Panel 2. Financing the SDGs: lessons learned and ways-forward

At the midterm mark, the SDGs seem farther than ever, progress being slow or almost stagnating in many places. Some countries are moving backwards despite commitment and resources being invested. Limited access to sufficient financial resources constrains countries’ progress on the SDGs. Speakers of Panel 2 shared advice on how governments could secure the necessary resources to continue their journey to a more sustainable development, while addressing multiple economic and planetary challenges. Speakers were also invited to express their views on how we should fundamentally change the global financing system to close the development gap across the world.

Moderator

Mr. Didier Trebucq, an economist, was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as UN Resident Coordinator (RC) for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean in January 2019. He brings more than 20 years of experience in the development and humanitarian realm working with the United Nations and international NGOs. As Resident Coordinator he leads the United Nations Sub-regional Team and is the highest-ranking official of the United Nations development system at country level.

Working closely with the national governments, the RC and the UNST advocate the interests and mandates of the UN system while drawing on the support and guidance of the entire UN family. The RC aims to bring together the different UN agencies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities in the Eastern Caribbean region. As UN RC he is also the Designated Official (DO) for Security, responsible for the safety and security of all UN staff and their dependents.

Prior to becoming the Resident Coordinator for Barbados and the OECS, Mr. Didier Trebucq served as UNDP Country Director in Brazil. Previously he was the Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP in Peru and Deputy Resident Representative for UNDP in Guyana. He also worked in UNDP India as Programme Officer & Team Leader of Crisis Prevention and Recovery.

Before joining the UN, Mr. Trebucq worked as Head of Delegation of the French Red Cross in Colombia and Ecuador. Also, he was Administrator of "Médecins Sans Frontières" in Kyrgyzstan and Tadjikistan and previously worked as an Executive in the private banking sector in France for five years.

Mr. Trebucq is an Economist and holds a Master of Science in Sustainable Development, with specialism in Environmental Economics from Imperial College London (UK) and a Master in Business Administration from the "Institut Français de Gestion" in France. He speaks fluently four languages: French, English, Spanish and Portuguese.
Panelists

**Dr. Olivier Cattaneo** is the Head of Policy Analysis and Strategy in the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, and an Adjunct Professor at the Paris School of International Affairs in SciencesPo. Previously, he has worked for over a decade as a Senior Trade Specialist at the World Bank, in Washington, D.C, and at the Agence Française de Développement in Paris. Earlier, he also worked as an adviser and speechwriter to French ministers and members of Parliament. He is a graduate of SciencesPo Paris, Georgetown University, and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.

**Ms. Josephine Pagani** is the former Executive Director of the Council for International Development (CID). Ms. Pagani has previously been a manager at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, and a communications manager for New Zealand’s aid and development agency.

**Mr. Oliver Paddison** is Chief of the Section for Countries in Special Situations in the Office of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). This section monitors progress in implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries, and the SAMOA Pathway for Small Island Developing States. It provides capacity-building support to help these countries overcome their development challenges and coordinates ESCAP activities in these countries. The section also coordinates the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

Prior to joining ESCAP in 2012, Mr. Paddison worked for the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York (DESA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Mr. Paddison holds a Ph.D. and MA in Economics from the University of Louvain, Belgium, and a BSc. (Econ) in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He is a German national.

**Mr. Jean Pesme**. As Global Director, Finance in the Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation (FCI) Global Practice, Jean leads the World Bank's work to promote the development of sound, stable, sustainable, and inclusive financial systems. His global team of experts works with governments and partners to make financial systems more resilient, to open access to finance for poor and vulnerable people, to support economic activity and to develop financial markets. Their strategy and its implementation emphasize development of digital financial services, addressing climate change and sustainable finance and creating opportunities for women by bolstering their financial inclusion.

Previously, Jean led the World Bank’s Financial Stability and Integrity global team, which assists countries in building and restoring robust and resilient financial systems operating with integrity, transparency and in compliance
With international standards and recommendations. He has extensive experience working on financial sector issues, notably in the Middle East and North Africa.

Jean is a French citizen and resides in Washington DC.

Mr. Jean-Baptiste Jacouton is a research officer on sustainable finance at the French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement, AFD). His work concentrates on the role and challenges of Public Development Banks in SDG financing. Using artificial intelligence solutions, he explores new methodologies for systematic SDG reporting. In light of the Finance in Common coalition, he is also involved in coordinating the International Research Initiative on Public Development Banks. Jean-Baptiste holds a research master’s degree in development economics from the University of Clermont Auvergne / CERDI.