



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

Investing in multi- stakeholder Partnerships for the SDGs

UN DESA, The Partnering Initiative, UN
RCO Mexico

 22 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

Investing in multi-stakeholder Partnerships for the SDGs

Tuesday, 22 July, 01.00 – 02.30 PM (EDT), virtual

Organized by UN DESA, RCO Mexico, The Partnering Initiative

Background

Multi-stakeholder partnerships, which harness the resources of all sectors of society, can be transformational in their impact on the SDGs. However, such partnerships do not operate as traditional projects and have quite different needs for how they are funded. Traditional funding models are of limited applicability and new approaches are needed.

Further, in order to scale up their use, and so unlock the resources of all of society, governments and donors need to be investing in an enabling environment that encourages and supports the partnerships, from the institutional changes and capabilities that organizations need to develop to work effectively in partnership, to supportive policies and the mechanisms to engage with all sectors and develop partnerships.

Challenge and objective

If partnerships for the SDGs are to be encouraged and mainstreamed, donors, foundations, development banks, and institutional investors will need to change the way they provide funding or financing to individual partnerships, as well as to invest in a far more enabling environment for collaboration.

The session will look at the limitations of current funding models and aims to provide inspiration and guidance to funders of all kinds on how to most effectively support multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Solutions

The session will build on the extensive research undertaken for the [Unite to Ignite report](#) that looked at what is required to systematically accelerate the transformational power of partnerships for the SDGs and beyond.

It will utilize the frameworks and findings to help participants think through:

- 1) How can I support a more effective enabling environment for partnership?
- 2) For individual partnerships, i) who should fund (donors? government? companies? philanthropy? investors?); ii) what forms of funding are applicable (grants, finance, blended finance); and iii) the unique funding modality needs of partnerships; iv) how funding can be structured to most effectively support partnerships to succeed;
- 3) What internal changes might my organization need to make to become the most effective funder of MSPs?

Format and audience

The 1.5-hour session will involve a mix of presentation of theory, panel discussion, and peer-to-peer exchange of experiences, along with interactive group work in breakout rooms.

The audience is funders of all kinds – governments, donors, foundations, development banks, companies – looking to improve their funding practice.

Resources

- [Unite to Ignite report](#)
- [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 - 01.20 PM	Findings from the Unite to Ignite report – Mr. Darian Stibbe, The Partnering Initiative
01.20 - 02.00 PM	Panel discussion: What are the challenges, and what is good practice in funding multi-stakeholder partnerships?
02.00 - 02.15 PM	Learning from experiences: Investing in the infrastructure and capacities for partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The case of Mexico
02.15 - 02.30 PM	Q&A and discussion