SDG LAB

at a glance

Delivering on the SDGs requires transformative approaches that unite diverse and complementary expertise. The SDG Lab at UN Geneva brings together individuals and organizations working to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and serves as a platform to enhance multi-stakeholder SDG implementation.

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PARTNER WITH US TO:

- Scale up solutions for the SDGs through models of multi-stakeholder participation that emphasizes diversity and inclusion.

- Break up the siloed approach to development by intentionally bringing together different expertise on SDG implementation.

- Identify collaborative ways of working to accelerate the SDGs, tapping into innovative approaches, techniques, and expertise from the Geneva SDG community and beyond.

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What we do

SPEARHEADING PARTNERSHIPS:

The Lab **incubates innovative partnerships** for the SDGs. The Building Bridges movement — an initiative to deliver finance and impact for the SDGs — was kickstarted to support the transition to a financial system aligned with the SDGs.

PROMOTING SDG MINDSET AND PRINCIPLES:

The Lab uses high visibility platforms, such as its 'So What?' dialogue series, to promote approaches and solutions that address **the interconnected nature of the SDGs.**

AMPLIFYING GOOD PRACTICES AND INSIGHTS:

The Lab **spearheads diverse collaborations** to promote SDG solutions and ideas. The podcast series 'It Takes a Global Crisis' focuses on sharing SDG policies in response to COVID-19. In addition, the Lab, in collaboration with IISD, co-convenes the Geneva 2030 Ecosystem – a dynamic network of organizations dedicated to advancing the 2030 Agenda.

SUPPORTING COUNTRY SDG IMPLEMENTATION:

The Lab enables Member States to use **Geneva's expertise to address SDG challenges**. The Lab supported the Government of Niger in incubating its Smart Villages initiative to expand access to IT services in rural areas, which has since become a blueprint for other regions.

Success Stories

PIPELINE BUILDER

The Pipeline Builder project was developed in 2020, providing an innovative approach to source SDG investments from emerging markets. The project aims to drive capital to SDG-focused small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by working with local asset managers, government representatives and development experts to identify pre-invested, growth stage SMEs in priority sectors and priority SDGs for the country. In 2021, Pipeline Builder successfully identified US $39 million worth of possible SME investments in Ghana, covering a range of 8 to10 SDGs. To date, 8 countries have been consulted for potential Pipeline Builder projects.

BUILDING BRIDGES

In 2019, the SDG Lab co-founded the multi-stakeholder initiative called Building Bridges, which brings together multiple actors to connect the finance, government, and international development communities to boost investments towards the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. Some 30 events were organized by 50+ partners in 2019 and 70+ events were organized in 2021. The Building Bridges Week and Summit is now managed by Sustainable Finance Geneva, in collaboration with the Swiss Sustainable Finance association.

NIGER 2.0

In 2018, the Minister of Technology of Niger contacted the SDG Lab to curate a group of experts that could address the challenge of connecting Nigerien villages to the internet. The SDG Lab helped initiate a multi-stakeholder partnership with ITU, WHO, the Government of Germany, and others, to develop and fund a pilot e-health, e-agriculture, and digital ID project, now known as Smart Villages Initiative.