Climate Action."

The Roundtable event was co-chaired by the Ministers of Belize and Samoa. The Coalition was honored by the distinguished participation of the Environment Ministers of France, Luxembourg, Monaco, Assistant Deputy Minister of Canada, Director-General of the Environment Ministry of Germany, High-level Representative from the Italian Government, Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the UN, Delegation member of Dominican Republic, the CBD National Focal Points from Cabo Verde and Seychelles, as well as the COP28 Presidency and the CBD Secretariat.

After the official SIDS Roadmap announcements at COP28 and the co-signing of the "COP28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People" by the Coalition on December 9th, the Coalition wanted to organize this 'privileged follow-up moment' with its Friends to further detail the Roadmap's scope and discuss strategic synergies moving forward. The Friends of the Coalition unanimously praised the "proactive", "integrated" and "focused" nature of the SIDS Roadmap. They highlighted a set of promising entry points for synergies and collaboration, particularly ahead of SIDS4 and UNOC. The Roundtable discussion was organized with the support of UNDESA SIDS Unit who also supported the Coalition members in the technical joint formulation of the SIDS Roadmap.







SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER



### Multilevel Governance For Climate, Food, and Biodiversity Action

Lead Organization: Local2030 Coalition  
Organizing Partners: FAO, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UCLG, Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments

Watch the event [here](#).

The Local2030 Coalition side event at the SDG Pavillion at COP28, “Multilevel Governance for Climate, Food, and Biodiversity Action,” underscored the pressing need for collaborative strategies to address climate change, food security, and biodiversity loss at the local level. Key messages highlighted the importance of collaboration across sectors, the role of local and regional governments and local communities as climate leaders, and the imperative need to localize Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Noteworthy insights included the EU mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities; academia’s power in knowledge dissemination, informing public policies and functioning as action labs for scalable solutions; the crucial role of local procurement and alliances in decarbonization efforts, aiming to build capacity and double the return on investments for local communities; the pivotal role of empowering civil society leadership, co-building narratives, and fostering local innovation. The session concluded by stressing that multilevel governance is not a given, requiring active coordination among all actors. In this context, Coalitions such as the Local2030 are vital to bringing everyone together by promoting the need for empowerment, capacity building, access to alternative sources of financing, sharing of experiences and innovation for effective climate action at the local level.

### Sustainable Futures: Exploring the Benefit of Multi-Stakeholder Engagement for Integrity in Climate Action

Lead Organization: GCF Independent Integrity Unit

Watch the event [here](#).



Panelists discussed the different ways that they can engage and promote integrity best practices, from the perspective of a fund, a GCF Accredited Entity, a development organization, a civil society organization, and more. The session focused on sharing of best practices – specific tools and programs that the organizations have implemented, and which have strengthened the integrity policies within the organization, as well as provided greater capacity to community members on these topics.



SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER



### Improving Climate Resilience through Transboundary Water Cooperation

Lead Organization: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Organizing Partners: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), German Development Cooperation (BMZ/ GIZ) and the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

Watch the event [here](#).

Today's event highlighted the vital role of transboundary water cooperation in addressing climate change. With 60% of the world's freshwater in shared basins and 153 countries sharing water resources, the session emphasized the global impact of climate change. Challenges in institutionalizing cooperation and securing funding for climate interventions in transboundary basins were discussed. The event showcased best practices and lessons learned, including African case studies funded by the Adaptation Fund and the Team Europe Initiative. It underscored the potential of transboundary cooperation to achieve Sustainable Development Goals by enhancing climate action through data exchange and collaborative planning at the basin scale. The discussions aimed to provide insights applicable to National Adaptation Plans and global climate processes.

### ClimateScanner: Audit Institutions as Pivotal Players to Leverage Climate Financing and Policies

Lead Organization: International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)  
Organizing Partners: INTOSAI, UNDESA, TCU-Brazil

Watch the event [here](#).



This event highlighted Climate Financing's dual role as both a crucial lever and a gap in addressing the climate crisis. While it plays a vital role in upscaling public policies to align with international agreements, challenges such as a lack of common understanding and transparency issues hinder its full potential. The session showcased examples of institutional responses and long-term financing strategies, discussing how mobilizing climate financing can drive the implementation of climate policies. The event emphasized the importance of the Global Initiative, ClimateScanner, which is set to assess national governments' actions in climate financing, governance, and public policies. In 2024, over 100 countries will apply the ClimateScanner framework simultaneously, catalyzing a global movement to demand effective actions from national governments to combat climate change.





MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER



### The SDGs and the Global Stocktake: A Vision for Our Future

Lead Organization: Center for Climate and Energy Solutions

Organizing Partners: Environmental Defense Fund, IDDRI, UN Foundation

[Watch the event here.](#)

This event featured an introduction to the recent UNFCCC & UNDESA report, “Synergy Solutions for a World in Crisis: Tackling Climate and SDG Action Together” by Co-Lead Luis Gomez Echeverri. The expert panel (UN Foundation, IDDRI, Environmental Defense Fund, and Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection), moderated by C2ES, outlined key climate and SDG synergies across food and agriculture, biodiversity, climate and development finance, as well as Global South cooperation efforts in the renewable energy sector. They examined how key signals from the global stocktake can amplify those synergies and set out their hopes for a robust outcome from COP28.

