

LAW, JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT WEEK 2025

November 3-5 Event Program



Innovative Legal Solutions to Development Challenges

CONTENT

WELCOME MESSAGE	3
SCHEDULE	4–15
MONDAY	4–6
TUESDAY	7–11
WEDNESDAY	12–15
SPONSORS	16
LJD WEEK 2025 CORE ORGANIZING TEAM	17
NOTES	18
VENUE MAP	24

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Excellencies, Ministers of Justice, Attorney Generals, Law School Deans, General Counsels, friends and guests: On behalf of the World Bank Group's Legal Team and our event partners, I am delighted to welcome you to Law, Justice and Development Week 2025.

For over a decade, this event has convened legal and development professionals from across the world to focus on the challenges, solutions and opportunities for advancing economic development.



The World Bank's Legal Team is supporting and enabling our development mission with a renewed urgency and laser focus on leveraging legal knowledge, resources and a solutions-oriented mindset to create innovative and more effective products and services that support our member countries' priorities.

This approach has required us to think differently about our work. We've brought that spirit to Law, Justice and Development Week 2025 with the theme, Innovative Legal Solutions to Development Challenges. This year's program reflects a heightened emphasis on urgency, scale and results, achieved by harnessing the talents and energy of the legal community to create and effectively implement policy, laws, regulatory frameworks and the institutions of justice that support economic development, jobs and poverty reduction. Our subtheme—focusing on the evolving role of legal practitioners—invites us all to reflect on how we can reshape legal systems and the roles of lawyers to be more adaptive, inclusive, and impactful in a complex and fast-changing world.

To do so, we need to collaborate with partners from across the legal spectrum, so whether you're a policy-maker, law-maker, ministry or agency of government; or whether you're guiding your organization or company from the inside or advising them from the outside; whether you're in government, academia or public or private practice or civil society; you have a perspective, knowledge, experience and judgment that we urgently need in order to advance our shared mission to eradicate poverty and build strong and resilient economies.

This event and your presence here today underscores our collective recognition that, together, we will be better equipped to solve the challenges ahead, so that the development investments that we support can shape the future and improve the livelihoods of people everywhere.

We look forward to engaging with you in a program that shares impactful knowledge, strengthens our partnerships and inspires us to work more deliberately towards a better world.

With warm regards,

Christopher Stephens
Senior Vice President and World Bank Group General Counsel

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025 | INNOVATIVE LEGAL SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

8:00 AM 9:00 AM	Registration, Networking & Breakfast MC Front Lobby
9:00 AM 10:00 AM	Opening Session Preston Auditorium The Invisible Infrastructure: Surveying Development's Legal Landscape In a fast-changing world, how can the law serve as an innovative tool to support the reforms needed to unlock greater development impact? As an "invisible infrastructure," the law and regulations serve as "rules of the game" to help spur private sector investment, create jobs, and drive development. This opening session for Law, Justice and Development Week 2025 will discuss how legal knowledge and innovations can support the reforms needed to unlock greater development impact. Speakers: • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group • Axel van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Escarlata Baza Nunez, Shingira Masanzu</i>
10:00 AM 10:20 AM	Networking & Coffee Break MC Front Lobby Opening of Knowledge Zone
10:20 AM 11:20 PM	Session 2 Preston Auditorium The Mandates and Relevance of International Organizations in a Changing World: Adapt or Rethink? How should we rethink the mandates of international organizations (IOs) so they remain fit-for-purpose in a changing world while keeping true to their constituent agreements? Legal departments for these institutions are critical players in steering them through challenging new environments and ensuring they can respond to their membership's needs and aspirations. In a panel composed of distinguished speakers with extensive academic and practical experience in the law and inner workings of IOs, the session will consider how the internal law of IOs can further evolve to increase their impact and reach. Opening Remarks: Vikram Raghavan, Lead Counsel, World Bank Group Speakers: • Souley Amadou, General Counsel and Director of the Legal Services Department, African Development Bank • Angela Ellard, Former Deputy Director-General (ret.), World Trade Organization • Yan Liu, General Counsel and Director of the Legal Department, International Monetary Fund • Sheila Braka Musiime, Deputy General Counsel for Operations, World Bank Group Moderator: • Shingira Masanzu, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Shingira Masanzu</i>
11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Session 3 Preston Auditorium Rethinking Legal Protections for a Livable Planet: Case Studies on Innovative Approaches to Remedy Environmental Crimes This session will explore innovative legal strategies to protect the environment through prevention, sanction, and reparation, drawing on real-world case studies. Experts from different legal systems will share tools and insights to strengthen environmental justice, offering actionable knowledge and practical approaches to better integrate environmental protection into legal systems. Speakers: • Antonio Hernan Benjamin, President, Superior Court of Justice and the Federal Justice Council, Brazil • Robert Cicuto, Delegate of the French National Chamber; President, European Chamber of Judicial Officers • Aurélia Devos, Magistrate, Ministry of Justice, France • Belén Paez, President, Fundación Pachamama • Olagnika Salam, President, African Affairs Commission, International Union of Notaries Moderator: • Laurent Marion, Director, Governance Department, Expertise France <i>Coordinator: Ruxandra Costache</i>
12:30 PM 1:45 PM	Networking and Lunch Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Lunch Session MC 2-800 Careers in International Finance Institutions 2.0: How to thrive as an IFI Lawyer For lawyers of IFI organizations only. Hosted by the Association of Lawyers in Intergovernmental Finance and Development Organizations (ALIFDO). <i>Coordinator: Escarlata Baza Nunez</i>

	Closed Session (By Invitation Only) MC 13-121 Deans of Law Faculties Dialogue This invitation-only session will feature a high-level discussion among the deans of leading law schools from around the world on actionable reforms in legal education aimed at broadening access to law and justice globally and preparing future lawyers to navigate the challenges of a rapidly evolving global legal profession. Participants: • G.S. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Delhi • Luis Benveniste, Global Director, Education and Skills, World Bank Group • Stéphane Braconnier, President, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University • Eduardo Chiziane, Head of the Faculty of Law, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane • Anthony Crowell, Executive Committee Member, Association of American Law Schools • Ntombizozo Dyani-Mhango, Head of Department of Public Law, University of Pretoria • Heather Hughes, Interim Dean, Washington College of Law, American University • Susan Karamanian, Dean of the College of Law, Hammad Bin Khalifa University • Fatima Mandhu, Dean, ZCAS University School of Law • Dayna Bowen Matthew, Dean, George Washington University Law School • Troy McKenzie, Dean of NYU School of Law, New York University • Srikrishna Deva Rao, Vice Chancellor, NALSAR University of Law • Eleonora Lozano Rodriguez, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Universidad de los Andes • Xu Shenjian, Dean of the School of Juridical Science, China University of Political Science and Law • Ricardo Alberto Ortega Soriano, Director of the Department of Law, Universidad Iberoamericana • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, World Bank Group • Joshua Teitelbaum, Interim Dean of the Law Center, Georgetown Law <i>Coordinator: Tamika Zaun</i> Session 4 Preston Auditorium AI Governance in the Development Context This session will raise awareness and share experiences of how AI governance issues arise in the development context and what the emerging enabling environment trends are for ensuring safe deployment and use of AI using real-world examples. Speakers: • Wafa Ben-Hassine, Director, Programs and Policy, Omidyar Network • Dessislav Dobrev, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group • Gaurav Nayyar, Economic Advisor, World Bank Group • David Mascari, Head of Legal Operations and Portfolios, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Moderator: • Jorn Wegter, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Naicheng Deng</i> Session 5 MC 4-800 Digital Innovation in Preventive Justice: Secure Property Rights & Access to Justice This session will look at the opportunities and challenges for digital solutions in the preventive administration of justice in developing countries through four practical examples from Benin, Brazil, Indonesia, and Italy. It will spotlight the evolving role of legal practitioners in enhancing land tenure, access to justice, and economic development. With the digital age transforming legal landscapes, technology can make legal systems more efficient and accessible. Speakers: • Giselle Oliveira de Barros, President, Notarial Chamber of Brazil • Mauro Campbell Marques, Minister, Superior Court of Justice of Brazil • Elisa Puglielli, Notary, Notarial Chamber of Italia • Olagnika Salam, President, African Affairs Commission, International Union of Notaries • Prita Miranti Suyudi, Notary, Notarial Chamber of Indonesia Moderator: • Lionel Galliez, President, International Union of Notaries <i>Coordinator: Ruxandra Costache</i>
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1:45 PM
3:00 PM

3:00 PM 3:15 PM	Networking & Coffee Break Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Exhibitions and Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
3:15 PM 5:00 PM	Session 6 Preston Auditorium Domestic Resource Mobilization: Tools for an Enabling Regulatory Environment The first half of this session will introduce the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development and its Champion Projects. The second half of the session will be a discussion of the Africa Tax Legislation Atlas. This effort is a case study for how accessible legal data can strengthen tax systems and governance worldwide. It will highlight actionable strategies for leveraging legal transparency and comparative analysis to improve tax administration, as well as a clearer understanding of the growing role of legal practitioners in driving effective regulatory reform to improve domestic resource mobilization. Opening Remarks: • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group First Half Speakers: • Christian Brugerolle, Counsel, World Bank Group • Christina Leb, Lead Water Specialist, World Bank Group • Remi Moncel, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group • Nightingale Rukuba-Ngaiza, Counsel, World Bank Group Second Half Speakers: • Taiwo Fayose, Director, CRG Institutional Risk & Governance, IFC • Cory Hillier, Senior Counsel, IMF Legal Department • Teresa L. Jennings, Head of Rule of Law, LexisNexis Legal & Professional • Belema Obuoforibo, Director, Knowledge Center, International Bureau for Fiscal Documentation • Zach Pouga, International Tax Partner, Ernst & Young • Cary Douglas Pugh, Judge, United States Tax Court Moderator: • Marjorie Mpundu, Chief Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Christian Brugerolle, Lucy Mukaka</i>
5:00 PM	End of Day Announcements Preston Auditorium

