



Stockholm+50 - a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity

Concept of national consultations

Introduction

An international meeting “Stockholm+50” is planned to be conducted on 2-3 June in Stockholm, Sweden with the support of the Government of Kenya. The meeting will bring together high level representatives of all States Members of the United Nations and parties to the multilateral environment agreements and will strive to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals during the Decade of Action¹ including through a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It will have an opening segment, four plenary meetings and three leadership dialogues. The meeting will end with a closing segment.

The leadership dialogues are intended to be collaborative and they will focus on the following themes:

Leadership dialogue 1 (LD1): Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all. This LD will be focused on what are the actions and how to accelerate them in order to live in harmony with nature, where ecological security, gender and social equality, innovations, human rights, etc. are balanced. In other words, as defined by the UNEP it “will focus on transformative actions, moving beyond incremental change to systemic change, where the ambition is to redefine our relationship with nature by taking further steps to achieve net-zero carbon, nature-positive, and zero pollution societies”².

Leadership dialogue 2: Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. COVID-19 pandemic affected the whole world severely. Therefore how to put the world back on track and implement 2030 Agenda in a just and sustainable way will be the main topic of discussion under this LD. A number of solutions may be discussed and designed for this purpose, which may include rethinking of financing with consideration of the most affected sectors, defining social protection schemes and various policies for promoting circularity and sustainable consumption and

¹ In September 2019, the UN [Secretary-General](#) called on all sectors of society to mobilize for a decade of action, aiming at accelerating sustainable solutions and implementation of 2030 Agenda.

² https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/36939/STKLM50_HP.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

production, supporting job creation, skills building, and capacity enhancement, etc.

Leadership dialogue 3: Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development. As defined by the UNEP, this dialogue will focus on “multi-level governance, institutions, multilateral frameworks, and commitments highlighting accountability, accessibility, and incentives necessary to go from commitment to action, focusing on showcasing concrete benefits at country level”. Besides, the purpose of the LD3 will be to discuss how to align private and public agendas without compromising global public goods. It will also stress on how to strengthen institutions, human capabilities and infrastructure for a resilient and sustainable transition to a healthier planet where no one is left behind. This dialogue will also address the Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement, NBSAP and other related national action plans to achieve Green Economy/Green Recovery and in general, contribute to delivery on the 2030 Agenda.

In general, the above described LDs should be guided by the 5 “R” principle, implying 5 interconnected pathways, which serve to chart a course towards Stockholm+50 and beyond. These pathways include **reimagining** the future; **regeneration** of ecosystems, of community and social resilience; green **recovery** and inclusive Covid recovery; **rebalance** resource use and development for greater equity; and **reinvigorated/renewed** multilateralism.

National insights and recommendations delivered from these LDs may serve as a valuable input for global decisions to be taken at Stockholm+50. In order to make leadership dialogue segment multi-stakeholder, the national consultations are planned to be conducted in selected countries and Georgia is one of them. In particular, as defined by the Guideline, the purpose of national consultations is to:

- stimulate inclusive debates on Stockholm+50 Leadership Dialogue themes;
- build a shared global vision on how to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity and accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and Multilateral Environment Agreements through an inclusive green recovery;
- offer clear recommendations for governments, civil society and private sector that advance national and sectoral policies that integrate climate concerns and nature-based solutions including through NDCs, NBSAPS, Green Economy/Green Recovery and SDG frameworks;
- amplify the voices of the poor and other marginalized groups; and
- influence local and global debates that consider the perspectives of all stakeholders.

In other words, the national consultations aim to bring the voice of not only government, but also Civil Society Organizations (SCOs), private sector, other interested persons, including women and youth, as well as people with disabilities to the attention of the high level decision makers of countries and international community to be gathered in Stockholm and contribute to decisions on how to make our

planet healthier for the prosperity of ourselves.

The consultations in Georgia will be conducted through in-person meetings and a virtual platform and will aim to collect ideas, insights and recommendations on priority actions at national and global levels from diverse target groups. For in-person consultations hybrid format meetings (physical plus online meeting) will be conducted, while virtual consultations will be made through the UNDP's community engagement platform – SparkBlue. Approach for both patterns of consultations are described below.

