



**SDGs KENYA FORUM**  
Coalition for Sustainable Development

**“Humankind must learn to understand that the life of an animal is in no way less precious than our own.”**

## **Spotlight on 2022** High-Level Political Forum





"To build forward a better and smarter world, we need to think innovatively and do business unusual. Let's use the power of innovation to create a future of infinite possibilities for women and girls." **Dr. Natalia Kanem- Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund | Universal access to sexual & reproductive health and rights to family planning, safe birth & freedom from gender-based violence.**



"Political manifestos should intentionally include aspects of gender in order to have both men and women breaking down gender structural barriers and creating a progressive political development agenda that cares about the whole community." **Easter Okech Executive Director & Programs Coordinator**



"We need women in political party management as part of a strategy to prioritize the representation of young girls, boys, and women in leadership positions." **Jane Anyango - Founding Director**

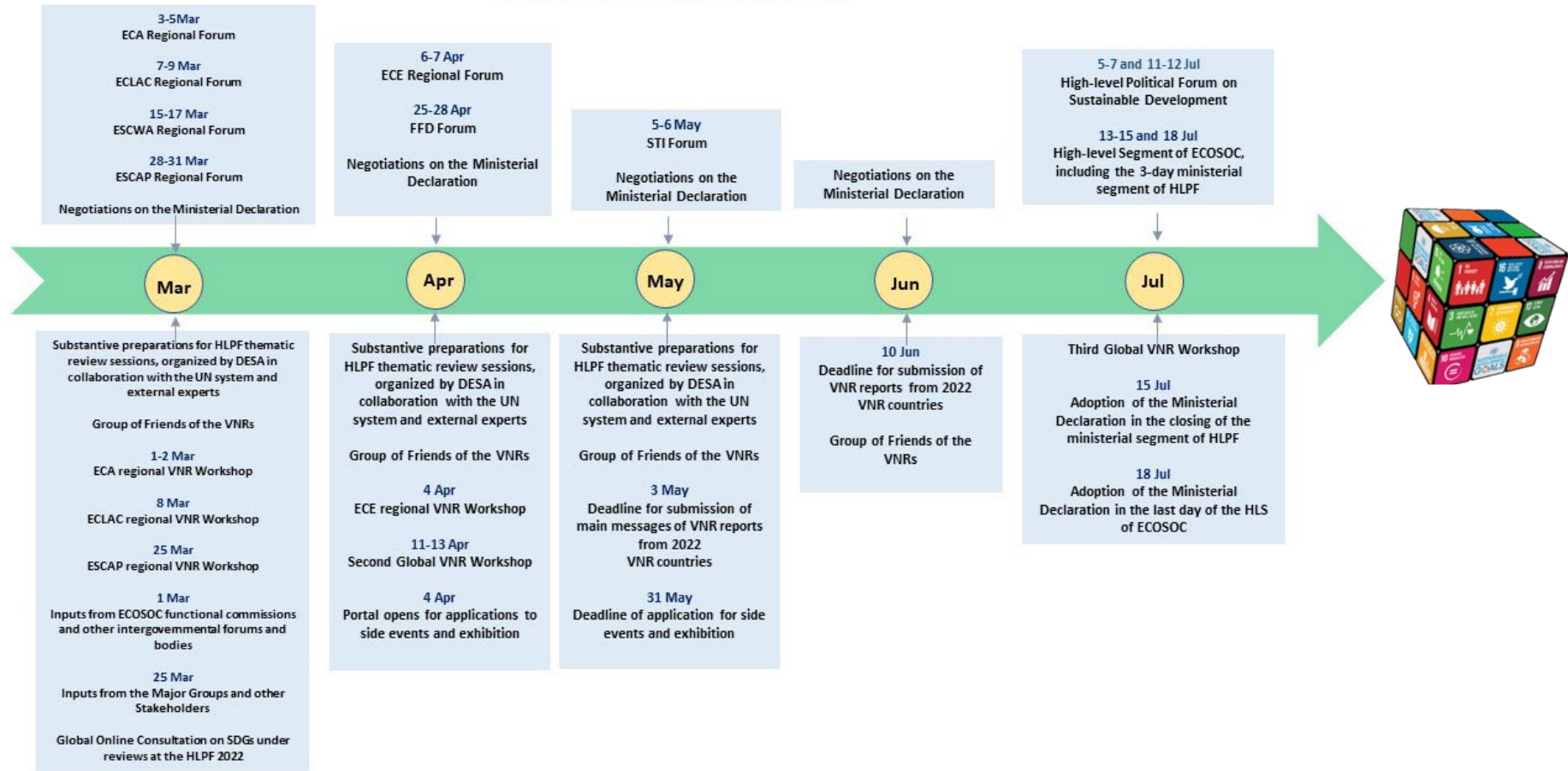


"Governments and Donors should recognize the importance of intentionally embracing and funding women & young girls organizations as part of a solution to mainstream progressive gender representation and discussion within the structural make-up of CSOs." **Mercy Jelimo- Transformative Leadership and Governance Consultant at Women's Empowerment Link**





