



**SDGs in
Practice** | by **UN DESA
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Inclusive Policies and Stakeholder Engagement for the 2030 Agenda

International Disability Alliance,
Commonwealth Medical Trust
(Commat), Women's Major Group

📅 17 July 2025, 08.00 – 09.30 AM (EDT)

📍 Virtual

🌐 sdgs.un.org/2025/SDGsinPractice



A special event to the
**High-level Political Forum on
Sustainable Development**
14 – 23 July 2025

Inclusive Policies and Stakeholder Engagement for the 2030 Agenda

Thursday, 17 July, 08.00 – 09.30 AM

Organized by International Disability Alliance (IDA), Commonwealth Medical Trust (Commat), Women's Major Group (WMG)

Background

Inclusive policymaking is critical to ensuring the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the principle of “leaving no one behind.” Persons with disabilities, women, and other marginalized groups continue to face barriers to full and meaningful participation in the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs. This exclusion is often compounded by lack of data, inaccessible consultation processes, and structural discrimination. Despite global commitments to inclusion and stakeholder engagement, evidence shows a persistent gap between policy rhetoric and actual practice. Bridging this gap is essential to achieving the SDGs, particularly Goal 16 on inclusive institutions and Goal 17 on multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Challenge and Objective:

This session aims to address the persistent disconnect between the commitments to inclusive stakeholder engagement and the actual implementation of participatory mechanisms in SDG-related policies and programs. It seeks to identify concrete strategies to ensure that marginalized voices—particularly those of persons with disabilities, women, and grassroots communities—are not only heard but integrated into decision-making processes. The objective is to share good practices, challenges, and lessons learned in promoting inclusive policy frameworks, with a focus on national implementation and reporting mechanisms such as Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

Solutions:

The session will highlight inclusive methodologies and tools developed and used by civil society organizations and stakeholders:

- **Community-led Data Collection and Reporting:** Tools enabling grassroots and marginalized groups to generate and share data to inform policy decisions (e.g., shadow/parallel reports for VNRs).
- **Inclusive Consultation Frameworks:** Case studies from IDA and WMG on how to ensure accessibility and inclusivity in national SDG consultations.
- **Capacity-building Initiatives:** Examples from Commat on empowering women and persons with disabilities to engage with public institutions and UN processes.

- Multi-stakeholder Collaboration Models: Examples of collaboration between governments and civil society that have led to more inclusive and effective SDG implementation.

These tools demonstrate the importance of intentional design and resource allocation in achieving meaningful engagement.

Format:

This 90-minute session will consist of:

- A moderated panel discussion featuring representatives from marginalized groups, government, and international organizations.
- A facilitated interactive segment inviting participants to share experiences and pose questions.
- Use of polling or online collaborative tools to gather input and reflections.

Intended Audience:

Government representatives involved in VNR processes, civil society organizations, UN entities, and development partners participating in the HLPF. Participants are expected to engage actively and reflect on how the shared strategies could be applied in their own national contexts.

Resources:

- IDA Toolkit on Inclusive VNR Engagement
https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/documents/vnr_toolkit_finalmarch-18_1_0.pdf
- Thematic report on Participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in review and follow-up processes on the implementation of the
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development issued by the special rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities <https://docs.un.org/en/A/79/179>
- Women's Major Group Advocacy Briefs on Gender and the SDGs
- Commat Reports on Inclusive SDG Implementation

Additional Information:

For more information and to sign up to attend, please visit the webpage here:

<https://sdgs.un.org/2025/SDGsinPractice>

For any additional questions, please contact: Rosario Galarza (rgalarza@ida-secretariat.org)