

INFORMATION BRIEF ON SDG ACCELERATION ACTIONS

25 May 2023

BACKGROUND

For the first time in decades, development progress is reversing under the combined impacts of economic downturn, climate disasters, conflicts, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 crisis. The Secretary-General has emphasized that the creativity of the response must match the unique nature of these crises – and the magnitude of the response must match its scale.

The SDG Acceleration Actions online platform is a tool to help inspire and mobilize actions around the world to step up the ambition and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as to bring inclusive recovery and build resilience, to achieve sustainable future for all, leaving no one behind.

HIGHLIGHTS

As of 24 May, a total of 432 Acceleration Actions have been published. The majority of actions (77%) aim to address multiple SDGs leveraging interlinkages, while 23% of initiatives focus on addressing one SDG. Of the 432 registered actions, SDG 17 has mobilized the largest number, followed by SDGs 13, 1, 4, 5, and 16.

With regard to geographical location of initiatives, 35% of registered actions come from Europe; 21% from Africa; 19% from Latin American and the Caribbean; 14% from Asia and the Pacific; 11% from West Asia (Middle East).

WHAT IS AN SDG ACCELERATION ACTION?

The Political Declaration of the 2019 SDG Summit stresses the urgent need for concerted, accelerated action by all stakeholders at all levels to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the lead up to the SDG Summit, UN DESA set up an online platform to capture new and ambitious SDG Acceleration Actions.

(<https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/action-networks/acceleration-actions>)

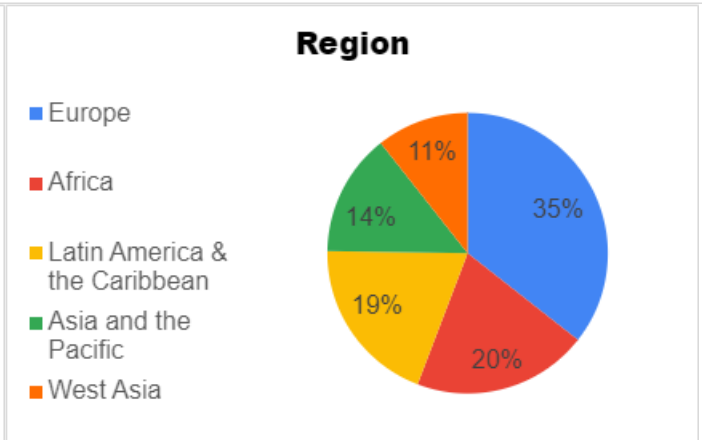
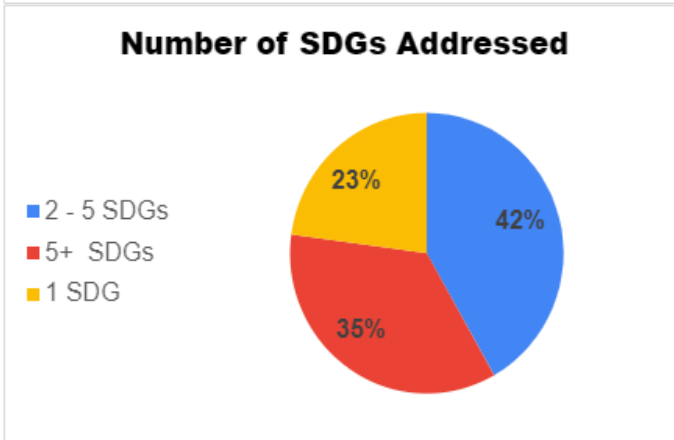
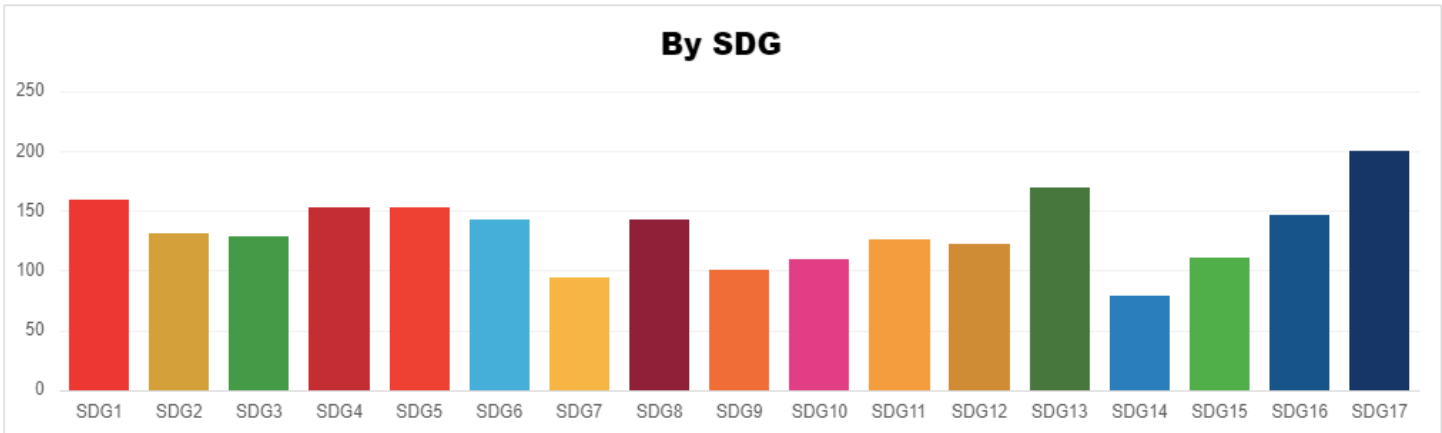
SDG Acceleration Actions are initiatives voluntarily undertaken to accelerate the SDG implementation by governments and any other non-state actors - individually or in partnership. Any new action or action that builds on existing efforts (scaling up, new phase, etc.) aimed to achieve the SDGs or addressing the interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda could be considered as an SDG Acceleration Action.

