

# Newsletter July 2026

## ESDN Newsletter July 2026

This is ESDN Newsletter July 2026. The newsletter includes news from the ESDN network and the European Sustainable Development Organizations. Follow what your peers are doing across the Europe or find interesting events and useful reports.

Hope you enjoy the read!

[ESDN website](https://esdn.eu)

## ESDN News

ESDN Events since January 2026

## 2<sup>nd</sup> ESDN Young Civil Servants Workshop

The ESDN's 2<sup>nd</sup> Young Civil Servants Workshop took place in Luxembourg on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2026. The title of the workshop was **“Bringing Sustainable Development and the SDGs further in Public Administrations: Empowering Young Civil Servants”**. The Workshop was organized in cooperation with the Luxembourgish Ministry for the Environment, Climate, and Biodiversity.

With this Workshop, we brought together inspiring examples of governments continuing to take actions for sustainability and the SDGs, and pair that with concrete examples of young civil servants affecting change and impact within their government. We had an intense two days of keynotes, panel discussions and exchange spaces, which brought together around 35 civil servants from 12 European countries.

### [Agenda](#)



## 11<sup>th</sup> Peer Learning Platform and Visit

The 11<sup>th</sup> ESDN Peer Learning Platform and Visit was organized in Brussels on 22-23 April. **In this Peer Learning Platform, we began to work on formulating a joint narrative on sustainable development going into the future.** To facilitate our thoughts and planning about the future, we conducted a short workshop within the Platform on foresight and how we think about the future as it relates to sustainable development.

We had engaging keynotes and discussions as we collectively talked about sustainable development in Europe over the next years and beyond 2030. We had keynotes and an idea generating exercise with the JRC, as well as good practice examples from European countries updating their sustainable development strategies and action plans that are looking towards the future beyond 2030.

### [Agenda](#)



## ESDN Vienna Workshop

The ESDN Workshop took place in Vienna on 28-29 May. The title of the workshop was “**Building a Resilient Europe: Sustainable Development and Culture in focus**”. It was organized by the ESDN in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management and the Austrian Federal Chancellery.

This workshop delved into how cultural diversity, innovative sustainability practices, and robust democratic institutions can fortify Europe’s ability to navigate crises and foster long-term stability and security. By exploring the interplay between culture, environmental stewardship, social cohesion, and security, we aimed to identify actionable strategies that empower communities, strengthen governance, and build a more resilient and united Europe.

### [Agenda](#)



## 5<sup>th</sup> ESDN Topic Exchange

The 5<sup>th</sup> ESDN Topic Exchange is an exclusive event only open to ESDN Regular Members (those countries which support the ESDN). **This Topic Exchange took place on 22nd June.** The topic of this Topic Exchange was on Voluntary National Reviews from some European countries presenting at this year’s HLPF.

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## Upcoming ESDN events

### Youth Workshop 2026

The ESDN Youth Workshop 2026 will take place on 12-15 August in Vienna. The application process has ended, but we encourage UN Youth Delegates who are not yet part of the ESDN Youth Network to contact our [ESDN Youth Support Team](#) for more information on how to join the Network.

This year’s **theme will be EU’s Resilience 2.0** and the following topics will be considered:

- Supporting sustainable and inclusive well-being (social welfare, health)
- Strengthening democracy as a common good (incl. preventing disinformation)
- Developing a coherent global vision for the EU
- Strengthen long-term economic resilience
- Reimagining education

## European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW)

The ESDW 2026 will take place from 18 September - 08 October. The goal of the ESDW is to provide a platform and make exemplary commitment visible throughout all of Europe. Anyone who wants to take a concrete action to support the implementation of the [17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) of the United Nations, including foundations, schools, kindergartens, universities, churches, companies, social institutions, environmental and development associations, municipalities, public utilities, authorities, offices and ministries, but also private persons who would like to start an action in their personal environment can register their SDG-related events.

[Register your event](#)



## 6<sup>th</sup> ESDN Topic Exchange

The second Topic Exchange of 2026 is set to take place in **November/December**. The goal is to generate impulses in the Topic Exchange between the ESDN Regular Members and present heightened results at the ESDN conference and gain more feedback and experiences from other countries. More information will be available soon on the [ESDN website](#).

