



**GLOBAL CLIMATE
& SDG SYNERGY
CONFERENCE** ▶▶

TOKYO
20-21 JULY
2022

Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies Between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development

*Building the evidence base for synergistic action
in support of raising climate and SDGs ambition*

TOKYO JAPAN | HYBRID

20-21 July 2022

CONFERENCE REPORT



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



United Nations
Climate Change





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20-21 July 2022

Co-convoked by:



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



United Nations
Climate Change

Hosted by:



環境省

Ministry of the Environment

In partnership with:



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

Note: The complete documentation of the Conference can be accessed via the dedicated Conference Website: <https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2022>. More photos can be found on the Conference Website <https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgsconference-2022/page/photo-album>.



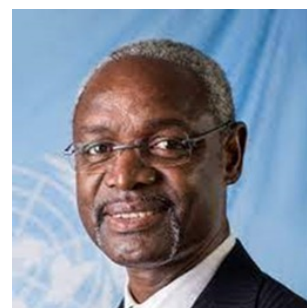
“To get the Sustainable Development Goals on track and keep the goal of 1.5 degrees alive, we must dramatically increase the pace of implementation and ramp up ambition.”

“The evidence shows that an integrated approach that seeks to strengthen synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda is critical and entirely possible.”

Mr. LIU Zhenmin
Under-Secretary-General
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

“Climate change is the ultimate threat multiplier.”

“It negatively impacts all SDGs and worsens most of humanity’s most pressing challenges such as poverty, hunger, drought, desertification, access to clean air, water energy, and more. Because of this, we need to speed up both the implementation of the SDGs and of the Paris Agreement, for the benefit of all of humanity.”



Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw,
Acting Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention on
Climate Change



“We greatly welcome your participation in this conference which is aiming to gather good practices on synergies between climate and SDGs and accelerate action toward the goals.”

“The Ministry of the Environment is pleased to introduce some of Japan’s *Decarbonization Leading Areas*.”

H.E. Mr. Tsutoshi Yamaguchi
Minister of the Environment, Japan

“We are committed to working with other academic and research institutions to provide analytical support needed to promote fruitful synergies between climate and SDG action.”

Ms. Sawako Shirahase
Senior Vice-Rector
United Nations University



“We need to build a convincing evidence base for the value of integrated climate and SDG action which will be more effective than a silo approach.”

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi
President
Institute for Global Environmental
Strategies (IGES)

Acknowledgements

The Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was held in Tokyo, Japan, 20-21 July 2022.

The Conference was co-convened by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The co-conveners greatly appreciate the support of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) in hosting the Conference. The professional contributions of the leadership and the staff of the United Nations University (UNU) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) as co-organizing partners is also thankfully acknowledged.

The Co-organizers thank the United Nations Information Centre in Tokyo for its support. Logistic support provided by the STAGE Group, Tokyo, is gratefully acknowledged.

The Third Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has greatly benefited from the contributions of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The Technical Advisory Group comprised of the following members:

- Mr. Venkatachalam Anbumozhi, Director of Research, Strategy and Innovation, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)
- Mr. Yunus Arikan, Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI World Secretariat
- Ms. Vibha Dhawan, Director-General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI)
- Ms. Ermira Abdiu Fida, Deputy Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Mr. Junichi Fujino, Programme Director, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- Ms. Miriam Medel Garcia, Head of External Outreach, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye, Coordinator Green Jobs Programme, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Ms. Miriam Hinojosa, Liaison Officer, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Mr. Hans Olav Ibrenk, Special Envoy Climate and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway
- Ms. Somya Joshi, Head of Division, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
- Ms. Lila Karbassi, Senior Programme Officer, UN Global Compact
- Ms. Amanda McKee, Deputy Director, Knowledge and Learning, NDC Partnership
- Ms. Baysa Naran, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative
- Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director, ENERGIA
- Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada, Deputy Director, Climate and Environment Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, Head of Office, UN Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD)
- Mr. Neil Pratt, Senior Officer, Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
- Ms. Leena Srivastava, Deputy Director General for Science, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
- Mr. Akio Takemoto, Head of Programme and Administration, United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)
- Mr. Nuki Agya Utama, Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Energy
- Mr. Rintaro Yamaguchi, Senior Researcher, Environmental Policy Section, Social Systems Division, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan (NIES)

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Conference Summary



1. The Conference was co-convened by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and it was hosted by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, in partnership with the United Nations University (UNU) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). The Conference was attended by around 2000 participants, including more than 130 speakers from over 100 countries around the world.
2. The High-level Segment of the Conference was joined by 30 Ministers, heads of UN organizations and agencies, and other high-level representatives including from business, youth, and academia. In their statements, all representatives emphasized the need for greater SDG and climate ambition, and the need to urgently ramp up joint implementation. Addressing existing gaps such as in financing, data, and capacity building was also highlighted.
3. The Conference Programme included six parallel sessions under the following themes: (1.1) Implementing a nexus approach across key sectors and policy areas; (1.2) Ensuring just transitions, enabling empowerment and enhancing knowledge and skills; (1.3) Forging partnerships for synergistic action; (2.1) Overcoming barriers: financing, technology and innovation; (2.2) Harnessing climate-SDG synergies and co-benefits whilst closing the ambition gap; (2.3) Measurement, reporting and verification. The Conference Programme also included a number of associated in-person and virtual side events.
4. An informative Conference Background Note on advancing climate-SDG synergies was prepared and discussed at the Conference. The Conference Note was complemented by a series of technical briefs prepared by members of the Technical Advisory Group.

Key messages

5. **Ramping up action on synergistic opportunities to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement is needed now more than ever.** Evidence clearly suggests that we are not on track to achieving these two critical agendas. There is also an increasing pool of evidence that suggests delivering win-win outcomes for climate action and the SDGs is entirely possible, but the full potential of such synergistic outcomes can only be realised if deliberate action is taken. For example, the latest IPCC report shows that if we take decisive climate action now, there is potential to not only advance the SDGs immediately but also gain tremendous development co-benefits in the long-term such as \$43 trillion in economic output by 2070.
6. **Realizing the SDGs while accelerating progress towards a climate resilient, net-zero future requires getting the whole of government and whole of society on board.** Active engagement of line ministries as well as sub-national and local authorities in integrated planning and implementation is critical. Meaningful engagement of youth, civil society, academia, the private sector, and indigenous peoples is also vital.
7. **Just transition and leaving no one behind should be at the centre of integrated policy and programme planning and implementation.** Climate action should prioritize the needs of marginalised, poor and vulnerable communities, as well as those who will be impacted

the most by transformational pathways. At the same time, we should strengthen national and local development and climate strategies including NDCs, building on existing integrated approaches, such as Circulating and Ecological spheres and Decarbonization Leading Areas, aimed at advancing SDGs and climate action.

- 8. Enhancing capabilities of various stakeholders to pursue synergistic implementation of climate and SDGs agendas is crucial.** This includes enhancing capacities to identify synergistic opportunities and to overcoming technical, financial, planning, organizational, and behavioural barriers.

Way forward

Participants highlighted that synergistic implementation of climate action and the SDGs should be based on:

- 9. Strengthening the evidence base for synergistic action.** The preparations for the Conference have greatly benefited from the guidance that was provided by the Technical Advisory Group. Building on the work of this network and in collaboration with other stakeholders, a comprehensive global analytical synthesis report on climate action and SDGs synergies may be considered to fill existing knowledge gaps and provide scientific underpinnings for accelerated synergistic action towards 2030 and beyond.
- 10. Convening multi-stakeholder dialogues at all levels.** Facilitating global, regional and thematic exchanges of practice on advancing climate and SDG synergies, for example, in the context of future UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks or other relevant events, can strengthen knowledge sharing and communities of practices tailored to local conditions and needs. Convening the next conference at UN Headquarters in New York would help contribute to fostering alignment with the High-level Political Forum and the SDG Summit.
- 11. Enhancing integrated planning.** Existing instruments such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) offer opportunities for integrated planning and synergistic implementation on climate action and the SDGs.
- 12. Partnerships for transformation.** We need all actors – national and local governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, communities and individuals – to work together to deliver on the full potential of synergistic action to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. In particular, youth must play a game-changing role in a multi-decade journey of transformation across the world. Building on the successful “Youth Day” at this Conference, providing further meaningful engagement opportunities for youth is necessary.
- 13. Informing key intergovernmental processes on climate and the SDGs.** Relevant global milestones such as the SDG Summit (in 2023 and 2027), the High-level Political Forum, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties, the Convention of Biological Diversity Conference of Parties, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the on-going global stocktaking efforts under the Paris Agreement must be leveraged to mainstream and strengthen synergistic action at all levels. The output document should be fed into these processes.

Conference Proceedings



1. High-level Segment: Advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and accelerating the transition to a carbon neutral economy

Opening Session

At the High-level Segment of the Conference, Ministers, heads of UN organizations and agencies, business leaders, scientists and youth representatives emphasized the need for greater SDG and climate ambition. The need to urgently boost joint implementation and address gaps such as financing and capacity building was also recognized.



H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, Minister of the Environment of Japan

Japan's Environment Minister Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, welcoming participants as host of the conference, highlighted his country's efforts towards deep decarbonization through innovative fuels, inter-city collaboration and economic transition bonds. The Japanese Government, which currently holds the Presidency of the G7, also announced a new target of raising USD 15 billion through the G7 for decarbonization and plans to issue "green transition" bonds.



Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Acting Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, said that "to get the Sustainable Development Goals on track and keep the goal of 1.5 degrees alive, we must dramatically increase the pace of implementation and ramp up ambition. An integrated approach between the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda is critical", he said, "and is entirely possible".

Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Acting Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change (UNFCCC), said that the climate change crisis and sustainable development challenges, such as land degradation, are "inseparable" and that the last few years have shown us how interconnected our world is with respect to achieving the 2030 agenda on sustainable development goals. He called for greater synergies at the national level, through cooperation across ministries, and globally, through enhanced collaboration amongst international organizations and in particular within the UN organizations.

Citing the long list of devastating global crises that have disrupted sustainable development efforts over the last few years, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, said that “we must turn this perfect storm into an opportunity to transform our systems, become more climate-resilient and transition to a greener economy. We must come together to rescue the SDGs and the Paris goals before it is too late,” she stated.



Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

Mr. Abdulla Shahid of Maldives, President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, emphasized that climate change is cross-cutting, affecting all the SDGs. “Can we call social programmes sustainable if they ignore the need to adapt to a changing climate?” he asked, also emphasizing hope for greater international cooperation. Also very importantly, he observed that “Sustainable development is only possible when it is in harmony with and supportive of the environment. And in the same spirit, the climate crisis can only be meaningfully addressed, if actions are in accordance with the tools and targets of the SDGs.”



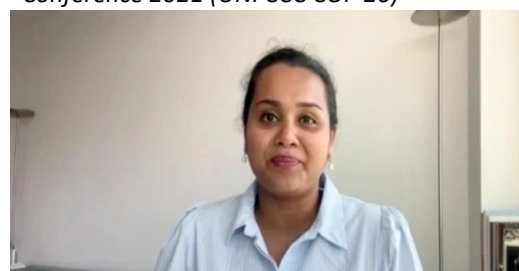
H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives

Special efforts on climate and sustainable development initiated by the Government of the United Kingdom were summarized by Mr. Alok Sharma, Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom, and President of the 26th Session of Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2021.



H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma, Member of Parliament, United Kingdom, and President of the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (UNFCCC COP 26)

The UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, Ms. Jayathama Wickramanayake, urged delegates to allow youth to be part of crafting solutions. “Let youth lead the way,” she stated.



Ms. Jayathama Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth

Moderated panel discussion with distinguished stakeholder representatives



Session group photo

In the spirit of encouraging multistakeholder dialogue, the High-level Segment also featured an interactive panel discussion with distinguished stakeholder representatives

Mr. Hoesung Lee, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, summarizing the dire findings of the three major IPCC reports in the past year, called for a greater sense of urgency and said that there is “no time for half measures” and “no time for lip service to climate action”. Technologies and financial resources are available, and the general public is increasingly supporting climate action, yet political will is lagging. Accelerated climate action is critical to sustainable development. No country alone can tackle climate change. Hence greater international cooperation is urgently needed.

Ms. Sandra Wu, Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd, and Board Member of the United Nation Global Compact highlighted the many new resource-conserving business models that are being developed by the private sector. Car manufacturers engaging in car-sharing, and entertainment companies engaging in new subscription scheme are just some examples of how resource intensity can be reduced, and trade-offs be avoided.

Ambitious programmes implemented in India to advance the SDGs and protect the climate were described by Ms. Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI). Over recent years, India has made great progress in rural village electrification, and has simultaneously invested in the development and application of solar and other renewable energy sources. Efforts are also underway to ensure social inclusion by providing access to new technologies to small and medium companies, as well as to poorer households.

Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director, ENERGIA, drew attention of the audience to the need for balancing the various sustainable development goals. Gender equality, as outlined in SDG 5, is often overlooked when launching new programmes, including on climate action. Climate action and



Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Tokyo, Japan, **H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi**, Minister of the Environment of Japan, **Ms. Sawako Shirahase**, Senior Vice Rector of United Nations University (UNU), Tokyo, Japan, and **Ms. Sandra Wu**, Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd, and Board Member of the United Nation Global Compact



Ms. Yuka Tanimoto, Editor-in-Chief of Forbes JAPAN Web

progress on SDGs must become better synergized, so that transition can truly benefit all, and leave no one behind. This requires people-centered approaches, genuine multi-stakeholder participation, enhanced resilience, and additional financing.

Mr. Mirus Ponon, Founder and CEO, ASEAN Youth Advocates Network, emphasized that Youth is not only a stakeholder in the future, but also today. Youth calls for greater action on both SDGs and climate protection, so as to ensure that decisions of the present generation do not negatively impact living conditions of future generations. Youth organizations also call for better educational opportunities, so to enable more youth of the present and the future generation to actively and effectively participate in democratic decision-making processes.

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), emphasized the interlinkages of science, policy, and society. Scientific research provides an important foundation for decision making on climate and the SDGs. IGES has contributed to the work of the IPCC, and supported scientific exchanges and cooperation.

The Conference Opening and High-level Segment has been moderated by Ms. Yuka Tanimoto.