IMPACT?

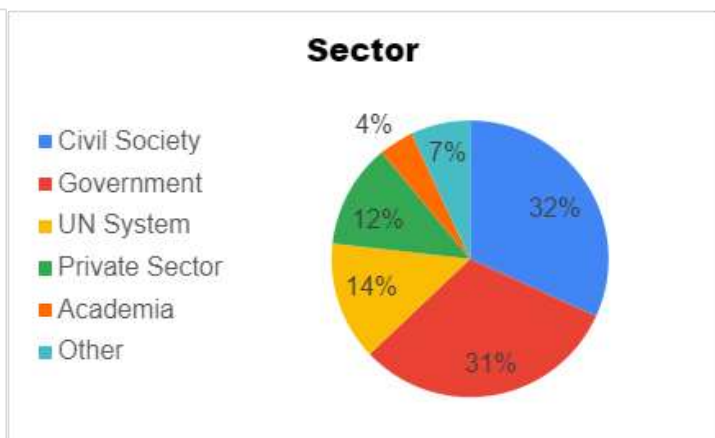
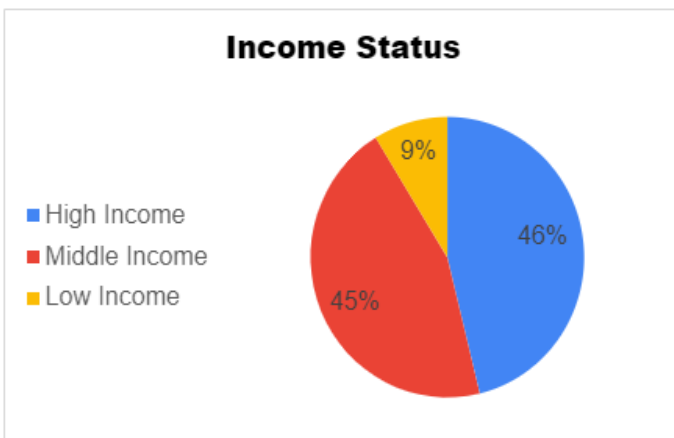
Registered actions will be highlighted at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and other key global meetings, including the annual ECOSOC Partnership Forum, and through UNDESA's Acceleration Action platform and social media channels.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Registration is [open](#) online. Submissions will be reviewed by UNDESA in accordance with a set of criteria (click [here](#) for more information).



In terms of country breakdown by GDP (ppp), 46% of submissions are from high-income countries, while 45% from middle-income countries and 9% from low-income countries. There is a scope for mobilizing more SDG Acceleration Actions from the least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS) and post-conflict and fragile states as they account for 10%, 1% and 11% of total actions published, respectively. Civil society organizations have submitted the majority of SDG Acceleration Actions (32%), followed by governments (31%), UN entities (14%) and the private sector (12%).



