

Financing a Sustainable and Inclusive Industrial Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean: a UN DESA Global Policy Dialogue

Thursday, 27 April 2023

13:00-14:30 EDT/CLT

Aula 2, Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Santiago, Chile

Concept note

Introduction

As the world continues to cope with multiple crises, our collective aim of realizing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 is at risk. At the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda, 2023 will be an important stock-taking year to analyze progress on the SDGs and how to revitalize implementation. Improving preparedness and rebuilding systems to better anticipate and prepare for risks and challenges will be a key theme of the year. More investment in sustainable transformations is necessary in order to keep the SDGs and our climate targets in reach, as well as ensure that the current finance gap between rich and poor countries does not become a lasting sustainable development divide.

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) will release several major reports in 2023 to provide guidance to Member States and other stakeholders on how to best support people now and in the future, including the *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2023: Financing Sustainable Transformation (FSDR)*, to be released in April. The report brings together research from more than 60 UN agencies and international organizations in its assessment of the current financing for sustainable development situation and recommends ways to make financial systems work better for more people.

As part of UN DESA's commitment to the SDGs and to partnership with the UN regional economic and social commissions, the Department will organize a Global Policy Dialogue on "Financing a Sustainable and Inclusive Industrial Transition in Latin America and the Caribbean," on the sidelines of the 2023 Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development in Santiago, Chile. The event will highlight several key messages of the FSDR, including how global sustainable development prospects continue to diverge due to rapidly tightening financial conditions. The event aims to address the specific challenges and opportunities of Latin America and the Caribbean in reducing debt and scaling up investment and development cooperation.

This dialogue is made possible by the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund.

Format

The 90-minute event will include an introductory section followed by two panel discussions. The discussions will be interactive and led by a moderator. Time will be reserved during the event for audience questions and polls. The audience will also be invited to submit questions in advance when completing the Zoom registration.

Location

The event will be held in-person at the headquarters of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC), with an in-person audience in Aula 2 (capacity 30) and a virtual global audience.

Platform

The event will be organized with the support a professional video production company, Audio Visual House. The audience can watch via Zoom or live on UN DESA's Facebook page. The audience also can access the Slido platform (via QR code or provided link) to enhance engagement by audience members who wish to participate in the polls, submit their own questions or vote up questions posed by others.

Language

The event will be held in English and Spanish with translation available for the in-person audience and the Zoom audience. Multilingual captioning also will be available for the Zoom audience in the six UN languages.

Host/moderator

The moderator will be John Bartlett, Santiago correspondent, The Guardian

Programme

Introduction (6 minutes)

- Moderator makes welcome remarks and provides logistical information
- Moderator launches interactive poll 1

Video: Urgent SDG funding needed to bridge “great finance divide” (2 minutes)

- Produced by UN DESA (1:47)

Discussion 1: Scaling Up Development Cooperation and SDG Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean (45 minutes)

Speakers:

- **Shari Spiegel**, Chief of the Policy Analysis and Development Branch, Financing for Development Office, UN DESA
- **Esteban Perez Caldentey**, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Division, UN ECLAC

- **Stephany Griffith-Jones**, Member of the Governor Board at the Central Bank of Chile
- **Ruth Spencer**, Chair, Marine Ecosystems Protected Areas Trust, Antigua and Barbuda

- Moderator to ask each participant 2-3 guiding questions
 - Can you please provide a high-level overview of the key messages of the Financing for Development Report 2023?
 - Looking at the issue of public and private investment in the SDGs and climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean, can you please tell us about the current landscape?
 - What are the special challenges and opportunities related to development financing in LAC?
 - What are your recommendations to scale up the level of investment?
 - Looking at the climate crisis in particular, where are the gaps in financing in this region, and what are some concrete, achievable things that can be done?
- Moderator to take 2-3 questions from the audience

Discussion 2: Accelerating Financing for Science, Technology and Innovation and Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean (35 minutes)

Speakers:

- **Sebastián Arias Monsalve**, Acceleration Director, Start-Up Chile
- **Marcela Browne**, Head of Education at Fundación SES, Dominican Republic

- Moderator to launch interactive poll 2
- Moderator to ask 2-3 guiding questions
 - Can you please tell us about the entrepreneur landscape in Chile right now?
 - What are the special needs and challenges for entrepreneurs in Latin America and the Caribbean?
 - What kinds of policies can better support innovators and potential innovators regarding access to finance?
 - What is the role of education in building a strong science, technology and education sector in LAC?
 - What are the special needs of young people in accessing financing for their education or businesses?
 - What are the best policies that can support young people in accessing finance?
- Moderator to ask 2-3 questions from the audience

Wrap-up and closing (2 minutes)

- Moderator final remarks
- Exit survey will launch upon end of Zoom