

This year—five years after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the start of the Decade of Action and Delivery of the SDGs—has presented a new set of unforeseen challenges. The social and economic costs of the COVID-19 pandemic have been exacerbated in many countries by environmental stressors and social unrest.

As companies struggle to maintain their footing in a COVID-19 world, some commentators have suggested the outlook for the global economy may have a chilling effecting on the adoption of sustainable business practices. But, to the contrary, a new form of leader has emerged in this crisis—a generation of executives and rising professionals who understand that there are no successful businesses in a failed world. In this context, the private sector—in partnership with governments and civil society leaders—is leveraging the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals to respond to immediate threats in their communities, prepare for long term sustainability, and remedy the three critical fragilities which have been exposed by events of 2020: climate change and biodiversity loss; social inequality; and economic exclusion.

As the largest and most globally representative UN convening of business leaders, the SDG Business Forum—co-hosted by UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), UN Global Compact and International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)—highlights companies that are using their influence as a positive agent of change in their local communities and across the world. The 2020 SDG Business Forum, held virtually on the margins of the 75th UN General Assembly, is a platform for all stakeholders to come together for meaningful dialogue on the role of the private sector in addressing the current economic landscape and to co-create lasting solutions for a more sustainable future. To stay updated on the [SDG Business Forum](https://sdgbusinessforum.org), visit sdgbusinessforum.org. Interested participants can register [here](#).

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

Ms. Maggie Lake, Business Journalist and Correspondent

7:00-7:30 | Opening Plenary

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations

Rt. Hon. Mr. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda

Ms. Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation

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7:30-8:20 | Partnerships to achieve the SDGs in the COVID-19 Era

Leaders from the private sector have undertaken unprecedented levels of cooperation with governments, UN agencies, their supply chains—and even their competitors—to save lives and livelihoods in the midst of global crisis, but these actions aren't limited to immediate threats. Corporate action to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals is underpinned by a similar effort to develop comprehensive ecosystems and partnerships where businesses of all sizes—and society at large—can thrive sustainably. This is particularly needed to ensure that the world remains on target to meet the Paris Climate Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals as we begin a decade of action and delivery.

This session will explore a variety of initiatives which leading institutions and businesses have developed to support climate resilience and sustainable business innovation for their businesses, communities and global supply chains.

OPENING ADDRESS:

Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, Executive Director, UN Global Compact

PANEL DISCUSSION (50 minutes):

MODERATOR: **Ms. Jessica Cheam**, Managing Editor, Eco-Business

Ms. Ester Baiget, Chief Executive Officer, Novozymes

Mr. Jesper Brodin, Chief Executive Officer, IKEA

Mr. Kerry Adler, President, SkyPower

Mr. Italo Freitas, Chief Executive Officer, AES Tiete

Mr. Takeshi Niinami, President and Chief Executive Officer, Suntory Holdings

8:20-8:30 | High-level Remarks

H.E. Dr. Thani Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, United Arab Emirates

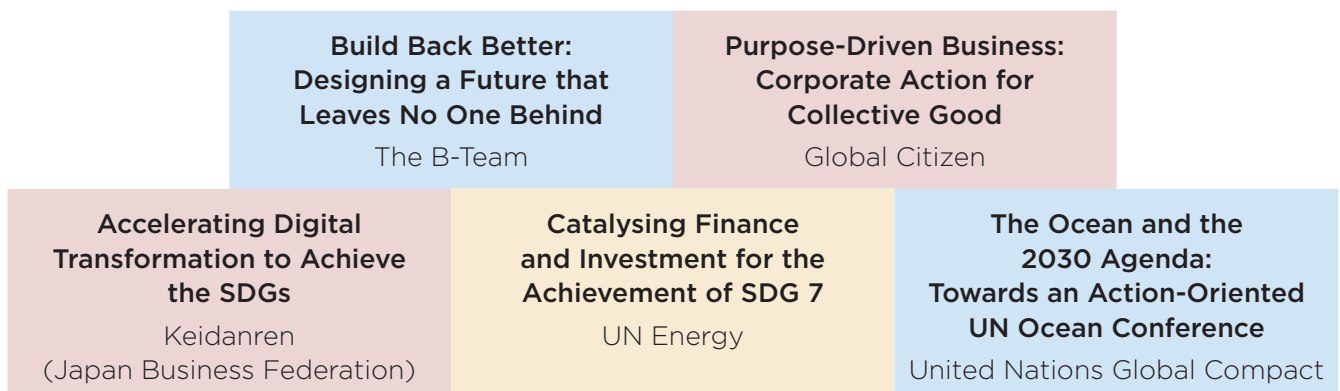
H.E. Ms. Rania Al-Mashat, Minister of International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt

8:30-8:40 | Special Global Announcement and Video Presentation

Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP

9:00-10:00 | Breakout Sessions & Networking

In-depth breakout sessions on corporate efforts leveraging the frameworks of the SDGs to address the three fragilities: climate change and biodiversity loss; social inequality; and economic exclusion.