## ESDN Conference 2026

The ESDN Conference 2026 will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October in Dublin. The conference will be organized with the ESDN in cooperation with the Irish Council Presidency and the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, under the title “Environmental Security in Europe: Building the Foundations of Long-Term Resilience”.

More information will be available soon on the [ESDN website](#).

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## ESDN publications

## ESDN Youth Network Policy Note: “Security and Youth Involvement in Policy Making: Post-2030 Agenda”

The ESDN Youth Network Policy Note “**Security and Youth Involvement in Policy Making: Post-2030 Agenda**” was published in March this year. It was written collaboratively by the participants of the ESDN Youth Workshop in Berlin on 12-14 October 2025. The workshop and the writing process for the Policy Note invited youth to reflect on what sustainability and security mean for their future — and to transform personal insights into collective contributions for the post-2030 discussion.

**The Policy Note addresses core issues beyond 2030 and provides policy recommendations on them.** Identified core issues are related to 1) geopolitical security, 2) environmental security, 3) society and security - economic, health, and education, as well as 4) youth involvement in policy making.

[Policy note](#)

## ESDN Policy Note: “Post-2030 Agenda: 10 Years of SDG Implementation and Ideas for a Future Agenda”

The ESDN Policy Note “**Post-2030 Agenda: 10 Years of SDG Implementation and Ideas for a Future Agenda**” was published in February this year. It is the result of the ESDN Conference 2025, which took place in Copenhagen, Denmark on 25-26 November 2025 during the time of the Danish EU Presidency (second half of 2025). Over 90 participants from all over Europe attended the conference, representing various stakeholder groups, like policymakers, research, civil society organizations, youth, international organizations, and business.

**The Policy Note highlights the following recommendations:**

1. Intensify SDG implementation efforts until 2030
2. Reform the governance framework for the post-2030 period
3. Increase civil society and youth involvement in current and future SDG implementation efforts
4. Strengthen sub-national activities and multi-level policy coordination
5. Develop new and innovative ideas to measure socio-economic progress

[Policy note](#)

## ESDN Policy Note: “Europe’s Narrative for a Sustainable Future: Foresight and Governance Processes Enabling Robust Sustainable Development Beyond 2030”

The ESDN Policy Note “**Europe’s Narrative for a Sustainable Future: Foresight and Governance Processes Enabling Robust Sustainable Development Beyond 2030**” was published in June this year. Over 50 participants from all over Europe attended the 11th ESDN Peer Learning Platform in Brussels on 22–23 April 2026, representing important stakeholder groups, like policymakers, research, civil society organizations, youth as well as European and international organizations.

**To support transformative actions for current and future sustainability policies, 4 recommendations were made by the participants**, and will be further elaborated on the Policy Note:

1. Continue implementing the SDGs & advancing sustainable development through and beyond 2030
2. Advance approaches towards strategic sustainability policy planning at the national level
3. Develop support frameworks to address systemic transformations
4. Foster anticipatory thinking and scenario planning for sustainable development.

[Policy note](#)

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## News From European Countries

### Austria

## Narrating the Future - Making Transformation Visible: Targeted Communication for Sustainable Development by 2030 and Beyond

The Ban Ki-moon Foundation and the Federal Chancellery of Austria hosted the SDG communication workshop “Narrating the Future – Making Transformation Visible” on February 25th, 2026, in Vienna. Around 60 participants from media, politics, government, academia, youth organizations, civil society, and the business sector discussed new approaches to credible and effective sustainability communication. A fishbowl on “From the Bubble to Mainstream: Communicating the SDGs in an Accessible Way” was followed by breakout sessions on corporate, science, social media and global responsibility communication. One of the main takeaways was that successful sustainability communication depends significantly on the underlying attitude – that is, on the extent to which values, beliefs, and actions align. Only when this alignment exists will sustainability communication be perceived as credible and be able to have an impact. Sustainability must be communicated as a topic closely linked to everyday life: tangible, relevant, and relatable.

### [Results report](#)



## Kick-off for the Austrian Multi-Stakeholder-Mechanism

**Austria is committed to a multi-stakeholder approach in implementing the 2030 Agenda.** This approach proved effective during the preparation of Austria's first VNR and was systematically expanded during the development of its second VNR. The newly established Multi-Stakeholder-Mechanism **is intended to strengthen this approach and ensure a systematic exchange with stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the SDGs in the remaining years until 2030.** The group of invitees includes Austrian social partners and interest groups, representatives from academia and civil society organizations.

