

# REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

GENEVA | 21-22 March 2019



## Guide for Participants



UNECE

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## Registration

### Where do I get my badge?

You need to have a badge to enter the venue of the Regional Forum. If you have a valid UN Geneva badge, you will be granted access to the venue.

If you do not have a UN Geneva badge, please visit the UNOG Security and Safety Service at [Pregny Gate](#) (8 - 14 avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10) to collect your badge for the Regional Forum. You must present your national photo identification card or passport, both when collecting your badge and when going through security at the entrance of the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG).

You can pick up your badge on Wednesday, 20 March (8am-5pm) or Thursday, 21 March (8am-5pm). On Thursday, before the start of the Regional Forum, high numbers of delegates for various meetings might be in line, so please make sure to arrive in good time.

### What is the procedure for Permanent Missions?

Permanent Missions can pick up the badges for their delegation from Pregny Gate as per the usual procedure from Wednesday, 20 March.

### What is the procedure if I attend a pre-meeting?

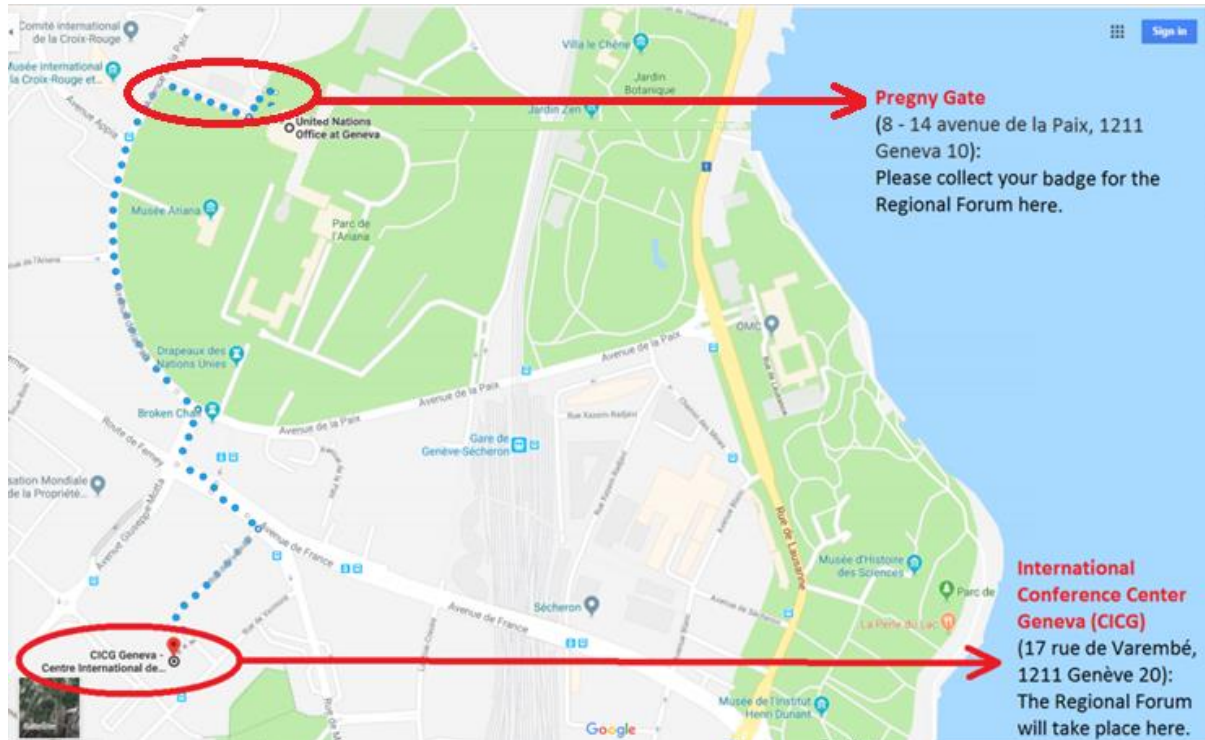
If you attend a pre-meeting (Civil Society or VNR Workshop) on 20 March, please also visit the Security and Safety Service at Pregny Gate at the indicated times to collect your badge. You can pick up your badge already on 19 March. Your badge will be valid for both the pre-meeting and the Regional Forum.

