



ACTION FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

United Nations High-level Week, 21–27 September, 2019

1 Week – 5 Summits – 17 Goals

In September, world leaders gather at United Nations Headquarters to signal how they will boost action to respond to the climate emergency and ensure the health and wellbeing of people, everywhere.

Four years after breakthrough international agreements on climate change and sustainable development, the stakes are high:

- We are not yet on track to end poverty by 2030 and world hunger is on the rise, with some 821 million people experiencing undernutrition in 2017.
- Green-house gases continue to climb. Every bit of warming matters and every day we delay action will make it more difficult to limit global warming to 1.5°C and avert the worst impacts of climate change.
- The world's most vulnerable are bearing the brunt of conflict, inequality, injustice and environmental degradation – 70 million people fled war, persecution and conflict in 2018; at least half the world's population do not have access to essential health services; 18% of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 to 49 years have experienced physical and/or sexual partner violence in the past year, and some 29.3% of the population of small island states live at less than five meters above rising sea-levels.

Action is being taken to address these challenges. Investment in inclusive and sustainable economies can unleash significant opportunities for shared prosperity. And the political, technological and financial solutions are within our reach. But much greater leadership and rapid, unprecedented changes are needed to align these levers of change with sustainable development objectives.

Bringing together leaders from governments, private sector, civil society and international organizations — these meetings¹ can help generate the ambition and the impetus needed to protect the planet and put the world on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including through effective multilateral cooperation.

Together, this year's world gathering can kickstart a decade of ambitious action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

¹ Other high-level meetings to be held during UNGA week include the High-level Commemorative Event on the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 25 September, and the High-level Meeting on the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons on 26 September.



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CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

23 September | The impacts of climate change are accelerating, but with urgent and transformative action, it is still possible to limit global average temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, averting the most disastrous consequences. This Summit presents leaders from government, the private sector and civil society with the opportunity to demonstrate the solutions they are pursuing to reduce emissions and build climate resilience and adaptation. It will be preceded by the [Youth Climate Summit](#) on **21 September**, for young leaders who are driving climate action to showcase their solutions and to meaningfully engage with decision-makers on the defining issue of our time.



SDG SUMMIT

24-25 September 2019 | Countries in 2015 unanimously adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development -- the most ambitious undertaking ever to transform our world to boost prosperity and ensure well-being for all while protecting the environment. The SDG Summit will allow world leaders and other stakeholders to demonstrate how they intend to accelerate action to transform our societies and economies, as we move towards the five-year anniversary of the Goals, with just over a decade left to the target date of 2030.



HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

23 September | The first-ever High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage will launch new efforts to provide access for all to affordable, inclusive and resilient health systems. The meeting will galvanize global commitments to ensure health for all, recognizing the strong links to climate action and the fact that health is a human right and a precondition, outcome and driver of sustainable development.



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HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

26 September 2019 | Mobilizing sufficient financing remains a major challenge in realizing the 2030 Agenda, and investments that are critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals remain underfunded. Trade-restrictive measures have also accelerated, and debt risks are rising, hampering the ability of many countries to invest in the Sustainable Development Goals. The High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development will bring together leaders from Government, business and the financial sector to help unlock the resources and partnerships needed and accelerate progress.



HIGH-LEVEL MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE SAMOA PATHWAY

27 September 2019 | Small island developing states are among the most vulnerable countries in the world. They face a unique set of issues relating to their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base, and exposure to external economic shocks and global environmental challenges, including the impacts of climate change. Five years after an ambitious agreement – the SAMOA Pathway -- to support sustainable development in small island developing states, the High-Level Review will discuss progress on combating the devastating impact of climate change, building economic and environmental resilience, and other challenges.

For more information:

www.un.org/en/summits2019