

Third Roundtable on Investment and Sustainable Development

AGENDA

30 September – 1 October 2020

Webinar on Zoom – register [online](#)

■ Background

The Roundtable on Investment and Sustainable Development (RISD) is central to OECD's efforts in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see [OECD Action Plan on the Sustainable Development Goals](#)). It aims to develop new forms of OECD engagement that support policy coherence and maximise the role of private investment as a catalyst for sustainable development. Building on the first and second RISD held in 2018 and 2019 and maintaining its flexible and inclusive nature, the third Roundtable will continue fostering policy discussions and critical thinking through the active participation of member and partner countries and a variety of non-governmental actors. Under the strategic guidance of the OECD Investment Committee, the RISD seeks synergies with related initiatives in other fora, including the UN and its agencies, the World Bank Group, and regional development banks.

As countries attempt to recover and build back better from the Covid-19 pandemic, the relationship between FDI and development cooperation is of interest to both the international investment and donor communities. The first session of the 2020 RISD, held on 30 September 2020, is therefore jointly organised by OECD's Investment Committee (IC) and Development Cooperation Committee (DAC).

■ Objectives

30 September 2020 13.30-15.30 (CET) – SESSION 1: Investment and sustainable development: Between risk of collapse and opportunity to build back better

The Covid-19 pandemic and associated social and economic crisis is severely impacting all sources of financing for both OECD and developing countries, including private investment. As part of the planned joint work¹ by OECD's Investment Committee and Development Cooperation Committee, a policy paper was prepared to present investment trends and qualities during the pandemic and discuss possible priorities for investment policy and development cooperation to rebuild sustainable investment flows, augment sustainability impacts of existing investments and make investment resilient for future crises. At the RISD, participants will explore what coordinated action of investment policy and development cooperation during the post-Covid recovery should be taken and how the OECD can best support and guide such action.

1 October 2020 13.30-15.30 (CET) – SESSION 2: FDI and resilient health sectors

The current health crisis related to the outbreak of Covid-19 puts unprecedented pressure on health systems around the world. While their resilience and capacities are currently challenged, the promotion of high-quality healthcare, accessible and affordable to all, is a permanent policy objective and essential to sustainable development. A policy note was prepared to better understand the role of FDI in building resilient and accessible health systems, with a particular focus on developing countries. At the RISD, participants will discuss opportunities and risks associated with private investment in health-related industries and how the OECD could work towards policy guidance in this regard.

■ Participants

Roundtable participants include senior government representatives from investment and development communities from both OECD and partner countries, international organisations, business executives, and representatives from civil society and academia.

■ Contacts

Martin Wermelinger, Manager, FDI Qualities, Investment Division at the OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs (martin.wermelinger@oecd.org; focal point session 1 and 2)

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¹ See outline of planned work [here](#) (only accessible to OECD delegates and staff)

Wednesday, 30 September 2020 | 13:30 – 15:30 (CET)

Join the webinar [here](#)

SESSION 1: Investment and sustainable development: Between risk of collapse and opportunity to build back better

Joint session of OECD Investment and Development Assistance Committees

The world has been sliding into a global economic, social and humanitarian crisis as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. This is severely impacting all sources of financing for developing countries, including private investment. Even before the pandemic struck, financing levels were insufficient to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement. Existing and reduced new investment must therefore – even more urgently – be squared with sustainable development ambitions to revert this decline and help build a sustainable and resilient recovery. Within this context of constrained resources, the qualities of investment, and their impacts on development outcomes, are as important as their quantity.

Based on the policy paper prepared for this session, the discussion will focus on how development cooperation can support investment policy to help developing countries build back better. The paper identifies a number of policy considerations for discussion at the joint session.

Keynote address:

- **Valerie Keller**, Co-founder and CEO of IMAGINE

Chairs

- **Susanna Moorehead**, Chair of OECD Development Assistance Committee, will deliver opening remarks and **Manfred Schekulin**, Chair of OECD Investment Committee, will moderate the session.

Panellists:

- **Zephanie Niyonkuru**, Deputy CEO, Rwanda Development Board
- **Markus Bürli**, Head of the Swiss Cooperation Office in Cambodia
- **Christine Zhenwei Qiang**, Practice Manager, Global Investment and Competition, World Bank Group
- **David Croft**, Global Director Sustainability, Environment and Human Rights at Reckitt Benckiser, and Chair of Business at OECD Development Committee Business executive

Closing remarks:

- **Jorge Moreira da Silva**, Director, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate and **Greg Medcraft**, Director, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs

Participants are invited to contribute to the discussion by raising their 'virtual' hand on Zoom or by delivering inputs through the Zoom chat function.

Thursday, 1 October 2020 | 13:30 – 15:30 (CET)

Join the webinar [here](#)

SESSION 2: Can FDI improve the resilience of health systems?

The outbreak of Covid-19 has put unprecedented strain on health systems across the world. Easing the pressure on healthcare resources and reversing the propagation of the virus are immediate global and national policy priorities. At the same time, ensuring access to high-quality healthcare goods and services is a permanent policy objective and the foundation for sustainable development. The current health crisis has further exposed the ways in which accessibility and affordability of healthcare goods and services (e.g. diagnostics and treatment) are linked to greater preparedness and ability of health systems to cope with health emergencies.

The literature has often framed the discussion of access to healthcare in terms of population coverage, the relative contributions of public and private spending, and the share of spending covered by prepayment schemes. This background note considers the extent to which private provision of healthcare goods and services – in particular by foreign investors – can improve resilience and accessibility of health systems, irrespective of provider payment schemes.

Based on the policy note, the session will explore the main opportunities and risks associated with private – particularly foreign – investment in health-related industries. The discussion will consider whether and how the OECD could work towards policy guidance in this regard.

Opening remarks:

- **Masamichi Kono**, Deputy Secretary General, OECD

Keynote address:

- **Rania Al-Mashat**, Minister of International Cooperation, Egypt
- **Abdoulaye Diouf Sarr**, Minister of Health and Social Action, Senegal

Moderator

- **Amelia U. Santos-Paulino**, Chief, Investment Issues Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD

Panellists:

- **Frederico Guanais**, Deputy Head of OECD Health Division
- **Olga Mironenko Stampfer**, Vice President International Relations, UnitedHealthGroup
- **Matthias Helble**, Expert in health, trade and investment policy, Asia Development Bank
- **Nils Askær-Hune**, Head of Analysis and Business Development, Invest in Denmark

Closing remarks:

- **Manfred Schekulin**, Chair, OECD Investment Committee, and **Ana Novik**, Head of OECD Investment Division

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