Mission to Rewrite World Bank Group Playbook Advances with Banga’s Global Tour

World Bank Group (WBG) President Ajay Banga announced a global tour, an early step in his mission to write a new playbook for the 78-year-old institution. During the impact-focused tour to multiple countries between now and December, Banga will work to reimagine strategic partnerships with development partners, identify barriers for private sector investment, deepen relationships with countries, and identify opportunities to maximize impact through knowledge, financing, and technical assistance. The global tour kicked off with visits to Peru and Jamaica. Read more.

Regional Consultations on the Evolution Roadmap

Regional consultations on the WBG Evolution Roadmap will take place across the world beginning in July. The consultations are structured to both inform stakeholders about the steps the WBG is taking to address countries’ challenges and to receive feedback. One country will serve as the hub for each region. A summary of feedback received will be posted following each event. The current schedule for the consultations is available, though dates may change – please check this page regularly for updates.

Call for Proposals: 2023 Annual Meetings Civil Society Policy Forum

The WBG and IMF, in collaboration with the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) Working Group, launched a Call for Proposals for the next CSPF taking place during the Annual Meetings in Marrakech. The CSPF provides an open space for CSOs to dialogue and exchange views with WBG and IMF staff, peers, government delegations, and other stakeholders on a wide range of topics.
Submission for proposals runs through the end of July. Read more.

**Comprehensive Toolkit to Support Countries after Natural Disasters**

At the Paris Summit for a New Global Financial Pact, President Banga announced a suite of actions to help countries respond to an ever-growing onslaught of crises. The expanded toolkit for crisis preparedness, response, and recovery will include: (1) pausing debt repayments (2) redirecting financing (3) linking crisis preparedness and financing (4) backstopping development projects with private sector support and (5) building enhanced catastrophe insurance without debt. Read more.

**Efforts to Scale up Investment in Emerging Markets**

The WBG launched the Private Sector Investment Lab, a concrete step in a broader effort to develop and rapidly scale solutions that address the barriers preventing private sector investment in emerging markets. Trillions of dollars of investment are required annually in developing countries to make adequate progress toward climate goals, manage climate change risks, and tackle poverty. The scale of this challenge requires the private sector to play a significant role alongside the WBG and other development institutions. Read more.

**Green Accountability Initiative Launched**

The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) launched a new Green Accountability Initiative, prioritizing citizen participation and equitable climate action. It aims to close the gap between climate finance and community needs by ensuring transparency and accountability. Green accountability ensures that climate finance is used effectively through citizen participation, feedback systems, and grants for collaborative climate solutions. As part of the initiative, the GPSA is building a coalition of CSOs dedicated to advancing civil society participation in the climate sector. Find out more.

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**BLOGS, PUBLICATIONS, & REPORTS**

*Detox Development: Repurposing Environmentally Harmful Subsidies*
A new report examines how subsidy reform can help safeguard the world’s foundational natural assets—clean air, land, and oceans. These assets are critical for human health and nutrition and underpin much of the global economy. But subsidies for fossil fuels, agriculture, and fisheries are driving the degradation of these assets and harming people, the planet, and economies. This money could instead be used to finance much-needed climate action across the world. Read report, blog.

State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023
This report provides an up-to-date overview of existing and emerging carbon pricing instruments around the world, including international, national, and subnational initiatives. It also investigates trends surrounding the development and implementation of carbon pricing instruments and some of the drivers seen over the past year. Read report, blog.

Can Machine Learning Help Us Create a Better Poverty Map?
Machine learning has become popular in various fields, including poverty mapping. Recently, there has been a surge in using machine learning methods and geospatial data to create detailed poverty maps. Read more.

Remittances Remain Resilient but Risks of Slowdown Ahead
Remittances are expected to grow by 1.4 percent to reach $656 billion in 2023, following a very strong 8 percent growth in 2022 and 10.6 percent in 2021. As a result, remittances are now even larger than FDI and ODA and, excluding China, larger than the sum of FDI and ODA. Read more.

To read more blogs, click here.

DEVELOPMENT PODCAST

On the Move: The Migration Challenge
About 184 million people—2.3 percent of the world’s population—live outside of their country of nationality, and almost half of them are in developing countries. In this episode of The Development Podcast, we explore the conversation around migration, from global economic imbalances, demographic changes, and conflict to the opportunities it can bring to people and host communities. Listen here.

To listen to more podcasts, click here.

ONGOING CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on the World Bank Group 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.

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