

AGENDA

15th Investment Policy Forum Fostering coherence for sustainable investment governance: Strengthening the institutional dimension

25 – 27 October 2023

Panama City, Republic of Panama

All times local (Central Daylight Time – GMT -5)

Day One: Wednesday, 25 October

8:00	Registration
9:00	Opening ceremony and welcoming remarks <p>Panama's Minister of Economy and Finance, Carlos Gonzalez Miranda, will officially open the 15th edition of the Investment Policy Forum. He will welcome the participants from developing countries across the world and highlight Panama's efforts to reform its investment governance.</p>
10:00	Forum at 15: Scene setter <p>The 'Scene Setter' conversation for the 2023 Investment Policy Forum will span progress made up to this milestone 15th edition, the current state of play on international investment governance, and key challenges for the IPF community to tackle in the next decade and a half.</p>
11:00	Structured icebreaker and networking session <p>This session will be an opportunity for participants to reconnect, take stock of developments in their country or institution since the 14th Forum last year in Abuja, Nigeria.</p>

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12:00	Lunch
14:30	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>15 years of change: the evolution of international investment law, policymaking, and arbitral practice</p> <p>This panel will discuss the major developments, changes, and events that have taken place in international investment policymaking, reform, and dispute settlement over the past 15 years of the IPF. Participants will identify lessons learned from this evolution and key next steps that will contribute to a more coherent approach in the future.</p>
16:00	Afternoon break
16:30	<p>World Café:</p> <p>Creating a shared vision of the international investment system that works for people and planet</p> <p>Participants will share their vision in another 15 years, and what changes they want to see. They will also explore how the IPF can support the realization of those changes, taking into account the <i>Agenda for Coherence</i> from the 14th edition.</p>
17:30	End of day one

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Day Two: Thursday, 26 October

9:00	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Unpacking the IPF supra-theme: ‘Fostering coherence for sustainable investment governance’</p> <p>This panel will introduce the supra-theme, <i>fostering coherence</i>, and discuss how greater institutional coherence – the sub-theme for 2023 – contributes to the 15-year vision, as defined on day 1. It will also prompt the discussion on how the IPF itself can deliver on the 15-year vision of coherence.</p>
10:30	<p>Morning break</p>
11:00	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Practical tools to achieve greater institutional coherence on substantive aspects</p> <p>Drawing from past experience, this panel will explore the interaction between different national, regional and international institutions and processes dealing with substantive aspects of investment governance. Participants will explore best options for achieving greater coherence between investment protection, promotion, and facilitation.</p>
12:30	<p>Lunch</p>
13:30	<p>Breakout session:</p> <p>Reflecting on practical and political approaches to enhancing institutional coherence</p> <p>In this session, participants will reflect on existing approaches toward greater institutional coherence, including identifying approaches that have been successful or failures and exploring possible explanations.</p>
15:00	<p>Afternoon break</p>

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15:30	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Practical tools to achieve greater institutional coherence on procedural aspects</p> <p>This panel will focus on achieving institutional coherence in procedural aspects of investment governance, understood as related to investment disputes. Participants will consider the current forms of institutional engagement with dispute prevention, management, and resolution, and discuss related challenges and opportunities with a view to identifying ready-to-use tools to enhance institutional coherence.</p>
17:00	<p>End of day two</p>

Day Three: Friday, 27 October

9:00	<p>Institutional and vertical coherence in a time of change:</p> <p>Revisiting Tax incentives as an investment promotion tool</p> <p>Based on an introduction of the upcoming IISD Q&A briefing note “Revisiting Tax incentives as an Investment Promotion Tool”, panellists and participants will share the successes and challenges that their governments have faced towards revisiting their policies on the use of tax incentives.</p>
10:30	<p>Morning break</p>
11:00	<p>A new tool to enhance institutional and vertical coherence in investment governance:</p> <p>Launching IISD's Model Contract Clauses for Responsible Investment in Agriculture</p> <p>At this session, IISD will launch its new “Model Contract Clauses for Responsible Investment in Agriculture”. The panellists and participants will discuss how the Model Clauses can be used by governments, regional economic communities, and other stakeholders to help make responsible and coherent investor-state agreements a reality.</p>

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12:30	Lunch
14:00	Breakout session & structured plenary reporting: Take-home actions on institutional coherence Participants will discuss and review a practical tool to improve institutional coherence in their individual country context, upon their return home from the IPF. Participants will also decide how they will report back on progress made on implementation at the next edition of the IPF.
16:00	Closing ceremony
16:30	End of day three