



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NGO COMMITTEE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

For the period: June 8, 2022 – July 7, 2023

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Executive summary

The NGO Committee on Financing for Development (NGO Committee), created in 2004 as a substantive committee of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN, facilitates NGO advocacy on Financing for Development at the United Nations in New York.

Mission and Purpose of the NGO Committee:

The NGO Committee supports the goal to “end poverty and hunger and to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions through promoting inclusive economic growth, protecting the environment, and promoting social inclusion,” as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Monterrey Consensus. It offers a venue for both new and established non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to advocate to further the commitments of the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as well as to learn, discuss, and contribute to the plans, activities, and initiatives pertaining to financing for development discussions at the United Nations in partnership with different stakeholders within the UN system.

As in the previous four years, the executive committee developed a strategic plan with Objectives and SMART Goals. The Committee accomplished 8 out of the 19 SMART Goals, is making progress on 7, and needs more focused effort on 4, out of the remaining 11 goals. 100% delivery on the Committee’s SMART Goals is difficult as NGO representatives have Multiple advocacy priorities (and financing for development is just one of those priorities) and there are tremendous time constraints. Still, the Committee made great strides this year as in the previous years, as summarized below:

- ☐ Held 10 monthly meetings which included invited speakers and education sessions conducted by members.
- ☐ Held its first in-person monthly meeting (in a hybrid format with a Zoom participation component) since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ☐ Organized 10 substantive sessions (side events, parallel events, and consultation).
- ☐ Submitted a written response to the Inter-Agency Taskforce Report outline for the fifth consecutive year.
- ☐ Held a virtual breakfast discussion with the UN Member States for the sixth consecutive year, in preparation for the FfD Forum.
- ☐ Provided direct input to the FfD Forum outcome document in the drafting stages.
- ☐ Conducted two Mission visits.
- ☐ Delivered 15 interventions at UN-organized meetings.
- ☐ Updated the consolidated advocacy statement and reflected those points in interventions made at the UN, presentations by the Chair, and visits with Permanent Missions.
- ☐ Continued strong collaboration with other NGO Committees.
- ☐ Conducted an annual orientation session on Financing for Development
- ☐ Working Groups held regular meetings and provided support for the following tasks:
 - ❖ Drafting input to the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report
 - ❖ Organizing side events
 - ❖ Updating the advocacy statement
 - ❖ Participating in Mission Visits
- ☐ Staff member(s) from FSDO provided briefings at 9 out of the 10 monthly meetings.

Background details on the NGO Committee

1. The leadership of the NGO Committee:

- Chair - Anita Thomas, Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (DBA Women First International Fund)
- Vice-Chair -Yvonne O'Neal, Africa Development Interchange Network
- Secretary – Janet Palafox, Institute of Blessed Virgin Mary Loretto (Joined in July 2022)
- Treasurer – Daniel LeBlanc, Vivat International
- Member-at-large – Christina Hu, STUF United (Joined in October 2022); Position vacated by Graciano Gaillard remained vacant from May 2022 – October 2022.
- Member-at-large – Unfilled per decision by the executive committee; Quinn Wonderling, General Board of Church, and Society- United Methodist Church served from June 2021 – March 2023 (Resigned due to change in responsibilities at work).

2. Aims and objectives of the Committee:

- The NGO Committee aims to “confront the challenges of financing for development” by staying engaged as advocates for the Addis Ababa Action Agenda’s “action areas.” Those actions include Domestic public resources, domestic and international private business, and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, Debt, and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues, and Science, technology, innovation, and capacity-building.
- The NGO Committee works to strengthen consultative relationships with the Financing for Sustainable Development Office of the United Nations Secretariat. The NGO Committee reviews the work of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and various United Nations Commissions from the perspective of integrating issues related to Financing for Development into the work of these bodies.

3. Membership period: The membership cycle of the Committee is from September 1 to August 31 of next year. Annual Membership due is \$40 payable by Zelle or by check.

4. Annual Meetings: The annual meeting of the Committee is held every June. So, the annual reports cover the period from the annual meeting of the previous year to the annual meeting of the current year. The chairperson and treasurer present an annual report and finance report respectively at every annual meeting of the Committee. Elections take place at the annual meeting every other year.

5. Monthly meetings: Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month from 1-3 pm, except in cases of unavoidable conflicts for more than fifty percent of the executive committee members. The agenda for the monthly meeting is set by the Chairperson in consultation with the EC members. The monthly meeting agenda also includes presentations by invited speakers, article reviews, and education sessions by members. The Chairperson develops the folder for the monthly meetings, which includes researching and uploading FfD-related resource materials to the folder. In the 2022-2023 cycle 77 articles and 24 reports were posted to the meeting folder.

6. United Nations (and civil society) entities the Committee consults, works with, and involves in its work:

The Committee engages actively with the UN Financing for Sustainable Development Office, the International Labour Organisation New York office, and the UN Member States. At its side events, breakfast consultations, and monthly meetings, the Committee makes concerted efforts to include speakers from the UNFSDO, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the UN Member States, and relevant UN agencies. The Committee is a founding member of the Addis Ababa Coordinating Group, the coordinating body of the Civil Society Financing for Development Mechanism (previously Group). The Committee engages actively in CoNGO initiatives and makes substantive contributions to CoNGO programs when invited to do so.

