



## **Bridging the Gap Between Government and Business to Meet Global Climate Goals**

**Tuesday, 24 September 2024 | 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Javits Center, New York**

### **Background**

During the UN General Assembly high-level week and alongside the 2024 Summit of the Future, this year's UN Global Compact Leaders Summit will convene business leaders, UN officials, government leaders, SDG stakeholders and civil society professionals from across the globe committed to raising the bar on sustainability and shaping the future of responsible business.

Member states are meeting at the Summit of the Future to strengthen the multilateral system to address existing and emerging challenges, improve global governance, and accelerate the implementation of existing commitments including the 2030 Agenda. The private sector, too, will highlight how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can serve as a blueprint for businesses on urgent action and future-proofing, and will explore the future of responsible business at the Leaders Summit.

Amidst a challenging geopolitical landscape, the Leaders Summit will emphasize how businesses can become responsible advocates in times of converging crises. Further, as digital innovations, AI and technology disruptions rapidly evolve, the Leaders Summit will be an important forum to connect with businesses on applying a principles-based approach to ensure that risks and shocks are addressed and opportunities for positive impacts on sustainable development and prosperity for all are maximized.

Following the 2023 launch of the UN Global Compact Forward Faster initiative – a global platform for ambitious, credible corporate action – this year's Leaders Summit will also provide an opportunity to take stock of progress achieved in the first year and to tackle key societal challenges that impact the future of business. Discussions on Forward Faster will demonstrate how participating companies are accelerating action to safeguard the future for the planet, people and markets with emphasis on driving collective impact on the future of work by advancing equal pay for work of equal value, women's leadership, living wages, a just transition, climate, net-zero, and water resilience and sustainable finance.

## About this session

Join us for an insightful session co-hosted with the [UN Science-Policy-Business Forum](#) exploring the imperative of public-private partnerships to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. Despite the existence of global standards and tools to help companies set science-based emissions reductions targets, many barriers for action still persist, including addressing Scope 3 emissions, inconsistent and ineffective data collection and reporting, insufficient financing and/or access to it, and a lack of enabling policies for businesses to make climate-positive investments.


Many companies are already taking action by setting ambitious and credible net-zero emissions reductions targets through the [Science Based Targets initiative](#) and in line with the [UN-backed Credibility Criteria](#), but they must also encourage the same level of ambition throughout their value chains. Engaging both upstream and downstream can result in emissions reductions across the board, especially Scope 3 emissions, and help make science-based net-zero targets the new baseline for action.

Moreover, governments and businesses have the potential to reinforce one another in a way that helps mainstream climate policy and increase climate investments toward a net-zero future — creating a positive ambition loop. The private sector needs to advocate for better enabling policies and regulations that would help them carry out their decarbonization strategies and governments must leverage corporate perspectives, expertise and projects to implement their climate transition plans and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

## Agenda

Time	Segment	Description
10:30-10:33 (3 min)	Welcome	Welcome and overview of session by Ritika Modi, Manager of Environment and Climate at the UN Global Compact
10:33-10:40 (7 min)	Opening Keynote	Ani Dasgupta, CEO and President of WRI
10:40-10:43 (3 min)	Audience Poll	<p>UNGC will walk the audience through a poll on what topics they are most interested in discussing/hearing about.</p> <p><b>Poll Question:</b> What is your biggest challenge in drafting and implementing your organization's climate transition plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scope 3 emissions</li><li>• Working with your supply chain (upstream and/or downstream)</li><li>• Access to finance (public and/or private)</li><li>• Insufficient sectoral/regional guidance and capacity-building opportunities</li><li>• Challenges in developing effective public-private partnerships, including in the development of policies</li></ul>

		Panelists will address the top 1-2 issues in their conversation and the audience will focus on these 1-2 issues in their breakout groups.
<b>10:43-11:15 (33 min)</b>	Panel	<p>The panel will bring together different stakeholder groups to discuss successful public-private partnerships or engagements, importance of private sector inclusion in the NDC process, etc.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Axel Threlfall, Editor-at-Large, Reuters and UN SPBF Fellow</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Thanyaporn (Thanya) Krichtitayawuth, Executive Director Global Compact Network Thailand</li> <li>◦ Gonzalo Sáenz de Miera, Director of Climate Change of Iberdrola</li> <li>◦ Maria Ivanova, Director of the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University and Fellow of the International Science Council</li> </ul>
<b>11:15-11:30 (15 min)</b>	Panel Q&A	Throughout the session, attendees will be able to submit questions to the panelists. We will address as many as possible in the time allotted.
<b>11:30-12:00 (30 min)</b>	Roundtable Discussions	<p>Based on the poll results, attendees will participate in breakout discussions with their tables to address the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the specifics of the challenges you face relating to the top 1-2 issues selected in the poll?</li> <li>• What tools, resources or mechanisms do you feel are missing and could help?</li> <li>• What are 1-2 asks you have for the others at your table? How do you feel you could improve collaboration?</li> </ul> <p>Each table will be facilitated by UN Global Compact (Network or HQ) representatives who will take notes and share them with the UN Global Compact Environment team and UNSPBF. The points raised at the tables will help inform priorities for upcoming workstreams and potential new programming and engagement opportunities.</p>
<b>12:00-12:25 (25 min)</b>	High-level Discussion	<p>High-level discussion between Ministers on public-private collaboration and Government roles in achieving global climate targets.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Axel Threlfall, Editor-at-Large, Reuters and UN SPBF Fellow</p>



		<b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ H.E. Felix C Mutati Minister of Technology and Science, Zambia</li><li>◦ H.E. Lemogang Kwape, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Botswana</li></ul>
<b>12:25-12:30 (5 min)</b>	Closing	Wrap up and thank you from Fernando Castellanos, Head of Environment and Climate, UN Global Compact