



GLOBAL NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS WORKING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Concept note for a side event

Third Conference on Financing for Development, Addis Ababa

RETHINKING PHILANTHROPY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND BEYOND

Monday, 13 July 2015, 3.30 pm-6.00 pm, Elilly Hotel, Mars

Abstract

The side-event will discuss concrete examples of how philanthropic and public resources could be further leveraged and deployed more efficiently to achieve the Post-2015 agenda faster and more cost-effectively. This “Davos-style” moderated panel, to be opened by Ms. Amina Mohammed, Special Advisor to Ban Ki-Moon on the Post-2015 Agenda (*tbc*), will bring together CEOs of prominent philanthropic actors, such as the African Grantmakers Network, the Children’s Investment Foundation Fund, Dasra, the Emirates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and others, together with Ministerial-level representatives from Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands and Rwanda. These countries have been engaging with the philanthropic sector and will share their experience and views on how to improve collaboration between philanthropy and policy makers, in support of Financing for Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Discussions will notably stress that foundations are becoming increasingly pivotal to the Post-2015 agenda through innovative approaches such as venture philanthropy, their ability to test ideas and to develop new financing tools such as development impact bonds.

Background

The Addis draft outcome document constitutes a significant shift in focus from the MDG/Monterrey era as it recognises philanthropy as a significant actor while suggesting foundations should engage in partnerships, thus paving the way for foundations to be considered beyond their funding capacities: as sources of expertise, knowledge and as partners in their own right. The initial draft also resonates with the *Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement*, which the OECD Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD) has contributed to developing and that were acknowledged at the High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation in Mexico in April 2014.

Foundations are increasingly willing to engage in the definition of the global development agenda. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which was primarily an intergovernmental process, foundations have been consulted to a certain extent in the process that is leading to the definition of the SDGs.

Rationale for the side event

In light of the growing emphasis on and interest in multi-stakeholder partnerships, the Addis conference represents a key opportunity for foundations and governments to dialogue on how closer collaboration could help leverage funding and impact. Indeed, governments want to see philanthropy's financial resources and other

benefits come in support of their own efforts to tackle poverty and inequality. Foundations, whilst rightly cherishing their autonomy, are increasingly aware of the need to understand and at least complement the efforts of others while looking for incentives to engage at country level. The platforms and processes for enacting closer dialogue and collaboration are however not yet in existence at the required scale.

The Addis conference constitutes a chance for foundations to be pushing for more meaningful engagement with governments and other development stakeholders whenever possible. It also reiterates the importance of global development frameworks, while capitalising on their different value added and ability to optimise FfD and, ultimately, the achievement of the SDGs through more inclusive coalitions while using innovative tools and partnerships.

This side event will allow triggering discussions between member states and the philanthropic community as well as other stakeholders, which are not currently part of the narrative of the Addis conference. Through an interactive Davos-style panel discussion, the event will highlight that foundations have more than money to bring to the table. Because they are not under pressure from constituents (stakeholders or taxpayers), they enjoy a high degree of autonomy and can therefore develop and test innovative approaches and financing tools that entail greater risk, such as social impact investments, development impact bonds or digital payments. The high-net worth individuals, families or corporations they emanate from or that they are associated with give them a convening power and a capacity to leverage other resources that other development actors do not have.

Thus, it is expected that this side event would also initiate a longer term dialogue on how governments and foundations could specifically develop innovative partnerships on an issues-based approach while focusing on a common goal.

Objective

The objective of this side event is twofold:

- **Highlight the financial and non-financial contribution of philanthropy** to the SDGs implementation through more inclusive partnerships and the use of innovative finance and approaches;
- **Identify how foundations, governments and other development stakeholders could be further leverage resources and deploy them more efficiently** in support of the SDGs, for instance through future initiative such as the netFWD-led “Accelerating Impact 2030”.

Format

This side event will take the format of a Davos-style moderated panel. It might be opened by Angel Gurría, the OECD Secretary General, and Amina Mohammed (*tbc*), the UN Secretary-General's Special Advisor on Post-2015 Development Planning. It will bring together Ministerial-level representatives of the Netherlands (as donor country), Mexico (as both recipient and donor country), Kenya and Rwanda (as recipient countries), as well as CEOs of some major foundations (see speakers list below) engaged in the global development agenda. Panellists will discuss their experience and the importance of effective collaboration between philanthropy and governments in support of the FfD and Post-2015 agendas and, on the other hand, suggest innovative partnership models for more effective development while outlining the contours of a possible call to action initiated by some foundations, in support of accelerating funding and impact in support of the SDGs.

Speakers

Special Advisor to Ban Ki Moon on Post-2015 Development Planning – Amina Mohammed*

OECD Secretary General – Angel Gurría*

Netherlands – Lilian Ploumen, Minister of Trade and Development Co-operation

Mexico – Juan Manuel Valle, Director, Mexican Agency for International Development Co-operation

Kenya – tbc

Rwanda – tbc

African Grantmakers Network (AGN) – Theo Sowa, Chairperson

Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) – Michael Anderson, CEO

Dasra – Neera Nundy, Partner

Emirates Foundation for Youth Development – Clare Woodcraft, CEO

Rockefeller Foundation – Mamadou Biteye, Managing Director, Africa

Shell Foundation – Sam Parker, CEO

Questions

The session would address questions such as:

- How could foundations' and governments' comparative advantages be better leveraged in support of FfD and to achieve more impactful development?
- What have we learned from partnerships and the pooling of funds between foundations and governments in support of poverty reduction over the last decade?
- How can we build on the Addis conference to incentivise governments, foundations and other key stakeholders to engage in more impact-driven approaches and partnerships in support of leveraging catalytic funding for the SDGs?

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