Climate and SDG synergies – Charting a roadmap towards 2030

The High-level Segment of the Conference also included Remarks of Distinguished Leaders, including:



H. E. Mr. Costas Kadis, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development, and Environment of the Government of Cyprus



H.E. Ms. Siti Nurbaya Bakar, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia



H. E. Mr. Adrián Peña, Minister of Environment of Uruguay



H.E. Mr. Mohamed Bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Chief Executive Officer and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Supreme Council for Environment (SCE), Kingdom of Bahrain



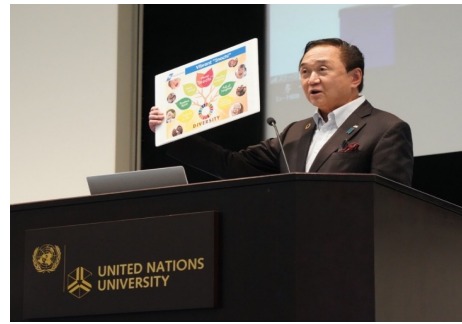
H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations and Chair of Group of 77 and China



H.E. Mr. Walton Alfonso Webson, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations and Chair of Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)



Ms. Iordanca-Rodica IORDANOV,
State Secretary of the Ministry of
Environment of the Republic of
Moldova



Mr. Yuji Kuroiwa, Governor of the
Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan



Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana,
Executive Secretary, United Nations
Economic and Social Commission for
Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP),
Bangkok, Thailand



Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive
Secretary, United Nations Economic
Commission for Europe (UN ECE)



Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General,
Food and Agricultural Organization of
the United Nations (FAO)



Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive
Director, United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)



Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)



Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Acting Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS (UN OHRLLS)



Mr. Woochong Um, Managing Director-General and Officer-in-Charge, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)



Ms. Mami Mizutoi, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Disaster Risk Reduction



Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, Assistant Secretary-General, UN Global Compact



Mr. Keiji Nishizawa, Chair, Keidanren Committee on Responsible Business Conduct & SDGs Promotion, Chairman, Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation, Director-Chairman of Sompo Japan Insurance Inc.

Video recordings can be accessed on the Conference Webpage <https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2022>

2. Scene Setting Conversation: Raising ambition on climate and SDG action

In order to set the scene for the Conference, and to ensure an inclusive approach, the co-conveners invited a multi-disciplinary multi-stakeholder panel of experts to discuss the conference objectives, and to exchange views and expectations. The panel discussion served to clarify questions on the meaning and the need of promoting synergies in climate and SDG action (“why” and “what”), and the importance of means of implementation, including finance, technologies and data, practical solutions and knowledge, partnerships, and stakeholder engagement (“how”, “who”, and “where”).



Session group photo

Moderated by Co-Conveners:

- **Mr. Minoru Takada**, Team Leader (Energy), UN DESA

Roundtable with Stakeholder Representatives:

- **Ms. Hitomi Shimizu**, SDGs Promotion Headquarters Officer, Shimokawa Town, Hokkaido Prefecture
- **Ms. Suzuka Nakamura**, Environmental Activist, Japan
- **Mr. Kulwant Singh**, CEO, 3R Waste Foundation, Gurugram, India
- **Ms. Yumiko Kajiwara**, Corporate Executive Officer, EVP, CSO. Fujitsu Company (member of World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD))
- **Ms. Yujeong Kim**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, United Nations Office for Sustainable Development
- **Ms. Lynn M. Wagner**, Senior Director of Tracking Progress, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Salient points

In their discussion, panelists flagged the many interlinkages that exist and need to be considered when designing and implementing climate and SDG policies and plans. Such interlinkages can lead to important co-benefits, if action on one goal also makes achievement of another goal easier. Conversely, SDG and climate action programmes need to anticipate potential trade-offs or undesirable negative external effects, when progress on one goal negatively impacts progress on another goal.

Participants shared the observation that progress on achieving the SDGs and climate protection was in various ways falling behind expectations, due to unexpected crisis circumstances, including the persistent Covid-19 pandemic.

Participants shared personal experiences from their active engagement in implementing local climate and SDG initiatives, highlighting the importance of collaborative action to be taken at all levels, including cities, smaller towns, and rural areas.

Participants pointed to the high level of commitments on the part of developing countries that have formulated, launched, and implemented many national, regional, and local level action plans and programmes to advance economic development, socio-economic transformation, and environment and climate protection. National climate action plans, programmes aimed at enhancing efficiency of energy use in industries and households, and programmes to promote investment in and use of solar energy in India, were cited as relevant examples.

Participants also drew attention to the importance of continued capacity building and financing for climate and SDG action. With regard to financing the necessary investments, the importance of the private sector was recognized.

Participants also recognized the need to overcome, or at least to amend, the conventional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) accounting system, which typically does not include depletion of natural resources or negative environmental, health, or climate effects in the equation.

In summing up, the moderator and the panelists emphasized the importance of continued and expanded information exchange, so as to identify important gaps in climate and SDG action. Harnessing benefits of integrated climate and SDG action may require new and creative approaches.

With regard to conventional forms of Governmental decision making, participants called for overcoming conventional “silo” and sectoral approaches in favour of more integrated, multi-disciplinary approaches, also systematically taking gender and social concerns into account.

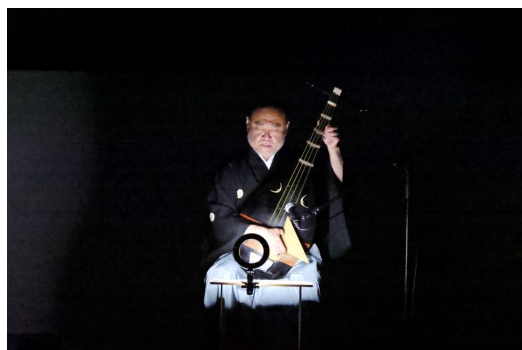
Participants underlined the need for an accelerated transition from a linear to a circular economy.

With important inter-governmental consultation and decision-making processes coming up in the nearer future, including the 27th and the 28th Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Egypt (COP 27) and in United Arab Emirates (COP28), as well as the SDG Summit to be convened by the United Nations Secretary-General in New York in September 2023, the documentation of this Conference should be shared to inform these United Nations processes.

3. Welcome ceremony and special events

The **Welcome Session** commenced with a cultural performance by Mr. Tomoyoshi Kakushin, a distinguished Biwa Player. The Biwa is a Japanese short-necked wooden lute traditionally used in narrative story telling since the Nara period.

Ms. Sawako Shirahase, Senior Vice Rector of United Nations University (UNU), and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations welcomed the participants and introduced the pre-opening special events.



Mr. Tomoyoshi Kakushin, Distinguished Biwa Player

Launch of the first 26 “Decarbonization Leading Areas” in Japan by Ministry of the Environment of Japan



H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, Minister of the Environment of Japan



Ms. Kazumi Inamura, Mayor of Amagasaki City, Japan (left), and Mr. Mitsugi Takenaka, Mayor of Kamishihoro Town (right)

Local climate and SDG action is always crucial. As a part of the Welcome Ceremony, the Ministry introduced two selected best practice examples of “Leading Decarbonization Areas”. Amagasaki city is a formerly polluted industrial town, which has undertaken great efforts in environmental protection. Today it is widely known for its investment in zero-carbon local transport and its popular baseball stadium. Kamishihoro Town promotes energy conservation programmes and is planning to install large-scale local solar power generation facilities.

Mr. Mahadi Che Ngah, Mayor of the City of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, also addressed the participants, presenting a summary of the Kuala Lumpur City Hall efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Partnership and cooperation with Tokyo Metropolitan Government and IGES was also gratefully acknowledged.

In a video message, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) emphasized the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and welcomed collaborative action at the community, city, and country levels.

Ms. Kobie Brand, Director of ICLEI’s Regional Office in Africa, emphasized the importance of peer-to-peer and city-to-city collaboration and thanked the Government of Japan for its support in this area.

Launch of “SDGs Progress Report 2022 – Survey Results on the Efforts of Global Compact Network, Japan (GCNJ) Companies and Organizations” by Global Compact Network Japan and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Ms. Sandra Wu, Board Member of UN Global Compact and Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd. and Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President of IGES, Japan, launched the SDG Progress Report 2022, jointly prepared by the Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ) and IGES. The report is focused on both progress achieved and action needed with regard to SDGs 5, 8, 12, 13 and 16.



Mr. Mahadi Che Ngah, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur City, Malaysia



Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN Habitat



Ms. Kobie Brand, Director, ICLEI Regional Office in Africa



Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President of IGES, Japan (left)
Ms. Sandra Wu, Board Member of UN Global Compact and Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd (right)

4. Multistakeholder dialogue: Sharing experiences and lessons learned

The Multistakeholder dialogue was co-organized by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), United Nations University (UNU), and Ministry of the Environment Japan (MoEJ).

The session provided an overview of different stakeholder-led initiatives focused on accelerating climate action and advancing the SDGs both within Japan and overseas. Moderated by Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability, panelists emphasized the importance of harnessing the respective global agendas in driving sustainable local development. Framed around good practice examples, key points of discussion touched on the need for strengthening governance at multiple levels; the role of integrated and inclusive approaches for maximizing co-benefits associated with climate, biodiversity and society; and the necessity of cross-sectoral collaboration for informing policies and guiding structural change.

Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability opened the session welcoming participants, explaining that her organization serves as an empowerment platform for young people in Japan aimed at leveraging a green transformation. She explained that the ensuing discussion would invite youth and professionals representing various stakeholder groups to share their thoughts and insights on sustainability solutions.

Mr. Shinji Onoda, Research Manager, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) noted the growing call to integrate and synergize actions on climate and biodiversity. Outlining the main objectives of the session, he added that the dialogue would seek to share practical experiences for strengthening the knowledge base in this area with attention to specific issue-based needs.

Kick-off

Mr. Koichiro Matsumoto, Director of Global Issues Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan provided kick off remarks, discussing that Japan will assume the G7 Presidency next year, and to this end, plans to continue prioritizing efforts both with regard to achieving carbon neutrality by 2040 as well as supporting international finance targets with the multilateral community.

Eye opener High Level Talks

Ms. Kaoru Nemoto, Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), offered reflections on the role of strategic communications in catalysing social transformation. She cited a recent survey indicating that upwards of 90 percent of Japanese citizens are familiar with the SDGs, in part because of the active engagement of Japanese media on the topic.

Mr. Kazuhiro Yoshida, Mayor of Namie, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, spoke about the challenge his city faced following the Great Japan Earthquake and resulting nuclear disaster in Fukushima. He emphasized that his administration has made good progress in promoting the development of hydrogen energy, with attendant benefits for climate, nature conservation and sustainable urban development.

Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Director of the ENERGIA Network called attention to recent reports highlighting that scant progress has been made in strengthening interlinkages between SDGs, with critical implications for vulnerable groups. She emphasized that policy and planning processes should be made inclusive and collaborative in order to fully operationalize the principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB).

Ms. Kaoru Nemoto, Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) commented that she was encouraged to learn about examples of locally driven integrated approaches, drawing attention again to the power of communications for mobilizing social action.

Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability echoed Ms. Nemoto's statements, indicating that the examples shared provided a good basis for solidarity and continued action.



Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability (top left)
Ms. Kaoru Nemoto, Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) (top right)
Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Director of the ENERGIA Network (bottom)

Elevator Pitch on climate driven actions

Ms. Chikako Miyata, Chief Sustainability Officer, All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd. discussed ANA's efforts to make sustainability a central feature of its corporate business model, providing examples of ways the company is adopting new technologies, utilizing sustainable fuels and collaborating with various stakeholders to reduce emissions and achieve the SDGs.

Mr. Goro Komatsu, Executive Director, POW Japan elaborated on the ways his organization, Protect Our Winters (POW) has made efforts to raise awareness about the impact of climate change on the ski and snowboard industry in the Hakuba, Nagano region of Japan, including by engaging with young people, government officials and local industry in devising solutions.

Ms. Josephine Opoku Boateng, UNU-IAS Postgraduate Degree Programme student (MSc in Sustainability) shared findings from her research on governance for environmental sustainability, emphasizing the need to better understand political dynamics driving the climate crisis. She discussed the wider potential of sustainable public procurement for helping to transition away from fossil fuels, given its applicability and adaptability to different contexts.

Ms. Wei Chin (Shom) Teoh, Programme Manager for Sustainable Cities, Regional Centre in Bangkok, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) provided information and shared good practice examples carried out under the ASEAN Frontrunner SDG Cities Programme, where as many as 60 cities over the past decade have developed policies, established institutions and implemented pilot projects aimed at tackling climate change and improving overall quality of life.

Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, President, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC) thanked all the respective speakers and summarized key points for further reflection, noting the critical role of integrated approaches, the importance of locally directed actions, and need for continued city-to-city collaboration for replicating good practices.

Elevator pitch on SDG-Driven Action

Mr. Hideki Akimoto, Executive Happo-One Development Company spoke about several activities conducted by his affiliated ski resort on climate and SDG-related initiatives, including expansion of renewable energy, efforts to recycle and recover waste materials, and collaboration on local environmental education campaigns. He noted that presently as much as 75% of the company's total electricity is carbon neutral.

Ms. Hitomi Asahi, Executive Director, SDGs Picture Book Promotion Association discussed the work of her organization in developing early child education books on the SDGs in Japan, sharing various examples of books reflecting SDG 11 (Cities) and SDG 13 (Climate). She closed by stating that storybooks provide an opportunity for raising awareness about SDGs with young learners.

Mr. Mirus Ponon, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, ASEAN Youth Advocates Network, provided background on the work of his organization that is involved in mobilizing young people across the ASEAN region in civic engagement initiatives. He explained that the network operates on the basis of 4 principles, in line with the SDGs: global citizenship education, democratic engagement, climate action and community building.

Mr. Simon Olsen, Research Manager, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) drew attention to recent data indicating that the Asia and Pacific region is currently on track to achieve only 10 percent of the Goals by 2030. He called for more collaboration and research on ways to address potential distributional impacts resulting from sustainability efforts.

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), expressed his appreciation to all panelists for sharing their experiences and noted the need for increased cooperation and collaboration, especially with young people, to ensure actions are accelerated at the global and local levels.



(From left to right) Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability; Ms. Chikako Miyata, Chief Sustainability Officer, ANA HOLDINGS INC; Mr. Goro Komatsu, Executive Director, POW Japan; Ms. Josephine Opoku Boateng, UNU-IAS Postgraduate Degree Programme student (MSc in Sustainability) (On the screen) Ms. Wei Chin (Shom) Teoh, Programme Manager for Sustainable Cities, Regional Centre in Bangkok, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES); Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, President, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)

Elevator-Pitch on Nature-Driven Action

Mr. Hans Joosten, Greifswald Mire Center – IPCC Panel Experts spoke about the critical role of peatlands in sequestering carbon and keeping global temperature rise within 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius. Noting the interlinkages between such conservation and the SDGs, he underscored the need for rewetting of peatland areas, highlighting associated co-benefits for mitigation, adaptation, agricultural and forestry development.

Ms. Mitsuyo Toyoda, Associate Professor, Sado Island Center for Ecological Sustainability, Niigata University, discussed her work researching sustainability efforts on the island of Sadoshima, Japan. She cited that the island is renowned for ecological restoration initiatives, including the reintroduction of key species, such as the crested ibis, which have inspired community dialogues and collaboration for strengthening primary industry.

Ms. Anais-karenin, Visual Artist and Researcher, Brazil, offered background about her work examining the integration of visual arts and academic research on environmental change. She noted that this “bioart” is linked with ancestral knowledge, noting key thematic elements including interconnection, interdependency, conservation and coexistence that are common across many indigenous societies.

Ms. Kotoko Yadomaru, President, Change Our Next Decade (COND) discussed the close interrelationship between climate change and biodiversity, emphasizing that integrated and inclusive actions offer an important way to maximize synergies and minimize trade-offs. She expressed hope that the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework would continue to strengthen action on the SDGs.

Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), Philippines summarized the session by inviting participants to consider the role of nature-based solutions, including those related to traditional ecological knowledge. She underlined the need for coordination and coherence between different proposed approaches as raised by various stakeholder groups.