In-person consultations

In order to make the national consultations as participatory as possible, in-person meetings will be conducted in a hybrid format, meaning that part of participants will be invited physically and at the same time, for the broader range of the interested parties, there will be possibility to participate online. Although main COVID restrictions have been removed since 15 March 2022, application of online platforms is expected to significantly increase the number of participants, especially for those residing far from meeting locations and for others who cannot attend the meeting physically for some other reasons.

Physical participation

To ensure the maximum coverage of the country, consultations will be conducted not only in Tbilisi, but also in the Western and Eastern parts of Georgia. More specifically, one round of consultations will be held in Tbilisi, one in Batumi and one in Telavi. Each round of consultations will be dedicated to topics covered by one LD; still 1-2 key questions from the other two LDs may also be covered in order to collect opinions on all LD topics from as many participants as possible. For example, on the consultation event on the LD1, which is about actions leading to healthier planet and better quality of life for all people, questions suggested in the guideline will be the main ones, but one question can be asked about the post COVID recovery in order to enrich the discussion and make the consultation findings more representative. In general, discussion points will be designed based on questions provided in the Guideline; but still may be adjusted to invited target groups/location and related peculiarities if any.

Each consultation meeting will have a panel discussion format and will be split into two sessions with the same facilitators and audience, but with different panel participants. In particular, each consultation meeting will have 1 or two facilitators. Ideally one facilitator will be journalist and another one - field specialist with good moderation skills. About 4-6 panel participants will be selected and invited to each session. Efforts will be made that engaged panel participants represent not only different sectors/organizations, but also have different areas of expertise, level of experience, etc. and thus, may have different views on various aspects subject to discussion.

Keeping in mind the above mentioned, panel participants will be identified from the following target groups:

1. State agencies (MEPA, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education,

municipalities)

2. SCO – (Efforts will be made to make SCO representation diverse including but not limited to those working on environmental aspects, human rights, minority and vulnerable group issues, etc.)
3. Academia – Tbilisi State University, Iliani, Batumi University, Telavi University, Kutaisi University, etc.
4. Private sector/business associations
5. Youth organizations/students.

In addition, in order to make sure that that voice of men and women are heard equally, panel participants will be selected in a way to keep gender balance; besides, discussions will be led keeping in mind the equal participation of both men and women. Organizations and sectors from which the speakers will be selected per each location and session is provided in the Annex I. Still, some changes in panel participants may be made during the implementation of this concept.

On average around 50-60 participants will be invited for each round of consultations for physical participation. Still, invitations will be sent to about 70-80 persons as suggested by the guidelines. More participants are expected to be present in Tbilisi than in Batumi and Telavi. In order to ensure adequate presence at consultations, “save the date” notifications will be sent at least 2 weeks earlier prior to the meetings. The table below summarizes the information on sectors and numbers of participants to be invited at each consultation workshop.

Table 1. Schedule of Consultation meetings and number of invited participants

#	Date	Venue	Invited sectors	Number of invited participants	Facilitator(s)	Comment
Tbilisi						
1	14.04		State agencies (MEPA, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Tbilisi City Hall)	15	TBD	As advised in the guideline, more people will be invited. It is expected that about 50-60 people will attend physically. It is difficult to anticipate the number of online participants, but in order to ensure the maximum presence UNDP's and MEPA's Facebook as well as mailing lists of the Environmental Information and Education Centre (under the MEPA), CENN, etc. will be used.
			Projects/Donors	15		
			SCOs	25		
			Private sector, business associations	5		
			Academic sector (universities, scientific institutions)	15		
			Youth	15		
Telavi						
	19.04		Telavi and other municipalities of the region, Resource Centres (Ministry of education) MEPA, MESD	5	TBD	
			SCOs	15		

			Private sector	5		
			Academic sector (universities, scientific institutions)	10		
			Youth	15		
Batumi						
	28.04		Government of the Adjara A/R Batumi City Hall Poti city Hall Kutaisi City Hall MEPA, MESD	10	TBD	
			SCOs	20		
			Private sector	10		
			Academia	10		
			Youth	10		

Participants will be selected and invited in a way to make the consultation process as participatory as possible. In particular, the following criteria were used to identify the organizations which will be invited to the consultation process:

1. Geographical location – to ensure maximum geographical coverage of the consultation process, organizations operating in various locations throughout Georgia (including urban and rural settlements) will be invited.
2. Sector of operation – representatives of governmental organizations, as well as SCOs, private sector, universities and youth organizations will be involved.
3. Field of operation - to ensure that consultation process captures views from different perspectives, organizations were selected in a way to cover all relevant areas such as environment, social aspects, education, health, human rights, economic development, women, minorities, etc.
4. Size and nobility – invitations will be sent to not only strong and famous organizations, but also to grassroots and community based organizations. This approach will allow to hear the voice of those, who would have a very little chance to reach and influence decision making process.

