

# CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM

April 22-25, 2025



## TUESDAY, APRIL 22

- 9:00-10:30 **Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B  
How the Jubilee Year Can Address the Debt and Development Crises in the Global South
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- 11:00-12:30 **Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B  
Austerity vs. Protection: Labor's Perspective on the IMF's Contradictory Social Spending Approach
- 
- 12:00-13:30 **Location:** WBG MC C2-350  
Civil Society Roundtable with the World Bank Group Board of Directors
- 
- 14:30-16:00 **Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B  
International Tax Cooperation: Giving Up or Doubling Down

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

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| <p>9:00-10:30 <b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-250<br/>Mobilizing Private Finance for Water Security: How to Get it Right</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p>   | <p><b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-220<br/>School Meals Programs: A Proven, Efficient, and Resilient Safety Net</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p>   | <p><b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B<br/>Are Debt Sustainability Frameworks Compatible with Human Rights and Climate Action?</p> |
| <p>11:00-12:30 <b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B<br/>Hidden Debt: Tackling Grand Corruption in Debt Management to Safeguard Financing for Development</p>   |  |  |
| <p>11:15-12:45 <b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-220<br/>Catalyzing Climate Finance in Fragile Contexts—What’s Being Done and What Still Needs Doing?</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p>                        | <p><b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-250<br/>Social Protection for the Next Generation: Rethinking Safety Nets for Youth</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p>  |  |
| <p>14:30-16:00 <b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-220<br/>How Can IFC Support the Shift to Sustainable Food Systems (Including Sustainable, Affordable Protein Alternatives)?</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p> | <p><b>Location:</b> WBG I 2-250<br/>Localizing Impact: How Community-led Approaches Are Shifting Power, and Enhancing the Effectiveness of International Development</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p> | <p><b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B<br/>Decoding IMF Accounting, Unlocking the Full Potential of SDRs</p>                       |

## THURSDAY, APRIL 24

9:00-10:30	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220 IFC Sustainability Framework Review: A Pivotal Opportunity to Protect Human Rights and the Environment  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250 Challenging Assumptions of “Green Development”: Cross-Continental Responses to the WBG’s Renewed Support for Hydropower  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>
11:15-12:45	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220 Strategic Investments in Uncertain Times: Strengthening Health and Nutrition Financing through the World Bank and Global Health Institutions  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250 Unlocking Financial Solutions for the Future Global Plastic Governance: Pathways to Implementation  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>
14:00-15:30	<b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B Missing Labor: Fixing the Fund’s Approach to the Gendered Division of Labor	
14:30-16:00	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220 Reimagining IFI Governance for Gender & Climate Justice: FfD4 Opportunities and Challenges in a Shifting Global Order  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250 Open Data as a Catalyst for Transparency and Sustainable Development  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>

## FRIDAY, APRIL 25

9:00-10:30	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220 The Next Disaster is Coming: The Role of Pre-arranged Financing and Opportunities for Reform  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250 Mission 300: The High-stakes Pursuit of Energy Transition in Africa  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>
11:15-12:45	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220 When Labor Goes Digital: Ensuring Decent Work and Social Security in the Platform Economy  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>	<b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250 What do IAM Case Outcomes Tell Us About IFIs’ Commitment to Remedy?  <a href="#">Watch Here</a>
13:00-14:30	<b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B Tackling Inequality in Eastern and Southern Africa: Will the Bretton Woods Institutions Step Up?	

14:30-16:00 **Location:** WBG I 2-250  
Ensuring Accountability: The Challenges and Opportunities  
Posed by the Full Mutual Reliance Framework (FMRF)

[Watch Here](#)

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15:00-16:30 **Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B  
Building Back Better: The Path for Inclusive, Sustainable, and Transformative Reconstruction in Lebanon and Syria

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# DAY 1

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

SESSION DETAILS



9:00-10:30 (DC Time)

**How the Jubilee Year Can Address the Debt and Development Crises in the Global South**

**Organizers:** CAFOD, Caritas Internationalis, Institute for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University, Suramericana Vision, Jesuit Ecology Network for Africa, Christian Aid, Jubilee USA

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/98847026402?pwd=cH3pNI1D34IB6b57UgRZ7oOmuVRF0w.1>



**Session Abstract:** Many countries in the Global South are facing escalating debt and development crises. Numerous nations are experiencing economic stagnation due to unsustainable debt burdens, even without formal default. In this Jubilee year a Commission of Experts, convened by the Vatican and led by Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz, will produce a Jubilee Report on Addressing the Debt and Development Crises in the Global South. This session will present some initial findings of the Commission and in dialogue highlight practical solutions to the debt and development crises. By fostering collaboration between faith-based organizations, financial institutions, and policymakers, this discussion aims to contribute to meaningful reforms that promote global economic justice.

