

CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM

March 22–April 2, 2021



SPRING MEETINGS

2021 | VIRTUAL

WORLD BANK GROUP
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

WEEK 1	Monday, March 22	Tuesday, March 23	Wednesday, March 24	Thursday, March 25	Friday, March 26
8:00 am – 9:30 am	An introduction to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for civil society	Creating a Caring Economy: The role of IFIs and the CEDAW framework in transformative change	A People's Recovery: Ensuring progressive fiscal measures for a feminist and just pandemic recovery	An economic future for whom? The Cascade/MFD and recovery	Toward a People's Vaccine: The role of the World Bank in ensuring universal and equitable COVID-19 vaccines for all
10:00 am – 11:30 am	An introduction to the World Bank Group (WBG) for civil society	Closing Civic Space: Facing the risk for World Bank-supported Covid-19 responses head-on	Universal access to healthcare: lessons learned from Public-Private Partnerships	International solidarity to support a robust and inclusive recovery: A global social protection fund	Development Policy Finance: Critical Concerns surrounding Accountability and Outcomes for People and the Climate
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm		Improvements for the implementation of the social and environmental safeguards of the IFIs from the indigenous proposal			
WEEK 2	Monday, March 29	Tuesday, March 30	Wednesday, March 31	Thursday, April 1	Friday, April 2
8:00 am – 9:30 am	Private Sector Accountability in times of Crisis	Why climate transition risks are macro-critical: the IMF and enabling a Green Recovery	How could the World Bank Group accelerate efforts to be fossil free?	Special Drawing Rights as a Sustainable Option for Financing fight against COVID-19 and economic recovery in Africa	Citizen Engagement in Practice: Lessons from the independent monitoring of citizen engagement implementation in World bank funded Projects in Ghana, Malawi, and Uganda
10:00 am – 11:30 am	Showcasing the impact of debt in poor countries and a proposal for fair and green recovery financing	Anti-corruption collective actions, what have we learned? Lessons from the ground	Education financing to reach the most marginalized: Challenges and solutions during COVID-19 response and recovery	Learning COVID-19's Lessons: Assessing Anti-Corruption and Social Protection in IMF Lending	Assessment of The World Bank's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the MENA region

WEEK 1 March 22–March 26, 2021

An introduction to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for civil society

Monday, March 22, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Join Christoph Rosenberg, Deputy Director of the IMF Communications Department and former mission chief for a number of countries in Eastern Europe and Africa as he runs you through an introduction for civil society organizations on the IMF, its mandate, how it works and how it is helping your countries in a context of crisis like the current pandemic. You will have the opportunity to ask questions during a 60-minute q/a session.

N.B: This session is not aimed for experts on the IMF, but for those who are starting to work on the Fund and are interested in developing their knowledge for their thematic or country work.

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=md1f725d8fbae2cc959fd8850b1cfeaf5>

An introduction to the World Bank Group (WBG) for civil society

Monday, March 22, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Join Angelica Silvero, Head, World Bank Speakers Bureau and IFC expert (TBC), as they run you through an introduction for civil society organizations on the World Bank Group, its structure, mandate, how it works and how it is helping countries in the context of the current pandemic. You will have the opportunity to ask questions during a 30-minute question and answer session.

N.B: this session is not aimed for experts on the Bank Group, but for those who are starting to work in this context and are interested in developing their knowledge for their thematic or country work.

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m874e18ce3b72e18da3b06aa259c859c8>

Creating a Caring Economy: The role of IFIs and the CEDAW framework in transformative change

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific, Third World Network, International Domestic Workers Federation, Bretton Woods Project, Shirakat - Partnership for Development, Womankind Worldwide, Global Alliance for Tax Justice

Session abstract: Through a structural feminist lens and application of CEDAW standards, panelists consider the international human rights obligations of the IMF and World Bank in relation to care work, particularly the role of migrant domestic workers in the global economy, exploring how reorienting toward a 'caring economy' contributes to long-term transformation.