(From left to right) Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability; Ms. Mitsuyo Toyoda, Associate Professor, Sado Island Center for Ecological Sustainability, Niigata University; Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), Philippines (On the screen) Ms. Kotoko Yadomaru, President, Change Our Next Decade (COND)

Harvesting

Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, President, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC) commended all panelists for sharing impressive examples of good practices and commitments. He spoke about the central need of governments and intergovernmental organizations in designing frameworks and the setting direction for other concerned stakeholders, and the complementary role of citizens in bolstering science and expanding the knowledge base on sustainability

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), discussed the urgency and hope that must guide efforts to address climate change and deliver on the SDGs. He highlighted that any such solution must be based on collaboration and tailored to local context in order to ensure that actions are sustained over the long term.

Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), Philippines emphasized that any focus on climate and SDG synergies must consider transformation of food systems, which involves breaking down silos and promoting coordination and coherence across different policy domains.

Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability closed the session by underlining that the many local actions and initiatives presented serve as an important reminder that work on integration is ongoing and achievable. She thanked all participants and called for continued dialogue and discussion on how to scale and replicate good practices.

5. Implementing a nexus approach across key sectors and policy areas

Parallel session 1.1. presented and discussed evidence, examples, and case studies, pointing to ubiquitous opportunities and potential co-benefits that can be derived from comprehensive nexus analysis and integrated policy implementation. Across all sectors and policy areas, including manufacturing, trade, and employment; agriculture and urban development; and transportation, health, construction and waste management; resource conservation options and nature-based solutions are available, making economic and social transformation entirely feasible.



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Ms. Bahareh Seyedi**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

Keynote statement: Transformation is feasible: How to achieve the SDGs within our planetary boundaries?

- **Ms. Mamphela Ramphele**, Co-President, Club of Rome

Moderated discussion with invited panelists:

- **Ms. Somya Joshi**, Head of Division, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
- **Mr. Jan Vapaavouri**, Former Mayor of City of Helsinki, Finland, and Senior Advisor on Urban Development, NREP
- **Ms. Maria Neira**, Director, Public Health and Environment, World Health Organization (WHO)
- **Mr. Hitesh Vaidya**, Director, Climate Centre of Cities, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)
- **Ms. Chioma Agvuegbo**, Executive Director, TechHerNG, Social Entrepreneur and Member of the Board of Oxfam (UK)
- **Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo**, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)
- **Mr. Wataru Suzuki**, Global Coordinator, Japan Biodiversity Fund, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

Salient points

If the world's nations continue on a business-as-usual growth path, the world community will not achieve the SDGs by 2030, nor 2050. At the same time, there is a high risk of pushing the Earth's geo-bio-socio-economic systems beyond irreversible trigger points. Profound socio-economic transformation is possible and feasible, and should include the following important measures: (i) accelerated renewable energy growth, sufficient to halve carbon emissions every decade; (ii) accelerated productivity in sustainable food chains; (iii) new development models

in poor countries; (iv) unprecedented inequality reduction, and (v) investment in education for all, gender equality, health, and family planning.

Participants reflected on the meaning of a nexus approach related to their respective areas and work and specialization.

Air pollution and climate change have serious impacts on public health. The World Health Organization and its climate change and health programme estimates the direct damage costs to health to between US\$ 2-4 billion/year by 2030. Reduction in indoor and outdoor air pollution can prevent respiratory illnesses and significantly premature deaths. If urban development, energy and transport systems, air pollution and climate change are addressed with joint approaches, considerable co-benefits will be achievable.

The many interlinkages between energy and health were pointed out. In many developing countries, and in their rural areas, health services are entirely inadequate, particularly in locations where clinics do still not have access to electricity. However, it was also noted that in other countries, the health services sectors accounts for a considerable share of the local economy, including emissions from energy-intensive operations.

The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate, supported by the Stockholm Environment Institute and other partners, has shown with comprehensive evidence that climate policy can be made compatible with strong economic performance. Investments in greener and more sustainable infrastructure can help facilitate sustainable urban development and transportation, reduce climate impacts and risks, and create new profitable business and employment opportunities.

With strong partnerships, the use of renewable energy can be dramatically expanded in developing countries, improving living conditions, creating local employment, and saving energy costs and emissions at the same time.

Panelists presented examples from Helsinki, Finland, and various cities in India, demonstrating opportunities for city administrations and local governments to develop and improve urban living conditions which simultaneously reduce environmental and climate footprints. Local zoning can greatly help in advancing sustainability in cities.

Social and climate-conscious entrepreneurship can make important contribution to advance sustainable development and social inclusion. Projects in Nigeria have shown how women and girls can be empowered, better work together, and benefit from practical training programmes.

Switching over to climate-smart agriculture can greatly help to mitigate emissions and to make farming practices more resilient to the impacts of climate change. The “Koronivia joint work on agriculture” is a landmark decision under the UNFCCC that recognizes the unique potential of agriculture to tackle climate change.

Greater awareness of the benefits of nature-based solutions can greatly help to advance the protection of biodiversity. Future National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAPs) should be based on synergistic approaches and advance nature-based solutions, where possible.

Participants concluded that transformation is happening, but it is not yet fast enough to reach a sustainable growth path. More integrated decision making and systematic cost-benefit analysis can greatly help governments in their policy review to better incentivise climate-conscious investments, and to encourage more energy- and climate-conscious production and consumption patterns.

6. Ensuring just transitions, enabling empowerment, and enhancing knowledge and skills

The discussion at parallel session 1.2 highlighted issues, examples, and solutions on how to ensure a just transition and leave no one behind. Public support for climate actions has been growing widely. However, in many areas, vested interests continue to oppose transition. Participants discussed: how win-win-win solutions and just transitions can be better developed so that all stakeholders can expect benefits? How can the trend of increasing carbon inequality be addressed? Other questions addressed in this session include: How can un(der)represented stakeholder groups be empowered? How can knowledge platforms and capacity building be improved? And is the climate-related decision-making process on track to “leave no one behind”?



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Mr. Akio Takemoto**, Programme Head, UNU-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

Opening remarks:

- **Ms. Shinobu Yume Yamaguchi**, Director of UNU-IAS

Keynote statement: Strengthening synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- **Ms. Debora Ley**, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy and Natural Resources at ECLAC / IPCC Lead Author

Moderated discussion with invited speakers

- **Ms. Maria Antonia Gwynn**, Member of Governing Council of Itaipu-Bintional (video)
- **Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye**, Coordinator Green Jobs Programme, ILO
- **Ms. Parimita Mohanty**, Programme Management Officer, Renewable Energy, Asia and the Pacific Office, UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **Ms. Yasuko Kameyama**, Senior Principal Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), and Professor, University of Tokyo
- **Mr. Kulwant Singh**, CEO, 3R Waste Foundation
- **Ms. Kelly Takaya King**, Council Member in Maui Country, Hawaii, United States
- **Ms. Kathy Nothstine**, Head of Future Cities, Coordinator of Climate-smart City Challenges, Nesta Charity Foundation

Salient Points

In the outset, participants resonated IPCC findings and its observation that the magnitude and rate of climate change and associated risks depend strongly on near-term mitigation and adaptation actions, while projected adverse impacts and related losses and damages escalate with every increment of global warming.

Participants agreed that there was a need to act faster and to combine measures on adaptation and on mitigation with sustainable development.

Decisions are taken by multiple actors, namely governments, the private sector, and civil society actors. There are diverse areas of engagement. These include economic, financial, knowledge, technology, ecological, political, socio-cultural, and community arenas. Addressing social development concerns, including equity and justice, poverty, and ecosystem health, should be at the centre of climate and sustainable development action.

Inclusive decision-making needs (i) stakeholder mapping and inclusion, (ii) cross-sectoral planning, and (iii) action-oriented implementation. Based on these prerequisites, decisions can lead societies in a more climate-robust direction.

Participants emphasized the need for more long-term perspectives in political and economic decision making. Long-term planning will take climate change concerns more directly into account.

Participants also underlined that each country has to chart its own way forward. Needs, challenges, and opportunities vary between countries, regions, and locations. Most less and least developed countries will still have to prioritize poverty eradication and other SDGs over climate action. At the same time, there is widening recognition that countries need to find a sustainable economic development growth path, that also takes environmental and climate concerns into full account.

Municipal and other local policy and decision makers face challenging tasks, too. Most local policy makers are quite aware of the need for climate action, but they are also faced with a great variety of other demands from their constituencies. In many locations, generating local public support for climate action still needs to win over opponents who may give priority to other more immediate needs and concerns. However, public support for a transition to a green, healthy, and more sustainable economy appears to be growing steadily.

In a growing number of cities, local leaders and their constituencies have embarked on new initiatives and the implementation of practical measures that make neighborhoods healthier, more comfortable, and more sustainable. The combination of smaller local initiatives can still add up to important changes. Some municipalities and organizations incentivize local climate action and/or facilitate local and international exchanges of experiences.

7. Forging partnerships for synergetic action

Parallel Session 1.3 discussed options for expanding cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships and cooperation at local, national, and global levels. The session provided an opportunity for exchanges of institutional experiences related to collaborative programmes to promote sustainable development in harmony with climate protection. Panelists pointed out essential elements and preconditions for successful partnerships and cooperation. They also reflected on collaborative programmes, activities, and projects in their respective countries. In addition, the session discussed current global perspectives for climate and security.



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Ms. Vibha Dhawan**, Director General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI)

Keynote Statement: Global perspectives for climate and security

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibekk**, Special Envoy on Climate and Security, Government of Norway

Moderator:

- **Ms. Vibha Dhawan**, Director General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI)

Keynote Statement: Global perspectives for climate and security

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibekk**, Special Envoy on Climate and Security, Government of Norway

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Ana Rovzar**, Head of Partnerships, Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa Foundation
- **Ms. Doris Edem Agbevivi**, Energy Analyst, Energy Commission of Ghana
- **Mr. Todd Litman**, Executive Director, Victoria Transport Policy Institute (VTPI)
- **Ms. Christine He**, Deputy Secretary-General, Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), Shenzhen Office
- **Ms. Parisa Kloss**, Executive Director, Resilient Urban Planning and Development (RUPD, GbR)

Salient Points

At the outset, participants reflected on the multiple and complex interconnections between climate change, sustainable development, and security. Cascading effects can make climate a systemic security issue, as climate change can directly and indirectly impact not only economic development and prosperity, but also food, water, health, and energy security, and thus political stability. It was observed that no nation can find lasting security without addressing the climate crisis. Climate change can contribute to increased conflict along various indirect pathways. Better understanding of the interconnections can help in conflict prevention and peace building efforts. Without collaboration and partnerships, progress on sustainable development and climate protection will face many obstacles.

Participants shared the view that the global development agenda cannot be realized without strong commitment to partnership and cooperation at all levels. Partnership building involves organizing coalitions of stakeholders across government, local communities and others partners. Partnerships and networks can provide common platforms to cooperate on matters of mutual interest. Partners can also learn from each other by the sharing of good practices, information, or technologies. Participants expressed their appreciation of the Third Synergies Conference, which has brought together representative of many different stakeholder groups.

Building successful partnerships includes aligning different stakeholder interests; setting realistic priorities; allocating sufficient budget to concrete interventions; and learning from good practices, as well as failures.

Partnerships should be formed at different levels (city, national, international) and be aligned with each other, which can reinforce their effectiveness. Planning should ideally occur from the bottom up, with investment priorities validated with stakeholders on the ground. Interaction and coordination between decision makers at different levels will be essential to ensure that goals are realistic and the solutions locally appropriate.

At local and urban levels, effective partnerships that aim to promote cooperation for sustainable development and climate action typically involve: (a) Empowering local communities and vulnerable groups, and enabling them to participate in local decision-making processes; (b) adopting integrated approaches working across multiple sectors; and (c) strengthening institutional capacity and policy coherence. Effective partnerships will require continued political commitment of all partners involved.

Urban transportation is a critical and important area for developing and implementing synergistic approaches that can enhance economic activity, facilitate mobility, but also manage to control air pollution and climate emissions. Successful transport policy reforms can lead to win-win solutions. Such policy reforms can provide multiple economic, social and environmental benefits, including reduced traffic and parking congestion, infrastructure cost savings, more affordable transport options and consumer savings, improved mobility for non-drivers, better public health, increased traffic safety, energy conservation, emission reductions and reduced sprawl costs.

8. Overcoming barriers to financing, technology and innovation

Under Parallel Session 2.1, invited experts reflected on important means of implementation for advancing climate and SDG synergies. Participants discussed access to and use of public and private finance, technological innovation, as well capacity development. The panel session focused on key questions, such as: How can we leverage further engagement of private sectors? How can we overcome the digital divide in less and least developed countries? What is the role of regional/international cooperation in achieving synergies?



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Mr. Yasuo Takahashi**, Executive Director, IGES

Keynote statement: Unlocking a better future: Mobilizing means of implementation for developing countries

- **Mr. Venkatachalam Anbumozhi**, Director of Research, Strategy and Innovation, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Kumi Kitamori**, Acting Deputy Director, Environment Directorate, and Head of Green Growth & Global Relations Division, OECD
- **Mr. Alisher Mamadzhonov**, Climate Policy and Governance Specialist, Green Climate Fund
- **Ms. Baysa Naran**, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)
- **Ms. Jane Burston**, Executive Director, Clean Air Fund

- **Mr. Takao Aiba**, Chairman of Subcommittee on Planning, Keidaren Committee on Nature Conservation, and Project General Manager Environmental Affairs and Engineering Management Division, CN Advanced Engineering Development Center, Toyota Motor Corporation
- **Ms. Nawal Al-Hosany**, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- **Ms. Vanessa Gray**, Head of Environment and Emergency Telecommunication Division, Telecommunications Development Bureau, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- **Mr. Eric Zusman**, Team Leader, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- **Ms. Yurika Morii**, International Advocacy, Coordinator, Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS)

Salient points

In the outset, participants noted that significant increases in budgets for funding climate and SDG programmes were urgently needed. Some estimates suggested that at least 6 per cent of GDP was needed to be oriented towards climate protection and SDG goals in order to make significant progress by 2030.

Participants reviewed public spending and (post-covid) economic recovery programmes in OECD member countries, and observed that only about one third of the spending was indeed used to support environmental objectives, including climate protection. Most stimulus funding supported “grey” economic activities and sectors, thus missing opportunities for transition to a low-carbon future.

Participants recalled the Paris Climate Finance Goal of providing at least 100 billion US\$ annually for climate finance by 2020. Global public and private finance for climate protection has increased significantly since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, but increases have remained below expectations, and the 2020 goal has still not been reached. In 2019, global climate financing under the UNFCCC was estimated at 80 billion US\$.

However, also reviewing more recent national and international commitments on climate finance for the years ahead, participants noted that further significant increases have already been planned and agreed upon by OECD member countries, including replenishment of the Green Climate Fund.

Participants pointed out that a genuine transition to a low carbon economy still required much greater financial resources. Investment needs for climate change adaptation were already immense, and are rapidly growing. The level of finance was grossly insufficient to meet the climate and SDG goals, and many of the developing countries are especially at risk of not securing the financing they need.

