

**HAMBURG
SUSTAINABILITY
CONFERENCE**



**Press
Review
2025**

**Report on the Media Coverage of the
Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025**

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Introduction

The second Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC 2025) took place on June 2–3, 2025, in the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and Hamburg City Hall. It has built on the momentum created by its first edition in October 2024—despite even more challenging conditions: This year's conference took place in a significantly altered international context. Geopolitical tensions have heightened, fragmentation has deepened, and the space for effective multilateral engagement appears increasingly constrained. Against this backdrop, the mission of the HSC proves more vital than ever. In this sense, HSC 2025 came at the right time and sent a clear and important signal: even in these times of uncertainty, there is strong support for collective, cross cutting action—and it remains possible to forge new alliances and make tangible progress.

1,600 guests from more than 100 countries participated in the event, including a remarkable number of [high-level participants](#). The first conference day was opened by German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Reem Alabali Radovan, First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Peter Tschentscher, and UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner. The second day of the conference was opened by German Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance, Lars Klingbeil.

140 journalists from 22 countries attended the HSC 2025. The list of media partners included CNBC Africa, devex, Eco-Business, Handelsblatt, International Fund für Public Interest Media, Nikkei Asia, and The Banker. Further media covering the conference on-site included Deutsche Welle, Deutschlandfunk, El País, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Hamburger Abendblatt, Tagesspiegel, The Times of India, Yahoo News, the National, the New York Times, WELT, die ZEIT, ZDF, and others. The event generated more than 1,000 TV, radio, print and online mentions.



The media coverage focused on the main topics of the conference program such as international collaboration on reshaping the international financial architecture to drive SDG progress and efficient sustainable finance, cooperation among stakeholders from politics and business to achieve the Agenda 2030 and transformation processes in crucial civil, industrial and urban sectors.

During the 2025 conference, more than 60 organizations were involved in over 10 official announcements and agreements. These included the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs, the launch of the SCALED initiative to mobilize private capital for sustainable development, the Global Alliance against Inequality, and several additional bilateral and multilateral partnerships.

Below you may find sample coverage about the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025. The selection includes international and local articles in native language. Online articles include the corresponding links. Print articles are included as text excerpts from the original print source. TV mentions include links to original broadcast reports; radio mentions include excerpts from reports that mention the conference with corresponding links to original sources online.



PUBLICATIONS



Wenn Paradiese versinken – Pazifikinseln kämpfen ums Überleben

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
3 SAT

TV 00:00 – 08:00

Ein einzelner Pfahl im Meer erinnert an Vunidogoloa – das erste Dorf auf den Fidschi-Inseln, das dem steigenden Meeresspiegel weichen musste. Der Klimawandel zwingt immer mehr pazifische Gemeinden zur Umsiedlung, während Sturmfluten, versalzenes Grundwasser und Ernteaussfälle das tägliche Leben bedrohen. In Tuvalu, wo eine Umsiedlung kaum möglich ist, kämpfen Menschen wie Klimaaktivistin Lily Teafa nicht nur um ihr Land, sondern auch um ihre kulturelle Identität. Die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz bringt dieser Tage Entscheidungsträger:innen aus über 100 Ländern zusammen, um über globale Verantwortung, Klimagerechtigkeit und innovative Finanzierungsmodelle zu beraten. Die Konferenz setzt ein Zeichen für internationale Solidarität – und für die Hoffnung, dass die Heimat nicht im Meer versinken muss.



Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) hat Israels Regierung aufgefordert, weiteren Hilfsorganisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen zu ermöglichen

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Ad Hoc News

Entwicklungsministerin appelliert auf Konferenz an Israel

"Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird", sagte Alabali-Radovan laut Manuskript zu Beginn der zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Rathaus der Stadt. Wenn der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern dauerhaft blockiert werde, müsse über Konsequenzen gesprochen werden.



Israel hatte nach nahezu drei Monaten zuletzt wieder Hilfslieferungen an die hungernde Bevölkerung im Gazastreifen in begrenztem Umfang erlaubt. Israel ermöglicht es der umstrittenen Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, um auf diese Weise andere Hilfsorganisationen wie die der Vereinten Nationen zu umgehen.

Ausrichter erwarten Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern

Zu der zweitägigen Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz erwarten die Ausrichter rund 1.600 Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern. Die Konferenz war erstmals vergangenen Oktober ausgerichtet worden, um die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen zu fördern. Themen dieser sind unter anderem Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit.

Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) sagte, die Welt habe sich in den vergangenen Jahren verändert: Krisen, Kriege und Konflikte überschatteten Bemühungen, Klima und Natur zu schützen. Orientierung biete die Agenda 2030, die die Nachhaltigkeitsziele definiert. Nachdenklich äußerte sich auch der Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, Achim Steiner. "Die Welt ist nicht gerade vorangekommen", sagte er auf Englisch. Unsicherheit und Angst nähmen zu. Es sei dennoch nicht Zeit für Mutlosigkeit.

Veranstalter der Konferenz sind das Bundesentwicklungsministerium, das Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, eine Stiftung des Hamburger Mäzens Michael Otto und die Stadt Hamburg.

AFGHANISTAN TIMES

German Development Minister Urges Israel to End Civilian Suffering in Gaza

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Afghanistan times

AT Kabul: Germany's Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan has called on Israel to stop "destroying lives in Gaza," warning that no military objective can justify the humanitarian crisis unfolding in the besieged territory. Speaking emotionally at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference on Monday, Alabali-Radovan demanded immediate and full humanitarian access to Gaza, stressing that children starving, mothers unable to treat injured children, and families buried under rubble cannot be tolerated in the pursuit of any political or military goal.

"There can and must be no military goal that justifies children starving, mothers being unable to receive treatment for their injured children, or entire families being buried under rubble," she said. The minister described the situation as a "man-made humanitarian catastrophe" and called for an immediate ceasefire followed by the restoration of aid flows, stressing that "without a ceasefire, there will be no protection for civilians, no secure supply, and no prospect of political solutions."

While condemning the Hamas attacks of October 7 as "barbaric," Alabali-Radovan affirmed Israel's right to protect its population but insisted all state actions must comply with



international law. Chancellor Friedrich Merz has reportedly taken a harder line on aid access to Gaza, underscoring the urgency of delivering humanitarian relief amid Germany's historically strong support for Israel.

Alabali-Radovan, a refugee of Iraqi descent and the first politician with Middle Eastern roots to serve in Germany's federal cabinet, drew on her personal background to highlight the broader consequences of neglecting humanitarian crises. "If we don't do anything with crises then people tend to flee, they don't want to but they have to," she said, stressing the importance of global cooperation and aid to prevent further displacement.

Her call was echoed by Cindy McCain, Director General of the World Food Programme, who condemned accusations of aid diversion in Gaza and emphasized that the people there are starving, not terrorists. "If they see an aid truck coming, they want food for their families. I would do anything to feed my family. I think you would too," McCain said.

As the conflict continues to unfold, Germany's new leadership seeks to balance historical ties with Israel while addressing urgent humanitarian needs in Gaza.



AFRICAN CENTRE *for* CITIES

How can Africa scale urban innovation and unlock capital for resilient, sustainable cities

Date: June 23, 2025

Source:
African Centre for Cities

Reflections on the Hamburg Sustainability Conference

For those of us working on the megatrend of Africa's urbanisation it can be difficult not to glaze over when a new headline bemoans the extent of the urban infrastructure gap and the struggles in closing it. It is not that the infrastructure deficit in Africa's rapidly evolving cities is not acute or the cause of humanitarian and economic challenges. Rather, that the work sometimes seems fixated on getting the number right as if that would solve everything. Much of the conversation amongst financiers appears stuck in diagnostic mode and, at best, articulating high-level demands for "bankable projects", "credit worthy local governments" and "risk-reward ratios" that seem blind to the lived reality of urban life, or the stubbornly centralized political economy that defines governance and investment in these urban spaces.

It was refreshing, then, when Elisabeth Mansfeld – a former banker and now strategic advisor working at the intersection of sustainable finance, urban governance – invited the African Centre for Cities (ACC) and the African Union Commission (AUC) to co-curate a panel discussion that would explore what can, and is, being done to build sustainable infrastructure despite the challenges. Held on the opening day of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the panel comprised leaders working on continent-wide governance, multi-lateral development finance, private investment in emerging markets, housing and informal settlements under the



provocative title, How can Africa scale urban innovation and unlock capital for resilient, sustainable cities?

In encouraging panelists to go beyond generalisations, Elisabeth began her moderation of the session by running through what is accepted as the high-level features behind the panel's title:

- Roughly \$160 billion is required per year for urban infrastructure, 2.5 times what is currently being invested.
- Subnational governments in Africa have limited fiscal agency. On average they collect just 4.9% of public revenue (vs. 14.5% globally) limiting their ability to plan, borrow, and invest.
- African countries pay roughly 2.9% percentage points more for their borrowed capital than countries with the same risk-return profile in the Global North. The premium translates into at least \$74bn per year in borrowing costs.
- Economic activity classified as 'informal' predominates but is under-counted in GDP numbers. This, in turn, misrepresents the ability (and willingness) of urban residents to pay for infrastructure and services that meet their needs and budgets.
- The risk of inaction is carried by everyone. If, for example, African cities are built using the same materials and energy mix as OECD cities, an additional 18.3 GtCO₂e will be emitted in the next 10 years alone, accelerating the climate crisis for every country.

With this context clearly stated, panelists were asked to focus on the 'so what' question – what they and their institutions were doing to address the infrastructure deficit.