Evening Welcome Reception

6:00 PM 8:00 PM	Sponsored by The George Washington University Law School <u>Venue:</u> The George Washington University School of Law Frederick M. Lawrence Student Conference Center, Lisner Hall, Second Floor, 2023 G Street, N.W., Washington D.C. (venue with limited space) Opening Remarks: • Dayna Bowen Matthew, Dean and Harold H. Greene Professor of Law, The George Washington University Law School • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Tamika Zaun</i>
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TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2025 | INNOVATIVE LEGAL SOLUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

8:00 AM 9:00 AM	Registration, Networking & Breakfast MC Front Lobby
9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Session 7 Preston Auditorium Working Better Together: Full Mutual Reliance and the Future of MDB Collaboration This session will explore the groundbreaking Full Mutual Reliance Framework between the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. It will discuss how innovative partnerships can strengthen collaboration among Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and support development objectives more effectively while advancing the efficiency agenda. Speakers: • Thomas Clark, General Counsel, Asian Development Bank • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group Moderator: • Jimena Garrote, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Shreya Bose</i>
10:15 AM 10:40 AM	Networking & Coffee Break Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Opening of Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
10:40 AM 11:40 AM	Session 8 MC 13-121 Leveraging National Legal Frameworks for a Just Transition This session will unpack the findings of the new GFLJD Environmental Justice Working Group report on the main elements of a national legal framework for just transition across sectors. The report provides recommendations on embedding just transition principles into national legal frameworks and highlights their relevance to the operations of development institutions. Speakers: • Revai Makanje Aalbaek, Global Lead for Rule of law Justice and Security, UN Development Programme • Victor Mosoti, Deputy General Counsel for Environmental and Social Risk Management, World Bank Group • Rafael Peralta, Regional Director, Regional Office for North America, UN Environment Programme • Dae Rubinos, Counsel, World Bank Group • Sara Marzal Yetano, Legal Counsel, International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes Moderator: • Remi Moncel, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Yinsongti Tindana</i>
	Session 9 MC 2-800 Innovative Legal Solutions to Diversify Sources of Development Finance As sovereign budgets for official development assistance are reduced, the big question for all development practitioners is how to diversify sources of development finance especially as development challenges demand increased financing. This session will discuss examples of innovative solutions that have deployed legal solutions and structuring as a critical first step to unlocking financing. It will share cutting edge ideas and transactions being deployed by different MDBs to increase financing capacity or address specific development challenges. Speakers: • Jessica Kung, Senior Associate, Clifford Chance LLP • Shirmila Ramasamy, Lead Counsel, World Bank Group • Rachel Robboy, Chief Risk Officer, IDB Invest • Kruskaia Sierra-Escalante, Senior Manager, Treasury & Mobilization, Co-Investor Solutions, Syndications Department, IFC Moderator: • Tim Cleary, Partner, Clifford Chance LLP <i>Coordinator: Shaina Salman</i>