Participants reflected on the linkages between air pollution and climate change. Outdoor air pollution is primarily caused by the burning of fossil fuels. Respiratory diseases are seen as responsible for some 15 per cent of premature deaths per year. Air pollution can also have effects on reproductive health. Therefore, climate finance should take health co-benefits into account, given that children are particularly vulnerable to health impacts from air pollution. A relevant report on the State of Global Air Quality Finance is under preparation and will be released in September 2022.

Participants observed that investments in new technologies were still too low. Market barriers and perceived commercial and financial risks remain important obstacles causing deferral or delay in the necessary private investments in new technology.

Participants noted with satisfaction that many important initiatives were taken by the private sector to advance both climate protection and SDGs. Investments in renewable energy have grown very fast, particularly in countries that have provided a favourable business environment. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) continues to play an important role in enhancing further rapid expansion of this sector which remains crucial for progress towards a climate neutral global economy.

Participants also discussed the importance of digitalization for a sustainable future. They noted that there was a continuing digital divide. Many communities, particularly in less and least developed countries, continue to be excluded. Participants also recalled that the (lack of) access to sustainable energy and the (lack of) access to digital and information services are directly interrelated.

Participants observed that, around the world, fossil fuel subsidies continued to prevent a more profound transition to a more sustainable energy future. Participants referenced the Conference Background Note and stressed the importance of an enabling environment that promotes transformation, particularly in energy and socio-economic systems.

Participants endorsed concerns articulated by youth representatives and called for more financial resources to be made available for investments in a sustainable future. The importance of advancing the transition towards circular economy was also highlighted. Transitioning to a circulating and ecological sphere (CES) will greatly advance protection of the environment, biodiversity, and climate.

9. Harnessing climate-SDG synergies and co-benefits whilst closing the ambition gap

How can the world community better harness climate-SDG synergies and co-benefits and close the ambition gap? Are climate-SDG trade-offs avoidable? How can Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Voluntary National Reports (VNRs) be further improved in future? These were just some of the questions discussed at Parallel Session 2.2. At the session, participants also reflected on means of implementation, including capacity building and finance, which remain important preconditions for more effective climate and SDG action.



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Ms. Leena Srivastava**, Deputy Director General for Science, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Keynote statement:

Mr. Sergey Kononov, Senior Officer, UNFCCC Secretariat

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Mr. Alexander Dyukarev**, Head of Division of the Department of the Ministry of Economic Development, Russian Federation

- **Mr. Jim Skea**, Professor of Sustainable Energy at Imperial College London and Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III
- **Ms. Rohini Kohli**, Lead Technical Specialist for National Adaptation Plans, UNDP
- **Mr. Kazuhisa Koakutsu**, Director of International Negotiations Office of Director for International Cooperation for Transition to Decarbonization and Sustainable Infrastructure, Global Environmental Bureau, Ministry of the Environment (Japan)
- **Mr. Deo Gabinete**, Regional Manager Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe, NDC Partnership, Bangkok Office
- **Mr. Stephen Dräxler**, Technical Advisor, NDC Transport Initiative for Asia, German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ)
- **Ms. Yukari Takamura**, Professor, Institute for Future Initiatives, University of Tokyo

Salient Points

At the outset, participants recalled that the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement were both adopted back in 2015. At that time, Governments did not, and were not able to, anticipate the kind of disruptions that have occurred since, including pandemics, conflicts, extreme weather events, natural disasters, supply chain vulnerabilities, inflationary prices, and new global concerns over energy and food security. All of these factors had important repercussions and have impaired the ability of the world community to stay true to its climate and SDG goals.

Participants observed that many important decision makers in both public and private sectors may still perceive costs and trade-offs to be greater and stronger than synergies and co-benefits, which – in part – may explain the continuing ambition gap. Continued dialogue and documented evidence should help convince decision makers to take earlier and more transformative action.

Participants identified five key levers and areas of action to achieve a net-zero carbon future: (a) far-reaching de-carbonization of global energy, transport, industry and buildings and construction systems; (b) massive up-scaling of technologies to remove carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere; (c) the transformation of global agricultural and land-use practices; (d) major changes in global consumer behaviour; and (e) reduction of non-CO₂ greenhouse gases and other short-lived climate forcers.

Participants also noted that the achievement of the 1.5°C Paris goal required transformative action in all five areas, as incremental investments would not be sufficient to reverse prevailing trends. It was also observed that in addition to technological innovation, changes in lifestyles, social systems and patterns of global cooperation will be critically important for keeping the 1.5 °C target within reach.

Participants freely shared their views, experiences, and expectations on opportunities for mainstreaming synergistic approaches to climate and SDG policy making. Participants emphasized that each country, region, location, and economic sector will have to determine their own most appropriate solution.

Regional and local model projects have been implemented by various regions, including Sakhalin Island of the Russian Federation, and in several countries of the Asia-Pacific region. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the NDC Partnership, and the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ) have all expanded their offers of support the preparation of Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Reports. Transport policies and projects are increasingly being reviewed in the context of climate change mitigation options.

Participants recalled the Glasgow Climate Pact agreed upon at UNFCCC COP-26, as well as the UNFCCC Katowice Climate Package agreed upon at UNFCCC COP-24. Participants observed that integrated approaches and projects offered multiple benefits, when climate action, action to combat desertification, and action to protect biological diversity were taken in coordinated ways.

Participants emphasized the importance of action on sources of energy. Reduction of fossil fuel consumption and/or increased use of renewable energy offers multiple benefits, including better air quality and greater energy security. In countries that use carbon taxes and/or emission trading systems, increased prices of carbon will urge the private sector to make more sustainable business decisions.

Noting the importance of climate finance, participants welcomed the work of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) of the Government of Japan, and the announcement of plans for its expansion, which will benefit developing country partners.

Participants called for greater attention to needs and opportunities for adaptation. Particularly vulnerable communities and countries should receive greater support. Concerns related to climate justice and compensation for climate-related loss and damage need to be addressed with a greater spirit of shared solidarity.

10. Measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV)

Parallel Session 2.3 highlighted key elements, lessons learned and success stories of robust monitoring and reporting mechanisms that can facilitate planning and synergistic action. Participants discussed how governments could enhance integrated decision making on climate and the SDGs. They also discussed what kinds of tools, methods, and systems are available to support transparent and effective data collection and analysis. Participants shared success stories and best practices to show how MRV can improve implementation of the SDGs. Participants also submitted suggestions on options that could improve future climate change reporting. Participants referred to reports on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Biannual Update Reports (BURs) under the UNFCCC. Participants also discussed Voluntary National Reports (VNRs) and Voluntary Local Reports (VLRs) that are periodically presented to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development of the United Nations, as well as National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) that are prepared under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Mr. Chun Kyo Park**, Head of Office, UN Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD)

Keynote statements: Enhancing climate resilience – Perspectives for scaling up climate action in the land use sectors

- **Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada**, Deputy Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Kanako Morita**, Senior Researcher, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (Japan)
- **Ms. Paulina Cardenas**, Deputy Director, Measurement, Reporting and Verification, National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change, Environment (INECC), Mexico
- **Mr. Mozaharul Alam**, Regional Coordinator on Climate Action to UNEP, Switch Asia Programme, Bangkok
- **Ms. Miriam Medel Garcia**, Head of External Outreach, Secretariat of UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- **Mr. Hector Arce Benvides**, Ing., Director, National REDD+ Strategy, National Forestry Finance Fund (FONAFIFO), Costa Rica (video)

Salient points

Participants pointed out that monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) are critical to track SDG progress, facilitate multilateral cooperation, and potentially secure financing for projects and programmes.

Many developing countries lack necessary capacity building programmes for effective target setting in their mitigation and adaptation plans. Robust tracking tools can help identify (co)benefits, and thus also help to optimize synergies.

Participants observed that effective communication across all government levels is vital to enhance integrated decision-making processes. Governments may consider to provide capacity building, such as (online) courses and trainings, to ensure that available statistical and planning tools and information systems are fully understood and applied correctly.

It was pointed out that digitalization of information can improve data collection, data handling, and analysis for better decision-making processes and synergies.

Monitoring land use and land use change provides important information for monitoring emission. Collection and analysis of data on land use will also be essential for planning measures on land restoration, adaptation of agricultural production, food security, employment opportunities and migration, as well as carbon sinks. The initiative of the Great Green Wall in the Sahel region aimed at providing multiple economic, social, and environmental benefits. However, its impact and success was compromised, inter alia by weak MRV systems.

Monitoring, reporting, and verification systems and particularly important in the context of reports submitted to the UNFCCC, including NDC reports.

Local governments tend to face more challenges in establishing and maintaining reporting systems, primarily due to lack of financial resources. Capacities of local governments should be supported and strengthened with a view to build reliable and up-to-date information systems for climate and SDG decision making. Any duplication in reporting systems should also be avoided.

Robust tracking tools should be implemented to monitor financial disclosure in the private sector and financial institutions to prevent greenwashing.

Forests provide various environmental services and benefits linked to the SDGs, including poverty reduction, carbon sinks, biodiversity, and water. With the protection of forests and afforestation, countries can develop carbon sinks and thereby contribute to emission reductions. With independent third-party audits, forestry projects may be able obtain tradeable emission reduction certificates.

11. The Way Forward: Profound transformation is needed, possible, and should be beneficial for all

To conclude the proceedings of the Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development participants convened in a closing plenary session to share summaries and insights gained during the conference. The participants had used the thematic sessions to assess recent trends, issues, and challenges or realizing climate-SDG synergies within the current economic and political context.



Session group photo

Moderator:

- **Mr. Bahareh Seyedi**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

Main takeaways from the parallel sessions

- **Mr. Wataru Suzuki**, IPSI Secretariat (on behalf of Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) Secretariat
- **Mr. Kulwant Singh**, President, KSS Institute of Spatial Planning and Environmental Research, and Chief Executive Officer, 3R Foundation, India
- **Ms. Doris Edem Agbevivi**, Energy Analyst, Energy Commission of Ghana
- **Mr. Junichi Fujino**, Principal Researcher and Program Director of Integrated Sustainability Center, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- **Ms. Leena Srivastava**, Deputy Director-General for Science, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Salient points

Participants recalled the overall objectives of the Conference which was convened to support raising ambition at all levels, and to advance more and better integrated climate action and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It was underlined that achieving simultaneous progress on multiple socio-economic and environmental goals requires synergistic approaches and genuine multi-stakeholder participation.

In summing up the deliberations, the rapporteurs stressed that synergies can realize many co-benefits, minimize trade-offs, contribute to more efficient use of scarce resources, achieve coherent development planning across sectors and actors, and promote more systemic social integration, leaving no community and no one behind.

Participants observed that global progress towards achieving the SDGs and global action to protect the Earth's climate was disappointingly slow and clearly insufficient to meet the 2030 and the 1.5°C targets.

Participants reiterated that the world community is faced with multiple crises. Participants shared their concerns that the continuing Covid pandemic, the war in Ukraine and other military conflicts, rising inflation in both industrialized and developing countries, unexpected disruptions of conventional global energy supply systems, and other factors, all contributed to additional and growing challenges. Greater international cooperation was commonly seen as urgently needed.

Participants pointed to the impacts from climate change and natural disasters which are observed worsening from year to year: In some regions, changes in precipitation patterns contributed to local and regional water shortages, heat waves, drought, desertification, and forest fires. At the same time, some other regions experienced heavy rains, flash floods, and mud slides, often causing heavy loss of life. Around the world, damage to public and private property and infrastructure caused by extreme weather events is costing billions and take years to repair.

However, participants also pointed out that solutions are available, both technical and political. Participants called for prudent, inclusive, and balanced approaches. With synergistic action, the SDGs can be achieved, and the global climate be protected at the same time. Participants emphasized that what is needed is the political will to take deliberate, bold, and transformative action in a manner that benefits all.

Participants pointed to the ubiquitous opportunities and co-benefits that can be derived from comprehensive nexus analysis and integrated policy implementation. Across all sectors and policy areas, including manufacturing, trade, and employment; agriculture and urban development; and transportation, health, construction and waste management; resource conservation options and nature-based solutions are available, making economic and social transformation entirely feasible.

Participants emphasized that social equity, empowerment, and inclusiveness must be at the centre of just, inclusive and equitable transitions. Only win-win-win solutions that consider the legitimate interests of all concerned stakeholders can lead to just transitions, lasting economic and social progress, and sustainability. Climate action will likely enjoy broad-based public support, if all stakeholders can benefit from it. Carbon inequality and climate justice are also important concerns that need to be addressed.

Participants reflected on forging partnerships for synergistic action. Implementing synergistic climate and SDG action requires effective innovative and transformative partnerships at all levels, involving national and local governments, businesses and their associations, and citizens and their civil society groups. Continued and expanded partnerships and cooperation are particularly essential in the areas of sustainable energy, urban development, and transportation, as well as in other areas.

Participants stressed that access to necessary means of implementation, including financing, capacity building, technology and innovation, remain crucial for advancing climate and SDGs in tandem. With well-designed policy frameworks, investments and effective climate action by public and private sectors can be incentivised.

It was observed that continued commitment to the Paris Agreement and its climate financing goals remains a key to successful international cooperation. With the enormous financial investments needed for both sustainable development and climate action during the years ahead, the role of the private sector in leading a transition to a cleaner, greener, fairer, net-zero emission future was greatly emphasized. Overcoming the digital divide will also be crucial in this context.

Participants welcomed that some countries have already reflected synergies in their country reports on National Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the UNFCCC, and/or in their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) on SDGs that are periodically presented to the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

Continued mainstreaming of synergistic policy making and systematic consideration of co-benefits in policy making processes and reporting will remain important in coming years.

Similarly, ensuring not only sufficient effectiveness, but also transparency and credibility in climate and SDG policy action is imperative, particularly with regard to the commitments made concerning goals on net-zero carbon by 2050, and their implementation.



Presentation of Report of Youth Representatives

Report of Youth Representatives

- **Ms. Chica Suzuki**, Co-Secretary-General, Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS)
- **Mr. Hiroyoshi Uchida**, Principal Policy Advocacy Advisor, Climate Youth Japan (CYJ)
- **Ms. Kotoko Yadomaru**, President, Change Out Next Decade (COHD)

Youth representatives presented a report including their recommendations on accelerated climate and SDG action at national and international levels. A Summary of the Youth Report is included in Annex 6.

Presentation of co-conveners conference summary



Ms. Bahareh Seyedi, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

The Co-Conveners Conference Summary was presented by the Moderator. The full text of the Summary is included in this report.

Closing Remarks

- **Mr. Hiroshi Ono**, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment of Japan
- **Ms. Xiaomeng Shen**, Vice-Rector, UNU, and Director of UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)
- **Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi**, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- **Mr. Minoru Takada**, Team Leader (Energy), UN DESA



Mr. Hiroshi Ono, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan



Ms. Xiaomeng Shen, Vice-Rector, UNU, and Director of UNU, Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)



Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

The Conference concluded that there remains an urgent need for accelerating and scaling-up synergistic implementation to realise the SDGs and a climate-resilient net-zero-carbon future.

In their closing remarks, speakers emphasized the need to continue and intensify research, cooperation, and dialogue on climate and SDG synergies, and to share the Conference Summary and the full Conference Report with the relevant decision makers and other concerned audiences.

Participants expressed their appreciation that the Conference had invited representatives of all stakeholder groups to actively participate in the deliberations.