**The aim of the exchange is to meet once a year to discuss current challenges and practical concerns regarding SDG implementation in and through Austria and to identify implementation options.** The outcome document will be addressed in the interministerial working group on the 2030 Agenda and published on the Federal Chancellery's SDG-website. A kick-off meeting took place on May 21. The first working session will be held towards the end of the year.

## The Austrian Sustainability Award

**The Austrian Sustainability Award is a joint initiative of the Federal Ministry of Climate and Environmental Protection and the Federal Ministry of Science** and was established in 2007 as a means of promoting and increasing awareness for sustainability processes within Austrian higher education institutions. As centers of innovation and educational institutions, they play an important role in implementing the SDGs.

**At the awards ceremony on June 9, 2026, in Vienna**, hosted by Minister of Science and Minister of the Environment, **four outstanding projects were awarded gold and eight projects were awarded silver in four different categories** (Learning, Researching, Cooperating, Anchoring). An independent jury assessed the projects submitted and selected the nominees. The evaluation criteria included creativity, innovation and exemplary character of the submitted projects. In addition, their transformative impact was evaluated, taking into account whether the project extends beyond the institution and at what level the impact is achieved.

### More info



## Belgium

## VVSG Invites Flemish Municipalities to Join Sustainable Municipality Week

**From 18 to 25 September 2026, VVSG invites Flemish municipalities to join Sustainable Municipality Week.** Under the theme “We create a sustainable world together”, local governments will fly the SDG flag, spotlight local Sustainability Heroes (specifically heroes who bring SDG 17 to life) and collect citizens’ wishes for a fair, green and resilient 2030. A well-known Belgian cartoonist will act as campaign ambassador, turning residents’ wishes for 2030 into playful paintings.

## Website

## Local Heroes for Global Goals

## Week of the Sustainable Municipalities



## Save-the-date: SDG-Forum 2026

On Tuesday 13 October, the Belgian Federal Institute for Sustainable Development (FISD) looks forward to welcoming you to the SDG-Forum in Brussels (Flagey). This event promises a day full of inspiration, featuring a series of meetings and talks bringing together people who share ambitious initiatives in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDG-Forum is organized by the FISD in collaboration with more than 20 partner organizations from all sectors of sustainable development. As the largest multi-stakeholder forum dedicated to the SDGs in the Benelux region (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg), it is aimed at a wide range of sectors and addresses a variety of topics. Policymakers, business leaders, NGO representatives, academics and students come together to share experiences, inspire one another and explore solutions. Its motto is 'from, for and by everyone'.

Participants can take part in a varied program including plenary sessions, engaging workshops and lively panel discussions. Find further details on the programme, and speakers will be shared soon.

[Save the date](#)



## Toolbox Business & Human Rights: Equipping Companies for Responsible Entrepreneurship

A new version of the [Business and Human Rights toolbox](#) has just been released! At the initiative of the Federal Institute for Sustainable Development (FISD) and with the support of the Council of Europe, the toolbox has been simplified, updated and redesigned.

**It has a clear objective:** to improve support for Belgian companies or those operating in Belgium who are keen to anchor respect for human rights in their business. Enriched with a directory of existing remedy mechanisms in Belgium and a wide range of tools, the toolbox also encourages companies to assess their knowledge and level of maturity. Another element that makes the toolbox even more attractive is the option to test your knowledge and check whether your company's practices are in line with respect for human rights.

[Toolbox](#) [One pager](#)



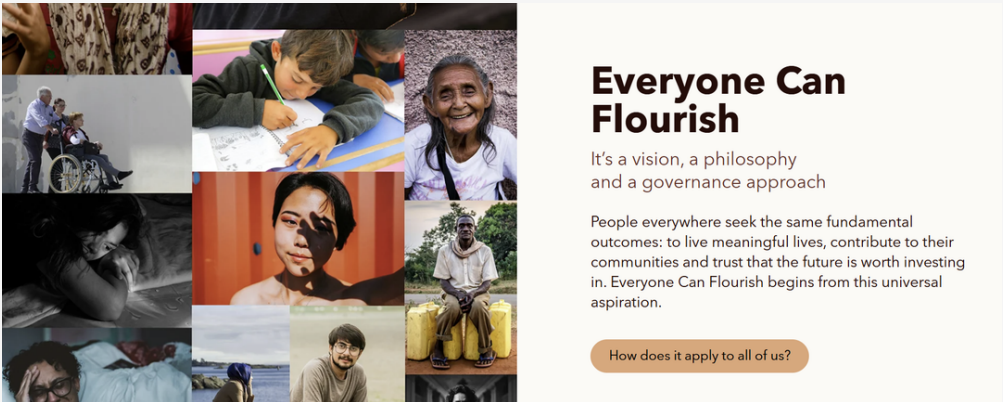
# Åland – Website Launch of the International Everyone Can Flourish Project

