

# SDG Acceleration Actions

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

August 2019

### 1. What is an SDG Acceleration Action?

On 24-25 September 2019, the [United Nations High Level Political Forum](#) (HLPF) under the auspices of the General Assembly, “[The SDG Summit](#)”, will provide the central focus for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and identify ways to accelerate progress. In addition to the inter-governmentally agreed political declaration, voluntary SDG acceleration actions towards implementation will be announced before and during the SDG Summit.

“[SDG Acceleration Actions](#)” are initiatives voluntarily undertaken by countries and other actors to **contribute to the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**.

### 2. What should be included in an SDG Acceleration Action?

Any new action or actions that building on existing efforts (scaling up, new phase, etc.) could be framed as an SDG Acceleration Action. Examples include: announcement of a new or enhanced policy, programme, or project—or financing of a project—related to the achievement of one or more of the 17 SDGs or addressing the interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda.

Ad-hoc engagements, including organization of events and workshops should be reflected as part of a broader programme of work towards SDG acceleration.

### 3. Who can register an SDG Acceleration Action?

SDG Acceleration Actions can be registered by national Governments, local and regional governments, the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations, international and regional financial institutions, major groups and other stakeholders including the private sector, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, the scientific community, and other actors - individually or in partnership.

### 4. How can SDG Acceleration Actions be registered?

Governments, businesses and all stakeholders can register acceleration actions within their own sphere of influence or SDG. Acceleration actions can reflect a more ambitious target, a new policy or programme, new investments or increased financial or other support to specific SDGs and/or groups of the population or other countries, for example.

Registration is now [open online](#) and will serve as the basis for the SDG Summit Registry of Acceleration Actions.

More information: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsummit#acceleration-actions>.

## **5. When can SDG Acceleration Actions be submitted?**

SDG Acceleration Actions can be registered in the lead up, during and after the SDG Summit.

Publication of SDG Acceleration Actions will start early in September 2019.

The platform will remain open after the SDG Summit for registration of additional SDG Acceleration Actions.

## **6. How many SDG Acceleration Actions can be submitted?**

Stakeholders are encouraged to submit one or more SDG Acceleration Actions. Combining actions in order to increase potential impact is encouraged.

When submitting acceleration actions, it should be borne in mind that follow up will be expected with regards to their implementation.

## **7. What are the criteria for an SDG Acceleration Action?**

SDG Acceleration Actions should:

- Facilitate and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, reflect interlinkages among goals and contribute to policy coherence;
- Respect principles of the United Nations Charter and the 2030 Agenda;
- Build on existing successful efforts/initiatives (scaling up, new phase, etc.) or introduce new ones;
- Include means of implementation such as finance, technology or capacity building as an element to help ensure longevity and sustainability of the initiative;
- Follow the SMART Criteria – a commitment that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable Resource based, with Time-based deliverables;
- Provide access to additional information on the actions (e.g. website, contacts).

## **8. How can an SDG Acceleration Action be submitted?**

Submissions should be registered through a dedicated [online portal](#).

## **9. How will submissions be reviewed and published?**

UN DESA will be reviewing all submissions and publicizing them in the lead up to the SDG Summit, starting in early September 2019. As submissions will be available online [here](#).

## **10. How will SDG Acceleration Actions be publicized and tracked?**

Any voluntary action meeting the below criteria can be [registered as an acceleration action](#). Acceleration actions can also be announced by Heads of State and Government during the SDG Summit or during the Leaders Dialogues if relevant to the theme. Other stakeholders are also encouraged to publicize SDG Acceleration Actions submitted through the [online portal](#).

The United Nations Department on Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) will review all SDG Acceleration Actions and will make them available at a dedicated portal.

The online registry will also provide a space for all SDG Acceleration Action submitters to record the actions and provide progress reports on their implementation. Countries can also report on follow-up to their SDG Acceleration Actions through the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRS).

Customarily, UN DESA prepares synthesis reports on the implementation of partnerships commitments, which could also include SDG acceleration actions. The SDG Acceleration Actions registry also provides for a reporting and monitoring function to ensure that acceleration actions are properly followed-up.

UN DESA and the Department of Global Communications will collaborate on advertising selected initiatives in the lead up, during and after the SDG Summit.

## **11. In which languages can I submit my SDG Acceleration Action?**

Actions will be accepted in the six UN official languages, although submissions in languages other than English may take longer to be reviewed.

## **12. How is this SDG Acceleration Action database connected to other SDG events/initiatives during UNGA week?**

Participants at the other high-level SDG-related events and initiatives of UNGA week also are welcome to submit their SDG Acceleration Actions through the [database](#).