



# PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## Synthesis of consultations

---

Division for Sustainable Development  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)  
December 2015

<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SYNTHESIS OF RESPONSES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
USING THE PARTNERSHIPS FOR SDGs ONLINE PLATFORM .....	4
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: A PLATFORM FOR PARTNERSHIPS .....	7
<b>CONCLUSION AND ACTION POINTS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
VALUE PROPOSITION OF THE PARTNERSHIPS FOR SDGs ONLINE PLATFORM .....	11
VALIDITY OF REGISTERED INFORMATION.....	11
PROGRESS REPORTS .....	12
PREPARING FOR AND ENGAGING WITH THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.....	12
PLATFORM FUNCTIONALITIES .....	13
<b>QUESTIONNAIRE .....</b>	<b>16</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The *Partnerships for SDGs online platform* was launched as a beta/draft version in the lead-up to the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda.

The platform, managed by the Division for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSD/DESA) and initially developed in response to a mandate set out by the Rio+20 Conference (*paragraph 283, Future We Want*), is currently being improved to better respond to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in order to function as a tool to inform all stakeholders on initiatives carried out by multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and for linking progress of those initiatives to various follow-up mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda, in particular to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

A *full version* of the platform is expected to be launched in January 2016, when the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda will come into effect. In preparing for its full version, DSD/DESA sought the views from all stakeholders through an online questionnaire on how the platform can be fully utilized to fulfil its aimed objectives of spurring global engagement around multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments in support of the SDGs. The questionnaire was available through the *Partnerships for SDGs platform* between 19 October to 15 November 2015.

134 responses were received through the questionnaire. As an additional input, on 4 December 2015 DESA organized, together with the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, a briefing on "*A platform for partnerships*", where participants provided comments and views on the use of the platform towards realizing the 2030 Agenda.

The present report synthesizes the responses and views received, and conclude with a set of action points, based on the synthesis, that will guide the projected full version of the platform.

The Secretariat wishes to thank everyone who provided feedback.

## SYNTHESIS OF RESPONSES

The full questionnaire is available at the end of the present report. The below provides a synthesis of the views received, divided by various sections of the questionnaire, and their corresponding questions.

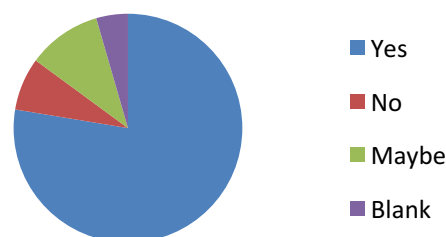
### Using the Partnerships for SDGs online platform

**Question: Have you registered an initiative into the Partnerships for SDGs website?**

- Yes: 34.8% (47)
- No: 66.7% (90)

**Question: Do you find the Partnerships for SDGs website useful? (Yes/No – Why/Why not)**

- Yes: 78% (104)
- No: 7% (10)
- Maybe: 10% (14)
- Blank: 4% (6)



- The vast majority of the respondents (78%) of the questionnaire said they found *Partnerships for SDGs online platform* useful.
- Of the 104 responses that were of this positive view, stated that the platform provides ease of access to information related to the work of multi-stakeholder partnerships, and that the platform is transparent, informative, comprehensive and has the potential of becoming a vehicle for sharing knowledge across all the SDGs, and could function as a place for collaboration among stakeholders.
- Respondents also mentioned that the platform provided a place for networking and for identifying new partners, acts as a tool for learning, sharing of knowledge, best practices, and experiences, and evidence based sustainable development activities, and provide for cross sectorial and collaboration among the SDGs. It was also mentioned that the platform was visually appealing, easy to navigate, provided good insight of partnership modalities, and for finding inter-linkages between initiatives across all the 17 SDGs.
- Several respondents also mentioned that the platform had helped them gain more knowledge about the SDGs themselves, and that it provided an insight into how the SDGs are being implemented through the lens of multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- The 10% that responded “*Maybe*” to the platform’s usefulness cited lack of useful functionalities for this reason. Functions for extracting information in different ways, advanced filters, and ways

to measure and report on progress of partnership initiatives, how much of the financial resources pledged have been disbursed, how many of the intended beneficiaries have been reached, among others, are currently missing.

