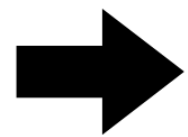




Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels

SNAPSHOT OF UN SYSTEM SDG IMPLEMENTATION



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Chapter 1. Introduction

The online [United Nations System Sustainable Development Goals Implementation Database](#) hosted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) is a repository of actions, initiatives and plans by UN system organizations¹ on their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Launched in 2018 and updated through an annual questionnaire, the database currently contains inputs from more than 50 UN system organizations, including information about strategic decisions and measures adopted by their respective governing bodies and Executive Heads in relation to the implementation of the SDGs, as well as concrete initiatives and actions initiated in this regard. The database serves as a useful input to inform relevant inter-governmental processes, including the United Nations General Assembly (GA), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as well as the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the auspices of the GA and the ECOSOC.

This summary aims to provide a snapshot of information received from UN system organizations, building on their responses to the questionnaire distributed in October 2022 to update the online UN System SDG Implementation Database.

¹ Including the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the United Nations University (UNU), the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

It contains highlights shared by 29 UN system organizations around the 2023 theme of ECOSOC and HLPF “*Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels*”, in support of the ten priority areas identified in the political declaration from the 2019 SDG Summit ([A/RES/74/4](#)) as well as the UN system related decisions from the 2022 Ministerial Declaration ([E/HLS/2022/1](#)). It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of UN system activities. Full submissions from individual organizations can be accessed online in the [UN System SDG Implementation Database](#).



Chapter 2. Questionnaire on the implementation of the SDGs by UN system organizations

The 2022 edition of the questionnaire aligns its theme with the 2023 cycle of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and HLPF “*Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels*”. It was distributed to the member entities of the [Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, as well as UN Conventions secretariats and research institutions \(ECESA Plus\)](#) in October 2022, containing the following questions:

1. How have the COVID-19 pandemic and the current food, energy and finance crises changed the priorities of your organization?

2. How has your organization supported Member States to accelerate their recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda? How has your organization cooperated with other UN system organizations in these efforts to achieve coherence and synergies? Please select up to three high-impact initiatives, especially those that address interlinkages among the SDGs.

3. Has your organization published or planned to publish any analytical work or guidance note or toolkits to guide and support recovery efforts from COVID-19 while advancing full implementation of SDGs at national, regional and global levels? Please select up to three high-impact resources, especially those that address interlinkages among the SDGs.

4. How has your organization engaged with stakeholder groups to support SDG implementation and COVID-19 recovery at national, regional and global levels? Please provide main highlights, including any lessons learned. For example, what has worked particularly well as a model for effective stakeholder engagement? Has your organization established additional multi-stakeholder partnership(s) this year?

5. Following the adoption of the 2019 SDG Summit declaration (GA resolution 74/4), where Member States outlined ten priority areas for accelerated action in SDG implementation, please highlight

any major integrated and innovative policies or initiatives that your organization may have adopted in the following areas:

- 5.1 leaving no one behind;
- 5.2 mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing;
- 5.3 enhancing national implementation;
- 5.4 strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions;
- 5.5 bolstering local action;
- 5.6 reducing disaster risk and building resilience;
- 5.7 solving challenges through international cooperation and enhancing the global partnership;
- 5.8 harnessing science, technology and innovation with a greater focus on digital transformation for sustainable development;
- 5.9 investing in data and statistics for the SDGs;
- 5.10 strengthening the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

6. Following the adoption of the 2022 Ministerial Declaration, please highlight any major integrated and innovative policies or initiatives that your organization may have adopted related to the below, if applicable:

- 6.1 Member States encouraged “the United Nations system and all relevant actors to take advantage of emerging technologies and their applications, as appropriate, in order to maximize impact and effectiveness in data analysis and collection and stress the need to bridge the digital gap among and within countries” (Paragraph 86).
- 6.2 Member States specifically called upon the UN system “to work with the newly established United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub, hosted by FAO, to support Governments to develop and strengthen SDG-based national pathways for sustainable food systems transformation” (Paragraph 128).

7. The 2023 SDG Summit is expected to provide political leadership, guidance and recommenda-

tions for sustainable development and follow-up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including through national and regional consultations, which will mark the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the SDGs. In the lead up to the 2023 SDG Summit, please provide your organization's recommendations on how to overcome challenges to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs, taking into account the thematic reviews and voluntary national reviews conducted to date.



UN Photo/Harandane Dicko

Chapter 3. Summary of Responses

3.1 The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing food, energy and finance crises on the priorities of UN system organizations (based on Question 1)

From disruptions to manufacturing, supply chains and human mobility to increased poverty, hunger and displacement, from skyrocketing commodity prices and rising inflation to deepening inequalities and structural gaps, from mounting debt burdens to shrinking fiscal space, UN system organizations highlighted substantial setbacks caused by the multi-layered crises in recent years triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. The SDGs are in peril in the mid-point to 2030. Vulnerable people and communities are often most affected.

“The global pandemic brought new immediacy to the promise of human rights as COVID-19 has not only reshaped our daily lives, but has presented a clear and urgent human rights challenge, which warrants rigorous scrutiny of states of emergency and related measures and their impacts, a revitalized appreciation of the right to health, a renewed focus on the need for universal social protection, and addressing negative human rights impacts of inequality exposed by the global pandemic.” – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

In light of the multi-layered challenges, the United Nations Secretary General has convened the [Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance \(GCRG\)](#) to ensure high-level political leadership to get ahead of the immense inter-connected challenges of food security, energy and financing, and implement a coordinated global response to the ongoing crises. Its workstreams coordination has been supported by UNCTAD. Many UN system organizations reported on their contributions to the relevant workstreams within the Group in their responses.

“For people around the world, the war [in Ukraine], together with the other crises, is

threatening to unleash an unprecedented wave of hunger and destitution, leaving social and economic chaos in its wake. No country or community will be left untouched by this cost-of-living crisis.”
 – António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

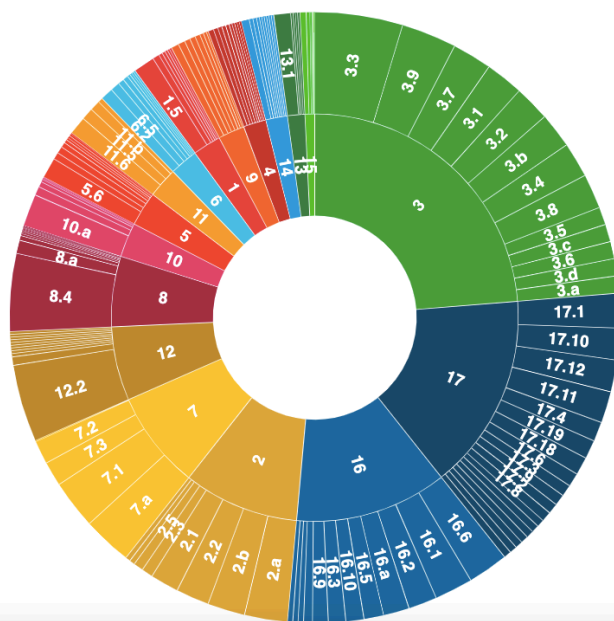


Figure 1: Reflection of linkage to most relevant SDGs based on inputs of Question 1 (created by [LinkedSDGs](#))