7. Notable achievements of the committee for this cycle:

- The Committee held four in-person monthly meetings and six virtual meetings via Zoom during this membership cycle.
- Maintained a strong relationship with the UN Financing for Sustainable Development Office.
- Continued to strengthen the Committee's joint advocacy efforts with the NGO Coalition to End Violence and Harassment in the World of Work (composed of four CoNGO Committees - NGO Committee on FfD, NGO Committee on CSW (NY), NGO Committee on Migration, and NGO Committee on Social Development in partnership with the NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons). AThomas serves as the Convener of the Coalition. The Chair had appointed Cynthia Mathew as the second member of the Committee to join the coalition meetings. This coalition is a good example of the Committee's interest and intent to collaborate across aisles and outside silos to advocate common priorities.
- Organized five excellent panel discussions (4 side events and 1 parallel event), annual orientation on FfD, and annual virtual breakfast briefing and consultation with the UN Member States, and co-sponsored three events.
- The Chair represented the Committee at 15 events (speaker, moderator, invited guest, and contributor)
- Submitted a written response to the draft outline of the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report, through the joint efforts of the three working groups.
- Several members helped conduct the monthly education session during the monthly meeting. The direct contribution of members to the monthly meeting, wherein members took turns to summarize articles of significance to the Committee's work. This also offered the members an opportunity to speak about the work of her/his organization and to generate an interactive discussion among the attendees.
- The Chair was able to nominate members to make 15 interventions at FfD-related UN meetings.
- Provided direct input to the 2023 FfD outcome document.
- Developed a [resource card](#) to share with external stake holders.

Summary of the NGO Committee's activities from June 8, 2022- July 7, 2023

1. Executive Committee's work

- The monthly meetings of the EC were set for the third Monday of the month from 3:30-4:45 pm via Zoom but were adjusted on several occasions due to schedule conflicts for members. The meetings generally lasted a minimum of one hour and fifteen minutes. The Chair developed the agenda and maintained Google meeting folders for the EC meetings with editing privileges given to all EC members. The secretary drafted the minutes and action items of the meetings. The EC conducted its work in between meetings over email and WhatsApp Group.
- The Chair held one-on-one meetings with the newly appointed Secretary and member-at-large to discuss the scope of their respective roles and to respond to questions. The Chair also met one-on-one with other executive committee (EC) members as needed.
- **An annual survey** was disseminated to all members on July 8, 2022, with a deadline to respond by July 16.
- **The annual Retreat** of the EC was held in person on July 18 and virtually on July 19 via Zoom. The in-person meeting was held at the conference room of the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD). With the intent to develop a road map for the Committee's work in the upcoming year, the Executive Committee:
 - **Met with**
 - Working Group Co-leads - Social Protection (Daniel LeBlanc, Thomas Pallithanam), Financial and Digital Inclusion (Anita Thomas and Teresa Kotturan), Climate Finance (Quinn Wonderling and Fred Sullivan), and Barry Herman.
 - Mariangela Parra-Lancourt, Chief, Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch, United Nations Financing for Sustainable Development Office.
 - **Reviewed** Committee-wide survey feedback and assessed the activities of the previous year.
 - **Developed** Objectives and Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-based (SMART) Goals for the 2022-2023 cycle of the Committee.

2. Objectives and SMART Goals

The EC developed 15 objectives and 19 SMART Goals for the 2022-2023 cycle. While cognizant of the challenges to accomplish objectives and SMART Goals as envisaged, the EC developed these measures to ensure the Committee had a roadmap for its work and with the view to tracking its performance. While some goals had to be adjusted midway, the approach was helpful to plan ahead. The EC also invited working group leads to develop a strategy and SMART Goals for their work ahead.

NGO Committee on FfD's objectives for 2022-2023:

1	Ensure all activities of the Committee take into consideration the added challenges that the current and post-COVID scenario will have on the larger FfD agenda and specifically the Committee's priority areas.
2	Educate membership on the substantive aspects of the Financing for Development Agenda so that they are well equipped to participate in and report on FfD substantive sessions and hearings and monitor the implementation of AAAA
3	Promote the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda with focused priority statements. Build the capacity of members to develop and deliver these statements at FfD-specific substantive sessions and hearings.
4	Include the voices of the grassroots and marginalized communities in Committee-organized side events and parallel events and advocate to include those voices in FfD-specific substantive sessions and hearings
5	Prepare for the 2023 ECOSOC FfD Follow-up and the Development Cooperation Forum
6	Advocate for a 4 th FfD Conference ensuring adequate preparation for a substantive follow-up.
7	Organize parallel events/side events on FfD-related topics during CSoCD, CSW, FfD Forum, and the HLPF. Additional events may also be held, such as during IMF/WB meetings or at a conference where a working group sees synergy with the topic of the conference.
8	Collaborate with other NGO Committees
9	Invite NGOs outside the FfD realm to get engaged in the work of the Committee.
10	Ensure the Working Groups function in a robust, effective, and efficient manner.
11	Ensure a robust social media presence
12	Raise awareness and build action around the Committee's priority areas.
13	Participate effectively in the coordinating group of CSOFfD Group to advance the Committee's advocacy agenda.
14	Conduct Mission Visits.
15	Strengthen collaboration with the FfD office.

NGO Committee on FfD - SMART GOALS for the 2022-2023 membership cycle



	SMART Goals	Status	Notes
1	Organize new members' briefing (as needed) and an annual orientation webinar	Accomplished	
2	Hold a breakfast session in preparation for the 2023 FfD Forum.	Accomplished	
3	Have a Member State speaker at (at least) 3 meetings of the Committee.	Accomplished	
4	Organize at least four side events	Accomplished.	Organized 4 side events and 1 parallel event and co-sponsored three events. .
5	Hold at least 2 side events in co-sponsorship with Permanent Missions	Not Accomplished	.
6	Each working group is to hold at least 8 meetings during the year	Accomplished	
7	Each working group helps organize one side event	Accomplished	FDIWG and CFWG held side events during the 2023 FfD Forum. CFWG held a side event during the Ocean Conference. SPWG members contributed to an event held during IMF/WB annual meeting
8	Each Working Group to conduct an education session on their priority issue for the monthly meeting	Good progress	CFWG conducted an education session. While SPWG and FDWG did not conduct educational sessions on their priority topic, members of each group provided article reviews. 10 Committee members provided educational sessions which included summarizing articles, advocacy training, and an overview of their respective organizations' work on the ground
9	Develop and implement the advocacy strategy building on the advocacy statement	In Progress	Key recommendations from the advocacy statement were included in all the written input by the Committee such as interventions made on behalf of the Committee by members, presentations made by the Chair, and in the Mission visits.
10	Add six new members	3 out of 6 accomplished	Jubilee USA, Rural Development Center-Global Forum and New Detroit.
11	Develop an internal blog	Not Accomplished	While resources are uploaded to all monthly meetings, an internal blog on priority issues is still to be accomplished.

12	Develop and implement a social media strategy to ensure current website, active Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn account	In progress	The website is kept reasonably updated. Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn are reasonably active and used mainly to share updates on Committee organized events. Instagram is no longer active, and the Committee made a decision not to delete it but to keep it dormant for the time being.
13	Provide input to the Inter-Agency Task Force Report	Accomplished	
14	Make 6 or more oral interventions at UN meetings	Accomplished	Altogether 15 interventions made
15	Nominate a speaker (grassroots preferably) to an official UN meeting	In progress	FfD Forum's process for nomination for speakers continued to make it difficult to make nominations. The Committee made every attempt to include grassroots speakers at events organized during the FfD Forum and other major UN Conferences we participated in. The Chair, in consultation with the executive committee, nominated Dr. Sonia Jorge (Founder and Executive Director of Digital Inclusion Partnership) and Dr. Barry Herman to be lead discussants for roundtables at the Development Cooperation Forum.
16	Co-organize an event with the UN FSDO (as discussed with Mariangela Parra-Lancourt at the 2022 EC annual retreat)	In progress	As requested by Parr-Lancourt a proposal was submitted but did not come to fruition. A second suggestion for primary goods is under discussion.
17	Develop a strategy to build on the special project outreach	Not Accomplished	Discussions were held but no formal strategy was developed.
18	Develop a Mission visit strategy and conduct Mission visits at least in the 8 countries where the special project was conducted	2 out of 8 Mission visits were conducted.	The Mission visit strategy had to be revisited as the Committee member who agreed to take the lead on Mission visits did not deliver. So, a new team and new strategy on Missions to convene Mission visits were convened by the Chair Since the new team (AThomas, J Palafox, and Cynthia Mathew) was convened, 2 visits have been made (Canada and Bangladesh). A third visit is being explored.
19	Put in place a coordinated process to finalize and upload all Committee organized meeting reports to the website and videos to the YouTube channel	In progress	A key recommendation for the Committee is to create a sub-committee (under the purview of the executive committee) to draft reports and compile the videos of Committee organized events. A YouTube Channel was set up and some events were uploaded.

3. Working Groups

- The Co-leads for the working groups are:
 - Social Protection -Daniel Le Blanc, Thomas Pallithanam
 - Financial and Digital Inclusion - Anita Thomas and Teresa Kotturan (stepped down at the end of December 2022 due to the completion of her term with the Sisters of Charity Federation)
 - Climate Finance - Fred Sullivan and Christina Hu (Quinn Wonderling served till March 2023 and stepped down due to a change in responsibility at work)
- All three working groups conducted their meetings over the Committee's Zoom account.
- During the course of the year, working groups met and developed their respective inputs to the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report (FSDR) outline. Not all members of the Committee who signed up to be part of a Working Group attended meetings or participated actively in the work of the group, which exacerbated the workload for co-leads.

4. Social Media

- The Committee has a Twitter account, Instagram account, Facebook account, and LinkedIn account.
 - The Twitter account <https://twitter.com/NGOsonFfD/> is kept reasonably active. As of 7/5/2023, the specifics are: Following: 520 followers and follows 398 Twitter account holders. AThomas managed the account.
 - The Instagram handle is @tther1ch. The specifics are 89 followers and 327 Instagram accounts. Since its creation on 10/29/21, 17 posts were made. QWonderling managed the account till her resignation. The Committee made a decision at its April meeting to keep the account dormant for the time being.
 - Currently, there are two existing Facebook accounts under the name of the Committee, one is inactive. It might be good to combine the two accounts into one page. The functioning account has 43 likes and 46 followers. Some formatting updates need to be made to ensure the account functions effectively as a page. Updates are being posted periodically. Yvonne O'Neal managed the account.
 - The LinkedIn account has 60 followers. Christina Hu managed the account.

