

July 2023

NEWS



[World Bank Announces New Steps to Add Billions in Financial Capacity](#)

The World Bank is taking bold new steps to increase its lending capacity, a major boost in firepower that will give millions of people a chance to escape poverty and improve their lives. At this critical moment in history, and echoing the calls from the international community, the Bank is doubling down to tackle intertwined challenges – jobs, climate, fragility, and pandemics. These efforts entail decisive action to build a better Bank to achieve a world free of poverty on a livable planet. Read [more](#).



[Pandemic Fund Allocates Grants to 37 Countries](#)

The Pandemic Fund approved the first round of grants to boost resilience to future pandemics in 37 countries across six regions. The selected proposals will receive funding to strengthen disease surveillance and early warning, laboratory systems, and the health workforce. The Pandemic Fund, established in September 2022, is the first multilateral financing mechanism dedicated to providing multiyear grants to help low- and middle-income countries. The Fund, which is hosted by the World Bank, has already raised \$2 billion. The selected projects can be found [here](#).



[Call for Proposals for Civil Society Policy Forum \(CSPF\) at WB-IMF Annual Meetings](#)

In cooperation with the [Civil Society Policy Forum \(CSPF\) Working Group](#), the World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) will organize the [Civil Society Policy Forum](#) from October 10-13, 2023 during the [Annual Meetings 2023](#) in person in Marrakech, Morocco, with hybrid components. [Proposals will be accepted](#) until July 31 by 9:00 am EST. Please [register](#) as soon as possible to attend the meetings.



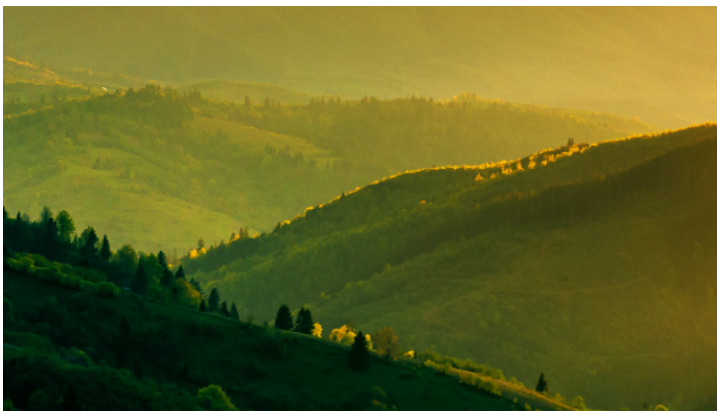
[Consultation Process on WB Gender Strategy 2024-30 Open](#)

The World Bank (WB) is preparing the [WBG Gender Strategy 2024-2030: Accelerate Gender Equality for a Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Future](#). The Strategy is being shaped by extensive and inclusive engagement with public and private sector clients, development partners, civil society, and other key stakeholders. The World Bank Group's formal consultation process is open until November 30, 2023. You can also provide feedback through a [Survey](#) until October 15, 2023. Learn [more](#).



[Learning Recovery to Acceleration: Efforts to Improve Learning and Reduce Inequalities](#)

The World Bank released a new report that takes stock of countries' efforts to overcome the disruption and long-lasting impacts on students. The report examines what countries are doing to recover and accelerate learning following the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how they are doing it. The policy responses of 60 low- and middle-income countries are analyzed in the report, with 7 countries examined in further depth: Cambodia, Colombia, Côte, d'Ivoire, India, Mongolia, Romania, and Zambia. Watch [launch event](#), read [report](#).



[Livable Planet Possible with More Efficient Use of Natural Resources](#)

Climate change, economic productivity, food, and water security, and health could be overcome if countries use their natural resources more efficiently, and this is possible without sacrificing the environment or human prosperity. A new report: [Nature's Frontiers: Achieving Sustainability, Efficiency, and Prosperity with Natural Capital](#), offers a novel way to address the fundamental challenge of sustainability. It identifies how and where countries can use natural resources more efficiently so they can prosper without damaging the planet – or going beyond their natural efficiency frontiers. Read [press release](#), [blog](#), and [report](#).

BLOGS, PUBLICATIONS, & REPORTS

[Unlocking the promise of skills development through technical and vocational education and training](#)

As we celebrate World Youth Skills Day on July 15, it is crucial to address the challenges faced by young people in low- and middle-income countries when it comes to accessing quality education and opportunities for employment. Read [more](#).

[We are still unprepared for the next pandemic. But we can fix this.](#)

We live in a world where the risks of pandemics – particularly with zoonotic origins – are growing, driven by climate change, deforestation, changing land use patterns, food systems, water shortages, and urbanization. As the WHO has warned, the question is not if there will be another pandemic, it's when. Read [more](#).

[Corruption in Fragile, Conflict and Violent Settings: False dilemmas and inadequate toolbox?](#)

Corruption is a driver of fragility that undermines sustainable peace and stability. Tackling corruption in fragile, Conflict, and Violent (FCV) contexts requires mobilizing political capital. It may disrupt aid flows and can lead to short-term instability. Read [more](#).

[Acting collectively to accelerate gender equality: Lessons from 10 years of gender equality in development](#)

The equality and dignity of all people—regardless of gender—is something we stand by at the World Bank Group. We have worked hard, especially in the last decade since our 2012 World Development Report on Gender, to emphasize the deep intrinsic value of gender equality and to embed it in everything we do and support. Read [more](#).

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

DEVELOPMENT PODCAST

[The Interlocking Challenges of Climate Change and Poverty](#)

How do we address climate change, reduce poverty, and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet? Climate change is one of the defining issues of our time, and no country is immune. Listen [more](#).

To listen to more podcasts, [click here](#).

ONGOING CONSULTATIONS

[Consultation on the World Bank Gender Strategy 2024-2030: Accelerate Gender Equality for a Sustainable, Resilient, and Inclusive Future](#)

[Consultation on the World Bank Evolution Process](#)



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.

The World Bank Civil Society Team

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