- Many of the respondents that answered “No”, and “Maybe”, also echoed concerns about the validity of the information that was uploaded by all stakeholders, as the Secretariat can not vouch for the information. This was also an issue that was brought up several times at the briefing on 4 December 2015.
- Of those who responded negatively about the platform’s overall usefulness, also provided concrete and constructive suggestions on how to improve, in particular in regards to the validity of the information, through developing a clear screening process of uploaded information. Its also worth mentioning that many respondents were of the view that the transparency and openness of the platform was its main strength.
- Many respondents stressed that, while more functionalities were indeed required, it was important that the platform remains as user-friendly as possible, given the potential of overflow of information.
- The most emphasized issue on this question was around the value proposition of the *Partnerships for SDGs* platform. Many respondents stressed the need to clearly state *how* stakeholders can participate, *what* the registered information would be used for, and how it would *add value* to the overall process of supporting the SDGs.

**Question: How can multi-stakeholder partnerships be encouraged to use the Partnerships for SDGs website in order to fully engage, mobilize, and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals, as well as to enhance the global partnership for development?**

- A large number of respondents were of the opinion that the best way to encourage participation was to improve the communication efforts of the value proposition of the platform it self. If the messages around how to engage, and for what reasons, were clear, participation would follow.
- Several respondents also echoed the importance of increasing the communication campaigns around the platform by developing progress reports of partnerships, have a seamless integration with social media platforms, featuring partnerships in newsletters, and add more links to similar websites and initiatives.
- Respondents also felt that there is a need to create positive incentives for those who register and provided updates of partnerships, like organizing networking events, and being invited to relevant meetings organized by the United Nations.
- Respondents also felt that organization of briefings and technical training workshops would help increase the use and participation of all relevant stakeholders involved in multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Organization of e-discussions on different thematic areas and SDGs were also mentioned as means to better engage stakeholders from multi-stakeholder partnerships.

- Some respondents suggested that the platform needs to be linked to national ministries, development agencies, and multilateral development banks where partnership initiatives are funded, as well connect with UN country offices and their initiatives.
- One respondent suggested creating country specific pages in order to spur better national and local engagement.
- One respondent also pointed out that it was important to clearly state, upon registration, what part of the registered information would become publicly available, as that could otherwise potentially prevent some users to register.
- Another respondent suggested that registered partnerships could be asked, upon registration, to list what their potential needs are, and if they are open for bringing on board new partners, in order to increase the networking element of the platform.
- One respondent mentioned that by allowing users to access the underlying data on partnerships, it could trigger other similar initiatives and websites to use the information in different ways, thus strengthen the overall awareness on partnership initiatives.

**Question: As a visitor to the website, what additional functionalities would you like to see?**

- A numerous of functionalities were suggested, including:
  - Ability to for registered users to comment on partnerships
  - Discussions forums
  - Possibility for third party evaluations to be included
  - Access to data through an Application Program Interface (API), to ensure interoperability with other platforms
  - More statistics
  - Keyword search, and filtering by SDGs, targets, organization types, regions, target demographics, action networks, demographics
  - Language translations
  - A place for gathering information on lessons learned, best practices on partnership implementations, governance mechanisms
  - Self-reporting of partnerships
  - A page for listing all involved partners
  - Geographic maps to show different locations of partnerships
  - Personalization (platform to display content based on personalized settings)
  - Option to include more than one contact/focal point for each partnership
  - Better social media integration
  - Inclusion of logos of partners
  - Integration with SDG global indicators (once out in March 2016)
  - Traffic light system to show whether partnerships did report on its progress or not
- One respondent suggested the setup of an independent panel for evaluating initiatives and their progress towards the SDGs, in order to identify gaps and challenges in implementation.

- Another respondent pointed out the platform in its current state only supports fully formed partnership initiatives, but that it could consider supporting projects that are in the planning stage, in order to allow UN entities and others to seek partners and other resources (in-kind, financial, knowledge, among others).

**Question: The registration form of the Partnerships for SDGs website aims to capture detailed information on partnerships and initiatives, making sure they adhere to the “SMART” criteria (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Resource-based, with Timelines). How can this form be improved? Are there any fields that are missing or that can/should be removed?**

- One responded suggested to simplify the form considerably, only including a short overview, with link to more information (external website)
- Another suggestion was to have options to allow organizations to become partners of an initiative through the platform, if the initiative would be open for including more partners.
- Many respondents suggested that the registration form needs to be multi-lingual.
- Numerous suggestions for additional field included:
  - Scale of the partnership (i.e., local, subnational, national, regional, or global)
  - Country, region, and continent to which a partnership belongs
  - Nature of work undertaken (i.e., service delivery, capacity building, research, etc.)
  - Annual reporting/updates on progress as a follow-up to the “deliverables” field
  - No limit to number of deliverables or resources
  - Provide a space for elaborating on the organizational partners, including organization type
  - “Help button” to give examples and/or guidance on what is asked for in fields
  - Function to upload a photo or logo for the partnership
  - Field to include social media channels, not only website/email
  - Ability to upload/include documents related to the initiative

