Shaping an Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery

20 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

Context

In 2020, for the first time, the world retreated in its progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As countries struggled to address the COVID-19 pandemic, over 100 million people were pushed back into poverty, the equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs were lost and 101 million youth fell below a minimum reading level.

With less than a decade to meet the SDGs, the World Economic Forum Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2021, hosted alongside the United Nations General Assembly, will bring together leaders for collective action to shape a new trajectory of accelerated progress.

Objective

Leveraging the most promising approaches and methods to advance a sustainable, equitable and inclusive recovery, leaders will work together across sectors, geographies and disciplines to share and deploy know-how and innovation to exit the pandemic stronger than we entered it. Leaders and experts across sectors will:

- Share new technologies, markets and innovations that offer tangible solutions to global challenges
- Create innovative policy recommendations, action frameworks and methodologies to advance global cooperation
- Advance partnerships, alliances and consortia that can rapidly accelerate progress on pressing and emerging issues

Leading businesses, policy-makers from G7, G20 and other major economies, along with international and civil society organizations, innovators and entrepreneurs, will come together for four days of tightly focused, action-driven sessions to raise ambitions, drive action and build momentum for sustainable development. The meeting will also represent a key milestone in the lead-up to the UN Food System Summit (UNGA, September) and COP26 (November).
Programme

Held over four days, the meeting will address four broad, interconnected areas through impact-oriented working sessions, high-level roundtables, dialogues and briefings.

**MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER**
**Revitalizing Economies**
Leverage new tools, policies and technologies to revitalize markets, industries, and advance global cooperation

**TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER**
**Advancing an Inclusive Recovery**
Scale innovative policies and initiatives to embed equity and justice in health systems, care, skills, education and jobs

**WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER**
**Scaling Up Climate Action**
Move from commitments to action to measure, finance and close the gap towards net-zero emissions across countries and industries

**THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER**
**Shaping Future Food Systems**
Explore innovative levers to advance partnerships and galvanize action towards inclusive, equitable, sustainable and healthy food systems

Programme at a glance

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Interaction with a purpose

This virtual summit offers a critical moment of connection and coordinated action for leaders. Each thematic day will feature a variety of formats:

- Leadership Panels and Briefings to provide strategic intelligence on emerging global issues and raise awareness of major outcomes
- Impact Sessions to provide partners with greater insight into the most innovative, impactful and scalable solutions and approaches, laying the groundwork to fast-track progress
- High-Level Roundtables designed as interactive peer-to-peer discussions to review progress and generate high-level buy-in on strategic priorities
- Bilateral and Multilateral Meetings to facilitate purposeful virtual networking and connections

Placing inclusion and public engagement at its core, the meeting will engage the views and questions of the global public in critical areas of debate and share key outcomes through media briefings and the Forum’s social media presence.

The meeting will also engage cultural influencers, thought leaders, philosophers, artists, scientists, universities and academics to embed values, evidence and data across the meeting. Cross-disciplinary leaders from the Global Future Councils, the world’s foremost knowledge network, as well as from the Global Shapers and Young Global Leaders will also be present.

The meeting will feature a series of affiliated sessions that support initiatives championed by partners and constituents of the World Economic Forum.

Who is taking part?

Participation in the Sustainable Development Impact Summit is open to members and constituents of the World Economic Forum, including its digital members.

The Sustainable Development Impact Summit will emphasize gender, geographic and generational diversity and inclusion through tailored invitations for the following Forum communities

- **Forum Members and Partners** – The largest and most influential partner and member companies represented by their chief executive officers and chief officers of research and development, strategy, technology and innovation
- **Global Innovators and Technology Pioneers** – A new generation of innovators and entrepreneurs involved in the development of life-changing technologies with great potential for long-term impact on business and society
- **Public Figures** – Heads of state and government, heads and senior officials of international organizations, as well as ministers of development, economy, energy, environment, health, education and other relevant portfolios
- **Civil Society and Social Innovators** – Leaders from renowned and innovative non-governmental organizations and leaders of the most innovative business solutions and partnership models driving social change, including through UpLink
- **Experts and Academic Institutions** – Thought leaders and experts at the cutting-edge of their fields from leading universities
- **Young Global Leaders and Global Shapers** – Multistakeholder communities of young leaders providing insight into the priorities and expectations of future generations
- **Media Leaders** – Publishers, anchors, editors-in-chief, top columnists

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