

WE NEED LEGALLY BINDING AND IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION!

HLPF 2020 and SDG Decade of Action

The COVID-19 pandemic is challenging our way of life to an unprecedented degree and has uncovered the weaknesses of our globalised economic system. It has exposed the failures of neoliberal policies and more than three decades of public sector privatisation and underfunding. We see serious implications of a commercialised, profit-oriented health system, the structures of dependence in global value chains, the hardship of people working in precarious jobs, of women taking on unpaid, invisible care work, and the missing financial safety net for a generation of freelancers. Our current system destroys the environment by polluting air, water, and soil, and exploiting resources and material, leaving more than 10 percent of the global population in extreme poverty. These global multiple crises will only grow in number and intensity.

Protest movements all over the world with millions of people have shown us that a majority of people want progressive policies for the common good and global justice. This is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda! Governments of the world cannot let this ambitious agenda fail. More than ever, we need a system change. Rebuilding the old economies is nothing but a recipe for further crises.



Stop Negotiating, Start Implementing

While there is a high level of awareness in terms of the dramatic situation of global biodiversity, pollution of ecosystems and the climate crisis, with many internationally agreed environmental conventions, the global community, including Germany, fails to reach almost all of the goals and targets. We will no longer accept this absurd circle of negotiations of new goals never to be reached due to lack of political will.

We call on the German government to finally

- » realize a decentralized energy transition and immediate coal phase-out
- » implement a citizen-led mobility transition; and
- » a socially and ecologically sound agriculture transition
- » support an ambitious plan for all 2020 SDG targets



Restructure Public Budgets, Regulate Private Investments

In order to close investment gaps, there is an increasing trend to privatize public services and infrastructure and submit them to the logic of private capitalist structures. While taking most of the risk, public money has to work like private money: generate a return for investors. This logic cannot any longer be applied to the SDGs by the UN and governments.

We call on Germany to finally

- » finance the SDG implementation through a sustainable restructuring of public budgets
- » demand of companies to abide by human rights, labour and environmental standards and laws
- » ensure SDG implementation beyond profit interests in Germany and world wide



Fight Inequalities Everywhere

Economic and social inequalities are growing globally as well as in Germany, with the COVID-pandemic putting additional stress on vulnerable people. Once again, this is well-known and well-documented and has already led to massive social and political tensions and upheaval. Overcoming inequalities has to finally become a priority.

We call on the German government to finally

- » structurally and financially improve our social system
- » link economic recovery to socially and ecologically transformative policies
- » stop the MERCOSUR freetrade agreement
- » lead the way to become an industrial nation based on an ecologically and socially just use of resources



No more Voluntary Actions!

As long as the 2030 Agenda is not a political priority but little more than a nice to have sustainability project, we will never achieve a transformation of our world. There is a real danger of the 2030 Agenda becoming yet another failed UN project. In light of the urgent need for real political change and the enormous footprint of our European way of life, the current state of implementation in Germany is especially disappointing.

We call on Germany to finally

- » end the era of voluntary action but implement legally-binding sustainability policies and regulation
- » substantially revise the German Sustainability Strategy or develop a real SDG Strategy instead
- » introduce a participatory process leading up to its VNR at the 2021 HLPF