

Human Rights Council Parallel Event
Concept note

11th September, 2023
Room XXV, Palais Des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
13.00 - 14.00 pm CET

An Interactive Dialogue on the necessary reforms in the International Development Cooperation (IDC) Architecture through a Right to Development (RTD) Perspective.

Abstract :

Event Overview:

The parallel event aims to foster a high-level dialogue on critical reforms within the International Development Cooperation (IDC) architecture from the lens of the Right to Development (RTD). By delving into complex issues, sharing insights, and formulating advanced recommendations, this dialogue seeks to contribute to a more just, inclusive, and rights-based international development framework.

Event Objectives:

- **Critical Analysis of Current IDC Architecture:** Undertake a nuanced assessment of the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in the existing IDC architecture concerning the realization of the Right to Development, emphasizing issues of global systemic inequality and structural barriers.
- **Proposing Transformative Reforms:** Generate advanced insights and policy proposals for transformative reforms that can recalibrate the IDC architecture to better uphold the principles of the Right to Development, promoting equity, justice, and sustainable development.
- **Showcasing Innovations and Progressive Practices:** Highlight innovative models, experiments, and best practices that embody advanced integration of Right to Development principles within development cooperation strategies.
- **Fostering Scholarly Discourse and Collaboration:** Provide a platform for rigorous scholarly and expert discourse, promoting advanced research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the development of cutting-edge solutions.

Speakers :

Welcoming remarks : Mrs. Carolyn Handschin, President, NGO CSW Geneva / Director, UN Relations, WFWPI (3 mins)

Panel discussion (40 min)

Chair : Dr. Shyami Puvimanasinghe, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR (TBC)

Potential List of Speakers, waiting for confirmation

1. *H.E. M. Juan Antonio Quintanilla Román, Permanent Representative of Cuba (TBC)*
2. *H.E. Mr. Marc Bichler, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Luxembourg (TBC)*
3. *H.E. Indra Mani Pandey, Permanent Representative of India to the UN in Geneva (TBC)*
4. *Her Excellency Katharina STASCH, Permanent Representative of Germany to the UN in Geneva (TBC)*
5. *CORREA Carlos M., Executive Director, South Centre (TBC)*
6. *H.E Mr. Luke DAUNIVALU Permanent Representative of Fiji (TBC)*
7. *H.E. Mrs. Shara DUNCAN VILLALOBOS, Ambassador, Costa Rica to the UN (TBC)*
8. *Maria Dimitriadou, Special Representative of the World Bank Group to the UN and the WTO (TBC)*
9. *Micol Savia, UN Representative, International Association of Democratic Lawyers*
10. *Srruthi Lekha Raaja Elango, Phd Candidate, UN University for Peace, UN Rep, WFWPI*

Conclusion (3 mins)

Expected Outcomes:

- Advanced insights into moral/ ethical dimensions of the Right to Development within contemporary global development discourse.
- Formulation of policy recommendations and innovative approaches for recalibrating the International Development Cooperation (IDC) architecture in alignment with the Right to Development principles.
- Enhanced interdisciplinary dialogue and scholarly collaboration among experts, researchers, policymakers, and advocates.
- Dissemination of research findings, case studies, and best practices that advance the integration of Right to Development principles.
- Strengthened commitment to advancing the Right to Development agenda among a network of advanced practitioners and thought leaders.

Guiding questions :

How has the interpretation and understanding of the Right to Development evolved over time, and what are the key principles underlying this right?

How well does the current IDC architecture align with the principles of the Right to Development and How can civil society contribute to the IDC architecture's sustainable reforms?

How can the Right to Development perspective help address systemic inequalities in global development cooperation?

What reforms are needed to ensure that development cooperation benefits marginalized and vulnerable populations in an equitable and inclusive manner, as a mutual benefit for both developed and developing countries?

What innovative financing mechanisms, reforms, and accountability measures can be implemented within the International Development Cooperation (IDC) architecture to ensure that resources are directed towards projects prioritizing the realization of the Right to Development, while effectively holding both donor and recipient countries accountable for their commitments?