- **Moderator:** Constanza Pauchulo, Program Officer, Transforming Economics and Development through a Feminist Approach, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific
- **Panelist 1:** Marion Bethel, CEDAW Committee Member, UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- **Panelist 2:** Roula Seghaier, Strategic Program Coordinator, International Domestic Workers Federation
- **Panelist 3:** Bhumika Muchhala, Senior Policy Analyst on Development Economics, Global Governance, and International Political Economy, Third World Network
- **Panelist 4:** Speaker, International Monetary Fund

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m01c597dacc29e6acada8d481225a1ae8>

Closing civic space: facing the risk for World Bank-supported Covid-19 Responses head-on

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Freedom House, Defenders in Development Campaign, Frontline Defenders (FLD), ICNL, IFEX, CIVICUS, CIHRS, Progressive Voice

Session abstract: The World Bank is supporting Covid-19 responses of governments that have been using the pandemic as an excuse to restrict civic space. These restrictions are silencing the independent watchdogs of these responses. This session will discuss the extent of the issue and explore what the Bank can do about it.

- **Moderator:** Masana Ndinga-Kanga, Crisis Response Fund Lead, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
- **Panelist 1:** Khin Ohmar, Founder and Advisory Board Chairperson, Progressive Voice
- **Panelist 2:** Ziad Abdel Tawab, Deputy Director, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)
- **Panelist 3:** Hannah Storey, Frontline Defenders (FLD) Business & Development Finance Researcher, Frontline Defenders (FLD)
- **Panelist 4:** Elly Page, Senior Legal Advisor, International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m06fb9328f5127aa8fffac979dab44ef8>

Improvements for the implementation of the social and environmental safeguards of the IFIs from the indigenous proposal

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

12:00–1:30 pm Washington, D.C. time (4:00-5:30 pm GMT)

Derecho Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (DAR), La Coalición Regional por la Transparencia y la Participación, Coordinadora Indígena de la Cuenca Amazónica (COICA), Confederación de Pueblos Indígenas de Bolivia (Cidob)

Session abstract: The threats faced by indigenous peoples in contexts of implementation of IFIS loans, mainly in the Amazon Basin, will be evidenced. Proposing to rethink the Bank's socio-environmental safeguards that include proposals such as prior consultation protocols, the Escazú Agreement, among others of importance.

- **Moderator:** Denisse Linares, DAR, Amazonía Program Specialist
- **Panelist 1:** Adolfo Chávez, COICA, Coordinator of International Relations and Cooperation
- **Panelist 2:** Gregorio Mirabal, General Coordinator, COICA
- **Panelist 3:** Tomas Candía, President, Confederación de Pueblos Indígenas de Bolivia (Cidob)
- **Panelist 4:** Elcio Mancineri, COICA, Territory and natural resources area coordinator
- **Panelist 5:** World Bank expert (TBD)

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m90c157bbde25a3c1a3cbd0ed0a27ae03>

A People's Recovery: Ensuring progressive fiscal measures for a feminist and just pandemic recovery

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Financial Transparency Coalition (FTC), APMDD, Christian Aid, CPD, GATJ Tax/Gender WG, ICEFI, Shirakat - Partnership for Development, SPII

Session abstract: Governments are constructing stimulus packages in response to the pandemic that include regressive tax incentives that are further entrenching all types of inequality, particularly gender-related, and lack robust social protections. We aim to discuss the role of international financial institutions in promoting progressive taxation and tackling IFFs during the crisis.

- **Moderator:** Kate Donald, Director of Program, Center for Economic and Social Rights
- **Panelist 1:** Towfiq Islam Khan, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue - Bangladesh
- **Panelist 2:** Ricardo Barrientos, Senior Economist, ICEFI – Central American Fiscal Studies Institute
- **Panelist 3:** Isobel Freye, Director, Studies in Poverty and Inequality
- **Panelist 4:** Ruud de Mooij, Advisor, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF
- **Panelist 5:** Chenai Mukumba, Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network Africa

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m27f15e2cd74809d96a9d72427fa98e1a>

Universal access to healthcare: lessons learned from Public-Private Partnerships

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Afrodad, DAWN, Eurodad, GI-ESCR, ISER, SID, Wemos

Session abstract: COVID-19 hit weak and under-funded public health systems around the world harder and showed market failure in private healthcare: we need to draw lessons and look forward. This interactive session will look at the impacts of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in the health sector, especially for women and the poorest communities.

