



Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development
Institute

**The role of a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development in
facilitating sustainable FDI, including corporate social responsibility**

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), we cordially invite you to a webinar on:

**The role of a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development in
facilitating sustainable FDI, including corporate social responsibility**

on 19 March 2020, 16:00-17:00 CET.

This is the second of a webinar series on investment facilitation for development organised jointly by ITC and DIE. **Please register here** if you are interested in attending this webinar.

To join the meeting, kindly click on the link below at 16:00 CET on March 19 and follow the instructions.

Join Skype Meeting

After that, download and install the Skype Meetings App plug-in and click on "[Join Using Skype for Business Web App instead](#)". You could also join by phone using the number: [+41 22 730 0999](#) or [Find a local number](#), using the conference ID: 52133

If you would like to also send written questions or comments during the meeting, please feel free to type them in the chat window in the bottom-left corner of the Skype window.

Negotiations on a multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development will start in the World Trade Organization (WTO) among 100 WTO members. The main objective of the WTO negotiations is to increase the flow of sustainable foreign direct investment (FDI) with a view toward advancing sustainable development.

This webinar is held in the framework of the joint project of the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) on Investment Facilitation for Development. It will discuss how the WTO negotiations of such a framework can be used not only to facilitate FDI in general, but also to increase its contribution to sustainable development in host countries. This is particularly important as home countries and international investors, apart from host countries, also play an important role in facilitating sustainable FDI. The webinar will therefore also discuss the role of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the emerging multilateral framework on investment facilitation for development.

The webinar will be conducted in an interactive manner and allow for questions by participants. After an introduction to brief the webinar participants about the state of play of the investment facilitation negotiations, some key issues will be discussed, including:

- Concrete investment facilitation measures that maximise the impact of FDI for sustainable development.
- The possibility of incentivising sustainable FDI through the designation of Recognized Sustainable Investors.
- Experiences with domestic laws on CSR and their relevance for the multilateral framework.
- Experiences with the inclusion of CSR provisions in international investment agreements and their relevance for the multilateral framework.

Keynote delivered by:

- Rajesh Aggarwal, Chief of Trade Facilitation and Policy for Business, ITC

Chair:

- Axel Berger, Senior Researcher, DIE

Panellists:

- Evan Gabor, Columbia Law School
- Samo S. Gonçalves, Second Secretary, Mission of Brazil to the WTO
- Felipe Henriquez, Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO and Advisor to the Coordinator of the Structured Discussions
- Premila Nazareth Satyanand, Non-resident Senior Fellow at India's National Council of Applied Economic Research
- Karl P. Sauvart, Resident Senior Fellow, CCSI
- Matthew Stephenson, Policy and Community Lead, International Trade & Investment, WEF

Background materials

[WTO Joint Ministerial Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development \(December 2017\).](#)

[WTO Joint Ministerial Statement on Investment Facilitation for Development \(November 2019\).](#)

[Advancing Sustainable Development by Facilitating Sustainable FDI, Promoting CSR, Designating Recognized Sustainable Investors, and Giving Home Countries a Role.](#)

[Investment Facilitation for Sustainable Development: Index Maps Adoption at Domestic Level, DIE Longread](#)

Kind regards,

Rajesh Aggarwal, Axel Berger, Karl P. Sauvart

Rajesh Aggarwal is Officer-in-charge of the Business & Trade Policy Section of the International Trade Centre (ITC), Geneva. He is leading a programme of assisting the private sector in developing countries to be the change agent for trade policy reform and engage in business advocacy with their governments in design and implementation of trade policies and negotiating positions that reflect the business interests. Before joining the ITC, he worked for the Indian Government and participated in WTO Doha Round of trade negotiations. He has published papers in the area of trade negotiations including a paper titled ‘Dynamics of Agriculture Negotiations in WTO’ in the Journal of World Trade.

Axel Berger is a Senior Researcher at the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Programme Transformation of Economic and Social Systems. He is heading the G20 Policy Research Group at DIE and led the T20 Task Force on Trade, Investment and Tax in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Axel holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Duisburg-Essen and a Master’s degree from the Munich Ludwig-Maximilians-University in political science, economics and modern history. He works on the design, effects and diffusion patterns of international trade and investment agreements, with a focus on emerging markets and developing countries. Other areas of current research include the effects of an international investment facilitation framework, the impact of free trade agreements on upgrading within global value chains and the role of the G20 in global governance. He teaches international political economy at the University of Bonn and regularly advises developing countries, development agencies and international organisations on trade and investment matters.

