

Cross-Sector Intelligence and Foresight to accelerate the SDGs

Wednesday, 13 March 13:15 - 14h45 CET

CONTEXT

The heightened conditions of polycrisis triggered by wars, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and waste beg the need for creative solutions that draw on the knowledge, expertise, and resources of various sectors and organizations. Such solutions should go beyond addressing immediate needs to enabling the consolidation of resilient transformative development pathways, which decouple growth from resource consumption while driving economic and social progress.

Delays in consolidating such pathways will only aggravate environmental degradation and inequalities. This is the main take away message from the UNECE 2023 assessment of the region's progress on the 2030 Agenda.[1]The report paints a worrisome picture: there is not a single Goal on track. Further, with only 18% of the 105 measured targets met, the region could only achieve 21 SDG targets by 2030, down from 26 targets found on track the year before.

Globally, 2024 will be a year where the stark questions on the future will come into focus at the Summit of the Future and in the run-up to it. This will include looking at how the multilateral system can respond to the polycrisis and support transformative change.

International Geneva has a special role to play in this context, with several players in the ecosystem already playing a key role in shaping the future of multilateral action for 2030 and beyond.

[1] <https://w3.unece.org/sdg2022/progress-assessment.html>



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FOCUS

Leading experts will present a blueprint for the Geneva track of the UN Futures Lab, showcase new models and scalable platforms to harness cross-sector collective intelligence and propel the SDGs' progress, and highlight the potential for cross-sectoral intelligence and strategic foresight as International Geneva's contribution to the upcoming Summit of the Future.

REGISTRATION

The event will take place at the Campus Biotech Auditorium, Chemin des Mines 9, Geneva. [Please, register here](#). Limited places available. First-come first served

To attend online, please register here: <https://unige.zoom.us/j/68811647552>

For more information: Monica.Patry@unige.ch

The event will be recorded. The recording will be made available to all participants. Your personal data provided for the Zoom registration will be used to send you the session recording, as well as to send you an invitation to a potential follow-up event.

PROGRAM

13:15 – 13:25 Welcome address

Mr. Markus Reubi, Swiss Envoy for the Agenda 2030

13:25 – 13:30 Event run-down & speakers introduction

Dr. Alexandre Hedjazi, University of Geneva

13:30 – 14:35 Roundtable discussion

Mr. Chris Earney, UN Futures Lab. Mission and vision of the UN Futures Lab

Dr. Dmitry Mariyasin, UNECE. The Geneva track of the UN Futures Lab

Prof. Tina Ambos, University of Geneva. New models of cross-sector collaboration and rapid innovation as the way to achieve the goals.

Ms. Özge Aydoğan, SDG Lab. Foresight to accelerate the SDGs

Moderated by Dr. Stephan Mergenthaler, World Economic Forum

13:40 – 14:45 Closing remarks

Dr. Alexandre Hedjazi, University of Geneva



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ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Tina C. Ambos is Professor of International Management and the Director of the Center for Innovation and Partnerships at the University of Geneva. Tina's research and teaching interests include global strategic management and innovation in the context of multinational corporations, technology start-ups and international (non-for-profit) organizations.



Özge Aydoğan is the Director of the SDG Lab. She has more than 13 years of experience as an international development professional, working across the humanitarian-development spectrum in and with the UN system, international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, the Swiss Government, and research institutions.



Dr. Alexandre Hedjazi is Senior Lecturer at the University of Geneva's Institute of Environmental Sciences. Alexandre coordinates the Geneva Center of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities and is a global governance & urban sustainability transition expert.



Chris Earney works at the intersection of foresight, innovation, and culture change at the UN. He's had the privilege of serving the organisation in Sudan, Iraq, Kenya, at HQ in NYC and multiple other operations - from crisis to development. He has served for over 17 years at the UN and is currently the head of the UN Futures Lab.



Dmitry Mariyasin is the Deputy Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, covering 56 countries on three continents. Dmitry leads large cross-sectoral teams, represents the UN in inter-governmental discussions at highest level and engages with industry leaders, top thinkers and practitioners.



Stephan Mergenthaler is Head of Strategic Intelligence and Member of the Executive Committee at the World Economic Forum. He oversees the Forum's strategic analysis on global trends and leads its digital innovation strategies to scale and amplify its multi-stakeholder initiatives.



Markus Reubi oversees a cross-disciplinary approach to current challenges in his role as deputy head of the Prosperity and Sustainability Division, within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Moreover, he is Swiss Delegate for the Agenda 2030.



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