

From: <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/un-calls-for-inputs-to-inform-gsdr-2027/>

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has launched an open call for stakeholder inputs to support the work of the Independent Group of Scientists drafting the 2027 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR). The deadline for submitting inputs is 31 March 2026.

The purpose of gathering stakeholder inputs is to:

- Understand stakeholder expectations for the 2027 GSDR, including what characteristics would make the report most relevant and useful;
- Gather examples of good practices and lessons learned in SDG implementation from practitioners working to strengthen science-policy-society interfaces at all levels, including what works at the local level and where the gaps are; and
- Identify additional peer-reviewed assessments to complement the Independent Group of Scientists' own research.

Issued every four years, the GSDR aims to strengthen the science-policy interface at the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), which convenes under the auspices of the UN General Assembly (UNGA), also known as the SDG Summit.

The GSDR:

- Is an assessment-of-assessments, which brings together dispersed information and assessments to provide information on policy-relevant issues in the field of sustainable development.
- Is complementary to other assessments and substantive reports by the UN system and other institutions.
- Draws upon contributions from a wide range of global experts and stakeholders, bringing together diverse perspectives and disciplines;
- Is global in coverage, also taking into account the perspectives of the five UN regions; and
- Draws on extensive inputs from within the UN system, as well as from external experts, including scientists, government officials, and stakeholders at all levels, including representatives of academies of sciences and relevant expert groups.

According to the [Open Call for Stakeholder Inputs](#), the 2027 report will provide “actionable and evidence-based recommendations for governments and other stakeholders to drive integrated action across social, environmental and economic dimensions in the last three years to 2030 and beyond.”

SECTION 1 - Understanding Stakeholder Expectations

The 2027 GSDR is expected to inform the SDG Summit in 2027 by providing scientific evidence on the state of sustainable development globally and ways to accelerate progress and address emerging challenges. The Report aims to offer actionable and evidence-based recommendations for governments and other stakeholders to drive integrated action across social, environmental and economic dimensions in the last three years to 2030 and beyond. This section is designed to understand stakeholders' expectations for the 2027GSDR.

1 - Please identify the top three priority issues where stronger scientific synthesis and policy-relevant guidance in the 2027GSDR are most needed to support integrated SDG implementation. (Open-ended, Maximum 150 characters per response, max 3 answers per submission.)

- A. Scalable Heart Rate Variability Coherence training as a foundational social-emotional skill and primary building block for SDG progress
- B. Promote and improve access to mental health services and psychosocial support in an inclusive manner
- C. Evidence-based physiological coherence emotional self-regulation techniques as a Public Health intervention for non-communicable diseases

2 - What type of guidance do you wish to see in the 2027 GSDR about how countries can advance sustainable development by 2030 and beyond? (Open-ended, maximum 500 characters)

To embed evidence-based physiological coherence-building and emotional self-regulation into education, governance, climate action, and public health systems, transforming how we respond, relate, and lead. This low-cost, high-impact population-scale intervention has been shown to empower sustainable development by reducing stress, implicit bias and prejudice while increasing resilience, improving impulse control, and enhancing innovative, sustainable, and ethical decision-making.

3- If you are asked to name one thing that the 2027 GSDR could do to strengthen the effectiveness and usability of the report, what would that be? (Maximum 500 characters)

The report would be more effective and usable if the opening chapter included evidence-based skills and tools to empower all stakeholders and increase their effectiveness as solution seekers, voices of change, collaborators, and implementers, followed by narratives of specific interventions or solutions for each SDG. The set of tools The Fyera Foundation finds most effective for this purpose is produced by a scientific research nonprofit called HeartMath Institute.

SECTION 2 - Identify evidence-based good practices and lessons learned from SDG implementation to inform the GSDR

This section aims to identify concrete examples of integrated SDG implementation including policy tools, institutional arrangements, or implementation strategies that link social, environmental and economic objectives. The IGS are especially seeking cases from experience where integrated approaches have delivered results, addressed barriers, or produced useful lessons for policymakers, particularly welcoming inputs from low-resource settings, countries in special situations, as well as grassroots organizations.

4- Based on your experience, what is the main challenge that needs to be addressed to strengthen integrated approaches to SDG implementation? (Open-ended, Maximum 500 characters per submission)

Chronic stress and survival physiology limit our cognitive abilities, impair communication, and hinder collaboration. This erosion of mental resources affects our problem-solving skills and reduces empathy, resulting in misunderstandings and a lack of support for marginalized communities. Ultimately, stress stifles our capacity for innovative, inclusive solutions that benefit everyone. Addressing these issues is crucial for strengthening integrated approaches to SDGs.

