

Financing for Small Island Developing States (FINS)

Application of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) Financing Strategy for the Dominican Republic

INFF Training Workshop

Hotel Catalonia, 2-4 September 2025

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Financing for Small Island Developing States (FINS) initiative addresses the unique vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) by enhancing their capacity to mobilize financing aligned with national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The initiative supports SIDS through Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs). An INFF helps countries strengthen planning processes and overcome existing impediments to financing sustainable development at the country level. It lays out the full range of financing sources – domestic and international sources of both public and private finance – and allows countries to develop a strategy to increase investment, manage risks and achieve sustainable development priorities, as identified in a country’s national sustainable development strategy.

The Dominican Republic’s National Development Strategy (NDS) 2030 outlines the country’s roadmap for closing development gaps through four strategic axes, 19 general objectives, 57 specific objectives, and 460 lines of action, underpinned by six cross-cutting policies including human rights, gender equality, and sustainability. The NDS is operationalized through the National Multi-Annual Public Sector Plan (PNPSP) 2025–2028, which identifies 17 priority interventions ranging from employment, education, and healthcare to digital transformation, trade, and climate change. Complementing these efforts, the government has launched the “Meta RD 2036” Plan, aimed at doubling GDP by 2036 through targeted sectoral development and broad-based stakeholder engagement.

OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of the **INFF Training Workshop**, scheduled for 2-4 September 2025, is to help officials of the Dominican Republic government understand how INFFs can help achieve development goals set in the NDS and guide national policy priorities. In particular, the workshop aims to:

- a) Provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of an INFF and its four building blocks: [assessment and diagnostics](#), [financing strategy](#), [monitoring and evaluation](#) and [governance and coordination](#).
- b) Deepen participants’ understanding of the financing strategy currently under development and support their engagement in shaping its content, focus, and implementation.
- c) Encourage participants can apply the concepts and tools in their day-to-day responsibilities.

- d) Guide about the relevance of governance and coordination for development financing through INFF.

PRE-REQUISITE TRAINING

The workshop is aimed at professionals and public officials at technical and managerial levels who are involved in public policy planning and prioritization processes, the definition of development goals, national budgeting, and the formulation of macroeconomic policies. Participants are expected to have a solid understanding of national planning instruments, particularly the National Development Strategy (NDS) 2030 and the National Multi-Annual Public Sector Plan (PNPSP) 2025–2028. This group should also include those who maintain regular engagement with key actors from the private sector and development cooperation—whether to mobilize resources, design projects, or establish public-private partnerships.

If possible, participants are expected to have had some degree of involvement in the implementation of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) in the Dominican Republic, although this is not a strict requirement. However, participants must have a theoretical foundation on Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF), and it is therefore a prerequisite to complete the following online courses:

- [Integrated national financing frameworks \(INFFs\) e-learning course: An Introduction](#) (60 min)
- [Integrated national financing frameworks \(INFFs\) e-learning course: From theory to practice](#) (3 hours)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY 1 Tuesday 2 September	Session
08.00-08.30	Registration
08.30-09.00	OPENING SESSION (30m) - Martin Francos Rodriguez, Deputy Minister of Planning and Public Investment, Ministry of Finance and Economy (MHE) (TBC) - Julia Sanchez, UN Resident Coordinator for the Dominican Republic - Shari Spiegel, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, UNDESA (video)
09.00-09.30	PART 1 SESSION 1.1a: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND PLANNING INSTRUMENTS (30m) This session aims to provide an overview of the Dominican Republic's development goals, progress and challenges in implementation, including the financing needs. It provides the context for the application of an INFF. - Presentation by Nelson Chavez, General Director of Economic and Social Development (MHE)

