

FOCUS SESSION 11: Effective Development Cooperation in Middle Income Countries

Tuesday, April 15th 15.00 – 16.15, Room 3

Objective:

Share experiences and explore the biggest challenges that middle-income countries face in making the transition from low to middle income and how this affects (1) inequality, disparity, vulnerability to disasters and climate change, in the medium and long term and (2) their role in the changing development architecture.

Session Format:

The session is mainly organized as a dialogue where panelists expose their viewpoints of the thematic of Middle Income Countries (MICs). A moderator will guide the debate and panelists will share their points of view and experiences, addressing key questions, such as:

1. What role do MICs play in the changing development architecture? And how can the international community more effectively support them in that role?
2. How can the development community do more to support poverty reduction, social inclusion, and sustainable growth in MICs? What's the role of business?
3. How can international cooperation support countries as they transition to Middle Income Status? How can MICs become key partners and more effectively contribute in achieving the global partnership for development?
4. What are the main challenges ahead of MICs in the post-2015 agenda?

Moderator: **Ambassador Alfonso Quiñonez**, Secretary of External Relations, Organization of American States (OAS)

Segment I: Opening Remarks: (15:00-15:25)

- **Mr. Jaime Miranda**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador
- **High Level Representative**, Government of Canada (TBC)
- **Mr. Seiji Kihara**, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan
- **Mr. Ewen McDonald**, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs, Australia
- **Mr. Inocencio Garcia Javier**, Vice Minister of International Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, (MEPyD) Dominican Republic (TBC)

Segment II: Roundtable discussions (15:25-16:15)

- **Carolina Tenorio Garcés**, Technical Director, Colombian Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (TBC)
- **Mr. Hiroshi Kato**, Vice-President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- **Mr. Diego Cánepa**, Secretary of Presidency, Uruguay

- **Mr. Jorge Daccarett**, Executive Director, Chilean International Cooperation Agency (AGCI)
- **Dr. Djordjija Petkoski**, Business and Development Innovations Program Director, the Zicklin Center and Lecturer, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; Email: petkoski@wharton.upenn.edu

Background/Narrative: *(maximum 10 lines)*

As the development landscape is becoming more complex and dynamic, due to the urbanization of poverty, growing inequality, pressures from climate change and natural resources among others, the nature of poverty and prosperity is changing. While many Low Income Countries (LICs) are moving into MICs status still inequality remains a challenge. At the same time, while several MICs have the potential to catch up with High-Income Countries (HICs), some are faced with a challenge of a “MICs trap” and at the risk of losing ground on previous achievements and falling back into LICs category, as they are vulnerable to economic crises and external shocks.

The proposed focus session on MICs will bring together various stakeholders, including governments, international institutions, practitioners and academia, to exchange point of views and share knowledge and solutions on the effective cooperation with MICs.

Related Links:

<http://cooperanet.org/>

<http://www.oas.org/en/sedi/>

<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/>

<http://effectivecooperation.org/hlm2014/>

<https://lgst.wharton.upenn.edu/research/research-centers/the-carol-and-lawrence-zicklin-center-for-business-ethics-research//>

Organizers:

- Organization of American States (OAS) - The Inter-American Cooperation Network (Cooperanet)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
- The Zicklin Center, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

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