Online-participation

Registration will be open for online participation. In order to ensure as broad participation as possible, information on consultation workshops and agendas will be distributed through various communication channels. In particular the mailing list of the MEPA's Environmental Information and Education Centre as well as social networks of the UNDP, CENN, etc. will be used.

Every interested party will be asked to pre-register on the Sparkblue platform to create their user profiles and receive updated notifications. As potential participants might not be well-aware of this platform, a short instruction on how to register, how to use it, etc. will also be part of the information disseminated on national consultations. In addition during the online registration participants will be asked to provide some basic information which would help to disaggregate data by sex, ethnicity, geographical location of residence (rural, urban, etc.), economic sector, etc.

Online participants will be able to send their questions or comments/suggestions via chat option of the SparkBlue platform. The most frequently asked or similar questions will be grouped by the assigned meeting assistant and will be raised by the meeting facilitator to panel participants if feasible and if time allows. If not, the questions will be addressed through SparkBlue platform. Similarly, comments/recommendations raised by online participants will be considered in the final national consultation report prepared for the Stockholm+50 conference.

Virtual consultations

Virtual consultations, as mentioned above, will be made through the UNDP’s community engagement platform – SparkBlue. A dedicated and exclusive space (Stockholm+50 National Consultation: Georgia) will facilitate one-stop access to various themes, topics and materials and will support engagement of the interested parties in an online dialogue on the specific aspects.

<https://www.sparkblue.org/stockholm50/consultation-georgia/stream> .

Content and organization of in-person consultations

The guideline provides quite detailed description of LD themes and proposes a number of questions that could be asked during the consultation process. In order to make the discussion topics more audience friendly the titles of the LDs can be rephrased in a way illustrated in the table 2 below:

Table 2. Proposed titles for the national consultations

	Existing	Proposed
LD1	Reflecting on the urgent need for actions to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all	Healthy planet for prosperity of all-sustainable development under depletable resources
LD2	Achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic	Post pandemic recovery through risk mitigation and sustainable development
LD3	Accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development	Partnership and inclusivity – accelerator of the environmental dimension of sustainable development

Questions under each LD will be tailored based on panel participants and characteristics of discussion. Questions suggested by the Guidelines per each LD, will be divided into two parts and will be covered at two sessions of each consultation meeting as described above. Tentative set of questions to be covered at both sessions of each LD is provided in the Annex II.

Each session will take about 90 minutes, out of which around 50-60 minutes will be allocated for panelists. However, to make discussions motivating and cover the interests of not only panel participants but also of those presenting at the meetings, at least 30-40 minutes will be allocated for questions/opinions from the audience. In addition, online participants will also have an opportunity to provide their questions or share opinions through the online chat as described above.

The consultation workshops will be conducted in the period of 14-28 April, 2022.

Prior to the consultation meetings 1-2 orientation meetings will be conducted with the facilitators with participation of the national coordinator and UNDP. The purpose of these meetings will be to provide background information to the facilitators and short profiles of panel participants, agree on questions, discuss potential risks and define the mitigation measures, etc.

Discussion topics and some details will also be shared with the panel participants in order to make discussions more thoughtful, result oriented and the same time, avoid any inconveniences.

Annex I. Potential Panel representation

Location	Panel name	Panel participant (organization/sector)	Filed of operation	Comments
Tbilisi	LD 3: Partnership and inclusivity – accelerator of the environmental dimension of sustainable development Session 1.	Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture (MEPA)	Environment/CC/policy	
		Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development		
		SCO	Environment	
		Youth representative	Governance	
		SCO	Human rights/legal	
Tbilisi	LD 3: Partnership and inclusivity – accelerator of the environmental dimension of sustainable development Session 2.	Governmental agency	Technologies/innovations	
		Private sector/business association	Business	
		Private sector	Agriculture	
		Academic Sector	Economics	
		SCO	environment	
Telavi	LD 1 Healthy planet for prosperity of all-sustainable development under depletable resources Session 1.	MEPA	Environment	
		Media/SCO	Social aspects	
		SCO	Environment	
		Academia/Telavi University	Natural sciences	
		Private sector	Business/Agriculture	
		SCO	Education/empowerment	
Telavi	LD 1: Healthy planet for prosperity of all-sustainable	Local authorities		
		SCO	Justice/social aspects	
		SCO	Environment/human rights	

