



Financing the SDGs Dialogue 2026: Advancing Country-Led Approaches to Financing Sustainable Development

Advancing Sevilla Platform for Action initiatives at country level
27-29 October 2026

Managing Risk, Financing Development: Country-led Systems for Resilience and Investment

Session date	Thursday 29 th October 2026
Time	11am-12:30pm CET
Location	Tenerife II (Level 2), Meliá Avenida América (Google Maps link) C. de Juan Ignacio Luca de Tena, 36, San Blas-Canillejas, 28027 Madrid, Spain
Organizers	UNDP, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Insurance Development Forum (IDF)

Background on Financing the SDGs Dialogue 2026

Financing the SDGs Dialogue 2026: Advancing Country-Led Approaches to Financing Sustainable Development will take place 27-29 October 2026 in Madrid, Spain, hosted by the UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub together with the Government of Spain.

Since the adoption of the Sevilla Commitment and launch of the Sevilla Platform for Action, global and concerted efforts have been advancing to help countries develop and deliver solutions. At the same time, countries have expressed a clear demand for a structured, technical space where practitioners leading financing reforms can exchange experiences, solve problems together, and connect their work with relevant global SPA initiatives and other supporting partnerships. Thus, the Dialogue will also bring together SPA initiatives working on relevant aspects of the Sevilla Commitment, enabling them to explore complementarities, strengthen collaboration, and enhance their collective impact in response to country needs and priorities.

The target participants include national decision-makers—Ministries of Finance, Planning, Environment, Economy, as well as Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Development, and local governments—alongside public development banks, private sector and financial institutions, and IFIs, financial institutions and investors, FfD4-related platforms, UN entities, academia, development partners and civil society.

Session Background

Insurance is a key part of the financial infrastructure countries use to manage risk, protect economic progress and incentivize investment. Yet in many countries, financial protection is limited by fragmented policy environments and a disconnect between the solutions available and the risks faced by local governments, businesses and people.

The Sevilla Commitment recognizes the opportunity for stronger local insurance markets to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including by strengthening risk awareness, increasing financial protection and supporting investment in development.

Individual insurance products and externally supported pilots across developing markets have shown what is possible, but do not always leave behind the institutional or market capacity, data infrastructure or financing needed for long-term impact.

Moving from individual products to long-term resilience requires country-led systems and partnerships. Promising examples are showing how governments, insurers, donors and development partners are collaborating along the full risk-management chain. Risks must be reduced where possible, remaining risks can be transferred through insurance or other pre-arranged financing mechanisms; and better country risk management can mobilize and attract investment.

This roundtable will bring together leaders and practitioners from governments, development institutions and the insurance industry to explore these questions through the lens of two Sevilla Platform for Action initiatives:

- **Global Coalition to Scale up Pre-Arranged Financing**, led by the Bridgetown Initiative and the United Kingdom, provides a pathway for countries to strengthen their financial preparedness for shocks by expanding insurance and other forms of finance arranged before disasters occur. This requires moving beyond individual transactions towards national systems that connect risk reduction, preparedness, contingency planning and sustainable financing.
- **Global Financing Playbook**, led by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB); UNDP; International Development Finance Club: provides a complementary pathway for countries to manage risks that constrain investment. Through government-led Country Platforms, countries can bring together policy and regulatory reform, investment pipelines, development finance and private-sector partners around national priorities. Stronger domestic insurance markets and public financial risk-management can form part of this architecture, and help mobilize investment.

Together, the two initiatives provide an opportunity to consider how insurance and risk reduction can be used as part of a broader country-led financing architecture: strengthening financial preparedness for shocks while managing risks that could otherwise hold back investment and development.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this session include:

- Explore country experiences of moving from individual insurance products towards national risk management systems, including policy and regulatory frameworks, institutional capacity, risk data, local insurance market development and public-private partnerships needed to achieve scale.
- Explore how better risk management can support investment in national development priorities, including through Country Platforms, policy de-risking, investment pipelines and insurance and other financial risk-sharing mechanisms.
- Identify practical opportunities for collaboration between governments, development partners, development finance institutions and the insurance industry to take the institutionalization of risk management forward at the country level, delivering on the commitments of the two Sevilla Platform for Action initiatives.

Participants

- **Governments:** Ministries of Finance, Economy, Planning and Environment; insurance regulators and supervisors; sub-national governments.
- **Financial institutions:** National and public development banks, MDBs, insurers, reinsurers, brokers and investors.
- **Development institutions:** UNDP, Insurance Development Forum, bilateral and multilateral development partners.
- **Regulatory and market institutions:** Sustainable Insurance Forum members, national insurance associations and other financial-sector bodies.
- **Other:** Technical organizations working on risk data and analytics, climate resilience, disaster risk reduction and sustainable finance.

Format and Agenda

Following brief opening remarks connecting the Sevilla Commitment with the purpose of the discussion, the roundtable will move through two linked discussions, each corresponding to a different part of the country risk management architecture.

Participants will be invited to make short, focused interventions drawing on their own country, institutional or market experience. The moderator will encourage exchanges between participants and draw connections across the three discussions.

The final part of the session will open the discussion to participants and identify practical areas for collaboration emerging from Madrid.

Time/Segments	Speaker(s) and Intervention Topics
11:00-11:06 Welcome	Tom Beloe, Director, UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub and Ekhosuehi Iyehen, Secretary General, Insurance Development Forum
11:06-11:09 Framing remarks	Birgit Pickel, Director-General for Sustainable Development and Climate, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
11:09-11:51 First Round Discussion: From individual products to country-led systems: financially preparing for risks before they become shocks. Framing questions: What does it take to move from individual insurance solutions towards country-led systems and markets that can manage risk and build financial resilience at scale? How can countries make financial preparedness the norm, rather than mobilizing finance only after a crisis? <i>(Global Coalition to Scale up Pre-Arranged Financing)</i>	Moderator: Ekhosuehi Iyehen, Secretary General, Insurance Development Forum Justin Mundy, CEO, Mapping Pathways to Security, Chair, SLM Partners Juan Ernesto Herrera Medina – Sub Director of Operations, Social Development Directorate Supérate, Dominican Republic Jaime de Piniés, CEO, Blue Marble Bridget Carle, Senior Vice President, Global Public Sector, Marsh Re Karina Whalley, Head of Public Sector, AXA Climate Moderated Discussion: 20 minutes
11:51-12:26 Second Round Discussion: Managing risk to enable investment in country development priorities. Framing question: <i>How can better management of risk help countries attract investment, reduce financing costs and mobilize more public and</i>	Moderator: Miguel Solana, Team Lead, Insurance and Risk Finance Facility, UNDP Beatriz Vaca Dominguez, Task Team Leader, Financial Systems Division, Agence Française de Développement Gabriel Ferrero de Loma Osorio, Senior Strategy Advisor, World Bank Katarzyna Grzybowska, AVP and Regional Sustainability Manager for Asia, Oceania and Africa, Nestlé

<i>private capital for key sectors including resilient agriculture, MSMEs, public infrastructure, etc.?</i> <i>(Global Financing Playbook)</i>	Karol Maciejewski, Director, Consulting Actuary, Milliman Moderated Discussion: 19 minutes
12:26-12:30 Thank you and close	Ekhosuehi Iyehen, Secretary General, Insurance Development Forum and Tom Beloe, Director, UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub

Planned Roundtable Interventions



Beatriz Vaca Dominguez - Task Team Leader, Financial Systems Division, Agence Française de Développement

Beatriz Vaca Dominguez is a Team Leader within the Financial Systems division of the AFD, where she is in charge of the Costa Rica, Kenya, and East African Organizations (IOs) portfolio. She also leads the climate insurance thematic area. Prior to her reintegration into the AFD in September 2026, she served as Chief Operating Officer (COO) at MiCRO/Howden for eight years, where she developed index-based insurance solutions for vulnerable populations in Latin America and Africa. Before her experience in the insurance sector, she held several positions at the AFD (2010–2018), including setting up the Sustainable Development Analysis and Opinion mechanism and serving as head of the Biodiversity and Rural Development unit in Mexico City AFD's office. Prior to joining the AFD, she was Deputy Director of the Economic and Social Analysis Department at BANSEFI (a development bank), where she deployed Mexico's national financial inclusion and education strategy. She also served as a diplomatic attaché to the OECD between 2003 and 2007.



Birgit Pickel - Director-General for Sustainable Development and Climate, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

More than 25 years of experience in international cooperation, including more than 15 years in management positions. Regional focus: Africa; thematic focuses: global health, pandemic preparedness, sustainable economic development, climate and biodiversity. Lived and worked in the USA, South Africa, Zambia. University studies: MA in Political Science; postgraduate certificate in Development Studies from the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)



Bridget Carle - Senior Vice President, Global Public Sector, Marsh Re

Bridget Carle is a Senior Vice President in Marsh Re's Global Public Sector Practice, forging partnerships with public entities and designing risk transfer solutions to alleviate financial exposures related to extreme weather events and other catastrophes. Prior to joining Marsh Re (formerly Guy Carpenter), Bridget was a Vice President on Swiss Re's public sector team for over a decade where she managed government and multilateral development bank clients across the Americas. She helped to create and implement dozens of innovative risk transfer solutions, including the world's first pandemic bond and extreme weather coverages for more than 16 Caribbean and Central American countries through the CCRIF. Outside of her private sector experience, she also spent two years working at The Rockefeller Foundation and a summer supporting research at WWF Cape Town.



Ekhosuehi Iyehen - Secretary General, Insurance Development Forum

Ekhosuehi Iyehen serves as Secretary General of the Insurance Development Forum (IDF), a leading global public-private partnership that brings together the insurance industry, the United Nations, the World Bank Group, and other international institutions to scale the use of insurance and risk financing in strengthening climate and disaster resilience worldwide. A recognised authority in disaster risk financing, she is known for her strategic judgement, diplomatic acumen, and ability to translate complex policy ambition into implementable, multi-country programmes that deliver measurable impact. Under her leadership, the IDF has been a driver of pioneering collaborations that expand financial protection for millions of people in climate- and disaster-exposed economies.



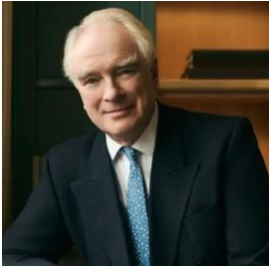
Gabriel Ferrero de Loma Osorio, Senior Strategy Advisor, World Bank

Gabriel Ferrero de Loma Osorio is Senior Strategy Advisor at the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) at the World Bank. He served as Spain's Ambassador at Large for Global Food Security (2021–2025) and as Chairperson of the UN Committee on World Food Security (2021–2023). Earlier roles include Director General of Sustainable Development Policies at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2018–2021), Senior Advisor to the UN Secretary-General's Executive Office on the 2030 Agenda and Climate Change (2012–2017), and Deputy Director General for Development Policies at the Spanish MFA (2007–2011). He holds a Ph.D. in project science from the Polytechnic University of Valencia and has authored over 50 publications.



Jaime de Piniés - CEO, Blue Marble

Jaime de Piniés is CEO and Co-founder of Blue Marble, a parametric insurance platform backed by ASSA, MAPFRE, Marsh, Sompo, TransRe, and Zurich Insurance. He leads Blue Marble's mission to close the protection gap by delivering parametric solutions for climate and natural disaster risks to underserved communities across more than 20 emerging markets in Latin America, Asia, and Africa.



Justin Mundy - CEO, Mapping Pathways to Security

Justin Mundy is the co-founder and co-CEO of MPS Global, Chairman of SLM Partners, Chair of the Qatar Foundation's Earthna Center for a Sustainable Future, Chairman of the Sustainability-linked Sovereign Debt Hub, Chairman of Cibus Fund's Advisory Board and Chairman of TRAFFIC International. From 2007-2018, he was the Director of the then HRH The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit. He has been the Commonwealth Secretary General's Special Envoy, a Distinguished Fellow at the World Resources Institute and a Trustee of WWF-UK and of Global Canopy. He has worked as an Adviser to the UK Government and the European Commission, has held positions at Deutsche Bank and Aon, and managed the World Bank's forestry and biodiversity programmes in Russia and Central Asia.



Karina Whalley, Head of Public Sector, AXA Climate

Karina is the Head of Public Sector at AXA Climate, working with development banks, governments, municipalities, development finance institutions, impact funds and non-governmental organisations to advise and support in adaptation, current and future climate risk management and financing tools. Karina holds a BSc. in Pure Mathematics and Finance from the University of Cape Town and a Master's degree in Geopolitics from the Université Libre de Bruxelles.



Karol Maciejewski, Director, Head of Life Modeling, Milliman

Karol Maciejewski is a director in the Life Insurance team of the Paris office. He is leading consulting assignments, focusing primarily on insurance modeling, analytics and applications of innovation and technology to redefine and transform processes. He is currently focused on high-performance computing and machine learning applications in insurance and ALM models.



Katarzyna Grzybowska - AVP and Regional Sustainability Manager for Asia, Oceania and Africa, Nestle

Katarzyna Grzybowska leads sustainability strategy for Nestlé across Zone Asia, Oceania and Africa, covering 113 countries. She is responsible for the strategy and delivery of Nestlé's ESG roadmap across climate, regenerative agriculture, circularity and responsible sourcing. With nearly 24 years at Nestlé, she has held senior roles across portfolio management, transformation and programme delivery in the US, Switzerland, and globally. Her focus is on turning sustainability commitments into implementation — strengthening business resilience and creating value for people and the planet at scale.



Juan Ernesto Herrera Medina – Sub Director of Operations, Social Development Directorate Supérate, Dominican Republic

Juan Ernesto Herrera Medina is the Sub Director of Operations at the Dominican Republic's Social Development Directorate Supérate. Prior to Superate he served as Operations Manager for Line 1 of the Santo Domingo Cable Car system under the Office for the Reorganization of Transport (OPRET). He has served as an Honorary Advisor on Planning and Institutional Development for the Municipality of Santo Domingo Norte, contributing to the development of the 2024–2028 Municipal Development Plan. He has also presided over organizations such as Citizen Integration for Development (INCIDE).



Miguel Solana - Team Lead, Insurance and Risk Finance Facility, UNDP

Miguel Solana is Team Lead for the Insurance and Risk Finance at UNDP, leading technical implementation across IRFF's 39-country footprint. Over the past 15 years, he has designed and implemented more than 50 insurance innovation initiatives, delivering insurance protection to 20 million people. Previously, Miguel led the ILO's insurance innovation work in Africa and Latin America, and inclusive insurance market development initiatives globally. He has also worked at Deutsche Bank, Dresdner Kleinwort and Symbiotics Group. Miguel holds an MBA, a BSc in Actuarial Science and a CAS on international development. He speaks Spanish, English, French, German and Portuguese.



Thomas Beloe – Director, Sustainable Finance Hub, UNDP

With over 25 years of experience in providing policy advice to governments across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Pacific, Tom Beloe leads UNDP's Sustainable Finance Hub. In addition to global and regional roles on sustainable finance, Tom has also worked on governance, climate finance and responsible business practices. Previous to UNDP, Tom worked for think tanks, NGOs and the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID). He has a master's degree in Anthropology from Cambridge University and a Master's in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics.

Additional Roundtable Participants



Aloma Serra - SDG
Finance Analyst at
UNDP



Clara Colina -
Director, ISF Advisors



Edgar Aguilar -
Value Chain
Resilience Specialist,
Insurance and Risk
Finance Facility,
UNDP



**Enrique Estefanía-
Salazar** –
Researcher,
Research Centre for
the Management of
Agricultural and
Environmental Risks
(CEIGRAM)



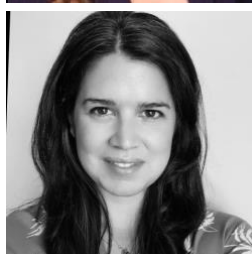
Erin Kunkel -
Specialist in Climate
Risk Management
and Fluvial
Hydraulics, Grupo
TYPESA



Ivanna Ulin -
Actuarial Program
Strategist, Milliman



**Luis Maldonado
Garcia Pertier** -
Professor, IE
University



María Perez López -
Head of Sustainable
Strategy, Wealth
management &
Insurance, Santander



Mario Huzel –
Senior Advisor,
Sustainable
Sovereign Debt Hub



Melina Inglese -
Chief Operating
Officer,
NatureFinance



Sandra Magro -
Senior Advisor on
Climate Intelligence,
Lobelia

Cristina Arce -
General Insurance
Technical Manager,
UNESPA



Sara Mirete Pitarch -
Head of
Communication,
Generali Spain