10:40 AM 11:40 AM	Session 10 MC 4-800 Law and Data: Leveraging Legal Indicators as an Innovative Tool for Development This session will discuss the future of legal indicators as a strategic tool for economic and legal development. It will evaluate the robustness of legal indicators, focusing on methodological challenges, uses cases and interoperability, potential improvements, and how these indicators can be used more effectively by businesses, investors, and governments to foster economic development. This session will also introduce the World Observatory on Legal Indicators (WOLI) - ‘the indicator of indicators’- its objectives and its call for global collaboration. Speakers: • Umar Serajuddin, Manager, Development Data Group, World Bank Group • Bruno Deffains, Professor, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University • Daniela Barba, Director of Research on Access to Justice, World Justice Project • Emmanuel Pinto Moreira, Director of Special Operations in the President Cabinet Office, African Development Bank Moderator: • Norman Loayza, Director, Global Indicators Group, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Ruxandra Costache</i>
11:45 AM 12:30 AM	Session 11 Preston Auditorium Legal Bolts (I): Bright Insights on Development Impact • Legal Innovation for a Data-Driven World: As the World Bank evolves towards more innovative forms of engagement to support knowledge, cross-border solutions, and global public goods, development work increasingly involves legal questions tied to digitalization—such as data protection, intellectual property, and AI governance. This session will highlight how LEG works directly with project teams throughout the product cycle to enable legal pathways that allow new types of operations to proceed within the Bank’s legal and institutional framework. • Leveraging B-READY Data for Innovative Legal Solutions in the Private Sector: This talk will explore how the World Bank’s Business Ready (B-READY) report serves as a benchmark for the private sector, assessing digitalization and its regulation to enhance public services, and operational efficiency. Covering 400+ digital adoption variables across 100+ economies, the report provides key insights into digital adoption by governments and businesses. The discussion will highlight how digital transformation fosters a more business-friendly environment and drives private sector innovation, including the AI uptake. • The Intersection of Technology and Citizen Participation in Combatting Corruption: This talk will highlight the ABA’s Center for Global Programs Pilot Anti-Corruption Mechanism Program in El Salvador, which collaborated with the Governmental Ethics Tribunal to provide Salvadorans with an online corruption complaint platform. Learn how leveraging technological solutions and social media help generate citizen participation in denouncing corruption, and hear best practices in agile management of rule of law development programs. Speakers: • Carole Botello, Program Manager, Latin America and Caribbean Division, Center for Global Programs, American Bar Association • Bryan Cahill, Head of Open Source Program Office, World Bank Group • Francisco Ciampolini, Regional Director, Latin America and Caribbean Division, Center for Global Programs, American Bar Association • Cyriane Coste, Private Sector Specialist, World Bank Group • Natallia Karkanitsa, Legal Analyst, World Bank Group • Holly Krambeck, Program Manager, Data Lab, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Naicheng Deng, Berk Guler, Shaina Salman</i>
12:30 PM 1:45 PM	Networking and Lunch Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Exhibitions and Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
12:30 PM 1:45 PM	Lunch Session MC C1-100 Digital Solutions for Climate-Smart Cities: The Law and Climate Change Toolkit This session will demonstrate the impact of the UN-Habitat Urban Law Module, an interactive digital tool that helps governments assess and reform legal frameworks for climate resilience, and showcase UN-Habitat’s e-learning course on integrating climate action into urban law to create cohesive multi-sectoral approaches and multi-level governance models for coordinated climate action. Both tools demonstrate the impact and importance of using urban law for resilient, sustainable, and inclusive low-carbon urban development. Speakers: • Anne Amin, Legal Specialist, UN-Habitat • Renee Gift, Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme • Shamiso Mitsi, Deputy Director, Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association

12:30 PM 1:45 PM	<i>Continued</i> • Zione Ntaba, High Court Judge, Malawi Judiciary (Zomba Division) • Raf Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat • Ana Paula Pimentel Walker, Associate Professor, Urban and Regional Planning Legal Officer, University of Michigan Moderator: • Loren Atkins, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Tamar Morchiladze</i> Closed Session (By Invitation Only) MC 6-317 Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development Board Meeting This closed-door session will be the second board meeting held under the GFLJD's renewed structure, following the adoption of the new GFLJD Charter in October 2024. It will provide a platform for strategic dialogue between stakeholders and the GFLJD leadership on the progress of the GFLJD and the broader theme of legal innovation. <i>Coordinator: Christian Brugerolle, Shaina Salman</i>
1:45 PM 3:00 PM	Session 12 MC 2-800 Leveraging the Law for Women's Economic Opportunity This session will explore how the World Bank's Women, Business and the Law (WBL) data on barriers and enablers to women's economic opportunity have provided the evidence base for legal and policy reform that aim to increase women's economic participation and global economic growth. It will highlight success stories how WBL data informed World Bank operations in Sierra Leone, Azerbaijan, and Egypt that created new economic opportunities for women. Attendees will learn how they can use their legal expertise to inform WBL data and advance women's access to jobs. Opening Remarks: • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group Speakers: • Sahar Albazar, Member of Parliament, Arab Republic of Egypt • Nato Kurshitashvili, Senior Transport Specialist, World Bank Group • Smriti Seth, Senior Economist, World Bank Group • Nahla Zeitoun, Senior Social Protection Specialist, World Bank Group Moderator: • Tea Trumbic, Manager, Women, Business and the Law, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Shingira Masanzu</i>
1:45 PM 3:00 PM	Session 13 MC 13-121 Development and Human Rights: Innovative Approaches in a Challenging Landscape This session focuses on integrating human rights into development practices to achieve sustainable outcomes, especially in the context of global crises. It will showcase innovative legal solutions that promote transparency and inclusion. It will also share insights from development actors' experience across various fields in creating cohesive strategies for navigating constraints and complex challenges. Speakers: • Wendyam Conombo, Policy Officer, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France • Paola Carolina Fajardo-Heyward, Program Manager, Human Rights Umbrella Trust Fund, World Bank Group • Carole Excell, Senior Program Officer, Waverley Street Foundation • Siobhán McInerney-Lankford, Human Rights Lawyer • Rylin Rodgers, Disability Policy Director, Microsoft • Jan Wouters, Professor of International Law and International Organizations, KU Leuven Moderator: • Duygu Cicek, Counsel, World Bank, Legal Vice Presidency <i>Coordinator: Shaina Salman</i>