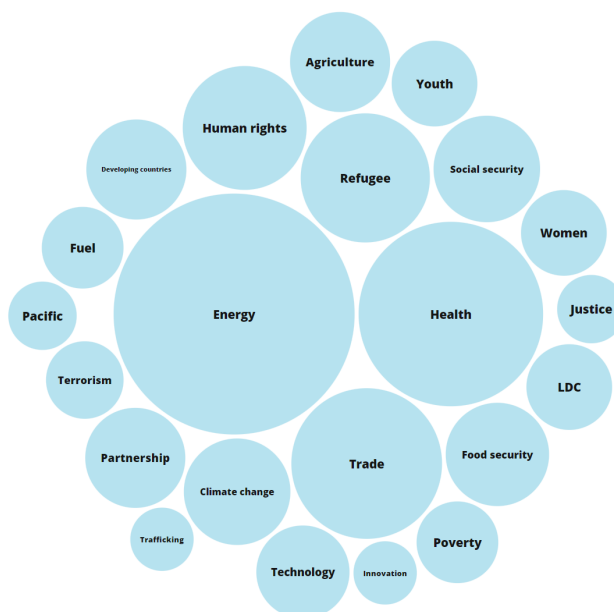


Figure 2: Word Cloud based on inputs of Question 1 (created by [LinkedSDGs](#))

Through their respective mandates, UN system organizations stayed agile with their service delivery and adjusted activities and deliverables in response to the immediate needs and vulnerabilities. Many have sharpened resilience, equity, inclusion and digital transformation in their strategic plans and made concrete steps to support a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient recovery and facilitate the transformations needed to achieve the SDGs at all levels.

Thought leadership & policy advice

UN system organizations continued to provide thought leadership through data, analyses, reports, providing policy advice in their respective areas of expertise, helping countries and the international community better understand and respond to the impacts of the pandemic and the food, energy and finance crises.

» The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) co-leads the work stream on food in the UN Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, which supports decision-makers in identifying solutions and developing strategies to help countries address the interlinked crises related to food, energy and finance. Three technical briefs have been developed and made available publicly.

Click [here](#) to learn more about FAO's policy proposals to address the current food crises:

- Food Import Financing Facility
- Fertilizer assessments and policy responses
- Soil nutrient maps
- One Health and Zoonosis
- Social Safety Nets and Social Protection

Capacity building, technical cooperation, and financial support

Through their respective programmes of work, UN system organizations continued to support member States through capacity building, technical assistance, as well as mobilization of funds where necessary.

» The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) recognizes that it is developing countries that are hardest hit by the current, compounded crises and that global economic recovery necessitates a longer-term perspective and investment in resilience at the local and micro level. In May 2022, IFAD launched the Crisis Response Initiative (CRI) to channel grant resources to protect productive livelihoods from the impact of the current war in Ukraine on agricultural input, food and fuel markets and prices, while at the same time allowing small scale rural producers to benefit from new local market opportunities that may result from the crisis. Click [here](#) to learn more about IFAD's work.

Normative work & global agenda setting

Organizations across the UN system continued to facilitate global agenda setting through their mandated support to relevant intergovernmental processes, such as UNDESA's support to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, UNEP's support to the United Nations Environment Assembly, UNDRR's support to the review of the Sendai Framework, UNFCCC's support to climate action, ICAO's efforts to advance sustainable aviation, UNOOSA's support to the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, among others.

Many organizations actively engage in advocacy efforts related to their areas of expertise. For example, UNHCR actively advocated for the inclusion of displaced and stateless populations in national response plans including health systems and vaccination rollouts. FAO and WFP strive to help shape the global agenda for food systems transformation and tackling hunger and food insecurity. Several organizations such as ITU, UNIDO, ITC, contributed to international standard-setting where necessary. And organizations such as the Universal Postal Union (UPU) made forward-looking recommendations for the diversification of postal services and products to meet the current challenges.

» UNIDO, in close cooperation with the WTO, ILO, ITC and other partners, is promoting binding international standards for global supply chains. Click [here](#) to learn more about UNIDO's work.

and other disasters: in Syria, Yemen and the Sahel region, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Mozambique, Ethiopia, and many more locations. Click [here](#) to learn more about IOM's work.

Mobilize support and maximize collective impact through partnerships

“Public and private partnerships, including within the United Nations system, have been key to scaling up pandemic response interventions and ensuring they reach the most vulnerable communities and will enable UNICEF to leverage financing, influence, innovation and expertise to realize children rights sustainability at scale.” – UNICEF

Many UN system organizations highlighted in their responses the increasing importance of building partnerships with other UN entities, the private sector, civil society, academia and others and how the mobilization helped strengthen their service delivery.

» Through 2022, the International Organization of Migration (IOM) has continued – in close coordination with Governments, other United Nations agencies, the private sector, communities, implementing partners, and migrants themselves – to work tirelessly to support recovery from the pandemic through direct assistance and programming for migrants, displaced populations, and the communities they live in, as well as provide technical advice to advance integrated approaches for sustainable development and good migration governance. At the same time, IOM continued to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to migrants, IDPs and host communities affected by crises, within Ukraine and in the neighboring countries, and in countries whose precarious situations were still exacerbated by COVID-19

3.2 Initiatives, resources and partnerships highlighted by UN system organizations to support efforts at all levels to accelerate their recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda (Questions 2-4)

The 29 UN system organizations that responded to the 2022 questionnaire have each highlighted several concrete initiatives, resources and multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of efforts to accelerate the recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. These responses have informed the 2023 ECOSOC Coordination Segment that took place on 1-2 February 2023 at the United Nations Headquarters, including the [Annex of Transformative Policies and Initiatives](#) compiled by the President of ECOSOC. The initiatives, resources and partnerships reported have also served as an important input to the development of the Thematic Infographics to inform the 2023 ECOSOC Coordination Segment (see Figure 3) and the 2023 HLPF factsheets on the SDGs under in-depth review (see Figure 4), which are accessible in the resources section of the UN System SDG Implementation Database.