5. Addis Ababa Coordinating Group

AThomas participated in the ACG meetings on behalf of the NGO Committee.

6. Monthly Committee Meetings

The Committee took a summer recess for July and August and reconvened in September. Key updates from the monthly meetings are included below:

➤ June 8, 2022

- This was the annual meeting of the Committee.
- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

- AThomas presented the Annual Report and Daniel LeBlanc presented the Treasurer's report. The Annual Report received positive feedback.
- AThomas thanked Martha Gallahue, outgoing Secretary, for the diligence and elegance with which she managed secretarial responsibilities, Marvie Misolas, past Treasurer, Graciano Gaillard, past Member-at-large, Thomas Pallithanam, for his efforts with the special project and it Miseen Cara for the innovation award for the Special Project, FSDO Office contributors, the ILO office in New York, executive Committee members for their team efforts and Barry Herman and Teresa Kotturan for their counsel and support.
- MGallahue requested an agenda item to thank Anita for her leadership and shared her appreciation for "Anita as the "spinal cord" of our committee and for her connection from an overview combining knowledge, bureaucratic skill, application of passion, networking capacity, relationship building, and sensitivity to the intended outcome.". Albert Gyan and Leslie Wright shared similar sentiments. Barry Herman shared "AThomas walks the walk, talks the talk, does what is needed."
- Dr. Mariangela Parra Lancourt, Chief, Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch, Financing for Sustainable Development Office provided an overview of the FfD agenda for the upcoming year. She thanked the Committee "for its work by providing expert civil society input to FSDO." She also shared that FSDO is in uncharted territory generated by a convergence of health, climate, and financial crises (inflation e.g., tools not available) and that current instruments are not conducive to successful outcomes and may cause a further recession. "We need to bring back the spirit of discussion apart from the deadline; we are working on developing a menu of options."
- There were 24 attendees at the meeting.

➤ **September 16, 2022**

- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
- The annual report presented on June 8 was adopted with a few editorial corrections proposed by AThomas. She reiterated that the main challenges to accomplishing some of the SMART Goals came from members being overstretched as many follows multiple issues beyond FfD. But FfD is crucial for advancing the SDGs and so there needs to be a clear strategy on how to accomplish the work ahead.
- The executive committee provided an update on the key discussions at the annual executive committee retreat, recommendations from the annual membership survey, and proposed objectives and SMART Goals for the upcoming year.
- Solvej Krause, StAR Initiative, & Peter Chowla, Economic Affairs Office, UNFSDO presented on the topic "Combating Illicit Financial Flows and the Stolen Assets Recovery Initiative (StAR) – insights on efforts to combat Illicit Financial Flows and applying repatriated funds towards financing the SDGs."
- Zebulun Kreiter and Nelly Muriuki, both Economic Affairs Officers from UN FSDO provided a briefing on FfD and addressed the following items:

- Preparation for the 2nd Committee Session during the 77th session of the UNGA, to be convened in full in person and under the theme “Transforming Political Commitments into Actions for a Sustainable Recovery: Rebuilding a Sustainable Future for All” where 37 draft resolutions are to be considered by the GA.
 - A high-level event on FfD will be held back-to-back with the SDG Summit at the 78th session of the GA.
 - Rick O’Sullivan summarized an article titled “Impact of Digital Finance on Financial Inclusion and Stability” by Peterson K Ozili Borsa Istanbul Review, Volume 18, Issue 4, December 2018, Pages 329-340. The article can be accessed [here](#).
 - Barry Herman’s paper on [preparing for the fourth FfD Conference](#) was also reviewed and discussed.
 - There were twenty-five attendees at the meeting.
- **October 5, 2022**
- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - The Committee approved Chistina Hu, alternate Representative to the UN for STUF United, was approved for the second Member-at-large role left vacant since GGaillard’s departure.
 - Solvej Krause, StAR Initiative, & Peter Chowla, Economic Affairs Office, UN FSDO & Peter Chowla, Economic Affairs Office, UN FSDO presented on “Combating Illicit Financial Flows and the Stolen Assets Recovery Initiative (StAR) –insights on efforts to combat Illicit Financial Flows and applying repatriated funds towards financing the SDGs. The following resources were shared:
 - Report of the Secretary General-International coordination and cooperation to combat illicit financial flows can be accessed at document [A/77/304](#)
 - Resources on STaR Initiative can be accessed [here](#)
 - More resources on the STaR initiative can be accessed [here](#)
 - Nelly Rita Muiiriuki, Economic Affairs Officer, FSDO provided a briefing on FfD and on upcoming key meetings - 2nd Committee meetings (and NGO/CSO participation, public dialogue on Financing for Sustainable Development Report, GISD Alliance meetings and the 4th SDG Investment Fair.
 - There were thirty attendees at the meeting.
- **November 2, 2022**
- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - The meeting was held in a hybrid format, via Zoom and in-person at the Bahai International Community Office’s conference room.
 - Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier, Chief UNCTAD New York, Office of the Secretary-General provided a briefing. A summary of the discussion can be accessed [here](#)