- **Moderator:** Marilou Uy, Senior Fellow at the Boston University Global Development Policy Center
- **Speaker 1:** Fr. Charles Chilufya, Jesuit priest working for the Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar
- **Speaker 2:** Martin Guzman, Co-President, IPD – Columbia University
- **Speaker 3:** Mark Flanagan, Deputy Director, IMF
- **Speaker 4:** Luca Bandiera, Acting Manager for the Global Debt Team, World Bank

11:00-12:30 (DC Time)

**Austerity vs. Protection: Labor's Perspective on the IMF's Contradictory Social Spending Approach**

**Organizers:** International Trade Union Confederation/Global Unions; Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF), Global Social Justice, MENAFem, Human Rights Watch, ARI, Gender Action, Akina Mama wa Afrika, Phenix Center for Economic Studies, SEATINI-U, ISER, ActionAid, Bretton Woods Project, Arab Watch Coalition, ANND

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/94247608672?pwd=EgG64SsRK5gSEY21yFbllSxiFX86zq.1>



**Session Abstract:** The session will present a trade union study examining the implementation of the IMF's 2019 social spending strategy, exposing tensions between fiscal consolidation and social commitment. Panelists will explore alternative approaches prioritizing workers' rights, reducing inequality, and examining trade unions' and civil society's critical role in safeguarding essential social spending.

- **Moderator:** Cathy Feingold, Deputy President, ITUC
- **Panelist 1:** Isabelle Ortiz, Director, Global Social Justice
- **Panelist 2:** Isabel Guzmán, deputy general secretary for Convergencia Sindical Panamá
- **Panelist 3:** Nabil Abdo, Senior Policy Advisor, Oxfam International
- **Panelist 4:** Mauricio Soto, Deputy Division Chief, IMF

12:00-13:30 (DC Time)	<p><b>Civil Society Roundtable with the World Bank Group Board of Directors</b>  <b>Location:</b> WBG MC C2-350 [In person only]  <b>A F S</b></p> <p>The Board of Directors of the World Bank Group will share notes on the institution’s approach and processes, and converse with civil society representatives about their concerns and queries.</p>
14:30-16:00 (DC Time)	<p><b>International Tax Cooperation: Giving Up or Doubling Down?</b>  <b>Organizers:</b> ICRICT, Oxfam, Patriotic Millionaires, European Tax Observatory, Tax Justice Network Africa, Center for Economic and Social Rights, GI-ESCR, ANND, Institute for Economic Justice  <b>Location:</b> IMF HQ2-03B-768B  <b>Link:</b> <a href="https://imf.zoom.us/j/92370358214?pwd=fTrlxzzcLj5UPTOJQT0tLHL1Sggyu.1">https://imf.zoom.us/j/92370358214?pwd=fTrlxzzcLj5UPTOJQT0tLHL1Sggyu.1</a>  <b>F S</b></p> <p><b>Session Abstract:</b> In recent decades, international tax cooperation has made promising strides in curbing tax evasion by multinationals and the super-wealthy, signaling progress toward a fairer global tax system. However, the progress made is now under threat. The growing influence of oligarchs is fueling reactionary movements that seek to dismantle hard-won multilateral initiatives, including global tax cooperation efforts. Countries now face a crucial decision: to retreat to the status quo, allowing inequality to deepen, or to strengthen their collective resolve to defend and advance international tax negotiations, which are essential for financing development, tackling climate change, and ensuring a just economic future for all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Susana Ruiz, Oxfam</li> <li>• <b>Speaker 1:</b> Joseph Stiglitz, Co-Chair, ICRICT</li> <li>• <b>Speaker 2:</b> Patrick Olomo, Head of Economic policy &amp; sustainable development, African Union; Speaker 3: Felipe Antunes, Alternate Executive Director (IMF)</li> <li>• <b>Speaker 3:</b> Erica Payne, President, Patriotic Millionaires</li> </ul>

**Photography, Audio, and Video Recording during the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF)**

By attending the CSPF, you enter an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur. The organizers may use photographs and/or video bearing your image for their websites, reports, social media, newsletters, blogs, and other communications related to the CSPF and the World Bank Group/IMF. Your entry constitutes your consent for recorded material to be used in online and printed media. If you do not consent to being recorded, you may choose to not enter this event, or you may sit behind where filming is happening and refrain from asking questions so your voice or likeness will not be recorded.