- Ambassador Moses Vilakati, African Union Commissioner for Regional Policy and Collective Governance highlighted the importance of regional co-ordination to ensure infrastructure unlocked the value chains that span regions. With the technical validation of the Africa Urban Resilience Programme (AURP) and the establishment of the Africa Urban Forum, it was pointed out that the AU underscores urbanisation not only as a megatrend but as a transformational force that must be strategically harnessed as part of Agenda 2063. In this context, regionally anchored resilience programs like Aqiline – which supports local adaptation planning in coastal cities—and the Resilience Infrastructure Accelerator (RIA), which helps structure and de-risk infrastructure projects in secondary cities, exemplify how innovation, institutional coordination, and local knowledge can converge to scale impact. Moses' call was for urban infrastructure engineers to pay more attention to social context and climate resilience.
- Mr Stefan Atchia, Infrastructure and Urban Development Manager at the African Development Bank highlighted the need for project preparation skills and exchange rate exposure. He noted that preparation costs—typically 1–2% of capital—are frequently unfunded, leading to bottlenecks in moving ideas to implementation. The African Development Bank is working with revenue authorities to improve collection and make the amounts and timing of fiscal transfers from national governments to cities more predictable. Stefan's call was for cities to borrow in their local currencies, ideally from their local markets. If foreign finance or investment is required, the currency risk should be carried by national governments not cities.
- Mr Martijn Proos manages the Emerging Markets Fund for African and Asia at asset manager NinetyOne. He explained how a focus on existing payments by end-users had allowed them to identify ability to pay for infrastructure and services, and design their private investments accordingly, often without government guarantees. He offered two examples, student housing in Kenya that replaced daily commuting costs with



affordable rent payments, and Kigali's water treatment plant, financed privately, but only once public funding had covered the upstream dam infrastructure as examples of innovative finance. Martijn's call was for more accurate risk allocations, hinting at the idea that foreign investors often frame their unfamiliarity with African projects as a financial risk, resulting in more expensive capital.

- Anacláudia Rossbach, Executive Director of UN Habitat, identified the need for a new social contract for the coordination of land management, urban planning and housing. She asked what might be learned from the infrastructure programmes constructed in African cities over the past decade. The implication was that some large infrastructure projects had inadequately planned for housing and land value capture, and as a result had failed to unlock virtuous cycles of investment and socio-economic progress that would have enhanced the investment prospect. Continuous learning from Africa's urbanising context was a prerequisite for identifying opportunities and making African cities more legible to financiers. Anacláudia's call was for housing policies at the centre of the urban political agenda. It is through the planning and enabling of housing that governments would be able to generate their own revenue from land value capture, which in turn could mediate the excessive cost of capital paid by African countries.
- Finally, Anni Beukes from the Know Your City programme at Slum Dwellers International, powerfully explained how citizen science and community enumeration under the Open Streets programme had been aided by drone technology. Referencing her own research in Freetown, Anni highlighted how street-scale data enabled tailored and cost-effective urban planning and the mobilisation of domestic resources. Anni's call was for the creation of data systems in every African city.

Forty-five-minute panel discussions do not allow for in-depth scrutiny or deliberation, but there was a lingering positivity in the air following the panel discussion. Africa's cities were recast by the panel as places of innovation that could attract investment when financiers were prepared to understand the local context. It was a sentiment that percolated the two-day Hamburg Sustainability Conference, part of the city's sustainability week. The conference attracted global dignitaries and decision makers with healthy representation from African countries across the 93 events, 40 of which related to the African continent.

The conference provided a timely contribution to South Africa's hosting of the G20 summit – the first time the G20 will gather on African soil – and particularly the Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting in Cape Town on 11-12 June. It was clear that the organisers of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference were looking to grasp this moment to build on the momentum established at their inaugural event in 2024. True to form, delegates were fueled with a supply of strong coffee and good food from the Hamburg State House kitchen, but more importantly Africa's diverse and growing cities emerged as central to the global investment that is looking to combine innovation, infrastructure and sustainability.



Diplomatie: l'ambassadeur du Congo en Autriche en visite de travail dans sa juridiction



Date: June 24, 2025

Source:

Agence D'Information D'Afrique Centrale

Profitant du séjour de travail en Autriche de la mission conjointe du ministère des Zones Économiques Spéciales et de la Diversification Économique, et celui de l'Économie Forestière, pays relevant de sa juridiction diplomatique, Édith Itoua est partie de Berlin et séjourne à Vienne depuis lundi 23 juin dernier.

Sur place dans la capitale de la République d'Autriche, la diplomate congolaise est de tous les rendez-vous, qu'il s'agisse de la diplomatie culturelle et politique, ou de celle impliquant les dossiers économiques, objet de la mission conjointe du ministre Jean-Marc Thystère-Tchicaya et son homologue Rosalie Matondo, à Vienne.

Au début de ce mois, Édith Itoua avait pris part à l'événement international majeur dédié aux enjeux du développement durable, « Hamburg Sustainability Conference » où la ministre Rosalie Matondo était intervenue et avait mis en lumière la bioéconomie comme étant le levier du développement durable.



Western Cape shares water strategies with the world

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:

AgriOrbit

Anton Bredell, Western Cape minister for local government, environmental affairs, and development planning represented the Western Cape government at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference on 2 June, during a panel discussion on food security and water management in the context of global climate change.

Food production and water security

Minister Bredell said water security and food production systems are directly linked in the Western Cape, as it is a water-scarce region. Climate change is making the region hotter and drier, with more intense wildfires, droughts, and floods. "We also have the added complexity of poverty, inequality, and a fast-growing population. These socio-economic dynamics make it very challenging to plan, budget, and construct the water and wastewater infrastructure we need to provide future water security in our region."

The average daily water consumption per person in South Africa is 216 litres, higher than the international average of 173 litres. In the Western Cape it is the lowest in South Africa, at 160 litres, minister Bredell said.



The Western Cape manages to generate revenue from 70,4% of water supplied to consumers, meaning that 30% of water is either lost in the system, or it was delivered to a consumer without generating any revenue. A portion of the non-revenue water is water supplied free of charge to poor and vulnerable residents. This is part of a dignity basket, which also includes a set amount of free electricity and other basic municipal services.

Insufficient water dignity

“Our research on what constitutes water dignity, found that the current 6 kilolitres a month per household, as prescribed in South African legislation, is not sufficient, and it should be much higher, at 15 kilolitres per household. These findings raise serious questions on our approach to water management in South Africa and especially in our local governments, where rate payers are being pushed to pay more for services to also help subsidise the dignity basket to an increasing number of indigent households.”

Minister Bredell said there are only limited opportunities for additional bulk water storage in the Western Cape, and as such, future water security will have to come from improved supply and demand management, alternative sources such as ground water, the reuse of water, and desalination.

The Western Cape Government is budgeting R32 million for the 2025/26 financial year to support municipalities with water and wastewater infrastructure projects. – Wouter Kriel, spokesperson for minister Anton Bredell, Western Cape minister of local government, environmental affairs and development planning.



1. Armenian Deputy FM Robert Abisoghomonyan with Executive Director of UN-Habitat Anacláudia Rossbach

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
ArmenPress

On June 2, on the margins of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonyan had a meeting with Anacláudia Rossbach, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, the foreign ministry has said in a statement.

During the meeting, prospects for expanding the engagement of Armenia within the framework of UN-Habitat were touched upon. The Deputy Minister of Armenia emphasized the importance Armenia attaches to sustainable and green urban and rural development. In this context, the parties highlighted the importance of experience-sharing and joint initiatives with UN-Habitat in the fields of transportation infrastructure, engineering systems, and energy-efficient housing.

The interlocutors also exchanged views on prospective cooperation in the context of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.



The Deputy Minister of Armenia briefed his counterpart on the ongoing efforts of Armenia to address the short- and mid-term needs of forcibly displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh, emphasizing the importance of international support.

2. Armenian Deputy FM meets with UN Under-Secretary-General for Policy

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
ArmenPress

On the sidelines of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonian had a meeting with Guy Ryder, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Policy, the foreign ministry said in a press release.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on the UN80 initiative of the UN Secretary-General and the implementation of the fundamental reforms within its framework. The Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia emphasized the effective cooperation with the UN Office in Armenia, and touched upon the ongoing work in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2026-2030, as well as the programs implemented by UN agencies in Armenia in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The interlocutors also touched upon the preparation process of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.

The Deputy Foreign Minister briefed his counterpart on recent regional developments, reaffirming the commitment of Armenia to the peace agenda and, in this context emphasizing the importance of the swift signing of the Agreement on Peace and Establishment of Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

3. Deputy FM Abisoghomonian delivers remarks at discussion on “The Future of Development Cooperation”

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
ArmenPress

On June 2, within the framework of the annual Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonian participated in and delivered remarks at a high-level closed roundtable discussion entitled “The Future of Development Cooperation,” the foreign ministry has said in a statement.

The discussion focused on the challenges facing the international development system and ways to address them.

In his remarks, Deputy Foreign Minister Robert Abisoghomonian touched upon emerging challenges in the international development system, including the rapid growth of new digital technologies and the consequences of the pandemic and climate change. The need for more sustainable and flexible financing mechanisms in the development sector was emphasized.

In the context of health-related challenges, the Deputy Foreign Minister noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences exposed the vulnerabilities of the global health architecture



and the interconnectedness of national health systems. The imperative to take steps to enhance the resilience of global health structures was highlighted.

Touching upon the humanitarian challenges, the Deputy Foreign Minister drew attention to the needs of forcibly displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh and the necessity of addressing them. In this context, he emphasized the importance of establishing effective preventive, emergency response, and follow-up mechanisms within the global humanitarian response framework.

Regarding the challenges on climate change, the Deputy Foreign Minister emphasized the importance of addressing the needs of developing countries, pointing out that although they are not the primary contributors to global warming, biodiversity loss, or other environmental disruptions, they are disproportionately affected by the severe consequences of climate change.

4. Hamburg Sustainability Conference: Armenian Deputy FM lauds EUMA for border stability

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
ArmenPress

Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomyan delivered remarks during the Building Sustainable Peace: Bridging Security and Development in Vulnerable Environment discussion at the annual Hamburg Sustainability Conference.

Speaking about the idea of sustainable peace, the Deputy FM underscored the importance of an inclusive approach in conflict prevention, namely combination of security, development and regional cooperation.

He emphasized the importance of effective arms control mechanisms for preserving peace and security both globally and regionally, the foreign ministry said in a press release.

In context of strengthening transparency and trust in the South Caucasus, the Deputy FM spoke about Armenia's proposal to Azerbaijan on creating a mutual arms control and border incident investigation mechanism.

Abisoghomyan attached importance to the role of the EU monitoring mission (EUMA) in ensuring border stability.

He also underscored the role of interconnectivity as a guarantee for peace, stability and development in the region. In this context the unblocking of infrastructures in South Caucasus and Armenia's Crossroads of Peace project were discussed.



Prospects for expanding Armenia's engagement in UN-Habitat discussed in Hamburg



Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
ArmlInfo

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The Deputy Minister of Armenia briefed his counterpart on the ongoing efforts of Armenia to address the short- and mid-term needs of forcibly displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh, emphasizing the importance of international support.



News Cambodia joins Hamburg Sustainability Conference to accelerate Sustainable Development Goals

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
Bayon TV

Hamburg: Senior officials from the Council for the Development of Cambodia attended the Hamburg Sustainability Conference on finding solutions to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on international financing and investment for the Sustainable Development Goals.