- Zebulun Krieter & Nelly Rita Muriuki, FSDO provided a briefing on 2nd Committee negotiations including on the proposal for a 4th FfD conference, [7th edition of the SDG Investment Fair](#)
- Members extended their appreciation to TKotturan:
 - AThomas draped her with a “ponnada” (gold colored shawl – Indian tradition for honoring someone) in recognition of her contributions over 8 years to the Committee.
 - DLBlanc shared “TeresaK was involved in the committee since the beginning of her time at the UN. Worked on the Exec committee and was organizing education for the members. From the very practical to leading, TeresaK has been very involved. A deep thanks.”
 - Winifred Doherty “Brought a great ability to link the theory with what happens on the ground. Spoken truth with power and to power. A figure of commitment and dedication. Kept right at it and beyond.”
 - Qwonderling, TPallithanam, and GCarter also shared appreciation.
- **December 8, 2022**
 - The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - Zebulun Krieter, and Nelly Muriuki Economic Affairs Officers at UN FSDO, provided a briefing on:
 - The outcomes of the Second Committee and shared that this session was different from the previous one, as for the first time since 2019 many resolutions were completely negotiated from the start.
 - SDG Investment Fair - [Day 1 recording](#), and [Day 2 recording](#)
 - Cecilie Kern, Chair, NGO Committee on Migration, and Elsa Barron, Research Fellow at the Center for Climate and Security (and past intern of the Committee) provided a briefing on COP 27
 - Resources - The [link](#) for people to send to their representatives to advocate to keep the funding in the US budget.
 - The UAE, which will be the host of COP23, is looking at how to integrate conflict sensitivity with climate finance. [Link](#) to a resource that outlines how climate finance is distributed globally and how conflict-affected places are not receiving funding.
 - There were 23 attendees at the meeting.
- **January 17, 2023**
 - The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - AThomas submitted the Committee’s input to the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Report outline, dated October 20, to Shari Spiegel. She shared her appreciation for those who contributed. Contributions were made by AThomas, BHerman, QWonderling, RO’Sullivan TKotturan TPallithanam, Winifred Doherty, and Fred Sullivan.
 - A planning group was convened for the annual breakfast meeting.
 - Dr. Mariangela Para Lancourt, UNFSDO provided a briefing on the preparation for the 2023 FfD Forum

- YO'Neal reviewed the article "The World Bank needs to get serious about reform" and facilitated a discussion. The article can be accessed [here](#)
 - RO'Sullivan O' Sullivan reviewed the article "How Economies and Financial Systems Can Better Gauge Climate Risks." The article can be accessed [here](#).
 - 18 members attended the meeting.
- **February 2, 2023**
- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - The CSO FfD mechanism drafted a letter to the ECOSOC President that was circulated to the Addis Ababa coordinating group. AThomas circulated this letter to the EC and a few members of the Committee for input. Barry Herman (BHerman) and A Thomas provided input.
 - Anne Schankin provided an education session on Impact Investing. PowerPoint slides from Anne's presentation can be accessed at this [link](#).
 - There was a discussion on conducting Mission visits. Members shortlisted 14 Member States under Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 categories.
- **March 1, 2023**
- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
 - The climate finance working group organized an education session on "Connecting the dot with Climate Finance". Fred Sullivan conducted the session.
 - AThomas presented various formats of a Resource Card for the Committee to be shared at UN meetings.
 - Dr. Mariangela Para Lancourt, Chief, Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch, UN DESA FSDO provided a briefing on the lead up to the FfDForum.
 - Olivier Munayaneza from the FfD Tax Office provided an overview of the UN Tax Committee and a briefing on the 26th Session of the UN Tax Committee and ECOSOC Meeting on International Tax Matters focusing on transfer pricing, taxation and SDG, taxation of extractive industries, environmental taxation and globalized taxation in a globalized economy, update of UN tax model, improvement of tax administration, keeping pace with new development, digitalization, global rules related to the digital economy.
 - The attendees held a moment of silence in remembrance of Margaret O'Dwyer, a longtime member of the Committee as representative of Daughters of Charity and Patrick Sciaratta who was the Chair of the DPI Executive Committee
 - There were eighteen attendees at the meeting.
- **April 5, 2023**
- Agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#)
 - Dr. Mariangela Para Lancourt, Chief, Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch, UN DESA FSDO provided a briefing on the lead up to the FfDForum and the SDG Investment Fair.
 - Rebecca Irby reviewed the IMF Blog "[How Pandemic Accelerated Digital Transformation in Advanced Economies](#)" and _ McKinsey & Company's

"Sustainable and Inclusive Growth: Briefing note #39". Rebecca's PowerPoint Presentation can be accessed [here](#).

- Members reviewed the Advocacy priorities/resource card and strategized on side events for the FfD Forum and conducting Mission visits.
- There were 34 attendees at the meeting.

➤ **May 3, 2023**

- The agenda for the meeting can be accessed [here](#).
- The annual meeting was postponed to July 7 due to the unavailability of executive committee members for a June meeting.
- BHerman provided a report of the IMF/WB side event that the Committee had co-sponsored.
- JPalafox, Marides Santos, TPallithanam, Anjoulie Woodhead, and AThomas provided a report on IMF/WB meeting attendance.
- A nomination committee (for electing a new executive committee), comprising ABellorini, WDoherty and TPallithanam, was appointed.
- Nelly Muriuki & Zebulun Kreiter, UNFSDO, DESA FSDO provided briefing on the outcome from the FfD Forum and 8th SDG Investment Fair.
- There were 35 attendees at the meeting.