	Session 14 MC 4-800 Legal Innovations in Response to Global Mineral Sector Challenges This expert-led workshop invites mining sector legal professionals to explore innovative legal reforms shaping the global mineral sector through presentations and interactive exercises. The focus is on adapting legislation for strategic minerals and enabling investment while balancing environmental and social interests. Key takeaways include practical strategies for mining law reform and the essential role of legal practitioners in sector development. Speakers: • Scot Anderson, Office Managing Partner, Womble Bond Dickinson • Ana Elizabeth Bastida, Associate Professor, Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy, University of Dundee • Christophe Bondy, Partner, Steptoe • Milton Fernando Montoya Pardo, Director, Mining and Energy Law Institute, Universidad Externado de Colombia • Sven Ulrich Renner, Program Manager, World Bank Group • Nicola Woodroffe, Senior Legal Analyst, Natural Resource Governance Institute Moderator: • Nneoma Nwogu, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Yinsongti Tindana</i>
3:00 PM 3:15 PM	Networking and Coffee Break Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Exhibitions and Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
3:15 PM 4:00 PM	Session 15 Preston Auditorium Legal Briefs: Short Talks on Legal Innovations • The Dataset of World Refugee and Asylum Policies: The talk will introduce and describe the Dataset of World Refugee and Asylum Policies (DWRAP), an innovative tool that codifies de jure asylum and refugee provisions for 193 countries from 1951-2022 into simple, quantitative, indicators. It will illustrate the content of the dataset, and will showcase the DWRAP platform, a user-friendly tool developed for making the dataset accessible by a large audience of non-technical stakeholders to use the dataset to inform their activities on refugee and asylum seekers policies. • Democratizing Legal AI - a Model for More Efficient and Accessible Justice: This talk will highlight two French initiatives on legal AI. The Paris Bar has launched a groundbreaking project to provide free AI-powered tools to more than 14,000 lawyers for 15 months, promoting equality, efficiency, and technological inclusion in legal services. In parallel, the French Cour de cassation has developed a reflection on ethics in the use of AI by judges and built a methodology to evaluate AI in the justice system. Together, they show how legal AI can support sustainable development, bridge technological divides, and inspire innovation globally — when access is paired with rigorous evaluation. Speakers: • Clémence Bourillon, Judge, Cour de Cassation, France • Guy Grossman, Professor, University of Pennsylvania • Pierre Hoffman, President, Paris Bar Association • Domenico Tabasso, Senior Economist, World Bank - UNHCR Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement <i>Coordinator: Naicheng Deng, Tamar Morchiladze</i>
3:15 PM 4:15 PM	Session 16 MC 13-121 Emerging Patterns in Women's Legal Aid Support This session will launch the World Bank Legal Vice Presidency's first pilot assessment on Legal Aid for Women, spanning nine countries and offering data-driven insights for reform. It will spotlight the structural barriers women face in accessing justice and the innovative solutions making a difference. Participants will discover how legal aid systems can become more responsive, inclusive, and impactful for women worldwide. Opening Remarks: • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group Speakers: • Anna Giudice, Team Leader, Accelerating Justice Team, CPCJS/DTA, UN Office on Drugs and Crime • Arturo Herrera Gutierrez, Global Director for Institutions, World Bank Group • Pascale Lagesse, Vice Chair Legal Practice Division, International Bar Association • Marwan Maalouf, Senior Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Shingira Masanzu</i>

4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Session 17 MC 4-800 Alternative Dispute Resolution Solutions to Address 21st Century Development Challenges in Asia and the Pacific International alternative dispute resolution (IADR) could be a game changer for emerging markets and developing economies, yet there are challenges to its widespread adoption. This session will discuss IADR as a critical tool in supporting sustainable economic development, the current state of IADR development focusing on the Asia and the Pacific region, and recommendations to tackle IADR issues to address emerging disputes in the 21st century. Speakers: • Tigran Dadunts, Deputy Minister of Justice, Armenia • Byungsik Jung, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute • Ambeng Kandakasi, Deputy Chief Justice, National and Supreme Courts, Papua New Guinea • Claudia Salomon, President, ICC International Court of Arbitration • Aleksey Sim, Head of the Investment Climate and Ratings Department, Ministry of Investments, Industry and Trade, Uzbekistan Moderator: • Thomas Clark, General Counsel, Asian Development Bank <i>Coordinator: Tamar Morchiladze</i>
4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Session 18 MC 2-800 Navigating the Legal Complexities of Sovereign Debt This panel will explore innovative legal strategies for sovereign debt management, drawing from the African Legal Support Facility's experience, research, and tools. It will highlight how legal practitioners are essential to building financial resilience and sustainable borrowing practices across developing countries. Speakers: • Anna Gelpern, Professor, Georgetown University Law Center • Qingxiang Li, Attorney, International Monetary Fund • Jacob Mkandawire, Director, Debt Management Program, Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa • Baba Musa, Director General, West African Institute for Financial and Economic Management • Matthew Sandy, Director of Public Debt Management, Ministry of Finance, Republic of Liberia • Carina Sudgen, Lead Governance Officer, African Development Bank Moderator: • Nicole Kears, Principal Legal Counsel, Sovereign Finance Sector Lead, ALSF <i>Coordinator: Shaina Salman</i>
5:00 PM 5:05 PM	End of Day Announcements Preston Auditorium