## 2022 HLPF TIMELINE





HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



5 GENDER  
EQUALITY



14 LIFE  
BELOW WATER



15 LIFE  
ON LAND



17 PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



## 2022 HLPF and High-level Segment of ECOSOC

Theme: *Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

9

Days

5

SDGs under review

44

Countries presented VNRs

### WHO WAS THERE?

More than 140

Heads of State and Government, Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers,  
Vice Ministers and Ministerial Level Officials



Keynote speakers, panelists, lead discussants, respondents,  
moderators in townhall meeting, panels, and fireside chats

to talk about



8 Special Events

Including a pop-up  
concert with  
an SDG Piano

VNR Labs

18

Side Events

273

(43 in person)

Exhibitions

11

## Introduction

The 2022 session of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the 10th session. The meeting happened as from 5 July to Friday, 15 July 2022. The HLPF is the main UN platform on sustainable development. It has a central role in the follow-up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All UN Member States as well as representatives from civil society organizations participate in the HLPF, which meets under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The 2022 HLPF will hold in-depth reviews of five SDGs: 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), 14 (life below water), 15 (life on land), and 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

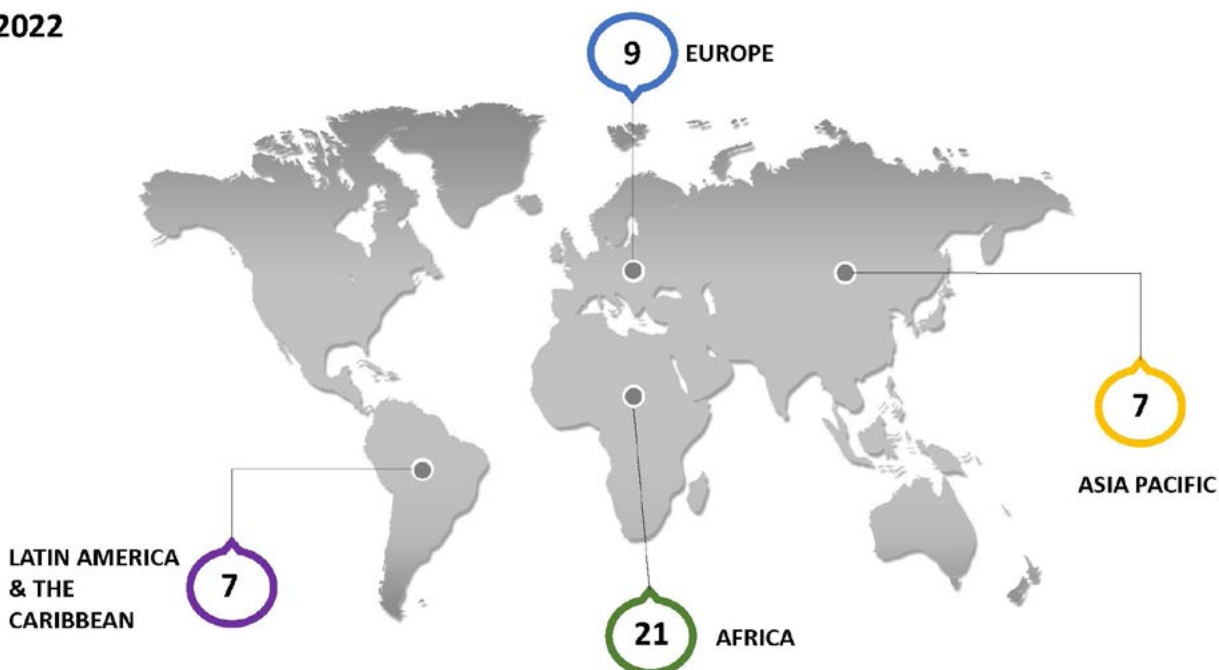
ECOSOC President Collen Vixen Kelapile opened HLPF 2022 on Tuesday, 5 July, noting the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down 2030 Agenda implementation and reversed progress on many SDGs but noted that the pandemic had served as a “wake-up call” to tackle fundamental problems facing societies. He highlighted the opportunity to build back better using the 2030 Agenda as a blueprint for recovery.

Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General, summarized main messages from the VNRs, noting many countries have begun to introduce innovative policies to build back better, including through debt moratoria, national resilience plans, strengthened social protection measures, and expansion of the digital economy, emphasizing the need for “deep transitions” to get back on track

## Voluntary National Reviews

Voluntary National Reviews Forty-four countries presented their VNRs during the second week: 11 for the first time, 28 for the second time, three for the third time, and two for the fourth time. The summaries are listed in the order presented

### VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS 2022



# 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



## Quality Education (SDG 4)

On Wednesday, 6 July, delegates discussed SDG 4. ECOSOC Vice President Diego Pary Rodríguez chaired this session and highlighted it would feed into the Transforming Education Summit taking place in September 2022. Leonardo Garnier, UN Secretary-General's Special Adviser for the Transforming Education Summit, emphasized we need to ignite a movement to transform education into a true human right for all.

In Kenya, both at national and sub national levels have undertaken a wide range of programmes and policy-level efforts to ensure that no child is left behind in access to education. There have been substantial efforts to ensure access, completion, and quality of basic education for all. However Kenyans are still concerned that there are inadequate trained teachers and facilitators in TVET institutions other essential facilities has to be addressed. Especially the demand of the competence-based curriculum calls for the government to make deliberate efforts to retrain and recruit more teachers with CBC skills, who are key in the improvement of literacy and numeracy competencies.

Across all the main sessions and side events speakers agreed the need to:

- Create a "new deal" for teachers and students, which includes ensuring decent working conditions, labor rights, and decent pay for teachers, and involve teachers in policy decisions through social dialogue.
- Renew the world's commitment to education, and invest in education, recovery and resilience. Reach every child and keep them in school, scale up learning assessments at national and regional levels, and support children's physical and emotional well-being.
- Ensure education at tertiary and vocational levels are fit for purpose properly equipped.
- Ensure the value of knowledge is recognised by all children.
- Incorporate marginalized groups, including girls, street children, and Indigenous Peoples, in education.
- Invest in robust tax systems and combat corruption to fund education.



# 5 GENDER EQUALITY

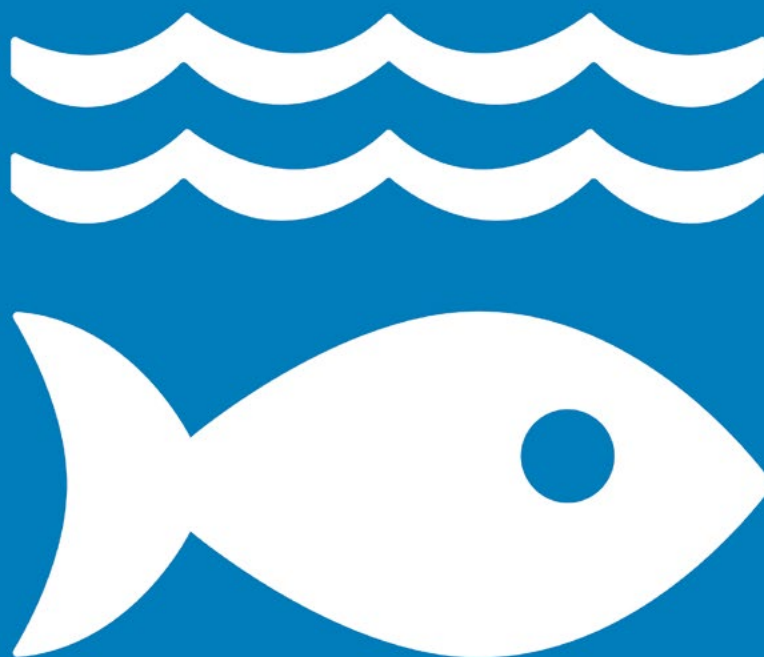


## Gender Equality (SDG 5)

On Thursday, 7 July, delegates discussed SDG 5. Denis Mukwege, 2018 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Democratic Republic of the Congo, highlighted fragile progress towards gender equality and recent setbacks for women's rights including inequalities that was revealed by COVID-19. He called on governments to invest in policies and grassroots organizations and use the legislative toolbox from the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council report, which is based on four pillars: ending genderbased violence; education and health for all; promoting economic empowerment; and complete equality between men and women in public policy. In Kenya it is evidenced in the Economic Survey 2022 report that the participation and representation of women in decision-making structures including political parties, the National Assembly and the Senate failed to achieve the two-thirds gender requirement. Across all the main sessions and side events speakers agreed the need to:

- Recognise gender equality as one of the most interlinked SDGs and its achievement will make it possible for the attainment of all the other 17 SDGs
- Change social and cultural norms to allow women to work and combat gender-based violence globally.
- Fully engage men and women in promoting gender equality
- Adopt systems of non-stigmatizing care for victims of genderbased violence, that takes into account health, legal, and economic assistance.
- Compensate unpaid care and domestic work to strengthen women's economic power.
- Ensure strong legislation to promote women's rights, as well as protecting those working to secure them.
- Ensure national-level gender budgeting, address the digital gender divide, and ensure energy access for women.