3.3 Integrated and innovative policies and initiatives highlighted by UN system organizations in support of the ten priority areas identified in GA resolution 74/4 from the 2019 SDG Summit declaration (based on Question 5)

3.3.1 Leaving no one behind

Committed to the guiding principle of “leaving no one behind”, UN system organizations implemented measures under their respective mandates to **combat discrimination and ensure well-being and inclusion** of marginalized and vulnerable groups, particularly those at higher risk of being affected by the interlinked crises, such as **migrants and displaced persons, persons with disabilities, wom-**

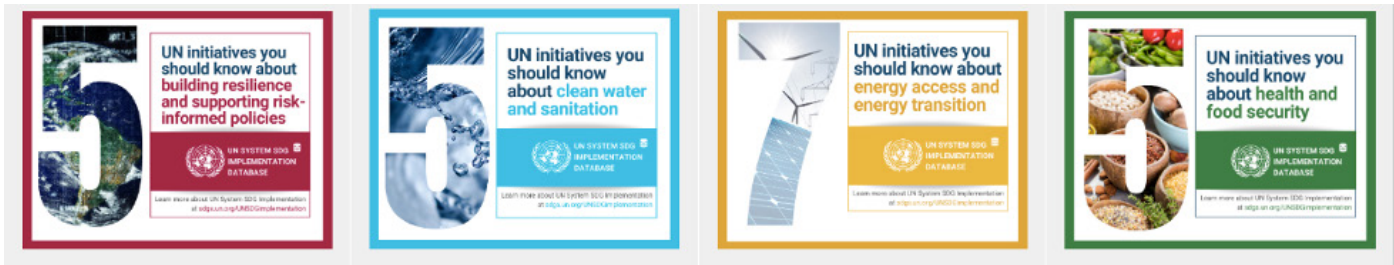


Figure 3. Thematic Infographics to inform the 2023 ECOSOC Coordination Segment



Figure 4. 2023 HLPF Factsheets on SDGs under in-depth review

en, children and youth, older persons, indigenous peoples, among others.

“There is in some ways, a disconnect between global advancements on migration and development data, and concrete progress at national level: data on SDG-migration indicators was available for only 55% of countries in 2020; and migrants are invisible from much of the available data. Often migrants or migrant sub-groups – such as IDPs or unaccompanied minors – are especially vulnerable and not included in official statistics at all.” – International Organization of Migration (IOM)

“Greater integration and formalization of informal communities within the broader formal markets is a critical step in the process of achieving greater pandemic resilience, alongside a more just, equitable, and sustainable future.” - UNECE

“Today in low- and middle-income countries, 2 in 3 children under five – or 478 million – experience food poverty. Children living in severe food poverty are among the most vulnerable to undernutrition in early childhood, which can increase children’s risk of death by up to 12 times. The combined effects of conflict – including the war in Ukraine – climate change and the socioeconomic impacts of COVID, have fueled a global food and nutrition crisis

that is exacerbating the precarious situation of these children. ” – UNICEF

“The COVID-19 crisis is plunging the global economy into a deep recession and micro, small and medium enterprises – which play a major role in emerging economies – are amongst the hardest hit. With more than two-thirds of the global population employed by MSMEs, the unprecedented outbreak of COVID 19 has shown how tightly their activities are woven into the economic and social fabric of the world and therefore how fundamental their role is in social and economic resurgence. The current crisis threatens to push back the limited gains made on gender equality and exacerbate the feminization of poverty, vulnerability to violence, and women’s equal participation in the labor force.” - UNCTAD

Highlighting the vulnerability of many **invisible groups**, the availability of **high quality, disaggregated data** has been emphasized as an important prerequisite for **targeted policies** to ensure that no one is left behind. ECA, OHCHR, ECLAC, for example, published indices and measurements on pandemic response and recovery, including on **unpaid domestic care work of women**, which supported better integration of the care economy into social protection policies.

Building on their respective areas of expertise, organizations **provided technical support and developed tools and guidelines** to support countries

in strengthening their **social protection systems** with special attention to vulnerable populations. Many organizations have developed sector-specific metrics and analytical tools to support governments in identifying gaps, planning, delivering, and managing infrastructure systems. To **promote system-wide action to address inequalities** within the UN System, the Inequality Task Team under the HLCP, co-led by OHCHR, is in the process of developing a new UN System Agenda for Equality.

» United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA): ECA, in partnership with UN Women, has developed “Care Economy Guidelines” to integrate gender perspectives and the care economy in the COVID-19 recovery policies. These guidelines are intended to provide a framework for policy action through a development account project on “Strengthening Social Protection for Pandemic Response”, which set out to support member States across the five Regional Commissions with the aim of strengthening national capacities to design and implement social protection policies, with a gender perspective, for sustained recovery from COVID-19, and increasing resilience, especially of the most vulnerable populations, against future exogenous shocks. In particular, the project aimed at strengthening care economy policies for recovery by developing innovative capacities and cooperation mechanisms to integrate the care economy into social protection and other public policies of COVID-19 recovery. The guidelines place strong emphasis on gender equality and the enhancement of human rights, particularly on “leaving no one behind” and underscoring methods for identification and targeting of new vulnerable groups and better integrating the care economy into social protection policies.

Many organizations reported **targeted capacity building efforts** to contribute to leaving no one behind. For example, International Trade Centre (ITC) implemented the [Refugee Employment and Skills Initiative](#) to create jobs and generate income for refugees and host communities, promoting self-reliance and economic resilience.

» ESCAP: Using Classification and Regression Tree analysis and the Dissimilarity index, ESCAP helped identify the groups furthest behind and analyze inequality of opportunity in Kiribati, the Maldives, Mongolia, Thailand, and Turkmenistan. The analysis also served as basic inputs for the United Nations Country Teams as part of the Common Country Analyses such as in Nepal and Mongolia in 2022. Additionally, ESCAP supported Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, and Thailand in disability-inclusive development policies. Moreover, in terms of addressing the challenges and opportunities of population ageing, the secretariat has supported countries in the implementation of international norms and standards and strengthening of national policies. This includes capacity building for Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, the Maldives, and Mongolia to conduct assessment of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing, and technical support to national stakeholders in Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste to develop policies for harnessing the demographic dividend with a gender dimension.

» ESCWA: Digital Inclusion: The Arab Digital Inclusion Platform (ADIP) was launched in 2020 to support policy and decision makers in developing or improving national policies and related action plans and guidelines for enhanced e-Accessibility, which will contribute to bridging the digital divide and enabling equal access for all, with a focus on people with disabilities. The platform allows policymakers to use policy templates and other technical and diagnostic tools to enhance e-accessibility frameworks.

