*Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities logo with rainbow tiles around blue words*

**The 2021 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) Bulletin**

The HLPF has begun! All are invited to participate in this vibrant online High-level Political Forum (HLPF) and its related events to review the Sustainable Development Goals through a COVID-19 lens. It runs from today, **Tuesday, 6 July, to Friday, 16 July**. Sessions can be viewed through [UN webtv](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1v/k1vx427slp).

Representatives of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities are interacting at each session today and will make a presentation on Friday during the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Official Session on Friday July 9, between 3pm and 5pm NY time.

*Lastly, a reminder to*[*sign up for our side event*](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_715YjkRXQd6DKOjQwbrwbg)*July 9, between 7:30am and 9:00am NY time!*

1. **Format –**The format of the HLPF will be virtual. More information on the [arrangements for the 2021 High-level Political Forum can be found here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/281762021_HLPF_and_HLS_Information_note.pdf).
2. **Theme and Background -**The 2021 HLPF theme is *"Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"*[Click here to read more](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021)

The HLPF is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. In 2021, the HLPF will discuss Sustainable Development Goals 1 on no poverty, 2 on zero hunger, 3 on good health and well-being, 8 on decent work and economic growth, 10 on reduced inequalities, 12 on responsible consumption and production, 13 on climate action, 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and 17 on partnerships in depth. The Forum will also consider the integrated, indivisible, and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals.

1. **Programme -**The[2021 HLPF Programme](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/275642021_HLPF_PROGRAMME.pdf) has been released and the focus of the thematic sessions are the SDGs in sustainable recovery from Covid-19. You can find the [Annotated Program here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/282962021_HLPF_and_HLS_Annotated_Programme_with_speakers.pdf). **For the first time,** **the**[**UN has provided an HLPF program in an easy read format**](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/28587Easy_Read_Document_for_the_HLPF_2021.pdf)**!**

1. **Accessibility –**All events will be virtual and can be viewed via[UN Web TV](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1v/k1vx427slp).  [Accessibility services for persons with disabilities](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/285572021_HLPF_and_HLS_Accessibility_guide.pdf) is now available via the [Registration & Participation](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#registration) section of the HLPF website.  Real-time captioning and International Sign interpretation will be provided via UN Webcast.**And we repeat: for the first time,** the UN has provided an [HLPF program in easy](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/28587Easy_Read_Document_for_the_HLPF_2021.pdf) read format!

1. [**Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities Official Side Event**](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7590&menu=2993)**-**The official SGPwD side event will be **Friday 9th July from 7:30 am to 9:00 am (EDT)**Its theme is:*Building an Inclusive and Effective Path for Civil Society Engagement in the HLPF*. Register [in advance for this event here](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_715YjkRXQd6DKOjQwbrwbg).

1. **Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities Submission to the HLPF 2021-**Each year the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities sends a submission around the SDGs and persons with disabilities relating to the theme of the HLPF. It is written with an open consultative process to create a strong statement from various organizations working to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. Thank you to all those who contributed to the submission!  [Read the submission here.](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/stakeholder_group_of_persons_with_disabilities_submission_for_hlpf_2021.pdf)

1. **Voluntary National Reviews -**Forty-three countries will report on the progress of SDG implementation and reflect on the global pandemic. All reviews will be held online and live question and answers sessions will follow the presentations. Read the [Compilation of main messages for the 2021 voluntary national reviews](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/27613Compilation_of_main_messages_for_the_2021_VNR.pdf)

* + After the government presentations, there is usually time allotted for questions and answers. Stakeholders as a group are guaranteed to deliver one statement to these countries. The SGPwD collaborates in the statement drafting and can nominate a limited number of speakers. This provides us with an opportunity to collaborate on country-specific statements and to input into COVID-related advocacy messages.

The following 43 countries will carry out voluntary national reviews (VNRs) of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda in 2021, including Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamans, Bhutan, Bolivia, Cabo Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Island, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden. Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, Zimbabwe. For more details,[please click here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#vnrs).

1. **VNR Labs –**VNR Labsprovide an informal platform for experience sharing and reflection on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process. Learn more on when the [VNR labs](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#labs) are being held and the topics they will cover.

1. **Ministerial Declaration -**The HLPF will adopt a Ministerial Declaration as the outcome of its session. The SGPwD is engaged in the negotiations. The most recent draft currently under [silence procedure](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/28527letter_cofacs_2021_MD_for_silence_procedure.pdf) (as of July 2) [can be found here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/28530MD_Rev4_for_Silence_Procedure.pdf).

1. **Key Documents for HLPF 2021  - read more about**[**relevant documents**](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#docs)**.**
   * [Report of the Secretary General – Progress towards the SDGs](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/27610SG_SDG_Progress_report_2021.pdf) (Advance unedited version)
   * The[compilation of the executive summaries of the position papers](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#docs) on this year’s HLPF theme **submitted by the Major Groups and other Stakeholders**. The SGPwD executive summary is included.

**Below are a few side events you may be interested in attending.**Let us know if you have any side events you would like to add!Pleasefind the [tentative programme of side events here](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/280782021_HLPF_Tentative_programme_of_side_events.pdf).

**Wednesday, 7 July**

* **Title:**[Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals Through Effective Partnerships to Benefit People Who Are Print Disabled: Marrakesh Treaty Momentum After Five Years](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7298&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT
  + **Organizers:**The Permanent Mission of Morocco to the UN with The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

* **Title:**[A New Multilateralism for Sustainable Development: A dialogue on building our common future and achieving the SDGs](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7482&menu=2993)
  + **Time:**1:00-2:30pm (EDT)
  + **Organizers:** Together 2030 with CEPEI, Sightsavers and World Vision
  + **Registration**: [https://multilateralism.eventbrite.com](https://multilateralism.eventbrite.com/)

**Thursday, 8 July**

* **Title:**[The Road to Making Equal Recovery from COVID-19 a Reality for All](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7812&menu=2993)
  + **Time:**7:30 – 9.00 EDT; International Sign interpretation will be provided
  + **Organizers:**
  + **Registration:**<https://bit.ly/3gR3TWS>

* **Title:**[Inclusive Data Partnerships: Working with cross-sectoral data to leave no one behind in SDG monitoring and review](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7527&menu=2993)
  + **Time:**7:30-9:00am EDT.
  + **Organizers:**Partners for Review, the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the International Civil Society Centre
  + **Registration:**<https://www.humanrights.dk/events/high-level-political-forum-event-inclusive-data-partnerships>

* **Title:** [The Power of Partnerships in securing the rights of people with disability in the context of COVID-19](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7533&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM EDT
  + **Organizers:** The Qatar Foundation for Social Work, Co-organizers: UNICEF, Perkins School for the Blind

**Friday July 9**

* **Title: SGPwD Official Side Event!!**[**Building an Inclusive and Effective Path for Civil Society Engagement in the HLPF**](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7590&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM EDT
  + **Organizers:** The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities
  + [Register at the link here](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_715YjkRXQd6DKOjQwbrwbg).

* **Title:** [Leave No Women Behind during the COVID 19 pandemic](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7596&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM EDT
  + **Organizers:**Awaz Centre for Development Services with Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP), Government of Zimbabwe (TBC), GCAP Zimbabwe, GCAP Sierra Leone, Network of Indigenous Women in Asia (NIWA), Asia Indigenous People’s Pact (AIPP), Asia Dalit Rights Forum (ADRF), Global Forum on DWD (GfoD), Ghana Federation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities, LATINDADD, SDGs Japan
  + **Registration**: <https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aHwuFsqATniowQsZFDX8xg>

**Tuesday July 13**

* **Title:**[An Unequal Pandemic: Bringing Communities’ and Civil Society Organizations’ Evidence to the Forefront](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7920&menu=2993)
  + **Time:**7:30 am – 9 am EDT
  + **Organizers:** LNOB Partnership and the Inclusive Data Charter of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data
  + The SGPwD will be presenting
  + **Registration**: [**https://bit.ly/UnequalPandemicEvent**](https://bit.ly/UnequalPandemicEvent)

* **Title:** [Eye Health & SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7743&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM EDT
  + **Organizers:**International Agency for Prevention of Blindness co-organized with UN Friends of Vision; co-chaired by Permanent Missions of Antigua & Barbuda, Bangladesh and Ireland. Supporting organizations are: WHO, Fred Hollows Foundation, Vision Spring, Sightsavers
  + **Registration:**<https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DZgXi94_TiyuXrt1feNXSQ>

* **Title:** [The Care Economy - Recognizing and valuing care, including early learning and child care, as a vital sector of the economy, expanding care infrastructure, and rebalancing paid and unpaid work responsibilities](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7755&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM EDT
  + **Organizers:**The Government of Canada co-organized with The Government of Bangladesh

**Wednesday July 14**

* **Title:** [Inclusive employment models and technology, to achieve sustainable and resilient recovery for Youth with Disabilities from the COVID-19 pandemic](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=7635&menu=2993)
  + **Time:** 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
  + **Organizers:**Leonard Cheshire International
  + **Link to join:** <https://leonardcheshire.zoom.us/s/98371504145?pwd=MlJqM29XbkxLNkMzWldwc1g1Ui8wQT09>

As always if you have any questions please reach! You can email Erin Hardin at [ehardin@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:ehardin@ida-secretariat.org).

Kindly,

SGPwD