\*Selected sessions will have interpretations in two or more languages.

- F** French    **A** Arabic    **P** Portuguese    **S** Spanish

# DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

SESSION DETAILS





**Mobilizing Private Finance for Water Security: How to Get it Right**

**Organizer:** WaterAid

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** The funding gaps for water security are significant, and private finance is widely seen as a way to help fill these critical gaps where concessional and public sector financing are unlikely to meet those needs in the near-term. However, there are several challenges to this, including concerns around pricing water and serving public policy objectives. What will it take to scale this approach while serving vulnerable communities and ecosystems and fairly structuring public-private partnerships? What should be the role of the WBG and other IFIs?

- **Moderator:** Luisa Galvao, Senior Advocacy Advisor – IFIs, WaterAid
- **Opening Remarks:** Tim Wainwright, CEO, WaterAid UK
- **Speaker 1:** Azman Ahmed Chowdhury, Director of Business Development and Quality Assurance, WaterAid Bangladesh
- **Speaker 2:** Barbara Schreiner, Executive Director, Water Integrity Network
- **Speaker 3:** Yogita Upadya Mumssen, Practice Manager - Global Solutions, Global Department for Water, World Bank

**School Meals Programs: A Proven, Efficient, and Resilient Safety Net**

**Organizers:** SDG2 Advocacy Hub, Global Child Nutrition Forum, World Vision International, Rockefeller Foundation, Novo Nordisk Foundation

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** School meal programs are one of the world’s largest and most resilient social safety nets. Many governments recognize their catalytic role and seek to expand and improve their national programs. This event will take stock of global efforts and identify urgent actions, including the role of multilateral development banks.

- **Moderator:** Asma Lateef, Chief, Policy and Advocacy Impact, SDG2 Advocacy Hub
- **Panelist 1:** Heidi Kessler, Deputy Executive Director, Global Child Nutrition Foundation
- **Panelist 2:** Fabio Veras Soares, Researcher, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Development, Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPCid/IPEA), Government of Brazil
- **Panelist 3:** Afton Halloran, Senior Scientific Manager, Global and Environmental Health, Novo Nordisk Foundation
- **Panelist 4:** Roy Steiner, Senior Vice President, Food Initiative, The Rockefeller Foundation
- **Panelist 5:** Dr. Luis Benveniste, Global Director for Education, World Bank

### Are Debt Sustainability Frameworks Compatible with Human Rights and Climate Action?

**Organizers:** Eurodad, Afrodad, APMDD, Latindadd, MENAFem, SEATINI, IEJ, GDPC, DebtJustice Norway, Jubilee USA Network, Oxfam, Human Rights Watch, CESR

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/99084929177?pwd=jLPX1pumrWErbSgDHbHBZKFACDrtUx.1>



**Session Abstract:** The Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-income Countries (LIC-DSF) review is crucial to determine concessional finance and debt relief. The session will offer an overview of how debt is increasingly becoming more unsustainable from a human rights, gender, and climate justice perspective -- and discuss new approaches to adapt the DSF to integrate human rights, climate, and gender justice.

- **Moderator:** Jason Braganza, Executive Director, AFRODAD
- **Speaker 1:** Francisco Cantamutto, Latindadd consultant and associate researcher at CONICET
- **Speaker 2:** Imène Cherif, MENAFem Movement
- **Speaker 3:** Marina Zucker Marques, Boston University Global Development Policy Center
- **Speaker 4:** Allison Holland, Assistant Director, IMF

### Hidden debt: Tackling Grand Corruption in Debt Management to Safeguard Financing for Development

**Organizers:** Centro de Integridade Pública, Transparency International, Eurodad

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/98643886228?pwd=9FTKatSDCobVDbg1FeDwFMlkyQVQhW.1>

**Session Abstract:** Debt is essential for the economy. But what happens when it is captured, mismanaged, acquired improperly, or hidden? Amid increasing democratic backlash, greater transparency and accountability in debt are urgently needed. The session explores lessons from Mozambique to shape FfD4 discussions on preventing debt capture and safeguarding economic sustainability and future generations' welfare.

- **Moderator:** Daniela Patino Pineros, Lead Public Resources, Transparency International
- **Panelist 1:** Aslak Jangård Orre, Senior Researcher Chr. Michelsen Institute
- **Panelist 2:** Kjetil Abildsnes, Senior Policy Officer - Debt Justice, Eurodad
- **Panelist 3:** Sally Torbert, Policy Manager, International Budget Partnership
- **Panelist 4:** Alessandro Gullo, Assistant General Counsel, IMF

11:00-12:30 (DC Time)

11:15-12:45 (DC Time)

### Catalyzing Climate Finance in Fragile Contexts—What’s Being Done and What Still Needs Doing?

**Organizer:** International Rescue Committee

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Hear and engage with front-line implementers, climate financiers, and subject matter experts in this exciting session about climate financing reaching the most fragile settings. Participants will first hear the latest developments on climate financing as well as the operating environment from persevering front-liners in lightening talks before going into a more traditional format, during which participants will have the opportunity to ask bold questions and provide unfiltered feedback. A final interactive component will further encourage participants to engage panelists and each other in discussing catalytic climate financing solutions for some of the hardest to reach communities.

- **Moderator:** Caroline Vassighi, Resource Mobilization Specialist, Green Climate Fund
- **Panelist 1:** Tara Clerkin, Climate Resilience Global Practice Lead, International Rescue Committee
- **Panelist 2:** Dr. Charles Ehrhart, Chief of Strategy and Impact Officer, Green Climate Fund

### Social Protection for the Next Generation: Rethinking Safety Nets for Youth

**Organizers:** RAHA Foundation and Office of the Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria

**Location:** | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Young people today face increasing economic uncertainty, exacerbated by rising unemployment, digital transformation, and climate change. However, traditional social protection systems often exclude youth, leaving them vulnerable during critical life transitions. This session will explore innovative and sustainable safety nets that empower youth, focusing on universal basic income, social insurance, skills development funds, and climate resilience programs. Bringing together policymakers, development finance institutions, private sector leaders, and youth advocates, the discussion will highlight financing solutions, policy reforms, and public-private partnerships needed to create inclusive social protection frameworks. Participants will examine successful case studies, explore blended finance models, and identify strategies to ensure economic security, digital inclusion, and resilience for young people worldwide. This session aims to foster actionable policy recommendations and strengthen global commitments toward adaptive, youth-centered social protection systems that drive long-term economic growth and social stability.

- **Moderator:** Rasheed Yusuf, Executive Director, RAHA Foundation and Technical Advisor to the Presidency of Nigeria on Youth Initiatives
- **Panelist 1:** Titilope Gbadamosi, Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria on Youth Initiatives, Government of Nigeria
- **Panelist 2:** Jeroo Billimoria, Child and Youth Finance International and One Family Foundation (CatalystNow)
- **Panelist 3:** Akshay Ruparelia, Founder, Doorsteps.uk
- **Panelist 4:** Tavneet Suri, Professor, MIT
- **Panelist 5:** Iffath Sharif, Global Director for Social Protection, World Bank

14:30-16:00 (DC Time)

### How Can IFC Support the Shift to Sustainable Food Systems (Including Sustainable, Affordable Protein Alternatives)?

**Organizers:** Compassion in World Farming, Friends of the Earth-US, Bank Information Center, World Animal Protection

**Location:** I 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** IFC is considering how to better align its agribusiness portfolio with requirements for environmental, social, and economic sustainability, especially considering the role industrial livestock systems play in deforestation and climate change. This panel will examine IFC's current agribusiness portfolio, its impacts, and the most promising alternatives to industrial livestock.

- **Moderator:** World Bank Group Executive Director (TBC)
- **Panelist 1:** Lizah Makombere, Agroecology Institute, University of Vermont
- **Panelist 2:** Megan Waters, Senior Policy Advisor, FAIRR (Farm Animal Investment Risk and Return) Initiative
- **Panelist 3:** Dr. Divya Narain, Researcher, Friends of the Earth
- **Panelist 4:** Anup Jagwani, Head, Global Agribusiness, International Finance Corporation

### Localizing Impact: How Community-led Approaches are Shifting Power and Enhancing the Effectiveness of International Development

**Organizer:** ACDPN, Fondation Enfant Jeunesse (Haiti)

**Location:** WBG I 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Localization is now an operational necessity. This session examines how community-led models in Haiti and Nigeria enhance aid effectiveness by shifting power to local actors. Through case studies and solution-driven dialogue, we will explore strategies for overcoming systemic barriers and institutionalizing direct funding to local organizations.

