



*Finding sustainable solutions for the world's biggest development challenges*

Hundreds of leading policy-makers, investors and civil society activists from over 80 countries will gather for the world's first playable policy conference in Germany's UN capital Bonn. From 1 – 3 March, experts will share and showcase new thinking and action on the global development challenges at the Global Festival of Ideas for Sustainable Development.

The inaugural event comes just 18 months after all 193 Member States of the United Nations agreed on the 2030 Agenda and will feature the official launch of the UN SDG Action Campaign Centre.

The Global Festival of Ideas features numerous high-ranking guests such as Cristina Gallach, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, as well as Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, CEO of Plan International and Deborah Seward, Director of the United Nations Regional Information Office in Brussels. Other prominent speakers include the Lord Mayor of Bonn, Ashok Sridharan, and Mitchell Toomey, Director of the UN SDG Action Campaign.

The event is designed to provide real-time advocacy support, data expertise and analytics to national governments and partners to ensure the SDG Agenda is brought to life. It is the first in a series of annual forums, hosted by the SDG Action Campaign in partnership with the Institute for Overseas Development (ODI) and other partners.

The application-based simulation game '2030 Hive Mind' plays a key role during the three-day event where participants will be given an annual budget to spend on a range of policies in order to advance a particular goal of the SDGs.

During each day of the Conference, one particular development challenge will be in focus. On Wednesday, 1 March, participants will have the opportunity to follow interactive panel discussions, policy-simulation games and a series of talks on tackling inequalities in a rapidly globalizing world.

The second day of the Conference will highlight how countries can advance an agenda promoting economic growth and environmental sustainability. In several working sessions, participants will discuss how natural resources can be used more efficiently and will seek to identify practical steps to promote a green economy agenda.

The sessions on Friday, 3 March will focus on how governments can address sudden shocks such as food insecurity, economic crises and violence. During policy simulations, a high-level panel discussion, a plenary session and a data dive, participants will discuss the various disruptors to development and analyse the requirements for responses.

### **Additional link:**

[Global Festival of Ideas](#)