- **Moderator:** Maria José Romero, Policy and Advocacy Manager, Eurodad
- **Panelist 1:** Allana Kembabazi, Program Manager Initiative for Economic and Social Rights (ISER)
- **Panelist 2:** Adrian Chikowore, Policy and Research Consultant - International Public Finance, AFRODAD
- **Panelist 3:** Masaya Llawan Blanco, Executive Committee Member, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
- **Panelist 4:** Christoph Kurowski (TBC), Global Lead for Health Financing, World Bank
- **Panelist 5:** Tlaleng Mofokeng, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, UN Human Rights

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=md08eff732bde5dd5485a4f90ac1b820f>

An economic future for whom? The Cascade/MFD and recovery

Thursday, March 25, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

IBON International, RoA Network, IPMSDL, Bretton Woods Project, SID, Eurodad, LATINDADD, AFRODAD

Session abstract: This session aims to tackle the WBG's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which is focused on private finance-driven interventions in economic "restructuring" and "recovery". It will discuss coherence of the Cascade/MFD approach with climate imperatives and inclusion, current country lessons, and recommendations for a transformative, people-centered and sustainable development.

- **Moderator:** Jennifer del Rosario-Malonzo, Executive Director, IBON International
- **Panelist 1:** Maria Jose Romero, Policy and Advocacy Manager, Development Finance, European Network on Debt and Development
- **Panelist 2:** Beverly Longid, Coordinator, International Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation
- **Panelist 3:** Jason Braganza, Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development
- **Panelist 4:** Henry Morales, Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean / Member of the Comité Directivo Reality of Aid Network (RoA) / La Red Latinoamericana por Justicia Económica y Social (LATINDADD)
- **Discussant:** Alternative Executive Director, World Bank Group (TBD)

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=mb55b931821efebca5a89497ceb6aba74>

International solidarity to support a robust and inclusive recovery: A global social protection fund

Thursday, March 25, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

International Trade Union Confederation and the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors

Session abstract: Universal social protection, an agreed objective before the crisis. There is limited capacity for low income countries to respond to the social and economic consequences of COVID-19 because of underdeveloped social protection systems and limited revenue. Greater international solidarity in the financing of social protection could support low-income countries to close the gaps. The UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights is calling for the establishment of a global social protection fund. This panel discusses the proposal and the potential role for the IMF and World Bank.

- **Moderator:** Cathy Feingold, Vice President (ITUC) / Director of the International Department (AFL-CIO, International Trade Union Confederation / American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations
- **Panelist:** Olivier de Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur for Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, UN Human Rights Council
- **Respondent:** Didier Jacobs, Senior Policy Advisor, Oxfam
- **Respondent:** Omar Faruk Osman, General Secretary, Federation of Somali Trade Unions
- **Respondent:** Yolande Wright, Head of Child Poverty, Save the Children
- **Respondent:** Michal Rutkowski, Global Director for Social Protection and Jobs, World Bank

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m5992ca40b669dab02e20eff88ae1ede3>

Toward a People's Vaccine: The role of the World Bank in ensuring universal and equitable COVID-19 vaccines for all

Friday, March 26, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Oxfam, People's Vaccine Alliance, Section27, Bank Information Center, Doctors Without Borders / Médecins Sans Frontières US, Open Society Foundations, Wemos, ISER

Session abstract: Nine out of 10 people living in the poorest countries may not access a COVID-19 vaccine this year. While wealthy countries rush to buy up doses, developing countries are unable to secure sufficient vaccines for their populations and are being shut out of the technology that would allow them to produce their own. This event will explore the role of the World Bank and its \$12 billion COVID-19 vaccines program; and look at how it can promote technology transfer, overcome barriers to free and universal vaccine access, ensure marginalized groups are prioritized, and build health systems to deliver on vaccines for all.

- **Moderator:** Anna Marriott, Public Services Policy Manager, Oxfam
- **Panelist 1:** Opening remarks: Mariana Mazzucato (invited), Chair, World Health Organization Council on the Economics of Health for All
- **Panelist 2:** Rangarirai Machedze, Coordinator for Cluster on Engaging Global Policies Regional Network on Health Equity in Eastern and Southern Africa (EQUINET)
- **Panelist 3:** Allana Kembabazi, Programs Manager, Right to Health Initiative for Economic and Social Rights (ISER, Uganda)
- **Panelist 4:** Dr. Muhammad Ali Pate, Global Director, Health, Nutrition and Population, World Bank

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m6fe262f8eef7c04ed74d50ac11b824b6>

Development Policy Finance: Critical Concerns surrounding Accountability and Outcomes for People and the Climate

Friday, March 26, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Urgewald, Sustainable Development Policy Institute; Eurodad; Arab Watch Coalition; Recourse; Bretton Woods Project; Gender Action; Friends of the Earth US; Heinrich Boell Stiftung, Reality of Aid

Session abstract: The World Bank relies heavily on Development Policy Finance (DPF) to address COVID recovery and the climate crisis. DPFs provide billions to government budgets, but only after the adoption of policy reforms known as Prior Actions. The panel will discuss consequences for: social services, climate goals, public finance, and governance.