3.3.2 Mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing

Prepared by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, the 2022 Financing for Sustainable Development Report identifies a “**great finance divide**” – the inability of poorer countries to raise sufficient resources and borrow affordably for investment, which will lead to a bigger gap or divide between developed and developing countries. The report recommended three sets of actions to bridge the finance divide. First, urgent measures to **address rising costs of borrowing and heightened debt risks**; Second, **increase public financing** for investment in public policy priorities and effectively spend mobilized resources on the SDGs and productive investment; Finally, **enhance transparency and a more complete information ecosystem** to strengthen the ability of countries to manage risks and use resources well and in line with sustainable development. Many UN system organizations shared initiatives in line with these recommendations. For example, many innovative instruments were developed to address debt, such as ESCWA’s [Climate/SDGs Debt Swap Initiative](#), ECA’s carbon credit markets for debt sustainability and debt-for-nature swaps.

Further to the follow-up on Addis Ababa Action Agenda supported by UN DESA, UNFCCC reported on the financing related agreements from the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference in November 2022, including the breakthrough agreement on [funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage](#).

Many UN system organizations reported on specific instruments to mobilize financing for targeted SDGs, such as UNCDF’s [Bridge Facility for LDCs](#), [Global Fund for Coral Reefs](#), UNCDF and UN-Habitat’s Joint [Cities Investment Facility](#), FAO’s Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF), the MSME Financing Gateway of ITC, among others. Several organizations mentioned intensified partnership and co-financing efforts to mobilize further financing.

In the least developed countries (LDCs), where UNCDF has its mandate, we believe that finance must be directed to where it matters most – in the last mile. - United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

Relevant UN system organizations continue to **foster a financial sector that better serves people and the planet** through various initiatives, such as the Net Zero Asset Owners Alliance, the

» Coordinated by the Debt and Development Finance Branch of UNCTAD and jointly implemented with ECA, ECLAC and ESCAP, the project *Response and Recovery: Mobilizing financial resources for development in the time of COVID-19* provides resources to support low- and middle-income developing countries (LICs and MICs) with diagnostic tools, policy analysis and recommendations, helping member states, experts and the public evaluate the policy responses designed to ensure a recovery aligned with a sustainable development path.

UNEP Finance Initiative Principles for Responsible Banking, the Sustainable Stock Exchange Initiative supported by UNCTAD, UN Global Compact, PRI and UNEP-FI, and the Secretary-General’s Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance supported by UN DESA.

3.3.3 Enhancing national implementation

In response to the challenges presented by multiple interconnected crises, UN system organizations demonstrated creativity and adaptability and ensured delivery of their respective mandates to support member states and enhance their national implementation of the SDGs.

UN system organizations continue to provide **capacity building and policy advice** in their respective areas of expertise, particularly for countries in special situations. For instance, UNDESA’s LDC Graduate Support Facility scaled up its pilot to an additional seven countries and expanded its partnerships; FAO has provided direct tailored advisory support on sustainable food systems in the ECA region to Albania, Armenia, Serbia and Tajikistan,

» UN DESA: The Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance, convened by the UN Secretary-General, includes 30 members from among the world’s largest investors and financial institutions. UN

DESA continued to support GISD as a vehicle to advocate for and scale-up sustainable finance to achieve the SDGs. The Alliance continued to shape and influence the global investment ecosystem for better alignment with the SDG Agenda, collaborating with key policy-making bodies, standard setters, regulators, and multilateral and regional development banks. The **common definition of Sustainable Development Investing (SDI) and standardized sector-specific metrics for measuring the degree of SDG-alignment of investments**, produced with support from UN DESA, has gained much traction. In October 2021, the GISD published a report with **recommendations for development banks and the global development community** for increasing private finance flows towards the SDGs. In June 2022, GISD launched an **updated model mandate in partnership with the International Corporate Governance Network** that seeks to ensure that asset owners' stewardship and sustainability objectives are reflected in the contract with their asset manager. Work is also underway to establish a pioneering **Sustainable Infrastructure Investment Platform (SIIP)** in cooperation with the Global Infrastructure Facility. This fund will be structured as a **blended finance vehicle** to pool a range of public and private investors to co-invest in high-impact sustainable infrastructure in emerging and frontier economies.

including through the Issue-Based Coalition on Sustainable Food Systems; IFAD has launched programmes to support the implementation of agricultural strategies and result-based management. Many UN system organizations, including the Regional Commissions, also mentioned concrete activities in support of national implementation, such as advising **development plans and strategies, financing frameworks, awareness raising workshops and webinars, building knowledge hubs and networks of policymakers and technical experts**, among others.

» The United Nations Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) brings together five United Nations agencies – UNEP, UNDP, ILO, UNIDO and UNITAR, whose expertise and support assist and lead partner countries towards their transition to an inclusive green economy by **providing policy advice, assessments, capacity building and analytical tools**. PAGE has 22 partner countries which it has supported in creating national policies. Learn more about country-level economic transformation outcomes of PAGE in Morocco, Kazakhstan, India, Argentina, South Africa, Mauritius, and Thailand [here](#).

» UNDRR: Using the existing metrics and mechanisms available for monitoring of disaster losses and damages, UNDRR supports countries to adopt and follow an evidence-based monitoring system to track progress in disaster risk reduction.

UN system organizations proactively **developed tools, mechanisms, and systems** to support national implementation of SDGs. UNCTAD developed the [Productive Capacities Index \(PCI\)](#) to support developing countries in enhancing their productive capacity, understanding their status, and identifying pathways to achieve sustainable economic growth. ESCAP developed a carbon pricing simulation tool to evaluate the macroeconomic effects of sector transitions.

3.3.4 Strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions

To strengthen **policy coherence and integrated solutions**, UN system organizations emphasized the importance of institutions to supported integrated decision-making, by bringing together different ministries, different sectors, and various stakeholders together to enable a **whole-of-government** and **whole-of-society approach**. Some mentioned the work of the Integrated Policy Practitioner's Network (IPPN), involving FAO, IOM,

UNDP, UNICEF, ILO and UNFPA, a global knowledge network bringing together development practitioners to advance integrated solutions for the achievement of the SDGs.

» The Issue-Based Coalition on Sustainable Food Systems (IBC-SFS) is an inter-agency UN mechanism aimed at supporting UN country teams in the area of food systems. The IBC-SFS has 9 members: FAO, WHO, UNICEF (three co-chairs), and UNECE, WFP, UNDP, WMO, IFAD, UNEP. The IBC-SFS has been recognized as an effective mechanism to strengthen advocacy and capacity development on food systems as well as to promote knowledge and experience exchange. One of the two pillars of its work is “Strengthen multi-sectoral collaboration and programmatic support to countries”, facilitating an integrated approach and coordination with other UN agencies and relevant partners. The work conducted by the IBC-SFS can be found [here](#).

