



Good afternoon everyone.

The theme for my presentation is 'Working together for the future good of all' and I will be considering how we can best achieve this by working in partnership.



**Why is working together in partnership
so important now?**

The global COVID-19 pandemic has:

- Impacted on the whole world
- Involved all areas of society
- Demonstrated the importance of global partnerships
- Highlighted the need for multilateralism versus unilateralism

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The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the whole world.

Over 38 million people have contracted the virus and over 1 million have died from it.

The United Nation's trade and development agency estimates the slowdown in the global economy to be at least \$1 trillion, in addition to the huge impact on national economies, where governments have had to spend vast sums of money to provide vital medical equipment and support those unable to work.

No country can overcome the pandemic on its own and global partnerships will be required to address all the issues involved.

Unilateralism is not an option if we are to recover - multilateralism and working together in partnership will be the only way forward.

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Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17

- 19 targets covering 5 key areas:
 - Finance
 - Technology
 - Capacity building
 - Trade
 - Systemic issues
 - Policy & institutional coherence
 - Multi-stakeholder partnerships
 - Data, monitoring and accountability




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Sustainable Development Goal 17 underpins the other 16 Sustainable Development Goals, and the aim is to ‘Revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development’.

The two targets covered under Multi-stakeholder partnerships are particularly significant:

Target 16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular

developing countries.

Target 17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships. building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

The remaining 16 goals all require partnership working if they are to be achieved.

SDG17 – The Challenges Ahead

- Major donors will struggle to protect Official Development Assistance to Developing Countries
- Remittances are likely to drop dramatically in 2020.
- Global trade is expected to plummet.
- Least Developed Countries are struggling to build their share of exports.
- Despite increased use of the Internet, half of the world is not connected.
- There is a lack of crucial data as the poorest countries do not have the resources to produce it.

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The progress made with regards to SDG17 had been steady but fragile. However, the COVID-19 pandemic is now threatening past achievements.

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2020 highlights the following key areas – I will just give you a moment to consider these:

Clearly there is still much to accomplish particularly with regards to multi-stakeholder partnerships to aid progress in the Least Developed Countries. However, there were some encouraging projects highlighted during the recent

UN75 Global Governance Forum.

75th Anniversary of the United Nations

- UN75 Theme: 'The Future We Want, The UN We Need '
- One-minute survey on the UN – www.UN.online
- Two key documents highlighting the need for increased multilateralism and partnerships:
 - 1) UN75 People's Declaration & Plan for Global Action
 - 2) Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations

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- 2020 commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations with the theme 'The Future We Want; The UN We Need'. The aim is to give everyone the opportunity to share their vision for the UN moving forwards.
- A one-minute survey was created that is quick and easy to complete which I would recommend doing as it gives us the opportunity to highlight what we see as the priorities for the UN moving forwards - www.UN.online
- Two key documents both highlighting the need for increased multilateralism and partnerships:
 - 1) Firstly, UN75 People's Declaration & Plan for Global Action which calls for civil society to have a voice at the UN moving forwards, and a global system that works for all.
 - 2) Secondly, the Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations signed by the Heads of State and Governments, who pledged to 12 commitments, including Boosting Partnerships and Being Prepared – with particular reference to COVID-19 and any future health-related crises.



During the recent UN75 Global Governance Forum, the Partnerships for Social Change highlighted 20 key projects under four headings.

I would like to share one example with you under the heading Peace and Security, which I believe is relevant for us as women:

The Women ART (Advocacy, Research & Training) Peace Programme - Despite evidence showing the unique contributions of women in preventing violence and ending conflict, their representation and participation remains low. This project will work with local, regional, and international partnerships to achieve a visible

quantitative and qualitative representation of women in sustainable peacebuilding and recovery at grassroots and policy levels.

All 20 projects are detailed in the 'Roadmap for the Future We Want & UN We Need' – Roadmap-UN75-Beyond.pdf

Partnership working within SIGBI Federation

Examples include clubs partnering with:

- Local foodbanks
- Women's refuges
- Organisations dealing with human trafficking & modern day slavery
- Local groups addressing the Sustainable Development Goals
- International organisations e.g. Amnesty International, Rotary

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- Some clubs have formed partnerships with their local foodbanks – helping to sort the donations of food and delivering food parcels, particularly during the COVID19 pandemic.
- Support for local women's refuges has further developed in certain clubs with members going into the refuges to deliver craft and other activities for the women.
- Human trafficking and modern-day slavery continue to be key areas of concern for Soroptimists and clubs have developed partnerships with other

organisations to support lobbying and awareness raising.

- Working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals has presented opportunities for clubs to partner with local SDG forums and climate action groups.
- Partnerships have been formed with international organisations such Amnesty International and Rotary to support their campaigns, lobby governments, support local causes and work on joint projects.

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How can we further develop partnership working?

- 1) In our Clubs and Regions
 - Partner with local organisations and regional clubs with similar aims and objectives for joint projects
- 2) In our Federation
 - Partner with link clubs to work on joint projects

Note: A donation of goods and/or money to another organisation is not a partnership.

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- 1) There are opportunities for clubs to partner with other clubs in their regions for projects to have a greater impact and to raise awareness of Soroptimists. Partnering with local organisations which have similar aims and objectives can also be beneficial when working on projects and to heightens awareness.
- 2) Developing partnerships with link clubs on joint projects and initiatives can also be quite rewarding, particularly if it is with an overseas club.

Note: A donation of goods and/or money to another organisation is not a partnership.



There are two types of partnership agreement

- 1) Formal – where both parties sign a written agreement outlining the responsibilities and commitments for each party.
- 2) Informal – where one party agrees to work with another organisation with similar aims and objectives, but there is no written agreement.

A formal agreement can be preferable where the arrangement is likely to be ongoing and the two parties wish to have a clear understanding of their

responsibilities and contribution to joint projects.

An informal agreement can be helpful when two organisations decide to undertake a single joint project, and it is equally important that each party is clear about their responsibilities and contribution to the project.

Where clubs wish to enter into a formal agreement, there is a template letter of agreement on the SIGBI website under 'Partnerships'.

Moving forwards and working together in partnership

There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals to achieve – working together in partnership is vital if we are to:

- Achieve a sustainable recovery from COVID19 – SDG's 3, 8, 9 & 11
- Ensure no one is left behind – SDG's 1, 4 & 10
- Safeguard our planet for future generations – SDG's 6, 12, 13, 14 & 15
- Achieve zero hunger in the world – SDG 2
- Reduce domestic abuse, human slavery and trafficking – SDG 15
- Achieve equality for all, especially women and girls – SDG 5

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Strengthening multilateralism and global partnerships are more important now than ever.
Thank you