



جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي



NYU | ABU DHABI



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Academy of  
International  
Business

## World Investment Forum 2023

16-20 October 2023 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

### Investment for Development Research Square

A meeting place for policy-oriented academic research

The Investment for Development Research Square, organized by UNCTAD in collaboration with UNU-WIDER, New York University - Abu Dhabi, Middlesex University -Dubai, Geneva Graduate Institute, and the Academy of International Business, is located in the Investment Village of the World Investment Forum 2023. It provides a platform for discussions and exchange of ideas between policymakers, academics, business representatives, and professionals from diverse backgrounds. The square offers a unique opportunity to understand current policy, industry, and academic thinking in relation to the role of international investment and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Square also features exhibition booths, which will display recent publications and prize-award academic papers, research outlets, and videos on investment-related topics from Investment Promotion Agencies, leading companies, and experts from the UN and other international organizations.

A key feature of the Research-Policy Square is the daily - high-profile - fireside chats between senior policymakers, practitioners, eminent scholars, and other stakeholders on issues relating to international investment and development. The fireside chats include investment-trade policy nexus, international supply chain restructuring, Industry 4.0, the energy transition, investment facilitation, and FDI and gender issues. The audience will have the opportunity to raise questions and interact directly with the eminent speakers. To enrich the multidisciplinary research agenda, a special session will be held to facilitate research dialogue between scholars and academic journal editors.

#### Partners:

- UNU-WIDER
- NYU Abu Dhabi
- Middlesex University, UAE
- Geneva Graduate Institute – Center for Finance and Development – Journal of International Development Policy
- Transnational Corporations, World Investment Report, UNCTAD’s Investment and trends publications
- Academy of International Business (including the Journal of International Business Studies and Journal of International Business Policy)

#### Other Partners:

- The Payne Institute for Public Policy
- Middlesex University Dubai
- International Institute for Sustainable Development

## Research-Policy Programme (Stage at the Research-Policy Village)

### Monday, 16 October

- 10:00 – 10:30 Opening and Welcome Visit by Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, *UNCTAD*
- 13:00 – 13:45 **Fireside Chat on Investment in SMEs**
- Vinod Kumar, Board Member, *WUSME (World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises)*
  - Ian Richards, Division on Investment and Enterprise, *UNCTAD*
- 14:00 - 14:15 **Video**
- 17:00 – 17:15 **Video**
- 17:15 – 18:00 **Fireside Chat on How Can Developing Economies Best Attract Climate Action Foreign Direct Investment?**
- Julia Imene-Chanduru, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, *Permanent Mission to the UN of Namibia*
  - Lisa Sachs, Director of the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, *Columbia University*

### Tuesday, 17 October

- 10:30 – 11:15 **Fireside Chat on The Role of Civil Society for Innovative Investments**
- Robert Grosse, Professor of Business Administration and Director for Latin America, *Thunderbird School of Global Management*
  - Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, *CUTS International*
- 11:15 – 11:30 **Video**
- 11:30 – 12:15 **Fireside Chat on Strengthening Supply Chains Towards Resilience**
- Paola Conconi, Professor of Economics, *Oxford University*
  - Ari Van Assche, Professor and Director of the International Institute for Economic Diplomacy, *HEC Montreal*
- 12:15 – 13:00 **Fireside Chat on the Investment-Trade Policy Nexus**
- Ralph Ossa, Chief Economist and Director of the Economic Research and Statistics Division, *World Trade Organization*
  - Amelia Santos-Paulino, Chief, Investment Issues Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise, *UNCTAD*

- 14:00 – 15:00 **Fireside Chat on Digital Economy**
- Mona Ataya, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, *Mumzworld*
  - Matthew Stephenson, Head, Investment and Services, *World Economic Forum*
- 16:00 – 16:15 **Video**
- 16:15 – 17:00 **Fireside Chat on the Return on Investment in Higher Education**
- Baishakhi Taylor, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, *NYU Abu Dhabi*
  - Sherine Farouk, Associate Provost for Academic Projects and Associate Dean for Enrollment and Student Success, *Abu Dhabi University*
- 18:15 – 19:00 **Daily Wrap-up session**
- Sarianna Lundan, Professor of International Business, *University of Bremen*
  - Rudolph Sinkovics, Professor in International Business, *University of Glasgow*

### **Wednesday, 18 October**

- 13:00 – 14:00 **Research-Policy Dialogue: Insights from Academic Publishers**
- Sarianna Lundan, Outgoing Editor, *Journal of International Business Policy*
  - Ugo Panizza, Editor-in-Chief, *Oxford Open Economic and International Development Policy*
  - Rudolph Sinkovics, Co-editor-in-chief, *Critical Perspectives on International Business*
  - Heinz Tuselmann, Editor, *Transnational Corporations*
  - Ari van Assche, Professor and Director of the International Institute for Economic Diplomacy, *HEC Montreal*
- 14:00 – 15:00 **Fireside Chat on Investment in Sustainable Development: Closing Gaps**
- Roberta Rabellotti, Professor of Economics, *Università di Pavia*
  - Kunal Sen, Director and Professor of Development Economics, *UNU-WIDER*
- 18:15 – 19:00 **Daily Wrap-up Session**
- Kristin Brandl, Associate Professor, *University of Victoria and Copenhagen Business School*

- Robert Grosse, Professor of Business Administration and Director for Latin America, *Thunderbird School of Global Management*

### Thursday, 19. October

- 09:00 – 10:00 **Fireside Chat on the Investment Facilitation in Developing Countries**
- Sofia Boza, Ambassador, *Permanent Representative of Chile to the WTO*
  - Ugo Panizza, Professor of Economics, *IHEID*
- 10:00 – 10:15 **Video**
- 10:15 – 11:15 **Fireside Chat on Energy Transition in Asia and the Pacific (in partnership with the Asian Development Bank)**
- Rolando Avendano, Economist, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, *Asian Development Bank*
  - Natalia Rialucky Marsudi, Founder and CEO, *FairAtmos*
  - Jeyasigan P Narayanan Nair, Executive Director (Strategic Planning), *Malaysian Investment Development Authority*
- 13:00 – 13:45 **Fireside Chat on Buying and Selling Fossil Fuel Assets**
- Jack Arnold, Program Associate, *Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI)*
  - Martin Brauch, Lead Researcher, *Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI)*
  - Brad Handler, Program Manager, *Sustainable Finance Lab*
  - Claudia Trentini, Economic Affairs Officer, *UNCTAD*
- 14:00 – 14:15 **Video**
- 14:15 – 15:00 **Fireside Chat on the Future of Globalization**
- Melanie Laloum, Lead Economist, International Chamber of Commerce
  - Rob Salomon, Dean of Stern Business School, NYU Abu Dhabi
  - Taffere Tesfachew, Acting Managing Director, *United Nations Technology Bank for the Least developed Countries*

### Friday 20, October

- 09:00 – 09:45 **Fireside Chat on COP28: The Role of UAE Businesses in Shaping the Climate Narrative**
- Sreejith Balasubramanian, Associate Professor, Chair -Office of Research, Head - Centre for Supply Chain Excellence, *Middlesex University Dubai*



- Adèle Guidot: Program leader, *UN Global Compact Network UAE*
- 09:45 – 10:00 **Video**
- 10:00 – 10:45 **Fireside Chat on FDI and Women Empowerment**
- Valeria Esquivel, Coordinator, Gender in Employment Group, *International Labour Organization*
  - Vanina Farber, Dean of Executive MBA, elea Chair for Social Innovation, Professor of Social and Financial Innovation, *IMD*