	development under depletable resources	Youth representative	Youth ambassador of Georgia to the UN	
	Session 2.	Private sector	Agribusiness	
Batumi	LD2: Post pandemic recovery through risk mitigation and sustainable development	Government of the Adjara A/R		
		Maritime Transport Agency of Georgia	Economics	
		Private sector	Environmental consultancy	
		SCO	Social/human rights	
		Youth representative	Social, governance	Representative of the Local Action Group from Adjara A/R
Batumi	LD2: Post pandemic recovery through risk mitigation and sustainable development	Batumi Municipality		
		Tourism administration	Government/business support	
		SCO	Environment	
		Academia	Environment	
		Private sector	Business	
	Session 2.			

Annex II. Indicative questions per each LD session

LD	Tentative Questions
LD 1: How to achieve a healthy planet and prosperity of all	
Session 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can we restore and regenerate a positive relationship with nature? List 2 or 3 good practices and pathways that you would like to see scaled up to enable a move to a healthy planet? - How could marginalised and vulnerable groups benefit from policies and initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)? - What are the new or prioritized set of metrics and indicators needed for tracking our progress towards a healthier and more prosperous planet? - What are the biggest challenges we are facing in implementing the commitments to the 2030 Agenda and other environmental commitments (MEAs)? How do we create an enabling environment for delivery on the ground? (LD3)³ - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
Session 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the actions that you (your group) would take to scale up the change towards a healthy planet? What policies/structures need to be in place for you to take such action? - How can we safeguard the rights of people and nature, including among others, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental defenders, women, youth, future generations? - COVID pandemic affected all of us. What are the most promising sustainable and inclusive recovery practices currently being applied by public, private and civil society groups at individual, community, city, regional, country level? And how could we scale them up? (LD2) - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
LD2: Sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic	
Session 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the most promising sustainable and inclusive recovery practices currently being applied by public, private and civil society groups at individual, community, city, regional, country level? And how could we scale them up? - What recovery and pre-existing practices need to be changed to ensure an inclusive and sustainable recovery? - What are the decent green jobs of the future? What are the new skills needed, what is needed from business? from government? from academia? - What are the good practices and pathways that you would like to see scaled up to accelerate the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development? (LD3) - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?

³ Questions from the other LD are provided in blue color

<p>Session 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How do we ensure that all countries/communities can benefit from opportunities stemming from a sustainable and just transition? - What are some of the commitments and “responsible” principles that need to be made by key industry sectors and by finance and investment institutions? - How can we create better performing industries and supply chains for a just transition to more sustainable economies? which sectors are most critical? - How can we safeguard the rights of people and nature, including among others, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental defenders, women, youth, future generations? (LD 1) - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
<p>LD 3: What we do and what is to be done for enhancing environmental dimension of sustainable development</p>	
<p>Session 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the biggest challenges we are facing in implementing the commitments to the 2030 Agenda and other environmental commitments (MEAs)? How do we create an enabling environment for delivery on the ground? - How to transform governance and legal systems that maintain long-term economic stability and ecological and social wellbeing for all? - When we speak about the economic stability, we cannot avoid the topic of the COVID pandemic. What recovery and pre-existing practices need to be changed to ensure an inclusive and sustainable recovery? (LD 2) - What type of partnerships from the UN and beyond are needed to accelerate a green and sustainable economic transformation that leaves no one behind? - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?
<p>Session 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the good practices and pathways that you would like to see scaled up to accelerate the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context, of the Decade of Action? - What measures are needed to align public, private and development finance with existing commitments and priorities? - What capacities and technologies are needed to improve human wellbeing in harmony with nature? - How could vulnerable groups benefit from policies and initiatives designed to restore a more sustainable and resilient relationship with nature (that mitigates nature risks)? - What kind of follow-up activities would you like to see from Stockholm+50?