DAY 1 Tuesday 2 September	Session
	- Q&A At the end of this session, participants should have a broad understanding of the Dominican Republic's development goals, progress and challenges in implementation, including on financing. (Live Poll - MHE)
09.30-10.00	SESSION 1.1b: OVERVIEW OF AN INTEGRATED NATIONAL FINANCING FRAMEWORK (30m) This session aims to provide an overview of an INFF, including an introduction to the four building blocks: assessment and diagnostics, financing strategy, monitoring & evaluation and governance and coordination. - Presentation by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) - Q&A At the end of this session, participants should be able to: • Have a broad understanding of INFF and its four building blocks (Live Poll - MHE)
10.00-10.30	BREAK (30min)
10.30-11.00	SESSION 1.2: BUILDING BLOCK 1 – ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSTICS (30m) This session aims to elaborate on how Building Block 1 expands upon traditional needs assessment models to provide a complete picture of: (i) assessing financing needs; (ii) assessing the financing landscape; (iii) assessing risk and (iv) assessing policy and institutional binding constraints. - Presentation by Yanis Burgsdorff (UNDESA) - Q&A
11.00-12.30	SESSION 1.2: BUILDING BLOCK 1 – ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSTICS (continued) (1h 30m) - Group activity 1 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of this session, participants should be able to: • Understand the four components of assessment and diagnostics: (i) assessing financing needs; (ii) assessing the financing landscape; (iii) assessing risk and (iv) assessing policy and institutional binding constraints. • Identify gaps in assessment and diagnostics for the achievement of the development goals established by the national planning system. • Understand how to prioritize and/or apply assessment and diagnostics in a phased approach for the achievement of the national development goals.

DAY 1 Tuesday 2 September	Session
	(Live Poll - MHE)
12.30-13.30	LUNCH (1h)
13.30-14.00	SESSION 1.3: BUILDING BLOCK 2 – FINANCING STRATEGY (30m) A financing strategy sets out a set of sequenced actions to finance national development strategies and goals and mobilize and align financing with national priorities. This session aims to outline the scope and limitations of a financing strategy, as well as on its application in practice. - Presentation by Yanis Burgsdorff (UNDESA) - Q&A
14.00-15.30	SESSION 1.3: BUILDING BLOCK 2 – FINANCING STRATEGY (continued) (1h 30m) - Group activity 2 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of this session, participants should be able to: • Understand the role of a financing strategy within an INFF • Understand the scope and limitations of a financing strategy • Apply the concepts needed to develop a financing strategy (Live Poll - MHE)
15.30-16.00	BREAK (30m)
16.00-16.30	SESSION 1.4a: BUILDING BLOCK 3 – MONITORING & REVIEW (30m) Monitoring and review are a key component of an effective INFF. This session aims to outline monitoring and review in the context of an INFF: (i) monitoring progress in different financing flows and policy areas, and (ii) strengthening coherence among already existing tracking and monitoring systems and closing gaps in the architecture. - Presentation by Resina Katafono (UNDESA) - Q&A
16.30-16.50	DAY 1 WRAP UP SESSION (20m) - Summary of Day 1 and Preview of Day 2 by Perla Soto (MHE)

DAY 2 Wednesday 3 September	Session
08.00-08.30	Arrival

DAY 2 Wednesday 3 September	Session
08.30-09.00	RECAP OF DAY 1 (30m) <i>Facilitator: Perla Soto (MHE)</i> (Live Poll - MHE)
09.00-09.30	SESSION 1.4b: SDGs VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS AND SDGs BUDGET TAGGING (30m) Linking the monitoring and review of the NDS, including on financing, with the SDGs Voluntary National Review can help streamline/strengthen processes. SDG budget tagging can also help in this regard. - Presentation by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) - Q&A
09.30-11.00	SESSION 1.4: BUILDING BLOCK 3 – MONITORING & REVIEW (continued) - Group activity 3 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of this session, participants should be able to: • Understand the importance of monitoring progress and assessing the effectiveness of financing policies/strategies. • Identify how existing monitoring and review systems can be strengthened. (Live Poll - MHE)
11.00-11.30	BREAK (30m)
11.30-12.00	SESSION 1.5: BUILDING BLOCK 4 – GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION (30m) Governance and coordination mechanisms guide the entire process of the INFF – from assessments and diagnostics to policy formulation, implementation, and monitoring and review. This session aims to outline the value of and options to strengthen existing governance and coordination arrangements. - Presentation by Resina Katafono (UNDESA) - Q&A
12.00-13.30	SESSION 1.5: BUILDING BLOCK 4 – GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION (continued) (1h 30m) - Group activity 4 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of this session, participants should be able to: • Understand the central role of governance and coordination mechanisms in ensuring effective INFF implementation. • Broadly assess existing governance and coordination mechanisms and identify areas for strengthening.