- **Moderator:** Alex Severens (invited), Director, Office of Development Results and Accountability, US Dept. of Treasury
- **Panelist 1:** Heike Mainhardt, Senior Advisor, Urgewald
- **Panelist 2:** Hina Aslam, PhD, Associate Research Fellow; Lead Energy, Head China Study Center, Sustainable Development Policy Institute
- **Panelist 3:** Chiara Moriotti / Mark Pascual, Senior Policy Officer / Global Coordinator, Eurodad / Reality of Aid, Philippines
- **Panelist 4:** Stephane Guimbert, Director for Operations Policy, World Bank Group

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m7f8823624af06a79b49f1e6ef369d197>

WEEK 2 March 29–April 2, 2021

Private Sector Accountability in times of Crisis

Monday, March 29, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Arab NGO Network for Development and Global Policy Forum

Session abstract: IFIs have been promoting the role of the private sector in job creation and sustainable development, through limiting the role of the public sector, incentivizing PPPs and promoting the creation of an enabling environment for businesses and investments. Meanwhile, civil Society has been advocating for holding the private sector, as a development actor, accountable for human rights. Additionally, the current health crisis revealed more challenges related to the role and the priorities of the private sector especially in the health and education sectors. This provides an opportunity to rethink the role of the different actors, basically the state and the private sector and how to hold them accountable. This session will seek to assess the role of the private sector in time of crisis, looking at the kind of incentives provided with an aim to contribute to more in-depth thinking on the private sector accountability framework, and the interventions at multiple levels, including by IFIs, of policy and regulatory processes.

- **Moderator:** Ziad Abdul Samad, Executive Director, ANND
- **Panelist 1:** Kinda Mohamadieh, Legal Advisor and Senior Researcher, Third World Network
- **Panelist 2:** Wael Gamal, Economic Journalist, ANND
- **Panelist 3:** Roberto Bissio, Coordinator, Social Watch
- **Panelist 4:** IMF/WBG (TBC)

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m1ec3acd6bc8a1a9aa006c3073320c7b5>

Showcasing the impact of debt in poor countries and a proposal for fair and green recovery financing

Monday, March 29, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Christian Aid, CAFOD, Jubilee USA, Caritas Zambia, ACT Alliance, CIDSE, AACC, WCC

Session abstract: Strengthening the knowledge and exchange between the global faith community and the WB / IMF leadership on their recovery strategy, it proposes inclusive financing solutions to support the most vulnerable, and sharing lived experiences from countries with heavy debt burdens which are limiting their ability to fight the pandemic.

- **Moderator:** Mr. Marcello Estevão, Global Director of the World Bank Group's Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice
- **Panelist 1:** Suzanne Malate, ICRIT member
- **Panelist 2:** Eric LeCompte, Jubilee USA ED
- **Panelist 3:** Eugene Kabilika, Caritas Zambia
- **Panelist 4:** Jeromin Zettelmeier, Deputy Director, Strategy Policy and Review Department, IMF

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m08dc355807348631dc7a777cd03c96be>

Why climate transition risks are macro-critical: the IMF and enabling a Green Recovery

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Re-course, Bretton Woods Project, ActionAid-US, Centre for Financial Accountability, SOAS Centre for Sustainable Finance

Session abstract: Time is running out to address the climate emergency and fulfil the Paris Agreement. We will explore how the IMF can enable countries' transition to sustainable energy, while ensuring equity and citizens' rights, by examining Fund surveillance and how it must evolve to help the transition to a low-carbon economy.

