



Inclusive Finance for Development: 15 Years of Impact

Side Event at the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Event Concept Note

Date & Time: Wednesday 25 September 2024 from 1:15-2:30 pm EST.

Location: UNHQ, Conference Room four. 405 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017.

Organized by: Office of the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for Development (UNSGSA), co-hosted by, amongst others, the Permanent Missions to the UN of the Republic of India, the Republic of Peru, the Republic of the Philippines, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Event overview: This event celebrates 15 years of remarkable strides in financial inclusion, highlighting its pivotal role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Today, 76% of people worldwide have an account at a financial institution or through a mobile money provider, an increase of over 50% in the past 10 years.¹ This event brings together high-level UN and government officials, financial sector authorities, private sector leaders, and development organizations to spotlight financial inclusion progress, deliberate on its future agenda, and showcase the UNSGSA's impact through client stories and international best practice examples. The event also introduces critical challenges ahead, including the importance of financial health to build resilience and in response to the evolving mandate of the UNSGSA.

Speaker and Agenda Highlights:

- **High-Level Remarks:** Contributions from Heads of State, senior UN officials, and executives from international organizations.
- **Special Video Presentation:** A short film showcasing global achievements in financial inclusion.
- **Keynote Address** by the UNSGSA.
- **High-level remarks** by the head of a financial sector regulator from a systemically important economy.
- **Fireside Chat:** A moderated discussion with UNSGSA Queen Máxima and C-suite leaders from banking, fintech, and insurance sectors on financial health as an emerging business imperative.

Attendees: An esteemed audience of 300-400 people will be present in person, including senior representatives from international organizations, private sector partners (with a focus on banking, fintech, and insurance sectors), UN member state representatives, financial sector regulators, policymakers, and partner UN agencies. Live streaming will be available for global participation.

¹ World Bank, "Global Findex 2021."