

Enhancing Civil Society and Other Stakeholder Engagement at UNEA7

Contribution of *Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future* to UNEA7

Presenter: **Louis Meuleman**,
Chair, Stakeholder Forum for a
Sustainable Future (SF)

With: **Felix Dodds**, Fellow SF



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What is SF?

For more than 25 years,
**Stakeholder Forum for a
Sustainable Future (SF)** has been
a **bridge between stakeholders
of all kinds and the international
intergovernmental forums**



www.stakeholderforum.org

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Project with UNEP and European Commission;
three deliverables:

1. A Capacity Building workshop
(04.12.2025) for new stakeholders
attending UNEA 7 and those in need of
a refresher. It included a mentoring
space to support it after the workshop,
providing ongoing guidance to
stakeholders who might need it.



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Project with UNEP and European Commission;
three deliverables:

2. Preparing a Discussion Paper and web portal for engaging stakeholders in the **2027 Review of the 2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on the 8 Environmental SDGs.

Interactive side event with stakeholders on 02.12.2025.

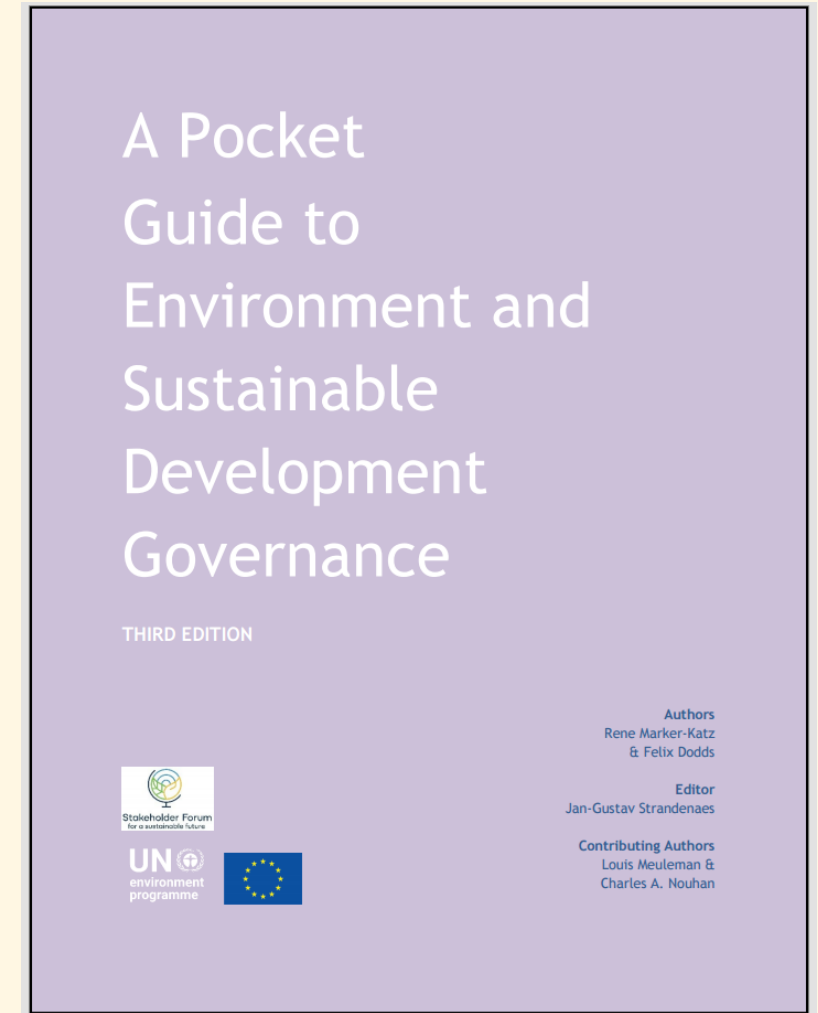
The paper on the portal will enable **comments through the end of January**, after which it will be finalized with UNEP.



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Project with UNEP and European Commission;
three deliverables:

3. The production of the Third Edition of the 2011 and subsequent 2012 'Pocket Guide to Sustainable Development Governance,' newly branded as 'A Pocket Guide to Environment and Sustainable Development Governance.' It is both a PDF book and an online guide that can be easily updated.
Launch: today, 07.12.2025.



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About the Pocket guide:

- It is a **primer** for stakeholders on how to understand and get involved in global environmental and sustainable development **governance**
- It is not complete. Please tell us what is missing for you. The Pocket Guide web portal is open to stakeholder comments until **January 14th**, before finalization with UNEP.

Policy and governance are two sides of one coin, or two pieces of the same puzzle



Based on Meuleman, L. 2025, '[Waking up a Sleeping beauty? – Towards a quality protocol for indicator SDG 17.14.1 on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development \(PCSD\)](#)'. DG REFORM & ICF, Publications Office of the European Union.

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Headquarters in NYC, 1968. Source: Yutaka Nagata, <https://www.unep.org/environmental-moments-unep50-timeline>

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2. The Context and Challenge

Current Context:

Turbulent, troubled times, undermining of multilateralism, democracy, rule of law



What is missing for you? The [Pocket Guide web portal](#) is open to stakeholder comments until January 14th 2026, before finalization with UNEP.

