




**SDGs in
Practice** | by **UN DESA
& UNITAR**

Building country capacity for multi-stakeholder partnerships

UN DESA, The Partnering Initiative, UN
RCO Mexico

 17 July 2025, 01.00 – 02.30 PM (EDT)

 Virtual

 sdgs.un.org/2025/SDGsinPractice



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

Building country capacity for multi-stakeholder partnerships

Thursday, 17 July, 01.00 – 02.30 PM, virtual

Organized by UN DESA, RCO Mexico, The Partnering Initiative

Background

Multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) have a hugely important role in delivering the SDGs and the post-2030 goals. By aligning interests and combining public, private and people resources and levers for change, they are uniquely placed to find innovative solutions, engage locally, challenge entrenched power, and drive a system transformation towards the vision everyone on the planet can get behind: a prosperous economy, thriving society and healthy environment.

While Goal 17 of the SDGs explicitly talks about a ‘global partnership for development and has a target (17.17) specifically related to multi-stakeholder collaboration, the reality is that all of the goals necessarily require the involvement of, and significant collaboration across, all societal sectors.

It is partnerships at the national, sub-national, and city-level – those that can best harness and optimize the resources available – that can drive forward the real change required to deliver the SDGs and impact people’s lives for the better.

However, collaborating across societal sectors is challenging. Individuals need a set of professional partnering capabilities including the right mindset, understanding of others, human relationship skills and technical knowledge. Organisations need to become ‘fit for partnering’ with the right strategies, systems and processes, staff guidance and culture for collaboration. Platforms are needed to engage and convene actors from all sectors around key development priorities that are ripe for collaboration and support the development of partnerships. And trust needs to be built across societal sectors.

Challenge and objective

The session will address the challenge of how to build country-level capability for more and more effective multi-stakeholder collaboration. Its aim is to provide governments, the UN system and other actors such as foundations wishing to catalyse more collaboration, with a practical basis and a set of tools to be able to build professional capabilities, engage all societal sectors and develop trust-based partnerships.

Solutions

The session will build on the experiences of UN RCOs including Mexico and Sri Lanka, and a set of tools developed by the Partnership Accelerator and The Partnering Initiative to build countries’ ability to drive effective MSPs. The tools are tried and tested through the Partnership Accelerator’s programme of capacity development in countries around the world.

Tools include:

- **National partnership landscape mapping:** Analyze all societal actors’ engagement with SDGs, identify existing and potential partnerships, and assess mechanisms to enhance stakeholder collaboration.

- **Running a National Partnership Forum:** How to run a forum to tangibly support engagement, gain traction and momentum, and build alignment, and connection among key stakeholders on national development priorities.
- **Partnership ideation workshops:** To develop new ideas for as well as to engage participants deeper into good practice partnering, build engagement and relationships, and develop momentum.

Format and audience

The 1.5-hour session will involve a mix of presentation of frameworks and tools, ‘fireside chats’ to draw out real life experience from experts from UN RCOs, and interactive group work in breakout rooms.

The audience is all those wishing to build country capabilities for MSPs including governments, donors, foundations, the UN system.

Resources

- [SDG Partnership Guidebook](#)

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 Mr. Darian Stibbe (darian.stibbe@tpiglobal.org), Mr. Ola Goransson (goranssono@un.org), and Ms. Priscilla Jazmin Miranda Garcia (priscilla.miranda@un.org).

Programme

Time	Session
01.00 - 01.10 PM	Introduction – Mr. Ola Goransson, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA
01.10 - 01.25 PM	Introduction to the toolkit – Mr. Darian Stibbe, The Partnering Initiative
01.25 - 01.55 PM	Experiences from the field
01.55 - 02.15 PM	Dialogue (break out rooms): What other types of partnership capacity development / all of society engagement activities are you aware of? What would be most appropriate in your country?
02.15 - 02.25 PM	Plenary feedback
02.25 - 02.30 PM	Closing