- **Moderator:** Sargon Nissan, IMF Manager, Recourse
- **Panelist 1:** Niranjali Amerasinghe, Executive Director, ActionAid USA
- **Panelist 2:** Peter Sweatman, CEO, Climate Strategy & Partners
- **Panelist 3:** Sara Jane Ahmed, Finance Advisor, The Vulnerable Twenty (V20) Group of Ministers of Finance of the Vulnerable Group Forum
- **Panelist 4:** Maju Varghese, Associate Director, Center for Financial Accountability
- **Panelist 5:** Johannes Wiegand, Chief of the Development Issues Unit in the IMF's Strategy, Policy and Review Department

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m9ce02bbdb8ce5831084562239542b7ce>

Anti-corruption collective actions, what have we learned? Lessons from the ground

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Global Compact Network Brazil

Session abstract: Since the launch of the World Bank guidelines in 2008, a myriad of CSOs has engaged in facilitating anticorruption collective actions. This session brings specialists from 4 countries who have hands-on experience to discuss the challenges of putting these guidelines into practice.

- **Moderator:** Ashley Demming, Anticorruption Manager, United Nations Global Compact
- **Panelist 1:** Ana Aranha, Anticorruption Manager, Global Compact Network Brazil
- **Panelist 2:** Ivan Zupan, Program Lead Integrity Pacts, Transparency International
- **Panelist 3:** Celia Lourens, Project Manager, The Ethics Institute
- **Panelist 4:** Vanessa Hans, Private Sector Specialist, Basel Institute on Governance

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=mc86c6c448b6c5d00c5697e7b790c6cdb>

How could the World Bank Group accelerate efforts to be fossil free?

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Christian Aid, Friends of the Earth US, Recourse, Heinrich Boell Foundation, Oxfam, Gender Action, Bretton Woods Project, Oil Change International

Session abstract: This roundtable will explore the World Bank Group's current fossil fuel investments and examine the pace of progress to phase out fossil fuel investment and alignment with the Paris Agreement. Speakers will highlight the Group's response to date and, ultimately, identify opportunities for the Group to accelerate fossil fuel phase out.

- **Moderator:** Jurgen Zattler, Deputy Director General for Multilateral and European Policy, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- **Panelist 1:** Jonathan Walters, Senior Associate, E3G - Third Generation Environmentalism
- **Panelist 2:** Bernice Van Bronkhorst, Global Director, Climate Change, World Bank Group
- **Panelist 3:** Bronwen Tucker, Research Analyst, Oil Change International
- **Panelist 4:** Yuyun Indradi and Kate Geary, Executive Director/Co-Director, Trend Asia / Recourse

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m781f24736e2cc3e7b19463286d6f591e>

Education financing to reach the most marginalized: Challenges and solutions during COVID-19 response and recovery

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Bank Information Center, Education Cannot Wait, Humanity & Inclusion, Global Campaign for Education, Global Partnership for Education, Inclusive Education and Early Childhood Community of Practice, Open Society Foundations and World Vision International

Session abstract: COVID-19 has affected the education of over one billion people – with girls, children with disabilities, and children in emergencies critically impacted. The World Bank projects a potential 10% cut in education budgets. Urgent action is needed to protect and increase education budgets, and to ensure inclusive, quality education for all.

- **Moderator:** Camilla Croso, Director of Education, Open Society Foundations
- **Panelist 1:** Dag-Inge Ulstein, Minister of International Development, Norway
- **Panelist 2:** Alice Albright, CEO, Global Partnership for Education
- **Panelist 3:** Yasmine Sherif, Executive Director, Education Cannot Wait
- **Panelist 4:** Vernor Muñoz, Head of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns, Global Campaign for Education
- **Panelist 5:** Jaime Saavedra, Global Director for Education, World Bank

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=mbf609a8af2760589b10638eacb690f3f>

Special Drawing Rights as a Sustainable Option for Financing fight against COVID-19 and economic recovery in Africa

Thursday, April 1, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

African Forum & Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD), Tanzania Coalition on Debt and Development, African Sovereign Debt Justice Network, Mozambique Debt Group, Africa Network for Environment & Economic Justice (ANEEJ) Nigeria, Uganda Debt Network, African Development Interchange Network (ADIN) Cameroon

Session abstract: African economies are in a financial squeeze caused by mounting debts and the economic downturn exacerbated by the outbreak of covid-19. To effectively address covid-19 impacts without worsening its unsustainable debt, the session seeks to call for IMF SDRs issuance, as a sustainable option of addressing the challenges of financing the economic recovery efforts.