Through the lens of their respective areas of expertise, UN system organizations have developed **policy guidance, training resources and analytical tools** to support Governments and entities across the UN Development System to effectively navigate the **tradeoffs and co-benefits**. Relevant examples include but not limited to ICAO’s guidance on the comprehensive National Aviation Planning Framework; UNDESA’s Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs; UNDRR’s support to the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change into development planning processes and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks; UNODC’s assistance in strengthening institutions, governance, and the rule of law to prevent and counter corruption, IOM’s support on migrant inclusion and piloted tools to collect more robust and comparable data on migrant integration.

3.3.5 Bolstering local action

Empowering local and regional leaders to implement the SDGs has been an impact builder for many UN system organizations. Harnessing the expertise and knowledge of local leaders and promoting inclusivity enhance the effectiveness

of SDG implementation on the ground. Networks such as the **Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments** and the **Local2030 Coalition** have made notable efforts to promote policy dialogues and knowledge-sharing, promoting a common vision of sustainable development at the local level.

» United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Mayors Migration Council (MMC), and the UN Migration Agency (IOM) co-lead the Mayors Mechanism (MM) with the aim to empower local and regional governments (LRGs) to catalyze smarter, bolder action to make migration work for all. The partnership is now scaling its proven model to other State-led migration and forced displacement fora, including the Global Compact for Migration and Global Compact on Refugees implementation, follow up and review. At the first ever International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) to review the GCM in 2022, local governments delivered the second largest number of pledges to advance the GCM after Member States, successfully influenced the IMRF Progress Declaration, and were welcomed as speakers across the official UN programme, contributing directly alongside national governments, civil society and UN agencies.

UN system organizations also provided **policy advice and capacity building support** to local governments in need in their respective areas of expertise, including supporting **resilience recovery from the pandemic** and preparation of the **Voluntary Local Reviews**. For example, IOM closely collaborates with local governments, developing 30 strategies to combat discrimination, piloting migrant integration data tools, and providing policy expertise in over 170 migration-related processes to promote and safeguard human rights. It has been underscored that **effective interagency-collaboration and multi-stakeholder partnerships** could help scale up impact at local levels. The United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) initiative, supported by 18 UN entities, has developed a KPI framework for strengthening city-level actions relating to smart and sustainable city transitions and providing urban stakeholders with a guidance



framework on bolstering smart city action at the regional and national level.

» UNOPS is committed to ensuring sustainability, including facilitating enhanced sustainability of its suppliers through the Delivering Responsibility in Vendor Engagement (DRiVE) programme. Using a defined process, which includes assessments of self-reported data sets and inspections, a corrective action plan is communicated to suppliers for their consideration towards areas of improvement. The aim is to foster targeted local action towards integrity with regard to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and UNOPS expectations in the areas of human rights, labor standards, equal opportunity, ethical conduct, health and safety, quality management and environmental management.

3.3.6 Reducing disaster risk and building resilience

The UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, highlighted in the 2020 QCP Resolution, guided interagency efforts to strengthen DRR in the context of COVID-19 response and recovery. UNDRR collaborated closely within the UN system, including through UNSDG and the UN Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (UN SLG) chaired by the SRSG for Disaster Risk Reduction, to ensure a recovery process that not only builds back better, but also strengthens resilience to reduce the risk of pandemics and a wider range of hazards in the future. UNDRR focused on implementing its new Strategic Framework 2022-2025 to accelerate global efforts in disaster risk reduction and achieve the Sendai Framework goals, introducing innovative programs, launching a Centre of Excellence for Disaster and Climate Resilience, monitoring progress through the Sendai Framework Monitor and launching reports. The Mid-Term Review of the Sendai Framework assessed implementation and made recommendations for prioritized actions.

UN system organizations emphasized the importance of **high-quality risk analysis** to inform decision-making and strengthen governance. They

» The "*Global status of multi-hazard early warning systems: Target G*" Report, released by UNDRR on 2022 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, provides the baseline for the Secretary-General's Early Warning for All Initiative, which is co-lead by UNDRR and WMO. The report offers good practices in forecasting capabilities, early warning coverage, and systems to act on them. It also responds to the UN Secretary-General's call for "early warning for all".

focused on **knowledge acquisition and sharing**, establishing research centers and training institutes. Coordination mechanisms, working groups, and meetings were organized to facilitate **collaboration, capacity building and awareness-raising** on disaster risk reduction. **Methodologies** have been developed to assess economic impact and the vulnerability of displaced persons. Scientific contributions provided climate change assessments, extreme events simulations, and improved meteorological forecasting. Several **reports and guidelines** were published, including communication plans for emergencies. Financing was directed towards **humanitarian interventions and resilience-building** efforts. Funds were allocated to **agriculture, telecommunication networks, digital infrastructure, and urban adaptation**. **Insurance schemes and disaster risk financing strategies** were developed for vulnerable populations, for example in Small Island Developing States such as Pacific Islands. An **integrated approach to disaster risk reduction** was emphasized, linking with health and the fight against infectious diseases.

» WFP has implemented the forecast-based financing and climate insurance to address multiple dimensions of risk effectively and efficiently. Climate risk financing instruments can protect all vulnerable individuals, households and communities in a given geographic region from a wide range of climate-related risks and reduce expenditures on humanitarian responses to repeated climate shocks.

» UNEP concluded Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) projects in five vulnerable countries. These projects aimed to develop and demonstrate models for scaling up the implementation of Eco-DRR and nature-based solutions for building resilience. UNEP's initiatives reached over 300,000 beneficiaries, involved training community-based organizations, and focused on protecting and restoring ecosystems. UNEP also promoted Climate Information Early Warning Systems and developed the Strata data platform to enhance system-wide capacity for integrated risk analysis and prioritize risk mitigation measures.

» [Aid for Trade](#) by the World Trade Organization (WTO) aims to bolster developing nations, particularly least developed ones, in amplifying their participation in international trade. By fortifying trade infrastructure and productive potential, the initiative contributed economic growth and aided in poverty reduction.

» The ITU's flagship [Connect2Recover initiative](#) supports countries in their efforts to identify gaps and bottlenecks for the utilization of broadband networks and digital technologies to respond to and mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes recovery following the pandemic, readiness for the "new normal", and preparedness for any future pandemics. It started in September 2020 with two founding partners, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan and the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre, Saudi Arabia. Connect2Recover has now expanded to five Member States (which includes the two founding partners, and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Australia, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic. There are also two Sector Members, Huawei and Vodafone. The scope of the work of Connect2Recover has increased to 44 projects in six regions and assisted beneficiary countries to strengthen resilient networks and connectivity. The partners have seen the impact of the work and are providing additional contributions to extend the work of Connect2Recover.