His Excellency Chhiang Yanara, Senior Minister in Charge of Special Missions and Second Vice President of the Council for the Development of Cambodia, was invited to participate in the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025 on June 2-3, 2025. The conference's main goal is to continue policy-level dialogue and find practical solutions to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on international financing and investment for the Sustainable Development Goals.



At the conference, HE the Senior Minister also participated in the High-Level Panel on Economic Systems Fit for a Multipolar World and delivered a keynote speech at the Forum on the Future of Development Cooperation, where HE the Senior Minister highlighted the development priorities of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the importance of inclusive partnerships and global cooperation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. HE the Senior Minister's participation in the conference reaffirmed Cambodia's commitment to continue promoting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, both domestically and globally, and to continue promoting partnerships, two-way accountability, and the effectiveness of development cooperation.

Taking the opportunity to participate in this conference, HE Chhiang Yanara met with Ms. Bärbel Kofler, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and Member of the German Parliament. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the progress of development cooperation between Cambodia and the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as exchange ideas and experiences to continue to strengthen cooperation and partnership in the future, and especially to prepare for the upcoming negotiations on development cooperation between the two governments.



Caisse investing \$400 billion in climate initiatives by 2030, joins global sustainability alliance

Date: June 19, 2025

Source:
Benefits Canada

The Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec is creating new climate strategy goals and wants to achieve \$400 billion in climate action investments by 2030.

The investment organization exceeded its climate targets set back in 2017 at the end of 2024 and reported an approximately 50 per cent reduction in its carbon footprint, according to a press release. During the same period, global emissions increased by six per cent.

The new 2025-2030 strategy includes low-carbon assets, nature-based solutions, adaptation and resilience solutions and climate-solution enablers as the type of operations the institutional investor is looking to support.

Sustainable investing convictions are at the heart of fiduciary duty at the Caisse, said Charles Emond, president and chief executive officer of the investment organization, in the press release. "We are demonstrating even greater ambition by going beyond calculating our portfolio's carbon emissions to work even harder on transitioning the real economy across all sectors by encouraging the companies we invest in to adopt clear and credible decarbonization plans."



In other news, the Caisse and Global Affairs Canada are joining a sustainability alliance alongside other private investors and several federal government agencies.

The organization — Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development or SCALED — was launched with the intention of bringing together public and private institutions to remove structural obstacles in the way of mobilizing large-scale investments, according to a press release.

The initiative, which was established at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference earlier this month, is also adding Allianz Global Investors, AXA SA and Zurich Insurance Group as private investment organizations.

Agencies from Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the U.K., South Africa and the KfW Development Bank, a financial institution investing on behalf of the German federal government, have also joined SCALED.

The group is planning to launch a new company before the end of the year to mobilize private capital for sustainable development projects in a more efficient way. The expectation is for the new company to immediately work on investment vehicles dedicated to support projects with sustainable impact like solar farms or entrepreneurship support.



Sorumlu yapay zekâ talebi

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
BirGün

Yapay zekânın yan yana gelmediği konu yok, kaçmak mümkün görünmüyor ve kaçmak isteyen de yok gibi. O zaman sorumlu yapay zekâ kavramına hoş geldiniz.

Günümüzde yapay zekânı yan yana gelmediği konu yok. Hamburg'taki Sürdürülebilirlik Konferansı'nda (Hamburg Sustainability Conference) ise yapay zek beş farklı kelimeyle yan yana getirildi: İnsanlar, gezegen, refah, barış, ortaklık. Yapay zekadan kaçmak mümkün görünmüyor ve kaçmak isteyen de yok gibi. O zaman sorumlu yapay zeka kavramına hoş geldiniz.

Sorumlu Yapay Zeka kavramının bu beş bileşeniyle bizleri Sürdürülebilir Gelişme Hedefleri için Yapay Zeka başlığını taşıyan Hamburg Deklarasyonu oldu. Sorumlu yapay zeka talep eden ilk küresel deklarasyona aralarında Birleşmiş Milletler Kalkınma Programı, Almanya Çevre Bakanlığı, Fransa Dışişleri Bakanlığı, teknoloji firmaları ve sivil toplum örgütlerinin de olduğu onlarca imzacı destek verdi. Avrupa Birliği'nde olduğu gibi bu konuda düzenleme yapanlar ya da benzer tavsiyelerde bulunanlar vardı ancak bu deklarasyonla sözler taahhüde dönüyor. İnsan hakları temelli bir yapay zekaya öncelik verilmesi, ayrımcılık yapmayan, özel hayata ait verilere dikkat eden, gelir ve gelişmişlik seviyesine bakmadan herkesin kullanabileceği, geliştirebileceği ve ekonomik fayda sağlayabileceği bir yapay zeka kullanımı ilk taahhüt.

KÜÇÜK İŞLETMELER DESTEKLENMELİ



Yapay zekanın gezegenle de dost olması ise ikinci başlık. Yapay zeka için gereken altyapıda enerji tüketiminin ve karbon ayak izinin azaltılması ama daha da önemlisi, yapay zekanın iklim krizi ve biyoçeşitlilik kaybı gibi büyük çevresel sorunların çözümünde kullanılması sözünü veriyorlar. Ekonomik gelişme ve eşitlik konusuna odaklanan “refah” taahhüdü ise yereldeki küçük ve orta ölçekteki yapay zeka üzerinde çalışan girişim ve işletmelerin desteklenmesi böylece hem ülkelerarası hem de ülke içinde uçurumlar oluşmaması amaçlanıyor.

KADIN TEMSİLİYETİ SORUNLU

Sorumlu yapay zekanın barışa katkıda bulunması için toplumsal uyumu desteklemesi, çocuklara yönelik çevrimiçi şiddet de dahil olmak üzere, kadınlar ve kız çocuklarının yanı sıra marjinalleştirilmiş gruplara karşı zararlı söylemler barındırmaması isteniyor. Bazı araştırmalar yapay zeka alanında çalışan uzmanların sadece yüzde 22’sinin kadın olduğunu gösteriyor. BM Kadın Birimi, düşük gelir grubundaki ülkelerde kadınların internet erişiminin yüzde 20 civarında olduğunu belirtiyor. Yapay zekanın geliştirildiği ülkeler, erkek egemen söylem ve veriye erişim sorunu da yapay zekanın çalışmasını da etkileyebiliyor. İşbirliği başlığı ise yapay zekayı adeta küresel bir müşterek olarak gören bir kavram, sürecin ilerlemesi için açık erişim, bilgi paylaşımı ve diğer ilkeleri de kapsayacak ortak çalışmaları kapsıyor. Deklarasyon kamu kuruluşlarından sivil toplum örgütlerine kadar bu dünyadaki herkese açık.

EŞİTSİZLİĞE KARŞI İTTİFAK

Hamburg Sürdürülebilirlik Konferansı boyunca iki konuda daha mutabakat sağlandı. Dünya çapındaki sosyal uyumu baltalayan eşitsizlikle mücadele ve kamu kurumlarına güveni yeniden inşa etmek için bölgesel işbirliği ve diyalogu öne çıkaran Eşitsizliğe Karşı Küresel İttifak girişimi başlatıldı. Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma için Sermayeyi Ölçeklendirmek adı verilen bir başka girişim de 2025 sonuna kadar kurulacak bir şirket aracılığıyla güneş enerjisi gibi sürdürülebilir projelere finansmanı kolaylaştırmayı amaçlıyor.

Hamburg’taki konferans gıdadan enerjiye, yapay zekadan biyoçeşitliliğe kadar uzanan birçok alanda görüşmelere ev sahipliği yaptı. En çok konuşulan konulardan biri de başta BM olmak üzere adı geçen konularla ilgili çözüm üretmeye çalışan uluslararası örgütlerin güçsüzleştirilmesiydi. Sürdürülebilirlik, özellikle de küresel sorunlarda, uluslararası işbirliği olmadan mümkün görünmüyor. İklim krizi müzakereleri bunun en somut örneği.

‘ÇOK TARAFLILIK BİTİYOR ALGISI ENDİŞE VERİCİ’

UNDP Başkanı Achim Steiner:

Şu anda en zengin ülkelerin birçoğunun, sorunları birlikte çözmek ve birbirimize yatırım yapmak için on yıllardır inşa ettiğimiz bu mimariye yatırım yapma konusundaki geleneksel inanç ve taahhütlerinden bir cümleyle nasıl geri çekildiklerini gözlemliyorum ve kaçınılmaz olarak ABD hükümetinin son kararları birçok kuruluş için bu istikrarsızlaştırıcı anı güçlendirdi. Ancak bu artık yüzleşmek zorunda olduğumuz fiziksel ve finansal bir risk. Bence daha endişe verici eğilim, bu algı veya kasıtlı olarak çok taraflılığın işe yaramadığı, sorunları çözemediği propagandasının yapılması. Aslında asıl endişelenmemiz gereken şey, insanların güvenlerini ve bakış açılarını kaybetmeleri halinde, İkinci Dünya Savaşı’ndan sonra sürekli savaşa girme riskiyle başa çıkmamıza yardımcı olmak için doğmuş bir fikri ortadan kaldıracabilecek olmaları.

YAPAY ZEKÂSIZ E-POSTA ATAMAYIZ

Hamburg Yapay Zeka Merkezi Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı Alois Krtıl:



Yapay zekanın sağladığı enerji tasarrufuna bakmadan sadece yapay zekanın enerji tüketiminden bahsetmek biraz haksızlık olur. Dünya çapında manuel işlemler yapıyorsunuz ve bu da çok fazla doğal kaynak tüketiyor; karşılaştırma yapmak çok zor. İletişim, örneğin internet vb. zaten küresel ve veri merkezleri ile merkezi olmayan ağlar tarafından yönlendiriliyor ve yapay zeka olmadan bunlar olmayacaktı. Eposta gönderemeyecek, telefon açamayacaktık. Yapay zeka dil modelleri gibi onlarca yıldır çalışıyor ve bu da elbette kaynak tasarrufu sağlıyor. Enerjiyi unutmam demiyorum elbette ama herkesin yeniden icat etmek zorunda kalmaması farklı bir paradigma, bu nedenle enerji tasarrufu da yapılıyor.



