



REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13 – 14 MARCH 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

Preliminary Programme

Last updated: 6 February 2024

Wednesday, 13 March 2024

8:15 – 9:45

Side Events

Opening and High-level Policy Segment

Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the UNECE region in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions

OPENING

(Co) Chair(s) of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed

Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Ms. Tatiana Molcean

UNECE Executive Secretary and United Nations, Under-Secretary General

Ms. Ivana Živkovic

Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS

HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT

High-level speakers will engage in a policy debate on accelerating SDG progress and delivering transformative solutions. The debate will be informed by the UNECE Annual SDG Progress Report to be launched in early 2024. High-level government representatives will have the opportunity to share policy actions that have been taken domestically. Other stakeholders will join the debate and report back on their preparatory consultations.

PLENARY DEBATE

10:00 – 13:00

Palais des Nations,
Room XIX

13:00 – 15:00

Lunch Break

13:15 – 14:45

Side Events

15:00 – 18:00

Peer learning Round Tables

Palais des Nations

SDG 1

Room XXVI

No Poverty

This round table will allow participants to learn from each other and share information on the best ways to address the growing poverty impacts of the climate crisis in the region as well as explore potential gains from green and digital transitions.



SDG 13

Room XIX

Climate Action

The round table will focus on the importance of strengthening preparedness to climate extremes through multi-hazard early warning systems, and on holistic policies that simultaneously address both the biodiversity and climate crises



SDG 16

Room XXI

Peace, Justice, and Strong institutions

The round table aims to identify and reinforce foundations of democratic and societal resilience, reflect on addressing tipping points that can further create fragile imbalances and conflict risks, and generate innovative ideas that can further propel the region towards peaceful, democratic, digitally equipped, and people-centred societies.



18:15 – 19:30

Reception

Palais des Nations, Bar Serpent

For all participants jointly offered by the Swiss Confederation, the Canton and City of Geneva

Thursday, 14 March 2024

8:15 – 9:45

Side Events

10:00 – 13:00

Peer Learning Round Tables

Palais des Nations

SDG 2

Room XXI

Zero Hunger

Participants will exchange knowledge and experiences on the climate change impacts of and on food systems, and look at key enabling conditions to make food systems more sustainable, efficient, and resilient.



SDG 17

Room XIX

Partnerships for the Goals

The session delves into crucial policy areas, such as infrastructure development, digital skills, and data governance, which are relevant to the development of the UN Global Digital Compact. It will underscore the core role of partnerships across sectors in digital transformation, discussing future trends, challenges, and opportunities to enhance goal delivery.



13:00 – 15:00 | **Lunch Break**

13:15 – 14:45 | **Side Events**

Plenary Session and Closing

Advancing key transitions and cooperation towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the UNECE region

Sustainable development brings the promise of a better future, but to build this future, we need to imagine it, to remove obstacles that undermine the necessary cooperation to make it possible, and to harness all the levers that contribute to progress. And we need to ensure that all the actors are involved in a meaningful way. The future does not only belong to us. The commitment to safeguard the interest of future generations is a key component of sustainable development.

A panel discussion will bring together diverse stakeholders, including the private sector, financial institutions, science and academia, local authorities, youth representatives and other civil society actors. Panellists will share with member States their perspectives on SDG acceleration with particular focus on the main issues to be addressed by the Summit of the Future.

PLENARY DEBATE

CLOSING

15:00 – 18:00

Palais des Nations,
Room XIX

Format of the sessions

The Regional Forum on **13 - 14 March 2024** will take place at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland. (With exact meeting modalities under discussion with UNOG).

Side events will take place in the period of **11 - 14 March** as **virtual sessions**.

Contact

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The Regional Forum is convened by UNECE, in close cooperation with the UN Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia.