



**Global
Call to Action
Against Poverty**

People Rising to End Inequalities

TOOLKIT

People's Assemblies 2023

during the Global Week to Act4SDGs
at SDG Mid-Point

People's Assemblies 2023

As part of the Global Week to #Act4SDGs, on 15 to 25 September 2023, GCAP mobilises at the SDG Mid-Point to demand an end to poverty and hunger, extreme inequalities, exacerbated by the COVID pandemic, climate change, inflation and the wars - and to demand global justice including universal social protection, tax and debt justice.



People's Assemblies 2023

Summary of Toolkit

Campaign Objectives

People's Assemblies

- Context
- Objectives
- Key Elements
- How to Organise

Public Stunt/Action



People's Assemblies 2023

What: People's Assemblies at the SDG
Mid-Point Unite for Global Justice

When:: August – September 2023

Outcome: 1-2 page document from civil
society representatives with key
demands to send to heads of
state, decision makers and media
before the UN SDG Summit

Website:

<https://gcap.global/peoples-assembly/>



CAMPAIGN OBJECTIVES



National People's Assemblies organized by civil society to develop demands and messages for decision makers to assess and advance SDG implementation e.g. the implementation of Agenda 2030, especially on social protection, livelihood, debt & vaccination.



The governments and the public are informed about the demands and messages from the People's Assemblies



A public stunt from 10 to 15 September 2023



National People's Assemblies contribute to the Global Peoples' Assembly (17-18 Sept) as part of the Global Week to Act4SDGs & [SDG Summit](#) (18-19 Sept, 2023) on occasion of SDG mid-point.



Global Political Situation

The SDG Mid-Point falls into a situation of multiple crisis.

Halfway to the Agenda 2030 Deadline — the visionary promise of social justice and a fair, rights-based, equitable and ecologically-just world for all appears more remote than ever, despite the best efforts of civil society and activists across the globe. The political, financial, economic and social architecture — as well as the individuals who lead these systems — is failing us. Rising food and energy prices, loss of livelihoods, climate change, environmental degradation, war and critical gaps in healthcare — including inequities in the fight against COVID-19 — are pushing excluded people to the margins and making our planet uninhabitable.

Unless there is radical change, **the world will not meet its 2030 SDG commitments until 2065 and it will take nearly 300 years to achieve gender equality.**



Themes for People's Assemblies 2023

SDG Mid-Point & Global Justice

Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic millions of people have been forced into hunger and abject poverty. It has exposed the structural inequalities entrenched in societies and between countries. The protection measures undertaken by governments to address hunger and offer livelihood opportunities lost by marginalized people during the pandemic have ended.

So, we the people, demand UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PROTECTION, a PEOPLE'S VACCINE, UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, TAX and DEBT JUSTICE, CLIMATE JUSTICE and END FOSSIL FUEL USE, and an END TO WAR AND CONFLICTS!

To achieve this we need to UNITE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE.



JOINT MESSAGES

Unite for Global Justice

GCAP works with civil society partners such as Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), Latindadd, among others, to develop strong joint messages for the SDG Mid-Point including the SDG Summit and for the Global Week to Act4SDGs.

Let us join voices again this year to create consistent, strong messages based on the People's Assemblies in the past!

We will be in touch soon to finalise our document with joint messages.



People's Assemblies 2023

Bottom-up Process

1. Organised by communities, constituency groups and wider civil society at local and sub-national level.
2. Representatives present their *perspectives at national, regional and global levels.*
3. Participants identify their own issues and concerns; analyse the structural causes; discuss and develop a set of demands; and then devise joint steps to address these demands.



