

Stakeholder Forum

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

c/o Earth System Governance International Project Office • Utrecht University • Faculty of Geosciences
Princetonlaan 8a • 3584 CB Utrecht • The Netherlands • e: info@stakeholderforum.org • www.stakeholderforum.org

About Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future & our 2018 Activities

Stakeholder Forum, in consultative status with ECOSOC since 1996, is an international NGO working to advance sustainable development at all levels. Its work aims to enhance open, accountable and participatory decision-making and governance on sustainable development through enhancing the involvement of all stakeholders, with a particular focus on the effective engagement of stakeholders with international policy processes.

For 25 years the organization has been a bridge between those who have a stake in sustainable development, and the international forums where decisions are made in their name. To this end, SF works with diverse stakeholders, globally, on international policy development and advocacy, stakeholder engagement and consultation, media and communications and capacity building - all with the aim of promoting progressive outcomes on sustainable development through an open and participatory approach.

The organization's name reflects the broad range of activities that it undertakes. For example, in December 2017 SF and the [Earth System Governance Foundation](#) joined forces to form the *Governance for Global Sustainability Partnership* to jointly work towards better governance for global sustainability. The partnership strengthens the understanding of transformative governance for sustainability by integrating scientific research and multi-stakeholder advocacy. It strengthens the evidence base of the multi-stakeholder processes facilitated by SF, and the impact of the novel policy solutions that are developed by researchers from the Earth System Governance Project.

Our Governing Structure and Methodologies

In 2015, the Stakeholder Forum Board of Directors took the decision to revise the manner in which the organization would deliver services from 2016 onwards. It became a hybrid of two board types: A Competency Board, where members are chosen for their individual expertise, and a Working Board wherein members engage in the organization's operations if needed and/or deliver some of its project work. This decision was taken as a result of lessons learned after Rio+10 in 2002, and the post-SDGs adoption period in 2015. Each of those periods of high-funding availability was followed by funding downturns, and Stakeholder Forum's new operating modality was designed as an effective way to survive future downturns. This has proven to be effective; SF has remained financially sound since.

This new modality initially limited the number of employees to one, the Executive Director. The current Executive Director, Ruben Zondervan, is an in-kind resource from the Earth System Governance Foundation, of which he is a Director of its Board. Under SF's new operating modality, projects are delivered via short-term agreements with individuals or organizations with expertise in the given area, including SF Board Members, as outlined above, and a new category of ad-hoc experts known as Stakeholder Forum Associates. As a result, they represent SF via activities and project work does not always flow through Stakeholder Forum's management accounts. This is particularly reflected in 2018, but less so in early 2019 as project funding has become more available.

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2018 Activities

A highlight of 2018 was the invitation to SF from the United Nations Environment Programme to renew the memorandum of understanding between the parties. SF has had multiple MOUs with UNEP since the late 1990s, and with the prior agreement has come to an end, a new 3-year MOU was finalized in May 2019.

And as a long-time partner of UNDESA, and via its ongoing cooperative work with the Member States, SF continued to support UNDESA Agenda 2030 activities in 2018, in particular during the July High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and related events and activities during 2018. Further highlights of SF's 2018 activities included:

