



**SDGs in
Practice** | by **UN DESA
& UNITAR**

Opening segment

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

 14 July 2025, 11.00 – 01.00 PM (EDT)

 Conference Room 11, UNHQ

 sdgs.un.org/2025/SDGsinPractice



A special event to the
**High-level Political Forum on
Sustainable Development**
14 – 23 July 2025

SDGs in Practice Opening Segment

Monday 14 July 2025, Conference Room 11, UNHQ

Organized by UNITAR

Introduction

The opening session of the 2025 SDGs in Practice will be held in person on 14 July from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Conference Room 11). This session will focus on advancing capacities and providing learning opportunities to support the HLPF 2025 theme: *“Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind”*.

As part of the Opening Session, UNITAR will invite Dr. Yasar Jarrar, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, International Advisory Group, who will deliver a keynote address presenting a case study on two recent reports on public administration in the digital age. The presentation will focus on two key reports:

1. The “Arab Public Administration Report: Productivity in the Digital Age”
 - a. Captures the perspectives of 1,600+ Arab civil servants on public sector productivity
 - b. Explores how technology and AI are reshaping government operations
 - c. Combines surveys, literature review, and expert insights to analyze public sector trends
2. Launch of the “Arab Government Modernization Agenda” Report
 - a. A new report detailing the top 10 trends observed over recent years from a survey of over 10,000 Arab government officials
 - b. Proposal of a roadmap for the future in a whitepaper published by Gov Campus / the International Advisory Group

The Opening Segment will also feature a multisectoral panel consisting of representatives from the UN, Civil Service Organizations, Private Sector, and Academia, to speak about Sustainable, Inclusive, and Evidence-Based Solutions in their respective fields and topics of specialization in regard to advancing the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. The panelists will be carefully chosen to align with the SDGs in Review at HLPF in 2025.

Programme

Time	Sessions
11:00 AM – 11:20 AM	Welcome remarks • Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs • Mr. Marco A. Suazo, Head of Office, United Nations Institute for Trainings and Research New York
11:20 AM – 12:00 PM	Keynote Presentation by Dr. Yasar Jarrar, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, International Advisory Group (IAG)

12:00 PM – 12:55 PM **Panel Discussion: Strengthening Capacities for Sustainable, Inclusive, and Evidence-Based Solutions**

- Ms. Cori Zarek, Vice President North America, Apolitical
- Dr. Amaj Midani, Founder and CEO, Poseidon-AI
- Ms. Natalia Urzola, COO, Global Network for the Study of Human Rights and the Environment (GNHRE)
- Josefin Pasanen, Research and Partnerships Specialist, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Programme
- Mr. Dino Corell, Senior Multilateral Relations Officer, International Labor Organization

12:55 PM – 1:00 PM **Closing Remarks**

- UNITAR Representative

Contact

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More information

For more information and to sign up to attend, please visit the webpage here:
<https://sdgs.un.org/2025/SDGsinPractice>