FEATURE STORY

The Road to IDA21

IDA African Heads of State Summit

A historic summit gathered 19 African Heads of State, who pledged commitment to ambitious economic reforms. The agenda aims to dramatically improve lives and create new opportunities, with the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA) at the heart of the strategy.

Press Release | Watch the Replay

IDA21 Replenishment Global and Regional Forums

Global and regional forums provide an opportunity for partners to provide input and feedback into proposed IDA21 strategic policy directions early in the process. Regional IDA Forums are being held across the seven regions in which IDA operates. The next Global IDA Forum will be in Washington, DC in October 2024.

IDA Forum Landing Page | Strategic Directions Paper | IDA21 Frequently Asked Questions

Financing the Future: IDA’s Role in the Evolving Global Aid Architecture Report

This report examines the increasingly complex relationship between donors and recipient countries. It demonstrates how IDA is a crucial player in the ever-evolving global aid landscape with its global footprint and convening power, ability to generate knowledge, policy access, and financial leverage.

Press Release | Aid Architecture Website | Read the Report
The Great Reversal: Prospects, Risks, and Policies in International Development Association Countries Report

The first comprehensive assessment of the risks and opportunities in IDA countries shows that one in three IDA countries is poorer than it was on the eve of the COVID-19 pandemic. These countries are crucial to the long-term outlook for global prosperity, because of their young, growing populations and an abundance of mineral deposits essential for the transition to clean energy. The report outlines the way forward with substantial policy reforms, bolstered by strong global support, to overcome setbacks.

Press Release | Report Website | Read the Report

2024 Spring Meetings: From Vision to Impact

The 2024 World Bank Group-IMF Spring Meetings took place from April 11-18. The focus for this year was on how the World Bank Group can turn its vision – of creating a world free of poverty on a livable planet – into real impact. This includes becoming a better Bank – one that is faster, more effective, and more ambitious.

Highlights

- The World Bank Group and African Development Bank Group are partnering on an ambitious effort to provide at least 300 million people in Africa with electricity access by 2030.
- The World Bank Group announced an ambitious plan to support countries in delivering quality, affordable health services to 1.5 billion people by 2030.

New Partnership Aims to Connect 300 Million to Electricity by 2030 | World Bank Group Aims to Expand Health Services to 1.5 Billion People
WASHINGTON DC, April 15-16, 2024 – The two-day Global Parliamentary Forum (GPF) gathered around 150 participants, with more than 90 legislators from 43 countries, representatives of parliamentary organizations, parliamentary staff, and civil society on April 15-16, 2024.

The cornerstone of the GPF was the first townhall with World Bank Group President Ajay Banga and IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, which focused on the Better Bank initiatives and how parliamentarians can partner with the World Bank Group to eliminate poverty on a livable planet. “You should know that both of us (the World Bank Group and IMF) count on support from all of you for us to do what we do…It doesn’t work unless you’re part of this,” said President Banga as he summed up what’s first and foremost on his mind as “intertwining challenges, time is of the essence, get to scale, and replicability.”

Other topics included AI, climate, debt, fragility, IDA, accountability and governance, and gender equality. The highlight of the second day was the announcement of a new Women’s Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF to help empower women MPs and involve them in the development process.

Over the last year we’ve seen some extraordinary changes to the mission, the model and the money of the World Bank. We’ve basically created an incredibly stronger new foundation. What the world has now got to do is build on it.”

Liam Byrne MP, Chair of Business and Trade Committee, UK; Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF

"Whether you are an appointed or elected parliamentarian, we are here to make a positive difference and we need to be reminded of that.”

Marlen Malahoo Forte MP and Minister of Justice, Jamaica

Watch the Session Replays
WASHINGTON DC, April 16, 2024 – The fifth meeting of the Global Young MP Initiative, titled “Planting Seeds of Growth: Creating green jobs for young people and the planet,” gathered young parliamentarians from 10 countries across Africa, East Asia and Pacific, Europe and LAC to discuss how to create more, better and greener jobs for the staggering number of youth who are, or will be, entering employment. The meeting was opened with a warm welcome from World Bank Vice-President of ECR Jay Heimbach, followed by a presentation on the current youth jobs context by Senior Advisor for Social Protections Jamele Rigolini and insights from CEO and Founder of Localized Ronit Avni. The discussion focused on actions legislators can take to improve capacity building, foster jobs creation and strategically position their countries globally to meet specialized employment needs. It was also the occasion to introduce the Steering Committee of the Global Young MP Initiative, who held their first in-person meeting to set out an action plan.

