



**2020 International Mayors Forum Preparatory Webinar #5:
“Impact Investment in Cities – Innovations to finance the SDGs locally”**

**Date: 22 October 2020
4:00pm (Republic of Korea), 12:30pm (Delhi), 9:00am (Geneva)**

Concept Note

*“We need to turn the recovery into a real opportunity to do things right for the future”
– United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres*

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/300CU2i>

Background

Impact investments are investment funds that can raise capital for national to local governments to achieve positive social, economic or environmental impacts strengthening government services and outcomes.¹ Impact investments can include social impact bonds or bonds to finance climate or ocean related investments. Sometimes also called orange, green or blue bonds, these are increasingly active across the globe today achieving impact to advance the Sustainable Development Goals.

Local governments are currently facing multiple challenges in financing the 2030 Agenda amid the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. National to local actors require innovative approaches to close the finance gap and accelerate a resilient recovery, ensuring that the coming decade shifts from recovery to progress on the SDGs. The Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) estimates the current size of the global impact investing market to be \$502 billion.² This webinar will examine how this exciting new field of capital can raise funds to close financing gaps for SDG implementation locally.

Often known as place-based impact investments, municipal governments can create impact investment initiatives to improve results and outcomes in local education, public services and green infrastructure in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries across the globe from Fiji to India to Mexico are launching impact bonds to close essential gaps in public services and achieve the 2030 Agenda.³ National governments can enable local governments to strengthen adoption of impact finance as they aim for a resilient recovery from COVID-19 and for accelerating progress on the 2030 Agenda.

¹ <https://golab.bsg.ox.ac.uk/the-basics/impact-bonds/>

² <https://thegiin.org/impact-investing/need-to-know/#how-big-is-the-impact-investing-market>

³ <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/SIBs-State-Play-Lessons-Final.pdf>



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Objective and Content

This webinar is part of a series of online webinars exploring specific sessions under the 2020 International Mayors Forum. The 2020 International Mayors Forum examines the social, economic and environmental impacts of the current crisis on cities and local governments as well as potential solutions for sustainable response and recovery.

This webinar aims to provide local governments and local actors with knowledge in support of a swift recovery from COVID-19 and advancing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development. This webinar will profile research, trends, and cases and critical insights on how local governments are or could be more effective in leveraging impact investment for achieving the SDGs locally.

Tentative Speakers

Moderator: Mr. Jean D'Aragnon, Officer-in-Charge, UNOSD

- Ms. Caroline Lombardo, Chief, International Tax and Development Cooperation Branch, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Opening remarks - video)
- Ms. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG-ASPAC)
- Hon. Mr. Jai Prakash, Mayor, North Delhi Municipal Corporation
- Mr. Sudhir Bhatnagar, CEO, South Asia Region Department (SARD)
- Prof. Raymond Saner, Titular Professor, University of Basel

Organizer

The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

AGENDA (The webinar will last for 1 hour):

- Opening (3 minutes)
- Presentations (40-45 minutes)
- Question & Answer and Discussion (10 minutes)
- Final reflections from the speakers (2 minutes)
- Closing wrap-up (1 minutes)

Target Audience

This webinar aims to engage sub-national government representatives and national institutions, as well as civil society, private sector and local leaders across UN Member States (time zones: Africa, Europe, and Asia-Pacific).

The webinar also seeks to ensure the participation and contribution of non-government experts working in the areas of national to local SDG implementation, financial planning, asset management, climate finance, as well as all areas of territorial development. Experts working on all related areas across sustainable cities and public services are also welcomed to join.

International Mayors Forum 2020 Preparatory Webinar Series

The webinar is also open to academia, youth, and other interested stakeholders to ensure an inclusive and integrated discussion on accelerated local solutions for accelerating the 2030 Agenda in the decade of action.

Contact Information

For any questions or comments please contact Mr. Jean D'Aragon, Officer-in-Charge, UNOSD at daragon@un.org and Ms. Sara Castro-Hallgren, Programme Management Expert, UNOSD at sara.castrohallgren@un.org

The webinar will be conducted in English.