8:00 AM 9:00 AM	Registration, Networking & Breakfast Front Lobby
9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Closed Session (By Invitation Only) MC 13-121 Attorneys General and Ministers of Justice Roundtable: Regulatory Reform for Development This session will bring together high-level officials from various countries to share and showcase their recent actions and priorities on domestic regulatory reforms. The session will provide a space for engagement and dialogue on the challenges countries have faced in different areas of governance and development, the approaches they have adopted, and the results and lessons learned. - Hon. Bojan Božović, Minister of Justice, Montenegro - Hon. Ugirashebuja Emmanuel, Minister of Justice, Republic of Rwanda - Hon. Adnan Fangari, Minister of Justice, Arab Republic of Egypt - Hon. Damir Habijan, Minister of Justice, Republic of Croatia - Hon. Mulilo Dimas Kabesha, Attorney General, Republic of Zambia - Hon. Kiryowa Kiwanuka, Attorney General, Republic of Uganda - Hon. Marshal Mubambe Muchende, State Counsel and Solicitor-General, Republic of Zambia - Hon. Eljach Pacheco, Attorney General, Republic of Colombia - Hon. Alpha Sesay, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Republic of Sierra Leone <i>Coordinator: Danielle Malek Roosa, Lois Kipoom Lee, Asasira Kamushaga</i>
9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Session 19 Preston Auditorium Toward a Joint Platform for Innovative Access to Justice: Global Stakeholders in Action This session will formally launch the Access to Law and Justice Working Group (ALJ-WG) under the GFLJD and serve as the ALJ-WG's inaugural meeting, featuring an interactive, forward-looking dialogue with key stakeholders and development partners. It will focus on the ALJ-WG's key outputs, including its flagship knowledge product: the Lawyer's Cookbook on Access to Law and Justice. Opening Remarks: Christophe Soulard, First President, French Court de Cassation Speakers: Henk- Jan Birkman, Permanent Observer of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) to the United Nations David Campbell, Chair of the United States Federal Judiciary's Committee on International Judicial Relations Julie Couturier, President, French National Bar Council Anna Giudice, Team Leader, Accelerating Justice Team, CPCJS/DTA, UN Office on Drugs and Crime Anastasiya Miller, Program Director of Civic Space, PILnet Karen Tse, Founder and CEO, International Bridges to Justice Moderator: David Satola, Chief Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Christian Brugerolle, Lucy Mukaka</i>
10:15 AM 10:40 AM	Networking & Coffee Break Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Exhibitions and Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
10:40 AM 11:40 AM	Session 20 MC C1-100 Governing the Global Hydrological Cycle: Where Do We Stand Building on the GFLJD Water Law Working Group's research to map and assess the global hydrological governance regime, this session will present the international and national regulatory frameworks that influence and shape the governance of the global hydrological cycle. Speakers: Richard Damania, Chief Economist, Planet Vice Presidency, World Bank Group Ana Maria Daza-Clark, Associate Professor in International Economic Law, Edinburgh Law School Saroj Kumar Jha, Water Global Director, World Bank Group Owen McIntyre, Professor, School of Law, University College Cork Raphael Tshimanga, Professor, University of Kinshasa Moderator: Christina Leb, Lead Water Specialist, World Bank <i>Coordinator: Berk Guler</i>