People's Assemblies 2023

Bottom-up Process

Community and Constituency Assemblies
(July to September)

National People's Assemblies in 34 countries
(August and September)

Online Regional Assemblies
(September)

Global People's Assembly in New York
(17 to 18 September)



National People's Assemblies 2023

Planned in 34 countries

Africa: 18 countries

Asia: 6 countries

Latin America and Caribbean:

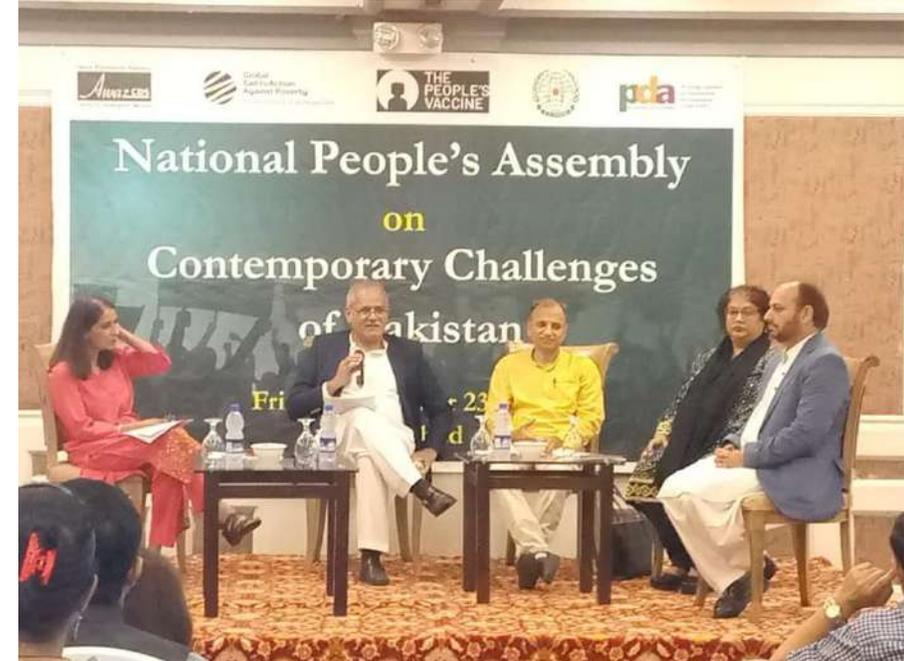
10 Countries



National People's Assemblies 2023

OBJECTIVES

- Bring together representatives from communities and constituencies on national-level to dialogue
- Invite CSOs especially (marginalised groups) to the Assembly
- Collate and articulate the people's issues and demands emerging from local assemblies and the national assembly
- Discuss the SDG Mid-Point in the context of the worsening food, poverty and financial crisis, specifically: social protection, debt and austerity measures, war and conflict, climate justice
- Bring Parliamentarians face to face with the people to hear and respond to their demands
- Engage with the global process of organising People's Assemblies by sending their demand charters to be shared in the Global Assembly



National People's Assemblies 2023

Key elements

TOPIC: SDG-Midpoint – evaluation of SDGs

Participants: Civil society

like NGOs, women and youth organisations

Representatives of marginalised people

for example persons with disabilities,

indigenous people, representatives from

slums, older people, Dalits)



National People's Assemblies 2023

Key elements



PROCESS:

- Community and Constituency Assemblies prepare the National Assemblies (to be held from July to September)
- People's Assemblies agree on a documented output: the Civil Society Declaration on SDG Mid-Point

National People's Assemblies 2023

Key elements

PROCESS:

- The Declaration is shared with governments before the SDG Summit
- Press Conference to share the Declaration
- Public action/stunt during Global Week to Act4SDGs