The international **Everyone Can Flourish** project has launched a website. The platform presents an emerging platform for societal transformation that integrates inner and outer dimensions of sustainable development — linking human well-being, cultural values, systems change, and planetary boundaries.

Rooted in experiences from the Åland Islands and inspired by global research and diverse wisdom traditions, the project aims to support dialogue, collaboration, and practical pathways toward a flourishing age.

Everyone Can Flourish is closely aligned with the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda and seeks to complement the SDGs by strengthening the cultural, ethical, and human foundations needed for long-term transformation.

## [Website](#)



## Report: Current State of Sustainable Development in Liberal Adult Education Institutions

The Finnish National Agency for Education conducted a study, commissioned by the Ministry of Education and Culture, to assess the state of sustainable development within liberal adult education institutions. A total of 263 institutions—accounting for 92% of the sector—responded to a survey examining how different dimensions of sustainability are reflected in their operations, teaching, and everyday practices. The findings show that these institutions are highly motivated to promote sustainable development and view it as beneficial, particularly in strengthening values, improving educational quality, fostering basic civic skills, enhancing participation, and advancing equality.

The report highlights that institutions address sustainability in a broad and multifaceted way, covering environmental, social, cultural, and economic-administrative aspects. Despite these positive developments, there is still considerable room for improvement in adopting a more comprehensive and systematic approach to sustainability. Institutions are encouraged to further develop practices such as measuring carbon and biodiversity footprints, increasing positive climate impacts, strengthening social responsibility, and ensuring responsible supply chains.

[Full report](#)



## Germany

### RNE Annual Conference

On September 29th, RNE organizes its 25th Annual Conference. At the same time, it is the opportunity for retrospective, but more importantly for looking ahead towards the building blocks of a sustainable future. (Only in German)

[More info](#)



## German Sustainability Action Days

It's that time of the year again! Once again, all initiatives, organizations, and individuals are invited to show how the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be put into practice in everyday life with creativity and drive—whether locally, within the community, or across Germany. **The German Sustainability Action Days will take place from September 18 to October 8, 2026.** Starting in June, actions can be registered with the Sustainability Partnership. [Deutsche Aktionstage Nachhaltigkeit](#) - [Rat für Nachhaltige Entwicklung](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#).



## Italy

### ASviS – Making Sustainability Work Visible

In February, ASviS brought sustainability to the heart of Italy's most-watched music event: **the Sanremo Music Festival**. ASviS created, throughout the Festival week, the **People & Planet Lab**, an open space, hosting talks, podcasts, live radio broadcasts, and meetings with experts, artists, and leading figures from the cultural sector. The initiative aimed to present the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development **through an accessible language** that resonated with the Festival's audience. The programme reached over 300 thousand people with the livestreams of events.

As usual, **in May the Sustainable Development Festival took place, marking a double anniversary for ASviS**: the Festival's tenth edition and ASviS's tenth anniversary. The 25 events organized by ASviS were held across several Italian cities and, for the first time, also in Brussels, focusing on civil society in the EU. These events addressed some of the key challenges of the ecological and social transition, each from a different perspective. The live streamed broadcasts reached 4 million people, while the TV spot of the Festival accrued over 51 million gross impressions on the RAI networks. In addition, as many as 1200 events were organized throughout Italy by civil society organizations, schools, cultural institutions, and many other actors committed to sustainable development.

Talks, public discussions, and events were enriched by the participation of artists and science communicators who transformed data and ideas into emotion and engagement. Once again, the Festival proved to be a space capable of bringing together science, politics, economics, culture, communities, and citizens.