1. SAP Aktie: Offensive für die Cloud-Zukunft

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Börse Express

SAP zündet derzeit ein wahres Feuerwerk an strategischen Ankündigungen und Präsentationen. Von KI-Innovationen bis zur Cloud-Transformation – der Softwarekonzern trommelt auf allen Kanälen für seine Vision der intelligenten Unternehmenslösung. Doch was steckt wirklich hinter dieser geballten Event-Präsenz und welche Weichen werden jetzt für die Zukunft gestellt?

Künstliche Intelligenz und Cloud im Rampenlicht

Der Softwaregigant nutzt aktuell zahlreiche Bühnen, um seine technologische Stoßrichtung zu untermauern. Vorstandschef Christian Klein diskutiert bei der BNP Paribas Exane CEO Konferenz, während in Garching bei München die Veranstaltung "Discover the Future of Intelligent Enterprise with SAP" die neuesten Entwicklungen rund um SAP Joule, SAP Business AI und die SAP Business Data Cloud präsentiert. Parallel dazu liefert die SAPHILA 2025 in Südafrika, die Konferenz der afrikanischen SAP-Anwendergruppe, Einblicke in reale Kundenerfahrungen. Die Botschaft ist klar: SAP demonstriert seine Innovationskraft, insbesondere im Bereich künstlicher Intelligenz und Datenmanagement, als entscheidende Triebfedern für die Unternehmenssoftware der Zukunft.

Strategischer Umbau: Das Business Network zieht in die Cloud

Ein zentraler Baustein der SAP-Strategie ist die konsequente Ausrichtung auf Cloud-basierte Lösungen, wobei die SAP Business Technology Platform (SAP BTP) eine Schlüsselrolle einnimmt. Ein besonders wichtiger Schritt, der jüngst kommuniziert wurde, ist der Übergang des SAP Business Network auf eben diese SAP BTP. Was verspricht sich SAP davon? Das Ziel ist es, Innovationen zu beschleunigen und die Leistungsfähigkeit des gesamten Netzwerks signifikant zu steigern. Für Kunden soll dies spürbare Vorteile bringen:

- Beschleunigung der Transaktionsgeschwindigkeit.
- Verbesserte Reaktionsfähigkeit auf dynamische Marktveränderungen.
- Optimierte Integration über SAP- und Nicht-SAP-Systeme hinweg.
- Erweiterte KI-gestützte Analysefähigkeiten.



Mit dieser strategischen Neuausrichtung will SAP die Widerstandsfähigkeit von Lieferketten stärken und die Effizienz durch intelligente Cloud-Lösungen massiv erhöhen. Konkret bedeutet das beispielsweise verbesserte Funktionen zur Nachverfolgung von Zertifizierungen, inklusive Nachhaltigkeitsnachweisen und Dokumentationen zum CO₂-Fußabdruck.

Breite Aufstellung: SAP auf allen Bühnen präsent

Neben den großen strategischen Linien zeigt SAP auch auf spezialisierten Branchenveranstaltungen Flagge. Das AUSAPE Forum in Málaga für spanische Kunden und Partner, ein Procurement Breakfast in Wien mit Fokus auf Beschaffungslösungen oder die ifm SUCCESS DAYS für Supply-Chain-Management sind nur einige Beispiele. Auch die Beteiligung an der Hamburg Sustainability Conference und die SAP Sapphire Financial Analyst Conference in Orlando unterstreichen die Ambitionen. Diese breit gefächerte Präsenz signalisiert das Bestreben, die Marktposition in diversen Segmenten und Regionen auszubauen.

Der Kurs der SAP-Aktie spiegelt eine beachtliche Entwicklung wider: Seit Jahresbeginn konnte das Papier um über 12 % zulegen und notierte gestern bei 265,65 Euro. Auch wenn die Aktie in den letzten sieben Tagen kaum Bewegung zeigte, liegt sie immer noch deutlich über ihrem 200-Tage-Durchschnitt, was auf ein starkes Fundament hindeutet. Die aktuelle Offensive dürfte darauf abzielen, diesen Trend langfristig zu untermauern. SAP scheint entschlossen, die Weichen für eine von KI und Cloud dominierte Zukunft zu stellen.

SAP-Aktie: Kaufen oder verkaufen?! Neue SAP-Analyse vom 3. Juni liefert die Antwort:

Die neusten SAP-Zahlen sprechen eine klare Sprache: Dringender Handlungsbedarf für SAP-Aktionäre. Lohnt sich ein Einstieg oder sollten Sie lieber verkaufen? In der aktuellen Gratis-Analyse vom 3. Juni erfahren Sie was jetzt zu tun ist.

2. Allianz setzt starkes Zeichen für nachhaltige Finanzierung

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Börse Express

Der Versicherungsriese mischt kräftig mit bei einer neuen Public-Private-Initiative, die privates Kapital in nachhaltige Entwicklungsprojekte lenken soll. Die Teilnahme an der SCALED-Plattform unterstreicht Allianz' strategischen Fokus auf ESG-Prinzipien und könnte dem Konzern lukrative neue Anlagechancen eröffnen.

Milliardenprojekt für grüne Investments

Gemeinsam mit Finanzschergewichten wie AXA, CDPQ und Zurich Insurance Group unterstützt Allianz die neu aufgelegte SCALED-Initiative. Das Projekt – früher bekannt als Hamburg Sustainability Platform – will standardisierte Finanzvehikel wie Fonds entwickeln, um private und öffentliche Investoren an nachhaltigen Projekten zu beteiligen. Der Schwerpunkt liegt auf Schwellen- und Entwicklungsländern.

Die Ambitionen sind gewaltig: In den kommenden Jahren sollen mehrere Milliarden US-Dollar mobilisiert werden, verteilt auf verschiedene Sektoren und Regionen. Die operative Arbeit der



Plattform soll Ende 2025 starten. Für Allianz bedeutet dies eine Schlüsselrolle bei der Schließung von Finanzierungslücken in Entwicklungsländern.

Strategischer Schachzug mit ESG-Fokus

"Ein wichtiger Schritt, um strukturelle Hindernisse für großangelegte Nachhaltigkeitsinvestments zu überwinden", kommentiert Vorstandsmitglied Günther Thallinger die Beteiligung. Der Schritt passt perfekt zu Allianz' Zielen: Unterstützung der Netto-Null-Transition und Förderung nachhaltigen Wirtschaftswachstums weltweit.

Doch was bringt das Engagement konkret? Die SCALED-Teilnahme zeigt nicht nur ESG-Engagement, sondern eröffnet dem Konzern auch neue Wege zur langfristigen Wertschöpfung. In Zeiten, in denen Märkte genau auf die Nachhaltigkeitsstrategien großer Konzerne achten, setzt Allianz hier ein klares Signal – und integriert Nachhaltigkeit immer stärker in seine Investmentphilosophie.

Allianz-Aktie: Kaufen oder verkaufen?! Neue Allianz-Analyse vom 4. Juni liefert die Antwort:

Die neusten Allianz-Zahlen sprechen eine klare Sprache: Dringender Handlungsbedarf für Allianz-Aktionäre. Lohnt sich ein Einstieg oder sollten Sie lieber verkaufen? In der aktuellen Gratis-Analyse vom 4. Juni erfahren Sie was jetzt zu tun ist.

Borkener Zeitung

Zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz beginnt am Montag

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Borkener Zeitung

Die Konferenz soll zum Erreichen der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele beitragen. Die Veranstalter erwarten mehr 1.600 Teilnehmer aus rund 110 Ländern.

Zu der am Montag beginnenden zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz erwarten die Veranstalter mehr als 1.600 Teilnehmer aus rund 110 Ländern. Das teilte das Bundesentwicklungsministerium, das zu den Ausrichtern gehört, vorab mit. Die Konferenz wurde im vergangenen Oktober erstmals veranstaltet. Sie soll die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen fördern.

Entwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan wird die Konferenz laut Ankündigung am Montag (10.00 Uhr) eröffnen. Eine Rede des Finanzministers Lars Klingbeil (beide SPD) ist am Dienstag geplant. Die Konferenz endet am Dienstag.



Klingbeil: Menschen sollen in diesem Jahr Ergebnisse sehen

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Börsen News / dpa-AFX

HAMBURG (dpa-AFX) - Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) will noch in diesem Jahr Ergebnisse bei den geplanten Milliardeninvestitionen in die Infrastruktur sehen. "Ich halte das auch im Kampf gegen Rechtspopulismus für sehr wichtig, um den Menschen zu zeigen, dass sich das Land modernisiert, dass sich etwas tut und dass das Leben durch Investitionen in die Infrastruktur einfacher wird", sagte der Vizekanzler bei der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz "Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)". In Deutschland dauere es manchmal bis zu 20 Jahre, bis der erste Euro investiert werde. "Mein Ziel ist es, dass die Menschen in diesem Jahr sehen, dass sich etwas tut." Zudem appellierte er an die deutsche Wirtschaft: "Jetzt ist es Zeit zu investieren."

Klingbeil: "Europa ist zu langsam."

Gleichzeitig forderte er Europa zur Eile bei politischen Entscheidungen auf. "Europa ist zu langsam." Es gebe zu viel Bürokratie und zu wenig Politik. Er wolle jedoch rasch politische Entscheidungen zur Zukunft Europas. Schon 2027 stehe in Frankreich die Präsidentschaftswahl an. "Niemand weiß, was dann passieren wird." Und die Präsidentschaftswahl in Polen sei schon nicht gut ausgegangen für Europa.

Zuversichtlich zeigte er sich im Zollstreit mit den USA. "Wir werden letztendlich Lösungen finden." Die klare Botschaft Deutschlands und Europas an die Vereinigten Staaten sei: "Wir wollen einen gemeinsamen Weg und suchen nach einer gemeinsamen Lösung in der Zollfrage." Für ihn als Vizekanzler und Finanzminister sei jedoch das Wichtigste, "dass wir unsere Hausaufgaben in Deutschland und in Europa erledigen". Mit Blick auf China sagte der Minister, die Bundesrepublik sollte unbedingt mit China kooperieren. Gleichzeitig gelte aber die klare Botschaft: Werde Taiwan angegriffen, ändere sich alles.



TRACKING TRENDS | INFORMING DECISIONS

A more balanced future for global development

Date: June 10, 2025

Source:

Business Day

In recent weeks, development conversations have circled around the ripple effects of shifting global priorities, especially the retreat of U.S. multilateral commitments and Germany's



emerging leadership role. At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the announcement of a new North-South Commission signals Berlin's intent to reinvigorate multilateral cooperation. For African stakeholders, this moment presents a timely opportunity, not simply to adjust to a new order but to help shape it.