DAY 2 Wednesday 3 September	Session
	(Live Poll, followed by Survey - MHE)
13.30-14.30	LUNCH (1h)
14.30-15.30	PART 2 SESSION 2.1: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC INFF IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING STRATEGY (1h) This session will outline INFF implementation in the Dominican Republic under FINS. It will also outline the elements of Dominican Republic's Financing Strategy, including elaboration of the economic and financing context. - Presentation by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) - Q&A
15.30-16.00	BREAK (30m)
16.00-17.00	SESSION 2.2: DOMESTIC PUBLIC FINANCE (1h) This session aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the core elements of domestic public finance and their role in the financing strategy. It will cover key policy tools including the Macroeconomic Framework, Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF), Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS), Medium-Term Expenditure Strategy (MTES), Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy (including contingent liabilities), Multi-annual Public Investment Plan, and efforts to reduce Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs). The session will highlight how these components collectively support domestic resource mobilization (DRM), fiscal sustainability, and alignment with national development priorities. - Presentation by Resina Katafono (UNDESA) - Q&A
17.00-17.20	DAY 2 WRAP UP SESSION (20m) - Summary of Day 2 and preview of Day 3 by Perla Soto (MHE)

DAY 3 Thursday 4 September	Session
08.00-08.30	Arrival
08.30-09.00	RECAP OF DAY 2 (30m) <i>Facilitator: Perla Soto (MHE)</i>
09.00-10.30	SESSION 2.2: DOMESTIC PUBLIC FINANCE (continued) (1h 30m) - Group activity 5 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant)

DAY 3 Thursday 4 September	Session
	At the end of the session, participants will: • Understand how key public finance instruments (MTFF, MTRS, MTES, debt management strategy, public investment, IFFs policies) reinforce DRM and the financing strategy • Identify current institutional strengths, reform gaps, and alignment opportunities • Contribute inputs to improve the domestic public finance section of DR's financing strategy
10.30-11.00	BREAK (30m)
11.00-12.00	SESSION 2.3: INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC FINANCE (1h) This session aims to explore how development cooperation – including grants, concessional and non-concessional loans, climate finance, blended finance, and South-South cooperation – can be better aligned with national development priorities in the Dominican Republic. The session will draw on findings from the Mapping of International Cooperation to examine current patterns, coordination challenges, and opportunities to strengthen effectiveness within the financing strategy. - Presentation by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) - Q&A
12.00-13.30	SESSION 2.3: INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC FINANCE (continued) (1h 30m) - Group activity 6 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of the session, participants will: • Understand the current landscape of international public finance in the Dominican Republic • Identify key alignment and coordination challenges across different cooperation modalities • Provide inputs on institutional reforms and mechanisms to enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation
13.30-14.30	LUNCH (1h)
14.30-15.30	SESSION 2.4: PRIVATE FINANCE (1h) This session aims to explore how the Dominican Republic can mobilize private finance – both domestic and international – to support national development priorities. The session will identify institutional and policy reforms to enhance private sector engagement in the financing strategy. - Presentation by Perla Soto (MHE) - Panel Discussion moderated by Perla Soto (MHE)