- **Moderator:** Jason Braganza, Executive Director, AFRODAD
- **Panelist 1:** Eric LeCompte, Executive Director, Jubilee USA
- **Panelist 2:** Regina Navuga, Programme Officer, SEATINI-Uganda
- **Panelist 3:** Dr. Adam Mugume, Research and Policy Director, Bank of Uganda
- **Panelist 4:** Abebe Aemro Selassi, Director, IMF Africa Department

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=mcd5af19755751fc1db6f63ef8393b357>

Learning COVID-19's Lessons: Assessing Anti-Corruption and Social Protection in IMF Lending

Thursday, April 1, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Transparency International, Human Rights Watch, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre, Fundacion Ciudadanía y Desarrollo

Session abstract: As the world enters the second year of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, this panel will assess governments' implementation of anti-corruption commitments and the risk of austerity in IMF programs related to emergency disbursements. It will also take a deep dive into the on-the-ground reality in Nigeria, which was among the top beneficiaries of IMF Covid-19 support.

- **Moderator:** Sarah Saadoun, Senior Researcher, Business and Human Rights, Human Rights Watch
- **Panelist 1:** Paolo Mauro, Deputy Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- **Panelist 2:** Emilia Berazategui, Interim Head of Policy and Advocacy, Transparency International
- **Panelist 3:** Nadia Daar, Head of Office, Washington DC, Oxfam
- **Panelist 4:** Kóláwolé Olúwádàre, Deputy Director, Socio Economic Rights & Accountability Project

Join Here: <https://imf.webex.com/imf/j.php?MTID=m18835f06866af5867f9eff46274f31dd>

Citizen Engagement in Practice: Lessons from the independent monitoring of citizen engagement implementation in World Bank funded Projects in Ghana, Malawi and Uganda

Friday, April 2, 2021

8:00–9:30 am Washington, D.C. time (12:00-1:30 pm GMT)

Africa Freedom of Information Centre and Accountability Research Centre

Session abstract: Since 2014 the World Bank has instituted high-profile actions to strengthen citizen voice in projects including a “citizen engagement (CE) mainstreaming commitment” establishing minimums for CE and developing the Strategic Framework for Mainstreaming Citizen Engagement to provide guidance for how projects can cultivate community response capacity and be more receptive to their inputs. CSOs members of the pan-African network AFIC have independently monitored how projects Ghana, Malawi and Uganda are implementing CE design commitments in practice. The session will share their findings and lessons learnt, providing insights useful for civil society, governments, the World Bank and other stakeholders.

- **Moderator:** Rachel Nadelman, Research Fellow and Project Lead, Accountability Research Centre
- **Panelist 1:** Beauty Emefa Narteh, Executive Secretary, Ghana Anticorruption Coalition
- **Panelist 2:** Michael Kaiyatsa, Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights Rehabilitation, Malawi
- **Panelist 3:** Gilbert Sendugwa, Executive Director, Africa Freedom of Information Centre
- **Panelist 4:** Erik Caldwell Johnson, Senior Social Development Specialist and Citizen Engagement Global Lead

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=m2b6a009f4bab843f77e4961e6871e045>

Assessment of The World Bank's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the MENA region

Friday, April 2, 2021

10:00–11:30 am Washington, D.C. time (2:00-3:30 pm GMT)

Arab Watch Coalition – MENA region

Session abstract: Arab Watch Coalition members around the MENA region will entail Citizen Engagement in the World Bank emergency response to the COVID19 crisis. Panelists from Morocco, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen and Lebanon will highlight the main findings of the studies they've conducted and will draw lessons from the realities on the ground.

- **Moderator:** Shereen Talaat, Co-director-MENA, Arab Watch Coalition
- **Panelist 1:** Abdelilah Tazi, President, Talassemiane Association for Environment and Development
- **Panelist 2:** Fatma Fahmy, Principal Researcher, Shamsya for Innovative Community Healthcare Solutions
- **Panelist 3:** Ahmad Awad, Director, Phenix Center for Economic and Informatics Studies
- **Panelist 4:** Yahia Saleh, Director, Yemen Observatory for Human Rights
- **Panelist 5:** Mohammed Loutfi, Director, Lebanese Physical Handicapped Union
- **Panelist 6:** World Bank expert (TBD)

Join Here: <https://worldbankgroup.webex.com/worldbankgroup/j.php?MTID=maf58020cac5329da6fc8075efa5e5942>