



Wilton Park

Wilton Park virtual dialogue:

Setting the principles to underpin public investment for global 'commons' in a post-COVID world

Wednesday 15 July 2020, at 1300-1530 (London)

As part of the series 'Future of aid': Financing global 'commons' in a post-COVID world: From principles to practice

In partnership with Joep Lange Institute, United Nations University, the OECD Development Centre, Development Initiatives and Equal International

COVID-19 has provided the catalyst to reform and/or repurpose the global systems and the overall architecture of aid to respond better to the 21st Century challenges and crises that are global in nature.

This series will set out to build practical proposals to restructure international public finance for the common good. But what principles should underpin such a transformation?

This will be an interactive round-table dialogue bringing together a diverse group of thought-leaders and experts from different countries and contexts, bringing ideas and insights to the discussions.

This initial discussion will seek to identify a set of principles and parameters to help guide discussions going forward. This will be followed by further discussions on concrete steps to continue the evolution in practice and what are the political opportunities for opening up and political barriers for change.

Potential discussion questions include:

1. What should be the principles underpinning global public investment for global 'commons', as the world seeks to rebuild after COVID-19?
2. What are the main principles that have governed the "aid" era? Which of these principles carry over into this new era? Which need to be ditched or refined?
3. How should the principles reflect the context of the #Black Lives Matter movement and the changed and changing international political landscape, including moving away from the colonial nature of aid?
4. What might the goal of the principles be that reflect the challenges of the 21st including climate change, technological changes.

This session will be the bedrock of subsequent meetings, which will be able to revert back to the proposed principles discussed at this meeting and outcome document produced.

Key principles for a new era of Global Public Investment could include:

- Horizontality i.e. all countries treated as equal partners
- Beyond poverty i.e. shifting vision beyond just eradicating extreme poverty towards a more comprehensive idea of progress and sustainability
- Complementarity i.e. recognising the other international finance flows, including development funding, working with them

In partnership with:

joep lange
institute

development
initiatives



Equal



- Statutory contributions e.g. all countries contribute/draw depending on means and needs
- Accountability i.e. to all stakeholders as appropriate

The principles discussed will keep the **Busan Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation** principles in mind which offer a foundation for effective co-operation in support of international development.

Format:

150-minutes – a highly interactive and participative session. After brief opening contributions to stimulate the conversations there will be ‘roundtable’ discussion, followed by detailed work in smaller groups.

Programme

(*denotes confirmed)

Introduction by chair: *Robin Hart, Senior Programme Director, Wilton Park

Session 1. Setting the principles to underpin public investment for global ‘commons’ in a post-COVID world: Framing the conversation (1310-1355)

Short contributions by panellists followed by interactive discussion.

***Pascale Allotey**, Director, International Institute for Global Health (IIGH), United Nations University, Kuala Lumpur

***Hannah Ryder**, Chief Executive Officer, Development Reimagined; Senior Associate (Non-Resident), Africa Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Beijing

***Martin Bwalya**, Head of Industrialisation, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)

***Jonathan Walters**, Senior Associate, E3G (sharing a climate finance perspective)

***Rajat Khosla**, Human Rights Adviser, Department of Reproductive Health Research, World Health Organization

Discussion points

- Why are new principles needed? Understanding the new and post-COVID context.
- What are the main principles that have governed the “aid” era? Which carry over into this new era? Which need to be abandoned or refined?
- What are the lessons from climate finance?

Session 2. Developing new principles (1355 -1450)

i) Introduction:

***Jonathan Glennie**, Principal Associate, Joep Lange Institute

ii) Breakout groups: Developing new principles (1410-1450)

Discussion in smaller groups (using the zoom function) led by a facilitator

Break (10 mins) (1450)

Session 3. Building new principles (1500-1520)

Sharing the principles identified by the groups.

Wrap-up and summary of discussions (1520-1530)

***Pin Collacott**, Executive Director, Development Initiatives
and ***Christoph Benn**, Director, Global Health Diplomacy, Joep Lange Institute

Objectives for this series:

- Identify ways that the global community can work better together, to meet the current and future challenges that humanity faces in the light of COVID-19, climate change and other complex global 'commons';
- Use the 'moments' that the pandemic, Black Lives Matter and changing international relationships to recast international development;
- Learn lessons from the recent response to COVID that help shape future international collaboration;
- Build understanding, share ideas and identify workable new approaches around the immediate steps and medium-term shifts that would be needed to fund global public goods;
- Provide a safe space for thought-leaders to discuss the future approaches, test out new ideas, build consensus and support the momentum for change;
- Identify recommendations for policy makers.

Wilton Park Discussion Protocol:

Our events are designed to be as interactive and frank as possible. [Wilton Park Discussion Protocol](#) applies to this discussion. All speakers and participants are encouraged to participate in their own personal capacity, rather than as representatives of their governments or organisations. Discussion in all Wilton Park sessions is 'off the record' and no individual speaker or participant should be quoted (nor their identity or institutional affiliation revealed) without that individual's express permission.

Additional material:

- Summary [report](#) from first Wilton Park virtual conversation on 'The future of aid: towards global public investment?'
- Summary [report](#) from second Wilton Park conversation on 'Crisis and Opportunity – How the COVID-19 moment will catalyse change in the aid sector'.