

Informal multi-stakeholder consultation: Making finance work for a sustainable world in 2019 and beyond

14 January 2019, 13:15 – 14:30

Conference Room 12, UNHQ

Concept Note and Programme

Background

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda calls for the engagement of civil society, business sector, local authorities and other relevant stakeholders to contribute to the effective follow-up to the financing for development outcomes and all the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹ Their engagement builds on the rich multi-stakeholder efforts that accompanied the follow-up to the Monterrey and Doha Conferences on financing for development. Further, the Addis Agenda encourages knowledge-sharing, cooperation and partnerships between stakeholders as part of overall efforts towards generating solutions for the achievement of the SDGs.

The contributions of stakeholders will be even more critical as sustainable development financing rises to the top of the global agenda in 2019. In September 2019, the international community will take stock of the first four years of progress in implementation of the Addis and 2030 Agendas at the General Assembly High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development and the High-level Political Forum at the level of Heads of State and Government. This Dialogue, and related activities, will chart a way forward to accelerate progress in mobilizing the necessary resources for sustainable development. Major milestones leading to the September meetings include the 2019 ECOSOC Financing for Development (FFD) Forum and the SDG Investment Fair, to be held 15-18 April, and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, under the auspices of ECOSOC, in July. Furthermore, the Secretariat will also step up its actions to accelerate progress in SDG financing in line with the [Secretary-General's Strategy for Financing the 2030 Agenda](#), which was launched in September 2018.

In preparation for this important year, the President of ECOSOC will convene an informal multi-stakeholder consultation with representatives from civil society, the private sector, local authorities and relevant stakeholders. The purpose of the consultation is for the ECOSOC President and UN Secretariat to brief relevant stakeholders on the analytical and intergovernmental preparations for financing for sustainable development, and to solicit ideas, suggestions and feedback for strengthening the overall approach and enhancing the engagement of stakeholders throughout.

Guiding questions for discussion include:

- What are stakeholders' main expectations for accelerating progress on sustainable development financing in 2019, including through the key milestones listed above?
- How can stakeholder engagement be strengthened in the FFD process—and specifically at the FFD Forum? How would they like to contribute and be engaged?

¹ Paragraph 130, Addis Agenda

- Building on experience, how could the recommendations in the outcome document of the FFD Forum better reflect the analysis, expertise and ideas of stakeholders?
- Looking beyond 2019, what are some of the current and emerging challenges identified by stakeholders in their support to financing efforts at the national, regional and global levels? What solutions would they propose?

Participation and format

Representatives of civil society, the private sector, local authorities and relevant stakeholder groups with access to UNHQ premises are invited to attend the consultation. Several, selected participants will participate remotely via tele/video-conferencing facilities, as needed.

The format will be a 75-minute informal consultation, chaired by the ECOSOC President, and divided into two main sessions – first, an overview on key financing milestones throughout 2019, followed by an interactive discussion among attendees.

Proposed programme

13:15 – 13:20	Welcome and Opening remarks by H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC Introduction of the Co-Facilitators for the FfD Forum outcome document H.E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe (Zambia) and H.E. Mrs. Mariangela Zappia (Italy)
13:20 – 13:30	Presentation of the 2019 timeline and related initiatives by Mr. Navid Hanif, Director of Financing for Sustainable Development Office, DESA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>2019 Financing for Sustainable Development Report</i> of the Inter-Agency Task Force (draft outline and preparatory material) • 2019 FFD Forum • SDG Investment Fair • High-level Dialogue
13:30 – 14:15	Interactive discussion on recommendations and suggestions for improving stakeholder engagement with the FFD process in 2019 <i>[Interventions from the floor should be limited to 3-5 minutes]</i>
14:15 – 14:25	Remarks by the Co-Facilitators for the FfD Forum outcome document H.E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe (Zambia) and H.E. Mrs. Mariangela Zappia (Italy)
14:25 – 14:30	Concluding remarks by H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC