

INFF event

Tuesday 23rd July, 15.00 – 16.30

UNDP Ethiopia Resident Representative

Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
3 mins	Welcome + introduction	Moderator: Tim Strawson , INFF Team Lead, UNDP
10 mins	Opening remarks and Concise Overview on Ethiopia's Integrated Sustainable financing strategy	Semereta Sewasew State Minister of Finance, Ethiopia
7 mins	Opening remarks	Li Junhua Under-Secretary-General, UN DESA
40 mins	<p>Panel discussion: Global INFF experiences and priorities for FfD4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Panelist interventions (5 mins each) <p><i>Guiding topics for panel discussion: INFF experience to date and priorities for FfD4 outcome in relation to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Mobilising and aligning public and private capital for sustainable development</i> ● <i>Integrated approach to financing - financing for development, gender equality, social, climate and environmental priorities</i> ● <i>Advancing reform of the national and international financing architecture</i> 	<p>Moderator: Tim Strawson, INFF Team Lead, UNDP</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sergio Colina, Director General for Sustainable Development Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain ● Ali Malik Yakubu, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance, Nigeria ● Shari Spiegel, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, DESA ● Erik Korsgren, Deputy Head of Department for Partnerships and Innovation, Sida ● Binta Jeng, First Secretary, Gambian Mission to the UN ● Antti Karhunen, Director for Sustainable Finance, Investment and Jobs, DG INTPA, European Commission
15 mins	Q&A	Moderator: Tim Strawson , INFF Team Lead, UNDP
3 mins	Closing remarks	Zeleka Paulos Social Policy Specialist UNICEF Ethiopia
5 mins	Closing remarks	Samuel Gbaydee Doe UNDP Resident Representative, Ethiopia

The RR will come in to provide final closing remarks, following the reflections by UNICEF.

Question from moderator for UNDP Ethiopia RR

Please share your reflections on the panel in relation to what we've heard in discussions throughout yesterday and today – and what this means for FfD4 in relation to INFFs.

Talking points. 5 minutes

Global challenges and imperatives on financing

One point we've heard repeatedly over the last couple of days is that the SDG financing gap has actually grown since Addis. The figures of \$2.5 trillion in 2015 and more than \$4 trillion now are shocking and should drive us, urgently, to concerted effort.

We've also heard many calls for increased domestic revenue mobilisation, increased mobilisation of private capital, the scaling up of MDB financing – and this is right: this is what is needed to close the financing gap and accelerate SDG progress.

But it's also the case that every context is very different – the opportunities to mobilise and effectively invest different types of capital, the challenges and hurdles to getting there, and the institutions and capacities to implement reforms are unique to each country.

Power of country-leadership on financing

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda opens by emphasising that each country is responsible for its own development agenda – though of course, this needs to be within a conducive international environment.

But what I see in these INFFs, which were first introduced in the Addis Agenda, is the power of a country-led approach to financing sustainable development, in complement to reform efforts internationally.

We've heard from the three countries on the panel – they are advancing reforms that are not only unlocking new finance but enhancing the sustainable development impact of existing finance and building resilience.

And our UNDP Administrator yesterday highlighted that this is something we're seeing at growing scale across the countries using the INFF approach – recent analysis of the most advanced reforms in 17 countries found \$16 billion in new finance leveraged and enhanced SDG alignment and scope for greater SDG impact in \$32 billion of existing financing.

Making finance work for people and planet

Second, we've spoken a lot about development being in crisis, climate being in crisis, nature being in crisis.

Finance is central to the solutions that are required to these problems – but it doesn't make sense to invest a dollar on development, another dollar on climate and another dollar on nature if you can make a three-dollar investment that fully benefits development, climate and nature together.

Now there will be a continued need for dedicated lines of financing for specific priorities:-

But what we've heard from the panel today is that, at the country level, INFFs are driving toward an integrated approach to financing, with financing strategies that advance the national development plan and SDGs as well as the NDC and Paris Agreement. This can yield significant benefits.

Partnerships to accelerate efforts at the country level

Finally, we've spoken a lot about the need for partnerships.

We've heard from the partners on this panel how they are advancing and aligning their efforts behind country-led approaches to financing and the benefits this can yield.

We've also spoken a lot, and there have been many calls, to scale up the supply of capital globally including through MDB reform.

It's important that we think about how to bring demand and supply together – so that we are scaling up financing in the ways that will work most effectively at the country level.

Closing

Let me close here with three questions that this should cause us to consider as we move toward FfD4:

- How do we get the right balance between advancing reform of the international financial architecture while also reinforcing country-leadership?
- How do we ensure that FfD4 is an agenda not only for the SDGs, but for climate, nature, gender equality and other agendas? – i.e. how do we connect this process with COP29 and COP30 where countries will present their 3rd NDCs, with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and others?
- How do we ensure that our efforts to scale up international capital, through MDB financing and other means, are responsive to the demand and priorities at the country level?

Recognising and supporting country-leadership on financing through the INFFs that were introduced in Addis throughout the FfD4 Outcome can help us to address these crucial questions and to accelerate the progress on financing that we all seek.