News

The Crisis Facing Development – Speech by World Bank Group President David Malpass before the 2022 Annual Meetings

On September 28, at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), WBG President David Malpass delivered the pre-Annual Meetings institutional positioning speech, where he discussed the challenges facing developing countries and the catastrophic human consequence of overlapping crises including the pandemic, climate change, high food and fuel prices, and other areas where countries and people are struggling. He then went into a macro analysis of policy adjustments that could help as well as areas where greater investment is needed. You can read the full speech, or watch a recording.

Civil Society Policy Forum 2022 Updates

The preliminary schedule for the Annual Meetings 2022 Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) is now out! The forum will be held October 11-14 in person in Washington, DC, with 35 sessions on wide-ranging development priorities. Selected sessions will have live interpretation. You can also find detailed preliminary programs for October 11, 12, 13, and 14. Sessions will be live-streamed from the Annual Meetings CSPF Event Page to ensure inclusive viewership. Add Forum events to your calendar today!

Enquiries? Please write to civilsociety@worldbank.org.
It's time to vote for the next CSPF Working Group!

Thank you for submitting nominations for the CSPF Working Group elections. CSO representatives who attended one or more CSPFs in the past 5 years are eligible to vote. Please look for an email on September 30 with a link to the online ballot and candidate bios.

Your vote is important! The CSPF WG serves as an interlocutor with the WBG and IMF civil society teams to help ensure the CSPF achieves its objectives to be an effective platform for civil society to voice concerns, share ideas and experiences, and dialogue with staff on wide-ranging issues and development topics.

Latest Food Security Update

The latest food security update is now available for download here. May to August 2022 data shows high domestic food price inflation in almost all low-income and middle-income countries; 93.3 percent of low-income countries, 90.9 percent of lower-middle-income countries, and 93 percent of upper-middle-income countries have seen inflation levels above 5 percent, with many experiencing double-digit inflation.

As part of a comprehensive, global response to the ongoing food security crisis, the World Bank Group is making available up to $30 billion over 15 months for agriculture, nutrition, social protection, water, and irrigation.

The World Bank at the Transforming Education Summit

Heads of State and Government came together on September 19 to tackle the global crisis in education on the third day of the Transforming Education Summit. The Summit was convened by the UN Secretary-General to coincide with the 77th UN General Assembly. The World Bank co-hosted six sessions during Solutions Day, while co-hosting one session and participating in two others on World Leaders’ Day with President Malpass and Managing Director Mari Pangestu. For more information, read President Malpass’ remarks at the Summit and the World Bank immersive story on education.
**New Fund for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Established**

The new financial intermediary fund (FIF) for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR) was officially established by the FIF Governing Board on September 8-9. The fund has an inclusive governance structure and will provide a dedicated stream of additional, long-term financing to strengthen PPR capabilities in low- and middle-income countries and address critical gaps through investments and technical support. For more information, read the press release and visit the website.

**World Bank Group Focused on Addressing Climate Impacts**

The World Bank Group delivered a record $31.7 billion in fiscal year 2022 (FY22) to help countries address climate change. This is a 19% increase from the $26.6 billion all-time high in financing reached in the previous fiscal year. One of the latest tools used by the Bank Group to integrate climate change and development considerations are the Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDRs). The CCDRs help countries prioritize the most impactful actions that can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and boost adaptation, while delivering on broader development goals. September 2022 saw the launch of two important CCDRs – the Nepal CCDR sought to identify ways in which the country can achieve its overall development objectives while fostering its ambition to transition to a green, resilient, and inclusive development (GRID) pathway, while the G5 Sahel CCDR highlighted the need to urgently undertake climate adaptation measures.

**Advancing Civil Society from the Balkans to the Middle East**

Representatives from the Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) traveled to Sarajevo in June for the first in-person outreach since 2019. The workshop brought CSOs working in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia together and was coordinated with other organizations and regional independent accountability mechanisms. CAO was also in Beirut, Lebanon in late July for a two-day outreach workshop with CSOs. Learn more about CAO’s outreach program through www.cao-ombudsman.org.
Events & Trainings

**WBG-IMF Annual Meetings (in-person, October 11-14)**
The World Bank Group-International Monetary Fund Annual Meetings will convene leaders, experts and activists to discuss how best to respond to the multiple overlapping crises facing developing countries and how to work together to build a resilient future. Get a reminder to join.

**Reproducible Research Fundamentals (hybrid, October 3-6)**
The Reproducible Research Fundamentals course is designed to teach the best practices for reproducible research. Participants will learn how to implement transparent and reproducible workflows, effectively code in a team environment, and keep personal data secure throughout the lifecycle of a research project. Register here.

**Investing in People, Transforming Communities: Human Capital Results in Africa (online, October 6)**
This event will launch the Africa Human Capital Plan Year Three Progress Report, which provides an update on progress toward achieving human capital targets and goals by 2023 that were set when the Plan was launched in 2019. Register here.

Blogs, Stories, Publications & More

**World Bank support to the poorest countries: 5 things to know about IDA20**
The World Bank’s International Development Association—established in 1960 to support the world’s poorest countries—just launched its 20th cycle (known as IDA20) at a high-level global event in Tokyo, Japan. Its overarching theme speaks for itself—Building Back Better from the Crisis: Towards a Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Future. Know five ways IDA20 is fundamentally geared to help countries facing the challenges of today develop and deliver effective, time-tested solutions.

**David Malpass: In-Person Launch of IDA20 in Tokyo, Japan**
Read about President Malpass’ trip to Tokyo, Japan for the in-person launch of IDA20.

**Pakistan’s Floods are Deepening its Learning Crisis**
Pakistan recently experienced one of the worst floods in the country’s history. Schools are heavily affected by the floods, as are other basic services. Rebuilding Pakistan’s education system will require coordinated effort, resources and the smart sequencing of interventions. Read more.

**Policy Research Working Paper series publication roundup for September 1-15**
This biweekly blog highlights recent working papers published in the World Bank’s Policy Research Working Paper Series. This entry introduces five papers published in the first half of September 2022 on various topics, including COVID-19 and taxation.

**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). Find the updated country classifications here.

**Integrated national data ecosystems: the next stage of digital transformation**
Establishing a system for effectively managing data resources is a fundamental first step in providing a sustainable, secure, and prosperous future. Data must be shared and used across disciplines, sectors, and platforms if we are to transition to a truly digital society that contributes to economic growth and prosperity. Read more.

To read more blogs, click here.