3.3.7 Solving challenges through international cooperation and enhancing the global partnership

Through their respective mandates, UN system organizations supported Member-State-led deliberations to further strengthen **international cooperation and global solidarity** to address key global challenges, such as the agreement to consider a multidimensional vulnerability index for small island developing States as a criterion for both concessional finance and debt relief eligibility, or debt relief efforts including through G20, or the agreement on funding arrangement on loss and damage associated with climate change, or the agreement to negotiate an internationally legally binding instrument by 2024 to end plastic pollution, or supporting migrants, refugees and displaced persons through the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees. The Secretary General's [Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance \(GCRG\)](#) is another timely example of global solidarity in face of pressing interconnected challenges.

Recognizing the power of **multi-stakeholder collaborations**, UN system organizations actively engage relevant stakeholders beyond Governments, including the private sector, civil society, academia, and international financial institutions, among others. Numerous examples of collaborative multi-stakeholder partnerships have been mentioned in their responses.



3.3.8 Harnessing science, technology and innovation with a greater focus on digital transformation for sustainable development

» ITU, UNDESA, UNIDO, UNECE, UN-HABITAT, WMO, UNDP, International Water Resources Association, UNU-EGOV, Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency, UNEP-DTU, United for Efficiency, have developed the [Toolkit on Digital Transformation for People-Oriented Cities and Communities](#), which provides resources to facilitate strategizing and planning the digital transformation of cities and communities to promote sustainable, inclusive, resilient and improved quality of life for residents in cities and communities. These resources include international standards and guidance, the latest research and projections, and cutting-edge reports on a variety of timely topics relevant to the digital transformation of cities and communities. The Toolkit is structured in such a way that it can benefit cities and communities, as well as regions and countries regardless of their level of smart or digital development, or their geographical or economic status. Currently, the Toolkit comprises of different modules covering topics related to digital transformation strategy, data processing and management, digital inclusion, accessibility, reducing environmental impact, smart energy management, smart water management, emergency management, smart governance and smart manufacturing.

Building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable digital societies and economies is a foundation for achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, the pandemic has placed digitalization and digital transformation firmly on the priority list of many UN system organizations. Various **initiatives and tools** were mentioned in the responses, highlighting how digital technology can help advance various SDGs.

For instance, FAO has presented its Digital REU 2022-2030 strategy, focusing on empowering

smallholders, family farms, and youth through digitalization and innovation in agriculture. The Advancing Digital Cooperation and Development-Arab States Action Programme (AD-CD-ASAP), launched by ESCWA, promotes open government, e-participation, and innovation in the public sector in the Arab region. The [iDiaspora platform](#), by IOM, serves as a hub for diaspora communities, enabling knowledge exchange and empowering migrants as development actors. Similarly, the [ecomConnect platform](#) connects entrepreneurs from developing countries, fostering business opportunities and market exploration. The Coalition for Digital Environmental Sustainability (CODES), co-founded by UNEP, harnessed data and digital tools to accelerate environmental sustainability. Building on eTrade Readiness Assessment, UNCTAD helps developing countries strengthen digital readiness for e-commerce development, particularly in LDCs. The Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative and the Transformative Innovation Network fostered regional digital cooperation and connectivity. UN Relief and UNRWA aimed to modernize its services and operations through digital solutions, ensuring refugees' access to quality services and equipping young people with the necessary skills for participation in modern society and economies.

» The ITU Smart Islands programme adopts an innovative approach to deliver connectivity and digital services to unconnected and underserved communities. It aims to transform rural and coastal communities, improving their livelihood and well-being by connecting them to a range of digitally enabled services. It is designed to address the socio-economic challenges faced by communities through digital transformation at community level with emphasis on vulnerable populations (women, youth, and persons with disabilities) to leave no one behind. It has four pillars of (i) improving broadband connectivity (ii) making broadband affordable (iii) enhancing digital skills and (iv) providing digital services, to impact people's lives based on their local priorities.

Smart Villages and Smart Islands adopt a whole-of-government ap-

proach at community level strategically aligning the resources of all stakeholders (government, industry, development agencies, civil society, academia among others), and holistic response to SDG-related needs. It also enhances the ability of governments and communities to augment COVID recovery efforts towards a post COVID digital future, where no one is left behind. Following the ongoing pilot implementations in Niger (Smart Village) and Vanuatu (Smart Islands), a Smart Village project is currently operational in Pakistan. ITU has further received expressions of interest from Fiji, Kiribati, the Maldives, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

UNU and UNDESA collaborated on the UN e-Government Survey, assessing e-Government development globally and providing benchmarking tools. The SMART-WaterDomain project focused on smart wastewater reuse and developing decision support tools based on real-time data. UNRWA invested in data and statistics for SDG realization, implementing e-Health for patient records and the Education Management Information System (EMIS) for evidence-based decision-making in education.

The organizations explore ways to use frontier technologies like **AI, IoT, and unmanned aerial vehicles** to accelerate city transformation and improve service delivery; to apply the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights to technology companies' activities; to support science-policy interface and evidence-based decision-making at all levels.

UN initiatives such as the National Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and the UNECE Transformative Innovation Network analyzed trends and challenges in transformative innovation and helped to strengthen government policies and institutions for sustainable development. Conferences related to science, technology and innovation, information and communication technologies (ICT) such as the **Multistakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation**

for the SDGs (STI Forum), World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) provides relevant platforms for exchanging innovative practices and scaling up solutions for SDG acceleration.

3.3.9 Investing in data and statistics for the SDGs

"To not leave anyone behind and achieve sustainable development for all, we need information. We need to ensure that national SDG monitoring frameworks include child-focused indicators and greater investment in high-quality and disaggregated data, including capacity and innovation to collect." – UNICEF

"Inclusion of forcibly displaced and stateless into national statistics exercises is essential to identifying and hence addressing gaps in achieving SDGs for refugees and hosts. Tracking socio-economic outcomes for forcibly displaced and nationals in a comparative fashion is critical to inform optimal investments by development partnerships needed to complement investments by the humanitarian community and the hosting state.." – UNHCR

Universal access to high quality, credible, up-to-date and disaggregated data and statistics is critical for effective monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation, ensuring that no one is left behind. UN system organizations shared latest data updates related to their respective areas of expertise, such as the launch of the new Global Indicators Data Platform in March 2022 with improved features, and the launch of the prototype World Environment Situation Room (WESR) at UNEA in February 2022. UNODC has developed methodological guidance to measure illicit financial flows and supported data collection for SDG 16 indicators related to peace, justice, and strong institutions. FAO introduced innovative methodologies and delivery solutions to enhance capacity-building in data collection and analysis for food and agriculture-related SDGs. OHCHR focused on leveraging data for human rights, aligning their efforts within the SDG framework. UPU demonstrated the value of post big data for measuring development indicators and monitoring SDG goals.

Continued efforts have been made to **strengthen data availability, quality, and accessibility**, including monitoring, data collection. ESCAP developed the National SDG Tracker tool, enabling countries to assess their own progress towards the SDGs us-

ing their own data and indicators. UNU-EHS led a research hub to develop improved delta-level SDG monitoring and assessment frameworks in delta regions, addressing specific challenges in these areas.