## **High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: A Platform for Partnerships**

**Question: In which way could stakeholders from multi-stakeholder partnerships most constructively engage with the HLPF?**

- Overall, respondents stressed the need to make the engagement with the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) as streamlined and effective as possible, as the HLPF will be overwhelmed with a broad range of issues related to following up on the 2030 Agenda. One suggestion was to allow stakeholders self-organize partnerships events in the side lines of HLPF, as parallel events.
- One respondent suggested that HLPF could provide, in its Ministerial Declaration, recommendations related to partnerships, building on the CSD-11 partnership guidelines that

were developed in 2003 as a follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002.

- Many respondents felt that an annual report, which could summarize the progress of partnerships, based on self-reported progress reports from partnerships, would be the best way for multi-stakeholder partnerships to constructively engage with the HLPF. It was also mentioned that such a report needs to be part of the official “HLPF documentation”. One respondent also mentioned the necessity to facilitate technical committees, working groups, or a peer review process, for developing such reports, as well for the purpose of validating the information provided for accuracy.
- Respondents also mentioned that self-reported progress reports from partnerships need to be short, succinct and linked to SDGs, targets, global SDG indicators, as well to geographic location and demographics, which would only then produce a global picture on progress and gaps in implementation of the 2030 Agenda from multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Respondents also felt that the online Partnerships for SDGs platform, while focused on the SDGs and its engagement with HLPF as the central review mechanism for the 2030 Agenda, also needed to take into account other frameworks and processes, such as the Samoa Pathway, the Sendai Framework, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among others, to ensure it could provide a true global pulse checker on the progress of multi-stakeholder partnerships in advancing sustainable development and the SDGs.
- Many respondents felt that the dialogue on partnerships needs to continue throughout the year, and not only during the time when HLPF meets. Such dialogue could be facilitated by online discussions as preparations for HLPF, discussing how partnerships can most effectively contribute to the HLPF and the overall achievement of the 2030 Agenda. One respondent pointed out that such a dialogue would be most effective if it would involve member States as well - and in particular those taking part of the HLPF national reviews - whereas governments could provide suggestions on where they would seek stronger engagement from partnerships in their country. This would lead to stronger partnership engagement between people and governments.
- Respondents overall also felt that dialogues on progress of partnerships in realizing the 2030 Agenda needs to go beyond mere reporting of partnerships to HLPF, and that HLPF in general should allow for a bidirectional learning between partnerships and national governments. The national reviews of HLPF, which per the 2030 Agenda should “*provide a platform for partnerships*”, would be the best venue for partnerships to engage with member States on a national level, so the work of partnerships could possibly be aligned with national realities and strategies.
- Respondents also felt that partnerships could similarly contribute to the thematic reviews of the HLPF.
- Several respondents also stressed the need for face to face – and not only mere online - engagement of multi-stakeholder partnerships during, or in the side lines, of the HLPF, in order to share best practices, knowledge and lessons learned.
- It was also felt that multi-stakeholder partnerships should be present during national and regional preparations leading up the HLPF, in order to provide broad ownership of all stakeholders.



**Question: How can the Partnerships for SDGs website be further improved to serve the purpose of allowing stakeholders from multi-stakeholder partnerships to inform the public and the HLPF about their work, while at the same time adding a value for those stakeholders that have registered?**

- Many of the respondents stressed the need to make the website multi-lingual.
- The integration of social media was repeatedly mentioned as an important way to make sure the website becomes part of the broader social media conversations. One respondent provided the concrete suggestion to include a “share your action” option upon completing the registration form, as to draw more attention and to engage the public.
- One respondent suggested creating a dedicated Twitter/Instagram account and establishing a system of rotation for managing such account, which could serve the purpose of informing the public and the HLPF about the work of different stakeholders, and to instil ownership among partnerships.
- Many recommendations included ideas on how to best utilize traditional media, such as providing a dedicated space where videos, images, and short presentations on the work of multi-stakeholder partnerships could be posted.
- Several respondents positively touched upon the idea of allowing stakeholders to provide short updates and progress reports of their initiatives, which would allow stakeholders to inform the public, and the HLPF, about their work and progress.
- One of the managers of the *Action Networks* stressed the need to have an automated, or integrated, way for sharing data (commitments/initiatives) between the Action Network’s own registries and that of the Partnerships for SDGs platform, to ensure the information between both is up-to-date at all times.
- Several respondents also stressed the need - as been mentioned in other sections in this report - to establish a set of criteria for quality control of registered initiatives to ensure they are contributing to the SDGs. One idea that emerged was that the managers of the designated *Action Networks* could be designated to perform this task, as they would have the appropriate knowledge, context and, capacity, to do so. Another proposal was to establish more formal mechanisms, consisting of a panel of expert or peer reviewers.

