



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

2025



2025 HLPF Thematic Review Briefing on the outcomes of Expert Group Meetings on in-focus SDGs in preparation for the 2025 High-level Political Forum

Thursday, 27 February 2025

Conference Room 12

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

CONCEPT NOTE/PROGRAMME

Introduction

The theme of the 2025 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) is “Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind”. The 2025 HLPF will have an in-depth review of Sustainable Development Goals 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

As a central component of the review, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) together with UN partners, organized a series of Expert Group Meetings (EGM) on several of these in-focus SDGs (3, 5, and 8), convening stakeholders from academia, civil society, international organizations, youth and the private sector to assess progress to date, challenges and opportunities for accelerating achievements, and innovative solutions for advancing interlinked progress across Goals and Targets¹.

EGMs included:

- **SDG 5**, New York, 21-22 Jan 2025, co-organized by UNDESA and UN-Women
- **SDG 8**, New York, 6-7 Feb 2025, co-organized by UNDESA and the International Labor Organization (ILO)
- **SDG 3**, Geneva, 12 Feb 2025, co-organized by UNDESA, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

¹ See more details on the EGMs at <https://sdgs.un.org/HLPF/2025/ThematicReviewEGMs>

Objective

The aim of the informal briefing is to share key messages from the EGMs to support preparations for the HLPF review of the in-focus SDGs. The summaries of these EGMs provide a source of evidence to support Member State preparations for the HLPF including the development of the Ministerial Declaration.

The briefing will be held in person only.

Background

The HLPF will provide an opportunity to assess progress on SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17 at the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, and to identify what can be done to accelerate progress on SDG implementation in the remaining five years, connecting with other intergovernmental processes such as the 3rd UN Ocean Conference, the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), the Second World Summit for Social Development, and the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing+30).

The substantive reviews for the 2025 HLPF are an opportunity to assess progress, identify emerging and persistent challenges to progress on each of the Goals, and consider opportunities for action that have emerged since each in-focus SDG was last reviewed at the HLPF. Each of these SDGs has already been reviewed two times providing ample opportunity for sharing of experiences and lessons learned. Building on these past reviews, the EGMs were structured to identify science-backed solutions that can accelerate progress on these goals and have multiplier impacts across the entire 2030 Agenda.

Each EGM brought together experts from the private sector, academia, and civil society and the UN system to identify progress and challenges, share lessons learned and identify promising partnerships and opportunities for rapidly scaling up action toward achieving each of the goals while also generating synergies and addressing trade-offs with other goals. These EGMs build on the extensive background materials prepared for each of these SDGs when they were last reviewed, while also assessing new challenges linked to the current global context, as well as ways to harness the momentum, opportunities and solutions driven by the SDG Summit and the Summit of the Future.

Programme

15:00 – 15:10 Welcome and Introductory Remarks: <i>Lotta Tahtinen, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UNDESA</i>
15:10 – 15:50 Presentations on EGM key messages and solutions
SDG 3 – Good Health and Wellbeing: <i>Igor Pokanevych, Senior External Relations Officer, WHO Office at the UN; Ayman Abdelmohsen, Chief Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Branch, UNFPA</i>
SDG 5 – Gender Equality: <i>Sarah Hendricks, Director, Policy Programme and Intergovernmental Division, UN Women</i>
SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth: <i>Dino Corell, Senior Multilateral Relations Officer, ILO</i>
Cross cutting messages for the SDGs in focus: <i>Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA</i>
15:50 – 16:30 Open Discussion