

FOCUS SESSION 2:

Linking Domestic Resource Mobilization to Public Expenditure Needs

Tuesday April 15, 8:00-9:15, Room TBD

Objective:

To promote formation of a coalition of countries committed to sustainably resourced delivery of public services -- to meet the costs of an ambitious post-2015 Development Agenda for social services (e.g. universal health coverage and education), social transfers, and investment in public infrastructure.

Session Format:

Session speakers will outline what we know about the costs of providing scaled-up commitments to priority development targets for key public services, including

- a possible global commitment in the health sector to provide an essential package of health services that can reach the poor in all developing countries; and
- national commitments to investment in public infrastructure, such as those in the Philippines, that are needed to support accelerated economic growth.

Speakers and panelists will discuss what we have learned, from past efforts and successes, about the feasibility of using expenditure program commitments to support ambitious, medium-term efforts to mobilize greater domestic revenue.

Speakers/Moderator/Panellists:

- Ariel Pablos-Mendez, MD, Assistant Administrator for Global Health, USAID
- Arsenio M. Balisacan, Secretary, National Economic Development Authority, the Philippines
- Borge Brende, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Norway
- African delegate (TBD) to assess the motivation and results of pan-African (and/or national-level) programs to mobilize budget support for the MDGs
- Mr. Eric Postel (Moderator), Assistant Administrator for Economic Growth, Education, and Environment, USAID
- Additional panelist/s (TBD)

Background/Narrative:

During our 15-year drive toward the MDGs, both donors and developing countries have stepped up their mobilization of government budget resources. Domestic government revenue of LICs, which had stagnated for 20 years, increased by more than 3 percentage points during 2000-2011, reaching 16 percent of GDP on average. Most LMICs and UMICs are at higher levels and also showed modest further gains; and donor countries and NGOs have scaled up their development assistance. At the same time, our knowledge about how to deliver improved public welfare (in health, education, social

transfers) and stronger economic growth (through smart investment in public infrastructure) has also advanced through program evaluation -- raising further opportunities to advance global welfare. However, our ability to realize these opportunities to attack extreme poverty will depend, in many countries, on our ability to mobilize greater domestic revenue and to scale up the delivery of key public services.

Related Links:

On African commitments to scale up by 2015 their funding for priority MDGs:

- <http://abujaplus12.org/portfolio-item/unaid-report-abuja-12-shaping-the-future-of-health-in-africa/>
- <http://www.governmentspendingwatch.org/research-analysis/latest-analysis/51-mdg-spending-in-developing-countries>

On prioritization of expanded development interventions to advance global welfare:

- <http://www.copenhagenconsensus.com/copenhagen-consensus-2012/outcome>

Other links (TBD) to be added

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