10:00-11:50 | Reducing Inequalities through Principled Leadership

In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, private sector leaders with clear visions are needed to develop actionable strategies that enable opportunity for all without sacrificing corporate solvency. This session will draw upon insights from the UN Global Compact's Leadership for the Decade of Action Survey to explore common social values and attributes which have propelled commitments from visionary sustainability leaders and the new or emerging initiatives they are supporting to reimagine capitalism for transformational and lasting change.

OPENING ADDRESS:

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

PANEL DISCUSSION (45 mins):

MODERATOR: **Ms. Christa Gyori**, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Leaders on Purpose

Ms. Bola Adesola, Vice-Chair, UN Global Compact, Senior Vice-Chairman at Standard Chartered Bank Group Nigeria

Ms. Maria Fernanda Garza, First Vice Chair, International Chamber of Commerce, Chief Executive Officer, Orestia S.A de C.V

Mr. James Mwangi, Chief Executive Officer, Equity Group Holdings; 2020 Oslo Business for Peace Award Recipient

Mr. Jean-Pascal Tricoire, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Schneider Electric

10:50-11:00 | High-level Remarks

Ms. Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF

H.E. Mr. Urmas Reinsalu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Estonia

11:00-12:00 | Breakout Sessions & Networking

In-depth breakout sessions on corporate efforts leveraging the frameworks of the SDGs to address the three fragilities: climate change and biodiversity loss; social inequality; and economic exclusion.

Nature is Everyone's Business: A Business and Policy Dialogue Business for Nature		Business Leadership toward Food Systems Transformation International Fund for Agricultural Development
Untapping SME Potential to Achieve Agenda 2030 International Organization of Employers	JCI RISE: Rebuilding the World after COVID-19 Junior Chamber International	Business Driving Zero-emission Freight Transport SLOCAT, Transport Decarbonisation Alliance and WBCSD
Untapped Potential: Water Innovation to Advance the SDGs UN Water		Achieving the SDGs through Corporate Transparency & Social Change: A Roadmap for the Decade of Action World Benchmarking Alliance

12:30-13:20 | The Business Case for a Resilient Rebuild

Business leaders—working in partnerships with governments and civil society groups—have played an outsized role in shaping the COVID-19 response. As we look to the recovery and rebuild, there is a clear economic imperative for leaders in the private sector to advocate and act on behalf of a resilient and sustainable future. With this insight, corporations are driving investment towards projects that align with the Sustainable Development Goals and are engineered to be fit for purpose in the long term. This session will explore new and existing initiatives to stabilize and reboot the economy and what actions are needed from all stakeholders to accelerate progress on this critical agenda.

OPENING ADDRESS:

Mr. John W.H. Denton AO, Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce

PANEL DISCUSSION (45 mins):

MODERATOR: **Paul Polman**, Vice Chair, UN Global Compact; Founder, Imagine

Ms. Veronica de la Cerda, Chief Executive Officer, Triciclos

Mr. Emmanuel Faber, Chief Executive Officer, Danone

Mr. Oscar N. Oyema, Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Stock Exchange

13:20-13:30 | High-level Remarks

Ms. Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner of International Partnerships, European Union

Ms. Pamela Coke Hamilton, Executive Director, International Trade Centre

Ms. Stephanie von Friedeburg, Chief Operating Officer, International Finance Corporation

13:30-14:00 | Closing Plenary

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

H.E. Ms. Evelyn Wever-Croes, Prime Minister of Aruba

H.E. Mr. Frank Reister, Minister Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness of France

Mr. Ajay Banga, Chair, International Chamber of Commerce and Chief Executive Officer, Mastercard

H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

9:00-10:00

► **Build Back Better:
Designing a Future that Leaves No One Behind**

THE B TEAM ►

MODERATOR: **Ms. Halla Tómasdóttir**, Chief Executive Officer, The B Team

Ms. Silvia Dias Lagnado, Sustainable Growth Officer, Natura & Co.

Mr. Hiro Mizuno, Independent Director, Board of Directors and Audit Committee, Tesla

Ms. Leena Nair, Chief Human Resources Officer, Unilever

Mr. Peter Ndegwa, Chief Executive Officer, Safaricom

Mr. Danny Sriskandarajah, CEO, Oxfam GB

► **Purpose-Driven Business:
Corporate Action for Collective Good**

**GLOBAL
CITIZEN**

Ms. Fran Katsoudas, Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer of Cisco

Mr. Tim Mapes, Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, Delta

Ms. Nomzamo Mbatha, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador; Actress; and Businesswoman

Ms. Stephanie McMahon, Chief Brand Officer, WWE

Ms. Chloe Targett-Adams, Global Director of Promoters and Business Relations, Formula 1

Ms. Gail Tifford, Chief Brand Officer, Weight Watchers

► **Accelerating Digital Transformation
to Achieve the SDGs**

Keidanren
Japan Business Federation

MODERATOR: **Dr. Jane Nelson**, Founding Director of the Corporate Responsibility Initiative at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

Mr. Takashi Hibino, Chairman of the Board, Daiwa Securities Group Inc.

