



Regional SDG Coordination Leaders Forum: Building a Partnership to Underpin National Sustainable Development Solutions

Minsk, Belarus, 21-22 February 2018
[Venue]

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Wednesday, February 21

9:00-10:00 Registration

9:30-10:00 Media stakeout

10:00-11:00 Opening of the Forum

Welcoming remarks by the high-level representatives of Belarus and United Nations

11:00-11:15 Ceremony of cancellation of an envelope issued by Belarus Post to commemorate Sustainable Development Goals

High-level representatives of Belarus and United Nations

11:15-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-13:15 Roundtable session “National policies and institutions to implement SDGs”

Participants from the countries of Europe and Central Asia will be invited to present their experience, challenges and best practices as a result of the initial stage of implementing Agenda-2030. Representatives and experts from the UN system will introduce an overview of current status of achievement of SDGs and will present tools available to assist member states on the way to sustainable development.

13:15-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:30 Roundtable session “Cooperation and coordination in achieving SDGs: a case of combatting inequalities”

The discussion will focus on ways and means to sustain mutually beneficial regional cooperation among institutions charged with the implementation of Agenda-2030. A special emphasis will be placed on experience in building national strategies to fight inequalities in countries in different situations and on different levels of development.

16:30-17:00 Coffee break

17:00-18:00 Informal “speed dating” session

Participants will be asked to have a sequence of short (up to 10 minutes) informal bilateral talks in order to build closer personal ties with their counterparts and exchange ideas on how to strengthen and promote a partnership of SDG coordination leaders. These ideas will be presented and summarised at the end of the session.

19:00-21:00 Reception by the National Coordinator of Belarus on SDGs, social programme**Thursday, February 22****10:00-11:30** Roundtable session “Building partnerships to address cross-cutting issue of gender equality and empowering women in sustainable development”

Participants will share experience of their countries and organisations in implementing gender policies and will debate on how these policies can affect sustainable development and can serve as a foundation of joint regional efforts to achieve SDGs.

11:30-12:00 Coffee break**12:00-13:30** Roundtable session “Building capacity to finance implementation of SDGs and to monitor output of investments into sustainable development”

The discussion is supposed to build around the subject of financing inclusive sustainable development as well as of capacity building to monitor implementation of SDGs and assess progress through data collection and analysis.

13:30-14:00 Adoption of outcomes/recommendations. Closing of the Forum

The participants may wish to agree on a summary of the discussions with an emphasis on further activities to contribute to building a network of national SDG coordinators as a practitioners’ partnership to assist the achievement of SDGs.

14:00-15:30 Lunch