The participants expressed their appreciation of the efficient conference organization and the generous hospitality of the Government and the people of Japan.

The co-conveners thanked the leadership and the staff of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, the United Nations University, and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies for their professional collaboration and support.



Closing remarks

Photo Album





More photos can be found on the Conference Website <https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2022/page/photo-album>

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Annex 2: Conference Background Note

Annex 3: Conference Programme

Annex 4: Listing of Technical Briefs

Annex 5: Side Events Programme

Annex 6: Report of Youth Representatives (*as presented in the Closing Session*)





**United
Nations**



**GLOBAL CLIMATE
& SDG SYNERGY
CONFERENCE**

**TOKYO
20-21 JULY
2022**

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

Building the evidence base for synergistic action
in support of raising climate and SDGs ambition

Tokyo, Japan
July 20-21, 2022

Concept note

Co-convended by:

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat (UN Climate
Change)

Hosted by:

Ministry of the Environment, Japan

In partnership with:

United Nations University (UNU)
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Annex 1: Conference Concept Note

CONTEXT

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement provide a firm foundation for the coherent implementation of climate action and sustainable development objectives at all levels. The energy transitions envisaged in SDG 7 serves as an excellent example for the interconnectedness, as sustainable energy is key to contribute significantly to lowering greenhouse gas emissions relative to ‘business as usual’ pathways. Similarly, more sustainable industrialisation under SDG 9, sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices under SDG 2, and changing patterns of consumption and production in line with SDG 12 can all contribute to low-emissions pathways, the creation of new kinds of jobs and long-term progress towards eradicating poverty and other deprivations.

Conversely, progress made towards limiting global temperature increase would significantly ease the path to many other SDGs, such as those related to poverty, hunger, access to water, and terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Many of the SDGs and their targets can also be achieved in ways that would enable adaptive responses to climate change, for example those related to resilience in SDGs 9 and 11, respectively relating to infrastructure and urban settlements.

The multiple interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement indicate that integrated and synergistic implementation of both would lead to many benefits. Such an approach would considerably enhance the effectiveness and the quality of outcomes, besides contributing to more efficient use of resources, greater coherence across sectors and actors, and the formation of novel partnerships.

The relative strength of these interlinkages between climate impacts and the SDGs varies across countries and regions, as do the actions needed to ensure that co-benefits are maximized at all levels. A better understanding (including their quantification, wherever possible) of these co-benefits in national, regional and global contexts can spur more deliberate action and collaboration towards realizing them. Such actions and collaborations could result in, for example, improving the design and implementation of policies, directing finance and resources to critical nexuses, supporting specific private sector initiatives and promoting well-identified science, technology and innovation initiatives.

Despite increasing efforts and commitments over the past few years, we are not on track to achieve the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals by. Regrettably, the SDGs were already off track even before COVID-19 emerged. Progress had been made in poverty reduction, maternal and child health, access to electricity, and gender equality, but not enough to achieve the Goals by 2030. In other vital areas, including reducing inequality, lowering carbon emissions and tackling hunger, progress had either stalled or reversed. On the climate goals, we are off track as well, 1.2 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial levels already reached. Powerful progress was made at COP26 in Glasgow in keeping the 1.5 degrees goal alive. The vast majority of world GDP is now covered by net zero commitments. Most countries put forward new 2030 emissions targets in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). But there is still a huge gap between these efforts and an emission reduction level necessary for achieving the 1.5 degree goal, as the total GHG emission in 2030 is expected to be about 14 per cent above the 2010 level¹ even if all the latest NDCs are implemented, including their components that are conditional on the receipt of support.

See UNFCCC message to Parties and observers on 4 November 2021, available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/message_to_parties_and_observers_on_ndc_numbers.pdf.

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An integrated approach that seeks to strengthen synergies between these two global agendas is critical to speed up progress. Focusing on concrete measures for synergistic implementation at all levels would help dramatically increase the pace of implementation and ramp up ambition.

First Conference

In April 2019, UN DESA and UNFCCC organized the first annual Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. Hosted by the Government of Denmark, it took place in Copenhagen with several hundred participants from diverse communities, bringing together practitioners, experts and policymakers from both developing and developed countries; international resource persons from academia, think tanks, the private sector and non-governmental organizations; and representatives of relevant United Nations organizations.

The focus of the conference was promoting coordinated implementation of climate action and the SDGs at the global, regional and country level. Participants identified examples that specifically illustrate the potential of synergistic and interlinked approaches to realizing the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement (including through analyses of, for example, national development plans, nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and national risk reduction strategies). Participants also analyzed gaps and challenges (including trade-offs), and in an expansive conference outcome summary made recommendations for strengthening synergy, increasing ambition, advancing implementation action, maximizing co-benefits and stimulating multi-stakeholder partnerships, including directing means of implementation to more coordinated action; scaling up and enhancing the mobilization of resources that could benefit sustainable development at large, including climate action; and ensuring the effective use of resources while avoiding duplication of effort.

Second Conference – Online Consultations on Synergies

The success and impact of the first global synergies conference led to a decision to make this an annual event. The pandemic, however, forced a change in plans for 2020. Rather than an inperson conference, a virtual Global Synergies Consultation took place over the course of May and June in 2020, consisting of three separate online events. The consultations kept the community together and even expanded it despite the difficulties presented by the online format. The series resulted in a technical summary report, outlining key messages, best practices and lessons learnt.

In addition, between December 2020 and February 2021, UN DESA, UNFCCC and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) co-convoked a series of three webinars on the theme of ‘Harnessing Climate and SDGs Synergies’. The webinars explained the benefits of integrated climate and SDG action. The webinars pointed to a variety of options for synergistic policy interventions in different sectors using an integrated nexus approach. Ways to overcome constraints in implementation, including issues related to capacity development, financing strategies, as well as challenges in monitoring and reporting. The synthesis report of the webinars provided a summary of the deliberations made during the above-mentioned learning series, along with a conceptual and methodological information on how to achieve better synergies and overcome constraints.

Annex 1: Conference Concept Note

FOCUS OF THE THIRD CONFERENCE

Building on the outcomes of the first Global Climate-SDG Conference held in 2019 and the virtual consultations in 2020/2021, the third global conference on Synergies provides a unique opportunity to take stock of practical measures that are being implemented to advance climate and SDG synergies in regional, national and subnational efforts, including through COVID recovery plans and the NDCs.

The overall focus of the conference will be on the progress made over the last few years, with a particular focus on building the evidence base for synergistic action in raising climate ambition towards the 1.5 degrees goal of the Paris Agreement while putting the world on the right track for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The discussions will highlight, among others:

- recent examples of integrated policy measures, tools for identifying synergistic opportunities, coordination and planning mechanisms, financing instruments, and other critical elements linked to a more joint up approach to achieving these two critical agenda. The conference will also provide a unique opportunity for peer-to-peer exchange of information and experiences and identify shortfalls and opportunities in the context of pandemic recovery,
- key policy measures and specific actions in the areas that can help deliver both climate and SDGs co-benefits, such as in the areas of food and agriculture, energy, economic growth, jobs, biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, circular economy, water etc, and that can help embed inclusiveness into climate actions, such as supporting measures for the poor and disadvantaged groups in accessing to clean energy.
- robust synergistic action platforms and multi-stakeholder partnerships that promote the synergistic implementation of SDGs and climate action, including actions for climate empowerment.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

It is expected that the Third Global Synergies Conference will significantly contribute to a better understanding and more effective promotion of synergies between climate action, sustainable development, and pandemic recovery efforts.

More specifically, the Conference will have the following deliverables:

- 1) Conference background materials: developed as part of the preparatory process to inform the discussions. It will build on the most recent documentation and analysis related to harnessing climate and SDGs synergies.
- 2) Forward-looking Conference Summary with key recommendations on scaling up joint implementation of climate actions and SDGs. This aims to inform deliberations ahead of major 2022 global processes, including through advocacy and other practical engagements (such as virtual means) in support of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July 2022, UN General Assembly session in September 2022, the UNFCCC COP27 in November 2022, and other relevant platforms.

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- 3) A network of knowledge partners that contributes to codification and dissemination of knowledge on climate and SDGs synergies using the [Climate & SDGs Synergies Knowledge Platform](#) as a digital platform. The network will be composed of organizations (such as those involved in the technical advisory group) who have demonstrated a commitment to advancing this topic. This will act as a one-stop shop on topics related to harnessing climate and SDGs synergies and providing.

FORMAT

The conference will be held at the United Nations University in Tokyo, Japan. The format of the conference will be hybrid, with both in person and virtual presence.

A total of about 500 participants are envisaged, either in-person and/or online, including from countries that have substantially advanced implementation of their NDCs and/or submitted ambitious NDCs before or at COP26 in Glasgow; and have deployed win-win solutions for climate action and the SDGs at scale through multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The Conference will be held over a period of two days, allowing for opening and closing sessions, several thematic sessions, as well as additional sessions and side events to showcase multi-stakeholder engagements. High-level/ministerial sessions will be included for leadership engagement. Thematic sessions will be expert panels/roundtables followed by interactive dialogue.

The Conference language will be English. Japanese interpretation services will be provided as much as possible to facilitate participation of host-country audience.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

An organizing committee will be established with members from UN DESA, UNFCCC, the Minister of Environment of Japan supported by UNU and IGES. The Organizing Committee will be responsible for organizational aspects of the Conference.

The Organizing Committee will work closely with a technical Advisory Group on the substantive elements of the Conference.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

A technical Advisory Group will also be put together to provide substantive inputs to the organization of the Conference, including providing inputs to the background papers. The Advisory Group will also actively engage in the knowledge platform prior to and following the Conference.

The Advisory Group will be composed of about 15-20 entities who have been heavily engaged in previous consultations on this topic and/or have a track record of promoting climate and SDGs synergies. The suggested list of Technical Advisory Group is attached to this concept note as a separate document (draft as of 14 of February).

COMMUNICATIONS

Online platforms and social media will be utilized to disseminate key messages during the Conference. The outcomes of the Conference will be highlighted on the Climate and SDGs synergies knowledge platform website. The UN Information Centre in Tokyo will also assist with communications to Japanese stakeholders and audience.



**GLOBAL CLIMATE
& SDG SYNERGY
CONFERENCE** ►►

TOKYO
20-21 JULY
2022

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND NOTE

Third Global Conference
on Strengthening Synergies
Between the Paris Agreement
and the 2030 Agenda
For Sustainable Development

*Building the evidence base for synergistic action
in support of raising climate and SDGs ambition*

TOKYO JAPAN | HYBRID

20 July 2022

CO-CONVENED BY



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



United Nations
Climate Change

HOSTED BY



環境省

Ministry of the Environment

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This conference background note is jointly developed by the conference coordinating organizations for the Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, consisting of:

- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Co-Convener)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat (Co-Convener)
- Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Host)
- United Nations University (Partner)
- Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (Partner)

This document is produced based on the technical contributions from staff and experts from the conference coordinating organizations. Under this arrangement, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) served as the focal point for compiling all technical inputs. The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of any of the conference coordinating organizations.

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- Venkatachalam Anbumozhi (ERIA)
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- Miriam Hinostroza (UNEP)
- Hans Olav Ibrekk (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway)
- Somya Joshi (SEI)
- Lila Karbassi (UN Global Compact)
- Amanda McKee (NDC Partnership)
- Baysa Naran (Climate Policy Initiative)
- Sheila Oparaocha (ENERGIA)
- Zitouni Ould-Dada (FAO)

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- Chun Kyoo Park (UNOSD)
- Neil Pratt (UNCBD)
- Leena Srivastava (IIASA)
- Akio Takemoto (UNU)
- Nuki Agya Utama (ASEAN Centre for Energy)
- Rintaro Yamaguchi (NIES)

Annex 2: Conference Background Note

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The world is not on pace to achieve the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Strengthening evidence on synergies and trade-offs between climate change and the SDGs can help raise ambition and accelerate progress on these agendas.

A “big picture” overview shows significant evidence of synergies in urban systems but fragmented evidence elsewhere.

Energy, transport, industry, food and land use systems exhibit several uncertainties. Links between mitigation and SDGs 4 (education), 5 (gender), 10 (equity), 16 (institutions), and 17 (partnerships) could be clearer. The same applies to interactions between mitigation, adaptation and other SDGs. A closer look at context-specific interrelationships could help build the evidence base and close lingering knowledge gaps.

A “closer look” suggests co-benefits and water-food-energy nexus (WFEN) tools can shed light on interrelationships in specific contexts. These well-established approaches may nonetheless prove more revealing by looking beyond first-order impacts to wider streams of benefits. This more expansive view could illustrate not just the magnitude of benefits but to whom they accrue. It could further highlight links between environmental concerns and decent jobs, educational opportunities, well-being and social justice issues. It is also consistent with emerging spatially-oriented integrated approaches such as the circulating and ecological spheres (CES) that aim to achieve climate, biodiversity and circular economy goals by optimizing materials flows across rural and urban areas.

To leave no one behind, policymakers should explicitly prioritize the needs of the vulnerable. This can be achieved by leveraging multiple potential opportunities for synergies and policy coherence.

Carefully crafted enabling environments can help translate evidence into actions. Constructing such an environment will involve enhancing multi-level governance, deliberative decision-making, multi-instrument policy mixes, innovative financing and data systems.

The Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a platform to discuss a way forward, among other issues, on the following topics:

- Options for further strengthening the evidence base for synergistic action;
- Ways for advancing holistic integrated approaches that cut across space, systems and stakeholders;
- Existing needs and opportunities for scaling up capacity building, including youth empowerment;
- Opportunities for greater sharing of experiences at all levels;
- Options for enhancing integrated planning; and
- New partnerships for transformation.

Outcomes of the Conference should inform and shape relevant global processes to strengthen synergistic action, such as the SDG Summit (in 2023 and 2027), global stocktaking efforts under the Paris Agreement and other relevant global processes related to any of the SDGs.

Annex 2: Conference Background Note

1. INTRODUCTION

The SDGs and the Paris Agreement established a firm foundation for integrating the climate and sustainable development agendas.¹ That integration could raise ambitions and accelerate progress on climate change and the SDGs.² The Conference Co-organizing Committee[®] prepared this Background Note to guide discussions on how the *Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* can substantively enrich that integrative process.

The Background Note draws from the first Climate and SDGs Synergy Conference held in April 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Following that milestone meeting, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariats began building a platform to disseminate knowledge and good practice on climate and SDGs synergies. A webinar series on Harnessing Climate and SDGs Synergies was organized between December 2020 and February 2021 to offer policymakers and others guidance on these issues.³

Intergovernmental discussions have affirmed the transformative potential of synergies. Illustrating that strong support, the SDG Summit held in 2019 declared, “We recognize the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.” At 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26), the Glasgow Climate Pact sought to accelerate climate action “in the context of sustainable development.” The 50th anniversary of the UN Conference on the Human Environment (UNCHE) offered recommendations that integration can “accelerate systemwide transformations...” The upcoming COP15 on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will likely promote synergies between biodiversity, climate and sustainable development in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) with similar transformative ends in mind.

The Conference Background Note builds off the above momentum to address two questions: 1) What is known about synergies and trade-offs? and 2) What can be done to consolidate existing and emerging knowledge to raise ambitions and accelerate progress on climate change and the SDGs?