**Question: What would encourage partnerships to voluntarily report to the HLPF on their contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? Can the Partnerships for SDGs website be used for this purpose? How could this reporting be organized?**

- Many respondents again echoed the issue of the value proposition of the Partnerships for SDGs platform and the need to make it clear how registered information would be used. If the website was merely a place of one-directional reporting, without any feedback loop, it could lose its value and would not encourage strong participation. Positive incentives evolved around ensuring submitted reports would be featured prominently in relevant meetings, official relevant UN reports and within the Partnerships for SDGs platform itself.
- Respondents also stressed the need to offer a simple reporting template, as to not discourage stakeholders to report through a complicated reporting process.

- Respondents further mentioned to include progress updates from partnerships that had been reported through national and regional meetings, where appropriate.
- One respondent suggested that whatever form the reporting would take, it should also be provided off-line through an electronic document version, and not only online, so it could be distributed to partners without constant access to Internet.
- Another respondent suggested creating a partnership registration booth during HLPF, where relevant UN staff could guide stakeholders in the registration process, as well for the purpose of explaining the reasoning and value for registering.
- One respondent mentioned that the Major Groups and other stakeholders structure should be utilized to the full extent possible for the purpose of reporting to HLPF, and stressed the need to think of ways partnerships could engage with this well established structure.
- One respondent suggested that the Partnerships for SDGs platform should automatically send out reminders to those partnerships that had not yet provided an update. As reported previously in this report, a traffic light system could be developed on the platform indicating whether the partnership had provided a progress update or not.
- One respondent suggested that, instead of having self-reported progress reports, which might be difficult to synthesize, a survey could be launched ahead of HLPF which registered partnerships could be invited to complete. A relevant expert could then be invited to prepare the synthesis and present it to HLPF as a background paper.
- It was also suggested to eventually remove, from the platform, those partnership initiatives that had not provided a progress update within an established timeframe.
- It was also stressed that it would be important to distinguish those partnership initiatives that belong to an *Action Network*, and those that self-register through the platform, as those associated to an *Action Network* often have different reporting requirements.

## CONCLUSION AND ACTION POINTS

### Value proposition of the Partnerships for SDGs online platform

One of the key messages that came out of the consultations were the need to clarify, and clearly communicate, *how* stakeholders can engage with the Partnerships for SDGs platform, *how* the registered information on partnership initiatives will be used, and *how* the platform itself will fit in to the overall follow up and review process of the 2030 Agenda.

The Partnerships for SDGs online platform was launched at a time when the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was just being adopted. The modalities of the Agenda's follow up and review will be further elaborated by the General Assembly and the HLPF, and the role of the platform *in this process* is thus also not yet fully decided. In fact, the consultations the Secretariat have conducted, and the current report, aims at contributing to these conversations as Member States continue to deliberate on the review modalities.

The report of the Secretary-General on global follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda (as mandated by para 90 of the 2030 Agenda), which is due at the 70<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly, will provide overall guidance to this process - a process which the Partnerships for SDGs platform will align itself to.

As a follow-up to this point, the Secretariat will make further efforts to simplify the message on how stakeholders can engage with the platform, how registered information will be used, and for what purpose.

### Validity of registered information

The validity of registered information on partnerships was repeatedly mentioned throughout the questionnaire and during the briefing organized on 4 December 2015.

It is worth noting that the registration form of the Partnerships for SDGs platform place no restrictions on what type of organization can register an initiative. The Secretariat, after receiving a new submission, reviews the information from an editorial and substantive (based on information provided, looking at stakeholder website, etc.) point of view, and communicates with the focal point to make sure the information looks complete before it is published publicly online. The Secretariat is in no position however to validate the project - it only provides an open and transparent platform for networking and showcasing partnership initiatives.

At the time of writing, the platform contains about 1,920 initiatives. Many of the registered initiatives belong to an Action Network, which often has their own established follow up and reporting mechanisms, outside the purview of the Partnerships for SDGs online platform.