Mr. George Nakayama, Senior Adviser (Former CEO), Daiichi Sankyo Co., Ltd. Chair of the Committee on Responsible Business Conduct & SDGs Promotion. Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)

Ms. Sunita Grote, Co-lead UNICEF Ventures, UNICEF Office of Innovation

Ms. Michelle Edkins, Global Managing Director, BlackRock Investment Stewardship

► **Catalysing Finance and Investment
for the Achievement of SDG 7**



H.E. Ms. Lois Young, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations; Chair, AOSIS

Ms. Damilola Ogunbiyi, Chief Executive Officer and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All; Co-Chair of UN Energy

Ms. Dewi Dylander, Deputy Executive Director and Head of Sustainable Investments, PKA

Ms. Chebet Lesan, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of BrightGreen Renewable Energy

► **The Ocean and the 2030 Agenda:
Towards an Action-Oriented UN Ocean Conference**



United Nations
Global Compact



H.E. Mr. Francisco Duarte Lopes, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

Mr. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on the Oceans

Ms. Maria Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy, Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA

Ms. Dona Bertarelli, Special Advisor for the Blue Economy, UNCTAD

Ms. Marisa Drew, Chief Executive Officer, Impact Advisory and Finance, Credit Suisse

Ms. Gloria Fluxa, Vice-Chair and Chief Sustainability Officer of Iberostar Hotels and Resorts

Mr. Erik Giercksky, Head of Sustainable Ocean Business, UN Global Compact

Mr. Sturla Henriksen, Special Advisor on Oceans, UN Global Compact

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

11:00-12:00

► Nature is Everyone's Business: A Business and Policy Dialogue



Mr. Michael Koach

Mr. Kiruben Naicker, Head of Science Policy, Sustainability, Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services; Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment; South Africa

Mr. Mathias Vicherat, General Secretary, Danone

Ms. Eva Zabey, Executive Director, Business for Nature

► Business Leadership toward Food Systems Transformation



Dr. Agnes Kalibata, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for UN Food Systems Summit 2021

Mr. Martin Frick, Deputy to the Special Envoy for the UN Food Systems Summit 2021

Ms. Alison Cairns, Private Sector Partnerships Lead, UN Food Systems Summit 2021

Mr Gene Moses, Senior Partnership Officer, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

► Untapping SME Potential to Achieve Agenda 2030



Mr. Louis Camara

Ms. Chantal Line Carpentier, Chief, New York Office, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Mr. Henrik Munthe, Attorney-at-Law, Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise

Mr. Douglas Opio, Executive Director, Federation of Uganda Employers

Mr. Alvaro Ramirez

Mr. Roberto Suarez Santos, Secretary-General, International Organization of Employers

► JCI RISE: Rebuilding the World after COVID-19



MODERATOR: **Mr. Kevin Hin**, Secretary-General, JCI

Mr. Francisco Abad Guerra, Executive Director, CODEIS

Ms. Malak Al Akiely, Founder and Managing Director of Golden Wheat for Grain Trading, Ltd.

Mr. Itai Manyere, World President, JCI

► Business Driving Zero-emission Freight Transport



Ms. Andrea Meza Murillo, Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica

Ms. Sita Holtslag, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Mobility, Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Transport Decarbonisation Alliance (TDA)

Mark Major, Senior Advisor, SLOCAT Partnership

Ms. Sophie Punte, Executive Director, Smart Freight Centre

Mr. Rodrigo Rodriguez Tornquist, Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment, Argentina

Mr. David Thackray, Sales & Marketing Director, Tevva

► Untapped Potential: Water Innovation to Advance the SDGs



Ms. Maria Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA

Mr. Olcay Unver, Senior Water Advisor at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); Vice Chair, UN Water

Ms. Faduma Ali, Junior Professional Officer, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); Member, Water Youth Network

Ms. Kate Gibson, Global Director, Diageo in Society, Diageo

Ms. Aina Grobicki, Deputy Director for Adaptation, Green Climate Fund

Mr. Jason Morrison, President, Pacific Institute

Ms. Samantha Sims, Vice President for Environmental Sustainability and Product Stewardship, PVH Corp

Mr. Eric Souberain, Vice President, One Planet and Water Cycle, Danone

► Achieving the SDGs through Corporate Transparency & Social Change: A Roadmap for the Decade of Action



MODERATOR: **Ms. Pauliina Murphy**, Engagement Director, World Benchmarking Alliance

Ms. Leila Fourie, Group Chief Executive Officer, JSE

Mr. Gerbrand Haverkamp, Executive Director, World Benchmarking Alliance

Ms. Taki Netshitenze, Chief Officer and Executive Director of External Affairs, Vodacom South Africa; Chair, Vodacom Foundation

Mr. Andrés Penate, Vice President of Regulatory and Public Policy, AB InBev