EXAMPLES OF SDG ACCELERATION ACTIONS

- ① The [Government of Uzbekistan](#) has launched the Green Nation initiative, which aims to increase the green zone in country from 8% to 30% by planting 1 billion trees over the next 5 years.
- ① The [Government of Zimbabwe](#) is supporting over 1.6 million vulnerable households by enhancing the capacities of smallholder farmers to incorporate conservative agriculture practices for producing maize, sunflower, soya beans, etc.
- ① The [Government of Spain](#) is investing over 1,642 million euros, through the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan to prevent land degradation and restore areas affected by desertification, while promoting sustainable natural resources management.
- ① The [Government of Mexico](#) is launching a training programme for 2.3 million youth, which offers healthcare coverage and scholarships equivalent to a minimum wage, in partnerships with companies that have pledged to hire graduates.
- ① The [Government of Mongolia](#) aims to increase renewable energy generation from 7.5 % in 2014 to 30 % by 2030 through its Northeast Asia Power System Interconnection (NAPSI) initiative.
- ① The [Government of Paraguay](#) is employing SDG-responsive budgeting to align its implementation and monitoring of national sustainable development strategy with SDGs.
- ① The [Government of Qatar](#) is planning to launch the world's third-largest solar power plant through its 800 MWp Al Kharsaah project (800 MW) near Doha by 2022, in close collaboration with the private sector companies and academic institutions.
- ① The [Government of Malawi](#), led by Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO), is embarking on a public-private partnership to reach 2,000 youth (55% female) with climate education coupled with hands-on climatic actions by Dec 2022.
- ① The [Government of Ethiopia](#), through its Green Legacy Initiative, is aiming to plant 20 billion seedlings by 2023 to mitigate the environmental degradation.
- ① Cameroonian NGO, [AJEMALEBU Self Help \(AJESH\)](#), in partnership with Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), is aiming to settle 1500 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in constructed low-cost houses by 2024.
- ① [Portuguese National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development \(CNADS\)](#) promotes the localization of the SDGs among all Portuguese municipalities using dynamic technology-based online portal, which allows the visualization and monitoring of the progress and contributions of each municipality in relation to the various SDGs.
- ① The [Puraset Water and Metal Solutions Ltd](#), a Hungarian company, is implementing an initiative to enhance sustainable, affordable access to drinkable water for rural communities of the country, starting with a town of 12 000 inhabitants.
- ① The [International Network of Basins Organizations \(INBO\)](#) is incubating 50 projects related to SDG 6 in the basins of rivers and lakes in Africa and also aiming to promote dialogues and peace by 2024 through strengthening national and transboundary multi-stakeholder partnerships within the network.
- ① The [University of Surrey](#) is collaborating with the Government of Malaysia and energy and chemical companies as well as 4 academic institutions in ASEAN countries to help both governmental and industrial policymakers to identify achievable emissions targets and optimal paths to achieve them through a range of technologies.
- ① [Aspire-Transform-Inspire Foundation](#) in line with SDG 3, aims to stop preventable deaths from cardiac arrest by educating all Ghanaians on CPR through systematic training programme for volunteers and secondary school students.
- ① [Intergenerational Dialogues for Change \(IDC\)](#) is developing pilot actions in support of the SDGs by May 2023 with a view to promoting a network of civic spaces in each of 8 Canary Islands and enhancing cooperation among different age groups.
- ① The Indonesian NGO [Migrant Care](#) is stepping up to reach out to migrant workers and to facilitate their access to social protection floor in 38 villages in 7 districts before, during and after migration.
- ① [Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture \(WASAG\)](#) is a partnership hosted by FAO and consisting of governments and multi-stakeholders aimed to enhance the field capacity for the adaptation of agriculture to water scarcity.
- ① [Africa Development Interchange Network \(ADIN\)](#), a nonprofit organization in Cameroon, has developed the Monitoring Review and Accountability Framework (MRAF) to ensure that stakeholders make positive impacts and enhance governance in support of sustainable development, with the aim of producing SDGs Annual Monitoring Reports by 2024 in collaboration with 369 local and 1 national Common Working and Collaboration Platforms (CWCP).
- ① The mission of the [Diaspora World Cup](#) is to build and modernize educational institutions to provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all children (girls in particular).
- ① The initiative from [Climate and Sustainable Development Action Club \(CSDAC\)](#) provides solar energy to Karra community to increase the resilience and incomes of women farmers, with training in solar technology and agro-processing, solar-powered irrigation, savings cooperative, and mini off-grid solar system planned by 2030.