

High-Level Political Forum 2024

United Nations HQ, 8 ±18 July 2024, New York, United States of America

Key messages

- x HLPF 2024 needs to be a moment to follow up on the commitment from the 2023 SDG Summit to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources. The declaration should make a strong case for urgent action on the triple planetary crisis through a rights-based approach.
- x The declaration should focus on synergies between the SDGs and prioritize policies and investments that have multiplier effects across the Sustainable Development Goals. While some of the interlinkages between SDGs are synergistic, others involve significant trade-offs. For example, a business-as-usual approach to addressing SDG 2 on zero hunger could contribute to competition over land, soil degradation and water pollution.
- x SDG 2 will not be achieved without a transformation of our global food system towards more sustainable forms of consumption and production. Investing in sustaina(/F3 11.04 Tf 1 0 0 1 201.17 388.63 Tm

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can remove around 10 GtCO_{2e} per year while also providing a range of adaptation and other economic, social and environmental benefits (Girardin et al., 2021; UNEP and IUCN, 2021). Successfully addressing the triple planetary crisis will require strong, effective and inclusive institutions (SDG 16), as well as sufficient means of implementation and suitable partnerships (SDG 17) across all levels.

In the lead-up to the SDG summit in September 2023, IUCN published the report "[Seven years to save nature and people: a proposed set of policies and actions for the SDG Summit](#)". Building on the key messages in this report, IUCN would like to present the following concrete proposals for inclusion in the Ministerial Declaration text:

The chapeau should emphasize the need to prioritize policies and investments that have multiplier effects across the Sustainable Development Goals. This includes a direct mention to actions geared to safeguard areas of importance to biodiversity, covering at least 30% of global terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems; protect, restore, and promote healthy freshwater systems and habitats; implement Nature-based Solutions for climate change mitigation, resilience and disaster risk reduction; ensure gender equality as a human right, and ensuring the full recognition of indigenous peoples' rights.

On SDG 2, ambitious and forward-looking language should be added on transforming food systems, implementing Nature-based Solutions in agriculture, and investing in soil and land health to support multifunctional, nature-positive and sustainable agrifood landscapes and systems. Specifically, we would suggest language that urges countries to prioritize soil and landscape biodiversity for food and nature, mainstream sustainable agricultural approaches and practices, develop payment schemes for ecosystem services to incentivize sustainable