National People's Assemblies 2023

Key Elements

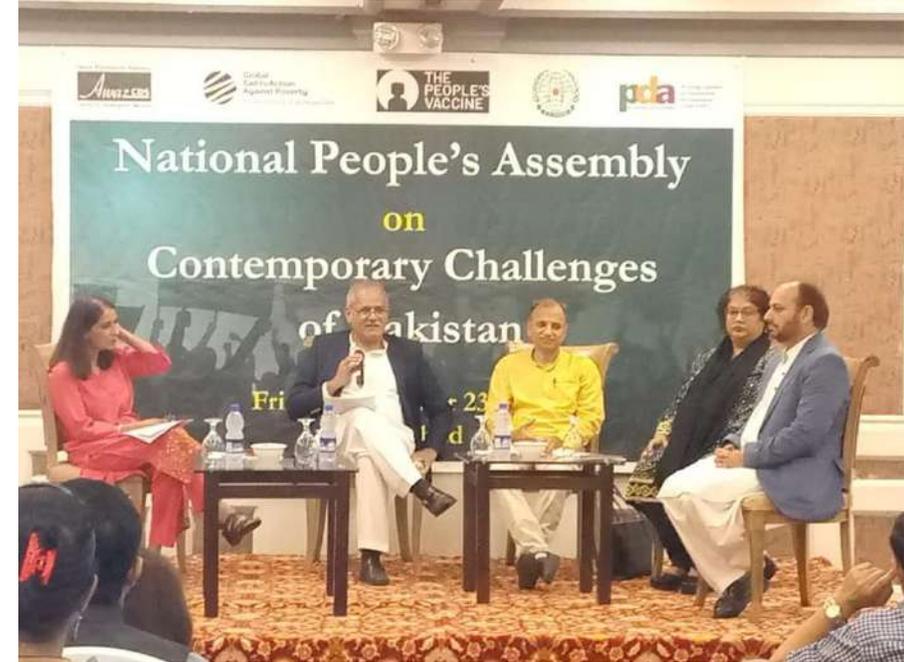
- Invite marginalised communities and CSOs working with them
- Prepare a Civil Society Declaration on the SDG Mid-Point
- Hand over this Declaration to the PM/President before s/he leaves to New York to attend the UN SDG Summit on September 18
- Organise a Press Conference for media
- Perform a Stunt during the Global Week of Action – share and highlight message of the Assembly
- Share all actions on social media



National People's Assemblies 2023

Steps to ORGANISE

- Plan for participation of at least 50 - 100 participants in a one day event
- Invite key representatives of as many marginalised communities and CSOs to a meeting to prepare the People's Assembly.
- In the meeting, discuss the SDG implementation in your country with focus on the inclusion of marginalised communities



National People's Assemblies 2023

Format of National People's Assemblies:

Example agenda

1. Welcome by National Coalition/network (15 Min)
 2. Sharing the context (30 Min)
 3. Inputs on the situation from communities in light of the SDG Mid-Point: Impact of the pandemic and inflation on food, poverty, financial crisis, vaccination, social protection and livelihood. Link to inequalities, SDGs and on Leave No One Behind (60 minutes)
 4. Open Discussion (30 Minutes)
 5. Lunch Break (60 minutes)
 6. Response from Members of Parliament (MPs) (40 Minutes)
 7. Discussion and agreement of key demands and statement (60 minutes)
 - Working in small groups followed by plenary
1. Planning for the follow up actions and the Global Week of Action (30 minutes)
 2. Press Conference - same day or next day (60 minutes)

What are the expected outcomes?

1. Agreed Declaration: One or two pages with key demands, to be shared together with
 - send to your Head of State/Government
 - send to the media
 - share inputs in the Global People's Assembly
2. Social media posts: Each National People's Assembly should share some key posts on both Facebook and Twitter, using the hashtags #PeoplesAssembly and #Act4SDGs, and tag
Facebook: [@GlobalCalltoActionAgainstPoverty](https://www.facebook.com/GlobalCalltoActionAgainstPoverty)
Twitter: [@whiteband](https://twitter.com/whiteband)
3. Mobilisation for Global Week of Action:
National plans for the week of action should be finalised during the assembly and participants mobilised to participate.

Organizing a Press Conference

- Contact the media: Invite media contacts in your country to join the Press Conference. Call them for confirmation.
- Identify the panel who will address the media. Prioritise speakers from marginalised communities and a key CSO leader(s)
- Define the key demands/messages from the Assembly. Summarize it in 3-5 clear points to the press.
- Develop a press kit, a folder of information to give reporters background info about your issue or program.
- Be clear and concise in your presentation. Share lived experience from communities, assume the audience is intelligent and curious.
- Press releases, interviews, and informal media contacts are excellent ways of getting your message across.



