



**United Nations**



**LDC5**  
5TH UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON THE  
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES



PRIVATE  
SECTOR  
FORUM

Co-organiser



**Microsoft**

In partnership with



غرفة قطر  
QATAR CHAMBER

# LDC5 Private Sector Forum

Qatar National Convention Centre, Doha

**5 – 7 March 2023**

## Programme

### Sunday, 5 March

12:15 - 13:45

**High-level Business Luncheon**  
(by invitation only)

15:00 - 16:45

**High-level Opening Dialogue**

17:00 - 18:45

**Special events**

### Monday, 6 March

09:00 - 10:45

**Session 1: Sustainable Energy**

11:00 - 12:45

**Session 2: Agriculture  
& Rural Development**

13:00 - 14:45

**Special events**

15:00 - 16:45

**Session 3: Digital Connectivity**

17:00 - 18:45

**Special events**

### Tuesday, 7 March

09:00 - 10:45

**Session 4: Climate Change**

11:00 - 12:45

**Session 5: Sustainable Tourism**

13:00 - 14:45

**Special events**

15:00 - 16:45

**Summary of sessions and  
High-level Closing Ceremony**

SUNDAY, 5 MARCH 2023



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15:00 – 16:45 HIGH-LEVEL OPENING DIALOGUE



Chair

**Ms. Rabab FATIMA**, Secretary-General of the LDC5 Conference

Co-Chair of the LDC5 Private Sector Forum

**Mr. Brad SMITH**, Vice Chair and President, Microsoft



Keynote

**H.E. Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim AL THANI**, Chairman, Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry



**Ms. Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN**, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



**Ms. Somachi CHRIS-ASOLUKA**, Chief Executive Officer, Tony Elumelu Foundation



**H.E. Mr. António GUTERRES**, Secretary-General, United Nations (via-video)

**H.E. Mr. Jochen FLASBARTH**, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany



**Mr. Thomas ÖSTROS**, Vice-President, European Investment Bank (EIB)



**Mr. Sitoyo LOPOKOIYIT**, Managing Director, M-PESA Africa



**Mr. Strive MASIYIWA**, Founder and Executive Chairman, Econet Group



Master of Ceremony

**Ms. Folly BAH THIBAUT**, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator



**MONDAY, 6 MARCH 2023**



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**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 1**

Agricultural Commodity Transformation (ACT) Fund: innovative instrument for impact investing.

Organiser: Common Fund for Commodities, Room 1

**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 2**

Fostering women-led business in LDC. Organiser: APCO Worldwide, Room 2

**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 3**

Agora – A matchmaker for investors and investees

Organiser: UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), Changed to Exhibition Hall 6

MONDAY, 6 MARCH 2023



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09:00 – 10:45 SESSION 1: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY



Keynote

**Mr. Andrew M. HERSCOWITZ**, Chief Development Officer, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)



Speakers and discussants

**Ms. Camille ANDRE-BATAILLE**, Managing Director and Founder, ANKA Madagascar



**Mr. William BRENT**, Chief Marketing Officer, Husk Power Systems



**Mr. Michael KOGELER**, Chief Executive Officer, Nedamco Africa



**Ms. Sophie ODUPOY**, Group Head of Public Affairs, KOKO Networks



**Mr. Jalel SAGER**, Co-founder and Board Chair, New Sun Road



**Ms. Gauri SINGH**, Deputy Director-General, International Renewable Energy (IRENA)



**Mr. Malango WASHIKALA**, Co-founder & Co-Chief Executive Officer, Altech Group

Moderator

**Ms. Folly BAH THIBAUT**, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator



Access to energy is moving at a slower pace and falling behind actual needs to achieve structural transformation in LDCs. Energy sector in LDCs needs a transformative change to bring SDG 7 within their reach. An enabling environment, underpinned by policies and regulations to adopt least-cost pathways to electrification, enhancing socio-economic inclusiveness of energy access combined with catalytic finance both public and private, can help these countries achieve rapid progress towards 2030. This session aims to launch concrete initiatives and public private partnerships to support access to sustainable energy in LDCs to catalyse action both by public and private partners towards the goal of universal access to energy and to accelerate the energy transition in the LDCs.

MONDAY, 6 MARCH 2023



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11:00 – 12:45 SESSION 2: AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Keynote

**H.E. Mr. Andrzej Sebastian DUDA**, President, Republic of Poland



Speakers and discussants

**Mr. Mohamed Bin Ahmed AL OBAIDLY**, Board Member and Head of Food and Agriculture Committee of Qatar



**Mr. Máximo TORERO**, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



**Mr. Dejene TEZERA**, Director, Division of Agribusiness and Infrastructure Development, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)



**H.E. Sheikh Mohammed BELAL**, Managing Director, Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)



**Ms. Hanane MOURCHID**, Chief Sustainability Officer, OCP Group



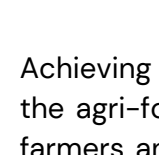
**Mr. Alessandro CATALDO**, EMEA Head of Agrifood Sector, EY Switzerland



**Ms. Rose Nsereko NAMAYANJA**, Managing Director, Kanda Poultry Farm



**Mr. Brad STAPLES**, Chief Executive Officer, APCO Worldwide



**Mr. Krishnan PALLASSANA**, Country Director India, Digital Green

Moderator

**Ms. Femi OKE**

Moderator and Co-Founder Moderate The Panel LLC



Achieving global food security and ending hunger and extreme poverty requires transformation of the agri-food systems in many LDCs, addressing the particular challenges faced by smallholder farmers and agribusinesses. Public-Private Partnerships can unlock domestic private and public investments in support of local agricultural development in LDCs, including through deploying a combination of catalytic capital, hands-on technical assistance, risk mitigation strategies, and direct engagements with the private sector, domestic banks, and local authorities that identify and develop bankable local projects. This session will explore opportunities for scaling-up existing and developing further partnerships aimed at transforming agri-food systems.

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**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 4**

Microsoft Airband Partnerships – Driving Meaningful Connectivity and Digital Transformation in LDCs

Organiser: Microsoft, Room 1

**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 5**

New instruments and partnerships for SDG Acceleration: Islamic Social Financing for the SDGs

Organiser: UN Joint SDG Fund, Room 2

**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 6**

Capacity building of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth, for sustainable agriculture in Senegal

Organiser: OCP Africa, Room 3

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15:00–16:45 SESSION 3: DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Keynote

H.E. Mr. Hakainde HICHILEMA, President, Republic of Zambia

Panel 1 Infrastructure

Mr. Nic RUDNICK, Group Deputy Executive Chairman, Liquid Intelligent Technologies

Mr. Mike LUBIN, Vice President of Corporate Strategy, Viasat

Mr. Farouk RAMJI, Chief Executive Officer, Mawingu Networks

Ms. Shamima AKHTER, Director, Corporate Affairs, Partnerships and Communications, Unilever Bangladesh

Mr. Chris SHARROCK, Vice President of UN Affairs and International Organizations, Microsoft

Ms. Nena SANDERSON, Chief Customer Officer, M-KOPA

Panel 2 – Skilling

Ms. Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Mr. David OSBORNE, Head, Development Strategy, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK

Mr. Roberto SUÁREZ SANTOS, Secretary-General, International Organisation of Employers (IOE)

Ms. Celina LEE, Chief Executive Officer, Zindi

Mr. Chris SHARROCK, Vice President of UN Affairs and International Organizations, Microsoft

Ms. Fatou SOW KANE, Chief Executive Officer, Expresso Sénégal

Mr. Brahim GHRIBI, Head of Government Relations & Policy Affairs Middle East & Africa, Nokia

Mr. Kamal S. QUADIR, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, bKash Limited

Moderator

Ms. Folly BAH THIBAULT, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator





15:00–16:45 SESSION 3: DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY (from previous page)

While three quarters of people in the LDCs are covered by a mobile broadband network, only a quarter are using it. In other words, the digital divide is not only a factor of having access to the Internet but rather also, price of services and devices, lack of awareness of the Internet and its benefits, and lack of digital skills. Furthermore, there is not enough productive use of broadband within the LDCs.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, connectivity has the potential to sustain families, communities and businesses through online working, e-learning, e-commerce, online health services etc. But this connectivity cannot be fully exploited without the right skills, tools and enabling environments.

Therefore, ICTs and Internet access are key building blocks of the digital economy, and have been recognized as important drivers for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The digital connectivity session will focus on extending meaningful and affordable access to the Internet in LDCs and, enabling meaningful and productive use of the Internet in LDCs.

