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Seventh Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Towards integrated implementation of climate action, environmental protection, and sustainable development

29-30 June 2026 | Bangkok, Thailand

Co-convened by UNDESA and UNFCCC Secretariat
In collaboration with UNESCAP

Draft Concept Note

CONTEXT

Over the last few years, there is growing convergence across the international community that accelerating progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, delivering on the Paris Agreement, and advancing broader environmental objectives under the Rio Conventions can no longer be pursued as separate policy agendas. They must be implemented together, through coherent and mutually reinforcing approaches that recognise the deep interlinkages between climate action, environmental sustainability and sustainable development. Global assessments on climate and SDG synergies prepared by the [Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergy](#), co-convened by the [United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#) (UN DESA) and the [United Nations Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC) Secretariat, demonstrate that policies and investments designed to advance climate and development objectives simultaneously can substantially increase overall impact. The Expert Group's latest report, "[Harnessing Climate-SDG Synergies: Quantifying the Benefits](#)," shows that synergistic approaches can ensure resources are used more efficiently, reduce trade-offs, and deliver multiple social, economic and environmental co-benefits.

This evidence is increasingly reflected in political and intergovernmental processes. The [outcome](#) of the first Global Stocktake under the Paris Agreement, the 2024 High-Level Political Forum [Ministerial Declaration](#), recent General Assembly resolutions such as resolution [80/138](#), UNEA resolutions [6/4](#) and [7/5](#), as well as the latest COP30 outcome ("[Global Mutirão](#)") all emphasize the need to address the global challenges of climate and environment in a comprehensive and synergistic manner in line with broader sustainable development. At national level, this shift is also becoming visible in policy frameworks. According to the latest [NDC Synthesis Report](#), many of the NDCs submitted in 2025 are framed as whole-of-government and whole-of-economy instruments, with stronger attention to development priorities and cross-sectoral linkages. Similarly, the [2025 Adaptation Gap Report](#) notes growing mainstreaming of adaptation into national development planning. A growing number of countries are therefore seeking to position climate and environmental action as a driver of sustainable development and social progress.

However, recognition of synergies has not yet translated into systematic delivery. In practice, climate action and sustainable development continue to be governed through largely separate institutional mandates, planning processes and financing frameworks. Coordination across climate, finance and development authorities remains uneven, alignment between national strategies and public investment programmes is often weak, and monitoring systems rarely capture combined climate and SDG outcomes. As a result, opportunities to accelerate



SDG progress through climate action, and to strengthen climate outcomes through development policies, remain underexploited.

The costs of this fragmentation are rising rapidly. As the world enters the final years before 2030, global progress on the SDGs remains far off track. According to the latest [SDG Report](#), only about one-third of SDG targets show adequate progress, while many are stagnating or regressing, including those related to poverty, food security, health, gender equality, biodiversity and land. At the same time, climate change is intensifying these development challenges. The [World Meteorological Organization](#) confirms that 2025 was one of the three warmest years on record and that the past eleven years have been the warmest on record. Its [Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update for 2025–2029](#) projects that global temperatures will remain at or near record levels over the next five years, further amplifying risks to livelihoods, infrastructure, ecosystems, food and water security and directly undermining progress across multiple SDGs.

With fewer than five years remaining until 2030, the coming period represents a narrow but decisive window to change course. Without more integrated approaches across climate, biodiversity and land, development efforts will continue to be eroded by environmental and climate impacts, while climate and environmental action will fall short of its potential to advance inclusive growth, poverty reduction and long-term resilience.

SEVENTH GLOBAL CONFERENCE

Since 2019, UN DESA and the UNFCCC Secretariat have jointly advanced efforts to strengthen synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda through the Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergy and the global climate and SDG synergy conference series. Over time, the Conference has evolved into a dedicated platform for policy dialogue, peer learning and exchange of practical experiences on integrated climate and sustainable development implementation.

Amid escalating geopolitical tensions, the world is facing an unprecedented convergence of challenges — rising energy costs driven by conflict, intensifying climate impacts and natural disasters, environmental degradation, and slowing growth with mounting debt burdens. These crises are deeply interconnected, and so too must be the solutions.

Recognising these interconnected crises, the Seventh Global Conference takes place at a distinct implementation juncture. Following the adoption of the COP30 outcome, attention is shifting decisively from ambition-setting to delivery. With 2026 marking the start of implementation of the latest generation of nationally determined contributions, covering the period to 2035, this creates a critical opportunity to strengthen alignment between national climate commitments and sustainable development priorities as countries move into the final years of the 2030 Agenda and begin shaping longer-term pathways beyond 2030. Building on the [outcomes](#) of the [Sixth Global Conference](#), which had emphasized the importance of integrated governance, financing and delivery approaches, the Seventh Global Conference will place a stronger focus on practical pathways for translating integrated and synergistic planning into coordinated implementation.

The Conference will be organised back-to-back with the ninth session of the [ESCAP Committee on Environment and Development](#) (Ministerial level), creating an explicit linkage between global dialogue on climate-SDG synergies and regional policy priorities and implementation challenges in the Asia-Pacific region. It will be aligned with the focus of the Committee on promoting synergistic policymaking and integrated implementation to advance



the SDGs and address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and will enable exchange between global and regional processes and support coherence between international commitments and regional and national implementation efforts. In a year in which Conferences of the Parties to all three Rio Conventions are taking place, the Conference will also provide a timely platform to promote integrated implementation approaches that address climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation in a mutually reinforcing manner, in support of the 2030 Agenda.

Against this backdrop, the Seventh Global Conference on Climate and SDG Synergies will facilitate in-depth dialogue, knowledge-sharing and practical recommendations through country case studies, peer learning and empirical evidence. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, including governments, the private sector, cities, civil society and international organisations, the Conference will showcase experiences and approaches for strengthening horizontal and vertical coordination and alignment across climate, development and finance actors and institutions, and for promoting more coherent implementation of climate and environmental action alongside broader sustainable development objectives.