



Together 2030 Executive Summary

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2023

Accelerating the Recovery from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at All Levels

Together 2030 is a worldwide civil society initiative promoting and tracking the progress of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Based on our members' experience, we call the 2023 HLPF to consider the following issues:

1. *The clock is ticking:* The 2023 HLPF should be recognized as the 'most action-oriented HLPF session ever. Countries should move from only identifying general suggestions and known barriers to Sustainable Development to overcoming them, while promoting concrete and actionable solutions to the most urgent problems.

2. *Quality over quantity:* The 2023 HLPF should represent a change in the 2030 Agenda monitoring, as we know it. It should move away from the "more the merrier" mindset and provide a better guide and opportunity to increase the quality of the Voluntary National Review reports and the information on the SDGs implementation. A meaningful VNR debate is worth many VNRs presentations with no concrete results.

3. *Innovate, innovate, and innovate!* Thinking out of the box and being innovative should be a 2023 HLPF goal. Attempting to innovate while using the same strategies and language in each Ministerial Declaration is virtually impossible. The HLPF should challenge the UN "agreed language" and be the catalyst of new political approaches that tackle an ever-fast-changing reality.

4. *In our times, to lead is to include.* Sustainable development is too important to leave it to governments alone. The 2030 Agenda clearly states that countries are the main ones responsible for promoting their national sustainable development. This does not mean they are the "only ones" responsible. Countries will fail in promoting sustainable development if they do not create enabling environments for stakeholders to participate in decision-making and solutions-building processes.

5. *A synergetic way ahead.* 2023 and 2024 will be critical for building a sustainable future for all, even beyond 2030. The 2024 Summit of the Future and its ministerial preparation meeting in 2023, the unfolding UNDS reform at the national and regional levels, and the HLPF must be seen as holistic interdependent efforts. There is no chance for 'persons, people, and planet' or for those we are leaving behind without a more muscular multilateral system with the UN at its core. The 2023 HLPF must secure these linkages and ensure opportunities for cross-pollination among them.