

## Civil Society Engagement Newsletter

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July 2022

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### News

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#### [Civil Society Policy Forum 2022: Submit Proposal](#)

The Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) will be held in-person in Washington, DC, from October 11-14, during the [WBG-IMF Annual Meetings \(AMs\) 2022](#). We will continue to monitor the worldwide health situation and, if needed, amend this plan in accordance with relevant World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control guidance. Interested CSOs are invited to submit CSPF proposals on shared development issues via the [submission form](#), with an extended deadline of August 10, 2022. CSO registrations for the AMs will open on August 8.

To learn more, visit the [Annual Meetings CSPF Event Page](#). To watch past sessions, visit the [Spring Meetings CSPF event page](#). Please write to [civilsociety@worldbank.org](mailto:civilsociety@worldbank.org) with any questions.

#### [World Bank Group Deploys Nearly \\$115 Billion in FY22 Amid Global Crises](#)

In its just-completed fiscal year 2022 (FY22), the World Bank Group responded with unprecedented scale to overlapping global crises, providing advice and financing in response to the sharpest economic slowdown in eight decades, rising inflation, deepening food insecurity, war and fragility, and the continued negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid these devastating crises, the World Bank Group deployed a record \$114.9 billion in FY22 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). Commitments during FY22 were informed by our knowledge work and helped countries address rising food prices, manage refugee flows, bolster health preparedness, maintain private sector trade, and support efforts to mitigate and adapt to



climate change, among others, benefitting especially the poor and most vulnerable. Read more [here](#).



### [\*\*Global Food Security Crisis Joint Statement\*\*](#)

World Bank Group President David Malpass, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, Food and Agriculture Organization Director General Qu Dongyu, World Food Program Executive Director David Beasley, and World Trade Organization Director General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala recently issued a joint statement calling for urgent action, prioritizing four key areas, to address the global food security crisis. Read the full statement [here](#).

### [\*\*World Bank Board Approves New Fund for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response \(PPR\)\*\*](#)

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors have approved the establishment of a financial intermediary fund (FIF) that will finance critical investments to strengthen pandemic PPR capacities at national, regional, and global levels, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries. The fund will bring additional, dedicated resources for PPR, incentivize countries to increase investments, enhance coordination among partners, and serve as a platform for advocacy. The FIF will complement the financing and technical support provided by the World Bank, leverage the strong technical expertise of WHO, and engage other key organizations. [Read more](#).



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## Events & Trainings

### [\*\*World Water Week 2022 \(Online and Stockholm, Sweden, August 23-September 1\)\*\*](#)

World Water Week, organized each year by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), brings together experts, professionals, innovators and entrepreneurs from various sectors and countries with the aim of developing solutions for water-related challenges. [Register here](#).

### [\*\*WBG-IMF Annual Meetings 2022 \(In-person, Washington DC, October 14-16\)\*\*](#)

The 2022 Annual Meetings of the WBG and IMF will take place in person from Monday, October 10, through Sunday, October 16 in the WBG and IMF headquarters in Washington DC. [Registration](#) for CSOs will open on August 8 and registration for all other categories will open mid-August.

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## Blogs, Stories, Publications & More

### [\*\*Aiding the digital revolution in global financial inclusion\*\*](#)

Around the world, high inflation, slow economic growth, and food shortages are hurting the poor the most. Coming on top of the unequal effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, today's multiple crises have already caused dramatic reversals in development and led to a substantial increase in global poverty. [Read more.](#)

### [New World Bank country classifications by income level: 2022-2023](#)

The World Bank assigns the world's economies to four income groups—low, lower-middle, upper-middle, and high income. The classifications are updated each year on July 1 and are based on the GNI per capita of the previous year (2021). GNI measures are expressed in United States dollars (USD), and are determined using conversion factors derived according to the [Atlas method](#). [Read more.](#)

### [Energy market developments: Coal and natural gas prices reach record highs](#)

The recent surge in natural gas and coal prices has been so swift that the main benchmarks were roughly three times higher in 2022Q2 compared to a year earlier. European natural gas and South African coal prices reached all-time highs in March and April, while U.S. natural gas prices reached their highest level since 2008. The surge in prices partly reflects the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine; in 2020, Russia accounted for one-quarter of global exports of natural gas and just under one-fifth of coal exports. Beyond the impact of the war, demand for natural gas and coal has been robust, rising by about 5 and 6 percent, respectively, in 2021 amid a strong post-pandemic recovery, with both reaching record highs. [Read more.](#)

### [How to mitigate the impact of the war in Ukraine on commodity markets](#)

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has triggered significant disruptions to the supply of commodities such as energy and food, which Russia and Ukraine are key exporters. The war exacerbated existing pandemic-related stress in commodity markets that had arisen due to supply chain disruptions, weak investment in energy production, and a rapid rebound in global demand. Most commodity prices have seen sharp increases over the past year, with some reaching all-time highs, which has contributed to the global rise in inflation. [Read more.](#)

### [How to prioritize education in a time of crisis](#)

This is a critical time for education. A cost-of-living crisis, including rising food and energy prices and the war in Ukraine are putting pressure on policymakers to cut education budgets. It is tempting because economic dividends from education only materialize decades later and students cannot exert political pressure by voting. [Read more.](#)

To read more blogs, [click here](#).



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This newsletter is produced by the Civil Society Team of the World Bank in collaboration with other units. It highlights policies, programs, events, and initiatives of the World Bank Group which may involve or be of interest to CSOs. Please send your comments and feedback to: [civilsociety@worldbank.org](mailto:civilsociety@worldbank.org).

The World Bank Civil Society Team

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