

Planning Meeting: Coordinating and mobilizing civil society on Sustainable Development Agenda

Istanbul, Turkey | 7-8 March 2016

INVITATION:

Dear colleague,

As you may be aware, over the past year we have been actively engaged in a dialogue with key partners, colleagues and friends across civil society on how we may work collaboratively to ensure that the key objectives that underpin the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda are truly delivered.

In this context we have jointly convened a number of discussions with over 1,000 participants over the past year: in Tunis at the World Social Forum (March 2015); in Addis Ababa at the Financing for Development Conference (July 2015); in New York at the SDG Summit (September 2015); and in Paris at COP21 (December 2015); as well as an online dialogue through a 'Loomio' group web platform here: <https://www.loomio.org/g/uJd5wTXQ/global-civil-society-platform-on-sustainable-development>

Through these discussions we have jointly defined our intent to hold leaders to account for their recent commitments and to enable civil society to work together effectively in the process of implementation and monitoring of this agenda. The platform is open to all members of civil society. You can read our action plan online at <http://bit.ly/1KoXT3d>.

A follow-up meeting is now being planned for **7-8 March in Istanbul, Turkey**. This crucial meeting aims to bring together organisations and individuals that wish to be involved in **shaping and taking forward the initiative** and who would like to join us in defining how we can best collaborate going forward. The focus of this meeting will be to develop a work plan for the initiative, including details for its governance, communications and operational mechanisms, for the formation of a specific platform based on an inclusive global process.

We hope you can join us for this discussion and we would like to invite you to arrive in Istanbul on Sunday March 6th. The sessions will run all day on Mon March 7th, through to 4pm on Tues March 8th.

You may use this link to register your participation by Tuesday February 9th:

<http://goo.gl/forms/w1toUsvvvO>. We will then share suggestions on accommodation and the visa process etc.

In the interest of broad basing this effort, we aim to keep this meeting open to all groups who are interested in aligning with the initiative's [objectives](#). Although places are limited at the event, we will also provide details and opportunities to engage online through the Loomio group, please therefore feel free to share this with your networks.

There will be no registration cost for the meeting. However, the budget is extremely limited, so we would be grateful if you can arrange your own travel and accommodation for this pivotal dialogue.

Please note that many nationalities require visas to come to Turkey. Please visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website to see visa requirements and for details on the Electronic Visa (e-Visa) Application System: <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/visa-information-for-foreigners.en.mfa>.

If you require any further information about the meeting and the overall initiative, please contact our colleague Oli Henman at oli.henman@civicus.org. For further information on the logistical arrangements of the meeting, please contact our colleague Suhani Bhushan, Network Engagement and Outreach Officer at CIVICUS, at suhani.bhushan@civicus.org.

Sent on behalf of

CAN International, CIVICUS, GCAP & IFP