

Countdown to the UN SDG Summit 2023 – Session on Sustainable Cities, & Sustainable Consumption and Production

A session among series of webinar was organised by “Stakeholder Forum for A Sustainable Future” to bring together a wide spectrum of specialists, decision-makers, and practitioners with an understanding of the connections between the SDGs as well as their perceptions of integrated methods that might aid in the development of proposals for transformational SDG activities. Additionally, it aims to create communities of practise that will carry on working on this effort in the run-up to both the Summit of the Future in 2024 and the SDG Summit in 2023.



Chairman of the Stakeholder Forum Charles Nouhan served as the event's host. This session mainly focused on examining where we are with each goal's implementation, identifying transformative actions for change, and evaluating the benefits for each goal as well as for other goals with which they are interconnected.

The session started with one of the quotes from Mahatma Gandhi, "There is enough for everybody's need and not for everybody's greed" that how over consumption is a big challenge for the world to tackle.

Development Alternatives Group's Senior Vice President and Chief Knowledge Officer, Zeenat Niazi spoke on SDG 11 and 12 which entails sustainable consumption and production systems through resource efficiency, circular economy and addressing equity concerns in resource access.



She also discussed on how urbanisation is rapid in Global South especially in countries like Nigeria in Africa and India in Asia focusing on sustainable cities and its infrastructure. She further added how divide between economic growth and society affects climate activities such as increase in carbon footprint.

In conversation with Dr David O'Connor over sustainable consumption and sustainable production depending upon who is consuming what, she shared that while looking into the divide between global North and South, the wastage and over consumption is a kind of violence against nature and society and emphasised over it by sharing an anecdote of Mahatma Gandhi and his grandson about violence and non-violence.

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Dr David O'Connor, IUCN Permanent Observer at the United Nations in New York, led this session, which focused on sustainable cities and sustainable consumption and production, in conversation with a variety of SDG and sustainability experts. This session marks presence of participants like Juliana Oliveira Cunha, Policy Economist, International Growth Centre, London School of Economics; Ramona Liberoff, Executive Director of PACE (Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy); Fabienne Pierre, Programme Management Coordinator, One Planet Network, UNEP; Dr David Horan, Assistant Professor at Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin.