Immersing People in Results Across Africa

A virtual field visit to four projects in three countries makes the case for more IDA investments in human capital.

Esther Karisa, a young woman from a small village in Kilifi County on the coast of Kenya, was weary from the long hours and low pay of planting trees. With limited education, she saw her job prospects as scarce and had lost hope for finding something better.

Then she heard about the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project (KYEOP), a Government of Kenya program supported by the World Bank that prepares vulnerable youth aged 18-29 for the labor market and self-employment.

Through KYEOP, Esther completed six months of training to become a welder and received a small business grant, which she used to buy equipment and open her own workshop. “It came from my heart and I worked hard, proving that women can do even more,” she said. “I am proud to be a woman doing welding.” She now supports her family and employs other young welders in her community.

Esther’s inspiring story is just one of several featured in the immersive experience Investing in People, Transforming Communities: Human Capital Results in Africa jointly conceived and produced by the World Bank Global Parliamentary Engagement, Africa Human Development, and Eastern and Southern Africa regional teams.

Take the virtual field visit | Read the Full Article
ANNUAL MEETINGS 2022

Hybrid Global Parliamentary Forum

October 6-11, 2022 – The World Bank co-organized its first hybrid Global Parliamentary Forum (GPF) themed Innovative Solutions for Turbulent Times jointly with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF (PN) from October 6–11 ahead of the 2022 Annual Meetings.

The GPF gave more than 200 participants, including 28 in-person, a unique opportunity to discuss policies and best practices to address today’s most pressing development challenges with World Bank and IMF experts as well as other stakeholders and their parliamentary peers.

During the three hybrid sessions on human capital results in Africa, food supply chains, and the urgent need for climate action, parliamentarians explored how to best serve citizens during today’s tumultuous times. This is no small task as overlapping crises, including food insecurity, conflicts, learning poverty, COVID-19, and perhaps biggest of all, the effects of climate change, are vying for increasingly limited funds.

Read More and Watch the Session Replays
WASHINGTON, October 10-12, 2022 – A delegation of more than 20 parliamentarians from the Board of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PN) and PN Country Chapters in Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Tanzania, and Uganda held several in-person side meetings in conjunction with the hybrid Global Parliamentary Forum. Meetings kicked off with a parliamentary roundtable in which the visiting legislators discussed objectives and priorities for the PN and how the organization can dial up engagement with the World Bank and IMF for improved development outcomes. They then met with several World Bank officials on various thematic and regional topics, including:

- **International Development Association (IDA) 20 Update** with the IDA team led by Aki Nishio, Vice President, DFI, World Bank Group on the scope and priorities of the latest IDA20 replenishment. Participants were interested in learning more about debt sustainability, results, measuring impact, anti-corruption efforts, and gender.

- **Briefing on Governance and Accountability** with Arturo Herrera Gutierrez, Global Director, Governance, World Bank, on the priorities and programs of the Governance Global Practice as well as how MPs can better contribute to good governance and accountability. The link between corruption and inequality was discussed as an effective approach to improving governance and development outcomes.

- **Meeting with German Executive Director** Michael Krake, member of the Committee on Development Effectiveness (CODE) on issues of mutual interest and the overall goals and direction of the CODE. The importance of improving data and using lessons learned from
other countries was emphasized, as was the need to enhance partnership between the Board and parliamentarians.

- **Africa's Pulse Economic Update** with Andrew Dabalen, Africa Chief Economist, World Bank, and his team. The conversation centered around the myriad of challenges facing the world and Africa today. While the picture looked gloomy in the short to medium term, it was agreed that opportunities exist for the countries that make sound and smart policy decisions.

Delegation of German Parliamentarians Attends Annual Meetings

WASHINGTON, October 20, 2022 - A delegation from the German Bundestag attended the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings (AMs) in Washington, DC. The parliamentarians from the Finance Committee, Budget Committee and Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development discussed pressing issues such as climate change, food insecurity, social protection and World Bank reform. They joined the official AMs events, meetings with World Bank Group management, the German Executive Director, and discussions hosted by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Center for Global Development. It was the first time since the German federal election in 2021 that a delegation of the Bundestag travelled to the World Bank.