To date, the Secretariat has not received any complaints about any of the initiatives. There have been a few cases (not more than 50) where initiatives have not been approved for publishing, due to lack of information, information provided to describing an actual initiative, etc.

As a follow up to this point, the Secretariat could devise a way for registered user to flag an initiative if they believe its inappropriate, if the provided information is not accurately reflected, or if the deliverables are not being implemented as set out, among other reasons. Focal points of the initiative could be automatically notified of such flagging, and be able to respond publicly to the person who flagged it. If there would be several flags raised for the same initiative, the Secretariat

could review and un-publish the initiative from the platform as appropriate. This would retain the openness and transparency of the platform, while adding a mechanism for stakeholders to voice their concern.

In addition, the Secretariat could post visibly on the platform various inter-governmentally agreed criteria and guidelines related to multi-stakeholder partnerships.

## **Progress reports**

Making sure the information on the partnership initiatives remain up to date was another crucial point that was stressed in the feedback received through the questionnaire and the briefing. Allowing partnership stakeholders to report on their progress through short succinct forms as a mean to inform various inter-governmental forums, in particular the HLPF, was seen as the most effective way to inform stakeholders - including member States - on the progress of partnerships. The need to link progress reports with SDGs, its associated targets, the global indicators (once out), as well to different demographics and geographic areas was also stressed. Allowing and encouraging proactively reporting by partnerships on the delivery of their commitments is also a critical tool to ensure accountability of partnerships and transparency.

Positive incentives in getting reports involved highlighting those progress reports, the partnerships and its partners, through the home page of the Partnerships for SDGs platform, as well in other social media and traditional outreach efforts by the Secretariat. The need to include progress reports, or summaries of reports, in official background documentation to HLPF was also stressed.

As a follow up to this point, the Secretariat could develop a way for partnership stakeholders to submit a short (as example, max 200 words) narrated progress report on progress of their partnership through the platform. In addition to a narrated (text based) part, stakeholders of the partnerships could be able to click “Delivered Yes/No” on the associated partnerships deliverables, as well add in new deliverables and linkages to countries, regions, demographics, targets and indicators (note: the link to indicators will be available after March 2016).

A traffic light system of progress reports could be put in place. If a progress report has been submitted, the light will be green for that partnership initiative. The light would turn yellow the following year - if no new report is submitted - and red if a report hasn't been submitted for two consecutive years. Search results would be affected by the traffic light system, ranking initiatives marked in green high, followed by the ones marked in yellow, and lastly the ones marked in red – unless another sorting option has been selected by the user. In addition, the platform could automatically send email reminders to those registered stakeholders that have not yet provided an updated progress report.

## **Preparing for and engaging with the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**

The importance of a meaningful and effective engagement of multi-stakeholder partnerships with relevant inter-governmental fora, in particular the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development which has a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level, has been stressed throughout the conversations and views received.

Overall, views were expressed that the dialogue on progress of partnerships in realizing the 2030 Agenda needs to go beyond mere reporting of the progress of partnerships to HLPF, and that HLPF in general should allow for bidirectional learning between partnerships and national governments. The

national regular reviews to be held at HLPF starting 2016, which per the 2030 Agenda should “provide a platform for partnerships”, would be the best venue for partnerships to engage with member States on a national level, so partnerships could align their initiatives with national realities and strategies, and launch new partnerships in line with those priorities.

As a follow up to this point, the Secretariat could prepare ahead of relevant sessions of HLPF, a *summary report, based on the progress reports* described above, which could be included in the official documentation of HLPF.

In addition, in preparation for HLPF, through the Partnerships for SDGs online platform, a *series of online discussion forums* could be organized around the themes of HLPF, and based on the countries that are taking part of the national reviews in HLPF that year. Discussions could evolve around inter-linkages of partnership initiatives in the selected theme, and challenges and opportunities in the given country. Relevant government officials could be invited to contribute to the discussions related to their country, which could allow them to prepare their review, and lead to a stronger engagement between partnerships and governments.

As part of the quality control of partnership initiatives registered in the platform, the Secretariat could devise a way for allowing a *peer review process to take place between partnerships* that have volunteered to do so.

The Secretariat could also set up, if logistics would allow for it, a *registration booth when HLPF is in session*, for the purpose of assisting all stakeholders to register and update their partnership initiatives, as well for the purpose of increasing awareness of all participants of the work being carried out by multi-stakeholder partnerships in supporting the SDGs, and the platform itself.

