

FfD4 High-Level Side Event:

# Country-driven approaches to financing sustainable development and climate action

**Date and time** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June, 16:30 – 18:00

**Location** **Side event 17**, FfD4 Conference Venue, Seville, Spain

**Organizers** Government of Egypt  
Government of South Africa  
Government of Spain  
South African Presidential Climate Commission  
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank  
UNDP  
IDFC/Finance in Common  
INFF Facility (UNDP, UNDESA, UNICEF, OECD)

In-person registration for FfD4 is now closed. If you already have FfD4 access, no separate registration is required for this side event.

**Livestream link** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EqBCXH9quk>

## Background

In a challenging global context – marked by constrained fiscal space, rising debt burdens, and deepening climate and biodiversity crises – strong national leadership in financing climate and development goals is both essential and strategic. Country ownership is not just appropriate; it is fundamental to ensuring long-term political alignment and the sustained success of any transformative agenda. The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville marks a critical milestone on the way to COP30 in Belem for international efforts – and particularly for South-South collaboration – to strengthen and support country-led financing strategies to accelerate development and climate progress.

Countries articulate their sustainable development and climate priorities through various plans, strategies and visions, including national development plans (NDPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), amongst others. To achieve these goals, Countries must lead and design their own strategies and implementing mechanisms.

This includes building national financing strategies to structure the policy reforms necessary to attract and scale the finance needed, which is what the Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), led by

Ministries of Finance, aim to achieve. Governments are using the INFF approach to identify financing needs and opportunities, develop policy reform agendas, and embed sovereign financing strategies within national institutions to mobilise, align and derisk public and private investment in their NDPs, NDCs and NBSAPs.

At the same time, country leadership is also vital in the design and operationalization of this vision. This is where initiatives like country platforms come in: these are mechanisms to achieve deep systemic transformation towards particular goals identified in national strategies. They are embedded at the highest levels of government and within other national and subnational institutions, including national development banks. They build bankable project pipelines, link them with financing partners and policy reforms – often identified through national financing strategies – under a clear and credible financing strategy.

Egypt has displayed country leadership and maintained ownership at each of these levels. The country's integrated national financing strategy supports delivery of Egypt's Vision 2030 through reforms to unlock investment and optimise resource allocation. It is led by a cross-government steering committee chaired by the Minister of Planning, Economic Development and International Cooperation, who also coordinates Egypt's Nexus of Water, Food and Energy country platform. This develops project pipelines and mobilises finance to support specific goals drawn from the national vision.

To support country-led efforts, a growing coalition of finance and development institutions is developing a new Global Financing Playbook to deliver coordinated, country-level support when and where it is requested. The Playbook seeks to scale proven - and pioneer innovative - approaches for finance and development institutions to collaborate in support of sovereign financing priorities.

FfD4 represents a pivotal moment to affirm and strengthen support for country leadership on financing. It also forms a key milestone on the roadmap to COP30 in Belém, reinforcing the call for integrated, nationally driven solutions that bridge climate and development finance. By integrating efforts across national priorities, financing frameworks, country platforms, and international institutional support, this event will launch an initiative within the Sevilla Platform for Action that accelerates delivery of the FfD4 Outcome.

## Objectives

This side event will launch a High-Level Initiative within the Sevilla Platform for Action that:

- Reinforces country leadership as a central driving force of financing for development, climate, nature and social priorities across the SDGs, Paris Agreement, GBF and other agendas.
- Accelerates support for country-led initiatives like INFFs and country platforms.
- Strengthens coordination across finance institutions and development institutions through the launch of the Global Financing Playbook initiative.

## Participants

- Ministers of Finance, Planning, Economic Development, Environment and other Government representatives
- International organizations, including IFIs and MDBs
- Development partners and UN agencies
- Private sector representatives
- Civil society organisations

## Agenda

### Opening Remarks (15 min)

- **H.E. Rania Al-Mashat**, Minister of Planning, Economic Development and International Cooperation, Egypt
- **H.E. Mr. Carlos Cuerdo**, Minister of Economy, Trade and Business of Spain

### High-Level Panel: Country Leadership Driving Sustainable Finance (25 min)

#### *Moderated Dialogue featuring:*

- Moderator: **Crispian Olver**, Deputy Chair, South African Presidential Climate Commission
- **H.E. Ambassador Elizabeth Thompson**, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary with Responsibility for Climate Change, Small Island Developing States and Law of the Sea, Barbados
- **H.E. Seedy Keita**, Minister of Finance, Gambia
- **Tatiana Rosito**, Secretary for International Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Brazil
- **Sara Jane Ahmed**, Managing Director & Finance Advisor, V20

### Institutional Perspectives: Aligning Global Support Behind National Financing Strategies (25 min)

#### *Panel Discussion featuring:*

- Moderator: **Shari Spiegel**, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, UN DESA
- **Haoliang Xu**, Acting Administrator and Under Secretary-General, Associate Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Jin Liqun**, President, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- **Adama Mariko**, Secretary General, Finance in Common
- **Tara Soomro**, ECOSOC Ambassador, UK Mission to the United Nations
- **Martha Bekele**, Co-founder, Dev Transform

### Closing Segment: From FfD4 to COP30 – Commitment to Country-Led Financing (10 min)

- **Antón Leis**, Director, AECID

Group photo

### Contact Information

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