» The [World Environment Situation Room \(WESR\)](#) organizes data, information and knowledge around key environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste; SDGs; and Multilateral Environment Agreements. It includes statistical and geospatial data, as well as a rich knowledge and publication repository. The WESR prototype was launched at UNEA 5.2 in February 2022. To date, WESR has federated more than 30 UNEP data platforms and topics including InforMEA, SCP-HAT, UN Biodiversity Lab, STRATA, IQAir, GEMStat, environmental SDG data downloader, environmental assessments, and foresight briefs. It also includes a knowledge repository with over 11000 publications.

One of the use cases is WESR for Common Country Analysis (WESR CCA). WESR CCA presents data in dashboards for a total of 39 countries in 5 UNEP Regions using the DPSIR framework (Drivers, Pressures, States, Impacts and Responses). WESR CCA can be used by UN Country Teams to source country specific data and analysis supporting common country analysis (CCA) and sustainable development cooperation framework (UN-SDCF) processes.

Efforts were also made to **strengthen statistical systems and improving evaluation, analyses, and data-driven policymaking, and enhance international cooperation on data and statistics.**

» **Intensifying international cooperation on data and statistics at the World Data Forum**

Over 700 in-person participants and more than 7,000 virtual participants from over 100 countries joined the Third World Data Forum held in Bern, Switzerland, bringing together various professional groups, such as information technology, geospatial information managers, data scientists, and users. The hybrid event along with the online forum platform supported intensifying cooperation between national statistical systems, international organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector. Among the highlights from the forum are:

- the launch of the [Bern Data Compact for the Decade of Action on the Sustainable Development Goals](#) to define the global data ecosystem needed to use data effectively for people, planet, prosperity, and peace;
- the [Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data](#), a new, free online platform providing access to data on 36,000 projects, allowing aid recipients, donors, and the public at large to understand data financing flows, identify funding gaps, and connect to new communities of experts; and
- the [Global Data Facility](#), a new World Bank-hosted fund to support data and statistics priorities at the global, regional, national, and community levels designed in collaboration with UN DESA.

3.3.10 Strengthening the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

The High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the United Nations central platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Forum is mandated to provide political leadership and provide space for in-depth thematic review, progress towards focused SDGs, as well as Voluntary National Reviews, among others. UN system organization actively engaged in HLPF through **written inputs, contribution to thematic reviews, EGMs, background notes, side events, VNR Labs, special events**, to showcase the work they are doing and advocate on important topics in line with their mandates and areas of expertise. Many

proactively provide support to member States, including **support their Voluntary National Reviews** at the national level.

“VNRs should portray a realistic picture of a country’s complex reality, while the interactive discussion following each VNR presentation should be an honest exchange between countries in a space of peer-review and learning from each other, which also entails how particular SDG challenges have been overcome. Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) gained a lot of momentum in recent years and ECLAC recommends to further elaborate how these complementing reviews at the local or subnational level could be better connected to the VNRs and integrated in a more formalized way into the HLPF.” - ECLAC

“The COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis demonstrate that development that is not risk-informed is not sustainable. The HLPF is therefore strengthened when it considers the impacts of all hazards on development progress and explores development solutions that reduce risk for current and future generations.” – UNDRR

“The HLPF should be a platform where the voices of children and young people are heard and acted upon” – UNICEF

Meaningful inclusion and engagement of Major Groups and Other Stakeholders at the HLPF has been one of the key elements to ensure the broadest support to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Organizations work to create more space for diverse voices to join the table. Targeted assistance was provided to strengthen inclusion and stakeholder engagement. Suggestions were also made by UN system organizations on ways to further strengthen HLPF’s legitimacy and effectiveness going forward.

3.4 Integrated policies or initiatives that UN system organizations have highlighted in support of the 2022 Ministerial Declaration (based on Question 6)

3.4.1 Measures to “take advantage of emerging technologies and their applications, as appropriate, in order to maximize impact and effectiveness in data analysis and collection and stress the need to bridge the digital gap

among and within countries (based on Question 6.1)

“The digital transformation can change the trajectory of Africa, help us reach our Sustainable Development Goals and bring us closer to the Africa We Want. It is time to make good use of the digital revolution to change the way we do development in Africa.” – ECA

23 out of 29 UN system organizations responded to this question, sharing inputs related to equal access to technology, data-driven policy formulation, and multi-stakeholder partnerships, highlighting the commitment of these agencies to foster inclusive and sustainable development through technological advancements.

•Bridge the Digital Divide in Developing Countries: Recognizing the widening digital divide exacerbated by the pandemic, UN system organizations have prioritized efforts to bridge the gap and promote digital inclusion in developing countries. ECA hosted the Connected African Girls Hybrid Coding Camp to close the Gender Digital Divide on the African continent by providing technical and soft skills to girls and young women, preparing them for the digital economy. ESCAP, on the other hand, had committed to providing digital skills training, strengthening digital connectivity, addressing digital trust, and promoting an inclusive digital economy and society in Asia and the Pacific.

•Utilization of Technologies for Policy Formulation: UN system organizations focus on harnessing big data and emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and natural language processing to collect, analyze, and interpret data for decision-making and policy formulation in various fields. Organizations including IOM, ICAO, and UPU have been actively utilizing emerging technologies to provide actionable data for humanitarian aid, propose data solutions for aviation infrastructure planning and implementation, and contribute to further growth of the e-commerce market.

•Partnerships and Capacity Building: Many UN system organizations, such as UNIDO and UNOOSA, emphasized the importance of global cooperation, partnerships, and capacity building in implementing technological solutions and achieving SDGs. UNOOSA implemented activities to promote the use of space-based applications and technologies to build capaci-

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ties of Members States in using space technologies for decision making. UNIDO also worked together with the International Hydrogen Energy Centre in China to develop the skills needed for establishing regulatory frameworks, safety codes, and industrial standards in the burgeoning field of hydrogen energy.

3.4.2 Measures to “work with the newly established United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub, hosted by FAO, to support Governments to develop and strengthen SDG-based national pathways for sustainable food systems transformation” (based on Question 6.2)

19 out of the 29 UN system organizations responded to this question, sharing relevant measures to work with the newly established United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub to support Governments to develop and strengthen SDG-based national pathways for sustainable food systems transformation.

Highlighted themes of the initiatives include:

- Regional Plans for Food Security:** UN system organizations have implemented initiatives focused on addressing food security and building regional plans. These initiatives aimed to respond to shortages of food and fertilizers in Africa, improve access to fertilizers in Latin America and the Caribbean, and assess the vulnerabilities of Arab food systems. A strong focus centered on achieving regional food security and eradicating hunger by coordinating efforts, updating regional plans, and supporting countries in implementing their national pathways.