DAY 3 Thursday 4 September	Session
	○ Izalia López, Deputy Director of Promotion, General Directorate of Public-Private Partnerships ○ Ruth De Los Santos, Director of Regulatory and Economic Affairs, National Council of Private Enterprise (CONEP) ○ Dalma Hernández, Manager of Social Banking and Relations, Association of Multiple Banks of the Dominican Republic (ABA) ○ Iván Carvajal, Director of Strategic Planning and Markets, Stock Exchange of the Dominican Republic ○ Víctor Rodríguez, Coordinator for the Private Sector, MSMEs, and Entrepreneurship, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
15.30-15.45	BREAK (15m)
15.45-17.00	SESSION 2.4: PRIVATE FINANCE (continued) (1h 15m) - Group activity 7 (see Annex), followed by group presentations and plenary discussion facilitated by Luis Palacios (DR Embedded Consultant) At the end of the session, participants will: • Understand the current landscape and barriers in mobilizing domestic and international private finance • Identify institutional, regulatory, and financing reforms to improve private sector engagement • Explore the use of blended finance and PPPs to de-risk private investment • Contribute recommendations to strengthening the private finance component of the financing strategy
17.00-17.30	DAY 3 WRAP UP SESSION (30m) - Workshop reflections, first findings, and Next Steps for the Financing Strategy by Perla Soto (MHE) - Closing remarks by Nelson Chavez, General Director of Economic and Social Development (MHE)

ANNEX: GROUP ACTIVITIES

GROUP ACTIVITY 1

Description:

- Participants to discuss in 5 tables and should select a Rapporteur
- Each table focuses on one of four sub-components of Building Block 1
- Identify three key themes based on guiding questions provided
- Share and discuss results back to plenary (one rapporteur per table)

Sub-Components and Table Assignments:

Each table will be assigned one of the following components:

1. **Financing Needs** (Table 1)
2. **Sources of Finance** (Table 2)
3. **Risks** (Table 3)
4. **Binding Constraints** (Table 4 & 5)

Instructions:

1. **Group Formation and Setup:**
 - Participants are seated at 5 tables, with each table assigned one of the sub-components. Ensure diverse representation at each table.
2. **Component Analysis:**
 - **Step 1:** Review the assigned sub-component and its relevance to DR's national development objectives.
 - **Step 2:** Discuss the sub-questions for each component, focusing on key issues, gaps, and recommendations.
 - **Financing Needs:**
 - Is there a clear understanding of the financing needs outlined in the NDS or PNPS?
 - Where are the biggest gaps?
 - What should be prioritized in a phased approach?
 - **Sources of Finance:**
 - What are the main sources of finance (public, private, concessional)?
 - What initiatives are expanding current sources of finance?
 - What sources need more attention?
 - **Risks:**
 - What risks have been identified in achieving the NDS and PNPS?
 - What are the high probability/ high impact risks?
 - What policy solutions can address these risks?
 - **Binding Constraints:**
 - What are the barriers (capacity, institutional, legal) preventing effective mobilization or allocation of resources?
 - How feasible is it to remove or mitigate these constraints?
 - What policy solutions can address these constraints?
 - **Step 3:** Identify three key themes per question that stand out in the analysis. Ensure themes are concise and actionable.
3. **Reporting Results:**

- A representative from each table reports back to plenary on the three key themes identified per guiding question.

4. Discussion of Results:

- Discuss common themes, differences, and key insights. Facilitators should guide the discussion, encouraging feedback from different tables.

GROUP ACTIVITY 2:

Description:

- Participants to discuss in 5 tables.
- Each table will work on a specific National Multi-Annual Public Sector Plan (PNPSP) 2025-2028 priority:
 1. Decent, formal, and sufficient employment
 2. Citizen security: toward a safe and protected society
 3. Access to healthcare and social security
 4. High-quality and accessible education
 5. Rural population and agricultural development
 6. Access to water and resource improvement
 7. Efficient and democratic institutions
 8. Environmental sustainability and climate change
- A resource person will be on hand to guide discussions and clarify points.
- Each table will receive a printed form with a financing policy table to complete.
- The exercise will follow a structured approach, focusing on 2-3 key elements per step.
- Participants will propose 2-3 policy options for a concise, targeted discussion.

Suggested inputs:

- Planning instruments – NDS & PNPSP
- PNPSP policy diagnostics
- Medium-Term Expenditure Strategy
- Development Cooperation Annual Report

The steps are outlined below:

1. **Review PNPSP Priorities and Define Policy Objective**

Each table will review their assigned PNPSP priority and define an expected financing policy objective to address. A good starting point for participants is listing financing opportunities, risks, and any binding constraints (such as obstacles or bottlenecks) relevant to their assigned priority.

