



SECOND WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DOHA 2025

Guidelines for events hosted in the margins of the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit on Social Development” 4-6 November 2025 Doha, Qatar

Background

In resolution A/RES/78/318, the General Assembly decided to convene the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit for Social Development,” to be held at the level of Heads of State or Government in Doha, Qatar from 4 to 6 November 2025.

The Summit will adopt a concise, action-oriented political declaration, that should have a social development approach and give momentum towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The General Assembly decided that the Summit will have two high-level round tables on the following themes:

1. **Round table 1:** Strengthening the three pillars of social development: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion.
2. **Round table 2:** Assessing progress and addressing gaps and challenges in the implementation of the commitments of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and its Programme of Action and giving momentum towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To provide additional spaces for accredited and registered participants to collaborate, share knowledge, and showcase initiatives and solutions aimed at advancing social development and accelerating progress toward the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Summit will include a range of side events, special events, and exhibitions taking place in the margins to complement the main Summit proceedings.

Formats

At the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit for Social Development”, side events will also be referred to as *Solutions Sessions* to highlight their practical, forward-looking focus. These sessions aim to move beyond the traditional side event format by fostering peer learning, collaboration and active participation. They may take various forms, including roundtables, panels or collaborative problem-solving workshops, and will be held in the margins of the Summit to give participants space to share experiences, co-develop ideas, and contribute to advancing social development.

Solutions Sessions are also intended to facilitate meaningful knowledge exchange and support the exploration of strategies and partnerships. They should address key social development challenges and opportunities, offer ideas that can be applied in diverse contexts, and provide opportunities to strengthen collaboration across public and private sectors. Issues covered should be pertinent to the main themes of the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit on Social Development”, with a particular focus on poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work, social integration and other cross-cutting issues as identified in the political declaration of the Summit.

Side events, also referred to as *Solutions Sessions*, will be held on 4-6 November 2025 and will fall into one of two categories:

- **Fully in-person events**, held at the Summit venue
- **Virtual events**, hosted online by organizers

Hybrid formats are not possible.

Eligibility

All duly accredited and registered organizations participating in the Summit, including **Member States, United Nations system entities, ECOSOC accredited non-governmental organizations, and other non-governmental organizations, civil society organization, private sector entities and academic institutions in receipt of special accreditation by the General Assembly**, are eligible to apply for organizing side events, also referred to as *Solution Sessions*, in the margins of the Summit.

Selection Criteria

To ensure the availability of space and time and ensure an impactful programme of events, the following criteria will be considered by the United Nations Secretariat when reviewing and confirming applications:

- Priority will be given to events organized by Member States, as well as those co-organized by multiple accredited networks/organizations. All interested organizers are strongly encouraged to partner with others when organizing an event.
- Proposed events should be closely related to the main themes and issues addressed by the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit for Social Development” with a focus on areas such as addressing innovative approaches to eradicating poverty, promoting full and productive employment and decent work, and advancing social integration, as well as addressing relevant cross-cutting issues.
- Priority will be given to events that focus on the identification or showcasing of scalable solutions to pressing social development challenges, focus on leveraging opportunities for social progress, or that feature announcements of new social development initiatives, investments, and/or partnerships.
- Organizers are encouraged to ensure a balanced gender distribution among panellists and speakers, wherever possible.

Logistical Considerations

In-person events:

- In-person events will take place on-site at the Summit venue, the Qatar National Convention Centre. Attendance will be limited to accredited and duly registered participants of the Summit. All attendees are also responsible for meeting the host country’s entry requirements, including the necessary visa, where applicable.
- Different room set-ups will be available (classroom style and U-shaped). Most rooms will be able to accommodate 50, 80 or 150 participants. Allocation of rooms will be made based on programming needs.
- Rooms will include a podium for speakers and audio-visual equipment (projector and screen).
- Organizers of in-person events are responsible for all logistical arrangements. Interpretation services and webcast may be provided with limited availability with all costs borne by the organizer. Organizers are also requested to provide their own nameplates or tent cards.

Important Notice

All **speakers, organizers, panel members, participants, guests and attendees** of in-person side events (*Solutions Sessions*), as well as special events held in the margins of the Summit **must be duly accredited and registered for the Summit**. Information on registration is available on the Summit website [here](#).

Separate registration processes are not required nor available to participate only in side events (*Solutions Sessions*), as well as special events.

No exceptions or ad hoc registrations will be accepted. Access is strictly limited to duly accredited and registered participants of the Summit.

Virtual events:

- For virtual events, organizers are responsible for hosting the event online and encouraged to schedule sessions at times that accommodate various time zones, to enable broad global participation.

Duration:

- Events are projected to last around 90 minutes.

How to Apply

All interested and accredited entities and organizations are invited to submit applications to host a side event, also referred to as *Solutions Session*, using the official application form on the Summit website (<https://social.desa.un.org/world-summit-2025>), which will be made available on 14 July 2025. Please visit the website regularly for updates on information required in the application form.

The timeline for applications is as follows:

- **Open call for application:** 14 July 2025
- **Application deadline:** 18 August 2025
- **Notification of selection results:** early- September 2025

Organizers of in-person events are reminded that they must complete the [official registration process](#) for the Second World Summit for Social Development, in addition to submitting their application. All speakers, organizers, panel members, participants, guests and attendees must be accredited, duly registered for the Summit and meet the host country's entry requirements, including obtaining the necessary visa, where applicable. Registration will open in August. Details will be made available on the Summit website [here](#).

Event Promotion

The United Nations Secretariat will promote the full schedule of approved events on the official Summit website [here](#).

The United Nations Secretariat will not produce flyers, distribute notices, or conduct individual publicity for specific events.

Branding guidelines

The official logo for the “World Social Summit” under the title “the Second World Summit for Social Development” has been released alongside detailed visual identity guidelines. To ensure consistent and appropriate use, the logo guidelines provide specifications for design, accessibility, co-branding, and legal use by both United Nations and non-UN entities. The logo may be used for information or fundraising purposes with proper authorization and, when required, submission of a waiver of liability.

To ensure consistency and maintain the integrity of the Summit's branding, the logo and branding elements provided in the official template **must not be altered, resized, or repositioned**. Please follow the logo guidelines before use.

The Summit logo is available for use in the six official languages of the United Nations. For further details on event branding, please consult the media page on the Summit website [here](#).

Contact

Please ensure you have carefully reviewed all the information provided above before reaching out.

Additional details about the Summit and its parallel programme can be found on the Summit website [here](#).

If you have further questions, please contact [socialsummitsecretariat@un.org], indicating [Side Events] in the subject line. Due to the anticipated high volume of inquiries, the United Nations Secretariat might not be able to respond to questions already addressed in this Guidelines document.

