



LDC5

5TH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Stakeholder engagement in the LDC5 Private Sector Forum (PSF)

“The business case for partnerships and investing in the LDCs”

Virtual Event

25 October 2021, 9.30 to 10.30 am EDT

Background

The world's Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are in a race to deliver the Global Development Goals by 2030. This new decade needs to usher in a new global partnership to close the divide.

A major United Nations conference will be held in Doha from 23 to 27 January 2022 also known as the Fifth UN Conference on the LDCs (LDC5 Conference).

The UN Office of the High Representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS) is the designated focal point for Conference preparations.

The LDC5 Conference with the new Programme of Action (2022 – 2031) comes at a critical time. The LDCs is the battleground where the Sustainable Development Goals will be won or lost.

The LDCs hold enormous potential to become more prosperous, globally competitive economies. At the same time significant challenges are faced by the LDCs in attracting private investments that will be critical in promoting entrepreneurship, drive innovation and sustainable businesses practices to enable high, sustained and inclusive economic growth over the next decade. For instance, despite the continued growth of sustainability-themed funds, only a small fraction of these capital flows go to LDCs where needs are the highest.

Governments cannot do it alone. The private sector plays an important role in implementing partnerships and working towards long-term solutions in support of LDCs. We must work together with governments, the private sector, and local entrepreneurs to identify and scale solutions if we are to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The LDC5 Conference will have a dedicated **Private Sector Forum (PSF) from 23 to 25 January 2022 in Doha, Qatar**. The core objective of the private sector track is to mobilise private sector engagement with a view to mobilise long-term private finance and investment into LDCs to support their efforts towards sustainable development. This will be organized across five thematic areas of sustainable agriculture, sustainable energy, digital connectivity, tourism and climate change. The thematic events aim to gain insights in identifying policy, institutional, market and other barriers hindering private sector participation, as well as solutions including the role new technologies play in addressing the challenges facing LDC markets.

In preparation for the Private Sector Forum at the LDC5 Conference, UN-OHRLLS in association with Microsoft is organizing a Private Sector Forum Virtual Event on the 25th of October 2021 under the theme, 'Stakeholder engagement in the LDC5 Private Sector Forum (PSF): The business case for partnerships and investing in the LDCs'.

This event will enable the engagement of key stakeholders from the public and private sector to set the stage for the LDC5 Private Sector Forum and raise awareness.

Please use this link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86158321235>

Speakers include:

- Mr. E. Courtenay Rattray, High Representative and Under-Secretary General of UN-OHRLLS
- Mr. John Frank, Vice President UN Affairs at Microsoft
- Mr. Nic Rudnick, Group CEO, Liquid Intelligent Technologies
- Ms. Tara Nathan, Executive Vice President, Humanitarian & Development, Mastercard
- Mr. Máximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Ms. Louise James, MD and Global Co-Lead, Accenture Development Partnerships
- Ms. Lisa Kurbiel, Director of the Joint SDG Fund
- Mr. Peter Robinson, President and CEO, US Council for International Business
- Ms. Shea Gopaul, International Organisation of Employers, Special Representative to the UN
- Mr. Anders Berlin, Director, LDC Investment Platform, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- Ms. Annette Ssemuwemba, Deputy Executive Director, Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Executive Secretariat
- Ms. Natalia Bayona, Director, Innovation, Education and Investments, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

For further information on the LDC5 Private Sector Forum, please visit:

<https://www.un.org/ldc5/private-sector-forum>