2. **Map Current Practices and Identify Gaps/Opportunities**

Teams will map existing initiatives and source of financing, including actions by ministries and support from development partners. The goal is to highlight gaps and opportunities in the current financing landscape.

3. **Identify Policy Options to Address Gaps/Opportunities**

Participants will brainstorm financing policy options—both public and private. They will assess these options by considering the following:

- **Macro check:** How consistent is the option with macroeconomic targets?

- **Coherence check:** Does the option promote sustainability, create synergies, or result in trade-offs?
- **Risk check:** Does the option reduce risk or enhance resilience? Could it introduce new risks?

4. Define Timeframes and Preconditions for Implementation

Tables will determine the necessary preconditions for policy implementation, including political backing, institutional capacity, and resource availability.

5. Assign Responsibilities

Participants will assign specific roles and responsibilities to relevant ministries, agencies, or other actors.

After completing the steps, each table will submit their policy proposals. Moderators (Resina, Yanis, Luis) will then facilitate a plenary session, highlighting standout policy examples and providing additional insights on the proposed solutions.

Template

STEP 1 PNPSP policy	STEP 2 Expected financing policy objective	STEP 3 Current practice and initiatives in place to address	STEP 4 Financing policy options – public and/or private finance	4.0 Assessing Policy Options			STEP 5 Identifying Timeframes		STEP 6 Responsibilities
				4.1 Macro check	4.2 Coherence check	4.3 Risk check	5.0 Pre-conditions? Resource/ capacity requirements	5.1 Timeframe	
Reliable and quality energy	Increase level of investment in electric transmission systems	Public investment through the Dominican Electric Transmission Company (SOE) IDB loans to strengthen sector planning	Structuring new PPPs	Ok – shared financing effort with private sector	Depending on the PPP conditions, transmission costs can rise	An initial increment in costs for users might occur	Technical/financial capacity and interest exist from the private sector Enabling environment to establish PPPs in the sector	Short	Ministry of Finance and Economy Ministry of Energy and Mining Ministry of the Presidency
			Progressive transition from subsidies to physical investment	Ok – reduces inefficient subsidies	Ok – should guarantee public access	Transition can increase costs for users	Political commitment exists	Medium	Ministry of Finance and Economy Ministry of Energy and Mining
			Privatization of the electric network	Ok – reduces the burden over the public expenditure and introduces market incentives	A legal change would be needed	Equity and access issues Market distortions Possibility of incentivizing a private monopoly	Political willingness to push this transition Private sector interest Legal changes	Long	Ministry of Finance and Economy Ministry of Energy and Mining Ministry of the Presidency Ministry of Finance,

										National Planning & Trade World Bank/IFC
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GROUP ACTIVITY 3

Participants to discuss in 5 tables and should select a Rapporteur.

Each table will have 30 minutes to consider the following questions in relation to DR's NDS and PNPSF, followed by presentations by Rapporteurs and plenary discussion:

Establishing the baseline:

- Are there monitoring systems to track financing flows and estimate their impact? Are they interconnected or compatible between each other?
- How is the effectiveness of financing policies/strategies assessed?
- Is there an 'enabling environment' for development financing monitoring and review (governance, data systems, human capacity)?
- Are there any ongoing or planned reform processes that can be linked with INFF building block 3: Monitoring and Review?

Strengthening existing systems, and closing gaps where needed:

- How can existing monitoring and review systems be further strengthened to better support effective financing policy making?
- Are there any existing or planned development partner (e.g., bilateral, multilateral partners, private sector) initiatives to strengthen these areas?

GROUP ACTIVITY 4

Participants to discuss by table (5 total) and should select a Rapporteur. Each table will have 30 minutes to review the following questions in relation to DR's NDS and select **at least 3 questions** to respond to. Plenary discussion to follow.

