

PRESS RELEASE



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The Road to 2030 Sustainability via Pakistan. Private Sector Commits to Accelerate on People and Planet to spur continued SDGs action

KARACHI: – The SDGs Pakistan Summit 22 themed ‘The Road to 2030 via Pakistan’ convened by the UN Global Compact Network Pakistan emphasized upon principle-based business to accelerate their role in driving progress on Global Goals and achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Sustainability practitioners, CEOs, Entrepreneurs, colleagues from the UN family came together to accelerate actions through discussions & debate the most pressing issues & priorities by the UN and the future of multilateralism

The Chief Guest, H.E. Per Albert Ilsaas, Ambassador of Norway called upon the Private Sector to promote closer coordination between Humanitarian relief & long-term development, job creation, cooperation in technology development, research and building of a principle-based culture.

The Deputy British High Commissioner, Mr Mike Nithavrianakis, speaking as the Guest of Honour, highlighted “The SDGs started a global movement, the momentum of which will continue to shape our shared future for decades to come”.

Mr Majyd Aziz, President of the Network, in his Welcome Address, lauded the engagement of the Private Sector in implementing the SDGs and commented on the sectors’ efforts to adopt & embed the 10 Principles of the UN Global Compact and was now showing its impact to wider stakeholders.



Following the successful Hybrid format adopted last year, once again engaged over 1200 participants over multiple time zones. Through a combination of inspiring plenary sessions, the Summit featured innovative examples of how multi-stakeholder partnerships are unlocking new business opportunities and capital, while also driving impact on the ground, what's shaping up in Pakistan and how Pakistani Business and organisations are really impacting the Global Goals.

The Road to 2030 via Pakistan initiative has catalysed global action and local impact, ensuring that Pakistani Businesses have a say in reshaping the Global Narrative in helping to tackle some of the greatest challenges facing global communities.

For the past 20 years, the UN Global Compact has been building a global movement of sustainable companies and stakeholders to create the world we want. The Pakistan LN Team has been successfully bringing Pakistani businesses to the forefront of sustainability platforms.

“As we hit the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, this year is all about accelerating our actions. What's happening in Pakistan and through Pakistani Businesses is by no coincidence. The world needs to hear from Pakistani Business Leaders & Entrepreneurs on their contribution to the 2030 Agenda” commented Deputy Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Pakistan, Dr Zubair Anwar Bawany

In a series of interactive engagements, the Summit included the popular ‘In Conversation with...’ Panel Sessions on Climate Transition to NetZero, UNstoppable Women, Tech4Good, GenZ and the importance of establishing Baselines, One to One discussion, signing of an SDGs Pledge Wall, SDGs Networking Lounge and culminating in a symbolic ‘SDGs Walk’ that united people in a shared commitment to a better, healthier, more sustainable world for future generations. 22 companies were recognised in the annual Living the Global Compact Best Practices Sustainability Award ceremony following a shortlisting by an international jury who reviewed each company's commitments and initiatives in advancing sustainable business practices.

Panelists and Speakers shared their insights, viewpoints and the journey they are on in adopting and embedding the SDGs and Sustainable practices within their businesses and through their people.

Ms Shaista Ayesha, CEO, SEED Ventures had to say “the SDGs provide a smart framework for business to understand where the world could be in 5 years time, not doing anything now, may mean missing the boat completely.”

Ms Tanzila Khan, CEO, Girlythings said “We have to be inclusive of all stakeholders along the value chain if we are to drive optimal impact....”

Executive Director of the UN Global Compact Pakistan, Mr Fasihul Karim Siddiqi, conducted the Annual General Meeting and presented the financial report. Ms Nuzhat Jahan presented the Progress Report of LN activities in 2021 and the Action Plan for the 22/23. The AGM unanimously approved the Financial Report and the Action Plan.

Mr Siddiqi commented that the Summit provides a window to share the progress that Pakistani Companies and Pakistan Diaspora are making in addressing the world's biggest challenges, from how we are using Technology to traditional grassroot actions. He also commented “this is not just a progress report on Pakistan, we are actually leading the field in many aspects of addressing the SDGs and we need to have our



say at the big table. And what's been a game changer over the past few months is that because companies can establish a baseline on what they are doing, they can set a smarter roadmap for their business around sustainability". Mr Siddiqi highlighted the launch and rollout of SDGme, a rapid sustainability assessment tool that is levelling the playing field as more organisations establish their Sustainability Baselines in Pakistan. With uptake from family-owned businesses, SMEs, NGOs and StartUps they are able to get a report that benchmarks against all the SDGs and helps to determine a Sustainability Roadmap.

The Road to 2030 via Pakistan continues its global journey post Summit taking in Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad and then London to New York before coming back to Pakistan as it brings more Pakistani Businesses into the Mainstream conversation.

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The UN Global Compact serves as a Sustainability outreach & engagement hub for the business community for those wanting to start their Sustainability journey or to accelerate it. The Pakistan office provides Companies with access to Sustainability initiatives, SDG baseline assessments, Accelerator programmes and of course the opportunity to showcase and elevate what they are doing. For more information about gaining support from the UNGC Pakistan Team please contact us via Social Media or Nuzhat by email at info@gcnp.org.pk

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Network Pakistan