

FOCUS SESSION 22:

Unleashing the Power of Business: Driving the systematic engagement of business as a partner in development

Wednesday 16 April 2014 8:00 – 9:15

Objective:

The session will explore the concrete steps necessary to scale up the engagement of business as a partner in development, and call for a concerted, coordinated effort from government, business, civil society and development agencies to systematically drive effective public-private collaboration for the benefit of all.

Session Format:

Introduced by the UK Secretary of State and with a speech from the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, the session will start by setting out a **vision** in which public private cooperation is mainstreamed and partnerships are helping to achieve inclusive, sustainable development at scale. A panel will then discuss the **pathway** to achieving that vision, supported by the launch of a new '*Practical Roadmap to systematically scale up the engagement of business as a partner in development*'. Questions and comments will be taken from the floor.

The session will be closed by the Director General of Sida, looking at some existing initiatives, and calling for stronger, coordinated efforts to **make cooperation happen** at scale.

Speakers/Panellists:

- Justine Greening, Secretary of State, Department for International Development, UK
- Lilianne Ploumen, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, the Netherlands
- Darian Stibbe, Executive Director, The Partnering Initiative, UK (Chair)
- Catalina Arciniegas, Director Colombian Business Partnerships Hub, National Business Association of Colombia
- Georg Kell, Executive Director, UN Global Compact

- Jürgen Schwettmann, Director of the Partnerships and Field Support Department, International Labour Organization
- Miguel Veiga-Pestana, Vice-President Global External Affairs, Unilever UK
- Jorge De Regil, Member of the Management Board of the International Organisation of Employers
- Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, Director General, Swedish International Development Agency

Background/Narrative: *(maximum 10 lines)*

The role of the private sector in development and the vital need for stronger public-private collaboration has been repeatedly expressed in all relevant international fora including the Rio+20 Summit in 2012, the High Level Panel on the post-2015 agenda and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. Partnerships will almost certainly be singled out as a key implementation mechanism of the post-2015 development goals.

This is a heavy demand to place. It will require a fundamental shift towards a true Partnership for Development: a collaborative society in which business, government and civil society systematically seek collaboration for their mutual advantage and where there are the support mechanisms and an enabling environment to mainstream the approach and help collaboration contribute to sustainable development at scale.

Related Links:

Unleashing the Power of Business: A practical roadmap to systematically scale up the engagement of business as a partner in development (The Partnering Initiative 2014): <http://BPDRoadmap.org>

Architects of a Better World (UNGC 2013):

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/about_the_gc/Architecture.pdf

Organisers:

Agencia Presidencial de Cooperación Internacional de Colombia, UK Department for International Development, The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Partnering Initiative, Swedish International Development Agency, UN Global Compact, ILO

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