- Collaboration and Coordination:** Many UN system organizations collaborated to address food system challenges. The African Trade Exchange Platform (ATEX) is a joint effort by ECA, African Export–Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK), African Union Commission (AUC), and the Secretary General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat. Similarly, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub involves various UN system organizations like FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNOPS, UNEP, UNOOSA, UNIDO, and ECLAC. Such collaborations facilitate knowledge exchange, coordination, and resource mobilization, enhancing the effectiveness of food system interventions.

- Technology and Innovation:** The use of technology and innovation is prominent throughout the initiatives. The African Trade Exchange

Platform (ATEX) is a digital business-to-business and business-to-government exchange platform aimed at enhancing intra-African trade. Additionally, the “Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT) for Digital Agriculture” (FG-AI4A) explores AI and IoT technologies for agriculture. Emphasizing technology and innovation in food systems can lead to improved efficiency, productivity, and sustainability.

- Inclusivity and Resilience:** Organizations have a strong focus on inclusivity, particularly regarding equitable livelihoods, gender balance, and support to vulnerable countries and regions. The initiatives recognized the role of migrants in food systems, and some projects specifically target Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to enhance their resilience to climate and non-climate risks.

3.5 Recommendations from UN system organizations on measures to overcome challenges to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs, taking into account the thematic reviews and voluntary national reviews conducted to date (based on Question 7)

UN system organizations reflected on the impact of multiple and interconnected crises in the mid-point in SDG implementation and shared their expectations for the upcoming 2023 SDG Summit in September:

- The SDG Summit must carry out a **comprehensive review** of the state of the SDGs, **respond to** the impact of multiple and interlocking crises facing the world.

- It must provide **high-level political guidance on priorities, transformative and accelerated actions** needed to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

- It must consolidate and build on **critical inputs from recent major conferences and their outcomes**.

- It should be a venue to present national, regional-level **best practices** and promote **policy coherence**.

- It should be an opportunity to build a **renewed social contract** anchored in **human rights**.

- The Summit should serve to **galvanize global**

commitments, especially needed investments, collaboration, and support for developing countries in their pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.

Many concrete recommendations were shared on the priorities to overcome challenges and accelerate SDG implementation going forward, including, among others:

- Harness the **synergies and co-benefits** of-fered by the 2030 Agenda and adopting a **whole-of-government** approach are seen as crucial for acceleration.
- Scale up investments in critical transformations** such as education, health, agrifood systems transformation, digital transformation, energy transition, and social protection.
- Reinvigorate international cooperation to support developing countries, particularly countries in special situations**, to build capacity and help them harness technology and innovation for the implementation of the SDGs. **Transform economic and financial systems** so they lead and power the shift towards sustainability.
- Leave no one behind**, with special attention to marginalized and vulnerable groups. Develop **comprehensive, disaggregated, and high-quality data**, allowing policymakers to identify disparities, design targeted interventions, and track progress more accurately, leading to **more informed and targeted policies**, achieving sustainable development for all.
- Adopt a whole-of-society approach**. All stakeholders, governments, private sector, civil society, academia, youth, and the public must come together in partnerships to accelerate SDG implementation. By **fostering collaboration, building trust, promoting knowledge exchange and resource sharing**, multi-stakeholder partnerships can create effective and sustainable solutions for local communities and scale up impact for SDG acceleration.
- Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization**, building resilient economies, promoting risk-informed and green growth policies, adopting sustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitating skills development. Support the sustainability transformation of **Micro-, Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs)**.

Several topics were mentioned as areas of interest for further attention, such as the **care economy, informality, digital public goods, and Beyond GDP**.

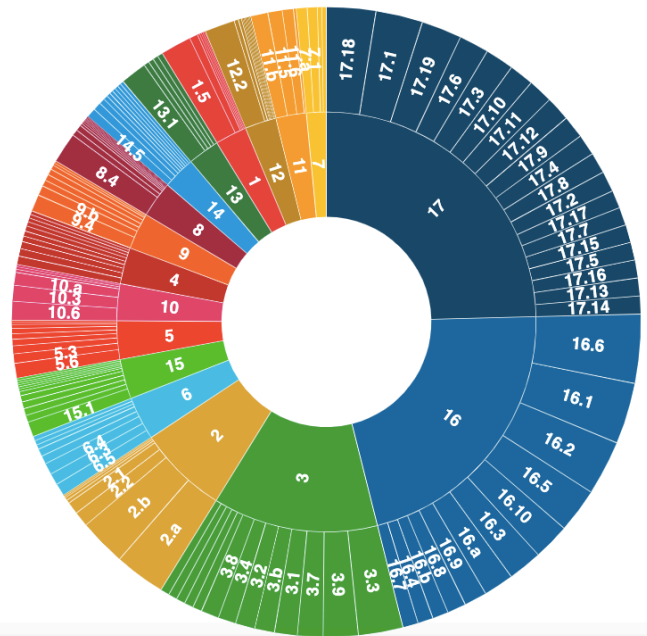


Figure 5: Reflection of linkage to most relevant SDGs based on inputs of Question 7 (created by [LinkedSDGs](#))

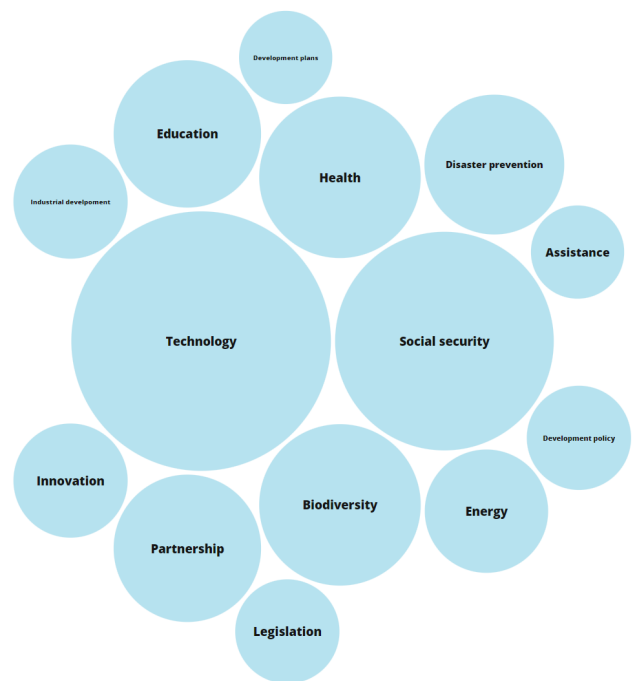


Figure 6: Word Cloud based on inputs of Question 7 (created by [LinkedSDGs](#))