Answering these questions is an important step in reversing worrying trends on the Paris Agreement and SDGs. Some of those trends suggest the world is on pace to achieve the SDGs in the 2060s or 2070s. Others project a 2.7°C temperature rise this century that has dimmed hopes of achieving Paris 1.5°C goals.⁴ Disruptions from pandemics (COVID-19), conflicts (Ukraine) or other exogenous shocks could slow progress further. The tendency to prioritize business-as-usual development over a healthy environment has also led to the expansion of material and ecological footprints in wealthy countries that augurs poorly for a sustainable future globally.⁵

Many reasons exist why recognizing synergies and trade-offs can accelerate progress—and thereby lower the costs of inaction.⁶ Those reasons begin with clearly demonstrating desirable and undesirable interrelationships—such as how shortsighted growth strategies give rise to climate-induced mass migration, overtaxed ecosystems and political unrest. The failure to mitigate climate change and address basic human development needs enshrined in the SDGs is itself a trade-off. A related reason for integration is that achieving larger sustainability objectives in the context of climate change can reduce mitigation/adaptation costs while bringing climate finance to core development needs. This could include, for instance, resources targeting multiple wins from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment

Annex 2: Conference Background Note

Facility (GEF) and numerous other channels. Other reasons include the apparent recognition among G20 countries of the advantages of adopting climate-related measures with more synergies.⁷ Finally, efforts to capture complementarities and limit conflicts can overcome vested interests that prevent transitions to sustainable energy, urban, industry and land use systems. Policymakers can potentially draw upon these arguments to move from one-off incremental shifts to self-sustaining multi-level transformations.

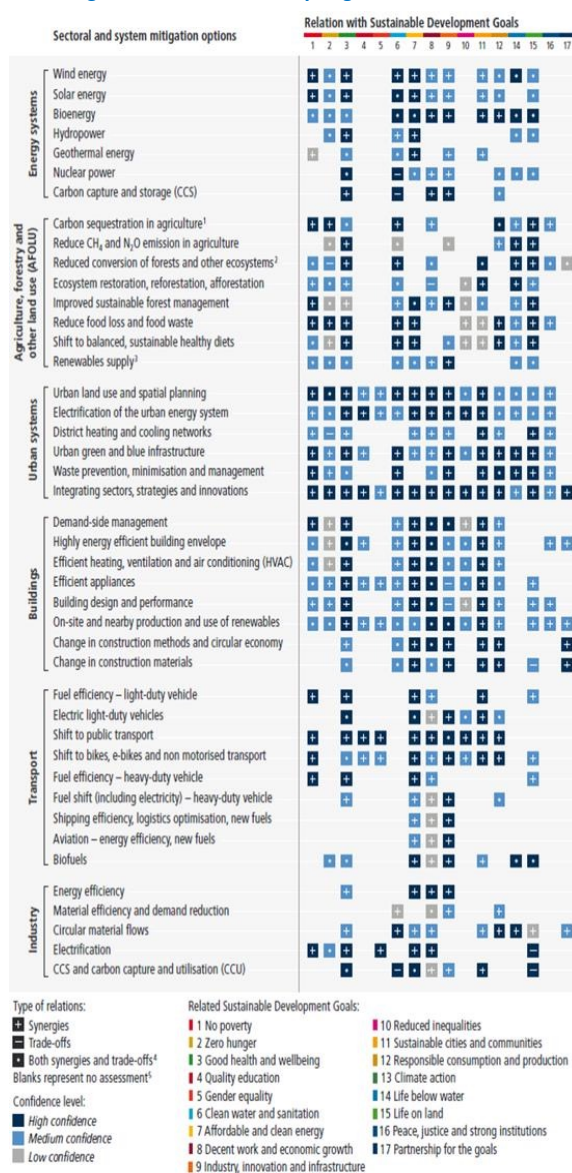
⁷ UNDESA, UNFCCC, the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoEJ), the United Nations University (UNU) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

2. MAPPING EVIDENCE

2.1 The Big Picture

Research underlines the importance of synergies—but knowledge gaps remain. The Global Sustainable Development Report called for integrated actions across its six key “entry points,” noting that recognizing interlinkages can “offer the most efficient – or sometimes the only – way to make progress [in these areas].”⁸ Figure 1, from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report, also shows strong synergies—particularly for urban systems—across key mitigation options and the SDGs.⁹ At the same time, assessments are absent or not definitive for more than half of the surveyed mitigation options and SDGs. Some of the mitigation options with the greatest knowledge gaps include transport, energy, industry and agriculture. Meanwhile, strengthening evidence on relationships between mitigation and SDGs 4, 5, 10, 16 and 17 is also a need.

Figure 1. An Overview of Synergies and Trade-offs⁹



Annex 2: Conference Background Note

Effective harnessing of climate and SDG synergies must not be limited to mitigation alone, but should also include assessing adaptation action. Adaptation includes measures and projects that are meant to cope with perceived or expected impacts of climate change and the associated risks. Some adaptation projects may well be costly. Specific adaptation options may benefit some, but negatively affect the interests of others. Some adaptation measures also may have unintended external effects, if not based on sufficient scientific research and evidence. Therefore, in order to ensure a just, inclusive and effective adaptation programme, all options should be reviewed in a synergistic manner.

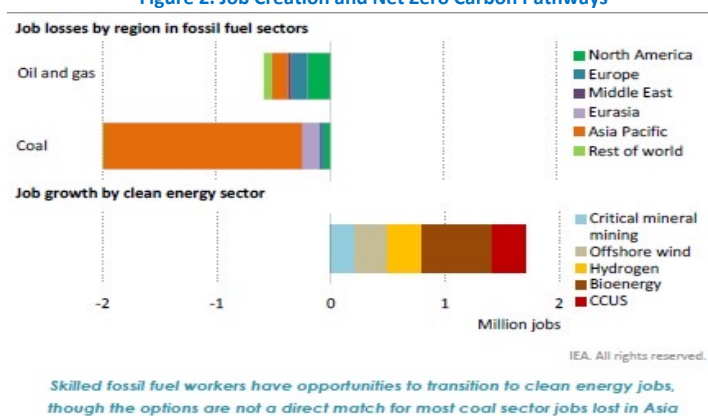
The IPCC points out several climate responses deliver both mitigation, adaptation and other SDG benefits.⁹ These include, for instance, nature-based solutions (NbS) and the restoration of mangroves and coastal wetlands to increase its capacity as a carbon sink while reducing coastal erosion and protecting against storm surges. However, trade-offs also need to be considered when prioritising mitigation at the cost of adaptation or basic human needs such as food security.¹⁰

2.2 A Closer Look

ENERGY AND URBAN SYSTEMS

The area with the longest history of work on these themes is co-benefits from climate-related interventions in energy, urban and related systems. Some of the early work on co-benefits focused on differences in estimates between developed and developing countries. For instance, a review of more than 30 studies has shown that air quality and health co-benefits of climate related interventions tend to be higher in developing countries and their cities, if compared with developed countries.¹¹ Other studies in China reveal a 1.5 °C target scenario could avoid anywhere between an estimated “118,000 and 614,000 PM_{2.5} attributable deaths...in 2030 and 2050.”¹² Similar findings have demonstrated that the benefits of California’s pledge to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 are more than double the annual costs.¹³ While this evidence is needed, extending the use of co-benefits tools to look beyond first-order impacts to wider streams of cost and benefits could enrich understandings of opportunities and constraints on integration. For instance, the World Energy Outlook demonstrated that investments in clean energy and infrastructure (estimated at USD 4 trillion USD by 2030) needed to meet the Paris Agreement 1.5°C goal would create decent jobs and drive social transformation, impacting efforts to achieve just and inclusive societies.¹⁴

Figure 2. Job Creation and Net Zero Carbon Pathways¹⁴



Annex 2: Conference Background Note

Reducing emissions in heavy industry and transport sectors has significant health benefits and related cost savings. In recent years, a complementary line of work on co-benefits has emerged from interventions in key sectors in urban or industrializing areas. Studies have shown significant improvements in air quality, health and climate stability from gains in energy efficiency in cement, steel and other heavy industries.^{15,16} In addition, improvements in vehicle technologies, shifting to public transport and changes in urban design can bring about marked reductions in multiple pollutants (PM_{2.5} and NO_x), premature death and illnesses and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ Meanwhile, 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle) and circular economy policies can ameliorate the harmful environmental and social impacts of untreated waste streams while also leading to reductions in methane and other GHGs.^{20,21} The building sector further offers a wide variety of benefits that can contribute to climate and other SDGs. Perhaps most importantly in this policy area, carefully planned interventions can help poorer pockets of the urban population in slums move to more sustainable habitats.

Many of the strongest synergies require redesign of systems in urban areas that are likely to be home to over 70 per cent of the population by 2050. Cities generate around 70 per cent of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and 80 per cent of global GDP; they therefore present a dynamic locus for action on climate and SDGs. One of the reasons they exhibit those qualities is they frequently possess the authority to redesign infrastructures and urban forms that otherwise lock in unsustainable development patterns. There are potential streams of synergies flowing from redesigning unsustainable systems. For instance, planning for more green spaces can promote sustainable lifestyles, build social capital, and increase carbon uptake and storage. Some of the efforts cities make to achieve net-zero emissions do not stop at their boundaries but have ripple effects on supply chains and other sectors beyond their jurisdiction.²²

The analytical tools used to estimate co-benefits may nonetheless be more revealing by looking at wider streams of benefits. This wider view could illustrate not just the magnitude of benefits but to whom they accrue. It could further highlight links between a range of environmental concerns and decent jobs, educational opportunities and well-being.

While synergies are often visible and desirable, they may come with less visible and undesirable trade-offs; both need to be anticipated and addressed. Some trade-offs result from end-of-the-pipe technologies that limit pollution but increase CO₂.²³ Others stem from shifting from fossil fuels to utility-scale bioenergy that, in turn, increases health-damaging air pollution.²⁴ A third set of conflicts involves socioeconomic impacts such as job losses or widening equity gaps from energy transitions.²⁵ An overly narrow focus on large-scale renewable energy may overlook the three billion people (40 per cent of the world) lacking access to clean, reliable energy, suggesting trade-offs may depend upon where one draws their system boundaries.

FOOD, WATER, FORESTS AND LAND USE SYSTEMS

A useful starting point for assessing synergies and trade-offs outside of energy and urban systems is the water-food-energy nexus (WFEN).^{26,27} As relevant models quantifying the impacts of WFEN have grown in number and sophistication, the approach has broadened its appeal to a diversity of stakeholders and offered useful insights into policy designs.^{28,29} For example, the WFEN has helped demonstrate in India that shifting USD five billion for subsidised pumping of irrigation water to water-use efficiency would save 102 billion m³ of water and 82,000 GWh of energy while reducing 72 million tonnes CO₂ emissions.³⁰ Meanwhile, in South Africa (Mpumalanga) the approach has been used to illustrate that

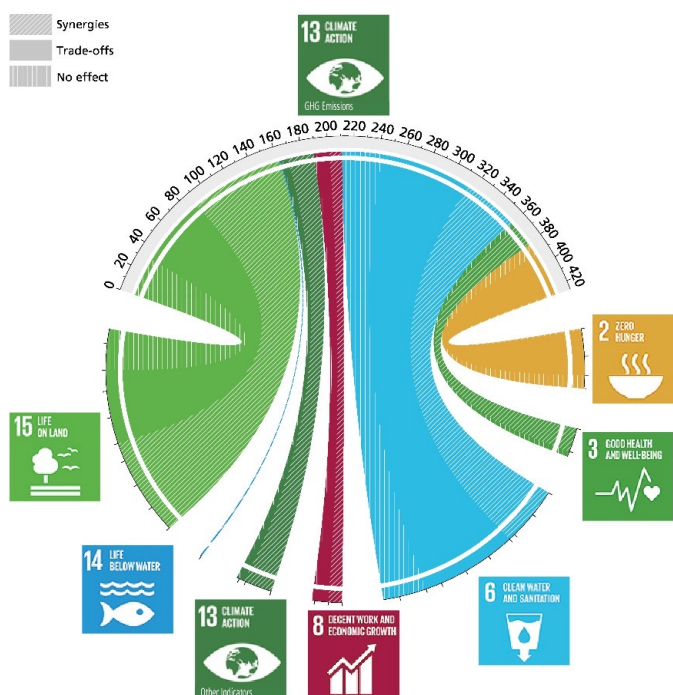
Annex 2: Conference Background Note

shifting away from mining would help improve air and water quality.³¹ While this evidence is needed, similar to co-benefits, extending the use of WFEN analytical tools to wider streams of ecological and socioeconomic benefits could prove illuminating.

Synergies and trade-offs with climate change and food systems warrant more attention. In this case, research suggests reducing food waste and changing diet patterns could lower agricultural GHG emissions, while preserving land and water, and curbing nitrogen and phosphorous levels.³² Apart from being morally desirable, a ‘no food waste’ scenario could reduce crop and livestock production by 490 and 190 Mt; lower agricultural land use by 57 Mha; fertilizers and water requirements by 10 Mt and 110 km³; and GHG emissions by 410 MtCO₂e year relative to a 2030 baseline.³³ Other illustrations suggest possible links between food and sustainable waste reclamation.

An integrated approach to climate and biodiversity is sorely needed. It is well established that climate changes can degrade natural system capacities to sustain diverse life forms. For instance, a study of more than 100,000 species revealed that 1.5°C scenarios could lead to “6% of insects, 8% of plants and 4% of vertebrates...to lose over half of their climatically determined geographic range.”³⁴ To be sure, keeping 1.5°C within reach and achieving the SDGs requires steep investments, but preserving ecosystem services provided by insect species and other ecosystems can save an estimated value of USD 33 trillion globally per year.³⁵ Given this savings, the cost of achieving ambitious SDG targets (including SDG 13 on climate action) has been estimated at significantly less—around USD 5 to 7 trillion per year.³⁶ It is clear that action now is going to be less costly than damage control later.

Figure 3: Synergies and Trade-offs between Energy Crops, GHGs and other SDGs³⁷



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Land use and climate may also present troubling trade-offs. As suggested in Figure 3, using land to grow biofuels and energy crops presents sizable trade-offs, as it tends to monopolize land that could otherwise have been used to grow food crops for human consumption (see the large swaths of diagonal thatched portion of the green space). However, this depends, to some degree, on the previous use of the land in question and feedstock type. More straightforward is aggressive land clearing for palm oils or feedstock production. Such clearing practices destroy carbon sinks and generate air and water pollution.

2.3 Leaving No One Behind

Climate action can produce uneven impacts on the achievement of the SDGs, with greater progress potentially being made on some targets than on others, unless specific measures are otherwise implemented. A review of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) shows that the socially-oriented SDGs are highly under-represented in the NDCs compared to the environmental and economic goals, in particular SDG 3 (health), SDG4 (education), and SDG 5 (gender equality). (See Figure 4)

Social equity and inclusiveness must be at the centre of just, inclusive and equitable transitions. A just, inclusive and equitable transition, if designed and implemented properly, will enhance human well-being, health and capabilities, increase resilience, and drive innovation towards a sustainable society at all levels, while also driving huge investments towards the achievement of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

To leave no one behind, policymakers should explicitly prioritize the needs of the vulnerable by leveraging multiple potential opportunities for synergies and policy coherence. Such measures can focus on, for example, empowering people by ensuring gender equality in its multiple dimensions; enhancing win-win outcomes for health and education, putting the needs of children, youth, local communities, indigenous populations and other vulnerable populations first; and creating new jobs and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups and communities.

