



**ECOSOC
Partnership
Forum**



**Building
Our Future
Together**

Global Online Stakeholder Consultation

KEY TAKEAWAYS

FOR THE 2026 ECOSOC PARTNERSHIP FORUM



JANUARY 2026



CAPACITY, KNOWLEDGE & RESOURCES NEEDED

Stakeholders called for further improvement in the following **capacity, knowledge, and resources** to help them **develop sustainable and effective partnerships for the SDGs**:

At the system-level, stakeholders argue that Governments should further strengthen “**policy and regulatory coherence**” and enhance “**data infrastructure and systems**”. When it comes to institutional enablers, stakeholders rated “**training in professional partnering competencies (e.g. shared language, collaborative skills)**” and “**access to networks and platforms for partnerships**” as the most actionable areas to improve in the limited time before 2030, which is consistent with [the result from last year’s consultation](#). Other factors include “**facilitation and support for partnership processes (e.g., third-party facilitators)**”, and “**tools and resources for partnership development**”.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

To help Governments **further strengthen the impact from partnerships**, stakeholders shared many **policy recommendations**, with some recurring themes highlighted below:

- **Strengthen capacities** of public agencies, civil society organizations, local governments, and community groups so partnerships can function effectively and sustainably.
- **Ensure that local actors**, such as rural populations, community groups, indigenous communities, and women- or youth- led initiatives, **are effectively engaged as co-creators** in identifying policy priorities, shaping programme design, and determining implementation modalities, including through participatory planning mechanisms and institutionalizing community representation in partnership oversight bodies.
- **Design financing ecosystems that are both economically robust and socially just**, ensuring that resources go to partnerships with the greatest potential to deliver community-centered and locally grounded impact.
- **Adopt financing instruments that reduce risk asymmetries, incentivize innovation, and enable private sector actors to align** investments with public priorities.
- **Ensure that regulatory frameworks that are governing partnerships are accessible, predictable, and designed to promote equitable collaboration** between different sectors.



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO FORUM ARRANGEMENTS

To help inform the upcoming General Assembly review of the arrangements of ECOSOC and HLPF to further strengthen the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, stakeholders shared some **specific recommendations regarding the arrangements of the Partnership Forum within this context**, including:

- **Ensure representation of marginalized voices** at the ECOSOC Partnership Forum, particularly Indigenous Peoples, rural and/or community-based organizations, and women- and youth-led initiatives. Some suggested **hard quotas** to institutionalize their participation.
- **Make funds available to support travel and adopt hybrid participation models** to reduce financial and logistical barriers to the participation of marginalized groups.
- **Improve language equity and expand multilingual access** to the Partnership Forum including its documentation and preparatory process.
- **Build stronger ties with the High-Level Political Forum**, including for example dedicated slots for VNR countries to present high-impact partnerships, and integrated knowledge dashboards, among others.
- **Build stronger ties with other major global commitments**, such as [the Compromiso de Sevilla](#) from the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, [the Doha Political Declaration](#) from the Second World Summit on Social Development, and [the Pact for the Future](#) from the Summit of the Future.
- **Build stronger ties with the regional and local level**, including through regional hubs and coordination bodies to provide tailored policy and peer-learning support for partnerships.
- **Enhance the matchmaking function of the Forum and move beyond policy dialogues towards a launchpad for scalable SDG partnerships**, such as through pre-Forum events for better pipeline support, open calls to channel funding from donors and investors, “deal rooms” to pair partners around bankable proposals, and “clinics” to address barriers, among others, so coalitions could arrive “deal-ready”.
- **Strengthen accountability, monitoring and follow-up mechanisms**, such as registries, dashboards, measurable indicators, and reporting.

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