## Latvia

## The Updated Sustainability Bond Framework

**The Sustainability Bond Framework was updated in May 2026 by an inter-ministerial working group representing several ministries and chaired by the Ministry of Finance.** Latvia's second sustainability bond, reinforces Latvia's commitment to environmental and social priorities while further diversifying investor base through labelled issuances.

The updated Framework has been reviewed by second party opinion provider Sustainable Fitch, which considers it to be fully aligned with the International Capital Markets Association (ICMA) 2025 Green Bond Principles, 2025 Social Bond principles and 2021 Sustainability Bond Guidelines, and assigned to the framework an excellent alignment.

An amount equal to the net proceeds from the second Sustainability bond issue of 1 billion EUR is intended to be allocated for the refinancing and financing of eligible expenditure falling within the categories, as described in the updated Sustainability Bond Framework, including, among others, clean transportation, climate change adaptation under the green category and access to essential services and affordable basic infrastructure under the social category.

BNP PARIBAS and Cr dit Agricole CIB acted as Joint ESG Structurers for the update of the Framework and Joint Lead Managers for the transaction.

[Full bond](#)



## Romania

## The Revision of the Romania's Sustainable Development Strategy 2030

Romania has advanced an important step in the revision of the Romania's Sustainable Development Strategy 2030, through a structured process of consultation and strategic analysis coordinated by the [Department of Sustainable Development](#) | Government of Romania, with the support of the [Network of Hubs for Sustainable Development](#).

The process was launched on November 19, 2025, during the meeting of the Network of Hubs for Sustainable Development organized at the Government headquarters. A key component of the first step was the organization of the focus group sessions with 19 Hubs. The aim was to identify 10 to 15 sectoral priorities for each sectoral area, related to the SDGs, existing sectoral strategies and the main vulnerabilities that may delay Romania's progress up to 2030 and beyond.

By early April 2026, 19 focus group sessions had been organized, with the participation of 143 members of the Hubs, including Experts of Sustainable Development and specialists in strategic planning, budgeting, data collection and indicator reporting.

The next step will focus on defining the Romanian's Priorities for Sustainable Development in multidisciplinary working groups, as well as reviewing the targets associated with each SDG and reformulating them according to SMART criteria. **The revised Strategy is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.**

### [Current strategy](#)



## Slovenia

## GreenComp – The European Sustainability Competence Framework as a Basis for the Revision of Education in Slovenia

**Education for sustainable development (ESD) and sustainability competences are required, explicitly or implicitly, for achieving several goals of the [Slovenian Development Strategy 2030](#) (SDS 2030).** The document titled “Conceptualization of ESD with a Focus on Climate Change” defines the concept of ESD and introduces [GreenComp, the European sustainability competence framework](#), which the National Education Institute has also translated into Slovenian.

At the end of 2025, ZRSŠ successfully completed Phase I of the project regarding the revision of educational programs, which involved a comprehensive revision of curriculum documents for preschools, elementary schools, high schools, and vocational and professional education. The basis for setting common sustainable development goals was the GreenComp competence framework which consists of 12 competences organized into the four areas: embodying sustainability values, embracing complexity in sustainability, envisioning sustainable futures, and acting for sustainability.

**GreenComp is also systematically incorporated into vocational and professional education programs;** in adult education, non-formal educational programs are being developed for each competency group, it is incorporated into the framework for the Reform of Higher Education and into teacher training (planned and already underway), and in 25 CŠODs across Slovenia, content has been developed for years that enables students to have direct contact with nature, the community, a healthy lifestyle, and responsible environmental stewardship.

Furthermore, the process of introducing several key concepts and findings from the knowledge base of the European Environment Agency (EEA) for the development ESD and the GreenComp competences has already started with the document “Conceptualization of ESD with a Focus on Climate Change” and its appendix (Piciga, 2023) and was reinforced with recent events (e.g., conference Knowledge for a Sustainable Present and Future, on the occasion of World Environment Day 2026).

## Spain

## Catalonia – Beyond the 2030 Agenda: The Catalonia 2030 Alliance Launches a Collective Reflection

On June 5, the [Catalonia 2030 Alliance](#) —coordinated by the [Advisory Council for Sustainable Development of Catalonia \(CADS\)](#) — convened its nearly 100 member organizations to launch a collective reflection on the future beyond the 2030 Agenda. Taking place at a time of global uncertainty — marked by geopolitical tensions, challenges to the multilateralism, and limited progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—the session aimed to gather diverse perspectives from government, local authorities, and civil society on the ambitions, priorities, and added value of a future post-2030 framework.