Commitment and leadership

- What 'features' can ensure continued focus and sustained momentum around NDS implementation across government cycles and potential changes in leadership?

Access to knowledge and perspectives

- What mechanisms are in place to involve and promote active participation of decentralized institutions, public enterprises, civil society, academia, and private sector in NDS implementation?
- Are plans in place on reporting to parliament and the public on NDS implementation?

Coordination

- Are roles and responsibilities clearly defined for all relevant stakeholders?
- Are plans in place to ensure the national budget process is used to mainstream NDS priorities?

- f) What mechanisms are in place to facilitate coordination with, and among, development partners on the implementation of the NDS?

GROUP ACTIVITY 5

Description:

- Participants will be divided into 5 groups (tables), each assigned one of the **INFF Building Block 2 principles: Integration, Coherence, Sequencing, Risk Awareness**
- Each group will analyze a **fictional case study (Republic of Pacifica)**
- Groups will answer guiding questions using their assigned principle and identify three key insights
- Each table should select a **rapporteur**
- Results will be shared back in plenary, followed by a facilitated discussion

CASE STUDY: REPUBLIC OF PACIFICA

The Republic of Pacifica has a three-year **Medium-Term Expenditure Strategy (MTES)** aligned with its National Development Plan (NDP), which prioritizes Education, Health, Infrastructure, and Climate Resilience. The MTES sets fiscal ceilings and broad allocations by sector.

A recent **Policy Priority Inference (PPI) analysis** revealed that:

- **Education and Health**, although politically prioritized, show weak actual implementation (e.g., stagnant spending, poor outcomes, high execution delays)
- Budget allocations in these sectors are input-based and lack links to performance or results
- The Ministry of Finance is considering **Results-Based Financing (RBF)** to strengthen links between expenditure and outcomes

However, the government must assess whether RBF is feasible and how it could be introduced in a way that reinforces the MTES and the financing strategy, without overstretching institutional capacity.

Sub-Components and Table Assignments:

Each table will be assigned one of the following components, with two tables discussing each component to ensure diverse perspectives:

1. **Integration** (Table 1 & 5)
2. **Coherence** (Table 2)
3. **Sequencing** (Table 3)
4. **Risk Awareness** (Table 4)

Suggested inputs:

- Medium-Term Expenditure Strategy
- Development Cooperation Annual Report
- 2025 execution report about Result-based budgetary programmes
- Policy Priority Inference methodology report

Instructions:

1. **Group Formation and Setup:**
 - Participants are seated at 5 tables, with each table assigned one of the sub-components. Ensure diverse representation at each table.

2. Component Analysis

- **Step 1: Review the case study and principle**
 - Understand how the MTES is functioning and what the PPI results show
 - Consider how RBF could be introduced to address gaps in expenditure performance
- **Step 2: Discuss the guiding questions for your assigned principle**
 - **Integration**
 - How can RBF be integrated into existing planning, budgeting, and reporting systems?
 - What institutional coordination is needed to support this?
 - How can integration be reflected in the financing strategy?
 - **Coherence**
 - How can RBF improve alignment between the NDS, PNPSP, MTES, and budget execution?
 - Can it help clarify trade-offs and improve targeting of spending?
 - How can tools like SDG budget tagging or PNPSP indicators support coherence?
 - **Sequencing**
 - What enabling conditions or reforms must be in place before RBF can be scaled?
 - Which sectors should be prioritized for a phased approach?
 - How can sequencing be reflected in the financing strategy?
 - **Risk Awareness**
 - What political, institutional, or technical risks exist in introducing RBF?
 - How can RBF and MTES contribute to managing fiscal risks?
 - How should risks be addressed or flagged in the financing strategy?
- **Step 3: Identify Three Key Themes**
 - For each question, agree on **three clear, actionable insights**
 - Write them concisely on the group worksheet (to be collected)

3. Reporting Results

- One rapporteur from each table will present **key themes** back to the plenary
- Each group has 3–4 minutes for reporting

4. Discussion of Results

- Facilitators will guide a short plenary discussion
- Highlight recurring insights, divergence in approaches, and DR-specific implications
- Consider how these lessons inform the next steps in developing the financing strategy

Group Activity 6

Description:

Participants will analyze real coordination and alignment challenges using a **role-based simulation**. Each table represents a different **institutional actor** in DR's international cooperation ecosystem. The task is to assess how their current role contributes to or hinders strategic alignment, and propose concrete **institutional reforms, mechanisms, or process improvements** that could be reflected in the financing strategy.

