



CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025

Mobilising Private Finance Towards 2030 and Beyond

Concept note & agenda

4th– 5th February 2025

OECD Boulogne-Billancourt

46, quai Alphonse Le Gallo, 92100 Boulogne-Billancourt (Paris)

Rationale

In light of the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the mobilisation of private finance has become an established pillar of financing sustainable development and climate objectives. Partnering with and mobilising the private sector is a crucial piece of the puzzle to scale up financing for sustainable development in partner countries, complementing Official Development Assistance (ODA) inflows. By improving the risk-return profile of investments, blended finance is one powerful approach to mobilise commercial capital towards sustainable development in developing countries. Yet, despite the promise that blended finance holds, significant shortfalls continue to exist: while the annual SDG financing gap stands at USD 3.9 trillion, private finance mobilised by official development interventions reached only USD 300 billion over 2012-2020.¹ The scalability of mobilised private finance remains insufficient, due to major impediments which range from perceived high investment risks, regulatory barriers, and lack of effective enabling environments in developing countries. There are limited options for funding the SDGs and mobilising the private sector remains key.

It is clear that we need new thinking and a new narrative on mobilisation and blended finance. We need to acknowledge their potential, as well as their limitations. We need to recognise the necessity of development and private actors to work more effectively together and put processes in place for this to happen. Risks need to be equitably shared, and successes replicated and scaled. The desire for exposure to sustainability from the investment community is clear, though risk-return considerations remain strong in the context of developing countries. Institutions and risks frameworks have changed since the 2015 mobilisation agenda, and much has been learnt – but much remains to be done. Identified barriers need to be addressed, and more should be done to scale the use of innovative financial instruments that effectively mobilise large pools of untapped commercial capital. The Community of Practice on Private Finance for Sustainable Development (CoP-PF4SD) Conference 2025 aims to address these issues and propose solutions.

The CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 is set at a pivotal moment for development finance and the sustainable development agenda more broadly. Exchanges will build momentum towards the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), by bringing together different actors from across the international development finance ecosystem, to mobilise private finance at scale for 2030 and beyond.

Organisation

The two-day CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025, taking place at the OECD Conference Centre (Boulogne) on February 4th and 5th 2025, will bring together over 500 in-person participants. Discussions will centre on how to effectively mobilise private finance towards 2030 and beyond. High-level sessions will stimulate participants by asking them a simple question: *If we are all gathered here motivated to bridge the financing gap, why are we still failing to effectively deliver more on mobilisation? What needs to happen – concretely – for this to change?*

The discussions will reflect on the current development finance architecture, by addressing the issues that hinder the mobilisation of private finance and the effective use of blended finance at scale. To this end, the CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 will also include thematic and technical sessions focusing on the opportunities and challenges for the mobilisation agenda, including data and transparency, local currency financing, innovative capital market instruments like green, social, sustainability and sustainability-linked (GSSS) bonds, regulatory barriers, and the role of blended finance in fragile contexts. You can find the agenda below.

The CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 aims to:

1. **Stimulate reflection** on past experiences to inspire new, effective practices.
2. **Increase co-operation, collaboration and engagement** to build a development finance ecosystem that effectively mobilises private investment.
3. **Tailor solutions** to meet the unique needs of different regions and sectors, and identify entry points for blended finance solutions that are adapted to local realities.
4. **Drive bold action** to make the promise of private finance mobilisation live up to its potential by scaling barriers, taking risks and innovating.

The last edition of the CoP-PF4SD Conference took place online in 2023, bringing together over 950 participants from more than 80 countries. **In 2025, the Conference will be making an in-person comeback, with over 500 people** expected to join us in Paris. High-level speakers during previous editions included Larry Fink (CEO of Blackrock), Rémy Rioux (CEO of the Agence Française de Développement), Koen Doens (Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate General for International Partnerships), and Alfredo Moreno (Minister of Social Development of Chile).

Details on the content of sessions and speakers of the CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 will be made available [here](#).