### Mythbusting with CEET Engineers: Alignment and Misalignment of Clean Hydrogen, Clean Cooking, and Aviation with the SDGs

Lead Organization: Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition

Organizing Partners: UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network; UNIDO

[Watch the event here.](#)



In an interactive debate-style event, CEET Engineers took on misconceptions about some of the most pressing and cross-cutting issues that stand in the way of the clean energy transition. Four experts on clean hydrogen, clean cooking, and aviation highlighted key roadblocks and progressions along the pathway to clean energy development, and discussed ways in which our policies do — or don’t — support the SDGs. Busting myths about the energy transition opens up the opportunity to find the right steps towards progress. The debate among CEET Engineers aimed at pushing viewers to question their assumptions and lead us down the path of solutions for the SDGs.



MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER



### Ask Me Anything: Nuclear Energy

Lead Organization: YOUNGO  
Organizing Partners: IYNC, ENS, Nuclear 4 Climate, WNA

Watch the event [here](#).

The event explored the complexities, benefits, and concerns surrounding nuclear energy as the experts field the questions from general audience. The answers addressed safety measures, environmental impact, and the future of nuclear technology. This session provided a unique opportunity to gain insights and clarity directly from knowledgeable professionals.

### Integrating the Energy, Land and Water Nexus in Climate Action through Synergistic Partnerships and Innovations

Lead Organization: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), UN DESA, FAO, CCG, UNECA, OLADE, SWESN

Watch the event [here](#).



This dynamic roundtable engaged the experts in sharing their perspectives and exchange experience on integrated approaches to sustainable climate-resilient development. Throughout the conversation they discussed success stories, challenges and opportunities for addressing interlinkages between energy, water, agriculture, and climate change, to support the SDGs and Paris Agreement.





MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER



### Sailing for the SDGs: Innovation for the Decarbonization of the Maritime Sector with Ecoship

Lead Organization: Peace Boat

Watch the event [here](#).

The international NGO Peace Boat, which organizes global educational voyages onboard a passenger ship sailing with the SDGs logo on the hull, held an event at the SDG Pavilion to spotlight SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 9 (Innovation, Industry, and Infrastructure), 14 (Life Below Water), as well as SDG13 (Climate Action), emphasizing wind power's potential in maritime decarbonization through the example of Ecoship, a flagship for the UN SDGs, with a diverse panel of speakers including experts in the field of renewable energy, government representatives and youth from Large Ocean States or Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

### Bridging The Gap: SRHR, Youth Engagement and NDCs In Climate Action

Lead Organization: YOUNGO Health  
Organizing Partners: 1-ArabYouth4COP 2-Major Group Children and Youth 3-Juventud Unida En Accion 4- Women and Gender Constituency 5-YOUNGO Gender

Watch the event [here](#).



In this occasion, six young experts and activists discovered the critical intersection of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), youth engagement, and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the context of climate action. The event sought to facilitate an in-intensity dialogue on how younger humans can be pivotal in shaping extra inclusive, equitable, and ambitious NDCs that combine SRHR issues. The occasion featured insights, experiences, and solutions from experts, young leaders, and advocates, demonstrating the ability of this triad to drive significant climate action.



TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER



### Towards Sustainable Peace and Development: Demilitarization for Climate and Gender Justice

Lead Organization: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)  
Organizing Partners: Peace Boat, Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), Peace Track Initiative, WILPF Yemen, Syrian Journalist Network, Drexel University, Tipping Point North South

Watch the event [here](#).

The event aimed to spotlight the significance of demilitarization as an essential part of advancing SDG5, SDG12, and SDG 16. Panelists addressed the root causes of climate-related conflicts and explored practical ways in which demilitarization and peace-building efforts can accelerate gender equality and climate action. Recent assessments indicate that global military activities contribute to approximately 5.5% of total worldwide emissions, surpassing the civilian aviation industry, which accounts for roughly 2.5%. At the same time there exists a connection between increased military spending and heightened emissions. From 2013 to 2021, the world's wealthiest nations allocated 30 times more funds to military power than to combatting the climate crisis. Drawing on feminist and intersectional analysis, the speakers provided concrete proposals that advance the implementation of the SDGs, such as re-allocating military spending for gender-transformative and conflict-sensitive climate finance and the need for the transparency, accountability, and reduction of emissions arising from military activity and conflict.







# ANNEX 2

# MAIN PARTNERS\*

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We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed partners, whose names will be listed in the subsequent pages. Special appreciation is reserved for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for their enduring collaboration, the Department for Global Communications (DGC) for their invaluable partnership in professional audio-visual work, and the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) for their generous contributions that have played a pivotal role in enabling the success of the SDG Pavilion.



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change



**United  
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\*The entities listed are the lead and organizing partners for events held at the SDG Pavilion.



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Transforming Energy Access



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Local Governments for Sustainability



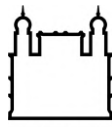
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Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action

Federal Foreign Office



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE



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Convention on Biological Diversity



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DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY



Durham University



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INTOSAI



GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Independent Integrity Unit

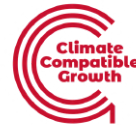


WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

LOCAL 2030  
LOCALIZING THE SDGS







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*We are thankful to all our partners and guests for their continued support in our efforts to contribute to the climate action and SDGs in synergy.*

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## CONTACT

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[www.un.org/en/desa](http://www.un.org/en/desa)  
[sdgs.un.org/](http://sdgs.un.org/)

[www.un.org/en/COP28/SDGPavilion](http://www.un.org/en/COP28/SDGPavilion)  
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