**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 7**

Opportunities and Challenges in Doing Solar in LDCs  
Organiser: WAIPA, Room 1

**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 8**

Scalable solutions to SME-investability in LDCs – shared services and service-backed loans  
Organiser: FCA Investments, Room 2

**17:00 – 18:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 9**

Partner2Connect: Accelerating the Doha Programme of Action through partnerships for meaningful connectivity and digital transformation  
Organiser: Partner2Connect Digital Coalition, Room 3



TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2023



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## 09:00–10:45 SESSION 4: CLIMATE CHANGE



### Keynote

**Mr. Simon STIELL**, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)



### Speakers and discussants

**Ms. Kirtika CHALLA**, Head of Power & Infrastructure and Member of Group Council, CrossBoundary



**Mr. Selwin HART**, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action, United Nations



**Mr. Nick HUGHES OBE**, Co-founder & Managing Director, 4R Digital



**Ms. Louise JAMES**, Managing Director, Accenture Development Partnerships



**H.E. Mr. Dan JØRGENSEN**, Minister for Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy of Denmark



**Mr. Soji OMISORE**, Deputy Director – Private Sector Finance, Green Climate Fund



**Mr. Paras PATEL**, Chief Executive Officer, E3-Capital



**Ms. Delphine TRAORÉ**, Regional CEO & Regional Executive Board Member of Allianz Africa, Allianz Africa



**Mr. Haoliang XU**, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (RBPPS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Addressing the root causes of climate change and increasing available resources for adaptation are key to the future success and resilience of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). People in the LDCs are, on average, six times more likely to be injured, lose their home, be displaced, or evacuated, or require emergency assistance than those in high-income countries. Economic losses due to disasters are also disproportionately higher in the least developed countries. This session will launch an initiative to build up LDCs' engagement on issues of risk finance and insurance, from research and evidence, through legislating for and regulating the insurance sector, through to the development of new products, tools and services.

### Moderator

**Ms. Folly BAH THIBAUT**, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator



11:00 – 12:45 SESSION 5: SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



Keynote

**H.E. Mr. Hassan AL THAWADI**, Secretary General, Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, 2022 FIFA World Cup



Speakers and discussants

**Mr. Mossadeck BALLY**, Chief Executive Officer, Azalai Hotels



**Mr. Nico VISSER**, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, TUI Care Foundation



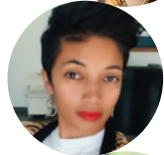
**Ms. Zoritsa UROSEVIC**, Executive Director, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)



**Ms. Tiffany MISRAHI**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Tourism of Saudi Arabia



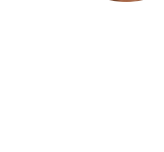
**Professor Geoffrey LIPMAN**, Co-Founder at The SUNx Program and President, SUNx Malta



**Ms. Romiary ANDRIANARISOA**, President of the Commission for Sustainable Development and Business Ethics, Groupement des Entreprises de Madagascar (GEM)



**Ms. Catherine MARSH**, Deputy Director General, Private Sector Operations Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB)



**Mr. Suleiman MOHAMED**, Chief Executive Officer / Founder, CHAKO Zanzibar



Tourism has the potential to be a key agent for sustainable development in LDCs with the sector accounting for 7 per cent of total exports, a figure that stands at 10 per cent for non-oil exporting LDCs. Tourism was among the main contributors enabling the graduation of LDCs which are also Small Island Developing States including Cabo Verde, Samoa, Maldives and most recently Vanuatu. As the tourism sector looks to the recovery of international travellers and investments, there is an opportunity for rethinking tourism post-Covid and to build back better, putting LDC's tourism assets and unique selling points such as nature, cultural heritage and pristine environment at the core. This session will explore opportunities to position the tourism sector as a significant driver of sustainable development in LDCs through leveraging partnerships to promote entrepreneurship and implement scalable solutions for recovery with the strong support of the private sector over the next 10-years.

Moderator

**Ms. Folly BAH THIBAUT**, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator



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**13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break / Networking**

**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 10**

Leveraging Private Investment for LDC Graduation and the 2030 Agenda.

Organiser: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Room 1

**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 11**

Launch of the Indian Ocean Private Sector Platform (ADD OI): 30 projects to reach -30 by 2030.

Organiser: TF 261, Room 2

**13:00 – 14:45 PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM SPECIAL EVENT 12**

Supporting the next generation workforce through the power of digital economy.

Organiser: EY, Room 3

TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2023



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15:00 – 16:45 HIGH-LEVEL CLOSING CEREMONY



Special Remarks

**H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Hamad Bin Qassim Al-Abdullah AL-THANI**,  
Minister of Commerce and Industry, State of Qatar



Presentation of the Private Sector Outcome Document and closing  
**Mr. Chris SHARROCK**, Vice President, UN Affairs and International  
Organizations, Microsoft



**Ms. Rabab FATIMA**, Secretary-General of the LDC5 Conference

Moderator

**Ms. Folly BAH THIBAUT**, Broadcast journalist, host, moderator