Through participatory working groups, members assessed both the achievements and shortcomings of the current Agenda 2030 and developed proposals to strengthen a future agenda, including improved governance, financing, and broader stakeholder engagement. The session also explored how to accelerate SDG implementation in the 2026–2030 period, particularly through stronger localization and institutional and social mobilization. These contributions will feed into a collective position paper to be shared with the Government of Catalonia and international networks, helping shape Catalonia's voice in global discussions on the post-2030 agenda.



## Horizon 2030: a Country Built from the Common Good - Innovative Communities with Sustainable Energy

On 27 May, the working event “Horizon 2030: a country built from the common good. Innovative communities with sustainable energy” was held at the Ateneo de Madrid and the headquarters of the Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and the 2030 Agenda in Madrid. The event brought together representatives from public administrations, academia, civil society and international organizations to reflect on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Spain and the future of sustainable development beyond 2030.

The event was opened by Pablo Bustinduy, Minister of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and the 2030 Agenda, and included a video intervention by Lisa Kurbiel, Head of the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat. A dialogue session on the role of territories in building innovative and sustainable communities featured contributions from Begoña Alfaro, Third Vice-President and Regional Minister for Housing of the Government of Navarre; Eva García Chueca, Head of Foresight and Strategy at the Barcelona Metropolitan Area; and Juan Ortiz, Director General of ECODES. The closing session included Joan Groizard, Secretary of State for Energy, and Rosa Martínez, Secretary of State for Social Rights.

The working sessions focused on three thematic areas: policy coherence for sustainable development, reflections on the post-2030 agenda, and the territorial implementation of SDGs under review in 2026 (SDGs 6, 7, 9 and 11). Participants exchanged experiences and discussed challenges related to sustainable communities, energy transition, territorial cohesion, innovation and governance for sustainable development.

## The Revised 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy

**The National Strategy in Sustainable Development of Spain has been revised and published in English.** The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals are today the most ambitious framework available to the international community to guide social, economic and environmental development. Spain was one of the first countries to set up a specific ministry to promote compliance. Since 2018, Spain has submitted three Voluntary National Reviews to the United Nations, and is also the first country in the European Union to do so for the third time. It is a sign of commitment, transparency and accountability.

The Strategy now enters a new phase. The revised version incorporates contributions from Autonomous Communities, local authorities, social organizations and economic agents, as collected in the latest Voluntary National Review. By doing so, Spain has consolidated a model of participatory governance around the 2030 Agenda, in which institutions and citizens work together to respond to the challenges of the present.

[Full strategy](#)



## Agenda 2030 in Spain – Initiatives that Promote Development and Sustainability in the Region

**In Spain, local authorities, social organizations and universities are amplifying the impact of the 2030 Agenda through the implementation of innovative projects funded by the Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and the 2030 Agenda.** From the 17 universal goals of the 2030 Agenda and the country's sustainable development challenges, their innovative actions build common well-being at the limits of the planet. Their promotion through local action multiplies advanced and integrated rights, as all SDGs are interlinked.

The report identifies four specific challenges and one cross-cutting challenge, and uses this framework to highlight localized efforts to implement the SDGs.

[Full report](#)



# Switzerland

## Mixed Interim Results: Switzerland's Fourth Country Report on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

On 13 May 2026, the Federal Council adopted Switzerland's fourth country report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The report and its [statistical annex](#), which will be presented to the UN in July 2026, show progress, identify gaps and also highlight Switzerland's cross-border 'spillover effects'.

Progress has been made in individual areas, particularly in renewable energies, the circular economy and gender equality. At the same time, key challenges remain. In some cases, relative progress is put into perspective by absolute growth, e.g. rising waste volumes despite high recycling rates. There is still a considerable need for action in areas such as sustainable consumption, climate and biodiversity.

### [Country report](#)



## Publication: Poverty in Switzerland: Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of Sustainable Development

The last Forum Sustainable Development held in Bern on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May. The Forum covered the theme of “Poverty in Switzerland” and around 180 participants discussed how to reduce poverty as set out in the Swiss 2030 Agenda. The reduction of poverty in Switzerland is defined as a goal in the 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy (2030 SDS). In November 2025, the Federal Social Insurance Office (FSIO) published the first monitoring report on poverty in Switzerland. For these and other reasons, the Forum Sustainable Development has taken up the topic. The report summarizes the key findings of the conference.