TIP:

Contact journalists already in July and August to inform and get them interested about the SDG Mid-Point and the SDG Summit.

ADVOCACY

– Heads of States/Parliament Members

Prime Minister/President:

- Send a letter with the demands from the People's Assembly to the leader before she/he goes to the UN SDG Summit to in New York on 18-19 Sept 2023 It is best to meet in person. Explain him/her the process and urge to raise in the UNGA

Meet Members of Parliament:

- Schedule a meeting: Contact the office of the representative (mayor, senator, Member of Parliament) and seek a meeting by sending a letter via email or telephone.
- During the meeting: A meeting may last 20-30 minutes. Do your homework before the meeting. Thank the representative for the meeting. Decide the number of delegations and who will speak what.



ADVOCACY

– Heads of States/Parliament Members

HOW?

- Letters to the Head of State or Government
- Meet key officials during People's Assembly or afterwards
- Influence political party manifestos based on outcomes

- Highlight the benefit the representative may get from joining our cause: Whenever possible, you can share to the representative that taking this issue forward may be beneficial to him/her and their party.
- Thank the MP the meeting and raising the issues, offer her/him to give more material if needed, and say, "We will keep in touch"!



PREPARE PUBLIC STUNTS to publish your messages!

UNITE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE

Like the Whiteband we will use a band as symbol for our unity. Different colours can be used to show our diversity.

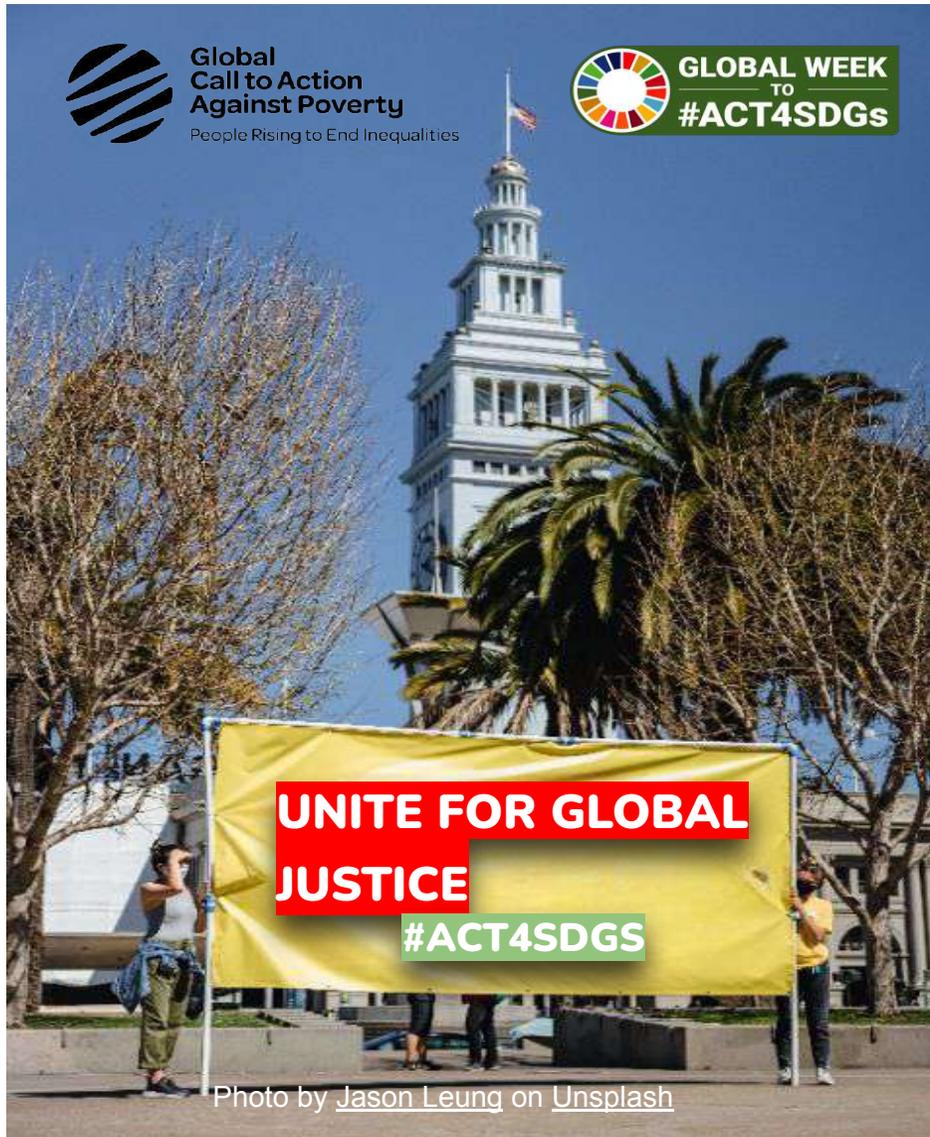
1. A Band or a Ribbon is a symbol of our united action: Use a band to showcase your message of Global Justice. It can be one long band (5 meters or more) or a series of bands held by people side by side making a long chain with messages on SDGs. Prepare at least one band with message, "Unite for Global Justice - #Act4SDGs.. Add messages on topics relevant for your community (Gender equality, Job security, etc.)
2. Do it in An Iconic Place: Organise the stunt in front of a Iconic place, where a group of people can convene. In front of a monument, Parliament, a government office, or on the sea coast and people's places like markets etc, where you can create a higher visibility
3. Media moment: Arrange for this moment to be photographed, filmed by yourself and journalists and distributed on social media and covered by media also



