

Leave no one behind: Canada's National Strategy

Ottawa - Monday, April 1, 2019

"The opinions and interpretations in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada."

Canadians who care about people in the developing world are being invited to help shape Canada's plans for how it will implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Inspired by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that was adopted by all 193 United Nations Member States in September 2015, Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy will promote what the government calls a "people-centred, universal and transformative blueprint for sustainable development."

The goal is a world that is secure and free from poverty and hunger; with full and productive employment; with access for all to quality education; that addresses climate change; that achieves gender equality and empowers all women and girls; and ends environmental degradation.

The Government of Canada has set out a number of ways for people to share their opinions, including through an online engagement portal, social media, email and mail.

Deadline for sharing ideas to inform Canada's National Strategy is Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

"Leave no one behind"

Nicolas Moyer, President-CEO at the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC), is excited by the pending strategy, and glad to see the government is soliciting input from Canadians.

"It's great that Canada is preparing a strategy that promotes progress for Canadians on all aspects of sustainable development through a focus on the economy, society and the environment," he says.

While applauding efforts to promote sustainable development in Canada, including for Indigenous people, for people in the LGBTQ+2 community, for immigrants and refugees, to deal with the environment, and other important issues at home, Moyer is concerned that challenges facing the developing world will be overlooked.

Noting a main feature of the pending National Strategy is to "leave no one behind," Moyer says "Canadians who care about the needs of the world's poorest citizens need to make sure the government doesn't leave people in the developing world behind as it comes up with its plan."

For that reason, CCIC is calling on Canadians who support international development to make sure their voices are heard.



"We care about issues at home, but we also need to speak up for those who truly have no voice in Canada," he says.

For Moyer, the 2030 Agenda "presents us with an opportunity to tackle the greatest hurdles of this generation head on."

"Together, we can work to make progress towards a more sustainable world, one in which nobody is left behind—in Canada and the developing world."

He adds that CCIC is also calling on the Government of Canada to ensure its approach is human-rights based, inclusive, participatory, and reflective of Canada's domestic and international commitments.

To help Canadians share ideas with the government, CCIC is developing a series of reports on international good practices to inform Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy, **funded in part by the Government of Canada's Sustainable Development Goals Program.** Canadians are encouraged to make use of the recommendations in these reports in their own submissions for the consultation.

"We are all in this together, and we want to see everyone in the world benefit from a more sustainable future," adds Moyer.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a 15-year global framework centered on an ambitious set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 targets and more than 230 indicators.

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For more information about them, and the National Strategy, visit https://canada2030agenda.ca/

For the government's consultation discussion guide email Programme2030-2030Agenda@canada.gc.ca

For more information or to arrange an interview with Nicolas Moyer, please contact Shannon Kindornay, Director, Research, Policy and Practice, by email at skindornay@ccic.ca