

Terms of Reference

United Nations Task Force on Leveraging Partnerships towards the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Background

The Secretary-General has called for a comprehensive rescue plan for both people and the planet, emphasizing the urgency of accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Leveraging global, regional and country-led initiatives to maximize synergies between these initiatives and the Sustainable Development Goals will be critical to scale and accelerate progress within the next seven years.

The United Nations Task Force on Leveraging Partnerships towards the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda (the Task Force) is being established with the goal of establishing synergies between existing global, regional and country-led initiatives and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Task Force will collaborate proactively with interested Member States and regional organizations to foster cohesive and concerted efforts towards achieving the SDGs, ensuring that these efforts do not duplicate or overlap with existing United Nations inter-agency mechanisms.

A scoping of global, regional and country-level initiatives relevant to the Task Force will be performed against clearly defined criteria as part of the scoping process. Examples of initiatives that may be most relevant include amongst others the Digital Transformation Initiative, the United Nations Digital Library, the Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), the Future Alliance for Africa (FAA) initiative, the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), the Human Security approach, the African Union Agenda 2073, and the European Union's Global Gateway. The Task Force further recognizes the critical importance of delivering on the SDGs in developing countries, in particular countries in special situations, namely Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), to secure the overall breakthroughs needed to accelerate the SDGs implementation.

Objectives

The overarching objective of the Task Force is to contribute to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development by promoting synergies and leveraging the available resources of relevant global, regional and country-led initiatives.

The Task Force will provide a platform for dialogue to drive greater alignment and coherence, in addition to action and facilitate engagement with those global, regional and country-led initiatives, in support of the SDGs.

The Task Force will adhere to the principle of national ownership, align with countries' (

The Task Force will play a complementary role in supporting the momentum of existing mechanisms or country-led initiatives on SDG partnership building, such as the High Impact Initiatives selected by the 2023 SDG Summit on crucial dimensions of SDG acceleration, and in the lead up to the Summit of the Future and beyond.

Functions

The Task Force will perform the following functions:

1. Promoting synergies and complementarities in action and identifying areas for future cooperation, aligned with countries' cooperation frameworks.

2. Facilitating strategic policy support for global, regional and country-led initiatives by fostering dialogue between the UN, these initiatives, and among the initiatives themselves.

a. Serve as a forum for strategic discussions and solution finding to overcome challenges faced by Member States.

b. Promote coherence in the UN's engagement with these initiatives and facilitate cooperation with non-UN partners.

c. Foster information sharing, best practices, and progress tracking among development initiatives, working with relevant entities of the UN system.

Promoting partnerships for SDG acceleration, prioritizing SDG transitions, namely energy, food systems, digital, the triple planetary crisis = climate, biodiversity and pollution = jobs and social protection, as well as finance.

a. Identify national, regional and global capacity gaps and immediate actions required across the UN system, to promote partnerships to increase the impact of the global, region and country-led initiatives in accelerating SDGs.

b. Propose solutions to address institutional and operational constraints to bring the SDGs to scale by coordinating and leveraging country-global, region and country-led initiatives and promoting their alignment with the SDGs.

3. Promoting the pooling of existing investments and catalytic resources and expertise of the UN system in

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implementation in accordance with the mandates, missions and responsibilities of UN entities and agencies.

Building upon the comparative advantages, roles, responsibilities, and coordination experience of its members, the Task Force will develop guidance to promote a UN approach in ensuring coherent and coordinated UN response to these global, regional and country-led initiatives that is coherent and consistent with the 2030 Agenda acceleration, informed by scientific analysis and insights from the SG Progress Report on the Sustainable Development Goals, the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) and other relevant UN reports.

Monitoring

To monitor progress and results, the Task Force will be guided by the principles and regulatory frameworks of planning, monitoring and evaluation as promulgated by the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG), while taking into consideration the existing evaluation policies.