Audience & Participants

The event will gather diverse stakeholders from the international development finance ecosystem and beyond. Speakers and participants will include representatives from governments, development agencies, multilateral development banks, development finance institutions, multilateral and bilateral organisations, civil society, academia, and the private sector. Beyond its aims to stimulate reflection, increase co-operation, tailor solutions and drive action, the CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 will also be an opportunity for networking and exchanging.

Partner

Environmental Finance

Environmental Finance (EF) is an online news and analysis service established in 1999 to report on sustainable investment, green finance and the people and companies active in environmental markets. Environmental Finance is the only global publication dedicated to exploring the dynamic field of sustainable finance. In relation to the CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025, the OECD-EF collaboration touches upon the organisation of the sessions, selection of high-level guest speakers from different organisations (including the private sector), and external strategic communication. It also strives to give the topic of private finance mobilisation greater visibility, to concretely drive action.

The OECD DAC Community of Practice on Private Finance for Sustainable Development (CoP-PF4SD) is a platform for mutual learning and exchange between the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members, bilateral and multilateral development finance institutions, and the private sector. It seeks to promote greater use of blended finance strategies, instruments and approaches in the development finance ecosystem, with the ultimate aim of mobilising greater volumes of private finance for sustainable development and bridging the SDG financing gap.

You can find out more information about the CoP-PF4SD [here](#).

CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025 Agenda

4th – 5th February 2025

Day 1: 4th February | (OECD Boulogne-Billancourt)

8.30 – 9.20
CET

Welcome & networking coffee

9.20 – 9.50
CET

Practical insights – showcasing effective platforms & initiatives (1)

This session will highlight how collaboration and co-operation can help scale the mobilisation of private finance, by showcasing three concrete examples of effective platforms & initiatives. These enrich the blended finance ecosystem by reducing information asymmetries, increasing operational efficiencies, and fostering greater collaboration. The aim is to share key insights on and from these solutions, to increase co-operation around them and consider ways to replicate them.

9.50 – 10.05
CET

Welcoming & Scene-setting Remarks

10.05 – 10.20
CET

High-level Keynote

10.20 – 11.30
CET

High level Panel – why are we still talking, and not delivering more mobilisation?

The high-level panel will provide the opportunity to reflect on the current development finance architecture. It will address the challenges that hinder the mobilisation agenda and the effective use of blended finance. The discussion will focus on creating actionable momentum.

11.30 – 11.50

Coffee break

11.50 – 12.00

Scene setting remarks on climate finance

12.00 – 13.00
CET

Plenary session: How can development actors unlock private sector flows to get capital flowing towards climate adaptation action in developing countries?

Unlocking finance from private sources for adaptation is essential to scale climate financing, and blended finance constitutes a key approach in this context. This session will discuss how to collectively scale financing for adaptation, considering massive needs, existing efforts, and potential pathways. It will also provide the occasion for the launch of the new OECD Blended Finance Guidance for Climate Change Adaptation, that provides concrete recommendations for development actors to better design blended finance interventions and mobilise private finance towards key adaptation needs and priorities. More specifically, the Guidance focuses on framing the role of blended finance for adaptation in key adaptation sectors and explores the use of traditional and innovative financing instruments with the potential to amplify the resources towards climate change adaptation.

13.00 – 14.15 CET	Lunch Break	
14.15 – 15.15 CET	<p>What lessons can be learnt from the GSSS bond market?</p> <p>By linking scale with impact, green, social, sustainability and sustainability-linked (GSSS) bonds hold immense potential for mobilising private finance towards sustainable development. The session will highlight the trends, main drivers, challenges, and opportunities of the GSSS bond market – including the incentives and disincentives for both issuers and investors to enter this space. The discussion will focus specifically on the role that development actors and other key stakeholders can play in overcoming the disincentives and increasing the incentives around GSSS bonds, to ultimately scale up the use of these instruments. In doing so, the session will highlight the findings from the OECD-LuxSE survey on investor incentives for public sector GSSS bonds.</p>	<p>Taking stock: the reform of MDBs and the mobilisation of private finance</p> <p>As the world faces a convergence of crises, MDBs’ resources are in greater demand than ever. Calls to reform the international financial architecture underscore the urgency. MDBs not only need additional resources, but they also need to use these resources more effectively. This session sets out the role of the MDBs in mobilising private capital in developing countries, by outlining their current role in the development finance architecture. It will highlight the importance of the MDB reform agenda – and how to ensure that pathways to deliver reform live up to their potential and mobilise private finance at scale. It will also dive into how MDBs can more effectively use their balance sheets to mobilise more private finance.</p>
15.20 – 15.40 CET	Fireside Chat	
15.40 – 16.00 CET	Coffee break	
16.00 – 17.00 CET	<p>How can data and transparency enable private financial flows to developing countries?</p> <p>Lack of data is a key barrier that prevents private capital from flowing to emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs). The session will focus on the challenges and opportunities of demystifying emerging markets through data to help investors better price risk and make data a lever of private investment. It will focus on the specific data needs of the private sector for different instruments and via different mobilisation channels. The discussion will also zoom in on potential pathways ahead in ensuring that these</p>	<p>At the crossroads between crises and development: the role of blended finance in crises and conflict-affected contexts</p> <p>The development community agrees on the need to address conflicts and crises, as global security is a prerequisite to sustainable development. This session will dive into the role and potential of blended finance in conflict and crises-affected contexts, with focus on Ukraine. It will outline the current landscape of blended finance in these contexts and highlight the main challenges and opportunities for development finance providers to unlock additional resources for reconstruction and development. In</p>

	needs are met – especially by outlining the roles that different market players can play. Finally, it will highlight the role that transparency can play in making lending decisions and managing exposure risks, thereby attracting private investors, and ensuring regulatory compliance.	particular, the session will explore how international development actors can better implement blended finance instruments and approaches to address these crises and build resilience.
17.00 – 17.10 CET	Conclusion	
17.10 – 17.25 CET	Reception Keynote [BNP Paribas]	
17.25 CET	Reception	

Day 2: 5th February | (OECD Boulogne-Billancourt)

8.30 – 9.15 CET	Welcome & networking coffee	
9.15 – 9.45 CET	Practical insights – showcasing effective platforms & initiatives (1)	
	This session will highlight how collaboration and co-operation can help scale the mobilisation of private finance, by showcasing three concrete examples of effective platforms & initiatives. These enrich the blended finance ecosystem by reducing information asymmetries, increasing operational efficiencies, and fostering greater collaboration. The aim is to share key insights on and from these solutions, to increase co-operation around them and consider ways to replicate them.	
9.45 – 10.00 CET	Welcoming and Keynote Remarks	
10.00 – 11.00 CET	Plenary session: What is next for blended finance to live up to its potential?	
	The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) approved the five Blended Finance Principles in 2017 and developed a Guidance for each of them in 2020. The Blended Finance Guidance is currently being updated to ensure that it remains relevant in a changing development finance context, and that it is fit-for-purpose in mobilising private finance at scale. This session will dive into the latest knowledge from the update of the OECD Blended Finance Guidance. It will highlight what has worked and what has not worked so well in the blended finance landscape, and how international development actors can improve the effective and efficient use of blended finance interventions to mobilise private finance at scale.	
11.00 – 11.20 CET	Coffee break	

<p>11.20 – 12.20 CET</p>	<p>Local currency financing: Exploring the challenges and policy solutions available for donors, DFIs and MDBs</p> <p>Scaling local currency financing solutions remains crucial for mitigating exchange rate risks, strengthening domestic financial markets and in enhancing economic resilience in developing countries. This session sets out to highlight the obstacles that hinder effective local currency financing, particularly relating to the development of local financial markets. Panellists will discuss solutions, current and potential, that development actors can deploy to overcome these obstacles and what this would mean for investors. The session will specifically explore the role that DFIs and MDBs can have in providing blended finance solutions to improve access to local currency funding, and to support policies that foster more resilient local financial markets.</p>	<p>Mobilising private finance for biodiversity in developing countries: Understanding entry points for development actors¹</p> <p>This session will dive into the potential of development finance to unlock private finance for biodiversity in developing countries. It will explore the challenges and opportunities of the private sector to support biodiversity-related projects (e.g. conservation, agroecology, nature-based solutions), and tap into the role of development co-operation providers in scaling-up their efforts. It will also seek to better understand existing policy levers and financial mechanisms to mobilise private finance for biodiversity action. The aim of this session is to reflect on evidence, policies and action needed to scale financing for biodiversity, including through blended finance.</p>
<p>12.20 - 13.35 CET</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>	
<p>13.35 – 14.35 CET</p>	<p>Regulatory barriers and unintended consequences inhibiting private finance flows to developing countries</p> <p>Regulatory barriers can create challenges and uncertainties that deter foreign investors. This session will focus on the regulatory barriers that hinder private sector finance from flowing to developing countries, including in pivotal sectors such as climate finance. It will build on and explore the effects – following the implementation of Basel III, Solvency II and other major regulations – on lending practices and cross-border investments from global private sector actors into emerging markets and developing countries, with particular attention on</p>	<p>Navigating Structured Funds: How best should we structure Collective Investment Vehicles to de-risk private finance investments?</p> <p>Understanding how best to leverage structured funds across different sectors and geographies is crucial to ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently, concessionality is minimised, and the commercial viability of these projects can be maintained in high-risk markets. This session will address the key challenges to establishing structured blended finance funds. Through a series of case studies spanning various sectors and regions, the session will look to offer insights into setting appropriate concessionality levels and achieving optimal</p>

¹ On Monday, 3rd February 2025, at the side-lines of the CoP-PF4SD Conference 2025, the workshop **“Mobilising private finance for biodiversity – Shaping action and tailoring ambition for development actors”** will take place. Please reach out to DAC.ENVIRONETSecretariat@oecd.org to signal your interest in participating.

	sustainability and climate-related regulations.	risk-return profiles across different investment tranches within these collective investment vehicles.
14.40 – 15.40 CET	<p>Strategic asset allocation: How can we get investors to invest in developing countries?</p> <p>Investors tend to favour traditional markets for their investments. The session will dive into what factors are preventing them from investing in emerging markets. It will explore concrete solutions to overcoming these barriers – including, for example, the aggregation of small-scale projects into deals large enough for global investors, and the role of local capacity building and technical assistance in supporting local solutions.</p>	<p>Impact and blended finance: how much do we (not) know?</p> <p>For blended finance to be a development tool, and to guarantee its integrity, we need to ensure that it generates development impact for the final beneficiaries in emerging markets. This session will explore how much we (don't) know about the development impacts of blended finance, how practitioners assess them ex-ante and ex-post, and how development finance providers integrate an impact lens when designing blended finance transactions.</p>
15.40 – 16.00 CET	Coffee Break	
16.00 – 16.10	Keynote Remarks	
16.10 – 17.20 CET	<p>Action plan: Do we need innovation, or how can we raise the game for more effective co-operation?</p> <p>For blended finance to work effectively, it takes a village. This session will build on the benefits and challenges of achieving increased co-operation among different development finance providers. It will delve into how bilateral and multilateral donors, DFIs and private sector actors can work in a more collaborative and coordinated way to develop an investment and mobilisation-friendly architecture. The goal of this session is to take us from ambition to action. <i>What does blended finance of the future look like? How do we get there?</i></p>	
17.20 – 17.30 CET	<p>Conclusion of the Conference</p> <p>The concluding remarks will highlight the main takeaways from the CoP-PF45 Conference 2025 and provide key recommendations on the next steps for the development financing community to bring mobilisation of private finance at scale towards 2030 and beyond.</p>	