"Today, development platforms are rightly making more space for African voices. But space alone is not power; the next evolution is from inclusion to influence."

The most pressing question is not about where funding will come from. It is about what kind of development partnership we want and what kind we need.

For too long, development assistance has followed a familiar rhythm; donors define priorities, channel funding through intermediaries, and measure results based on predefined metrics. Although this model has supported significant progress in many areas, it has also, unintentionally, created systems that depend on external inputs to function. The result is often progress that is valuable but not always lasting.

As multilateral actors now work to reconfigure priorities and bridge funding gaps, the challenge, and the opportunity, is not just about replacing donors. It is about replacing paradigms. We have a chance to move from a model of co-dependence to one of co-creation, from transactional aid to reciprocal partnership, with shared vision, ownership, and investment.

What the moment demands

The African continent does not need more "support" in the traditional sense. What it needs is alignment of capital with context, of urgency with opportunity, and of resources with strategies that are already underway.

Development actors, especially those entering this new phase of leadership, have an opportunity to lead not with louder promises but with smarter practice. The goal is not to replace one set of commitments with another but to build systems that can stand on their own because they are designed, resourced, and governed in ways that reflect reality on the ground.

Take healthcare as one example. In South Africa, the abrupt withdrawal of PEPFAR support exposed how quickly gains can be undone when systems are too externally dependent. Clinics shuttered, jobs disappeared, and medication access was disrupted. This wasn't only a funding issue; it was a design issue. Resilience, by definition, must be locally anchored.

What's working, and what can scale

The good news is that there are encouraging signs of evolution. Spain's international development agency, AECID, has repositioned itself as a connector of ecosystems, bringing together governments, private sector actors, and local innovators to jointly solve problems. This is not branding. It's structural progress.

At eHealth Africa, we've taken a similar approach. Rather than assume solutions, we co-create them with public health institutions, frontline workers, and communities. When we launched PlanFeld, a digital planning tool for immunisation teams, its success wasn't based on cutting-edge technology. It worked because it was simple, practical, multilingual, and designed with the rhythm of its users in mind.



Innovation, after all, is not about sophistication. It's about fit. And fit requires listening, testing, and adapting long before scale.

From inclusion to influence

Today, development platforms are rightly making more space for African voices. But space alone is not power; the next evolution is from inclusion to influence.

This means creating the conditions for African governments and institutions to truly lead the agenda, rather than continually responding to it. It means revisiting procurement and compliance systems that, while well-intentioned, often exclude the very local organisations that deliver the most meaningful grassroots impact, simply because they don't have the expensive reporting infrastructure. And it means embedding African research institutions into programme design and evaluation from the start, not as a courtesy or a checkbox, but as core knowledge partners shaping direction and outcomes.

True partnership recognises that the closest proximity to impact often lies with local actors, not headquarters.

Practical recommendations for development practitioners

For global development actors, particularly those redefining their roles in this new era, this is a moment to not just reaffirm commitments but reimagine methods. Here are five actionable ways to do so:

Fund ecosystems, not silos: Support coalitions of African-led organisations working toward shared goals. Prioritise joint outcomes, not fragmented efforts.

Invest in language access: More than half of African women do not speak English as a first language. Build platforms in Hausa, Swahili, Amharic, and other local languages. Accessibility is not a technical feature; it's an equity imperative.

Design for flexibility: Move from rigid grant cycles to portfolio models that allow adaptation. Flexibility is not a risk; it's a strategy for resilience.

Think beyond roads and ports: Invest in digital public goods, data systems, health logistics platforms, and quality assurance labs. These are the invisible scaffolds of sovereignty.

See local organisations as co-investors: Ask not just what they need, but what they offer, networks, trust, context, and staying power. Development is not a transaction; it's a partnership of equals.

A more balanced future

If multilateralism is to succeed in this new era, it must not only be revived; it must be rebalanced.

Africa is not simply a recipient of generosity. It is a co-architect of global security, climate stability, and economic innovation. The future of development rests not on a foundation of goodwill but on mutual accountability, practical trust, and shared ambition.



This is a defining moment. The opportunity is here, not only to rebuild what was but to reimagine what could be.

Let us choose partnership not out of habit, but out of belief that by working together, with respect and clarity, we can build systems that are not only sustainable, but truly sovereign.

Ota Akhigbe is the Director of Partnerships and Programmes at eHealth Africa. She writes at the intersection of health, equity, and systems innovation. Her weekly BusinessDay column explores practical paths for inclusive development and structural transformation in Africa.



Indigenous Environmental Activist, Ferdison Valmond, to Attend Summit In Germany

Date: May 29, 2025

Source:
Caribbean Today

ROSEAU, Dominica – The well-known indigenous environmental activist, Ferdison Valmond, has been invited to attend the second Annual Hamburg Sustainability Summit (HSC) in Germany.

The advocate from the Kalinago Territory, has been appointed Youth Ambassador for the three-day summit that begins on June 2, and will bring together thought leaders, policymakers, innovators, and youth changemakers from around the globe to address the most pressing environmental challenges of our time.

Valmond, known for his grassroots activism and advocacy for Indigenous-led climate resilience and Inclusion, will represent Indigenous and Caribbean youth voices at the international forum.

“I am honored to join this global dialogue. Indigenous communities are on the frontlines of climate change, and our experiences and knowledge systems must be included in shaping the sustainable future we all seek,” said Valmond.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) said that the HSC goes beyond reflection and that “it’s an opportunity to deepen our understanding of development and to imagine the sustainable futures we can create together.

“The conference offers a unique platform to forge new partnerships and demonstrates the power of collaboration in tackling global challenges and transforming lives. It reminds us that in a fragmented world, investing in sustainability pulls countries together to work on a common future for all. And it is a moment to reignite hope, urging individuals and governments worldwide to take bold, decisive action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,” it added.

Established in 2024,, the annual conference is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the UNDP, the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, and the Michael Otto Foundation.



As a Youth Ambassador, Valmond will engage in discussions, workshops, and collaborate with fellow youths to amplify the conference's objectives.



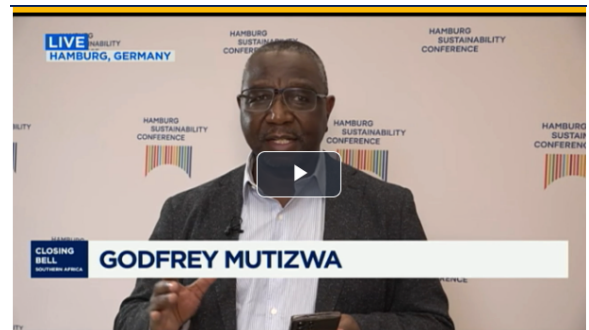
1. Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025 kicks off

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

TV

The second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference is officially underway in Germany and CNBC Africa will be bringing you special coverage of the key conversations there. CNBC Africa Editor Godfrey Mutizwa is in attendance and unpacks what's on the agenda at this year's conference.



2. Aligning financial systems with the UN Agenda 2030

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

TV

The second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference is officially underway in Germany and CNBC Africa will be bringing you special coverage of the key conversations there. This week participants are looking forward to the joint effort of the German Development Ministry and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in launching the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals among other things.





3. Röller: Europe aims to help Africa develop “by itself”

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

CNBC Africa's Godfrey Mutizwa spoke to Lars-Hendrik Röller, Founder and Chairman



4. Accelerating global sustainable development

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

Research by the UN-Habitat shows that the world is off track in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 11. For more, the organisation's Executive Director Anacláudia Rossbach spoke to CNBC Africa Editor Godfrey Mutizwa at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany.



5. UNDP calls for stronger partnership to combat global polarization

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

At the conclusion of the 2025 Hamburg Sustainability Conference, CNBC Africa's Godfrey Mutizwa caught up with Melanie Hauenstein, Director of the United Nations Development Programm — one of the joint initiators of the event to discuss what they were able to achieve this year.



6. Wahnbaeck: Focus is on local start-up founders with potential to scale, impact

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

The Founder and CEO of Impacc, Till Wahnbaeck, says a key criterion in the selection of start-up founders is the potential to scale ideas for local markets and impact. In a chat with CNBC Africa at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany, he highlights Impacc's plans to create 1 million jobs





across the African continent by providing support and financing to about 1,000 start-ups.

7. Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025: Highlights Special

Date: June 18, 2025

Source:
CNBC Africa

CNBC Africa brings you highlights from the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, held in Germany. The conference discussed sustainable development, in particular the work that remains to achieve the United Nations Social Development Goals.



HRNS Brazil hosts the conference “Coffee regions in transition: sustainability and inclusion”

Date: June 25, 2025

Source:
Comunicafe

HRNS Brazil remains committed to walking alongside farming families, not in front of them, not behind them, but with them. Through dialogue, training, mentorship, and honest partnership, a new chapter for Campo das Vertentes is being written, one where rural life is not a struggle but a source of strength

HRNS joined changemakers from around the world during Hamburg Sustainability Week and the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, contributing key perspectives on smallholder farming and sustainability. At their side-event, “The Smallholder Dilemma”, the company focused on the vital link between smallholders and biodiversity. The discussions tackled systemic barriers and celebrated local solutions. That’s why they will be streaming the event globally soon.

HRNS also drove the “Coffee Regions in Transition: Sustainability and Inclusion” conference, hosted by HRNS Brazil in Santo Antônio do Amparo in 2025. Below, we share the details published on the official site.

The “Coffee Regions in Transition: Sustainability and Inclusion” conference

SANTO ANTÔNIO DO AMPARO, Brazil – Lasting change happens when people come together, not just to talk, but to build. This spirit of unity and purpose drove the “Coffee Regions in Transition: Sustainability and Inclusion” conference, hosted by HRNS Brazil in Santo Antônio do Amparo in 2025. What started as an event turned into something much more, a shared commitment to shaping a better future for coffee-growing families in Brazil’s Campo das Vertentes region.



The gathering brought together smallholder farmers, youth, researchers, public and private actors, not to show case ideas in isolation, but to weave them into a collective vision. It was not a day of lectures, but a day of listening, of understanding, of recognizing that no one holds all the answers alone.

From climate adaptation to economic resilience, from youth leadership to rural innovation, the voices in the room reflected a common thread: we move forward when we move forward together.

Not just talking, connecting

Conferences can feel like checklists. But this one felt like a reunion of people who share the same mission. Whether it was in the sessions or between them, the real value emerged from moments of connection.

