

Informal public dialogue with the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development on the 2022 Financing for Sustainable Development Report - 21 October 2021

This document has been collectively developed by the Civil Society Financing for Development (FfD) Group (including the Women's Working on FfD), a very broad platform of several hundreds of civil society organizations, networks and federations from around the world, that followed closely the Financing for Development since its origins, facilitated civil society's contribution to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and continues to provide a facilitation mechanism for the collective expression of civil society in the FfD Follow-up process. More information can be found on the Civil Society FfD Group's website: <https://csoforffd.org/about/>

While the group is diverse and positions might differ on specific issues, this document expresses the elements of common concern.

Overall Report

- As time is limited, we cannot engage in commenting the full outline. However, we would like to reiterate that the IATF should primarily serve the need for tangible and actionable normative decisions in the upcoming FfD negotiations. While it is important to offer some extent of a comprehensive picture to enable these decisions, the IATF Report should not be focusing on generating a "Global Outlook on FfD" but rather zoom on the urgent challenges that require response by the international community and offer clear analysis and policy propositions for these challenges to be tackled with actionable outcomes in the upcoming negotiations;
- As voiced on previous occasions, we remain concerned with the political economies and power asymmetries within the IATF. We would therefore continue to call for the IATF Report to be primarily focused on the developmental challenges of developing countries and the need for systemic reforms in a context of democratization of global economic governance. In this respect, while inviting the IATF to offer clear normative proposals for intergovernmental decisions, we would not appreciate these proposals to be reduced to the minimum common denominator within the Task Force as this would risk embodying the dominant ideologies of some of Institutional Stakeholders. We would rather invite a menu of policy options for systemic reform that Member States could assess and decide upon;
- We continue to call for a much stronger and articulated gender mainstreaming across the entire report, considering the urgency of a feminist transformation of the global economy. Once again in the COVID-a9 context, women have been disproportionately impacted as their unpaid domestic and care work stepped up to increase the already huge subsidy to the global economy provided by the persistent sexual division of labour.

Thematic chapter

- The draft outline highlights that the Thematic Chapter will focus on options for fiscally constrained developing countries -> rather than zooming in with an excessive focus on macroeconomic policies by developing countries, the Chapter should focus on (1) the spill over effects and other implications of developed countries policies on developing countries; and (2) systemic barriers and unhelpful global frameworks (trade, debt, tax, global finance) that

generate unhelpful dynamics that limit the policy and fiscal space of developing countries. It should therefore focus less on what developing countries should be doing and much more on what developed countries and the global community should decide/reform in order to expand the policy and fiscal options of developing countries;

- We would be concerned with any overemphasis on the access to capital markets and on the risk of inflationary pressures, generating tensions and misalignments between fiscal and monetary policies as a result of premature tightening of the latter. We would expect the Chapter to properly assess these challenging dynamics. We are seriously concerned with the possible slowdown of expansionary policies and any austerity shift in a phase where public policies, investments and services are essential to propel decent employment, ensure the realization of human rights and embark on socio-economic transformation pathways towards sustainable development;
- The Thematic Chapter should therefore focus on clear normative proposals and systemic reforms that can be discussed in the upcoming FfD negotiations, either by deciding over this in the context of the 2022 Forum itself or by establishing formal intergovernmental mechanisms leading to final decisions at ECOSOC and/or UNGA levels;