



**SDG Action Weekend
16 and 17 September 2023**

Frequently Asked Questions

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What is the SDG Summit?

The 2023 SDG Summit will take place on 18-19 September 2023 in New York. It will mark the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) with high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to 2030.

Convened by the President of the General Assembly, the Summit will mark the half-way point to the deadline set for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. It will be the centerpiece of the High-level Week of the General Assembly. It will respond to the impact of multiple and interlocking crises facing the world and is expected to reignite a sense of hope, optimism and enthusiasm for the 2030 Agenda.

For more information on the Summit, please visit: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>.

How can I attend the SDG Summit?

Once available, details about registration and participation at the SDG Summit will be made available here: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/registration-participation>

What is the SDG Action Weekend?

To generate opportunities for the engagement of Member States, relevant Intergovernmental Organizations and other stakeholders, the United Nations is convening an **[SDG Action Weekend \(16 – 17 September 2023\)](#)** in the lead up to the Summit, which will consist of the *SDG Mobilization Day* on Saturday, 16 September, and the *SDG Acceleration Day* on Sunday, 17 September at the UNHQ in New York.

A number of side-events selected through a global open call will be organized on each day. For more information about the SDG Action Weekend, please check here: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend>.

What is the relationship between the SDG Action Weekend and the SDG Summit?

The [SDG Action Weekend](#) will help ramp up momentum towards the SDG Summit and facilitate the contribution of all relevant actors to the SDG Summit.

Events held during the SDG Action Weekend are also encouraged to indicate synergies with other UNGA High-level Week events, including the SDG Summit, the Secretary-General's Climate Ambition Summit, the High-level Dialogue on Financing, the ongoing process in preparation for the Summit of the Future and the high-level meeting on health.

What will be the programme of the SDG Action Weekend?

The programme for the [SDG Action Weekend](#) is currently under development. Once available, information will be posted on the SDG Action Weekend website: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend>.

Who can participate in the SDG Action Weekend?

Details about registration and participation for the SDG Action Weekend will be made available on the SDG Action Weekend website: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend>.

Do I have to pay to attend the SDG Action Weekend?

The United Nations does not charge fees for participation in Conferences and events. If you are aware of possible scams, please email dsdg@un.org.

Will there be side-events during the SDG Action Weekend?

In parallel to the main programme, a **limited number of high-level side-events**, organized by UN Member States, UN entities, relevant International Organizations and stakeholder networks working in partnership and identified through an open call, will take place during the weekend. All interested parties are invited to submit their applications until **4 August 2023**. Before submitting your application, please review the guidelines for side-events included below and available [here](#).

How can I attend a side-event during the SDG Action Weekend?

All participants that are duly registered to attend the SDG Action Weekend can attend the high-level side-events of the SDG Action Weekend. There is no separate registration / participation process set up for SDG Action Weekend high-level side-events.

Who can organize a side-event during the SDG Action Weekend?

Side-events will be selected through an open call. Please, check details here: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend>.

What is the format of the side-events?

All side-events will be held in person at United Nations Headquarters for a duration of 60 – 75 minutes.

How can I apply to organize a side-event?

Please review the side-event application guidelines [here](#). If your proposed side-event meets all the criteria, you are invited to submit your application using this form: bit.ly/SDGWeekendSideEventsApplication. **The deadline for applications is 4 August 2023.**

How will I find out if my side-event has been selected?

The Secretariat will identify a limited number of selected side events, based on the [criteria laid out in the guidelines](#) while also ensuring regional and thematic balance. Initiatives targeting similar themes may also be grouped to maximize space. Organizations will be asked to agree on partnering with others if needed. Only organizers of approved applications will be contacted. They will be notified directly via email around 22 August 2023.

Are there costs related to organizing side-events inside the UN?

Side-event organizers are responsible for **ALL** costs related to the side-events inside the UN Headquarters, including costs for the room, technical services, UNWebTV and interpretation, if needed/available. In addition, all arrangements for travel, including visas, accommodation, and transportation, of speakers and participants are the responsibility of the side-event organizers.

Will my side-event be promoted?

The SDG Summit Secretariat will include all selected side-events in the official schedule of events for the SDG Action Weekend. Organizers are responsible for promoting their events through the relevant channels, including on social media.

Will side-events be webcast?

Side-event organizers may be able to request webcasting services, depending on the webcasting capacity of the assigned conference room. All costs for webcasting services must be borne by the organizers.

What are the responsibilities of the SDG Summit Secretariat with regards to the SDG Action Weekend side-events?

The Secretariat will identify a number of selected side events, based on the [criteria laid out in the guidelines](#) while also ensuring regional and thematic balance. Following the selection of proposals, the Secretariat will assign a meeting room and a timeslot for each approved session/event.

The SDG Summit Secretariat is **not** responsible for selecting and inviting speakers and participants, time management of the events, the costs of the events, promoting the events, and preparing final summaries.

As organizer of a side-event during the SDG Action weekend, what are my responsibilities?

The session/event co-organizers' responsibilities include – but are not limited to – the invitation and travel arrangements for speakers including visa and security clearance, as needed; the oversight of the “run of show”; and moderation of the entire session/event, including strict time management and note taking.

Organizers are also required to submit a short summary by 22 September 2023.

Who can I contact with questions about a side-event?

Please review the guidelines for the organization of side-events [here](#).

For further information regarding side-events, please contact dsdg@un.org with [Side-events – SDG Action Weekend] in the subject. Due to the high number of messages, only those addressing themes not covered in the guidelines or the FAQs will be responded.

Can I organize a side-event during the SDG Summit (18 – 19 September) or the General Assembly High-level week (18 – 22 September)?

Requests for side-events during the UNGA High Level Week are managed by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. For details, please, check [here](#).

Are funds available for stakeholders to participate at the SDG Action Weekend and the SDG Summit?

Registered stakeholders are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.