

“Driving Sustainable Futures for All”

Club de Madrid Annual Policy Dialogue on Financing for Sustainable Development

3-4 April 2025

United Nations Office at Nairobi, Kenya

The policy dialogue will be structured as an interactive, multistakeholder and inclusive roundtable, gathering participants around a single table in a framework conducive to dialogue. Each session will feature remarks by Members of Club de Madrid, African and international experts who will act as catalysts to spark an interactive discussion. Emphasis will be placed on facilitating an open exchange and not a series of formal presentations, ensuring that all participants have the opportunity to contribute their perspectives and insights.

3 April

09:00 PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

09:15 – 10:00 OPENING CEREMONY
Venue: CR1, UNON

10:00 – 11:15 OPEN PANEL DISCUSSION I: *The Challenge of Global Financing for Development*
Venue: CR1, UNON

This session aims to outline the critical landscape of development finance, identifying the primary challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. It will provide participants with an initial overview of key issues, including the evolving nature of global finance, the impact of recent global events on funding, and the pressing need for sustainable and equitable financial solutions to address mounting development challenges. By setting the stage with a comprehensive understanding of the current context, this session seeks to frame the subsequent dialogue in a way that ensures focused and productive discussions on how best to address these complex challenges.

11:15 – 11:45 COFFEE BREAK

11:45 – 13:30 SESSION I: *Scaling Up Funding and Reforming Financial Institutions*
Venue: CR4, UNON

This session will focus on the necessary reforms in Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and the enhancement of global financial liquidity through precise monetary policies, including the strategic use of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to maintain liquidity during critical times. Additionally, the discussion will explore required adjustments in the governance structures of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) to ensure they are more just, legitimate, and effective. The objective is to foster a focused dialogue on how these financial entities can be restructured to be fit for purpose, better facilitating

sustainable and inclusive global development, and effectively addressing the urgent challenges posed by development financing and climate change.

13:30– 15:00 LUNCH

15:00– 16:15 SESSION II: **Rethinking Sovereign Debt Sustainability**
Venue: CR4, UNON

The session will navigate the complexities of sovereign debt restructuring within the global financial system. The focus will be on the shortcomings of existing mechanisms in providing timely and comprehensive solutions, especially in periods of financial crises. Part of the discussion will be dedicated to examining the role and impact of rating agencies and the possibility of establishing a more permanent, equitable, and efficient framework for sovereign debt renegotiation. These discussions are crucial not only for bolstering global economic stability but also for facilitating sustainable development across nations.

16:15– 16:45 COFFEE BREAK

16:45– 18:00 SESSION III: **Unlocking Private Financing and International Investment**
Venue: CR4, UNON

The session aims to address the evolving landscape of global finance, identifying challenges such as the need for sustainable investment practices and the alignment of private capital with long-term development goals. Participants will explore the barriers to mobilising private finance for development, including de-risking needs, regulatory hurdles, market imperfections, and the lack of suitable financial instruments. The discussion will aim to propose specific recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of private financing in driving international investment towards sustainable development. These will include fostering innovative financing models, improving regulatory frameworks to incentivise sustainable investment, and enhancing public-private partnerships.

TBC DINNER

4 April

09:30– 10:30 SESSION IV: **Forging Consensus: Improving International Tax Cooperation for Sustainable Development**
Venue: CR4, UNON

This session will address the need for international tax cooperation, an essential element in the financing for development agenda. Discussions will focus on rectifying the imbalances present in the current global tax framework, and on the need of achieving consensus among diverse international stakeholders, guaranteeing that reforms in the tax system adequately reflect the diverse economic, social and environmental imperatives of nations at varying developmental phases. The session will contribute to identifying mutual objectives and areas of agreement, setting the stage for a tax system reform that addresses the demands of the 21st century, supports sustainable growth, and bridges the financing shortfall essential for realising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

10:30– 11:30 SESSION V: **Aligning Sustainable Development Goals Funding with Climate Finance**
Venue: CR4, UNON

The discussion will focus on the need to adopt a holistic approach to ensure that investments contribute effectively to both sustainable development and climate goals. Key challenges to be addressed include

the fragmentation of financing sources, the need for enhanced coordination between different funding streams, and the creation of innovative financial instruments that can bridge gaps between climate and development financing. Specific recommendations will aim at improving policy coherence, increasing the effectiveness of blended finance, and fostering public-private partnerships to leverage resources efficiently.

11.30 – 12:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

12:00 – 13:00 **SESSION VI: *Financial Inclusion and the Potential of Technology***
Venue: CR4, UNON

In this session, participants will address the critical barriers to accessing financial services faced by underrepresented populations and explore effective strategies to enhance financial inclusivity. The discussion will encompass the pivotal roles of microfinance, digital banking solutions, and targeted policy interventions in closing the financial access gap. Key challenges such as the digital divide, regulatory obstacles, and the need for financial literacy will be examined. Our aim is to formulate specific recommendations to foster an inclusive financial ecosystem, including advocating for supportive regulatory frameworks, promoting technology-driven solutions to expand financial access, and enhancing collaboration between financial institutions and fintech companies.

13:00 – 14:30 **LUNCH**

14:30 – 15:30 **SESSION VII: *Financing for Social Development***
Venue: CR4, UNON

This session will tackle the pressing need to mobilise global financial resources to advance social development goals, with a focus on fostering synergies between financing agendas and social development priorities. Discussions will highlight pathways to align funding mechanisms with essential social needs such as education, healthcare, and poverty alleviation, ensuring investments are inclusive, sustainable, and equitable. With the upcoming International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) and the Social Development Summit as key milestones, this session will explore how these agendas can converge to drive transformative progress.

15.30 – 15:45 **COFFEE BREAK**
Venue: CR1, UNON

15:45 – 16:15 **FINAL STATEMENT AND CLOSING REMARKS**
Venue: CR1, UNON