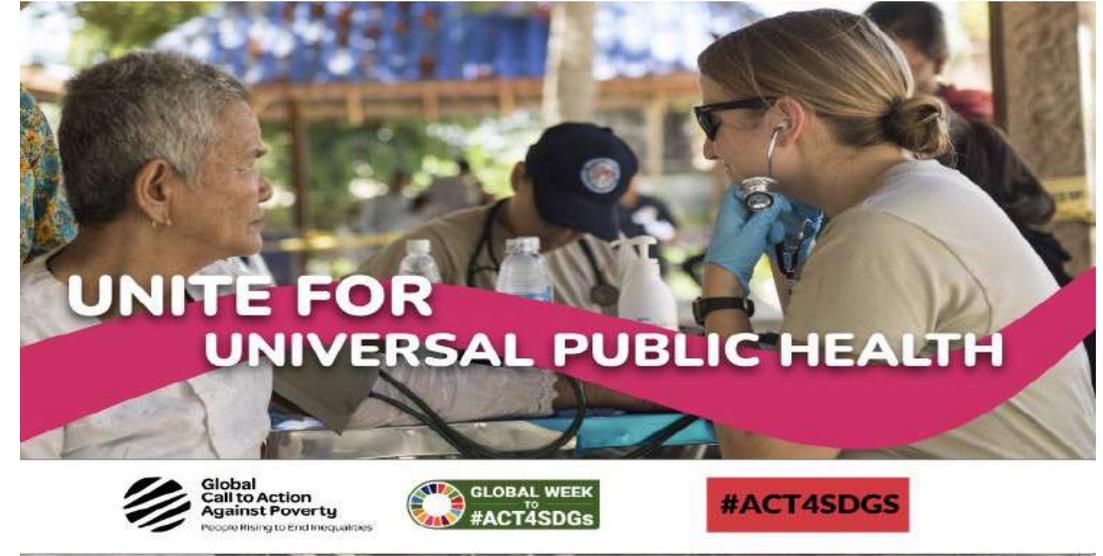
Joint message from GCAP - for use in all countries!



Joint message from GCAP - for use in all countries!



“UNITE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE” can be combined with other messages:



Need more inspiration?

Watch the campaign video [HERE](#).



