

# Move Humanity Conference

Financing the SDGs: Wealth Taxes, Development Aid and Ending Extreme Poverty

Copenhagen, March 27-28th, 2019

## ■ Moderators:

*Vanessa Fajans-Turner, Managing Director, SDG Financing, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network*

*Lars Koch, Policy Director, ActionAid Denmark*

## ■ DAY 1: Wednesday March 27

8:00 – 9:00

### Registration, Networking and Coffee

9:00 – 9:25

### Welcome

- Peter Hummelgaard, Member of the Danish Parliament for the Social Democratic Party & Member of the Danish Parliament's All-party Coalition on the SDGs
- Djaffar Shalchi, Co-founder, [Human Act Foundation](#) and [Move Humanity](#) Initiative.
- His Eminence John Cardinal Olorunfemi Onaiyekan, Archbishop of Abuja, Nigeria
- Her Excellency Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the 73rd United Nations General Assembly (Video Message)

9:25 – 9:45

### SDG Financing: A Shared Responsibility

- Mogens Lykketoft, Member of the Danish Parliament and President of the 70th United Nations General Assembly

9:45 – 10:30

### Leave No One Behind: Financing the SDGs in Low-Income Developing Countries

- Jeffrey Sachs, Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Economics Professor, Columbia University

Presenting the results from the 2018 Move Humanity report

[Closing the SDG Budget Gap](#) and giving an overview of strategies and challenges in financing the SDGs.

10:30 – 10:45

### Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:15

## Panel 1 – Rising Wealth & Inequality: Causes & Effects

**Objective:** A discussion of the inequality crisis, its implications for the progress of the SDGs, and the role of that fiscal policy, particularly taxation.

- Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director, Oxfam International (Video Message)
  - Presenting the annual [Oxfam report](#) on rising inequality, how it undermines development in both rich and poor countries, and the role of taxing wealth.
- Lucas Chancel, Co-Director, World Inequality Lab and a Senior Research Fellow at IDDRI-Sciences Po.
  - Building on the [Annual Inequality Report](#) trends and tendencies in inequality; particularly the wealth inequality.
- Adriano Campolina, Secretary General, ActionAid International
  - Discussing the need to tackle inequality and create decent work for women and youth to meet the SDGs.

12:15 – 13:00

## Lunch

13:00 – 13:15

## Intermezzo

### Implementing the SDGs: Our Shared Responsibility and the modern dilemmas on Profit, People, Purpose and Planet

- Flemming Besenbacher, Chairman of Carlsberg Foundation and the Founder of [UNLEASH](#), a Global Innovation Lab for the SDGs.

13:15 – 14:45

## Panel 2 – Leveling the Playing Field: Costing and Financing Core SDGs

**Objective:** A discussion on ongoing work to assess the country-level financial needs and costs of achieving the SDGs in core development sectors and the role of fiscal policy in increasing domestic revenues to achieve the SDGs.

- Vitor Gaspar, Director of the Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF
  - Presenting the results of the IMF's 2019 report [Fiscal Policy and Development: Human, Social, and Physical Investments for the SDGs](#).
- Jeffrey Sachs, Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Economics Professor, Columbia University
  - Discussing UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network's SDG-Costing Group's work and the role of public finance in filling the financing gap of the SDGs.

- Valerie Schmitt, Deputy-Director, Social Protection Department, ILO
  - Discussing optimal social protection costs and the role of public finance.
- Haje Schutte, Head, Development Finance Division, OECD-DAC
  - Discussing flows of development finance, key recipient sectors, and funding gaps.

**14:45 – 15:00**

### Coffee Break

**15:00 – 16:30**

### Panel 3 – Strategies to Finance the SDGs & Reduce Inequality Part I: Taxation in High-Income Countries

Objective: Opportunities for mobilizing revenues in high-income countries to reduce both inequality and achieve the SDGs.

- Sarah Perret, Tax Economist, OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration
  - Presenting the OECD’s 2018 research on taxation of wealth.
- Peter Hummelgaard, Member of the Danish Parliament for the Social Democratic Party
  - The Danish Example: Presentation and discussion of the Social Democratic Party’s plan: “Economic Justice”, aiming at installing taxation on income from wealth.
- Wanda Wyporska, Executive Director, Equality Trust
  - Discussing the case for taxation of wealth in the United Kingdom, reviewing excessive remuneration to tackle inequality in the United Kingdom’s domestic and foreign policy.
- Manuel Butch Montes, Senior Advisor on Finance and Development, South Center
  - Potential effects on developing countries of taxing wealth in the United States and other rich countries.
- James Henry, Senior Fellow, Columbia University and Tax Justice Network
  - Discussing the role of tax havens and of the recent progress towards tackling tax avoidance.