# 14 LIFE BELOW WATER



## Life Below Water (SDG 14)

On Thursday, 7 July, delegates discussed SDG 14. Sylvia Earle, Marine Biologist and National Geographic Society Explorer-in-Residence, emphasized the importance of restoring and maintaining the ocean's biogeochemical balance, emphasizing that the ocean sustains all life on Earth. WTO Deputy Director-General Angela Paolini Ellard urged WTO Member States to deposit their instruments of acceptance on the recently agreed-upon legally binding agreement to reduce fisheries subsidies.

In Kenya "Life below water" is being constrained by limited financial resources, climate change-related threats, insufficient support for innovations in the sector, minimal production of marine data. Further threats are on marine pollution, primarily from land-based activities, including marine (plastic) debris and excessive nutrient enrichment (eutrophication), is a growing concern in need of public attention. Across all the main sessions and side events speakers agreed the need to:

- Change in narrative and growing awareness and financing for the ocean.
- For all agencies working on ocean to have a partnership and work together on the ocean and engage the youth in decision-making for the ocean.
- Work by the regional economic commissions on addressing land-sea interactions such as pollution, and promoting financing solutions such as blue bonds, to support the blue economy
- Recognising the critical importance of ocean science for achieving all the SDGs.
- SDG 14 receives the lowest level of financing among all SDGs.



# 15 LIFE ON LAND



## Life on Land (SDG 15)

On Monday, 11 July, delegates heard highlights from the UN Secretary-General's report on progress towards SDG 15. It was noted that world forest cover continues to shrink globally, with high losses in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa in particular, and with approximately 40,000 documented species at risk of extinction. It was also noted that agricultural expansion is driving almost 90% of global deforestation.

In Kenya there is need to take rapid actions, responses, and measures to tackling climate change, to eliminate fossil fuel subsidies, combat deforestation, protect biodiversity and achieve zero carbon emissions. These strategies are vital to our communities, societies and peoples' sustainable development and resilience. Across all the main sessions and side events speakers agreed the need :

- To end persecution of environmental defenders.
- For the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 15) to deliver accountability, monitoring, and means of implementation, and re-direct public financing to support, rather than harm, nature.
- To address bureaucracy so that funds can reach developing countries more quickly.
- To re-discover our place and responsibility in nature to achieve the SDGs.
- For a transformative push to ensure public spending is aligned with the SDGs, including by shifting to nature-based solutions, green and blue bonds, as well as carbon credits, removing subsidies for activities that contribute to biodiversity loss, fostering an understanding of the nature-health nexus, and encouraging stakeholder engagement.
- To move from a siloed to an integrated approach to ensure implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 and the 2030 Agenda.

# 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



## Partnerships (SDG 17)

Partnership for the Goals: On Monday, 5 July, delegates discussed SDG 17. Goal 17 calls upon countries to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. However, the world is still far from achieving the 19 targets and 25 indicators related to finance, technology, capacity building, and trade. The concern is that Covid-19 pandemic revealed obstacles to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 17, some of the glaring issues include: technology access, intellectual property rights and unequal vaccine distribution, capacity of African national statistical offices to produce and disseminate timely data, high debt-to-GDP ratios and fiscal space deficits

All SDGs can only be realized with strong global, regional, national and sub national partnerships and cooperation. Successful partnerships must be inclusive at all levels, they must be hinged upon common principles and values of placing people and the planet at the centre of development.