Young producers like Geovana Peixoto voiced what many were thinking: “We want to carry forward the legacy of our families. But we also want to innovate. We’re ready.” Her clarity and optimism broke any generational walls.

Alexandre Vilela, from Sítio Refazenda, captured the intergenerational link beautifully: “Success in coffee production depends on combining the experience of older generations with the curiosity and innovation of younger ones.”

Meanwhile, Francyyelly Balduino, co-country manager at HRNS Brazil, grounded the conversation in action: “We’re here to bring simple, practical tools, things producers can use today, not just tomorrow.”

Challenges shared, solutions co-created

Climate change. Unpredictable markets. Youth migration. These challenges aren’t new, but they are evolving, and their impact is deeply personal.

During one exchange, Dr. Marcelo Zeriof CEMADEN shared alarming data on shifting climate zones and warming trends in Minas Gerais. For farmers like Janice Torres, this wasn’t theoretical. “But with the right guidance, I made changes that made my farm stronger,” she said. That guidance came through HRNS and its network of partners.

These aren’t just technical adaptations, they’re acts of resilience, supported by a web of collaborators: UFLA, SEBRAE, Sancoffee, Sistema FAEMG/SENAR, Cooxupé, CEMADEN, and many more. Their role wasn’t just to speak, but to stand with producers.

Youth as catalysts, not bystanders

The Semear Program stood out as a vibrant thread running through the day. It’s more than training; it’s a mindset shift. Young people, often overlooked in rural planning, took the stage, not as future leaders, but as today’s changemakers.

Felipe Bento, a Semear participant, summed it up: “This event helped me understand where we’re heading and how I can contribute to my family’s farm.”

The presence of Mr. Michael R. Neumann, founder of HRNS, along with Mrs. Sabine Neumann and members of the Board of Trustees, added a heartfelt dimension. Their engagement wasn’t symbolic, it was a clear sign of continued, personal commitment to inclusive transformation.

Key takeaways



From every exchange and reflection, a few lessons stood out clearly. Change doesn't begin in isolation, it grows in shared spaces, nurtured by diverse perspectives. When communities and institutions work together, resilience becomes more than a goal, it becomes reality.

Youth aren't waiting to lead tomorrow, they are already shaping today. Practicality matters, and simple tools often drive the deepest transformations. Climate adaptation must start locally, guided by science and grounded in real-world experience. And true inclusion means creating space for every voice to shape the way forward.

This is how change begins

By the end of the day, no one needed to be convinced that collaboration was key. The only question left was: how do we keep going?

"This was a unique opportunity to engage with HRNS Brazil and learn how to be part of something bigger," said Jéssica, a press officer from the municipality of Perdões. Her words captured what many felt.

This wasn't about conclusions, it was about momentum. It was about turning shared insights into shared strategies, and strategies into action.

Looking ahead

HRNS Brazil remains committed to walking alongside farming families, not in front of them, not behind them, but with them. Through dialogue, training, mentorship, and honest partnership, a new chapter for Campo das Vertentes is being written, one where rural life is not a struggle but a source of strength.



2nd Hamburg Sustainability Conference Led by Germany's Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan Unites 1,600 Participants From 110 Countries

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Deep Newz

The 2nd Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC 2025) commenced on June 2, bringing together approximately 1,600 participants from around 110 countries to address global sustainability challenges. The event is a collaborative initiative led by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Michael Otto Foundation, and the City of Hamburg. Germany's new Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Reem Alabali-Radovan, who has a personal background as a child of Iraqi refugees, highlighted the importance of inclusive policies and international cooperation in tackling pressing global issues. She emphasized that



collective efforts are essential to effectively respond to contemporary challenges and improve well-being worldwide. The conference aims to foster cooperation to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Hamburg Sustainability Conference: Konkrete Ergebnissen und neue Allianzen

Date: June 16, 2025

Source:

Deutsche Finanz Presse Agentur (DFPA)

Mit rund 1.600 Teilnehmenden aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft war die zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) ein voller Erfolg. Zentrales Ergebnis der zweitägigen Konferenz war unter anderem die Unterzeichnung der „Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs“, an der über 40 Regierungen und Organisationen beteiligt sind.

Ein wichtiger Impuls für die wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit ist auch die Gründung der „Global Alliance against Inequality“. Zudem wurde mit „SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development“ eine Initiative zur Mobilisierung privater Investitionen ins Leben gerufen.

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan bezeichnete die Konferenz als „starkes Zeichen für Solidarität und Kooperation“. Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher betonte die Bedeutung gemeinsamer internationaler Anstrengungen, um die 17 Nachhaltigkeitsziele zu erreichen. UNDP-Chef Achim Steiner sprach von einem „Meilenstein“ auf dem Weg zu einer verantwortungsvollen Nutzung künstlicher Intelligenz für nachhaltige Entwicklung.

Weitere Ankündigungen umfassten unter anderem ein neues Institut für Nachhaltigkeitsschiedsverfahren (ISA), eine gemeinsame Erklärung zur Förderung kommunaler Investitionen sowie neue Unterstützer der HSC-Erklärungen zu grüner Luftfahrt und klimaneutraler Schifffahrt.

Inmitten geopolitischer Spannungen hat sich die Konferenz, so die einhellige Meinung der Teilnehmenden, als zentrale Plattform zur Umsetzung der UN-Nachhaltigkeitsziele (Agenda 2030) etabliert und neue Impulse für eine globale Zusammenarbeit gesetzt. Die Veranstalter kündigten an, die Arbeit auch zwischen den Konferenzen fortzusetzen – etwa mit dem HSC Future Economy Day am 4. Juni und weiteren Formaten im Rahmen der Hamburg Sustainability Week. Die nächste HSC ist für den 29. und 30. Juni 2026 geplant. (DFPA/abg)

Die jährliche Konferenz und ihre internationalen Satellitenformate sind eine gemeinsame Initiative der Vereinten Nationen (UNDP), der Bundesregierung (BMZ), der Michael Otto Stiftung und der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg. Auf der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) planen führende Köpfe aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft die Umsetzung gemeinsamer Prozesse zur Erreichung der UN-Nachhaltigkeitsziele (SDGs).

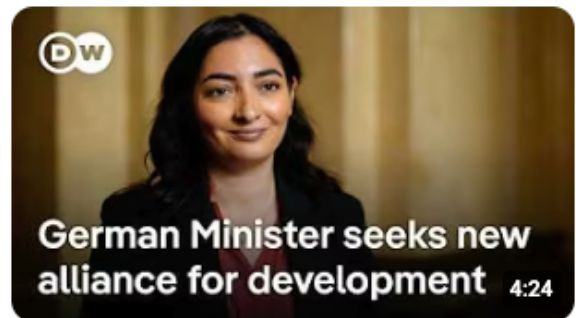


Germany's new development minister seeks alliance with global South | DW News

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Deutsche Welle

DW spoke to Germany's new Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan about Germany's plan to reshape its development policy and the creation of new partnerships with the countries of the Global South. Ms Alabali-Radovan pleads for an immediate ceasefire, humanitarian access and hostage release in Gaza. She said Artificial Intelligence could help to offset budget shortfalls.



Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD), 35 years old, born in Moscow to Iraqi parents, came to Germany as the child of refugees. She was raised in East Germany and previously served as the federal government's Commissioner for Integration and Anti-Racism in the Chancellery. Since 2021, she has been a member of the Bundestag, and earlier she was the Commissioner for Integration in the government of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.

The interview was conducted at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference by DW-correspondent Christina Gerhäuser.



Konferenz für nachhaltige Entwicklung in Hamburg

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Deutschland.de

Rund 1.600 internationale Fachleute tauschen sich bei der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) aus.

Hamburg (d.de) - Rund 1.600 Teilnehmende aus mehr als 110 Ländern treffen sich am 2. und 3. Juni in Hamburg mit dem Ziel, Allianzen für die nachhaltige Entwicklung zu schmieden und die Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen voranzubringen. Auf der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) suchen hochrangige Vertreterinnen und Vertreter aus Politik, Wissenschaft, Wirtschaft, Zivilgesellschaft und internationalen Organisationen nach Lösungen für die drängendsten globalen Herausforderungen. Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem



Alabali-Radovan sagte vor Konferenzbeginn: „Die internationalen Herausforderungen sind groß wie nie – daher muss die internationale Zusammenarbeit stark wie nie sein.“

Im Zentrum der Beratungen stehen in diesem Jahr drei Themenfelder: die Reform der internationalen Finanzarchitektur, neue Investitionen zur Umsetzung der globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele (SDGs) sowie Transformationsprozesse in Schlüsselsektoren, darunter Mobilität und Logistik, globale Gesundheit, Biodiversität und Digitalisierung. Die Konferenz ist eine gemeinsame Initiative des Bundesministeriums für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ), des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen (UNDP), der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg und der Michael Otto Stiftung.



1. Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Deutschlandfunk

Podcast

2. Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz: Mehr tun für den Waldschutz

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Deutschlandfunk

Podcast



1. UNDP Mobilizes \$870B for SDGs, Aims for \$1 Trillion by End of 2025

Date: May 28, 2025

Source:
Devdiscourse

The report underscores UNDP's role as a development broker, facilitating partnerships among governments, financial institutions, and private sector stakeholders.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has released a compelling new report demonstrating the powerful catalytic effect of its development assistance in mobilising large-scale investments toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to the report, for every US\$1 in funding received by UNDP between 2022 and 2024, it catalysed nearly



US\$60 in aligned public and private investment—amounting to a staggering US\$870 billion in total for sustainable development across emerging economies.

The report also sets an ambitious goal: to mobilise US\$1 trillion in SDG-aligned investments by the end of 2025.

“This report shows that development assistance, when deployed strategically, can be a powerful catalyst for long-term investments that deliver financial returns as well as meaningful social and environmental impact,” said Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator.

Leveraging Strategic Partnerships for Sustainable Impact

The report underscores UNDP’s role as a development broker, facilitating partnerships among governments, financial institutions, and private sector stakeholders. By working to reduce investment risk, strengthen public financial systems, and unlock both domestic and international capital, UNDP is enabling developing countries to access the financial resources needed for inclusive and green growth.

Operating in over 170 countries and territories, UNDP’s approach is centred on coordinated, systemic change, aimed at ensuring development finance is not only available but used effectively.

The Global Financing Gap and the Urgency of Action

The report comes at a critical juncture. As global leaders prepare for the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Seville, the global community faces a sobering challenge: a US\$4.2 trillion annual SDG financing gap persists, even as over US\$450 trillion in global wealth remains largely untapped for development.

