



Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event

The Road through the Summit of the Future: Generating ImPact from the Pact for the Future

September 21st, 2024 | 11:15-12:30 EDT CR1, UN HQ NY

Organized by: Coalition for the UN We Need (C4UN) & Global Governance Innovation Network (GGIN) **Member States:** Portugal Government, Kenyan Government. **UN System:** UN Department of Global Communications. **Academia:** Academic Council on the UN System (ACUNS), Leiden University, Oxford University. **Civil Society:** Baha'i International Community, Basel Peace Office, Citizens for Global Solutions (CGS), Club de Madrid, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, Council for Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), Global Institute for Strategic Research (GISR), GWL Voices, International Alliance of Women, Iswe, Millennials Movement, Oxfam International, Plataforma CIPÓ, Savannah Center for Diplomacy Democracy and Development, SDGs Kenya Forum, Stimson Center, SWP (German Institute for International and Security Affairs), United Nations Association - UK (UNA-UK), Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy, World Future Council.

Background on the event

Drawing on five years of experience and lessons learned from the UN2020 campaign, the 2023 Global Futures Forum, regional thematic dialogues, the 2024 UN Civil Society Conference (UNCSC) and the drafting of the People's Pact for the Future, this event highlighted major new initiatives in the "Pact for the Future," the "Global Digital Compact," and the "Declaration on Future Generations," and their potential areas for impact, implementation and follow up. This side event aimed to promote networked and inclusive multistakeholder action toward the follow up from the Summit of the Future, including exploring Pact for the Future commitments, new global agreements, future investment and action, opportunities for collaboration, and advancing the global agenda for a sustainable future. The event focused on a 12 month timeline of what key moments and action will, and should, take place from now until the next UNGA High-Level week in 2025, with an eye toward the review of the *Pact for the Future* at the 83rd session in 2028.

Key Issues discussed

- **Strengthening the UN System:** Participants discussed the need for UN reform and strengthening to correspond to the needs of the 21st century. This includes improving the UN's responsiveness to global shocks, enhancing transparency and accountability in senior appointments, addressing the lack of a female Secretary-General, and advancing UN reforms of the Security Council, the Peacebuilding Commission and the International Financial Architecture.
- **Addressing Global Challenges:** The discussions highlighted the urgency of addressing pressing global challenges, including climate change, armed conflict, poverty, inequality, and the need for a more just and sustainable world. The Pact was interrogated as a roadmap for collective action to address these issues.
- **Implementation of the Pact for the Future:** Participants highlighted the need to translate the Pact's ambitious actions into concrete policies and commitments with clear benchmarks. This involved unpacking its elements, developing clear implementation plans, and identifying key actors and timelines. The Pact is not an endpoint but a stepping stone toward greater ambition and action.

- **Accountability and Review Mechanisms:** The lack of clear monitoring and review mechanisms to ensure accountability within the Pact was a repeated concern. Participants discussed the need for robust mechanisms to track progress, measure impact, and ensure that Member States are held responsible for their commitments.
- **Meaningful Participation and Inclusive Partnerships:** Speakers emphasized the importance of diverse voices and perspectives in shaping the implementation process by developing partnerships between governments, civil society, the UN system, academia and other stakeholders to promote a more inclusive and networked multilateral system.
- **Intergenerational Equity and Future Generations:** Ensuring the meaningful participation of all stakeholders, particularly youth, as well as those from marginalized communities, emerged as a crucial theme. The Pact's commitment to future generations was a key focus, emphasizing intergenerational equity and the need to consider the long-term impact of decisions made today.
- **Communicating the Pact's Significance:** Participants stressed the importance of raising public awareness about the Pact and its implications. This involves translating complex ideas into accessible language and utilizing various communication channels to reach diverse audiences, especially at the national level.

Key recommendations for action

- **Establish robust accountability mechanisms.** Member States committed to follow up in various existing intergovernmental processes and to review the overall implementation of the Pact at the beginning of the 83rd session meeting in 2028. Action 55 emphasizes the need for strengthened UN engagement with relevant stakeholders through “meaningful participation in relevant UN processes.” We should examine best practices and identify frameworks from a variety of follow up and review formats to monitor Pact commitments, while leveraging existing UN frameworks and processes to support the Pact's implementation, with Impact Coalitions highlighted as a positive example.
- **Develop concrete implementation plans:** Given the lack of concrete implementation mechanisms in the Pact, a crucial first step is to develop detailed action plans for the Pact's broad objectives. This should involve breaking down the Pact's goals into specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) targets and identifying the actors responsible for their implementation.
- **Prioritize meaningful youth participation and strengthen intergenerational collaboration.** Building upon the emphasis on youth engagement and future generations, concrete steps should be taken to ensure the meaningful participation of young people in all aspects of the Pact's implementation. This includes providing platforms for youth voices, integrating youth perspectives into decision-making processes and supporting the establishment of an Envoy for Future Generations.
- **Empower and resource civil society organizations.** Recognizing the vital role of civil society, efforts should be made to empower and provide resources to CSOs working on the Pact's implementation. The Pact's implementation must prioritize inclusivity and actively address existing inequalities. This includes ensuring that marginalized communities have a voice in decision-making processes and that the Pact's benefits reach all segments of society.
- **Maintain momentum and political will by launching a global public awareness campaign.** Sustaining momentum and political will over the long term will be crucial for achieving the Pact's ambitious actions. This requires continuous advocacy, increasing public engagement through a comprehensive communications strategy, and demonstrating concrete progress to maintain the urgency and commitment needed for successful implementation.

Webpage to find more information: <https://c4unwn.org/the-road-through-the-summit-of-the-future-generating-impact-from-the-pact-for-the-future/>