

2023 Development Cooperation Forum

14- 15 March, ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ

Draft concept note and programme

1- Tagline: Prioritizing the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable through risk-informed development cooperation

2- Background and meeting objectives

The 2023 DCF will emphasize the human dimension of development cooperation, with a focus on the experiences of people that development cooperation policies and practices are meant to serve. It will provide a critical platform to shape high-impact development cooperation that responds to multiple crises while maintaining a laser focus on realizing the SDGs in their totality. As such, it will put in place a firm foundation for collective policy actions in 2023 at the FFD Forum, High-level Political Forum, the SDG Summit and the High-level Dialogue on FFD. Specifically, the DCF will foster better understanding and concrete opportunities to:

- identify and assess growing, multi-faceted vulnerabilities amidst the evolving risk landscape;
- strengthen development cooperation in priority areas targeting multi-dimensional vulnerabilities, such as climate change adaptation, digital transformation and universal social protection;
- empower local governments and communities at the forefront of multiple crises to play a bigger role in development cooperation; and
- strategize on how development cooperation gains can be sustained in the long-term.

As the principal analytical input into the 2023 DCF, the Report of the Secretary-General will support these discussions with research and analysis of the latest trends, progress and challenges; fresh data from the 2022 DCF survey exercise and study; and insights from DCF policy dialogue and peer learning events.

3- Proposed sessions

Day 1: Tuesday, 14 March 2023

10:00 – 10:30 AM: Opening

- **H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva**, President of the Economic and Social Council, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations
- **DCF Spotlight Video Presentation**
- **Ms. Amina Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations (video message)
- **Keynote address: Mr. Avinash Persaud**, Special Envoy to the Prime Minister of Barbados on Investment and Financial Services

Protecting lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable for more effective development cooperation

10:30 AM– 1:00 PM

Introduction of the Report of the Secretary-General and key messages from LDC-V

- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (introduction of 2023 Report of the Secretary-General on Trends and progress in international development cooperation)
- **Ms. Rabab Fatima**, High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Islands Developing States, UN-OHRLS (video message)
- **Mr. Khalifa bin Jassem Al-Kuwari**, Director General, Qatar Fund for Development

Panel presentations and interactive discussion

This discussion will explore how countries are balancing the various priorities of development cooperation to manage multiple crises simultaneously. Participants will include representatives from developing countries, development partners, philanthropy and development banks on how to allocate limited resources effectively in this difficult context. Representatives from vulnerable groups would also highlight in their own words the distinctive challenges they are facing, while providing insights on good practices in mobilizing high-impact development cooperation that responds holistically to multidimensional vulnerabilities.

Chair: H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social Council

Setting the scene:

- **Mr. Olivier De Schutter**, Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (virtual)

Moderator: Mr. Salih Booker, Senior Program Officer, International Cooperation and Global Governance, Ford Foundation

Panelists:

- **Ms. Karla Majano de Palma**, Director General of the El Salvador Agency for International Cooperation
- **H.E. Mr. Björn Olof Skoog**, Ambassador and Head of Delegation, European Union
- **Ms. Carmen Correa**, CEO, Pro Mujer
- **Mr. Eric Pelofsky**, Deputy Chief of Staff, Rockefeller Foundation

Discussants:

- **Mr. Robin Ogilvy**, Special Representative to the United Nations, OECD
- **Mr. Vitalice Meja**, Executive Director, Reality of Aid Africa Network

Interactive discussion

1:00 – 3:00PM: Lunch Break

3:00 – 6:00 PM: Scaling up effective development cooperation for climate resilience

Objective: Explore opportunities for mainstreaming climate resilience into development cooperation to address multidimensional vulnerabilities

Development cooperation, in all its forms – financing, capacity support, collective action for policy change and multi-stakeholder partnerships – can and should do more to support developing countries in meeting their climate goals. Latest outcomes from COP27 have underscored the importance of Loss and Damage finance through the establishment of a fund to support developing countries to navigate the impacts of climate change. Work now begins on how to structure and operationalize the fund to address the gaps in the current climate finance architecture and ensure that the most vulnerable countries will get timely access to needed resources. While commitments have been made by several countries, a broader donor base will be needed to respond to the scale of loss and damage. The same is true for adaptation finance. The 2022 Adaptation Gap Reports details that international adaptation finance is five to ten times below estimated needs, which are anticipated to be over \$300 billion annually by 2030. The lack of agreement on a global goal for adaptation or framework continues to undermine progress on climate adaptation. Momentum will need to be built toward COP28 to arrive at a meaningful outcome which meets the scale and scope of climate adaptation finance needs.