"We have hopes as high as the ceiling on what this Initiative could bring to the table and on what the World Bank could do to empower the youth more and more.”

Amira Saber MP, Egypt and Co-Presiding Officer of the Global Young MP Initiative

"We see a demographic trend that is skewing younger and younger...Parliaments need to take into account the voices of young people.”

Sven Clement MP, Luxembourg and Co-Presiding Officer of the Global Young MP Initiative

The Global Young MP Initiative
Parliamentary Side Meetings

April 17, 2024 – World Bank Managing Director of Operations, Anna Bjerde, met with Swedish Members of Parliament from the Foreign Affairs and Finance Committees. They discussed support to Ukraine, financial innovations and the importance of an ambitious IDA21 replenishment. The meeting was a follow up to a previous meeting in Stockholm in March.

April 18, 2024 – The Civil Society Policy Forum included a session, “Harnessing the Power of African Parliamentarians and CSOs to Efficiently Address Communities Health Needs.” The convening, organized by the Association Supporting Urban Sanitary Self-Promotion (ASAPSU), explored the strengths and challenges of engagement with CSOs, young leaders and MPs on the upcoming IDA21 replenishment. It included representatives from ASAPSU; Kofi Tsikata, Head, Global Parliamentary Engagement, World Bank Group; Hon. Berni Seni Naman, Member of Parliament, Côte d'Ivoire; Xochitl Sanchez, Director, ACTION Partnership Secretariat; and Tjedu Moyo, Advocacy and Project Officer, Lunia Center for Youths. The discussion centered around how to ensure greater impact on human capital in Africa.

April 19, 2024 – The World Bank Group, Oliver Wyman Forum, and Women Political Leaders (WPL) held a meeting titled, “Representation Matters.” It served as a platform to formalize a new partnership between the three organizations and announce a joint study on the impact of female representation in politics, using Women, Business and the Law (WBL) report data. The Bank was represented by the Chief Economist, the Global Director for Gender Hana Brixi and Director of the Global Indicators Group Norman Loayza.

Spring Meetings Public Events

2024 Spring Meetings Opening Press Conference
Watch the Replay

Energizing Africa: What Will It Take to Accelerate Access and Improve Lives?
Watch the Replay

Transforming Challenge into Action: Expanding Health Coverage for All
Watch the Replay
From the Munich Security Conference to Washington: Women Parliamentarians Meet World Bank Group Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer

WASHINGTON DC, June 6 – The World Bank Group Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer Anshula Kant met a delegation of women parliamentarians from Egypt, Tanzania and India. They had a wide-ranging discussion, covering issues such as the World Bank Group's evolution process, MDB reforms, how to close the gender gap, the debt burden facing many countries, and green financing. The meeting was facilitated by the Munich Security Conference, which launched a Women Parliamentarians Program with support from the Gates Foundation.

MSC Women Parliamentarians Program

Japanese Chapter of the Parliamentary Network Maintains Steady Flow of High-Level Engagements

TOKYO, January 23, 2024 – The Japan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network, led by Chair MP Matsumoto who is also serving as the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, met with Ajay Banga during his first visit to Japan as World Bank president. Twenty MPs joined the meeting, including three ministers (Chair Matsumoto, Health Minister Takemi, and Environment Minister Ito), one state minister (MP Abe in charge of national education), and 2 vice ministers (MP Seto in charge of finance and MP Nakano in charge of justice). Lower House Finance Committee Chair MP Tsushima joined the meeting as well. MPs discussed a variety of Bank-related issues, including Better Bank initiatives, IDA, disaster risk management, debt, and Japanese national staff at the Bank.
TOKYO, May 22, 2024 — The Japan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank held its second meeting this year in the presence of World Bank Group Vice Presidents of External and Corporate Relations (Jay Heimbach) and Development Finance (Aki Nishio). More than 20 MPs attended the meeting, including MP Ito, Environmental Minister; MP Yakura, State Minister of Finance, and MP Odawara, Secretary General of the Japan Chapter. In his opening remarks, Chair of the Chapter MP Takeaki Matsumoto, Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications, underscored the importance of the World Bank Group in today’s challenging world and reiterated his commitment to the success of the “Understanding Risk Global Forum” (UR2024), a biannual policy forum with a strong focus on disaster risk management.