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3. United Nations Environment Programme



Closing Plenary of the sixth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-6). Source: <https://www.unep.org/environmental-moments-unep50-timeline>

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4. Concepts for Sustainable Development Governance

The Precautionary Principle

The 'Polluter Pays' Principle

Intergenerational Equity

Global Public Goods/The Global Commons

Environmental Integration & Policy Coherence

Common but Differentiated Responsibilities

The Tragedy of the Commons

Access to Information, Participation, and Justice

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5. Global Institutions for Sustainable Development Governance



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6. International Environmental Governance

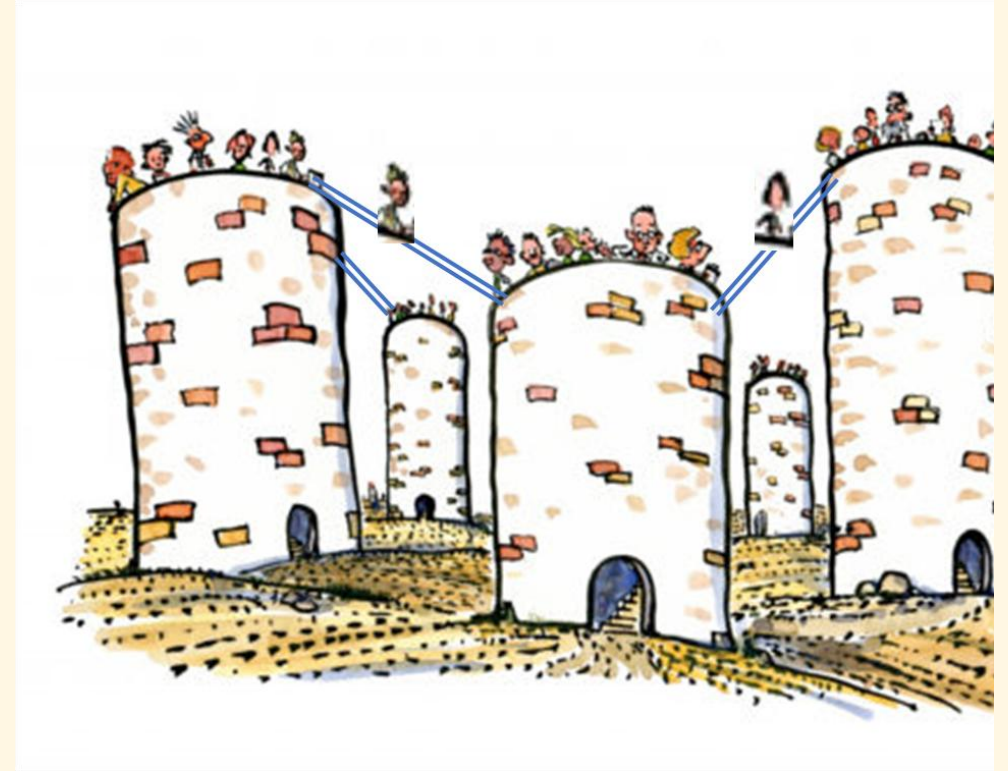
United Nations Environment Assembly

Committee of Permanent Representatives

UNEA Bureau

Environmental Conventions

Regional Commissions and their Regional Conventions



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7. Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships Around Delivering Action on the Triple Planetary Crisis



Hon. Ann Waiguru, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Devolution and Planning and Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations, officially opened the Pavilion. Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/unepl/10533624096/in/album-72157635614021234>

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8. Science Bodies for the Triple Planetary Crisis

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste, and Pollution



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9. Recent Successes on the Triple Planetary Crisis

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered
Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

Minamata Convention on Mercury

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on
Chemicals, Waste, and Pollution

The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (on HFCs)

The Paris Climate Agreement

Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing

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10. Global United Nations Financial Governance and Sustainable Development

The Loss and Damage Fund

Financing for Development and the Addis Ababa Action Plan

The Adaptation Fund

Global Environment Facility

Major Economies Forum

Strategic Climate Fund (SCF)

The Green Climate Fund

International Financial Institutions

Peace and Development Trust Fund

Climate Investment Funds

REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest
Degradation in Developing Countries)

Joint SDG Fund

UN Capital Development Fund

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11. Present Ideas on Sustainable Development Governance

Foundation for Global Governance and Sustainability

World Federalist Movement

Climate Governance Commission

Stimson Center

One World Trust

International Court for the Environment

Article 109

Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Global Governance Forum

[UN80: Reform of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements](#)

– Around the Triple Planetary Crisis of Pollution, Biodiversity, and Climate Change. For this, SF produced a set of 8 papers that examine different suggestions.

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12. Final Reflections on Environment and Sustainable Development Governance

Challenges for Societal Stakeholders

Environment and Sustainable Development Governance –
Evolving and Challenging Processes

Challenges for National, Subnational, and Local
Governments

A Continuous Forum with a Responsive Agenda

The Need for Common but Differentiated Governance and
Meta-Governance

What Has the Best Impact: Advocacy vs.
Co-Production?

Will a Strong UNEP Contribute to
Enhancing Governance?

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Questions?

Comments?

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Thank you for your attention!