### [Publication](#)



# News from European Sustainable Development Organizations

# European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils Network (EEAC)

## Conference: Living within Planetary Boundaries: Facing Facts, Rethinking Strategies, Building Bridges - 6 October 2026, in Berlin (and online)

Decision makers, researchers, and civil society at large need to seriously **face scientific facts about ecological limits**. Current pathways of production and consumption are causing dangerous climatic and environmental change. **Equally challenging realities are unfolding in economy and society**. Rising populism is undermining democratic institutions, resistance against sustainability transformations is growing, and social cohesion appears to erode. Ambitions in the implementation of sustainability are declining at multiple levels, including the European Green Deal. These dynamics are reinforced by economic crises, which fuel calls for a stringent focus on economic growth and resource exploitation. International cooperation and the multilateralism are weakening, while national institutions prioritize security and deregulation.

At this conference, we aim to explore how **leading European thinkers** reflect on these predicaments and on strategies to address them. We will also discuss how actors in government, research, and civil society can continue to work towards more sustainable futures while acknowledging the current challenges.

The conference is organized jointly by three organizations mandated to produce policy advice: the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils Network (EEAC), the Germany Environment Agency (UBA) and the German Advisory Council on the Environment (SRU).

[More info](#)

## Joint Research Center

### Tool: A Regional Resilience Dashboard for the EU

**Earlier this year, the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission has launched the [Regional Resilience Dashboard \(RRDB\)](#)**, a pioneering tool designed to assess and visualize the resilience of EU regions at the NUTS2 level. Building on the methodology of the Commission's Resilience Dashboards, the RRDB highlights substantial differences in capacities and vulnerabilities among regions within each country.

A regional resilience dashboard is a powerful tool to visualize and assess each European region's capabilities and vulnerabilities and guide policymakers. Modelled after the Commission's Resilience Dashboards, the Regional Resilience Dashboard indicates significant disparities of capacities and vulnerabilities among regions within each country.

[Dashboard](#)

## Nordregio

## Report: Nordic Sustainability Development Report 2025

**The Nordic Sustainable Development Report 2025 assesses how the Nordic countries advance the SDGs at home and through global impacts.**

The Nordic countries rank high when it comes to implementing the SDGs, but progress has halted in the last five years. The Nordic countries are lagging behind on SDGs related to responsible consumption and the environment.

The report stresses the need for, among other measures, stronger science-policy interfaces and policy innovation.

Learn more about Nordregio's ongoing [research on the global development goals in the Nordics](#).

[Full report](#)



## Policy Brief: Stepping Up or Stepping Back? – Nordic Local and Regional Views on the 2030 Agenda and Beyond

**This policy brief presents perspectives from Nordic local and regional sustainability experts and youth representatives on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.** It examines what is working, where gaps remain and what actions are needed to accelerate progress.

The policy brief also outlines Nordic local and regional priorities and expectations for the global sustainability framework beyond 2030. The aim is to ensure that knowledge and experiences on the local level are reflected in future global development work, enabling more effective support for those driving sustainability on the ground.

[Policy brief](#)

# UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

## Launch of the Sustainable Development Report 2026: Progress, Priorities, and the Pathway Forward for 2030 and Beyond

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network has launched the **Sustainable Development Report 2026 (SDR 2026)**. The report features the latest SDG Index and Dashboards, evaluating all UN Member States, alongside updated analysis of countries' support for the UN-based multilateralism and new survey findings on government efforts to advance the SDGs through 2030 and beyond.

[Full report](#)



## Publications by ESDN Members

**Eric Mulholland**

**Article: Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Enhances SDG Implementation in Europe: Country Case Examples from the European Sustainable Development Network (Abstract)**

**This article examines governance mechanisms that enhance policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD) in selected European countries**, focusing on both horizontal coherence across national ministries and vertical coherence between national and subnational levels. Such mechanisms are essential for effective SDG implementation and sustainable development more broadly. In light of geopolitical instability and uncertainty surrounding a potential post-2030 framework, preserving and strengthening these governance structures will be critical to maintaining PCSD as a core feature of European policymaking.

[Full article](#)

# ESDN

July Newsletter 2026