10:40 AM 11:40 AM	Session 21 MC 2-800 Using Innovative Legal Tools to Return Stolen Assets and Support Development Goals The session will focus on showcasing innovative legal tools, such as Unexplained Wealth Orders and the use of civil remedies, employed by practitioners to enhance the tracing, recovery, and return of assets derived from purported criminal activities. Drawing from practical examples from the UK, Brazil and Nigeria, the session will share insights into the most recent legal strategies in the fields of anti-corruption and asset recovery to show how international organizations can support countries in returning stolen assets for the benefit of development. Speakers: • Lucio Alves Angelo, State Attorney, Deputy Coordinator of the Foreign Litigation Unit, Attorney General's Office, Brazil • Elsa Gopala Krishnan, Liason, Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative, World Bank Group-UN Office on Drugs and Crime • Selimat Lawal, Deputy Head of Asset Recovery and Management Unit, Federal Ministry of Justice, Nigeria • Yasmin Pither, Senior Policy Advisor on International Asset Recovery, Home Office, United Kingdom Moderator: • Frank Fariello, Former Lead Counsel (ret.), World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Berk Guler</i>
	Session 22 MC 4-800 Innovative Legal Pathways to Unlock Agrifinance for Smallholder Farmers This session will explore how legal frameworks and innovations can unlock access to finance for smallholder farmers, using insights from the Agrifinance Toolkit developed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), and partners. It will highlight practical tools and strategies for supporting legal reforms that incentivise financial institutions to reach underserved rural communities, as well as the evolving role of legal practitioners in shaping inclusive, resilient financial ecosystems. Speakers: • Thomas Clark, General Counsel, Asian Development Bank • Marek Dubovec, Director of Law Reform Programs, International Law Institute • Anup Jagwani, Head of Global Agribusiness, International Finance Corporation • Dil Rahut, Vice-Chair of Research and Senior Research Fellow, Asian Development Bank Institute • Anna Veneziano, Deputy Secretary General, International Institute for the Unification of Private Law Moderator: • Katherine Meighan, Chief Legal and Governance Officer, International Fund for Agriculture <i>Coordinator: Tamar Morchiladze</i>
11:45 AM 12:30 PM	Session 23 Preston Auditorium Legal Bolts (II): Bright Insights on Development Impact • AI for Access to Law and Justice - Building Colombia's First Country-wide LLM: This talk will present Colombia's groundbreaking initiative to develop the country's first special-purpose LLM designed exclusively for legal information access and state services. This pioneering project demonstrates how academic-private partnerships can create scalable, replicable AI solutions that democratize access to justice in civil law jurisdictions. • Court Audio Recordings Project: Access to courts' digital records (oral arguments) enhances transparency, accountability, justice, the rule of law, and public trust. Using the South African Constitutional Court as the pilot, this talk will examine the feasibility of and share innovative options for creating a free digital audio to increase public access, highlighting strategies for collaboration among legal professionals, justice stakeholders, and higher educational institutions. • Enabling Community Monitoring of Disability Rights Using Text Analytics and LLMs: This talk will explore how GenAI and text analytics can empower communities to monitor implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Using a novel hybrid methodology, participants will learn global and regional trends—with a focus on legal recognition, access to justice, and employment—and how to apply these tools to analyze treaty data relevant to their own contexts. Speakers: • Derrick Cogburn, Professor and Executive Director, School of International Service, Kogod School of Business (Department of Information Technology, Analytics), and Institute on Disability and Public Policy (IDPP), American University • Mtende Mhango, Professor, University of Limpopo • Antonio Barreto Roza, Associate Professor, Law School of Universidad de los Andes • Amos Saurombe, Professor & Head of Department, Criminal and Procedural Law, University of South Africa College of Law • Keiko Shikako, Associate Professor and Director, Canada Research Chair in Childhood Disability: Participation and Knowledge Translation, McGill University • David Varela, Director of the Center for Economic Regulation and International Competitiveness, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana <i>Coordinator: Berk Guler, Shingira Masanzu</i>

12:30 PM 1:45 PM	Networking and Lunch Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Closed Session (By Invitation Only) MC 13-121 General Counsels Closed Door Meeting <i>Coordinator: Hyun-Soo Lee, Christian Brugerolle</i>
	Session 24 Preston Auditorium Legal Innovation in Times of Crisis: General Counsel Roundtable This session will bring together general counsels from various MDBs and IFIs to discuss the role of law, lawyers, and legal institutions in supporting innovative solutions to global development challenges, and how this role must evolve in politically complex, crisis-prone environments amid rapid technological advancements. Panelists: • Jan De Bel, General Counsel, Council of Europe Development Bank • Rosemary Jeronimides, General Counsel, IDB Invest • Alberto Ninio, General Counsel, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank • Diana Wilson Patrick, General Counsel, Caribbean Development Bank • Vivienne Yeda, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Africa Finance Corporation Moderator: • José María Fernández Martín, General Counsel and Director General, European Investment Bank
3:00 PM 3:20 PM	Networking and Coffee Break Preston Lounge & Front Lobby Exhibitions and Knowledge Zone Front Lobby
3:20 PM 4:30 PM	Session 25 Preston Auditorium The Evolving Role of Legal Practitioners in the Development Ecosystem How can legal professionals adapt their roles to advance solutions that help meet development goals? How can they leverage their unique expertise to be key innovators in the development space? As the closing session for Law, Justice and Development Week 2025, this discussion will focus on how legal professionals can bring new ideas to tackle ongoing and emerging global challenges, as well as creative insights to unlock greater development impact. Speakers: • Jun Jin, Deputy General Counsel, UN Development Programme • Kiryowa Kiwanuka, Attorney General, Republic of Uganda • Katherine Meighan, General Counsel, IFAD • Jose Luis Sardon, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Peru to the OAS • Christophe Soulard, First President, French Court de Cassation • Vivienne Yeda, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Africa Finance Corporation Moderator: • David Sullivan, Deputy General Counsel for Institutional Administration, World Bank Group Closing Remarks: • Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group <i>Coordinator: Lois Kipoom Lee</i>
4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks Preston Auditorium