Figure 4: Connections between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda through NDCs³⁸



3. ACCELERATING SYNERGISTIC ACTION: MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Strategic levers (means of implementation) need to be coherently deployed to bring about the necessary transformations in a way that can best harness unique local conditions. Realising climate and SDG synergies requires systematic change to current policies, institutions and societal systems. This process will require concerted action from a variety of stakeholders, tailored to specific local needs and conditions. Dealing with such complex interlinkages between the various dimensions that cross-cut climate action and the SDGs poses a significant challenge for decision-makers now and in the future:

- **Governance**, supported by long-term visions, planning and well-designed policies and regulations that engage all stakeholders through multi-stakeholder participatory processes to leave no one behind.
- **Capacity building**, to strengthen the skills, abilities, knowledge, processes and resources required for synergistic action, especially in support of developing countries.
- **Finance and investment**, supported by policies and incentives for action towards sustainable and just outcomes, while avoiding undesirable trade-offs. Ensuring strong alignment and coherence between the financial investments needed for climate action (in the area of US\$5 trillion annually by 2030) and those for the achievement of the SDGs (about US\$ 5-7 trillion per year) is essential to maximise the benefits of synergistic action.
- **Innovation, technology and data**, supported by both proven technologies and strategic investments in new solutions. Overcoming the digital divide is essential for ensuring access to data, information and knowledge, and preventing a further widening of national and international disparities and gaps.
- **Transformative partnerships**, supported by government, business and civil society sectors, that are effective, inclusive and accountable.

4. THE WAY FORWARD

The multiple interlinkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement strongly indicate that integrated and synergistic implementation of both would lead to significant benefits. Much of the evidence suggests that delivering win–win outcomes for climate action and the SDGs is entirely possible, but the full potential of such synergistic outcomes can only be realised if deliberate action is taken.

Carefully crafted enabling environments can translate evidence into action. More attention is needed to multi-level governance, deliberative decision-making, multi-instrument policy mixes, innovative financial arrangements and robust data systems. Which of these elements countries need is likely to depend on existing institutions and capacities to coordinate different interests.³⁹

There is an urgent need for accelerating and scaling-up synergistic implementation to realise the SDGs and a climate-resilient, net-zero future. The *Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* aims to make a contribution in this regard, by sharing experiences and discussing a way forward including on the following issues:

- **Strengthening the evidence base for synergistic action.** Through the annual climate-SDG synergy conference and other related engagements, we must continue to share experiences globally on policies, programmes, implementation mechanisms, multi-stakeholder action and partnerships for both the SDGs and for climate action so that co-benefits are maximized and trade-offs are minimized.
- **Exploring holistic integrated approaches that cut across space, systems and stakeholders.** Many emerging approaches, including those discussed in this note and others such as the CES (Figure 5), can potentially shift norms on integration. Comprehensive global analytical efforts will be required to consolidate and assess evidence from around the world and present coherent, integrated approaches and policy-relevant recommendations that can help
- fill the knowledge gaps and provide scientific underpinning for accelerated synergistic action towards 2030 and beyond.
- **Scaling up capacity building.** Capacity building to empower all stakeholders, institutions and systems is essential. Multi-stakeholder partnerships comprised of governments, academia, international organizations, the private sector and civil society can help in this regard.
- **Increasing sharing of experiences at all levels.** Facilitating regional or thematic exchanges of practical experiences on advancing climate and SDG synergies, e.g. in the context of future UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks or other relevant Conference events, can strengthen knowledge and communities of practices tailored to local conditions and specific issue-based needs.
- **Enhancing integrated planning.** Some countries have factored synergies into National Determined Contributions (NDCs), Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). A common platform may help analyse interlinkages and mainstream integrated decision-making. Participants might reflect on the kind of platform that could be most helpful in this regard.

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- **Partnerships for transformation.** We need all actors – government, the private sector, civil society, academia, communities and individuals – to work together to deliver on the full potential of synergistic action to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Action by youth must play a game-changing role in a multi-decade journey of transformation across the world.

We must capitalize on the critical interlinkages between climate action and the SDGs, taking bold, coordinated action towards sustainable development. Relevant global milestones such as the SDG Summit (in 2023 and 2027), High-level Political Forum (HLPF), UNFCCC COP and on-going global stocktaking efforts under the Paris Agreement must be leveraged to strengthen synergistic action at all levels. The same goes for other relevant global processes related to any of the SDGs, including biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, gender equality, education, health, food security, water, energy, decent jobs, digital cooperation, finance and investment.

Figure 5: Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)⁴⁰



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For further information, please contact:

Secretariat of the Climate and SDGs Synergies Conference

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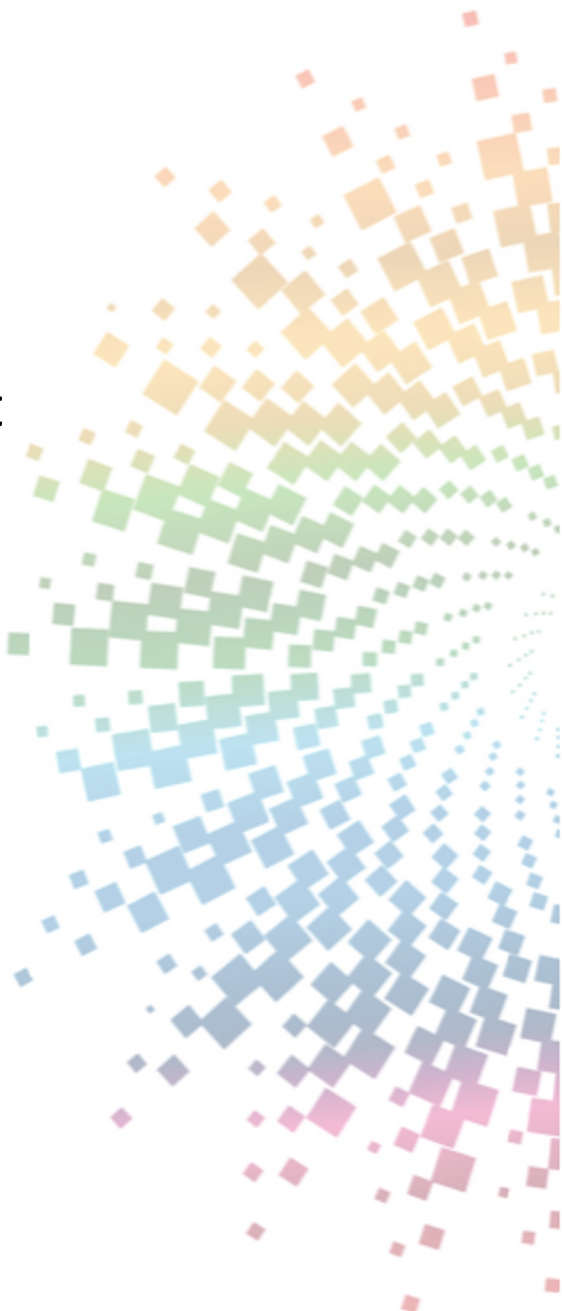
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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Japan Standard Time (JST)

DAY 1	Wednesday, 20 July 2022 (Opening Day)
09:00-19:30	On-site Registration
10:00-11:30	Multistakeholder session
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-13:45	Scene-setting conversation
14:00-17:30	Side events
17:30-17:45	Fireside Chat
17:45-19:00	Dinner break
19:00-19:50	Welcome ceremony and special events
20:00-22:00	Conference High-level Opening Segment

DAY 2	Thursday, 21 July 2022
09:30-10:30	On-site Registration
10:30-12:00	Side Events
12:00-13:15	Lunch break
13:15-13:30	Fireside Chat
13:30-16:45	Parallel Sessions
17:00-18:00	The Way Forward

DAY 1 - Wednesday, 20 July 2022
Opening Day

09:00-19:30 On-site Registration

10:00-11:30 Multistakeholder dialogue: Sharing experiences and lessons learned

Moderated by Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability

Game plan: Mr. Shinji Onoda, Research Manager, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Kick-off: Mr. Koichiro Matsumoto, Director of Global Issues Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Eye-Opener High-Level Talks:

Ms. Kaoru Nemoto, Director, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC)

Mr. Kazuhiro Yoshida, Mayor of Namie, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan

Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Director of the ENERGIA Network

Elevator Pitch on Climate-Driven Actions:

Ms. Chikako Miyata, Chief Sustainability Officer, ANA HOLDINGS INC.

Mr. Goro Komatsu, Executive Director, POW Japan

Ms. Josephine Opoku Boateng, UNU-IAS Postgraduate Degree Programme student (MSc in Sustainability)

Ms. Wei Chin (Shom) Teoh, Programme Manager for Sustainable Cities, Regional Centre in Bangkok, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Commentator: Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, President, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)

Elevator Pitch on SDGs-Driven Actions:

Mr. Hideki Akimoto, Executive Happo-One Development Company

Ms. Hitomi Asahi, Executive Director, SDGs Picture Book Promotion Association

Mr. Mirus Ponon, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, ASEAN Youth Advocates Network

Mr. Simon Olsen, Research Manager, Integrated Sustainability Centre, IGES

Commentator: Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President of IGES

Elevator Pitch on Nature-Driven Actions:

Mr. Hans Joosten, Greifswald Mire Center – IPCC Panel Experts

Ms. Mitsuyo Toyoda, Associate Professor, Sado Island Center for Ecological Sustainability, Niigata University

Ms. Anais-karenin, Visual Artist and Researcher, Brazil

Ms. Kotoko Yadomaru, President, Change Our Next Decade (COND)

Commentator: Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), Philippines

Annex 3: Conference Programme

Harvesting:

Ms. Mana Saza, Director, SWITCH Association of Sustainability

Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, President, Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President of IGES

Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), Philippines

12:00-13:00 Lunch break

13:00-13:45 Scene-setting conversation

Moderated by Co-Conveners:

Mr. Minoru Takada, Team Leader (Energy), UN DESA

Roundtable with Stakeholder Representatives:

Ms. Hitomi Shimizu, SDGs Promotion Headquarters Officer, Shimokawa Town, Hokkaido Prefecture, Japan

Ms. Suzuka Nakamura, Environmental Activist, Japan

Mr. Kulwant Singh, President of KSS Institute of Spatial Planning and Environmental Research, and CEO, 3R Waste Foundation, Gurugram, India

Ms. Yumiko Kajiwara, Corporate Executive Officer, EVP, CSO. Fujitsu (WBCSD Japan)

Ms. Yujeong Kim, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD

Ms. Lynn M. Wagner, Senior Director of Tracking Progress, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

14:00-15:30 Side events: Sharing experiences and lessons learned

(Detailed programme of side events is available [here](#))

15:30-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Side events: Sharing experiences and lessons learned

(Detailed programme of side events is available [here](#))

17:30-17:45 Fireside Chat

Ms. Arisa Kishigami, Independent Sustainable Investment Specialist, Japan

Interviewer: Ms. Bahareh Seyedi, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

17:45-19:00 Dinner break

19:00-19:50 Welcome ceremony and special events

Moderated by Ms. Erin Kawazu, Programme Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Music and Cultural Performance

Mr. Tomoyoshi Kakushin, Distinguished Biwa Player

Annex 3: Conference Programme

Welcoming remarks

Ms. Sawako Shirahase, Senior Vice-Rector of United Nations University (UNU), Tokyo, Japan, and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations

Launch of the first 26 “Decarbonization Leading Areas” in Japan by Ministry of the Environment of Japan

H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, Minister of the Environment of Japan

Ms. Kazumi Inamura, Mayor of Amagasaki City, Japan – Selected Decarbonization Leading Area

Mr. Mitsugi Takenaka, Mayor of Kamishihoro Town, Japan – Selected Decarbonization Leading Area

Message of **Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif**, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

Message of **Mr. Mahadi Che Ngah**, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur City, Malaysia

Message of **Ms. Kobie Brand**, Regional Director ICLEI Africa Office

Launch of “SDGs Progress Report 2022 - Survey Results on the Efforts of GCNJ Companies and Organisations” by GCNJ and IGES

Ms. Sandra Wu, GCNJ Board Member, UN Global Compact Board Member, Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, GCNJ Board Member, President of IGES

19:50-20:00 Group photo

20:00-22:00 Conference Opening and High-level Segment: Advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and accelerating the transition to a carbon neutral economy

Moderator

Ms. Yuka Tanimoto, Editor-in-Chief of Forbes JAPAN Web

High level Statement

H.E. Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, Minister of the Environment of Japan

Co-Conveners Statements

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Acting Executive Secretary, UNFCCC

Special messages

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives

H.E. Ms. Siti Nurbaya Bakar, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia (Host country of G-20 in 2022)

H.E. Mr. Alok Sharma, Member of Parliament, United Kingdom, and President of the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (UNFCCC COP 26)

Ms. Jayathama Wickramanayake, United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth

Moderated Panel Discussion with distinguished stakeholder representatives: Raising ambition on climate action and SDGs

Mr. Hoesung Lee, Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Ms. Sandra Wu, Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd., Board Member of UN Global Compact

Ms. Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI), India

Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director, ENERGIA

Mr. Mirus Ponon, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, ASEAN Youth Advocates Network

Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Remarks of distinguished leaders: Climate and SDG Synergies – Charting a roadmap towards 2030

H.E. Mr. Costas Kadis, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of the Government of Cyprus

H. E. Mr. Adrián Peña, Minister of Environment of Uruguay

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Chief Executive Officer and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Supreme Council for Environment (SCE), Kingdom of Bahrain

H.E. Mr. Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations and Chair of Group of 77 and China

H.E. Mr. Walton Alfonso Webson, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations and Chair of Alliance of Small Island States

Ms. Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov, State Secretary of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova

Mr. Yuji Kuroiwa, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), Bangkok, Thailand

Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE)

Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

Ms. Heidi Schroderus-Fox, Acting High Representative of the Least Developed Countries, Land-Locked developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States (UN OHRLLS)

Mr. Woonchong Um, Managing Director-General and Officer-in-Charge, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Ms. Mami Mizutori, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Annex 3: Conference Programme

Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, Assistant Secretary-General & Executive Director,
UN Global Compact

Mr. Keiji Nishizawa, Chair of Keidanren Committee on Responsible
Business Conduct & SDGs Promotion, Chairman, Keidanren Committee
on Nature Conservation, Director-Chairman of Sompo Japan Insurance
Inc.

