



## SDG CITIES GLOBAL CONFERENCE

29 – 31 OCTOBER 2021

### SDG CITIES: COLLABORATIVE ACTION TO UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL OF CITIES TO ACCELERATE THE GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENT OF SDGS

Saturday, October 30 (1315-1515 GMT/UCT+0)

#### BACKGROUND

*The annual financing gap to achieve SDGs in cities worldwide is in its trillions. Momentum is building in financial sector to increase investment in SDG impact and studies show that the potential finance available for SDG impact outweighs the financing gap. Crucially investment is needed in small and intermediary cities, that must accommodate a significant share of expected urban growth in coming decades, to achieve the transformative impacts of urbanization. Attracting investment in cities must go hand-in-hand with optimizing local revenue systems and ensuring accountable local public financial management.*

*By sharing the experience of major funds, development banks, family offices, philanthropies and project preparation facilities, the session explores mechanisms to effectively channel finance into cities in emerging and developing economies. It also highlights systemic bottlenecks that need to be addressed, including the need for greater support in upstream project preparation as needed to unlock finance.*

*The session identifies work streams that could be explored in the lead to World Urban Forum 11 (June 2022) to further unlock financing for sustainable urbanization, including mechanisms to cascade finance into small cities and urban communities, and the potential to develop investment standards for urban SDG projects. The session also introduces the Cities Investment Facility and Feasibility Fund, that aim to facilitate a greater flow of capital towards local impact.*

#### Agenda

##### **Setting the Scene** [1315-1345 GMT/UTC+0]

Brief Introduction *Alice Gugelev, Director, Global Development Incubator.*

Fire-side chat with Carole Crist, Former First Lady of Florida. As cities globally are facing climate risks and rapid population changes, there is a need for an increased flow of finance to support infrastructure development needs. As it becomes necessary to increasingly important tap private and philanthropic sources of capital, what value propositions can attract them?

Keynote Address: Leslie Maasdorp VP for investments CFO New Development Bank [1330-1340 GMT/UTC+0]

Drawing on the work and vision of the New Development Bank, the keynote address will outline the need to establish ecosystems of finance, that bring together a diverse investment sources of public, commercial and philanthropic finance, working at national, sub-national, city and community levels



to achieve the last mile of impact. The keynote will explore the role of international development banks to empower such ecosystems.

Intervention responding to keynote: Mr Vinicio Stort, Executive Director, Banco de Desenvolvimento de Minas Gerais;

The achievement of net zero as a motivation for driving sustainable investment in cities; local level: the importance of working with local commercial banks and other financial partners that work in local currencies; Intermediary role of sub-national development banks in facilitating local financial ecosystems. The roles that MDBs can play in empowering this.

### **Part I: Finance ecosystems for urban impact [1345-1415 GMT/UTC+0]**

#### Panellists

Mr Vinicio Stort, Executive Director, Banco de Desenvolvimento de Minas Gerais; Liane Friere, CEO BlendLab; Nana Francois, Director, Faith Invest; Lorie Rufo, Specialist, Climate Investment Funds; Goshtasb Mozafari Secretary General Asian Mayors Forum;

The segment explores the idea of finance “ecosystems” to generate impact. Guiding questions.

1. With so much private capital apparently available to “SDG Impact” why are we finding it so difficult to channel investment into SDG projects in cities in global south – particularly small and intermediary cities? (David Jackson)
2. How can cities be better prepared as partners for investment? (Lorie Rufo)
3. What are cities expecting of financiers (Goshtasb Mozafari)
4. How can private capital be “de-risked” by public and philanthropic sources of finance? (Liane Friere)
5. Can impact be maximised at community levels by linking community-based financing modalities with city-level investments? (Nana Francois)
6. How can sub-national development banks and funds catalyse an ecosystem of finance to reach the last mile of impact in urban communities? (Vinicio Stort)

*(this is a dialogue – the questions are just a guide – any panellist can respond to any question. Names in brackets are just to kick start the conversation. Panellists, please keep responses to 1 minute max, to aid the flow of a fast moving conversation where each panellist will have the floor to intervene several times. Please also reserve 5 mins for selected questions from the Chat)*

### **Part II: Introducing the City Investment Facility: Bridging the SDG finance gap in cities [1415-1440 GMT/UTC+0]**

This segment introduces the City Investment Facility which is recently up and running and aims to bridge the gap between cities and impactful projects that need to be financed, and investors keen to invest in SDG impact.



1. Introducing the Cities Investment Facility (Erastus Ndugire, UN-Habitat. City Investment Facility Coordinator)
2. Introducing the Cities Investment Portal (Think City)
3. Introducing the Cities Investment Advisory Platform (Global Development Incubator)
4. Introducing Cities Investment Vehicles (EMIF, BlendLab, Reall)
5. Moderated Q&A /discussion

*(this will be a single presentation introduced by Erastus, with each of the instruments speaking about their respective roles in a very limited timeframe – elevator pitch stype)*

### **Part III: Innovative mechanisms to unlock greater capital flow for SDG investment in Cities in the Global South [1440-1505 GMT/UTC+0]**

Following some of the bottlenecks identified in facilitating the flow of capital into cities of the global south, including building trust in local authorities as partners for investment, and the challenges and high costs of preparing projects that are feasible for investment, this segment introduces the following innovative solutions:

1. The **International Municipal Investment Fund** is a unique, bespoke fund designed to support cities and local governments (notably municipalities in developing countries including the least developed countries) in accessing national and international capital markets by providing them with reimbursable funds to finance investment projects and programmes of general interest.
2. The **Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation SOURCE Platform** provides a comprehensive map of all aspects to consider for the preparation of sustainable infrastructure, for both traditional procurement and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), covering governance, technical, economic, legal, financial, environmental and social issues. It uses sector-specific templates covering all the stages of the project cycle, spanning from project definition to operation and maintenance as well as allowing the definition of specific targets to fulfil the SDGs and Paris Agreement.
3. The **Feasibility Fund** is a philanthropic fund that is currently being mobilised to support small and intermediary cities in developing countries access project preparation support to make their SDG impact projects viable for investment. It links these projects to the City Investment Facility where they are connected to relevant sources of finance.

*David Jackson, Director, Local Development Finance, UN Capital Investment Fund. Specialized instruments to finance municipalities in developing economies*

*Christophe Dossarps, CEO Sustainable Infrastructure Foundation - SOURCE Platform. Making Project Preparation Support more accessible to cities in the global South*

*Sharmaarke Abdullahi, (OIC) UN-Habitat Resource Mobilisation Section*

*(this is a series of interventions of 7 minutes each. Slides may be used – no more than 4 slides per presentation, use images and minimise the number of words)*



**Action Points and Conclusion** [1505-1515 GMT/UTC+0] *Alice Gugelev, Director, Global Development Incubator.*

This will include a recap of main points and highlight key themes that should be further explored during and in the lead to World Urban Forum 11, June 2022.