7. Written inputs to UN processes

➤ **Contribution to the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report**

- The Committee submitted a stakeholder contribution to the preparation of the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report (Also referred to as the Inter-Agency Taskforce Report). This contribution was prepared in response to the draft outline of the IATF Report dated October 20, 2023.
- This submission was crafted with extensive consultation within the three working groups of the Committee.
- The submission has been posted to the UN Financing for Sustainable Development Report website and can be accessed [here](#).

➤ **Interventions made by members during major UN Forums and meetings.**

- **Development Cooperation Forum:** Six members of the Committee – AThomas, BHerman, FSullivan, Chu, JPalafox and Paul Divakar- made interventions at the Forum. The interventions can be accessed [here](#).
- **2023 ECOSOC FfD Forum Follow-Up:** Four members of the Committee- AThomas, TPallithanam, Alioune SMzeirigue and Rebecca Irby made interventions at the Forum. The interventions can be accessed [here](#).
- **Town hall meeting with stakeholders on expectations for the High-level Dialogue (April 26, 2023):** Three members of the Committee – AThomas, RIrby and Cynthia Mathew- made interventions at the Town hall. The interventions can be accessed [here](#).
- **Informal Consultations with Member States on the High-Level Dialogue on FfD (May 22, 2023):** Two members of the Committee – YO'Neal and WDoherty- made interventions. The interventions can be accessed [here](#).

8. Events (Side events, parallel events & consultations)

- a) **Side event during the Ocean conference:** On June 29 from 1:00-2:30 pm EDT, the Committee held a side event titled “Can Harnessing Blue and Thematic Bonds Build a Sustainable, Regenerative Ocean Economy?” FSullivan, AThomas, QWonderling, Gail Carter, Rebecca Irby and Grove Harris helped organize the event. The concept note, flyer and summary notes can be accessed [here](#). AThomas moderated the session. The speakers were:
- H.E. Mr. Ian Dereck Joseph Madeleine, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Seychelles to the UN
 - Mr. Stephen M. Liberatore, Head of ESG/Impact – Global Fixed Income for Nuveen, a private investor in the Seychelle blue bond
 - Mr. Greg Fisk, Global Lead – Climate Risk and Resilience, Senior Principal Consultant, BMT
 - Mr. Nicola Mercusa, Sustainable Finance Hub, Debt and Bond issuance expert advisor, UNDP
 - H.E. Leon Kaulahao Siu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands
 - Dr. Megan Davis, Ph.D., Research Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute/ Queen Conch Lab
 - Ms. Melissa Garvey, Global Director, Ocean Protection, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- b) **On July 14**, during the 2022 High Level Political Forum, the Committee co-sponsored a side event titled “Creating an Enabling, Gender-responsive Work Environment for the future: the Role of ILO Convention 190 in addressing violence and harassment in the world of work”, along with the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, NGO Committee on Migration, NGO Committee on Social Development and NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Person, all members of the NGO Coalition to End Violence and Harassment in the World of Work (ILO-C-190) The concept note and flyer can be accessed [here](#).
- c) The Committee’s 2022 FfD Forum side event titled “Exploring Digital Finance's Real Promises and Challenges for Development” was submitted and accepted as a virtual parallel event during the [2022 Financial Inclusion Week](#) , organized by the Center for Financial Inclusion from **October 17 -October 22**. The video was posted to the Committee’s YouTube account, at the request of the organizers and can be accessed at: https://youtu.be/U5myPpY3r_o
- d) **Orientation on Financing for Development:** The executive committee organized an orientation session on Financing for Development titled "Revisiting Financing for Development" which was held on **November 9, 2022**, from 8:30 am- 10 am pm. The flyer and concept note can be [accessed here](#). The session was moderated by Dr. Barry Herman. AThomas provided the opening remarks and Yvonne O’ Neal provided the closing remarks. Speakers were:
- Mr. Ivaylo Gatev, Second Committee Expert, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations
 - Ms. Shari Spiegel, Chief, Policy Analysis and Development Branch, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, United Nations

- Ms. Beate Andres, Director of ILO's New York Office
- Mr. Roberto Bissio, Executive Director, Instituto del Tercer Mundo
- Mr. Aldo Caliarì, Senior Director of Policy and Campaigns, Jubilee USA Network

e) Annual virtual breakfast consultation on the roadmap to the FfD Forum:

On February 17, 2022, via Zoom from 8:30 am – 10:00 am, the Committee organized a virtual breakfast briefing and interactive discussion titled “Global Negotiations in a Fractured World, A virtual working breakfast Zoom discussion in preparation for the 2023 FfD Forum”. The event was by invitation and had 87 attendees. The concept note, program, the list of confirmed Member State attendees and additional details can be accessed [here](#).

f) On April 12, 2:30 -4:00 pm EDT, the Committee co-sponsored a side event titled “IMF's strategy on social spending facing austerity: new direction or band aid?” held during the IMF/WB Spring Meetings. Bherman facilitated the opportunity. The flyer and additional information on the session can be accessed [here](#).

g) Side event 1 during the 2023 Financing for Development Forum:

On April 18, 1:30-2:30 pm EST, in a hybrid format (via Zoom and in-person at the Bahai International Committee conference room), the Committee organized a side event titled “Connecting the Dots on Climate Finance”. Chu, RIrby, FSullivan, Marides Santos, Jimmy Walters, YO'Neal, Despoina Milaki and Gail Carter helped with organizing the event and their respective organizations were co-sponsors of the event. The concept note, flyer and additional information can be accessed [here](#). RIrby Moderated the session, AThomas provided opening remarks and Chu provided closing remarks.