The World Bank’s Engagement in Germany
TOKYO, December 7, 2022 – The Japan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank met International Finance Corporation (IFC) Vice President Elena Bourganskaia on December 7. Fifteen MPs attended, including the Chair of the Chapter, Hon. Matsumoto, who was recently appointed as the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, and the Head of the Lower House Finance Committee. After a short video message from IFC Managing Director Makhtar Diop, Ms. Bourganskaia gave an overview of IFC’s broad range of activities, notably co-financing with Japanese financial institutions and the private sector. She also thanked the MPs for the approval of a supplementary 2022 fiscal year budget containing around $400 million USD in additional funding for the World Bank Group. In his opening remarks, Hon. Matsumoto asserted the Japan Chapter’s commitment to further strengthening its partnership with the World Bank Group. Questions and comments from MPs touched on the topics of debt and MIGA.
Launch of a Ukraine Chapter of the Parliamentary Network

December 6, 2022 – The World Bank, in collaboration with the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF (PN), the IMF and the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine, facilitated the launch of a Ukraine Chapter of the PN on December 6. At this critical time in their country’s history, Ukrainian parliamentarians requested the formation of the chapter to strengthen collaboration with the WBG and IMF, as well as other international parliamentary peers, in pursuit of economic recovery and development in a transparent and accountable manner.

Eight members of the Verkhovna Rada, led by Hon. Dmytro Natalukha, Chair of the Economic Committee and Hon. Yaroslav Zheleznyak, Deputy Chair of the Committee on Finance, Tax, and Customs Policy, joined the launch event, which was presided over by the Chair of the PN, Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne MP, UK. Hon. Zheleznyak acknowledged several additional MPs who expressed interest in the chapter, but were unable to connect due to lack of electricity and network. Also present were Karlis Smits, Lead Economist and Program Leader for Economic Policy for Eastern Europe, World Bank, and Vahram Stepanyan, Resident Representative for Ukraine, IMF who each presented the programs of both institutions, highlighting the achievements and challenges of working in Ukraine, while underscoring their organizations’ continued commitment to helping the country’s development and reconstruction.
YAOUNDE, November 16, 2022 – The World Bank presented the new Cameroon Climate Change Development Report (CCDR) to parliament during a plenary session of the National Assembly on November 16. Organized in collaboration with the Cameroon Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the IMF (PN), the session was presided by the Vice-President of the National Assembly, Honorable Muyali Buya Ep. Meboko and was introduced in the agenda by the Honorable Fadil Alioum, Chair of the Cameroon Chapter of the PN. After introductory remarks by Ms. Nayé Bathily, Manager of External and Corporate Relations for the Western and Central Africa Region of the World Bank, the report was presented by its author, Nabil Chaherli, Program Leader, World Bank. Parliamentarians also heard from Odilia Hebga, External Affairs Officer for Cameroon at the World Bank Group, who gave an overview of the World Bank's activities in Cameroon, sharing a project sheet and map as well as more details on the Cameroon CCDR. Discussion after the presentation focused on the importance of tackling climate change in the county, leveraging collaboration between the World Bank and parliament on this issue, and advocating for more climate legislation.
Regional Parliamentary Field Visit to Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Project

PUTUMAYO, November 9-10, 2022 – A group of 19 parliamentarians from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, and Peru, together with government and civil society representatives, traveled to Mocoa in the Colombian Amazon for a field visit organized by the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program, which is coordinated by the World Bank and funded by the Global Environment Facility.

The event promoted cross-border dialogue among parliamentarians on community-based sustainable bio-economy initiatives. They identified challenges and opportunities for collaborative efforts to promote conservation and sustainable development in the Amazon, to be enabled via legislative measures. Future virtual and in-person events will provide evidence-based knowledge to inform such measures.

Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program

Congolese Parliamentarians Dialogue with World Bank

BRAZZAVILLE, November 10, 2022 – A World Bank delegation met with Congolese parliamentarians during a joint session of the committees on Economy, Finance, and Budget Execution Control, and the Environment, Food Security and Sustainable Development. Representing the World Bank were Ms. Nayé Bathily, Manager of External and Corporate Relations for the Western and Central Africa Region; Korotoumou Ouattara, Resident Representative to the Republic
of Congo; as well as several project Task Team Leaders and senior staff. The session, chaired by the Honorable Marie-Jeanne Kouloumbou, Chair of the Environment, Food Security and Sustainable Development Committee, provided an opportunity to review the progress of the country portfolio and projects under preparation, and to advocate for greater involvement of parliamentarians in monitoring the implementation of operations. It was also an opportunity to present the World Bank's regional strategy and to explain the importance of engagement with parliamentarians. At the end of the 90-minute discussion, it was agreed to maintain an ongoing dialogue between the country office and parliamentarians, notably through the creation of a national chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF, and to organize a field visit to a World Bank project.

Kenya World Bank Country Director Welcomes New Speakers of Parliament

NAIROBI, November 3 & 10, 2022 – World Bank Country Director in Kenya, Keith Hansen paid a courtesy call to the new speakers of both houses of Parliament following recent elections. He congratulated the speakers and explained World Bank operations, recognizing the important role of Parliament through legislation, budgeting, and oversight (including of World Bank funds). Mr. Hansen highlighted the conclusion of the Country Partnership Framework process and shared concerns over the Horn of Africa drought. During the meeting with the Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Moses Wetangula on November 3, 2022, the crucial legislative and oversight role of the National Assembly in Kenya's development process was discussed. While with the Speaker of
the Senate, Hon. Amason Kingi on November 10, 2022, the two leaders covered climate action to address cyclical shocks, the World Bank’s continued support to Kenya’s devolution, and the need for strengthened transparency and accountability of devolved funds.

The World Bank is Kenya’s largest financier with a multifaceted portfolio spanning devolution, governance, human capital development, climate action, women’s empowerment and infrastructure.

The World Bank Group's Engagement in Kenya | Country Partnership Frameworks

World Bank Vice President of Human Development Addresses Japanese MPs

TOKYO, October 21, 2022 – World Bank Vice President of Human Development, Mamta Murthi joined a plenary meeting of the Parliamentary League on Nutrition and Global Health for Women and Children, held to follow up on the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit in December 2021. Chaired by the Honorable Akiko Santo, former President of the Upper House, the meeting was attended by scores of parliamentarians, many of whom are members of the Japan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on World Bank. MPs commended the World Bank’s work in the nutrition sector and called to further strengthen partnership with Japan.

The World Bank's Engagement in Japan
SANTO DOMINGO, October 17, 2022 – World Bank Operations Officer, Carmen Amaro-Bergés and Energy Sector Specialists Huong Nguyen and Peter Johansen met with members of the Dominican Republic Senate’s Finance Commission led by Chair Hon Ricardo de Los Santos, on the Energy Efficiency Bill. In 2021 the government launched the implementation of a robust program to address long-standing issues in governance, management, and financing in the electricity sector. The Bank is supporting this program through a US$400 million DPL (already approved) and a US$300 million DPL planned for Board approval in March 2023. The Bill is critical to establishing a comprehensive framework to promote a rational use of energy. Additionally, it will help reduce the country’s carbon intensity and improve the climate resilience of the energy sector. The Senators agreed on the importance of the legislation piece and committed to its approval.

The World Bank’s Engagement in the Dominican Republic
Creation of a Ghana Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the IMF

ACCRA, October 7, 2022 – The Ghana Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF (PN) was inaugurated on October 7 in Accra with an initial membership of 13 parliamentarians, led by the Chair of the Finance Committee, Hon. Kwaku Kwarteng. The launch was officiated virtually by the Chair of the PN Secretariat, the Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne MP, UK, who delivered a call to action for the chapter to be assertive in its needs so that the secretariat and the global community could support them. He also emphasized the importance of parliamentarians as representatives of the people in providing bottom-up policy solutions. The World Bank Country Director for Ghana, Pierre Frank Laporte welcomed the new chapter with an overview of the World Bank’s 65-year relationship in the country, underscoring the value of parliamentarians as stakeholders. While a network has existed in the past, this was the first time that a cross-party cohort of legislators collectively dedicated themselves to a formal global initiative.

Parliamentary Network Niger Chapter Meets New World Bank Country Manager

NIAMEY, September 26, 2022 – The new World Bank Country Manager for Niger, Han Fraeters met with members of the Niger Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on September 26, 2022 at the World Bank office in Niamey. The Members of Parliament introduced themselves and spoke about the importance of strengthening the partnership between parliamentarians and the World Bank on shared development priorities. For his part, the Mr. Fraeters pledged to develop a quality relationship with the National Assembly given the important role that parliamentarians play as representatives of citizens. The two parties agreed to organize regular exchanges on the World Bank’s key intervention themes moving forward, starting with human capital.
ASTANA, June 28, 2022 – The World Bank Vice President for Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions, Indermit Gill met with members of the Kazakhstan Parliament, led by the Vice-Speaker of the Majilis (Lower Chamber) Pavel Kazantsev to honor 30 years of relations between Kazakhstan and the World Bank. Vice-Speaker Kazantsev acknowledged the contributions of the Bank to Kazakhstan’s development and reform agenda, including a number of socio-economic development projects. Looking ahead, he affirmed that the World Bank priorities of promoting inclusive growth, developing human capital, and decarbonizing the economy are in line with the strategic vision of the Republic until 2050. “The Bank projects will improve the quality of irrigation and drainage systems, as well as the secondary education system. A number of infrastructure projects aimed at reconstructing and building roads also play an important role,” said Hon. Kazantsev. During the conversation, both sides exchanged views on expanding cooperation and a number of prospective projects in the pipeline.