- February 2018: Stakeholder Forum Board Members Jan-Gustav Strandenaes and Farooq Ullah were members of the International Peer Review Group 2018 that conducted the third peer review of Germany's Sustainable Development Strategy.
- March 2018: The fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) MGoS consultation meeting, Nairobi, Chaired by Stakeholder Forum Assoc. Leida Rijnhout.
- April 2018: A Stakeholder Forum team of three visited UN Headquarters in New York to meet with Member States, UNDESA, and others in preparation for HLPF 2018.
- May 2018: First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Expert Group on Marine Litter, Nairobi, Kenya.
- June 2018: During the UN Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum (STI Forum), Stakeholder Forum organized and delivered the side event, 'Addressing Solutions to the Food-Energy-Water Nexus: Cities as Test-Beds for SDG Implementation Tools and Solutions,' Chaired by Charles Nouhan, SF Chairman.
- 9-18 July 2018: A Stakeholder Forum team of four attended the HLPF 2018 at UN Headquarters in New York.
- 13 July 2018, HLPF: *Leaving No One Behind (a Paywall)*, a presentation by Ruben Zondervan, Executive Director, SF, was part of the session 'Multi-stakeholder perspectives on the Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies.'
- 17 July 2018, HLPF 2018: Stakeholder Forum organized and delivered the side event, 'Addressing Resilience through the Nexus of Water-Food-Energy: Cities as SDG Laboratories,' Chaired by SF Chairman Charles Nouhan.
- September 2018: Regional MGoS Consultation Meeting for the 2018 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region, Estonia was Chaired by Stakeholder Forum Associate Leida Rijnhout.
- 11 September 2018: SF Chair Charles Nouhan presented the SF paper 'What is the role of national multi-stakeholder platforms in advancing the 2030 Agenda, and how can this be best encouraged and supported?' to the Friends of Governance for Sustainable Development/UNDESA experts' workshop 'Advancing the 2030 Agenda: Lessons learned from the first cycle of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development How far can we go?' at UN Headquarters, NY.
- 8 November 2018: 'Earth System Governance: Science - Policy - Society, A Plenary Session at the Taskforce & Meeting Day' at the 2018 Utrecht Conference on Earth System Governance, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, Co-hosted by Stakeholder Forum and the Earth System Governance Project.
- Stakeholder Forum became Observer in SDG Watch Europe.
- In the UK, then SF Board Farooq Ullah served as Co-Chair of UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development ([UKSSD](#)), of which SF was a founding partner.

2018 Publications

Advancing sustainable development goals within Europe and globally: the role of the EU, Leida Rijnhout (Associate, Stakeholder Forum) and Ruben Zondervan (Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum), Think 2030, November 2018.

What is the role of national multi-stakeholder platforms in advancing the 2030 Agenda, and how can they be best encouraged and supported? by Charles Nouhan, Derek Osborn, Jack Cornforth, and Farooq Ullah, Stakeholder Forum, Governance for Sustainable Development, Vol. 3, p. 91, New World Frontiers, October 2018.

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

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**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

**COMPANY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

DIRECTORS:	C A Nouhan F A Osborn F Ullah
SECRETARY:	Ordered Management Secretary Ltd
REGISTERED OFFICE:	2 The Links HERNE BAY Kent CT6 7GQ
BUSINESS ADDRESS:	Canada House Maidstone 20/20 St Leonards Road, Allington Maidstone Kent ME16 0LS
REGISTERED NUMBER:	05243470 (England and Wales)
ACCOUNTANTS:	McCabe Ford Williams Chartered Accountants 2 The Links HERNE BAY Kent CT6 7GQ

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE (REGISTERED NUMBER: 05243470)**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2018**

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	4	600	-
Cash at bank and in hand		44,112	69,908
		<u>44,712</u>	<u>69,908</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	1,532	1,500
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>43,180</u>	<u>68,408</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>43,180</u>	<u>68,408</u>
RESERVES			
Income and expenditure account	6	43,180	68,408
		<u>43,180</u>	<u>68,408</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2018.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

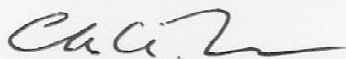
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

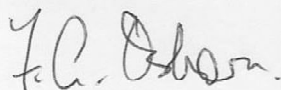
The financial statements have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

In accordance with Section 444 of the Companies Act 2006, the Income Statement has not been delivered.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 18 October 2019 and were signed on its behalf by:



C A Nouhan - Director



F A Osborn - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Stakeholder Forum For A Sustainable Future is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" including the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Grants receivable are recognised in the income statement on a time apportionment basis over the duration of the project.

Taxation

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date and is not discounted.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction.

Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the company's pension scheme are charged to profit or loss in the period to which they relate.

3. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2017 - 3).

4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018	2017
	£	£
Other debtors	600	-
	<u>600</u>	<u>-</u>

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018	2017
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,532	1,500
	<u>1,532</u>	<u>1,500</u>

6. RESERVES

	Income and expenditure account £
At 1 January 2018	68,408
Deficit for the year	(25,228)
At 31 December 2018	<u>43,180</u>

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

7. CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is limited by guarantee with more than one member, none of whom have a controlling interest in the company.

8. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each member is liable to contribute to an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the company in the event of a liquidation.