



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



**SECOND
WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
DOHA 2025



Boosting Domestic Public Resources to Finance Social Development

Harnessing Momentum of the Sevilla Commitment

Co-organizers: The Kingdom of Spain, The Republic of Zambia, Republic of Mexico, Norway, Nepal and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs



11:30 am - 12:45 pm
5 November 2025
In-person



Room 8
Doha, Qatar

Background

The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Sevilla, Spain updated the global framework to close financing gaps for sustainable development, including in its social dimension. The Sevilla Commitment recognizes that public resources, policies and plan are at the heart of the efforts for a sustainable development investment drive. Domestic public resources and public financial management (PFM) are essential to poverty reduction, social inclusion, and decent work. WSSD2 provides an opportunity to further accelerate actions to finance social development and amplify the issue of financing in the social development discourse.

To achieve sustained improvements in social development, domestic revenues need to be predictable and raised and spent in an effective manner. This event will focus on practical steps that raise and stabilize revenues, improve budget execution and transparency, and protect social sectors.

At FFD4, countries committed to strengthen fiscal systems and align budgets with the SDGs through whole-of-government tax and PFM reforms. The Sevilla Commitment called on development partners to double their support for developing countries' efforts to strengthen domestic revenue mobilization by 2030, especially those seeking to increase their tax to GDP ratios to at least 15 per cent.

The outcome encourages countries to integrate financing of social protection systems and policies into their country-led plans and strategies. Countries also commit to provide support to developing countries that aim to increase social protection coverage, including those that aim to do so by at least two percentage points per year. At the national level, this involves ensuring a broad tax base with progressive taxation on income, wealth and property, as well as social security contributions paid by employers and workers, which in turn also supports the formalization of enterprises and employment, rather than over-reliance on largely regressive consumption taxes.

Beyond action at the country level, the event will also seek to highlight the need for complementary actions at the global level, which are comprehensively addressed in the Sevilla Commitment, with countries pledging to strengthening the voice of developing countries and improving the flow of financing to countries most in need. Advancing international tax cooperation, for instance will also be critical to ensure adequate resource mobilization for social spending, as is comprehensive action to reduce debt burdens and lower financing costs.

Objective and Scope

Update member states and stakeholders on how implementation of the Sevilla Commitment's actions can translate into near-term financing for investment in social development.



Format and programme

WELCOME REMARKS

Ms. Bjørg Sandkjær

Assistant Secretary-General for Policy
Coordination, UNDESA

OPENING REMARKS

H.E. Lok Bahadur Thapa

Permanent Representative of Nepal and
President of ECOSOC

FRAMING OF THE SESSION

H.E. Ms. Eva Granados Galiano

State Secretary for International Cooperation,
Spain

H.E. Åsmund Aukrust

Minister of International Development, Norway

Representative of Zambia (tbc)

Representative of Mexico (tbc)

PANEL DISCUSSION

**MODERATOR/SCENE-SETTING: KEY OUTCOMES
OF FFD4 FOR FINANCING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Shari Spiegel

Director, Financing for Sustainable
Development Office, UN DESA

EXPERT PERSPECTIVES

Mr. Robert Powell

IMF Special Representative to the United Nations

Ms. Shahra Razavi

Director, Social Protection Department, ILO

Ms. Paola Albritto

Director of UNDRR

RESPONDENT

Ms. Laure Beauflis

Director, Humanitarian, Food and Resilience Department, FCDO

WRAP UP AND REFLECTIONS

Ms. Shari Spiegel

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