Closing of the High-level Segment

Moderator

Ms. Yuka Tanimoto, Editor-in-Chief of Forbes JAPAN Web

DAY 2 - Thursday, 21 July 2022

09:30-10:30 On-site Registration

10:30-12:00 Side Events

(Detailed programme of side events is available [here](#))

12:00-13:15 Lunch break

13:15-13:30 Fireside Chat: Main messages from the Conference Background Note

Mr. Junichi Fujino, Principal Researcher and Program Director of Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Interviewer: Ms. Sheila Oparaocha, Executive Director, ENERGIA

13:30-16:45 Parallel Sessions

13:30-15:00 Parallel Session 1.1:
Implementing a nexus approach across key sectors and policy areas

Parallel Session 1.2:
Ensuring just transitions, enabling empowerment and enhancing knowledge and skills

Parallel Session 1.3:
Forging partnerships for synergetic action

Moderator:

- **Ms. Bahareh Seyedi**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

Keynote statement: Transformation is feasible: How to achieve the SDGs within our planetary boundaries

- **Ms. Mamphela Ramphele**, Co-President, Club of Rome

Moderator:

- **Mr. Akio Takemoto**, Programme Head, UNU-Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

Opening remarks:

- **Ms. Shinobu Yume Yamaguchi**, Director of UNU-IAS

Keynote statement: The IPCC systems approach to assessing potentials for climate and SDG synergies

- **Ms. Debora Ley**, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy and Natural Resources at ECLAC / IPCC Lead Author

Moderator:

- **Ms. Vibha Dhawan**, Director General, The Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi, India

Keynote Statement: Global perspectives for climate and security

- **Mr. Hans Olav Ibrekk**, Special Envoy on Climate and Security, Government of Norway

Annex 3: Conference Programme

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Somya Joshi**, Head of Division, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Stockholm, Sweden (Initiative of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate)
- **Mr. Jan Vapaavouri**, Former Mayor of City of Helsinki, Finland, and Senior Advisor on Urban Development, NREP, Helsinki, Finland
- **Ms. Maria Neira**, Director, Public Health and Environment, World Health Organization (WHO)
- **Mr. Hitesh Vaidya**, Director, Climate Centre of Cities, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi, India
- **Ms. Chioma Agvuegbo**, Executive Director, TechHerNG, Social Entrepreneur, Abuja, Nigeria, and Member of the Board of Oxfam (UK)
- **Ms. Imelda Dada Bacudo**, Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)
- **Mr. Wataru Suzuki**, Global Coordinator, Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Maria Antonia Gwynn Ramirez**, Member of Governing Council of Itaipu-Binational (Paraguay)
- **Mr. Moustapha Kamal Gueye**, Coordinator Green Jobs Programme, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **Ms. Parimita Mohanty**, Programme Management Officer, Renewable Energy, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **Ms. Yasuko Kameyama**, Professor, University of Tokyo, Senior Principal Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES),
- **Mr. Kulwant Singh**, President of KSS Institute of Spatial Planning and Environmental Research, and CEO, 3R Waste Foundation, Gurugram, India
- **Ms. Kelly Takaya King**, Council Member in Maui Country, Hawaii, United States
- **Ms. Kathy Nothstine**, Head of Future Cities, Coordinator of Climate-Smart City Challenge, Nesta Charity Foundation, UK

Moderated discussion with invited speakers:

- **Ms. Ana Rovzar**, Head of International Partnerships, Renewable Energy Solutions for Africa Foundation (RES4Africa)
- **Ms. Doris Edem Agbevivi**, Energy Analyst, Energy Commission of Ghana
- **Mr. Todd Litman**, Executive Director, Victoria Transport Policy Institute (VTPI), Ontario, Canada
- **Ms. Christine He**, Deputy Secretary-General, Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), Shenzhen Office, China
- **Ms. Parisa Kloss**, Executive Director, Resilient Urban Planning and Development (RUPD, GbR, Bonn, Germany)

15:00-15:15 Break

Annex 3: Conference Programme

15:15-16:45 Parallel Session 2.1: Overcoming barriers: Financing, technology and innovation	Parallel Session 2.2: Harnessing climate-SDG synergies and co-benefits whilst closing the ambition gap	Parallel Session 2.3: Measurement, reporting and verification
<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Yasuo Takahashi, Executive Director, IGES <p>Keynote statement: Unlocking a better future: Mobilizing means of implementation for developing countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Venkatachalam Anbumozhi, Director of Research, Strategy and Innovation, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Indonesia <p>Moderated discussion with invited speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms. Kumi Kitamori, Acting Deputy Director, Environment Directorate, and Head of Green Growth & Global Relations Division, OECD — Mr. Alisher Mamadzhonov, Climate Policy and Governance Specialist, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Incheon, Rep. of Korea — Ms. Baysa Naran, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI), London, United Kingdom — Ms. Jane Burston, Executive Director, Clean Air Fund, London, UK 	<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms. Leena Srivastava, Deputy Director General for Science, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Vienna Austria <p>Keynote statement: Net Zero or not zero? Ensuring effectiveness and credibility of climate action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Sergey Kononov, Manager, Programmes Coordination, UNFCCC <p>Moderated discussion with invited speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Alexander Dyukarev, Head of Division of the Department of the Ministry of Economic Development, Russian Federation — Mr. Jim Skea, Professor of Sustainable Energy at Imperial College London and Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III — Ms. Rohini Kohli, Senior Technical Advisor on Climate Change Adaptation Policy and Planning, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 	<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, Head of Office, UN Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) <p>Keynote statement: Enhancing climate resilience – Perspectives for scaling up climate action in the land use sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada, Deputy Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) <p>Moderated discussion with invited speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Ms. Kanako Morita, Senior Researcher, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (Japan) — Ms. Paulina Cardenas, Deputy Director, Measurement, Reporting and Verification, National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change, Environment (INECC), Mexico

Annex 3: Conference Programme

15:15-16:45	Parallel Session 2.1: Overcoming barriers: Financing, technology and innovation	Parallel Session 2.2: Harnessing climate-SDG synergies and co-benefits whilst closing the ambition gap	Parallel Session 2.3: Measurement, reporting and verification
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Takao Aiba, Chairman of Subcommittee on Planning, Keidaren Committee on Nature Conservation, and Project General Manager Environmental Affairs and Engineering Management Division, CN Advanced Engineering Development Center, Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan — Mr. Eric Zusman, Team Leader, Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) — Ms. Nawal Al-Hosany, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), United Arab Emirates (UAE) — Ms. Vanessa Gray, Head of Environment and Emergency Telecommunication Division, Telecommunications Development Bureau, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) — Ms. Yurika Morii, International Advocacy, Coordinator, Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Kazuhisa Koakutsu, Director of International Negotiations Office of Director for International Cooperation for Transition to Decarbonization and Sustainable Infrastructure, Global Environmental Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, (Japan) — Mr. Deo Gabinete, Regional Manager Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe, NDC Partnership, Bangkok Office, Thailand — Mr. Stephen Dräxler, Technical Advisor, NDC Transport Initiative for Asia, German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ), Germany — Ms. Yukari Takamura, Professor, Institute for Future Initiatives, University of Tokyo, Japan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mr. Mozaharul Alam, Regional Coordinator on Climate Action, Asia and the Pacific Office, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) — Ms. Miriam Medel Garcia, Head of External Outreach, Secretariat of UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) — Mr. Hector Arce Benavides, Ing., Director, National REDD+ Strategy, National Forestry Finance Fund (FONAFIFO), Costa Rica

16:45-17:00 Break

17:00-18:00 **The Way Forward: Profound transformation is needed, possible, and beneficial for all**

Moderated by Co-Conveners:

- **Ms. Bahareh Seyedi**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

Main takeaways from the parallel sessions

- **Mr. Wataru Suzuki**, IPSI Secretariat (on behalf of Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) Secretariat
- **Mr. Kulwant Singh**, President, KSS Institute of Spatial Planning and Environmental Research, and Chief Executive Officer, 3R Foundation, India
- **Ms. Doris Edem Agbevivi**, Energy Analyst, Energy Commission of Ghana
- **Mr. Junichi Fujino**, Principal Researcher and Program Director of Integrated Sustainability Centre, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- **Ms. Leena Srivastava**, Deputy Director General for Science, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Report of Youth Representatives

- **Ms. Chika Suzuki**, Co-Secretary General, Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS)
- **Mr. Hiroyoshi Uchida**, Principal Policy Advocacy Advisor, Climate Youth Japan (CYJ)
- **Ms. Kotoko Yadomaru**, President, Change Our Next Decade (COND)

Presentation of co-conveners' conference summary

- **Ms. Bahareh Seyedi**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA

Closing remarks

- **Mr. Hiroshi Ono**, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment Japan
- **Ms. Xiaomeng Shen**, Vice-Rector, UNU, and Director of UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)
- **Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi**, President, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
- **Mr. Minoru Takada**, Team Leader (Energy), UNDESA



<https://www.un.org/en/climate-sdgs-conference-2022>

For further information, please contact UNDESA at salame1@un.org

Listing of Technical Briefs

[Discussion on Financing Clean Air and Climate Action](#)

(by Climate Policy Initiative and Clean Air Fund)

[Addressing the Climate-SDGs Synergies and Trade-offs for the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Solutions](#) (by

Food and Agriculture Organization)

[Discussion on SDG and NDC Implementation](#)

(by NDC Partnership)

[Importance of Building Decarbonization and Benefits for the SDGs](#)

(by UN Environment Programme and Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction)

[Transforming Global Markets to Energy Efficient Lighting and Appliances](#)

(by UN Environment Programme and United for Efficiency)

[Delivering Efficient Power Supply Networks for Southern Africa Region](#)

(by UN Environment Programme and United for Efficiency)

[Sustainable Food Cold Chains](#)

(by UN Environment Programme, Coal Coalition, FAO and IRENA)

[Maximizing Synergies for Cross-Sectoral Policy Implementation and Multilateral Partnership to Accelerate Progress for the SDGs](#)

(by United Nations Office for Sustainable Development)

[Land, Climate and Development](#)

(by UN Convention to Combat Desertification)

Side Events Programme

Date/Timec	Event Title	Organization	Contacts	Event Format	Summary
	Applying Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) Concept for Placing Urban Rural Linkages at the Core of Localization of Climate and Sustainable Development Actions.	Ministry of Environment Japan Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) START International Inc Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology Thammasat University	Bijon Kumer Mitra - b-mitra@iges.or.jp	Hybrid (U Thant Hall)	Download
20/07/2022 14:00-15:30 JST 07:00-8:30 CEST 01:00-02:30 EST	Discover Outstanding Initiatives of Local SDGs in Japan -- from The Ministry of the Environment's "Good Life Award"	The Ministry of the Environment Japan	Taku Noiri – taku_noiri@env.go.jp	Hybrid/No in-person audience (Elizabeth Rose Hall)	Download
	Asia-Pacific Regional Review of knowledge and experiences on environmental dimension of Voluntary National Reviews on SDGs	UNEP, Government of Tuvalu, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)	Ms. Miriam Hinostraza – miriam.hinostrazas@un.org ; Jinhua Zhang - zhang6@un.org	Virtual	Download
	Forests Communities and CSOs Mobilising Resources to attain the Forests Investment Program of the Climate Investment Funds	Federation of Environmental and Ecological Diversity for Agricultural Revampment and Human Rights (FEEDAR & HR)	Mr. Tcharbuahbokengo Nfinn - feedar97@yahoo.com	Virtual	Download
20/07/2022 14:00-17:30 JST 07:00-10:30 CEST 01:00-04:30 EST	Youth Day - Designing the future beyond the achievement of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 agenda	Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS), Climate Youth Japan (CYJ), Change Our Next Decade (COND)	Yurika Morii - duffyloveyurika@gmail.com Cc: chikas.jyps@gmail.com; furikaketskm@gmail.com; japanyouthplatform@gmail.com	Hybrid (Annex Space)	Download

Annex 5: Side Events Programme

	Catalysing nature-based solutions for biodiversity, climate change and sustainable development through ecosystem restoration	UNU Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), FAO (tbd), SCBD (tbd)	Makiko Yanagiya - yanagiya@unu.edu	Hybrid (U Thant Hall)	Download
20/07/2022 16:00-17:30 JST 09:00-10:30 CEST 03:00-04:30 EST	Promoting synergies at local level: Why Local Governments are strengthening synergies between climate agenda and sustainable development?	ICLEI World Secretariat, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)	Junichi Fujino - fujino@iges.or.jp; Togo Uchida - togo.uchida@iclei.org; Yunus Arian - yunus.arikan@iclei.org;	Hybrid (Elizabeth Rose Hall)	Download
	Searching Synergistic SDGs: Securing Food, Nutrition and Livelihood for Agrarian Asians in the Climate Trap.	South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE)	chair@safeinch.org	Virtual	Download
20/07/2022 17:30-19:00 JST	How to synergize the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?	International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	Joachim Roth - jroth@iisd.ca	Virtual	Download
10:30-12:00 CEST 04:30-06:00 EST	Transformations within Reach (TwR)	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Luis Gomez-Echeverri - luis.gomez.echeverri@gmail.com	Virtual	Download
	Harnessing the ongoing SDG 5 review to collectively deliver climate action in Africa	FEMNET	Anne Songole - a.songole@femnet.or.ke	Virtual	Download
21/07/2022 06:00-07:30 JST	Carbon footprint and effective mitigation actions from the private sector	Casa Rica Mercado Gourmet	Marcelo Sabanes - marcelo.sabanes@casarica.com.py	Virtual	Download
20/07/2022 23:00-00:30 CEST 17:00-18:30 EST	Web 3.0 Use Cases and Application Hand in Hand with the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda	The Voices for Peace	Brianna Cook - thevoices4peace@gmail.com	Virtual	Download

Annex 5: Side Events Programme

21/07/2022 08:00-09:30 JST					
01:00-02:30 CEST	One Million Lights ISM - Lighting Up The World	One Million Lights	Dylan Yap - yapd@ismanila.org	Virtual	Download
20/07/2022 19:00-20:30 EST					
21/07/2022 10:30-12:00 JST	The role of multi- stakeholder partnerships to accelerate local actions	UNU-IAS	Mihoko Sakai - mihoko.sakai@unu .edu	Hybrid (Elizabeth Rose Hall)	Download
03:30-05:00 CEST	on climate and sustainable society				
20/07/2022 21:30-23:00 EST	Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition for the SDGs and Net Zero	DESA	Nadine Salame - salame1@un.org	Hybrid (Annex Space)	Download

Annex 6: Report of Youth Representatives



Youth Proposal handed in at Synergy Meeting 2022

“On July 20 and 21, 2022, at the Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we, *Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability (JYPS)*, *Climate Youth Japan* and *Change Our Next Decade*, have written a proposal to strengthen the synergy between the SDGs, climate change, and biodiversity, and to change social norms to envision a truly sustainable society.

The recommendations were presented at the session "The Way Forward" on July 21st, 2022.



The proposal consisted of three main parts, including the following:

- 1) To promote meaningful participation of diverse stakeholders, including the youth, in fostering social norms toward a sustainable society at this Synergy Conference (ex. a preparatory process such as a technical advisory group and a session for each stakeholder should be established on a permanent basis). To mainstream the discussion on this meeting at major international conferences such as G7/G20, HLPF, COP, so that the social norms proposed at the Synergies Meeting will be disseminated in the international community.
- 2) To foster truly sustainable social norms through strengthening synergies among the SDGs, climate change, and biodiversity.
- 3) Provide various forms of support to promote meaningful participation of youth. (ex. financial support and promotion of education on global issues).

The complete Summary can be downloaded

https://en.jyps.website/post/youthproposal_synergyconference2022_en



For further information, please contact
Email: climate-sdgs-synergies@un.org



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



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