



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- **What** is the FFD4 conference?
- **When** and **where** will the FFD4 conference take place?
- **Why** do we need the FFD4 conference and why should we care?
- **How** does FFD4 conference relate to other UN processes, and which are the upcoming outcome processes?
- **What** are the Addis Ababa Action Areas?
- **What** are the expected outcomes of the FFD4 conference?
- **Who** is organizing the FFD4 conference?

What is the FFD4 conference?

The 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) is a platform for the entire multilateral system, including the finance and development communities, to come together to shape norms and tackle pressing financing challenges, at a time when the world is facing a sustainable development crisis with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) severely off track and systemic risk rising.

In Seville, and through a renewed global financing framework, leaders are taking action to deliver an SDG investment push and reform the international financial architecture to enable the transformative change that the world urgently needs.

Consistent with UN conferences it will be organized in the form of a formal opening and closing, with plenary meetings, including a general debate and roundtables. A unique feature of the Conference will be the announcement of Sevilla Initiatives, a platform allowing for coalitions of the willing to announce transformative and impactful actions in line with the Outcome Document. The conference will also allow for the organization of side events throughout its four days. Guidelines for side events are available on the FFD4 website.

An International Business Forum will be held in parallel to the conference from 30 June to 03 July 2025 in Sevilla, Spain. Organized by the FFD4 Business Steering Committee, it will bring together Heads of State, Ministers, CEOs and prominent global business leaders to drive solutions that unlock private finance and investments for sustainable development. Some features include a leadership summit, high-level policy dialogues, investor roundtables, communities of best practice and a platform for unveiling initiatives and commitments.

The FFD Civil Society Mechanism will also organize a CSO Forum in Sevilla in an offsite location that will seek to engage stakeholders in discussions on issues before the Fourth Conference.





The International Conferences on Financing for Development (FFD) are the only space where leaders from all governments, along with international and regional organizations, financial and trade institutions, businesses, civil society and the UN System unite at the highest levels, fostering stronger international cooperation.

When and where will the FFD4 conference take place?

The conference will be held from 30 June to 3 July 2025 in Sevilla, Spain. The venue of the conference is the Conference and Exhibition Centre of Sevilla (commonly known as FIBES).

Why do we need the FFD4 conference and why should we care?

With progress on the SDGs severely off track and rising systemic risk, we are in a sustainable development crisis. Financing challenges are at the heart of the sustainable development crisis. The current international financial architecture has fallen short, unfit for the world today.

FFD4 is necessary because the global financial landscape has significantly changed since the last major FFD conference in 2015 (Addis Ababa Action Agenda, FFD3). The world faces mounting challenges that demand a renewed and strengthened approach to financing sustainable development.

FFD4 is not just another conference, it is a once-in-a-decade opportunity to reset the global financial system and ensure that financing aligns with sustainable development needs. Without urgent action, achieving the SDGs by 2030 will be impossible.

How does FFD4 relate to other UN processes, and which are the upcoming outcome processes?

The FFD conferences have convened three times before 2025, with each marking a milestone:

1. **Monterrey, Mexico (2002):** Established financing for development as a global priority.
2. **Doha, Qatar (2008):** Reaffirmed commitments and emphasized coordinated responses to global crises.
3. **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (2015):** Adopted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, laying out actionable commitments for development financing.

The FFD4 conference builds on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other UN frameworks. It serves as a unifying platform for aligning global efforts to overcome financing challenges and accelerate the achievement of SDGs.

The upcoming outcome process is as follows:

- 4th PrepCom – part 1: 30 April – 1 May
- 2nd Intersessional: 5-9 May





- Informal informals and consultations: 12 – 23 May
- 3rd Intersessional: 27 – 30 May
- 4th PrepCom – part 2: Mid-June

What are the Addis Ababa Action Areas?

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, adopted during the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, provides a comprehensive framework to finance sustainable development and support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It identifies 7 key action areas that address systemic challenges, mobilize resources, and foster international cooperation to achieve transformative change:

1. Domestic public resources
2. Domestic and international private business and finance
3. International development cooperation
4. International trade as an engine for development
5. Debt and debt sustainability
6. Addressing systemic issues
7. Science, technology, innovation and capacity-building

What are the expected outcomes of the conference?

The conference will result in an intergovernmentally-agreed, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document. It is co-facilitated by four UN Member States: Mexico, Nepal, Norway and Zambia.

The Zero Draft of the FFD4 Outcome Document was released on Friday, 17 January 2025. Building on the Elements Paper and incorporating valuable inputs from a wide range of stakeholders, the Zero Draft serves as a foundation for discussions leading up to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4).

The co-facilitators of the outcome document circulated the First Draft of the Outcome Document of FFD4 on March 10. The update responds to comments and inputs on the zero draft from the 3rd FFD4 Preparatory Committee meeting in February, other inputs from stakeholders, and consultations with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Executive Directors in Washington, DC.

Ultimately, the conference aims to establish a comprehensive and actionable framework using this outcome document that strengthens global financing for sustainable development, ensuring that financial systems and policies effectively support the achievement of the SDGs.





Who is organizing the FFD4 conference?

The FFD4 conference is organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) Financing for Sustainable Development Office (FSDO), in collaboration with host country, Spain and partner organizations, donors and stakeholders. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, serves as the Conference Secretary-General.

