

# Stakeholder Forum

## FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

2 The Links • Herne Bay • Kent CT6 7GQ • UK • e: [info@stakeholderforum.org](mailto:info@stakeholderforum.org) • [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org)

### About Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future & Our 2019 Activities

[Stakeholder Forum](#), in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1996, is an international NGO working to advance sustainable development at all levels. Our work promotes 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 more than 25 years Stakeholder Forum 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, we work with diverse stakeholders, globally, on international policy development and advocacy, stakeholder engagement and consultation, governance, communications, and capacity building - all to promote 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 2019 Stakeholder Forum and the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) signed a multi-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) to further their shared goals and objectives in regard to enhancing open, accountable and participatory international decision-making on conservation and protection of nature and sustainable development.

2019 also saw the realization of a vision imagined by Stakeholder Forum following Rio+20 in 2012 and again in 2018: the establishment of a global network of national councils for sustainable development and similar multistakeholder bodies. Along with the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE), the Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development, and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), Stakeholder Forum is a founding member of the new [Global Forum for National SDG Advisory Bodies](#).

### Our Governing Structure and Methodologies

The Stakeholder Forum Board of Directors is a hybrid of two board types: A Competency Board, where members are chosen for their expertise, and a Working Board wherein members engage in the organization's operations if needed and/or deliver some of its project work. We are also advised by individual experts in governance and stakeholder engagement in sustainability policy processes on the global, regional, and local level. Known as Stakeholder Forum Associates, they share our vision to advance sustainable development at all levels. Collectively, they have brought decades of experience from within all levels of government, academia, business and industry, the NGO community, and the global inter-governmental environment and development processes.

The decision to operate in this manner was informed by lessons learned after Rio+10 in 2002, Rio+20 in 2012, and the post-SDGs adoption period in 2015. Each of those periods of available funding was followed by funding downturns, and Stakeholder Forum's new operating modality was designed as an effective way to navigate future downturns. This has proven to be effective, and we remain financially sound to this day. Under this operating modality, some projects are delivered via short-term agreements with individuals or organizations with expertise in the given area, including Board Members and Associates. As a result, project work does not always flow through Stakeholder Forum's management accounts. This was particularly reflected in 2018, but less so in 2019 as project funding around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development became more plentiful.

### 2019 Activities

A highlight of Stakeholder Forum's 2019 was our role in the founding of the Global Forum for National SDG Advisory Bodies. [Launched as an SDGs Acceleration Action at the September 2019 SDGs Summit](#), the Global Forum is a new platform for national councils for sustainable development and similar multi-stakeholder bodies. Envisioned as a focal point of expertise, good practice, capacity-building, and cooperation between Forum members, SF, and its three co-founding partners

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established the network to foster the co-creation and sharing of issue-based collective knowledge, to identify common grounds, and to support context-specific learning for impactful national sustainable development policy-making in the member's countries.

Further 2019 activities included those with long-time partner UNDESA. Through its ongoing cooperative work with UN Member State partners, Stakeholder Forum continued to support UNDESA's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development activities, in particular during the July and September 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development meetings and related events and activities. Further highlights of SF's 2019 activities included:

- January to December: Stakeholder Forum representatives attend weekly and monthly Civil Society Resource Center briefings and UNDESA events at the United Nations in NY.
- March 11-15, Nairobi - UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4): Board Member Jan-Gustav Strandenaes and consultant Felix Dodds attended UNEA-4. In addition to participating in the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum earlier in the week, they delivered a ½ day capacity-building training session for Major Groups and other Stakeholders in cooperation with UNEP, and Mr. Dodds moderated one of the environment ministers round tables. Additionally, Senior Advisor Leida Rijnhout represented SF during the 15 March 'Towards a Global Pact for the Environment' side event.
- March 18-20, Nairobi - The 2nd Substantive Session of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on the Global Pact for the Environment MGoS meetings were facilitated by SF Senior Advisor Leida Rijnhout.
- March-September: SF teams meet at the UN in New York with Member States, UNDESA, and others; they also attend ECOSOC and HLPF MGoS Coordination Mechanism events in preparation for HLPF 2019.
- April 15-17: SF representatives attend the 2019 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development in NY.
- 6 May: An MOU between Stakeholder Forum and SurfWEC LLC establishes the [Global Forum for Ocean Wave Energy Technology](#), a Sustainable Development Multi-Stakeholder Technology Partnership.
- May 14-15: During the UN Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum, Stakeholder Forum organized and delivered the side event, ['Transforming the Energy Supply of Small Island Developing States and Other Coastal Communities with Utility-Level Electrical Power Generation from Ocean Waves - A Sustainable Development Innovation Multi-Stakeholder Partnership.'](#) moderated by Charles Nouhan, SF Chairman.
- May 19, Nairobi: Following a 9 May webinar on the subject, a capacity-building and strategy workshop was organised by Senior Advisor Leida Rijnhout prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> substantive session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on the GPE, to help to strengthen the MGoS position and coordinate joint inputs.
- 8 July: In partnership with the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE), UNDESA, and the Friends of Governance for Sustainable Development, SF delivered a pre-HLPF expert's workshop at the UN in New York, *'National Councils for Sustainable Development and Other Similar Multi-Stakeholder Platforms: Exploring Their Role in Reviewing and Being an Implementation Agent for the 2030 Agenda.'*
- 9-18 July 2019: A Stakeholder Forum team of four attended the HLPF 2019 at UN Headquarters in New York. On 10 July, during the Global Multi-stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue 2019 *'Fostering Effective Partnership for Addressing Gaps and Priority Areas of the SAMOA Pathway,'* SF's Charles Nouhan introduced the Global Partnership for Ocean Wave Energy Technology to the international community.
- September 2019: During the UN's 2019 SDGs Summit and HLPF events, in addition to organizing the launch of the Global Forum for National SDG Advisory Bodies on the 25<sup>th</sup>, our team attended the following events:
  - The Second High-level Local and Regional Government Forum;
  - The Civil Society Organization Forum; and
  - The SAMOA PATHWAY High-Level Midterm Review 2019
- 2-4 October, Bridgetown, Barbados: SF's Charles Nouhan, along with Rik van Hemmen, President of SurfWEC LLC, the Global Partnership for Ocean Wave Energy Technology's private sector partner, present the partnership to Barbados Sustainable Energy Conference *'Roadmap to 2030.'*
- 4-6 November, Stevens Institute of Technology: SF and SurfWEC present the Global Partnership for Ocean Wave Energy Technology at the *Energy Harvesting from Infrastructure and Ocean Systems Conference.*
- 18 - 22 November, Bangkok, Thailand: SF Senior Advisor Leida Rijnhout served as the facilitator for the MGoS at UNEP's third session of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics.
- December: Representing the Global Forum for National SDG Advisory Bodies, SF supported UNDESA at its MGoS HLPF Preparatory Workshop on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, and at the Friends of Governance for Sustainable Development High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development Review workshop on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE**

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

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**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE**

**COMPANY INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

**DIRECTORS:** C A Nouhan  
F A Osborn  
Ms C LaRue  
J-G Strandenaes

**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 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	315	600
Cash at bank and in hand		28,289	44,112
		<u>28,604</u>	<u>44,712</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	2,995	1,532
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>25,609</u>	<u>43,180</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>25,609</u>	<u>43,180</u>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
Income and expenditure account	6	25,609	43,180
		<u>25,609</u>	<u>43,180</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of 31 the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended December 2019.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- 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 and authorised for issue on 5 June 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:



C A Nouhan - Director



J-G Strandenaes - 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 2019**

**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 (2018 - 3).

**4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2019</b>	2018
	<b>£</b>	£
Other debtors	<b>315</b>	600
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2019</b>	2018
	<b>£</b>	£
Trade creditors	<b>2,995</b>	1,532
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**6. RESERVES**

	<b>Income and expenditure account £</b>
At 1 January 2019	<b>43,180</b>
Deficit for the year	<b>(17,571)</b>
	<u>          </u>
At 31 December 2019	<b>25,609</b>
	<u>          </u>

**STAKEHOLDER FORUM FOR A SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

**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.