## Venue

### How do I get to the venue of the Regional Forum?

The Regional Forum will take place at the [International Conference Center Geneva CIGG](#) (17 rue de Varembe, 1211 Genève 20).

Please note that Regional Forum does not take place at the Palais des Nations. From Pregny Gate, where you collect your badge, it is a 15 minute walk to the venue of the Regional Forum, the International Conference Center Geneva (CIGG). Please have a look at the [map](#) to find your way:



Please see below a photo of the main entrance of the International Conference Center Geneva (CIGG):



1 March 2019

## Programme

**THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 2019**
**13:00 – 14:30** *SIDE EVENTS*

<b>15:00 – 15:45</b>	<p><b>OPENING</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Ogerta Manastirliu</b> <i>Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Minister of Health and Social Protection of Albania</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Olga Algayerova</b> <i>UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Mirjana Spoljaric Egger</b> <i>Chair of the Regional UNSDG Team for Europe and Central Asia and Assistant Secretary-General</i></p>
<b>15:45 – 18:00</b>	<p><b>HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality in the UNECE region”</b></p> <p><i>Special Address:</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Amina J. Mohammed</b> <i>Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations</i></p> <p><b>High-level Dialogue (16:00-17:00):</b> Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) as Drivers of SDG Implementation? National Experiences from UNECE countries.</p> <p><i>High-level representatives from past and 2019 VNR countries from the region will have a moderated dialogue and an interactive discussion with the floor on the national experiences from the VNR process. A particular focus will be on the impetus the VNR process may have provided to SDG implementation, national ownership, stakeholder involvement and SDG awareness in the country. The discussion will also reflect on overall lessons from the VNR exercise so far and possible ways forward.</i></p> <p><b>Plenary Debate (17:00-18:00)</b></p> <p><i>Interventions from high-level participants from the floor, highlighting policy experiences and challenges related to SDG implementation, with a particular focus on the theme of the High-level Policy Segment and the SDGs under in-depth review.</i></p>
<b>18:30 – 20:00</b>	<p><b>RECEPTION</b></p>

**FRIDAY, 22 MARCH 2019**
**8:30 – 9:45**
**SIDE EVENTS**
**10:00 – 13:00**
**FOCUS EVENTS**

Two focus events on cutting-edge topics affecting overall SDG implementation will take place in the plenary room. Panellists will provide introductory inputs followed by an interactive discussion with the floor.

**Focus Event 1 (10:00-11:25):**  
**Technology, Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence – Curse or Blessing for Sustainable Development?**

**Focus Event 2 (11:35-13:00):**  
**How to Measure Progress? Data and Statistics for SDGs**

**PEER LEARNING SEGMENT**

The Peer Learning Segment will facilitate practical exchange of experiences and best practices in SDG implementation between governments and other stakeholders. Two sets of five parallel round tables will take place on the SDGs that are under in-depth review at the 2019 HLPF. To enable effective peer learning in smaller groups, participation in round tables is upon nomination or invitation.

**First set of round tables**  
 (10:00-11:25)



**Second set of round tables**  
 (11:35-13:00)


**13:00 – 15:00**
**LUNCH BREAK**
**SIDE EVENTS (13:15 – 14:30)**
**15:00 – 17:30**
**CONNECTING THE DOTS:**
**Moving Ahead Towards Empowerment, Inclusion and Equality in the Region**

The plenary will hear key messages from the round tables and the focus events and engage in an interactive panel discussion that stresses interlinkages between the reviewed SDGs and pathways for integrated policy-making. A keynote speaker will provide input to the discussion.