TOKYO, May 23, 2024 — Representatives of the World Bank Tokyo Office joined a plenary meeting of the World Federalist Movement’s Japan Chapter, the oldest parliamentary network in Japan. Many members are part of the Japan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank. The discussions focused on the reform of the United Nations, complemented by discussions around the ongoing evolution process of the World Bank Group. Parliamentarians explored how the international governance system could be enhanced in light of the changing landscape of the global economy.

Parliament of Côte d’Ivoire Briefed on Country Climate and Development Report

ABIDJAN, May 15, 2024 — The World Bank Group Côte d’Ivoire country team engaged more than 200 parliamentarians from both the National Assembly and the Senate on the Country Climate and Development Report (CCDR). The report presentation, led by the World Bank Country Director, was warmly received, sparking rich and interactive discussions on the findings, which show that the country is at a crossroads. Recent global economic and health shocks have exacerbated existing challenges, including limited fiscal space, restricted access to concessional and market financing, and a fragile political environment. By addressing the aspirations of a growing population and adapting to the increasingly severe effects of climate change, the country, which is the world's leading producer of cocoa beans, can navigate these challenges and emerge stronger.
AXEL VAN TROTSENBURG DISCUSSES IDA WITH AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

VIENNA, May 7, 2024 – World Bank Senior Managing Director Axel Van Trotsenburg sat down with members of the Austrian Parliament’s Subcommittee on Development to give an update on IDA and the upcoming replenishment. The discussion covered a broad range of topics, including the World Bank Group’s work in fragile and conflict-affected settings; ensuring voices from client countries are heard; partnerships with other Multilateral Development Banks; and measures to uphold accountability.

The World Bank Group’s Engagement in Austria

World Bank Represented at NATO Parliamentary Assembly Seminar on the Middle East

ROME, May 7, 2024 – NATO Parliamentary Assembly invited the World Bank Group to speak at a Seminar on the Middle East co-hosted by the Italian Chamber of Deputies in Rome. The seminar was attended by some 80 parliamentarians representing 20 countries across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Europe. World Bank Regional Director of Sustainable Development Meskerem Brhane contributed to the session titled, “Climate Change: Security, Development and Migration Implications for the MENA Region.”

The World Bank's Engagement in the MENA Region | The World Bank Group’s Engagement with Parliamentary Organizations
Swiss Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee Roundtable with Ajay Banga

WASHINGTON D.C., May 6, 2024 – A delegation of nine members of the Swiss Foreign Affairs Committee, led by President of the Committee, Laurent Wehrli, met with World Bank Group President Ajay Banga for a roundtable discussion. President Banga gave them a briefing on the World Bank Group’s evolution progress, including the new gender strategy, a focus on youth, the creation of a Private Sector Investment Lab, and steps to operate faster, at scale, and in a more simplified manner. He highlighted IDA as a valuable platform for delivering results by leveraging each dollar to around 3.5, underscoring the importance of the upcoming replenishment. Questions focused on the new Bank’s new scorecard indicators, insurance and financial sector policies, and how the World Bank partners with the United Nations.

The World Bank Group’s Engagement in Switzerland

McGill University Wraps Up Third Year of Joint Certificate Program for Parliamentarians

MONTREAL, May 6-10, 2024 – The World Bank Group’s Head of Global Parliamentary Engagement, Kafu Kofu Tsikata, addressed 17 legislators and seven parliamentary staff at the McGill University School of Continuing Studies’ Residency Program for parliamentarians and staffers, as part of its Parliamentary Governance Program.

The program covered Contemporary Issues in Parliamentary Governance for MPs, and Current Trends in Parliamentary Administration for parliamentary staff. Topics included the Core Functions of Parliament, Effective Parliamentary Oversight, the Role of Opposition, Governance and Accountability, Parliamentary Communications, Gender, AI, Executive-Legislative Relations, the Role of Political Parties, Strategic Planning, Rules and Procedures, among others.

Mr. Tsikata presented current developments in the World Bank Group, highlighting the need for parliamentarians to scale up their oversight and accountability roles, while helping to advocate for global priority issues affecting people and the planet. The World Bank Group jointly sponsors a component of the program with the Parliamentary Network and the IMF, targeting young parliamentarians from all regions.