The World Bank's Engagement in Kazakhstan
We are pleased to announce the next Parliamentary Dialogue Series, jointly organized with the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF and the International Monetary Fund, on the subject of *Digital Money, Cryptocurrency, and the Future of Finance* on December 14 at 09:30 AM EST (Washington).

The event, to be livestreamed in English, French and Spanish, will bring together senior management from the World Bank and IMF to dialogue with Members of Parliament on the latest knowledge on trends in the use of digital currencies, as well as best practices in legislation and regulation.

Digital money and technology have the potential to transform the financial sector, and emerging markets and lower-income countries have been making great advances which have brought about improvements in financial intermediation, formalization and inclusion. To avoid potential pitfalls, safeguard the interest of vulnerable communities and promote equity, the transition and adoption must be well managed, coordinated, and soundly regulated.

Parliamentarians can play a key role in the implementation and regulation of these innovative forms of finance to ensure transparency, accountability and security.

**REGISTER HERE | VISIT THE EVENT SITE**
VOICES

What Members of Parliament Are Saying

Senator Sherry Rehman
@sherryrehman

At the launch of Country Climate & Development Report Pakistan by @WorldBank I note we will need $348 billion by 2030 to meet climate and development challenges. So we are looking at all of us “doing more.” Both Pakistan as well as international financial institutions. @COP27P

1:10 PM · 11/10/22 · Twitter for iPhone

Liam Byrne
@liambynemp

To mark #COP27 climate finance day here’s three key questions we as parliamentarians should be asking...

@DavidMalpassWBG @KGeorgieva

10:00 AM · 11/9/22 · Twitter for iPhone

Preet Kaur Gill
November 7 at 8:59 AM · IP

Climate finance must be a central conversation at #COP27. It’s time support reaches those who actually need it the most. Africa emits about 3% of global carbon dioxide emissions yet has taken many of the big hits despite doing the least to cause the crisis.

#COP27 #SGG13

What climate change really means:

What climate change really means:

- Global warming
- Extreme weather
- Drought
- Floods
- Heat waves
- Harsh weather
- More displacement
- More conflict
- Increased food prices
- Increased poverty
- Increased risk
- More deaths

I’m in Egypt today leading Canada’s delegation to #COP27 🇨🇦, where we’ll push progress further and faster on #climatechange and adaptation. Real, positive, and transformational change is possible.

Steven Guilbeault
@sguilbeault

12:22 PM · 11/7/22 · Twitter Web App

I called for MPs inclusion in WB & IMF Project Planning and Capacity Building, #SchoolMeals, #DigitalHealth & #HumanCapital at the @ParliNetwork Annual Meetings with @WorldBank and @IMFNews High Level Panel on #HumanCapital moderated by @sdljibs @WB Tanzania @ParliNetwork

Neema Lugangira
@neemalugangira

36 Retweets 98 Quote Tweets 231 Likes
International Debt Report Highlights Troubling Outlook for Poorest Countries

The latest edition of the International Debt Report (IDR) finds that the debt crisis is intensifying, with debt-service payments by the world’s poorest countries estimated at $62 billion in 2022, reducing the resources they have to tackle poverty, climate change, and other urgent development priorities. The IDR supports policymakers by monitoring external debt trends in low- and middle-income countries and providing a comprehensive picture of external borrowing as well as lending sources.

Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course

The latest in the Poverty and Shared Prosperity series provides the first comprehensive look at the landscape of poverty in the aftermath of an extraordinary series of shocks to the global economy. Global progress in reducing extreme poverty has virtually come to a halt. After COVID-19 dealt the biggest setback to global poverty in decades, rising food and energy prices—fueled by climate shocks and conflict among the world’s biggest food producers—have hindered a swift recovery. The report provides important new insights into the impacts of fiscal policy not only during crises but also during normal conditions, identifying how governments can optimize fiscal policy to help correct course.
The Global Food and Nutrition Security Dashboard brings together in one place the latest global and country-level information on food crisis severity, global food security financing and innovative research to strengthen crisis response and resilience. It draws on and links to existing resources developed and shared by the numerous multi-lateral and bilateral Global Alliance for Food Security partners engaged in improving food and nutrition security around the globe. The Dashboard provides timely and quality information for global and local decision-makers to help improve coordination of the policy and financial response to the crisis.

Visit the Dashboard

Visit our website
Global Young MP Initiative LinkedIn