**16:30 – 17:00**

### Conclusions and Reflections

## ■ DAY 2: Thursday March 28

8:00 – 9:00

### Networking and Coffee

9:00 – 9:15

### Welcome Remarks

- Djaffar Shalchi, Co-founder, [Human Act Foundation](#) and the [Move Humanity Initiative](#).

9:15 – 10:45

### Panel 4 – Strategies to Finance the SDGs & Reduce Inequality Part II: Taxation in Low and Middle-income Countries

Objective: Discussing approaches, opportunities, and limitations to mobilizing revenues in low-income and middle-income countries to both reduce inequality and mobilize funding to achieve the SDGs.

- **Hannah Brejnholt Tranberg, Senior Tax Policy & Programme Manager, ActionAid Denmark**
  - Discussing progressive taxation to fight inequality and financing the SDGs in developing countries.  
Presenting [ActionAid Progressive Taxation Briefs](#).
- **Thulani Shongwe, Head of Domestic Resource Mobilisation, Africa Tax Adm. Forum**
  - Discussing opportunities and challenges to the taxation of wealth in Africa, and the experiences from the African context on taxation.
- **Comments by: Njoki Njehu, African Coordinator, Fight Inequality Alliance**
  - Fighting Inequality in Africa through progressive taxes. Opportunities and challenges from activists and civil society perspective

10:45 – 11:00

### Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30

### Panel 5 – Increasing and Improving Official Development Assistance and Private Development Assistance

Objective: Exploring additional financing resources and strategies to augment domestically mobilized revenues.

- **Ewelina Oblacewicz, Co-ordinator, OECD Global Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD), OECD Development Centre**
  - Overview of the [OECD's private philanthropy for development](#) report and analysis of current philanthropic flows in developing countries.

12:30 – 13:15  
13:15 – 14:30

- Klaus Leisinger, President, Foundation Global Values Alliance
  - Need-oriented corporate philanthropy and with an emphasis on the necessity for creative, unorthodox, solution-focused stake holder coalitions.
- Trine Rask Thygesen, Development Director, Danida
  - Mobilizing funding for meeting the SDGs in the least developed countries. The role of donors in bringing in private investments and in mobilizing funding from taxing wealth.
- Tim Whyte, Secretary-General, ActionAid Denmark
  - Mobilizing more resources for the least developed countries through Policy Coherence for Development and support for progressive domestic resource mobilization.

## Lunch

### Panel 6 – International Strategies to Finance the SDGs: Wealth, Taxes, and other solutions

Objective: To discuss the international political economy, reality, and considerations for successful taxation of wealth implementation

- Djaffar Shalchi, Co-founder, **Human Act Foundation** and **Move Humanity Initiative**.
  - Discussion of the potentials and pitfalls of a global tax on billionaires to finance the SDGs.
- Martijn Lampert, Co-Founder and Research Director, **Glocalities**
  - Discussion of effective strategies for persuading wealthy people from around the world to contribute to realizing the SDGs and reducing inequality.
- Jenny Ricks, Global Convenor, **Fight Inequality Alliance**
  - Promises and pitfalls of efforts to implement national and transnational taxation of wealth to fight inequality and finance the SDGs.
- Virgilio Viana, Director General of the **Amazonas Sustainable Foundation (FAS)**, Brazil
  - Brazilian efforts to reduce inequalities and meet the SDGs through public finance and discussions of taxation.

**14:30 – 14:45**

## Coffee Break

**14:45 – 16:15**

## Panel 7 – Closing Plenary – Implementing Key Strategies: Visions and Opportunities for Financing the SDGs

Objective: Building on the deliberations from the conference, discussing strategies, opportunities, and challenges to mobilizing and campaigning for taxing wealth

- Adriano Campolina, Secretary-General, ActionAid International
- Njoki Njehu, African Coordinator, Fight Inequality Alliance Max Lawson, Head of Inequality Policy, Oxfam International
- Wanda Wyporska, Executive Director, Equality Trust
- Jeffrey Sachs, Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Economics Professor, Columbia University
- Sam Loni, Global Coordinator, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth, & Karin Bylund, Network Coordinator, SDSN Youth Northern Europe
- Jamie Drummond, Co-founder and Chief Strategy Officer, ONE Campaign

**16:15 – 16:30**

## Closing Remarks

**16:30 – 17:30**

## Farewell Cocktails