REGISTER YOUR ACTIONS



**Global
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Against Poverty**

People Rising to End Inequalities

Strengthen your voice and actions by making them known as part of the Global Week of Action - please register them on the website of the Global Week of Action

<https://act4sdgs.org>

This can be all kind of actions like People's Assemblies, stunts and others. Indicate that you are part of GCAP, and tag us on social media so we can amplify each other's stories!



GlobalCallToActionAgainstPoverty



@Whiteband

People's Assemblies since 2019

GCAP organized the first Global [People's Assembly](#) in New York on 24-25 September 2019 in parallel with the UN SDG Summit.

Online Global People's Assemblies were organised in September 2021 and 2022.

National Assemblies were held in:

19 countries in 2020

26 countries in 2021

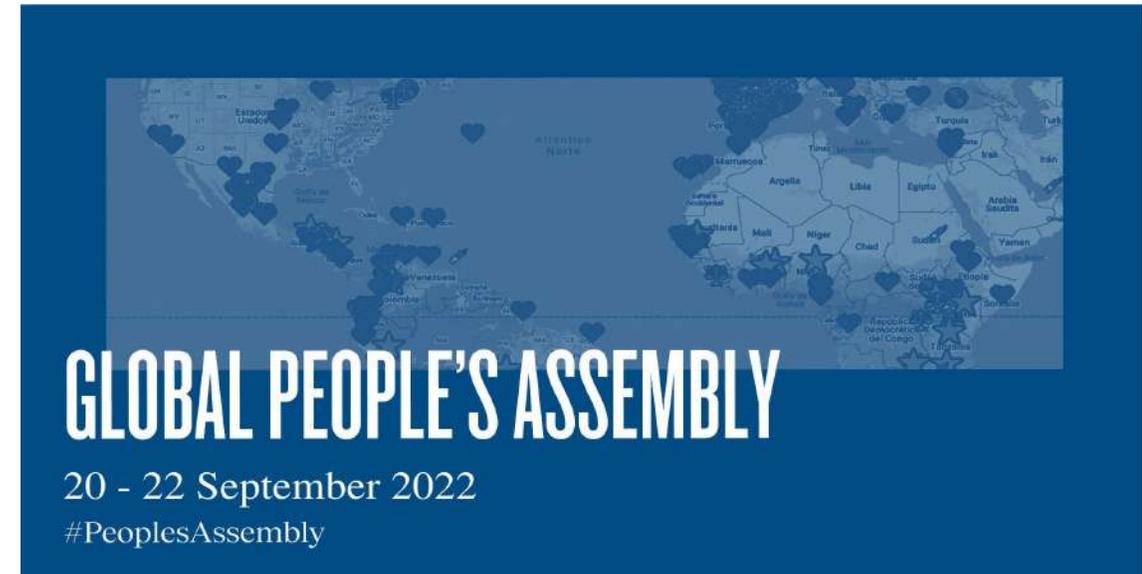
28 countries in 2022



[Watch the People's Assembly 2019 HERE.](#)

Global People's Assembly 2023 at the SDG Summit

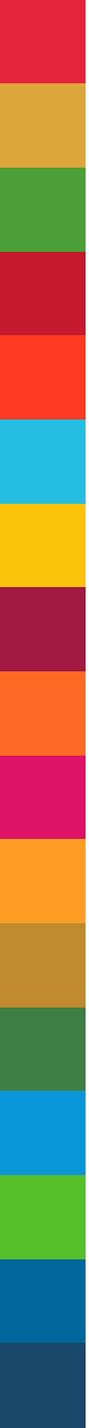
- 17 to 18 September 2023 in New York
- Organised by 40 networks
- 300 participants in New York from 80 countries representing marginalised groups & civil society groups
- 2000 online participants from 120 countries
- Register for the event [here](#).



Global People's Assembly 2023 at the SDG Summit

- Plenaries, Thematic and Constituency sessions
- Networking and planning
- Preparation of Declaration and inputs into SDG Summit
- Public event in front of the UN





Global Call to Action Against Poverty

People Rising to End Inequalities



THANK YOU!