**Keynote speaker: Ms. Eeva Furman**

*Director of the Environmental Policy Centre at the Finnish Environment Institute SYKE, Member of the UN Global Sustainable Development Report Team*

**17:30 – 18:00**
**CLOSING**
**Civil Society Representative**
**Mr. Michael Møller**

*Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva and Under-Secretary-General*

**Ms. Olga Algayerova**

*UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General*

**H.E. Ms. Ogerta Manastirliu**

*Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development*






*Minister of Health and Social Protection of Albania*

# Peer Learning Round Tables






## PEER LEARNING ROUND TABLES

Friday, 22 March 2019

### 10:00-11:25: First set of round tables

	<b>Learning without Limits</b> <i><a href="#">Lifelong Learning and Inclusive Education</a></i>
	<b>The Growth We Want</b> <i><a href="#">Solutions for Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth</a></i>
	<b>Bridging the Gap</b> <i><a href="#">Achieving Greater Income and Economic Equality</a></i>
	<b>Acting for Climate</b> <i><a href="#">Stepping Up Climate Change Policies, Action and Awareness in the Region</a></i>
	<b>Strengthening Institutions for Change</b> <i><a href="#">Fostering Effective and Inclusive Governance for Sustainable Development</a></i>

### 11:35-13:00: Second set of round tables

	<b>The Power of Knowledge for Change</b> <i><a href="#">Education and Learning as Drivers of Sustainable Development</a></i>
	<b>The Future of Work</b> <i><a href="#">Productive Employment and Decent Work for All</a></i>
	<b>Towards a World of Equal Opportunity</b> <i><a href="#">Tackling inequality caused by exclusion and discrimination</a></i>
	<b>Coping with Climate Change</b> <i><a href="#">Strengthening Resilience and Adaptation</a></i>
	<b>Empowering People to Protect the Planet</b> <i><a href="#">The Environmental Dimension of SDG 16</a></i>

## How do I prepare for round tables?

At round tables, country representatives and other stakeholders will share concrete case studies from their national experience, propose solutions to identified problems and discuss how best practices can be adopted by peers. Round table discussions will be interactive and steered by participants. For a free-flowing, fruitful discussion we would appreciate, if participants could read through the case study of their selected round tables in preparation for the discussion.



## Side events

**Thursday, 21 March 2019, 13:00 - 14:30**

[Forest Quiz Time: Test your forest knowledge](#)

[Voluntary Peer Review Mechanisms in support of Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean](#)

**Friday, 22 March 2019, 8:30 - 9:45**

[A sustainable future for all by fostering labour inclusion of persons with disabilities](#)

[Youth Organisations' contribution to the 2030 Agenda](#)

[Drug Policy and the Sustainable Development Agenda: Challenges and Opportunities in the European Region](#)

[Ensuring Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promoting Lifelong Learning Opportunities](#)

[Eurasian Economic Commission: View on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development](#)

[Linking peace, justice and development through good governance in SDG 16](#)

**Friday, 22 March 2019, 13:15 - 14:30**

[Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value](#)

[Economic Growth vs Environmental Sustainability - What does the growth target in SDG 8 mean for developed countries?](#)

[Financial Inclusion: Matching Small and Medium-sized \(SMEs\) and Investors](#)

[Leave no one behind: Driving policies through data and a human rights-based approach](#)

[The UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan](#)



## Useful information

### Is there free wifi available?

Yes, you will be able to connect to free wifi from all corners of the International Conference Center (CICG).

### #RFSD2019?

Follow the latest updates and take part in the conversation about the Regional Forum and progress towards the SDGs in the region on social media via [#RFSD2019](#).

Find more information on the website of the Regional Forum: <https://www.unece.org/rfsd2019.html>.

### Who to call in emergencies?

For urgent matters related to the Regional Forum, please contact Ms. Felirose Gutierrez (Programme Assistant, Sustainable Development and Gender Unit, UNECE) on her phone +41 (0) 22 917 14 88.

In true emergencies, please dial the following emergency numbers: General emergency calls: 112. Ambulance: 144. Police: 117. Fire service: 118.

### Where can I have lunch?

A self-service restaurant is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), which is open between 11am and 2pm.

### Have a successful #RFSD2019