



## News

### Development Finance

# Sevilla reporter's notebook Day 4: 'Sevilla is about what comes next'

On the final day of the Financing for Development conference in Sevilla, negotiators laid the groundwork for long-term tax reform and new public-private cooperation — while calls for deep systemic change grew louder.

By [Jesse Chase-Lubitz](#), [Elissa Miolene](#) // 03 July 2025

It's the fourth and final day of the [Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development](#). Many officials are leaving tired and happy, pointing to a new forum for indebted countries, progress towards a [United Nations](#) tax convention, and handshakes between public and private sectors as evidence of the conference's success.

Civil society organizations got their 30 minutes of demonstrating today, which they took full advantage of. Chants and whistling could be heard all the way through closed-door side events, and overall, the takeaways were mixed.

"Despite the lacklustre ambition of the Compromiso de Sevilla where rich countries shirked their responsibility to act on the debt crisis and continued to embrace the private finance first approach to development, this conference also showed what international cooperation can achieve when there is political will for it," said Hernan Saenz, Oxfam's global policy lead for FfD, in a statement.

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### Elissa Miolene

Elissa Miolene reports on USAID and the U.S. government at Devex. She previously covered education at The San Jose Mercury News, and has written for outlets like The Wall Street Journal, San Francisco Chronicle, Washingtonian magazine, among others. Before shifting to journalism, Elissa led communications for humanitarian agencies in the United States, East Africa, and South Asia.

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