McGill Professional Development Certificate Program
World Bank Leadership Meets Key Parliamentarians from the United Kingdom

LONDON, March 5, 2024 – World Bank Vice President of External and Corporate Relations Jay Heimbach and Director of IDA Resource Mobilization and IBRD Corporate Finance, Development Finance Dirk Reinermann held two meetings with parliamentarians from the United Kingdom (UK) during a visit. First, a virtual discussion with the International Development Committee (IDC), led by Committee Chair Sarah Champion MP, covered IDA21 and ensuring support for the poorest, progress on the World Bank evolution process, and the IDC’s inquiry on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including support available through IDA and the new crisis response toolkit. The second meeting was with the Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne MP, Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF. They discussed the Spring Meetings Global Parliamentary Forum, supporting young MPs in building networks and experience with fellow parliamentarians, and the IDA21 replenishment.

The World Bank Group’s Engagement in the United Kingdom

European Parliamentary Staffers Program Revived in Berlin

BERLIN, February 29-March 1, 2024 – The World Bank Group held the first meeting of its European Parliamentary Staffers program in Berlin, hosted by Hon. Volkmar Klein MP, and Chair of the Bundestag World Bank Caucus. The event gathered 25 staffers from six parliaments (European Parliament, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, and the UK) to deepen their understanding of the World Bank Group and how we can partner to meet global development goals despite overlapping challenges. World Bank Director of the IDA Resource Mobilization and IBRD Corporate Finance, Development Finance Dirk Reinermann; Special Representative to Europe Jakob Kopperud; Head of Global Parliamentary Engagement Kofi Tiskata; and External Affairs Associate Blythe Antonelli provided participants with an overview of the World Bank’s work overall, its parliamentary engagement, and the value of IDA.

The World Bank Group’s Engagement in Western Europe
A New Dawn: How IDA is transforming lives

The Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne, Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom and Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF, speaks with Akihiko (Aki) Nishio, Vice President of Development Finance at the World Bank. This episode delves into the critical role of IDA21's ambitious replenishment in addressing today's development challenges.

Small Islands, Big Challenges: Parliamentary action on climate change

The Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne, Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom and Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF joins Lord Fatafehi Fakafānua, Speaker of Parliament of Tonga. This episode delves into the critical role of Parliamentary Action on Climate Change and its impact on Small Island Developing States.

Listen to the Podcast on:

Apple  Spotify  Amazon  Google Podcasts
Partnerships Charter

The World Bank Group reaffirmed its commitment to partnerships with a One World Bank Group Partnership Charter. The Charter highlights the principles underpinning the World Bank Group’s work with partners and reinforces the vision of the partner it aspires to be.

World Bank Group Stakeholder Relations

Global Economic Prospects June 2024

The global economy is projected to stabilize for the first time in three years, albeit with weak growth below pre-COVID levels. Global growth is expected to remain at 2.6% in 2024 before nudging up to 2.7% in 2025-26. Global inflation is also expected to moderate to 3.5% in 2024 and 2.9% in 2025, a slower pace of decline than was projected just six months ago.

Press Release | Website | PDF

State of Trends of Carbon Pricing 2024

The 2024 edition of this annual report finds that in 2023 carbon pricing revenues reached a record $104 billion for the first time ever. Over half of the collected revenue was used to fund climate and nature-related programs. Despite a decade of strong growth, however, carbon pricing levels and global coverage remain too low to meet the Paris Agreement goals.

Press Release | PDF | Carbon Pricing Dashboard

Recipe for a Livable Planet: Achieving Net Zero Emissions in the Agrifood System

A new flagship report is the World Bank Group’s first comprehensive global roadmap for mitigating the agrifood system’s contribution to climate change while feeding a growing population. The report shows that the global agrifood system is a bigger contributor to climate change than most people think. But agrifood also presents a huge opportunity to cut almost a third of the world’s greenhouse emissions through affordable and readily available actions.

Press Release | PDF
Digital Progress and Trends Report 2023

This new World Bank Group report provides a sweeping analysis of countries’ production and use of digital technologies—from digital jobs, services exports, and app development to internet use, affordability, quality, and more. The report finds that where digitalization takes off, it drives economic growth, employment, and resilience. The report also highlights policy shifts and debates, with a focus on developing countries. Two clear trends have emerged that are shaping our digital future: the importance of digital public infrastructure and the transformative emergence of artificial intelligence.

Press Release | Website | PDF

Women Business and the Law 2024

The latest edition of the World Bank Group’s Women, Business and the Law report shows wider-than-expected global gender gaps. When two new indicators—safety from violence and access to childcare services—are taken into account, women on average enjoy just 64% of the legal protections that men do. This is lower than the previous estimate of 77%. This report also assesses gaps between legal reforms and actual outcomes, revealing a shocking implementation gap of less than 40% on average.

Press Release | Website | PDF

Visit our website
Global Young MP Initiative LinkedIn