Table Assignments (Institutional Roles):

1. **Ministry of the Presidency** - lead coordinator of development cooperation; manages non-reimbursable finance
2. **Ministry of Finance and Economy** – national finance/budget allocation; manages reimbursable finance (multilateral and bilateral loans)
3. **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** - responsible for the implementation and coordination of foreign policy, including the Dominican Republic's external trade policy, trade negotiations, integration frameworks, and the formulation of development cooperation policy.
4. **External Development Partner (bilateral or multilateral)** – provides funding (non-refundable or concessional loans)
5. **Sector Line Ministry (e.g. Health or Education)** – implements projects with external support

Instructions:

1. Role Reflection:

Each table discusses from the perspective of their assigned institution:

- What is our role in the international cooperation process?
- What coordination or alignment challenges do we face? (e.g., fragmented reporting, duplication, late involvement, mismatched timelines or priorities, SINACID/OECD data discrepancies)
- How do these challenges affect the strategic use of international resources?

2. Solution Brainstorming:

Based on the challenges identified:

- What reforms or mechanisms would improve coordination, alignment and monitoring?
How can we institutionalize better cooperation practices (e.g., through the financing strategy, MoUs, mandates, or systems)?

3. Key Messages:

Each group prepares:

- 2–3 concrete coordination/alignment **challenges**
- 2–3 recommended **reforms or mechanisms** to address them
- 1 short **message** their institution would want reflected in the financing strategy

Plenary Reporting and Discussion:

- Each table presents their reflections and proposals
- Facilitator summarizes common bottlenecks and links to relevant parts of the financing strategy (e.g., governance arrangements, monitoring, budgeting cycles)

Group Activity 7

Description:

- Participants are divided into **5 thematic tables**, each focusing on a key area of private finance from the panel discussion.
- Each group selects a **rapporteur**.

- A set of **guiding questions** is provided per table.
- **Panelists and facilitators** rotate between tables to act as resource persons.
- Each group presents **2–3 key recommendations** for the financing strategy in plenary.

Table Assignments and Focus Areas:

Table	Focus Area	Lead Questions
1	MSME Finance & Financial Inclusion	• What are the biggest constraints for MSMEs and underserved groups accessing finance? • What are 2–3 policy or institutional reforms needed to improve MSME finance? • How can informal sector actors be better integrated into the formal financial system?
2	Capital Markets & SDG Investment	• What steps are needed to deepen domestic capital markets? • How can we align investment products with SDG outcomes? • What is the role of institutional investors and what barriers limit their participation?
3 & 4	PPPs & Blended Finance	• What sectors are most promising for PPP/blended finance in the DR? • What is needed to strengthen the PPP pipeline (e.g., regulation, capacity)? • How can blended finance instruments (e.g. guarantees, concessional loans) be better used?
5	Diaspora Finance & Impact Investment	• What mechanisms could channel diaspora savings into productive investment? • How can we develop bankable investment products that attract diaspora/impact investors? • What policy or coordination reforms are needed to enable this?

Instructions:

- Group Formation and Setup:**
 - Ensure a mix of institutions in each table (govt, private sector, dev partners).
 - Distribute guiding questions and template for reporting key points.
- Discussion and Analysis:**
 - Review the assigned topic and reflect on insights from the panel.
 - Discuss the lead questions, identify challenges, and propose practical reforms or instruments.
 - Select 2–3 actionable recommendations to report back.
- Reporting Results:**
 - Rapporteurs present to plenary (3 minutes per table).
- Plenary Discussion:**
 - Facilitator summarizes key themes across tables.
 - Invite reflections from panelists or other participants.