Evan Gabor is a J.D. Candidate, class of 2020, at Columbia Law School where he is the Senior Business Relations and Digital Editor of the Columbia Business Law Review. He received his B.A. in economics from Boston College in 2012 and was previously a summer associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, a judicial intern for the Honourable Carol Bagley Amon, E.D.N.Y., a project controls specialist for FieldCore, and the operations manager for Khunu, Ltd. Publications to which he has contributed are available at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=3137986.

Samo S. Gonçalves is a Second Secretary at the Mission of Brazil to the WTO. Samo has been a Brazilian Diplomat for the last 10 years and is currently in charge of Brazil’s involvement in the investment facilitation discussion. He used to work at the Financial Division of the Brazilian Mission to the WTO and was part of the team in charge of the negotiations related to the New Development Bank (BRICS). Previously, Samo has worked in the Foreign Trade Board, where he was part of team responsible for providing economic assessment on Brazil’s trade and investment policies. Samo holds a Ph.D. in economics, a Master’s degree in international relations, and an undergraduate degree in Economics and International Relations.

Felipe Henríquez is a Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the WTO, in charge of Trade in Services, Investment, E-commerce, Trade and Environment and Government Procurement. He has professional experience as negotiator and head of negotiating teams of Free Trade Agreements (chapters on investment, services, temporary entry for business persons, telecommunications and e-commerce), participant in plurilateral and multilateral fora (TPP, Pacific Alliance, WTO, OECD, APEC, UNASUR) and negotiator of air services agreements and mutual recognition agreements.

Premila Nazareth Satyanand is Non-resident Senior Fellow at India’s National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), where she conceived and led a project that identified

significant limitations in Indian FDI statistics and suggested targeted reform to the Indian Government. Currently, she is also the India partner, and member of the managing team, for the Columbia University Centre for Sustainable International Investment project: Emerging Market Global Players, ranking outward foreign direct investors from emerging economies. She has a B.A. in History from St. Stephen's College, New Delhi, and an M.A. in International Relations from Columbia University, New York. Previously, Premila worked with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, New York; the United Nations electoral missions in South Africa and the Western Sahara; and the Economist Intelligence Unit (now IMA India), New Delhi. She has consulted for MIGA, UNCTAD, UNDP and the World Bank, and was a Member of the Indian Planning Commission's Twelfth Plan Task Force on simplifying India's business regulatory framework.

Karl P. Sauvant, Ph.D., introduced the idea of an International Support Program for Sustainable Investment Facilitation in the E15 Task Force on Investment Policy in 2015. From there, the proposal was taken forward in the WTO. He has written extensively on this subject (see <https://ssrn.com/author=2461782>), participated in various events relating to it and currently assists the ITC and DIE on a project on Investment Facilitation for Development. He retired in 2005 as Director of UNCTAD's Investment Division and established, in 2006, what is now the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), stepping down as its Executive Director in 2012, to focus his work, as a CCSI Resident Senior Fellow, on teaching, research and writing.

Matthew Stephenson, Ph.D., is Policy and Community Lead for International Trade and Investment at the World Economic Forum, where he manages the [Global Investment Policy](#) initiative. In that capacity, he works closely with governments, firms and civil society in several emerging markets to identify measures that facilitate investment and maximize investment's sustainable development impact. This work led to the publishing of a white paper, together with WAIPA, in December 2019 entitled "[What can governments do to facilitate investment? Important measures identified through surveys](#)". Previously, Matthew worked at the IFC on advisory services for investment policy, where he led the workstream on outward FDI. He has also worked at the OECD on Africa and investment and served as a diplomat for the U.S. Department of State, leading the economic team on Afghanistan and managing economic programs in the Middle East. He is a member of the T20 Task Force on Trade and Investment, where he has authored several policy proposals for the G20. Matthew has a PhD from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, a master's from the Harvard Kennedy School and a bachelor's from the University of Oxford.