The speakers were:

- Dr. Shaka Bangura - Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Sierra Leone
- Mr. Gibran DuBois Washington - Eco Works
- Mr. Cam Kue-Yuh Chao – International Climate Development Institute
- Ms. Julie Swartz - Green Sprouts Eco Club
- Dr. Amit Kapoor, Indian Council on Competitiveness

h) Side event 2 during the 2023 Financing for Development Forum:

On April 19, from 8am-9:30 am, via Zoom, the Committee held a side event titled “Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC): Financial Inclusion's Silver Bullet or Crypto-nite?” AThomas, RO'Sullivan, JWalters, JPalafox, Anne Schankin and DMilaki and MSantos helped with organizing the event and their respective organizations co-sponsored the event. TKotturan live tweeted from the event. The concept note, flyer and additional information can be accessed [here](#). AThomas moderated the session.

The speakers were:

- Mr. Tao Sun, Senior Economist, International Monetary Fund
- Ms. Ananya Kumar, Associate Director of Digital Currencies, Geo Economic Center, Atlantic Council

- Mr. Vijay Mauree, Focal Point, Digital Financial Services at the Standardization Bureau, International Telecommunication Union, United Nations
- Dr. Lana Swartz, Assistant Professor of Media Studies, University of Virginia
- Mr. Brian Laverdure, Vice President, Payments and Technology Policy, Independent Community Bankers of America
- Ms. Stephanie LeLaurin, Blockchain for Impact Specialist, Asociación Cultural para el Desarrollo Integral (ACDI), Argentina
- Ms. Adriana Marina, Founder, Hechopor Nosotros & animana, Argentina
- i) **On May 5**, the Committee co-sponsored the Catalyst 2030 Catalyzing Change Week virtual panel discussion titled “Igniting regenerative models by enhancing creative economies through collaboration in the global south.”, organized by Hecho por Nosotros and animaná and additional organizations, The speech delivered by the Chair and details of the event can be accessed [here](#).
- j) **On June 5**, the Committee co-sponsored CoNGO’s Second Global Thematic Webinar: "Pursuing Global Justice and Solidarity: Realizing Agenda 2030, Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Action. The speech delivered by the Chair and details of the event can be accessed [here](#).

9. **Representation by Chair**

The Chair represented the Committee, as a speaker/invited guest, at the following 15 sessions:

- a) Met twice with EU Parliament delegates.
 - The first meeting was held on June 28, 2022, at the EU Delegation office in New York: AThomas had the option to invite a few people to the session. Three people from the Committee (TKotturan, Houry Guedelekian (Chair, NGO CSW), and Arelys Bellorini) accompanied her.
 - A Second meeting held on July 13, 2022, at the EU Delegation office in New York with additional EU Parliament delegates and 9 NGO representatives.
- b) Moderator at the side event titled “Creating an Enabling, Gender-responsive Work Environment for the future: the Role of ILO Convention 190 in addressing violence and harassment in the world of work” during the 2022 during the 2022 High-Level Political Forum. The event was held on July 14. The concept note and flyer can be accessed [here](#).
- c) Speaker at a [panel discussion](#) organized by the Business Council for International Understanding in partnership Pearson Education and LinkedIn on the topic “Reskilling and Rethinking the Transition to the Green Economy”, held on September 21 from 9 am -11 am held at the St. Regis Hotel on the margins of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

- d) Moderator at “Closing the Gap between needs and stagnating investment to end violence against children: Release of the [Counting Pennies Three Report](#)” organized on the margins of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly by World Vision, Plan International, UNICEF and additional organizations.
- e) Attended a reception at the invitation of the Co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Decent Work, the Permanent Missions of Belgium and Morocco, to a reception in honor of the ILO Director-General, Mr. Guy Ryder, on 21 September 2022 at 11:45 am at the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the UN.
- f) Made an intervention at a High-Level Event on the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions Global Accelerator for Social Protection and Jobs at the invitation of ILO New York office.
- g) Speaker at Day 4 event of the Frederick Ebert Stiftung’s (FES) Fall academy – “Time to talk Development Finance” along with Robert Powell, IMF, and Shari Spiegel, FSDO. The event was held on November 10, 12:00-2:00 pm at the FES office. The Fall Academy cohort comprised fifteen young leaders representing twelve countries across four continents. Students challenged IMF on their “Austerity Measures Policy.” IMF indicated that they do not impose this, but it is the countries that suggest the policy as part of their budget constraints.
- h) Made an intervention at the 2023 Commemorative Event on the World Day of Social Justice on February 20 at 1:15 pm, at the invitation of Beate Andrees, Director of ILO office for the United Nations. The statement can be accessed [here](#). The recording of the session can be accessed [here](#).
- i) Speaker at United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) side event titled “Empowering Indigenous and Creative Economies - Advancing Sustainable Development through Technology and South-South Collaboration,” held on April 20, 2023, via Zoom, at the invitation of Adriana Marian, Founder of Hecho por Nosotros and animaná. The agenda for the event can be accessed [here](#).
- j) Speaker at Catalyst 2030 Catalyzing Change Week panel discussion titled “Igniting regenerative models by enhancing creative economies through collaboration in the global south.”, at the invitation of Adriana Marian, Founder of Hecho por Nosotros and animaná. The event was held on May 5 by Zoom. The Committee was listed as a co-sponsor of this event. The details of the event and speech given can be accessed [here](#).
- k) Participated at a Roundtable Discussion with Germany’s Minister for Economic Development and Cooperation, H.E. Svenja Schulze on Thursday, May 18, 3-4 PM EDT, at the invitation of Frederick Ebert Stiftung’s (FES).
- l) Made an intervention at the Thematic Deep-Dive - Digital Trust and security held on May 25 from 3-6 pm in Conference Room 1. The consultation was held as part of the