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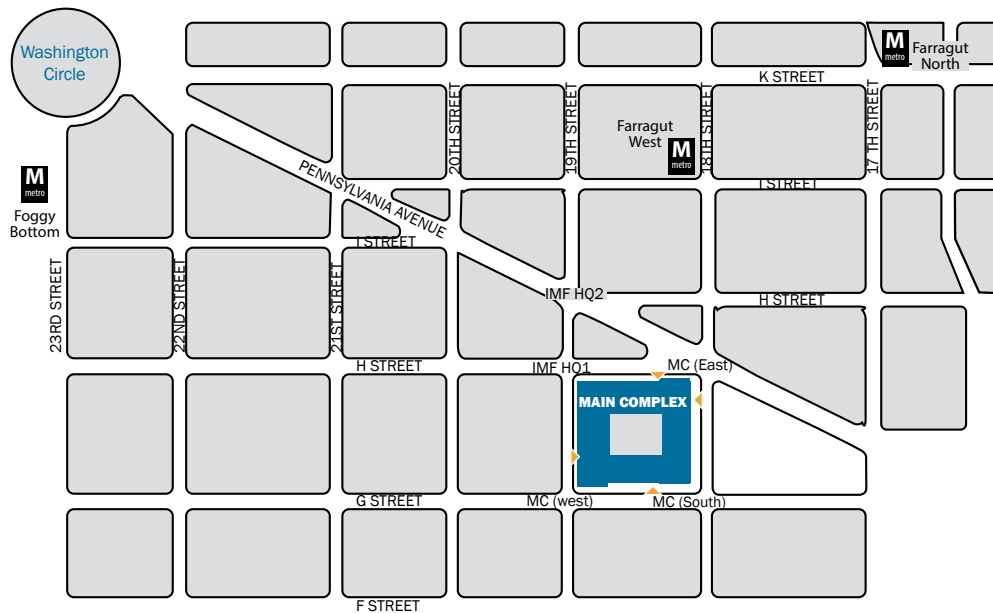
The World Bank Group's Legal Vice Presidency organized LJD Week 2025 under the leadership of Christopher Stephens, Senior Vice President and WBG General Counsel.

The event was organized by a team in the Legal Vice Presidency's Advisory Services & Knowledge unit with direction by Nneoma Nwogu. Team members included Georgina Wiese Billhorn, Shreya Bose, Christian Brugerolle, Berk Guler, Violeta Barrios Morales, Daniel Nikolits, Hector Clemente Ramirez, Mariel Backal Sheinberg, and Yinsongti Tindana.

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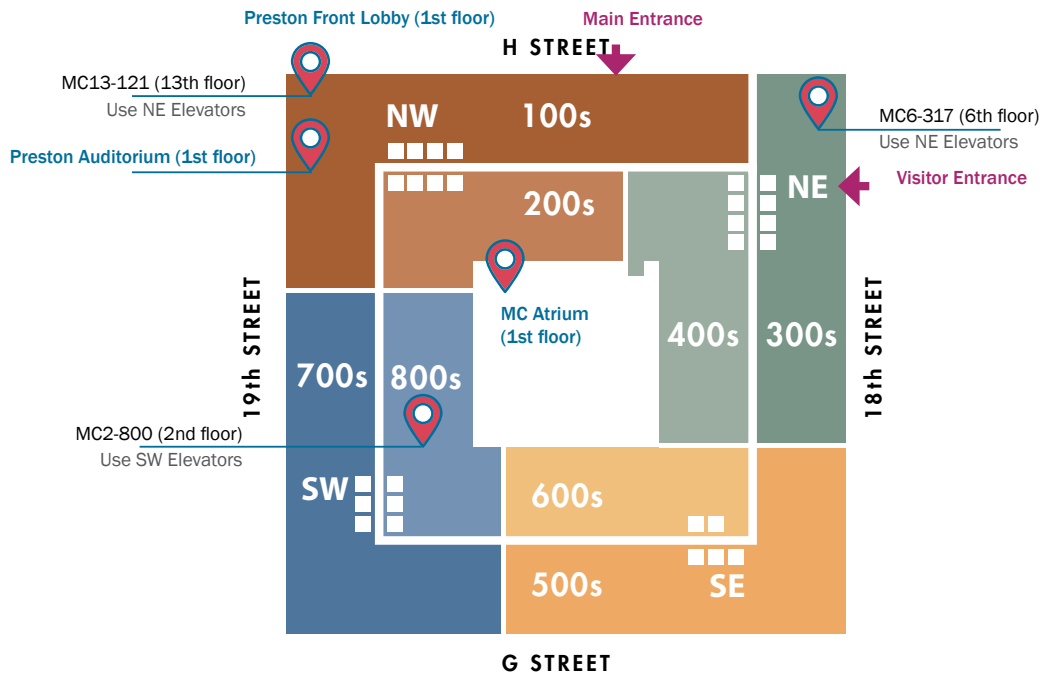
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Main Complex Building Map

Main Entrance: 1818 H Street, NW, Washington DC 20433 Visitor Entrance: 700 18th Street NW, Washington DC 20433



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