- **Moderator:** Ushana Houston, Director of Strategy and Communications, ACDPN Africa
- **Panelist 1:** Gina Ferrus, President and Co-founder, FEJ Haiti
- **Panelist 2:** Rafiu A. Olarore, President, Youth Enterprise Development and Innovation Society
- **Panelist 3:** Brooke Lehmann, International Development Policy Expert, USA
- **Panelist 4:** Susan Wong, Lead Social Development Specialist, World Bank

### Decoding IMF Accounting, Unlocking the Full Potential of SDRs

**Organizers:** Center for Economic and Policy Research, ActionAid USA, MENAFem, Bretton Woods Project, Latindadd

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/99098532078?pwd=iBbOp6OucozU2qRam4Oq5bqMQKJwo6.1>



**Session Abstract:** Efforts to maximize the impact of SDRs have been hamstrung by erroneous accounting recommendations and conflicts between central banks and governments. This session will clarify SDRs' status as equity instruments and the reserve asset characteristics of SDR investments to unleash their full potential for budget support and debt relief.

- **Moderator:** Niranjali Amerasinghe, Executive Director, ActionAid USA
- **Speaker 1:** Andrés Arauz, Senior Research Fellow, CEPR
- **Speaker 2:** Marina Zucker-Marques, Senior Academic Researcher, Boston University Global Development Policy Center
- **Speaker 3:** Maia Colodenco, Director of the Global Initiatives Division of Suramericana Vision

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French   Arabic   Portuguese   Spanish

# DAY 3

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

SESSION DETAILS



### IFC Sustainability Framework Review: A Pivotal Opportunity to Protect Human Rights and the Environment

**Organizers:** Recourse, Accountability Counsel, AIPNEE, Arab Watch Coalition, CIEL, Community Self Reliance Centre, FARN, IDI, Oxfam, Bank Information Center

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** A crucial review of the IFC’s Sustainability Framework will soon commence. Involving the voices of communities impacted by IFC projects, this panel voices will address the successes, policy gaps, and implementation of the existing safeguards, discuss the key areas IFC must address, and share insights on how to improve implementation.

- **Moderator:** Kate Geary, Program Director, Recourse
- **Panelist 1:** Natalie Bugalski, Legal and Policy Director, Inclusive Development International
- **Panelist 2:** Leandro Gomez, Rights & Investment Coordinator, FARN
- **Panelist 3:** Bishwash Nepali, Project Coordinator, Community Self Reliance Centre
- **Panelist 4:** Justin Pooley, Manager, Environmental & Social Policy, IFC

### Challenging Assumptions of “Green Development”: Cross-Continental Responses to the WBG’s Renewed Support for Hydropower

**Organizers:** International Rivers, Rivers without Boundaries, Defenders in Development, Bank Information Center, Accountability Counsel, International Accountability Project, Mekong Watch, CEE Bankwatch

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** The session examines the World Bank’s renewed involvement in hydropower, its impacts, possibilities for redress, and challenges when civic space is limited. Speakers will discuss Bank projects in the DRC, Central Asia, Pakistan, and Cambodia; the role of hydropower in the energy transition; and lessons 25 years on from the *World Commission on Dams* report.

- **Moderator:** Joshua Klemm, Co-Executive Director, International Rivers (TBC)
- **Panelist 1:** Manana Kochladze, Founder, Green Alternative
- **Panelist 2:** Emmanuel Musuyu, Executive Secretary, CORAP
- **Panelist 3:** Toshi Doi, Senior Advisor, Mekong Watch (TBC)
- **Panelist 4:** Ani Balabanyan, Practice Manager in the Energy & Extractives Global Department, World Bank
- **Panelist 5:** Demetrios Papathanasiou, Global Director Energy and Extractives, World Bank

## Strategic Investments in Uncertain Times: Strengthening Health and Nutrition Financing through the World Bank and Global Health Institutions

**Organizers:** Health Promotion Tanzania (HDTT), ACTION Global Health Advocacy Partnership, Results Canada, RESULTS Educational Fund

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** While the World Bank's UHC commitment to reach 1.5 billion people by 2030 is a critical milestone, achieving this goal requires not only stronger collaboration and innovative financing mechanisms but also greater domestic resource mobilization to sustain long-term investments. This session will take a deeper dive into how IDA21 financing, innovative mechanisms like loan buy-downs and debt swaps, and country-led strategies can be leveraged to strengthen primary health care systems. We will explore how targeted investments in nutrition, tuberculosis, and social protection are essential to delivering on UHC commitments and ensuring equitable access to quality health services. Additionally, we will examine the role of GHIs in aligning efforts amid shifting donor priorities and discuss how civil society and parliamentarians must play a central role in shaping and driving these processes to ensure that resources translate into tangible health outcomes at the country level.

