



Funding the UN system

Co-hosted by German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the University of Glasgow



Expert workshop

Funding the UN system

6 and 7 November 2023

Location: IDOS, Tulpenfeld 6, Bonn

Co-hosted by German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the University of Glasgow.

The workshop explores how the UN system is currently funded, what challenges UN financing faces, and what the future of UN financing could and should look like. It brings together academic researchers and pundits to discuss the latest research and new ideas in an intimate setting. Workshop discussions are embedded in the general context of Our Common Agenda and preparations for the 2024 UN Summit of the Future.

The workshop will be held under the Chatham House rule. Paper presentations, inputs and comments by the discussants should be limited to 8 minutes. A beamer is available for presentations. We kindly request authors to share papers with all participants by 2 November. Based on workshop discussions, we will explore options for engaging with policy processes in 2024.

We welcome you all to Bonn and we look forward to meeting you and to our discussions!

Organizers

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AGENDA

Monday, 6 October 2023

- 2:00-2:15pm Welcome
- Stephan Klingebiel, Head of Programme “Inter- and Transnational Cooperation”
 - Host’s welcome
- 2:15-3:45pm Session 1. **Setting the scene: UN funding patterns and challenges**
- Max-Otto Baumann & Sebastian Haug: Financing the UN system: patterns and reform options
 - Barbara Adams: Financing the UN in the context of global change
- Comments: John Hendra
Chair: Nilima Gulrajani
- 3:45-4:15pm Coffee Break
- 4:15-6:00pm Session 2. **Back to the roots? Assessed and core contributions**
- Nilima Gulrajani & Erik Lundsgaarde: Multilateral options for mobilizing core finance
 - Eugene Chen: Not a silver bullet: The push for assessed contributions for African-led peace support operations
 - Claudio Fernandes: Financing sustainable development (and the UN) in the age of immateriality
- Comments: Ronny Patz
Chair: Bernhard Reinsberg
- 6:30pm Dinner at Remise

Tuesday, 7 October 2023

- 9:00-10:30am Session 3. **False promise? The potential and pitfalls of tied contributions**
- Max-Otto Baumann & Bernhard Reinsberg: Pathologies in the United Nations Development System: the role of funding structures
 - Ronny Patz: The geopolitics of voluntary funding in the UN System: The case of UNRWA from 1949-2023
- Comments: Eugene Chen
Chair: Claudio Fernandes
- 10:30-10:45pm Coffee Break
- 10:45am-12:15pm Session 4. **Looking ahead: the future of UN funding**
Panel
- Bodo Ellmers: Financing for development
 - John Hendra: Funding compact
 - Silke Weinlich: UN reform proposals
- Moderator: Roberto Bissio
- 12:30pm Lunch at Art Museum