

Are Governments & the Bretton Woods Institutions Fighting Inequality?

Date: Friday, April 21

Time: 9:00-10:30 AM

@ IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings, Washington DC

Room: IMF HQ2 (3rd Fl) 03B-838B

The recent backlash against globalization in advanced economies has been in part driven by the increasing wealth and income gaps between those who benefit and those who do not. The consequences include political shifts in countries that have been the leading proponents of globalization. These shifts have put in question the future role of the multilateral institutions themselves. This high-level panel aims to promote a multistakeholder debate on the key measures global institutions and governments need to pursue in order to more effectively tackle economic inequality. The panel will cover issues which are crucial to reinforcing the roles of the IMF and World Bank in combating inequality and ensuring shared prosperity.

The panel will also discuss two forthcoming reports on inequality. The first is a report prepared by New Rules for Global Finance with support from the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung that assesses six global institutions (IMF, World Bank, FSB, OECD, G20 and UN) for their impact on inequality. The second is the Commitment to Reducing Inequality index created by Oxfam and Development Finance International, which ranks 150 countries by their policy commitments to reduce economic inequality.

Moderator:

Larry Elliott, Economics Editor, *The Guardian*

Welcome:

Luise Rürup, Executive Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung New York Office

Panelists:

- **Winnie Byanyima**, Executive Director, Oxfam International
- **Jose Antonio Ocampo**, Director of the Economic and Political Development Concentration, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
- **Susanna Gable**, Chief Economist, Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- **Nora Lustig**, Director of the Commitment to Equity (CEQ) Institute, Tulane University
- **Jonathan Ostry**, Deputy Director, Research Department, IMF
- **Carolina Sanchez**, Senior Director, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank