

# 13 CROSS-SECTORAL CSO COALITIONS AND SDGs

**Since the approval of the 2030 agenda, cross-cutting coalitions have been developed at different levels in order to monitor the correct implementation of the SDGs and to raise awareness on the importance of the SDGs.**

These coalitions gather organizations coming from very different backgrounds to work for the same 17 common goals so that they can have a stronger voice. Working at these different levels is also important when reaching different policy makers for instance, since the 2030 agenda is supposed to be implemented at every level.

At global level, [Action for Sustainable Development](#) has harnessed the positive energy that has been created through civil society initiatives of recent years and built a strong and inclusive global platform to connect and support civil society activities on sustainable development at all levels. It was felt that a new global platform would add value to civil society in at least three important ways. First, there has been much interest in a space for sharing information on the sustainable development agenda across issues and across countries. It would provide a space to share resources and strategies for advocacy, policy, programmes and mobilisation and facilitate collaboration amongst civil society actors. Secondly, there have been clear calls to redress the imbalance in capacity within civil society itself, especially between well-resourced CSOs and the rest. Thirdly, there was also a recognition that whatever comes next should represent a step change in the ways that civil society organises and mobilises around this agenda.

At regional level and more concretely in Europe, [SDG Watch Europe](#) was set up to help a cross-sectoral approach to EU policies. It is an EU-level alliance of NGOs from development,

environment, social, human rights and other sectors whose goal is to hold governments and the EU to account for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). The coalition was first started when a group of Brussels-based NGOs came together in June 2015 to discuss how they could bring added-value to the monitoring of the Agenda 2030 in the EU. The EEB played a pivotal role in its foundation. After ad-hoc meetings, the coalition was publicly launched in October 2016 and it now monitors EU processes and encourages national platforms in Member States.

In Europe, several cross-sectoral coalitions have been appearing at national level. You can find some of them [here](#). As an example of best practice at national level we would like to highlight the Italy platform Asvis. The Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (Asvis) was founded in February 2016 thanks to the initiative of Fondazione Unipolis and the University of Rome 'Tor Vergata'. The alliance currently gathers over 140 organisations including trade unions, territorial entities, public and private universities, CSOs, etc. The activities of Asvis are funded uniquely from members' financial contributions. The mission of this alliance is to encourage a sustainable lifestyle in private and public organisations and citizens, to analyse the opportunities and implications of the Agenda 2030 for Italy and to contribute to the implementation of the SDGs in Italy. Asvis is member of the ESDN ([European Sustainable Development Network](#)).

## RESOURCES

[Action for Sustainable Development](#)

[Link to SDG Watch Europe](#)

[Link to SDG toolkit on SDG coalitions](#)