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Setting the scene

- **H.E. Dr. Rania Al-Mashat**, Minister, International Development Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt (video)

- **Ms. Kantuta Diana Conde Choque**, Member and Focal Point for the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus- LAC region, Network of Indigenous Youth of Latin America and the Caribbean (virtual)

Panel presentations and interactive discussion

- **Moderator: Ms. Bella Tonkonogy**, US Director, Climate Policy Initiative

Panelists:

- **Ms. Eleonora Betancur González**, Director, Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia – APC Colombia
- **H.E. Mr. Munir Akram**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Facinet Sylla**, Executive Director, International Monetary Fund
- **Prof. Saleemul Huq**, Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) (virtual)

Discussants:

- **Ms. Luz Keila Virginia Gramajo Vilchez**, Secretary of Planning and Programming of the Presidency, Guatemala
- **Ms. Jennifer del Rosario-Malonzo**, Executive Director, IBON International

Interactive discussion

Day 2: Wednesday, 15 March 2023

10:00 – 10:30AM: Opening of Day 2 and recap of Day 1 discussions

Chair: H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social Council

- **Mr. Jonathan Glennie**, Co-Founder, Global Nation
- **Ms. Pooja Rangaprasad**, Director, Policy and Advocacy, Financing for Development, Society for International Development

Interactive discussion

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM: Session III: Building momentum for effective social protection measures

Objective: Highlight how development cooperation can help to fill gaps in social protection systems, reducing vulnerabilities and building resilience

Committed, strategic investment in people, including through universal social protection, is essential to building long-term resilience of individuals and countries. During the pandemic, developing countries intensified existing social protection measures, and in some instances introduced new social protection programmes to support the most vulnerable. In the 2022 DCF Survey Study, developing countries highlighted ongoing challenges to their social protection systems: coverage of the most vulnerable; financing; weak legislative and policy frameworks; and insufficient institutional and human resource capacities. Many of these challenges have only been exacerbated by the triple food-energy-finance crisis and subsequent cost-of-living crisis of the past year. Strengthening development cooperation for social protection can ensure that social protection measures protect against diverse risks and enhance their age-, gender- and climate-responsiveness.

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Setting the scene

- **H.E. Ms. Marta Eugenia Esquivel Rodriguez**, Executive President, the Costa Rican Social Security Fund
- **Ms. Beate Andrees**, Special Representative to the UN and Director of the ILO Office for the United Nations

Panel presentations and interactive discussion

- **Moderator: Dr. Michael Bröning**, Executive Director, New York Office, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office

Panelists:

- **H.E. Mr. Alexei Buzu**, Minister of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova
- **H.E. Mrs. Fatou Gueye Diane**, Minister of Women, Family and Child Protection, Senegal
- **Mr. Mariano Berro González**, Executive Director of the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI)
- **Mrs. Arunee Hiam**, Deputy Director-General of Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA)

Discussants:

- **H.E. Paula Narváez Ojeda**, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations and Vice President of ECOSOC
- **H.E. Mr. Agustín Santos Maraver**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations
- **Ms. Sarah Lynne S. Daway-Ducanes**, Assistant Secretary, National Economic Development Authority, Philippines

Interactive discussion

3:00 - 5:30PM: Strengthening capacities to overcome the digital divide

Objective: Identify pathways for boosting digital connectivity and resilience through development cooperation in its diverse forms

The pandemic illustrated that in an increasingly digital economy, a deepening digital divide impacts the most vulnerable and exacerbates inequalities. Effective development cooperation should respond to the needs of developing countries to narrow the digital divide and expand access of developing countries to digital infrastructure and technology. Technology transfer and capacity building should be scaled up to support inclusive livelihoods in developing countries through opportunities facilitated by the digital economy and e-commerce. South-South Cooperation could play a significant role through enhanced technology transfer and technical cooperation.

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Setting the scene

- **Mr. Chen Chunjiang**, Assistant Minister of Commerce, People's Republic of China (video message)

Panel presentations and interactive discussion

Moderator: Ms. Ursula Wynhoven, ITU Representative to the United Nations

Panelists:

- **H.E. Ms. Martha Delgado Peralta**, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico (video message)
- **Ms. Juliette Prophan**, Deputy Director, Development Policy Office, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, United Kingdom
- **Ms. Sonia Jorge**, Founder and Executive Director, Strategy and Partnerships of the Global Digital Inclusion Partnership

Discussants:

- **H.E. Mrs. Ruchira Kamboj**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, India

Interactive discussion

5:30 – 6:00: Closing

- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- **H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva**, President of the Economic and Social Council, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations