



## **Session: Investing in Partnerships: Catalyzing Action for SDG 17**

**5 February 2025, 03.00 – 04.00 PM, Trusteeship Council Chamber**

Multi-stakeholder partnerships, engaging the resources and levers of all societal sectors, are essential to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Partnerships can address the root causes of complex issues, create innovative, sustainable, and equitable solutions, and deliver transformation at scale through innovative finance models and catalyzing private investment.

However, effective funding of partnerships can be hindered by a lack of familiarity of the unique needs of partnerships (including the need for equitable, local participation), short-term funding cycles, rigid accountability frameworks, and underutilization of innovative financing mechanisms.

This session will spotlight the pivotal role of strategic investments in partnerships as a cornerstone for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will explore how funders are optimizing their funding modalities to more effectively support partnership development and what else needs to be done to support a more enabling environment for multi-stakeholder collaboration.

### **Objectives:**

- **Highlight Innovative Financing Models:** Explore examples of tools such as blended finance, social impact investments, SDG bonds, and crowdfunding platforms that are catalyzing private and public sector engagement in SDG implementation.
- **Identify Barriers and Solutions for Effective Partnership Funding:** Address systemic challenges, such as short-term funding, hierarchical structures, and rigid accountability, that hinder partnership development.
- **Promote Inclusive Practices:** Emphasize the importance of funding modalities that support local ownership, equitable participation, and context-appropriate solutions.
- **Demonstrate the investment required to enable effective partnering:** Discuss how to build the institutional capabilities and policies to support all-of-society collaboration.

### **Programme**

Moderated by the President of ECOSOC

Time	Item
03.00 PM - 03.20 PM	<b>Key insights from SDG Action Segments</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A synthesis of major themes and lessons on partnership effectiveness and investment strategies related to SDGs 3, 5, 8, and 14, presented by Segment rapporteurs (<i>from the floor</i>) (4 Minutes each)</li> </ul>
03.20 PM - 04.00 PM	<p><b>Multi-stakeholder panel discussion</b></p> <p>Speakers will be invited to deliver a brief intervention (5 minutes) on one or two of the topics outlined below. This will be followed by an interactive discussion with the moderator, focusing on exploring innovative strategies for scaling up partnerships and investments for the SDGs (<i>podium</i>)</p> <p><u>Moderated by</u> H.E, Mr. Bob Rae, President of ECOSOC</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>H.E. Mr. Niels Annen</b>, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Heather Grady</b>, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Darian Stibbe</b>, The Partnering Initiative</li> </ul> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Innovative Financing Models:</b> Can you share examples of innovative financing mechanisms, such as blended finance or impact investments, that have shown the most promise in advancing multi-stakeholder partnerships? How could those be scaled to achieve broader SDG impact?</li> <li>• <b>Overcoming Funding Barriers:</b> What are the most critical challenges in current partnership funding models, and what practical steps can funders and partners take to address them?</li> <li>• <b>Equity and Inclusion in Financing:</b> How can funding strategies ensure that smaller, under-resourced organizations and local communities are equitably included in partnerships?</li> <li>• <b>Balancing Flexibility and Accountability:</b> What innovative approaches can funders adopt to maintain accountability while enabling the flexibility necessary for partnerships to adapt and innovate?</li> <li>• <b>Cross-Sector Resource Mobilization:</b> What strategies have proven successful in mobilizing resources for partnerships, particularly in SDG sectors with significant funding gaps, and how can collaboration among public, private, and civil society stakeholders be scaled?</li> <li>• <b>Harnessing Digital Technologies and Crowdfunding:</b> How can digital platforms and crowdfunding be leveraged to unlock new streams of funding and enhance transparency, inclusivity, and innovation in partnerships?</li> </ul>