## **Platform functionalities**

In addition to the functionalities that have been described above, several other concrete functionalities have been suggested through the questionnaire and the briefing.

### **Search and filtering**

An overwhelming number of views have been expressed towards developing a strong search functionality on the platform, allowing user to query the platform and filter results in different ways; by SDGs, targets, partners, countries, regions, demographics, action networks.

### **Open access to data**

The ability to extract data on partnership initiatives is a prerequisite for allowing users to prepare their own reports, do analysis and use the information in other websites. In this regard, an Application Program Interface could be developed which would allow user to programmatically access publicly available information. In addition, options for extracting search results into formats such as Excel and CSV could be considered.

### **Country and partner pages**

It has been proposed that pages for showing partnerships in a particular country could be developed and similarly specific partner pages, showing all partnerships that a particular partner is involved in.

### **Accountability**

In light of the emphasis placed by many respondents on the importance of transparency and accountability for partnerships, the framework could include information and best practices on existing accountability, governance and reporting mechanisms from Action Networks and partnerships.

### **Discussion forums**

As mentioned above, the provision for organizing discussion forums around how multi-stakeholder partnerships can support sustainable development on different themes of HLPF, the SDGs, and in particular countries, could be a way to further engage stakeholders involved in multi-stakeholder partnerships.

### **Registration form**

Several fields could be added to the registration form, available on a voluntary basis. In addition, on the page of the form, it be stated clearly what the information will be used for, and what elements will be made publicly available.

Additional fields include: a) is the partnership initiative open for additional partners, b) scale of initiative (i.e., local, subnational, national, regional, or global; planned expenditure or number of beneficiaries). C) type of initiative ((i.e., service delivery, capacity building, research), d) no limit to number of deliverables or resources e) ability to describe functions of partners more in detail, f) links to social media outlets, g) option for multiple focal points h) information on existing oversight and accountability mechanism g) how the priorities of the partnership were defined .

In addition, upon completing the form, there should be a button for sharing the action to social media channels.

### **Other frameworks**

Although the Partnerships for SDGs online platform is foremost geared towards the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, its been repeatedly mentioned that it should also support other frameworks, such as the SAMOA Pathway, the Sendai Framework, etc. The Secretariat could integrate such frameworks into the platform, per request and as appropriate. As an example, the priority areas identified in the SAMOA Pathway is currently being integrated into the Action Network “Small Island Developing States” as support to the newly established Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework (GA draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.47).

### **Social media**

Ability to share information across various social media platforms was repeatedly mentioned through the consultations, and such functionalities will be built in.

### **Multi-lingual**

One of the main issues raised by respondents were the need to keep the platform, or as a minimum the registration form, in several of the official UN languages. The Secretariat will, as a start, translate the registration forms, and then continue to translate the website it self into all 6 official UN languages.

### **Not only partnership initiatives**

Many respondents called for the platform to contain other type of information, and not just partnership initiatives, such as best practices on partnership implementations, lessons learned, proposals for projects, among other.

In order to not overwhelm the platform at this stage, and to keep it simple, the Secretariat could, in its continuing conversations with stakeholders further assess this need and possibly include this at a later stage, as appropriate.

### **Maps**

An interactive map could be developed, showing implementation of partnership initiatives across nations.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### Using the Partnerships for SDGs website

- Have you registered an initiative into the Partnerships for SDGs website? Yes/No
- Do you find the Partnerships for SDGs website useful? Yes/Now Why/Why not
- How can multi-stakeholder partnerships be encouraged to use the Partnerships for SDGs website in order to fully engage, mobilize, and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals, as well as to enhance the global partnership for development?
- As a visitor to the website, what additional functionalities would you like to see?
- The registration form of the Partnerships for SDGs website aims to capture detailed information on partnerships and initiatives, making sure they adhere to the “SMART” criteria (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Resource-based, with Timelines). How can this form be improved? Are there any fields that are missing or that can/should be removed?

### High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: A Platform for Partnerships

- In which way could stakeholders from multi-stakeholder partnerships most constructively engage with the HLPF?
- How can the Partnerships for SDGs website be further improved to serve the purpose of allowing stakeholders from multi-stakeholder partnerships to inform the public and the HLPF about their work, while at the same time adding a value for those stakeholders that have registered?
- What would encourage partnerships to voluntarily report to the HLPF on their contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
- Can the Partnerships for SDGs website be used for this purpose? How could this reporting be organized?

\*\*\*

Division for Sustainable Development,  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

December 2015

Contact:

Ola Goransson, Sustainable Development Officer  
Email: goranssono@un.org