5- Please share a good practice/case study/policy tool from your work illustrating integrated implementation of the SDGs. (Maximum one per submission)

- Short summary about the good practice/case study/policy tool (500 characters max)
At the 2023 G20, our policy recommendation to integrate social-emotional learning for all education and employment was ratified. Case study: In Tashinga, Zimbabwe, 2,800 villagers lacked access to clean water, affecting their health, mental health, education, food security, and the local economy. Through coherence-building skills, the community created solutions and partnerships. In 2024, they achieved a sustainable water source with all its benefits and sustainable community engagement.
- Partners involved (500 characters max)
Tashinga school and city leaders, drilling company, The Fyera Foundation, Rosshirt Water for Africa Foundation, Heart Ambassadors, HeartMath. There are currently unfolding partnerships with the Ministers of Health, Harvard's Mental Health for All project, the Harvard Human Flourishing Program, Johns Hopkins, Kaiser Permanente, the World Health Innovation Summit, and others, exploring the implementation of this policy with us as nationwide public health interventions.
- Short summary of barriers faced and how they were overcome (800 characters max)

Tashinga's extreme isolation, lack of infrastructure, and repeated failed drilling attempts—including six by external partners—created deep discouragement and resource strain. Flooded roads, immobilized trucks, and dry boreholes reinforced a cycle of setbacks. The turning point came when regional teams introduced skills in physiological coherence and heart intelligence, shifting mindsets from frustration to possibility. They engineered a pump from a lower water source up to the high elevation of the village to achieve success. The greatest success of all was the community coming together, empowered as problem solvers in harmonious collaboration, which has led to solving other problems, such as sustainable farming and food security.

- SDG result/impact achieved (500 characters max) SDG 6, 10, 17.
Empowered to lead their own solutions, the Tashinga community repaired roads and partnered with technical experts to identify a productive well beyond traditional sites. A solar-powered system now provides clean water to 2,800 people. The local school launched a garden program, improving student nutrition and generating income to sustain well maintenance as equal partners with us — advancing clean water, reducing inequalities, and strong partnerships (SDGs 6, 10, 17).
- Relevant link: <https://www.fyera.org/water-projects/>

SECTION 3 - References to Peer-Reviewed Materials to Further Strengthen 2027 GSDR's Scientific Base (Optional, Targeting Scientists and Researchers)

Considering the "assessment-of-assessments" nature of the GSDR, this section is designed for scientists and researchers to share scientific references that are relevant to the GSDR themes to complement the IGS' own research and strengthen the scientific base of the 2027GSDR. In providing the scientific references, please follow the UN Style Guide: <https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/editorial-manual/footnotes/chap-04#H>

6 - If and only if you are a scientist or a researcher, please share scientific references to recent peer-reviewed assessments, systematic reviews/meta-analyses, and major scientific syntheses relevant to the priority issues you have identified in Question 1 above. Please provide hyperlinks if available.

[The effects of emotions on short-term power spectrum analysis of heart rate variability - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/7484873/) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/7484873/>

[Coherence: a novel nonpharmacological modality for lowering blood pressure in hypertensive patients - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24278819/) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24278819/>

[A controlled pilot study of stress management training of elderly patients with congestive heart failure - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12417824/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12417824/

[A 6-Week Worksite Positivity Program Leads to Greater Life Satisfaction, Decreased Inflammation, and a Greater Number of Employees With A1C Levels in Range - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30614897/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30614897/

[Neurophysiological Approach by Self-Control of Your Stress-Related Autonomic Nervous System with Depression, Stress and Anxiety Patients - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33804817/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33804817/

[Intrinsic Cardiac Neurons - ARMOUR - 1991 - Journal of Cardiovascular Electrophysiology - Wiley Online Library](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1540-8167.1991.tb01330.x) https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1540-8167.1991.tb01330.x

[Physiology of the Intrinsic Cardiac Nervous System - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21277999/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21277999/

[Effectiveness of a Nurse-Led HeartMath Training Program on Resilience, Emotional Adjustment, and Treatment Motivation Among Patients With Substance Use Disorder: A Randomized Control Trial - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40708166/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40708166/

[Does Heart Rate Variability Biofeedback Enhance Executive Functions Across the Lifespan? A Systematic Review - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35299845/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35299845/

[Modulating heart rate oscillation affects plasma amyloid beta and tau levels in younger and older adults - PubMed](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36894565/) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36894565/