- **Moderator:** Xochitl Sanchez, Director, ACTION
- **Panelist 1:** Hilda Kwezi, Advocacy Officer, Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT)
- **Panelist 2:** Rosemary Mburu, Executive Director, WACI Health
- **Panelist 3:** Bruno Rivalan, Senior Partnership Specialist, Health and Nutrition Department, World Bank
- **Panelist 4:** Diwa Samad, Senior Program Coordinator, Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents, World Bank

## Unlocking Financial Solutions for the Future Global Plastic Governance: Pathways to Implementation

**Organizer:** Community Action Against Plastic Waste

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** This side event will explore innovative financial mechanisms essential for the successful implementation of the future global plastic governance framework. Key discussions will focus on mobilizing resources through public-private partnerships, development finance, and international cooperation to support the plastic treaty's goals. The session will address financial tools, investment models, and policy alignment to ensure equitable and effective solutions, with a particular emphasis on overcoming barriers in low- and middle-income countries. By unlocking sustainable financial pathways, this event aims to catalyze actionable strategies for a plastic-free future through robust global governance.

- **Moderator:** Ahmed Tiamiyu, Executive Director, Community Action Against Plastic Waste
- **Panelist 1:** Cressida Bowyer, Assistant Professor, University of Portsmouth
- **Panelist 2:** Jacob Kean-Hammerson, Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)
- **Panelist 3:** Dominic Coppens Senior Managing Associate, Sidley Austin LLP
- **Panelist 4:** Rafael Peralta, Head of UNEP Washington DC office



14:30-16:00 (DC Time)	<p><b>Reimagining IFI Governance for Gender &amp; Climate Justice: FfD4 Opportunities and Challenges in a Shifting Global Order</b></p> <p><b>Organizers:</b> Equidad, Latindadd, CESR, MENAFem, IBON International, WEDO, IEJ, Christian Aid</p> <p><b>Location:</b> WBG   2-220</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p> <p><b>Session Abstract:</b> This session explores how at the time of shifting global power dynamics, proposals on IFI transformation can open space for rights-based reforms that address climate and gender justice. Panelists will examine how FfD4 can catalyze equitable financing, democratic debt resolution, and governance reforms that uphold human rights, especially for marginalized and frontline communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Mahinour ElBadrawi, Global Partnerships Lead, CESR</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 1:</b> Emilia Reyes, Program Director, Policies and Budgets for Equality and Sustainable Development, Equidad</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 2:</b> Daniela Berdeja, Sovereign Debt Analyst and Manager of the LAC Vulnerability Atlas, Latindadd</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 3:</b> Shereen Talat, Director, MENAFem</li> </ul>
14:30-16:00 (DC Time)	<p><b>Open Data as a Catalyst for Transparency and Sustainable Development</b></p> <p><b>Organizer:</b> Open Data Association</p> <p><b>Location:</b> WBG   2-250</p> <p><a href="#">Watch Here</a></p> <p><b>Session Abstract:</b> In an era where transparency and accountability are crucial for sustainable development, open data has emerged as a powerful tool for driving economic growth, reducing corruption, and fostering public trust. This session explores how governments, businesses, and civil society can leverage open data to enhance decision-making, improve governance, and support post-crisis recovery. With a special focus on Ukraine, we will highlight how open data has played a key role in ensuring transparency during wartime, strengthening anti-corruption efforts, and accelerating reconstruction. Join us to explore best practices, challenges, and the future of data-driven policymaking in Ukraine and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Iryna Mykulych – Head of International Affairs, Agency for Recovery and Development</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 1:</b> Yurii Romashko – CEO, Institute of Analytics and Advocacy; Chairman of Board, RISE Ukraine Coalition</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 2:</b> Nataliya Chornogub – Head of Open Data Association; GR Manager, YouControl</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 3:</b> Oksana Nesterenko – Executive Director, Anti-Corruption, Research and Education Center, University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy</li> <li>• <b>Panelist 4:</b> Klaus Deininger – Lead Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank</li> </ul>

14:00-15:30 (DC Time)

### Missing Labor: Fixing the Fund’s Approach to the Gendered Division of Labor

**Organizers:** The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy, ARI, Human Rights Watch, AWC-MENA, EFHR- Egypt, MENAFem, Global Social Justice, Gender Action, International Trade Union Confederation, Action Aid International, Aswat Nissa-Tunisia, EuroMed Rights, Akina Mama wa Afrika, CIHRS, Shirakat, ECRF, Takatoat-Jordan, The Alternative Policy Institute – BADIL-Lebanon, EIPR, GCSPF, EHRF

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/99134646512?pwd=Tf2iZHplogpjDxvF8TadJbxqnrGGHa.1>



**Session Abstract:** Despite the IMF’s prioritization of female labor force participation, it failed to improve and often harmed women’s access to formal labor markets. The session aims to evaluate the IMF’s impact on the gender gap in labor markets and offer practical solutions while accounting for the gendered division of labor.

- **Moderator:** Timothy E. Kaldas, Deputy Director, The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy
- **Panelist 1:** Ashina Mtsumi, Coordinator for the Tax & Education Alliance at ActionAid International
- **Panelist 2:** Sarah Saadoun, Senior Economic Justice Researcher and Advocate, Human Rights Watch
- **Panelist 3:** Nada Nashaat, Head of Women's Public Participation Program, The Center for Egyptian Women's Legal Assistance
- **Panelist 4:** Monique Newiak, Deputy Unit Chief, IMF

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\*Selected sessions will have interpretations in two or more languages.

French Arabic Portuguese Spanish

# DAY 4

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

SESSION DETAILS



9:00-10:30 (DC Time)

**The Next Disaster is Coming: The Role of Pre-arranged Financing and Opportunities for Reform**

**Organizer:** Centre for Disaster Protection

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Disasters are often treated as surprises, with only [2% of international crisis finance pre-arranged ahead of shocks](#). This session explores opportunities and challenges in scaling pre-arranged financing, focusing on international financial institutions’ instruments and their development impact, specifically contingent loans, climate resilient debt clauses, insurance and catastrophe bonds.

- **Panelist 1:** Isatou F. Camara, Director of Climate Finance, Ministry of Finance & Economic Affairs, The Gambia
- **Panelist 1:** Shakira Mustapha, Research Lead, Centre for Disaster Protection
- **Panelist 2:** Dr. Samuel Maimbo, Candidate for President of the African Development Bank
- **Panelist 3:** Zulfiqar Younas, Additional Secretary (Climate Finance), Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad, Pakistan
- **Panelist 4:** Niels Holm-Nielsen, Global Technical Lead for Resilience and Disaster Risk Management (DRM), World Bank

**Mission 300: The High-stakes Pursuit of Energy Transition in Africa**

**Organizers:** Power Shift Africa, Recourse, Big Shift Coalition, MENAFem, SYND

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** This Mission 300 side event serves as a platform to advance an energy transformation in Africa, one that prioritizes inclusive development, decent jobs, climate resilience, and social equity. This session explores pathways to a fair energy transition through community-led solutions, cross-sector success stories, expert insights, innovative financing, and policy recommendations that place people and the planet at the center of progress.

- **Moderator:** Fran Witt, Program Director, Ecological Justice, Recourse
- **Panelist 1:** Dean Bhekumuzi Bhebhe, Senior Just Transitions & Campaigns Advisor, Power Shift Africa
- **Panelist 2:** Adam Anthony, Programs Manager, Haki Rasilimali
- **Panelist 3:** Karabo Mokgonyana, Renewable Energy Campaigner, Power Shift Africa
- **Panelist 4:** Jay Heimbach, Vice President, External and Corporate Relations, World Bank Group

11:15-12:45 (DC Time)

### **When Labor Goes Digital: Ensuring Decent Work and Social Security in the Platform Economy**

**Organizers:** Human Rights Watch, Arab Reform Initiative, International Trade Union Confederation/Global Unions, Global Social Justice, MENAFem, GCSPF, ISER

**Location:** WBG | 2-220

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Platform work is transforming labor markets globally. As international bodies debate new standards, this panel explores how to regulate platform work, guarantee decent conditions, and ensure tech firms contribute to social security. It also examines how development finance, taxation, and labor standards can align for a more just digital economy.

- **Moderator:** Rouguiatou Diallo, Economic Research Officer, ITUC
- **Panelist 1:** Somirwan Subasinghe, Legal Director, International Transport Workers' Federation (TBC)
- **Panelist 2:** Farah Al Shami, Program Director for Social Protection, Arab Reform Initiative
- **Panelist 3:** Amber Barth, Director and Representative to the Bretton Woods and Multilateral Organizations at the ILO
- **Panelist 4:** Lena Simet, Senior Researcher and Advocate, Human Rights Watch
- **Panelist 5:** Jonathan Stöterau, Economist and Impact Evaluation Specialist in the Jobs Group, World Bank Group

### **What do Independent Accountability Mechanism (IAM) Case Outcomes Tell Us About IFIs' Commitment to Remedy?**

**Organizers:** Accountability Counsel, Urgewald, Bankwatch, Recourse, CIEL, BIC, Gender Action, Arab Watch Coalition, IDI

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** Independent accountability mechanisms (IAMs) are often the only avenues communities have to seek justice for project impacts. However, there has been a lack of comprehensive data on the implementation and effectiveness of remedy commitments. This session will explore new research and recommendations for strengthening the delivery of remedy.

