

“Innovative Financing – a solution to meet LDC’s development Goals”

at Lutfi Kirdar Convention Centre

Monday, May 9, 2011 · 4:00 – 6:00 pm



The Conference of Istanbul is an opportunity to focus the attention of the international community on the socio-economic challenges that Least Developed Countries are facing : the persistence of extreme poverty, affecting nearly 450 million people; the income gap from 1 to 60 between the GNP per capita in the LDCs and the developed countries; limited life expectancy; demographic challenges... The needs in all key sectors for the LDCs’ growth, like infrastructures, brake the possibility for the LDCs to reach the Millennium Development Goals, and new challenges are emerging, like climate change which firstly affects the LDCs.

The numerous needs necessitate, in addition to traditional aid, the mobilization of new sources of financing, more stable and predictable. In front of huge challenges, innovative financing for development, since 2006, is a pragmatic and efficient answer, providing evidence of its usefulness, most particularly for the benefit of the LDCs. In total, these mechanisms have gathered more than 5 billion US dollars in four years.

This side-event, proposed by the Leading Group on innovative financing for development, which gathers 63 countries and is under Mali’s presidency, in partnership with the United Nations, will involve the most important personalities engaged in favour of innovative financing for development. It will allow to determine the answers these mechanisms can bring to the needs of LDCs, and highlight the role of LDCs themselves in using such financing.

Innovative financing will be addressed from three different perspectives: the mobilization of new resources, in addition to traditional aid for development (panel 1), the concrete impact of innovative financing on development (panel 2), and the identification of future guidelines for action to answer LDCs’ needs (panel 3).

Speakers : States, International Organizations and Civil Society Representatives.



contact : contact@leadinggroup.org

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PROGRAM

Opening Keynote Address

- 4:00 – 4:10 pm **Soumeylou Boubèye Maïga** (Malian Foreign Affairs Minister)
- 4:10 – 4:20 pm **Henri de Raincourt** (French Minister for Cooperation)
- 4:20 – 4:30 pm **Philippe Douste-Blazy** (Special Adviser on innovative financing for development, United Nations)
- 4:30 – 5:00 pm **Panel I: Enhancing the quantity of aid: Innovative sourcing**
Since 2006, innovative financing has permitted to raise large amounts of funds, used in complement to traditional ODA. The state of play of the mobilization of those funds will be the occasion to explicit the political messages attached to the scaling up of innovative financing, endorsed by the international community in Doha. The contribution of globalized economic activities and the potential of market mechanisms to bring new public revenue streams will be raised. In that perspective, the opportunity to set up new solidarity levies coordinated at the international level, such as a FTT dedicated to development financing, will be discussed.
President/Moderator: Jean-Marie Ehouzou (Beninese Foreign Affairs Minister)
Speakers: Andris Piebalgs (European Commissioner for Development) ; **Hans-Jürgen Beerfeltz** (German State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) ; **Ingrid Fiskaa** (Norwegian State Secretary for Environment and International Development)
- 5:00 – 5:30 pm **Panel II: Improving the quality of aid: Innovative spending**
The success recorded in mobilizing new funds since 2006 needs to be assessed, investigating the results achieved on the ground. The discussion will evaluate the efficiency and impact of innovative financing mechanisms, particularly their capability to provide the right market incentives supporting the achievement of development goals (eg lowering prices for vaccines and medicines, scaling up research efforts...). How existing initiatives do effectively provide today more stable, sustainable and predictable resources for development? What are the success stories of IF experiences in LDCs?
President/Moderator: Hailemariam Desalegn (Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister)
Speakers: Axel van Trotsenburg (World Bank Vice President) ; **Jose María Fernández de Turiso** (Director General of Planning and Evaluation of Development Policies, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation) ; **Thomas Debass** (Director for Global Partnerships ; U.S. Department of State)
- 5:30 – 6:00 pm **Panel III: The way forward. Responding to the present needs of LDC's: avenues for future action**
The discussion will envisage the key priorities and actions to be undertaken in the next decade to support LDCs responding to their specific development needs. Building on past experiences and success stories, a prospective thinking on the most suitable innovative instruments to put in place on medium and long term perspectives will be engaged.
President/Moderator: M. Madicke-Niang (Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs)
Speakers: Prof João Gomes Cravinho (Portuguese State Secretary for Cooperation) ; **Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana** (Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the United Nations) ; **Orin Hasson** (Bill and Melinda Gates foundation; Development Finance and Economy Policy) ; **Carlos Den Hartog** (Ambassador, Coordinator-General of Innovative Financial Mechanisms for Eradication of Hunger and Poverty; Brazil)
- Closure **Jean Ping** (Chairperson of the African Union Commission)

