

REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

Tuesday, 25 April 2017 | Geneva | Palais des Nations, Room XVII

Preliminary Programme

10:00 – 10:45	OPENING
10:45 – 13:00	POLICY SEGMENT THE SECOND YEAR OF THE SDGs IN THE REGION – KNOWING WHERE WE STAND AND MOVING ON TO PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL The Policy Segment will be organized as an interactive and cross-sectoral panel discussion in the plenary. Within the overall context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the broader theme of the 2017 High-level Political Forum (HLPF), it will focus on a set of key themes: prosperity, health and well-being, and gender (hence, particularly SDG 3 on health and well-being, SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment, and SDG 9 on infrastructure, industrialization and innovation). Through the lens of prosperity, health and well-being, and gender, other SDGs that will be reviewed in-depth at the 2017 HLPF will also be covered, in particular poverty and social protection (SDG 1), nutrition and agriculture (SDG 2), and oceans (SDG 14). The Policy Segment aims at a cross-sectoral exchange and discussion among key policy makers and relevant non-governmental actors (United Nations system, other regional and international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia) with an integrated perspective on the SDG agenda. An informal document containing a synthesis of substantive background materials will be made available to guide the discussions.
13:00 – 15:00	LUNCH BREAK
15:00 – 17:00	PEER LEARNING SEGMENT - PARALLEL REGIONAL ROUND TABLES - The Peer Learning Segment will promote voluntary and more in-depth peer learning and practical exchange of experiences and best practices in SDG implementation. Participants will break out in three parallel Regional Round Tables. Informal concept notes will be made available for all three Regional Round Tables.

**REGIONAL ROUND TABLE I (Room XVII):
NATIONAL AND LOCAL ADAPTATION OF SDGs**

Round Table I will focus on the ongoing process of adapting the global SDGs to national and local circumstances. Reviewing and adjusting national strategies, plans and instruments is a major first step taken by governments in the region to start SDG implementation. The Round Table will discuss challenges, exchange different approaches, and collect preliminary lessons from devising national and local SDG strategies and programmes, benefitting from a wealth of country experiences, including from the countries from the region that participated or will participate in the National Voluntary Reviews at the HLPF.

**REGIONAL ROUND TABLE II (Room XXI):
SUBREGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION**

The subregional level is important in a multi-layered system of SDG implementation and follow-up. Neighbouring countries working together can help address issues of common concern, including those of transboundary nature. The subregional level connects the local and national levels on the one hand and the regional and global levels on the other hand. With regard to the key themes for the Regional Forum, this applies in particular to cross-border infrastructure and trade. The Round Table will share experiences and discuss how cooperation within the different UNECE subregions can help advance the SDGs. Round Table II will encourage participation by governments, subregional organizations and bodies, and non-governmental actors engaged in subregional cooperation.

**REGIONAL ROUND TABLE III (Room XXII):
DATA AND MONITORING**

Improving the data situation and building statistical capacities for SDG monitoring remains a significant challenge for all countries in the region and beyond. Statisticians are working at the global and regional levels, including in the Conference of European Statisticians, to develop methodologically sound SDG indicators. Round Table III will provide an opportunity for dialogue between policy-makers and statisticians on the needs, feasibility and limitations of SDG data.

17:00 – 18:00

REPORTING BACK AND CLOSING

Further Information:

www.unece.org/rfsd2017

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