Building Back Better through the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development

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Agenda Item 2b: Subregional approaches for accelerating SDGs
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Multistakeholder Subregional Forums on SDG

• Annual engagement as part of the APFSD preparatory process

• Provide unique opportunity to share subregional perspectives on SDG implementation

South-East Asian Forum, 28-30 September 2021
North and Central Asian Forum, 5-7 October 2021
East and North-East Asian Forum, 28-29 October 2021
South and South-West Asian Forum, 15-16 November 2021
Pacific Forum, 25-26 November 2021
Common challenges across Asia-Pacific subregions

- **Widening disparities**
  Exacerbated vulnerabilities in the subregions, made disadvantaged socioeconomic groups more vulnerable

- **Deepened pre-existing challenges**
  Exposed structural weaknesses and developmental challenges

- **Socio-economic advances at the cost of environmental sustainability**
  Intensified climate-related risks

SDG Progress in 2021: Subregional Snapshots

*East and North-East Asia*

*South and South-West Asia*

*South-East Asia*

*North and Central Asia*

*The Pacific*
Shared understanding among subregions

• Accelerate further SDG progress in this Decade of Action

• Recovering from the pandemic and advancing progress on the 2030 Agenda are interlinked
  
  four interconnected areas of sustainable recovery: social protection, sustained economic recovery, connectivity and supply chain, and environmental health (ESCAP/RES/77/1, Apr 2021)

• Concerted efforts through regional cooperation and integration are key
Solution-oriented actions toward sustainable recovery

**Social protection**
- Build health infrastructure.
- Enhance social support programmes to reduce inequality.

**Sustained economic recovery**
- Diversify development finance.
- Climate and disaster risk finance.

**Connectivity and supply chain**
- Improve digital connection.
- Enhance connectivity.
- Climate-smart trade and energy.

**Environmental health**
- Enhance green recovery efforts following the pandemic.
- Climate ambition and action.
- Building disaster risk resilience and adaptation.

Broad-based policy interventions; Enhance regional cooperation and partnerships; Better coordination; Enhance role of local government; Improve data collection and statistical systems; Mainstreaming SDGs in national planning.
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