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SDG CHARTER VIRTUAL DIALOGUE

Date: 31st October 2023 (Tuesday) | **Time:** 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. (IST)

Draft Concept Note and Structure of the Dialogue

About World Sustainable Development Summit

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship multistakeholder initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making ‘sustainable development’ a globally shared goal. Over the years, the Summit platform has brought together thought leaders, heads of state and government, scholars, corporates, youth groups, and civil society representatives from across the world. The Summit series has established itself as a responsible and an effective platform for mobilizing opinion-makers to drive ambition and advance pioneering actions to address some of the most relevant issues concerning sustainable development and climate change.

About Act4Earth and SDG Charter

Act4Earth initiative was launched at the valedictory session of WSDS 2022. Building on the discussions of WSDS, this initiative seeks to continuously engage with stakeholders through research and dialogue. Act4Earth initiative has two components: COP Compass and SDG Charter. The SDG Charter will seek to identify gaps in present policy frameworks and suggest ways for strengthening and mainstreaming sustainable development in policy agendas for enhanced environmental, social, and economic outcomes.

About the Dialogue

Considering the recently adopted G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration at the G20 Leaders’ Summit and the upcoming COP28 to be held in Dubai, it is pertinent to discuss the interface between SDGs and climate action. This dialogue will seek to engage with experts on the topics of green budgeting and sustainable lifestyles to advance an action driven agenda on sustainable development and climate sensitive actions.

[Session 1] SDG Charter: Green and Climate-sensitive Budgeting

While environment departments/ministries generally have the mandate to deal with environmental policy frameworks and regulations, line ministries and departments much of the implementation; they need to integrate climate action and sustainable development actively and consciously into their policies and practices by allocating higher budgets to sustainable practices and less to unsustainable sectors. ‘Green budgeting’ is a tool involving of budgetary planning than can help in systematic mapping and tracking the sources of funds, outlays, expenditures, and policies which, in turn, can support coordinated policy design and identification of periodic and continuous finance needs to achieve green objectives, that is, those relating to the climate and environmental dimensions.

The questions for this session include:

- What are the benefits and challenges of green budgeting as a tool for green and climate sensitive decision-making?
- What are the key lessons from emerging practices on green budgeting?

[Session 2] SDG Charter: Internationalizing Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)

The idea of ‘Lifestyle for the Environment – LiFE Movement’ was introduced by India’s Prime Minister during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow in 2021. LiFE became a major pillar of the Green Development Pact of G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration. What avenues exist apart from G20 for India to internationalize LiFE? According to Mission LiFE of NITI Aayog, along with policy and regulatory measures to address environmental issues, harnessing the power of collective action led by individuals is crucial to solve complex problems. Four categories of instruments become important when it comes to LiFE, sustainable consumption, and just green transitions. These include norm evolution through internationalization, policy instruments, market instruments, and social instruments.

The questions for this session include:

- What are the avenues for internationalizing LiFE beyond India’s G20 Presidency?
- How can LiFE be advanced through forums such as UNFCCC COPs and United Nations General Assembly?
- What will lead to internalizing approaches to drive policies and practices in the areas of policy instruments, market instruments and social instruments?

Structure of the Event

2:00 pm to 2:05 pm	Welcome Remarks
2:05 pm to 2:15 pm	Framing Presentation on Session 1
2:15 pm to 3:15 pm	SDG Charter: Green and Climate-sensitive Budgeting
3:15 pm to 3:25 pm	Framing Presentation on Session 2
3:25 pm to 4:25 pm	SDG Charter: Internationalizing Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)
4:25 pm to 4:30 pm	Vote of Thanks