Intergovernmental process led by the co-facilitator of the Global Digital Compact, Rwanda, and Sweden. The intervention can be accessed [here](#)

- m) Speaker at CoNGO's Second Global Thematic Webinar: "Pursuing Global Justice and Solidarity: Realizing Agenda 2030, Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Action", at the invitation of Liberato Bautista President of CoNGO. The event was held on June 5 at 9:30 am. The speech delivered and details of the event can be accessed [here](#).
- n) Speaker at Global Policy Advocacy webinar commemorating the fourth anniversary of ILO C190 on "Building a world of work free from gender-based violence and sexual harassment" held on June 21 10 am -11:30 am at the EU Delegation Mission. The event was co-sponsored by UN Women, ILO, EU Delegation to the UN and Generation Equality The speech delivered and details of the event can be accessed [here](#).

10. Appreciation and Thanks.

The Executive Committee extends its deep appreciation and thanks to its external partners, Committee members who will not be rejoining us next year and to those who have made valuable contributions to advance the work of the Committee:

- a) Mariangela Para-Lancourt for her valuable briefings, interest in engaging with the Committee, and support of the Committee's work by facilitating opportunities to engage on FfD matters.
- b) Zebulun Kreiter and Nelly Rita Muiriki for their insightful briefings. Special appreciation to NRMuiriki for facilitating the Committee's side events during the FfD Forum and monthly briefings. We wish her all the best in the next chapter in her career.
- c) Greg Barret and Anjali Rangaswami for facilitating the Committee's interventions at the Development Cooperation Forum
- d) Teresa Kotturan for her long-term and extensive contribution to advance the Committee's work with contributions to the feedback to the IATF Report outline, serving on the planning group for the Committee's annual breakfast meeting, securing Member State participation, organizing side events, co-leading the Financial and Digital Inclusion Working Group and live tweeting at the Committee's side events and consultations and delivering statements on behalf of the Committee. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.
- e) Father Thomas Pallithanam for bringing his expertise in human-rights-based activism to the Committee's work, serving on the executive committee as Vice-Chair from 2020 to 2022, serving as co-lead for the Social Protection Working Group, facilitating the special project in 2021 and his effort for securing the Misesan Cara innovation award for the Special Project, contribution to the Committee's feedback to the IATF Report outline, delivering interventions on behalf of the Committee and securing grassroots speakers for the Committee's side events. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.
- f) Quinn Wonderling for her contributions to the executive committee as a member-at-large and as co-lead of the climate finance working group.

- g) Graciano Gaillard for his support with GFDD conference room for the executive committee's annual retreat.
- h) The eight members who responded to the annual survey - Marvie Misolas, Christina Hu, AThomas, RO'Sullivan, TKotturan, Marinette Kellenberger and MGallahue.
- i) Planning group members of the annual breakfast – Bherman, AThomas, YO'Neal, WDoherty, ASchankin, JWalters, ABellorini, and JPalafox
- j) Contributors to the Committee's input to the FSDR outline- AThomas, BHerman, QWonderling, RO'Sullivan TKotturan, TPallithanam, Winifred Doherty, and Fred Sullivan
- k) Planning group of the annual orientation session – YO'Neal, AThomas, Daniel LeBlanc, JPalafox, and QWonderling for managing the various aspects of the event organization and management.
- l) Bahai International Community for their generous support with the provision of a conference room for four of the Committee's monthly meetings and for one side event during the FfD Forum.

Respectfully submitted by Anita Thomas, Chair, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on Financing for Development

Timeline of submissions:

The Annual Report, including the treasurer's report, was presented at the Committee's Annual Meeting held on July 7, 2023

Addendum

Links to annual reports from the previous years

- The annual report of the Committee for the period – June 3, 2021 – June 8, 2022, can be [accessed here](#)
- The annual report of the Committee for the period – June 3, 2020 – June 15, 2021, can be [accessed here](#)
- The annual report of the Committee for the period – June 5, 2019 – June 3, 2020 can be [accessed here](#).
- The annual report of the Committee for the period June 6, 2018 – May 31, 2019 can be [accessed here](#).
- All prior reports can be accessed on the Committee's website at [this link](#)

Membership of the Committee

- The Committee's membership list can be accessed on its website at [this link](#).