- **Moderator:** Samer Aarabi, Research Director, Accountability Counsel
- **Panelist 1:** Megumi Tsutsui, Sr. Research Associate, Accountability Counsel
- **Panelist 2:** Daniel Shaa, Community Representative, Kenya
- **Panelist 3:** Eyüp Özer, Community Representative, Turkey
- **Panelist 4:** Sadaf Lakhani, Environmental/Social Advisory Specialist, CAO

13:00-14:30 (DC Time)

### Tackling Inequality in Eastern and Southern Africa: Will the Bretton Woods Institutions Step Up?

**Organizers:** Norwegian Church Aid, Save the Children, Act Church of Sweden, Felm, DFI, Oxfam, Afrodad, All Africa Council of Churches

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/94147874472?pwd=TbHbMX3Skbt0btUIATzbNTVbxhR5hX.1>



**Session Abstract:** The IMF and World Bank aim to reduce inequality, but greater action is needed. Eastern and Southern Africa has the highest proportion of highly unequal countries. A new report by Act Church of Sweden, DFI, Felm, NCA, Oxfam, and Save the Children highlights rising inequality and urges stronger policies to foster sustainable, inclusive development.

- **Moderator:** Kjetil Abildsnes, Senior Advisor, Economic Justice, Norwegian Church Aid
- **Panelist 1:** Rev. Suzanne Matala, Former General Secretary, Zambia Council of Churches
- **Panelist 2:** Matthew Martin, Director, Development Finance International
- **Panelist 3:** H.E. Ambassador Dr. Kaire M. Mbuende, DG of Planning, Government of Namibia
- **Panelist 4:** Genevieve Verdier, Advisor, IMF
- **Panelist 5:** Hassan Zaman, Regional Practice Director for Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions, World Bank

### Ensuring Accountability: The Challenges and Opportunities Posed by the Full Mutual Reliance Framework (FMRF)

**Organizers:** AIPNEE, Accountability Counsel, CIEL, Gender Action, NGO Forum on ADB, Recourse, World Bank Inspection Panel and Dispute Resolution Service

**Location:** WBG | 2-250

[Watch Here](#)

**Session Abstract:** The World Bank and the Asian Development Bank approved a Full Mutual Reliance Framework (FMRF) for certain co-financed projects. Under the FMRF, the lead financier's safeguards apply, and communities can only approach its accountability mechanism. This panel will debate key issues with the FMRF, including concerns that differing policies and practices between the institutions can affect project quality and communities' access to remedy.

- **Moderator:** Parameswaran Iyer, Executive Director, World Bank Group
- **Panelist 1:** Stephanie Amoako, Policy Director, Accountability Counsel
- **Panelist 2:** Prabindra Shakya, Convenor, AIPNEE
- **Panelist 3:** Ramanie Kunanayagam, Chair, Compliance Review Panel, Asian Development Bank
- **Panelist 4:** Ibrahim Pam, Chairperson, World Bank Inspection Panel
- **Panelist 5:** Maninder Gill, Global Director, Environmental and Social Standards, World Bank

15:00-16:30 (DC Time)

### **Building Back Better: The Path for Inclusive, Sustainable, and Transformative Reconstruction in Lebanon and Syria**

**Organizers:** ARI, TIMEP; Human Rights Watch; Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors; ANND; AWC; MENAFem; Phenix Center for Economic and Informatics Studies; Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in MENA

**Location:** IMF HQ2-03B-768B

**Link:** <https://imf.zoom.us/j/94319558426?pwd=8FNbroNXnEpOMWtnXa8rRDL3qEul2u.1>



**Session Abstract:** As Lebanon and Syria undergo reform and reconstruction, governance, financing, and economic policies must ensure transparency, accountability, and social justice. This session examines governance gaps, IMF and World Bank interventions, and needed reforms to foster stability, inclusive growth, and social protection while prioritizing livelihoods, equality, and community resilience.

- **Moderator:** Farah Al Shami, Senior Fellow and Social Protection Program Director, Arab Reform Initiative
- **Panelist 1:** Timothy E. Kaldas, Deputy Director, Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy
- **Panelist 2:** Lena Simet, Senior Researcher and Advocate, Human Rights Watch
- **Panelist 3:** Karam Shaar, Syrian Political Economist
- **Panelist 4:** Nizar Aouad, Influencing Lead, Oxfam in MENA
- **Panelist 5:** Sascha Buetzer, Economist, IMF
- **Panelist 5:** World Bank representative (TBC)

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