## SDG Kenya Forum SDG 5 Side Event

Are we on track to achieve Gender Equality by 2030? According to the UN Women report 10th May 2022. Globally, progress on Sustainable Development Goal 5: To achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030, is measured using 9 targets, made up of 18 indicators and sub-indicators. The findings reveal that out of 18 indicators, only one indicator is close to the target, that is the proportion of seats held by women in local government. In Kenya, we are still far from achieving gender equality, according to the 2022 SDG Gender Index, with an average score of 62.0 points on all SDG 5 indicators, the average score of 43 points for indicator 5.4: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, an average score of 61 points on Indicator 5.5: Proportion of ministerial/senior government positions held by women. This has direct implications on the achievement of gender equality in public and private spaces including family, legislation, health services, education, access to economic resources, and many other aspects. Thus the call for bold commitment and action to accelerate progress, to increase investments in the catalytic sectors, funding for collection and analysis of Citizen generated gender-disaggregated data to monitor progress on all other goals from a gender perspective and improve coordination and partnerships for gender equality.



**SDGs KENYA FORUM**  
For Sustainable Development

**INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT**

**Wednesday 13 JULY**  
**11:00- 1:00 PM**

**HLPF 2022**  
**GOAL 5 Side Event**

Time for Bold Commitments and Actions during the 2022 general elections and transition to accelerate progress in kenya

**MODERATOR:** Mildred Ngesa  
**KEY NOTE SPEAKER:** Hon. Fatma Toufiq- MP Dodoma, Tanzania  
**SPEAKERS:** Easter Achieng-KEFEADO  
Jane Anyango -POLYCOM  
Mercy Jelimo- CREAW  
Ruthie Kimani - Gender Knowledge Hub  
**COMMENTARIES:** Gender Knowledge Hub :- Raaya Allah Karim and Hon Esnah's Nyara

Click on this link to join: <https://bit.ly/3RumCru>

SDG icons: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100



[Click here to listen](#)





**SDGs KENYA FORUM**  
For Sustainable Development

**CITIZEN GENERATED DATA**

**Friday 15 JULY**  
**2:00-4:00 PM**

**HLPF 2022**  
**GOAL 17 Side Event**

**Reuse of Citizen Generated Data (CGD)**  
Alternative data sources meeting the needs of both State and Non-state Actors while enriching SDGs monitoring and Reporting.

**MODERATOR:** Karen Bett-GPSDD

**KEY NOTE SPEAKERS:** James Kinyanjui, HSC- KNBS  
Dr. Paul Mungai- PARIS21

**SPEAKERS:** Denis Njuge - Groots kenya  
Agnes Gakuru - African Voices  
Sarah Wesonga - Article 19  
Boniface Owino -Development Initiative (DI)  
Benjamin Charagu - Open Institute

Click on this link to join: <https://bit.ly/3cbZOfZ>

## SDG Kenya Forum SDG 17 Side Event

In the recent past, it has been a common realization that data generation, supply, and production of official estimates a task for a long time left central to the National Statistics Office (NSO) might not meet all the data needs to shape policy in Kenya. That gap has been created mainly due to shrinking data financing, understaffing for officers who are data-savvy, working in silos by different data actors, and at times low uptake of appropriate data technologies to help ease work within the data value chain. The recall for expansion of data source base to tap into the data ecosystem has seen the development of the Kenya Statistical Quality Assurance Framework (KeSQAf) 4 annexing a quality criterion for authenticating data produced by CSOs as a major player within the data ecosystem. Such alternative data sources will ensure that data needs have been responded to without having to create other data budget lines and duplication of work while filling SDGs implementation gaps. SDGs Kenya Forum aims for data actors to voice the need for more and better data, or else we will not be able to adequately monitor the implementation of the SDGs. Data gaps prevent us from seeing the full picture of progress towards achieving the SDGs targets by 2030. Where data are missing, everyone else including special interest groups is invisible. We need bold action to close data gaps and accelerate progress.



[Click here to listen](#)

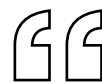




## CSOs Position Paper 2022 High-Level Political Forum



“Civil society organizations drawn from across the membership of the SDGs Kenya Forum, gathered in Nairobi, on 30th June 2022 to review the trends and progress of implementing the 5 Sustainable development Goals under review during this year’s session of the High-level Political Forum. Noting that with only eight years left to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We recognize years or even decades, of development progress have been halted or reversed, due to COVID-19, impacts of climate change and the war in Ukraine. Now more than ever the world needs all hands on deck to achieve the SDGs, with Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) becoming an indispensable tool for tracking and reflecting on the development progress made.” [To read more of our joint position paper, kindly click on this link.](#)



Kenya Forestry Research Institute’s report, recommends that around 2 billion tree seedlings need to be planted in order to accelerate Kenya’s forest cover.





# MAKE IT KENYA



© BrandKenya



**SDGs KENYA FORUM**  
Coalition for Sustainable Development

[www.sdgkenyaforum.org](http://www.sdgkenyaforum.org)

    @ SDGs Kenya Forum