This financial mismatch continues to hinder efforts to address poverty, inequality, and climate vulnerability, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

“What’s needed now is not just policy ambition, but financial action,” said Marcos Neto, UNDP Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support. “UNDP will continue to partner across sectors and borders to help developing countries build the financial foundations for a resilient, equitable, and sustainable future.”

Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) Drive Reform

A key mechanism in UNDP’s financial transformation strategy is the use of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs). These frameworks help governments align national budgets, tax systems, and financing policies with the SDGs.

- 86 countries are now using INFFs
- Over 50 countries are actively reforming financial policies based on these frameworks
- Notable examples include Cabo Verde, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Gabon, where INFFs are guiding budget alignment, tax reform, and investment prioritisation.

INFFs provide a structured approach to aligning public policy and financing with sustainable development objectives, ensuring greater coherence and accountability.

Tools for Private Sector Engagement and Investment

To scale private investment, UNDP has rolled out a series of initiatives:



- SDG Investor Maps: Identify investment opportunities aligned with national development priorities
- SDG Impact Standards: Provide best practices for investors and enterprises to align with the SDGs
- Blended Finance Platforms: De-risk investment in fragile markets and crowd in private capital

Through these tools, UNDP has helped to mobilise US\$380 billion in private sector investments and an additional US\$430 billion in public sector budgets toward the SDGs.

Country-Level Success Stories

The report features detailed case studies that showcase the diversity and impact of UNDP's financial facilitation efforts:

- In Cabo Verde, UNDP supported reforms that helped mobilise green bonds for renewable energy and climate resilience.
- In Colombia, efforts focused on tax reform and aligning public investment with peacebuilding and sustainability goals.
- In Ethiopia, INFFs helped identify opportunities to scale agriculture and health funding.
- In Gabon, reforms supported investments in biodiversity conservation and inclusive growth.

These examples illustrate how data transparency, local capacity-building, and public-private collaboration can unlock funding, even in fragile or post-conflict environments.

Looking Ahead: A Trillion-Dollar Ambition

UNDP's bold target of mobilising US\$1 trillion by the end of 2025 is both ambitious and necessary in the race to meet the SDGs by 2030. The report serves not only as a record of progress but also as a call to action for governments, investors, and multilateral institutions.

“Strategic development assistance can unlock transformative investments—shifting the system from short-term crisis response to long-term resilience and prosperity,” said Steiner.

With time running out and the development gap still wide, UNDP is urging global leaders to prioritise scalable, SDG-aligned finance—where every dollar can act as a multiplier for inclusive and sustainable development.

2. IFAD President Urges German Leadership to Bridge Global Inequality Divide

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Devdiscourse

Lario's appeal comes against a sobering backdrop of escalating global challenges. Despite increasing global wealth, inequality is widening dramatically.

At a pivotal moment for international cooperation and global sustainability, Álvaro Lario, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has called on Germany to assume a leadership role in addressing some of the most pressing challenges facing the world today. Speaking at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), Lario emphasized that



Germany's voice and influence are essential to rekindling global solidarity amid mounting economic disparity, climate instability, and geopolitical fragmentation.

The high-level conference, hosted in Hamburg, Germany, convened prominent policymakers, development experts, and international organizations to chart a course toward a more inclusive and sustainable future. Germany, with its economic strength and strategic partnerships, was repeatedly highlighted as a key actor in shaping global development outcomes.

A World in Crisis: Hunger, Displacement, and Inequality

Lario's appeal comes against a sobering backdrop of escalating global challenges. Despite increasing global wealth, inequality is widening dramatically. Hunger has soared, tripling since 2018, with nearly 300 million people suffering from acute food insecurity in 53 countries. Armed conflicts and forced displacement have reached record highs, and climate-related disasters—such as droughts, floods, and temperature extremes—are growing in frequency and severity.

“The world stands at a historic crossroads,” Lario told conference attendees. “We face interconnected crises that require collective action, yet development financing remains far below what is needed. We face an estimated US\$4 trillion annual gap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Lario stressed that development cooperation is not just a moral imperative but a practical necessity for global peace, economic stability, and climate resilience.

Germany's Role in Driving Change

Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has long been a major partner in global development. On the sidelines of the conference, Lario met with Reem Alabali-Radovan, Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, to discuss deepening IFAD's strategic cooperation with Germany. Their conversation focused on tackling hunger and poverty in rural regions, supporting young people, and investing in sustainable food systems.

“Germany has a unique opportunity to catalyze private sector engagement and drive transformative change,” Lario said. “Its leadership is critical in narrowing the development divide between the Global North and Global South.”

IFAD's work aligns closely with Germany's goals for global development, including empowering women, supporting climate-smart agriculture, and creating long-term economic opportunity in fragile and rural communities.

The Case for Investing in Rural Communities

Lario used the conference platform to advocate for increased investment in rural development, particularly in small-scale food producers. He participated in a closed-door high-level dialogue on international financial flows and the reform of the current rules-based economic order.

“Investment in small-scale food producers is not charity—it's a strategic move for global stability and resilience,” he said. “These investments strengthen food security, reduce reliance on emergency aid, and lessen the migration pressures that arise when rural livelihoods collapse.”

According to IFAD, more than 80 percent of the world's poorest people live in rural areas, yet they remain largely overlooked in global investment plans. Small-scale farmers produce one-



third of the world's food but receive less than 1.7 percent of global climate finance. Lario argued that prioritizing this sector could yield powerful returns.

Tapping the Potential of Rural Youth

A major focus of IFAD's work is expanding opportunity for the world's 1.2 billion young people, nearly 90 percent of whom live in developing countries. Many of them reside in rural areas where unemployment is high and economic opportunities are scarce. Without meaningful prospects, many young people see migration—often unsafe or irregular—as their only option.

Yet Lario pointed to agriculture and food systems as sectors with enormous untapped potential. With the right support and innovation, these industries could generate over US\$4.5 trillion in new business opportunities annually and create 120 million new jobs—many of them for youth.

"We need to flip the narrative," said Lario. "With smart investment, agriculture becomes a driver of opportunity, innovation, and resilience. It turns migration from a necessity into a choice."

Looking Ahead: A Call for Global Solidarity

As the Hamburg Sustainability Conference concluded, Lario's message stood as a resounding call to action. He urged world leaders, particularly Germany, to step up as champions of fairness, investment, and international cooperation.

"Now is the time to rebuild trust and reignite the spirit of global solidarity," Lario said. "Together, we can unlock prosperity for rural communities, address hunger at its root, and build a fairer and more resilient world."

IFAD continues to play a leading role in delivering impact where it is most needed—on the frontlines of food insecurity, climate change, and economic marginalization—while pushing for transformative global partnerships that serve the many, not just the few.

3. Western Cape Flags Urgent Water Security, Equity at Global Sustainability Forum

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Devdiscourse

The Western Cape Government is set to invest R32 million in the 2025/26 fiscal year toward water and wastewater infrastructure upgrades.

The pressing link between water security and food production amid climate change took center stage at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, where Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Environmental Affairs, and Development Planning, Anton Bredell, voiced critical concerns from South Africa's water-stressed region.

Participating in a high-level panel on food security and water management, MEC Bredell painted a sobering picture of the Western Cape's growing vulnerability. As the province grows hotter and drier, climate-induced challenges such as prolonged droughts, increased wildfires, and unpredictable flooding are straining its fragile resource base.



“Water security is not just a technical issue—it’s deeply socio-economic,” Bredell told global delegates. “We’re grappling with the complex interplay of poverty, inequality, rapid population growth, and insufficient infrastructure—all while our natural water sources decline in reliability.”

A Region on the Brink

The Western Cape, already one of South Africa’s most water-scarce regions, is at the forefront of national climate impacts. Bredell emphasized the urgent need for sustainable infrastructure, pointing to water and wastewater systems that are under severe financial and operational stress.

According to provincial data, 30% of all water in the Western Cape is “non-revenue” water—either lost to leaks or unbilled usage. This is far above optimal global benchmarks. The province recovers revenue on just 70.4% of water supplied, impacting municipal budgets and service delivery.

Balancing Dignity and Affordability

Bredell highlighted a nuanced policy dilemma: South Africa’s social safety net, known as the “dignity basket”, includes basic allocations of free water, electricity, and municipal services to indigent households. But with a growing number of beneficiaries, this system is increasingly straining municipal finances.

“Our research shows that the legally prescribed allocation of 6 kilolitres per household per month is inadequate. We believe a more humane standard is 15 kilolitres, especially in hot, dry climates like ours,” he said. “But the question is: who pays for this increased allocation?”

He noted that ratepayers in more affluent communities are being asked to cross-subsidize an expanding group of vulnerable households, putting pressure on local budgets and sparking debates about fiscal equity and sustainability.

Limited Storage, New Strategies

With few options left for traditional bulk water storage infrastructure due to environmental and geographical constraints, the province is turning to a multipronged approach to future water security:

Improved water demand management to reduce per capita consumption (currently 216 liters/day vs. 173 liter global average).

Greater investment in groundwater extraction, aquifer recharge, and stormwater harvesting.

Scaling water reuse programs and treated wastewater systems.

Exploring desalination projects, particularly in coastal regions.

“Desalination and reuse are no longer futuristic ideas. They’re essential to our resilience strategy,” Bredell affirmed.

Investing in Resilience

The Western Cape Government is set to invest R32 million in the 2025/26 fiscal year toward water and wastewater infrastructure upgrades. These funds will support municipalities across the province to meet growing demand, prevent system losses, and adapt to climate extremes.



The Hamburg Sustainability Conference (June 2–3, 2025) brought together global leaders from government, business, civil society, and academia to find common ground and shared solutions for advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Bredell's participation ensured that the Western Cape's voice was present at the global sustainability table, contributing to dialogue on how developing regions can safeguard their people while adapting to a warmer, drier, and more unequal world.

"We cannot achieve food security without water security, and we cannot deliver water security without honest, inclusive governance," Bredell concluded. "Our path forward must combine equity, innovation, and climate-smart leadership."

4. Global Leaders Sign Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for Sustainable Development

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:
Devdiscourse

The declaration is widely viewed as a pivot away from AI models driven solely by profit or geopolitical competition and toward AI as a public good.

In a historic move to align artificial intelligence (AI) innovation with global equity and sustainability goals, leaders from across the world convened at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) to sign the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This marks the first-ever international declaration focused specifically on the ethical and inclusive use of AI in the context of global development, with an emphasis on empowering developing nations.

The declaration, which was endorsed by representatives from governments, private industry, academia, and civil society, sets out a shared vision to ensure AI technologies serve humanity equitably and responsibly. It commits stakeholders to principles that protect human rights, combat systemic inequalities, and promote environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive innovation.

A Turning Point in AI Governance

"Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its potential remains unrealized for most developing countries," said UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator Achim Steiner during the conference. "The Hamburg Declaration represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities, and addresses global inequalities."

The declaration is widely viewed as a pivot away from AI models driven solely by profit or geopolitical competition and toward AI as a public good. According to the signatories, AI must be developed and deployed in ways that uplift marginalized populations, enhance education, support sustainable development, and reinforce the principles of fairness and inclusion.

German Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan echoed these sentiments, stating: "Improving access to fair and sustainable AI worldwide is one of the great challenges of our time. Too many people remain excluded from the benefits of digital innovation. The Hamburg Declaration marks a turning point — AI must become a force for good, a driver of inclusion, equality, and sustainable development."



Key Commitments of the Hamburg Declaration

The declaration outlines several key areas of commitment:

Human Rights and Equity: AI systems must be developed and deployed in ways that uphold human rights and actively reduce inequality, particularly for marginalized communities.

Environmental Sustainability: Signatories pledge to enhance the energy and resource efficiency of AI technologies and reduce their environmental impact.

Inclusive Education and Skills Development: There is a strong focus on expanding access to AI education and training, with special attention to women, girls, and underserved populations.

Combating Disinformation: A coordinated global effort is promised to prevent the misuse of AI in spreading false information and undermining democratic institutions.

Empowering Local Innovation: The declaration calls for direct support of AI research, development, and entrepreneurship in developing countries, ensuring they are not merely consumers but co-creators of technological solutions.

From Agreement to Action

The Hamburg Declaration is the culmination of efforts that began during HSC 2024, when the UNDP and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) jointly proposed a draft framework for ethical AI. In the year since, a series of inclusive consultations were held with representatives from over 70 countries, ensuring that diverse voices—including those from low- and middle-income nations—shaped the final agreement.

These efforts reflect a growing understanding that the future of AI cannot be determined solely by tech giants or wealthy nations. Instead, it must be the result of broad-based collaboration, grounded in sustainable development principles and responsive to the needs of the most vulnerable.

The Road Ahead

While the Hamburg Declaration is an important milestone, it also represents the beginning of a longer journey. The signatories acknowledge that meaningful change will require ongoing investment, cross-border partnerships, and robust accountability mechanisms.

The UNDP has committed to launching a new multi-stakeholder task force to monitor progress and provide guidance on implementing the declaration's principles. Governments and international organizations are also expected to align national AI strategies with the commitments outlined in the Hamburg Declaration.

The goal is ambitious: a global digital future in which every country, regardless of income or technological capacity, has a seat at the table and a stake in shaping the responsible use of AI.

“Inclusive, sustainable, and rights-based AI is not a luxury—it’s a necessity,” said Steiner. “If we are to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, AI must work for everyone, everywhere.”



1. Devex Newswire: State Dept. shake-up to cut jobs, rights offices, and refugee focus

Date: May 30, 2025

Source:
devex

The proposal affects some 300 offices, cuts thousands of jobs, and strips back the U.S. State Department's human rights and refugee mandates. Plus, Africa's economic outlook, and Sidi Ould Tah to take helm of the African Development Bank.

SDGs faltering

Only 16% of Sustainable Development Goals are on track, the U.S. has abandoned the framework, and European donors are cutting budgets. The question is what comes next.

Germany is testing an answer through the annual Hamburg Sustainability Conference, or HSC, which puts private sector solutions at the center rather than traditional donor pledges. Speaking with Devex President and Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar, HSC Managing Director Henry Alt-Haaker says the conference founders argue the SDG system has three core problems. First, “business is always treated as a problem and not as part of the solution” despite being essential for scaling innovations. Second, global north-south dialogue operates on an outdated giver-receiver mentality rather than as equals. Third, “old alliances” and institutional structures simply “don't work any longer.”

Next week's conference, for which Devex is a media partner, aims to connect global south innovations directly with private capital and supportive regulation. The goal is to create frameworks where public guarantees can de-risk private investment in sustainable solutions, especially in countries where banks typically won't lend due to perceived risks.

Rather than chasing headlines with new pledges, HSC's edge is tracking results from existing commitments. The conference is hosting dedicated review sessions for three major initiatives from last year — signatories will have to report on progress on blended finance innovations, shipping decarbonization, and AI governance. As Alt-Haaker tells Raj, this will help avoid contracts ending “up in some drawer at the desk [to] collect dust.”

Germany — though “more of a question mark” on its long-term aid spending — is positioning itself as a potential convening power as traditional multilateral cooperation faces strain. Hamburg's 190 consulates and merchant trading history offer a natural platform for this approach.

With 2,000 participants including three German ministers gathering next week, the conference may signal how development cooperation evolves beyond donor-driven models — while providing insights into what post-traditional aid architecture might look like.



2. Devex Newswire: Global finance summit tests leadership in Seville

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
devex

Details on a tough slim down at the U.N. Plus, Canada maintains its aid spending despite a global trend of cuts, and the U.K. turns away from making pledges to nutrition.

Canadian beacon

Canada could maintain development spending under the new government despite mounting fiscal pressures, downplaying speculation of aid cuts as other donors slash budgets.

“There’s no suggestion about the need to do cuts,” a senior Canadian official told Devex Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, even while acknowledging “we’re in a world of huge pressures.” Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney’s decision to keep a separate minister for international development signals commitment, while other governments merge portfolios.

Canada recently consolidated fragmented development programs after years of “artificial” divisions between geographic and multilateral teams. The reorganization brings together everything from multilateral development bank relations to peace operations under one roof.

The official also warned that the U.N. system is “on the verge of collapse” with headquarters failing to match the field operations’ sense of urgency on reform. She described visiting U.N. country offices where agencies work in “stovepipes” with little effective coordination between agencies.

With the U.S. engagement declining, middle powers are now “the incremental money.” The official noted that countries such as Canada and Spain have an opportunity to use their funding influence to drive U.N. consolidation.

Canada’s G7 presidency priorities include private capital mobilization and infrastructure development — two areas where the new prime minister, who formerly served as governor of the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England, has extensive experience. Carney has also ordered a rapid foreign policy review that the official said will focus on “practical, action-oriented approaches” while strengthening alliance relationships amid growing global instability.

3. Devex Dish: Africa’s message on agriculture — self-reliance isn’t optional

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
devex

IFAD’s migration pitch

As traditional aid budgets contract, International Fund for Agricultural Development President Alvaro Lario is doubling down on a strategy that could define his agency’s future.



“We were not one of them,” Lario said of Germany’s recent aid cuts, during a conversation with Devex President and Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference this week. IFAD was spared, he argued, because it’s delivering on one of Europe’s top political priorities: reducing migration by addressing its root causes.

The pitch is straightforward — but risky: Invest in smallholder farmers before they abandon drought-hit fields for dangerous journeys to richer nations. IFAD claims every dollar it spends generates \$1.80 through co-financing, but that math only works if new partners keep coming to the table.

That’s where the pivot comes in. With Western donors pulling back, Lario is looking elsewhere: “We’re partnering more with institutions such as AIIB, OPEC Fund, [and the] Saudi Fund,” he said.

This strategy unfolds as broader U.N. reform looms. Lario predicts the deepest cuts will land at the United Nations Secretariat in New York, where thousands of mandates have created layers of bureaucracy. His bet? That specialized agencies such as IFAD, with a clear mandate and results to show, will avoid the worst of the fallout

But the question remains: Can IFAD’s prevention-first approach — tackling rural poverty to reduce migration — continue to win over governments under pressure to cut?

4. Special edition: Germany steps into the void USAID left behind

Date: June 09, 2025

Source:
devex

In this special edition of the Newswire we share everything we learned at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.

As the U.S. abandons its multilateral commitments under President Donald Trump, other countries have been left trying to pick up the pieces.

At last week’s Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Germany dropped strong hints that it’s up to the job.

Against the backdrop of a new German government headed by Chancellor Friedrich Merz, the country’s vice chancellor and finance minister, Lars Klingbeil, gave a full-throated defense of multilateralism, including the need to “revive” the 2030 U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.

“Multilateralism is the answer to global challenges,” he declared in his keynote at the conference, which drew 1,600 participants over two days to the city of Hamburg. “After all, we have plenty of interests in common, such as fighting climate change, displacement and expulsion, inequality, hunger, and poverty, among others. A rules-based international order has the best chances of success for the largest number of countries.”

Bridging the north-south divide

As Germany makes a bid to fill the international leadership vacuum left by the United States, Klingbeil announced plans for a new North-South Commission that positions Berlin as the standard-bearer for multilateral cooperation in an increasingly fragmented world.



“The challenge for the next decades will not be met by an adversary system of winners and losers,” Klingbeil said.

The commission will develop “new north-south policies for a multipolar world” — acknowledging that Western dominance is ending and Germany intends to help shape what comes next. Germany’s broader strategy includes advancing the G20 Compact with Africa, promoting international tax cooperation, and backing the European Union’s “Global Gateway” initiative.

“No crisis can be solved without cooperation of the countries of the global south and the global north,” Klingbeil said.

The dismantling of USAID has left Germany the world’s largest individual donor of official development assistance in absolute terms. But Klingbeil’s announcement also signals Germany’s readiness to champion the multilateral institutions and partnerships that Washington and London have increasingly abandoned.

The initiative represents a calculated German bet that Berlin can step into a leadership void. The question now is whether low- and middle-income nations see the commission as a genuine partnership — or just another northern-led initiative.

Have your kuchen and eat it too

At the conference, German development agency GIZ also pushed back against the assumption that countries must choose between pursuing national interests or upholding values in international affairs.

“We can pursue our interest to save global public goods, the nature of our planet, the oceans. But at the same time, this is part of our values,” GIZ Managing Director Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven told Devex President and Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar. “It’s not an either or, but it’s both.”

Hoven predicted that the 2020s would see more and more countries openly acknowledge national interests in development work — a shift she considers inevitable and potentially healthy if managed correctly. “We are changing the narrative,” she said. “This is not aid, this is not charity. This is an investment in our common future.”

But Germany, like some other donors, including the EU, is trying to walk the line. Hoven warned against purely transactional approaches adopted by other powers, pointing to economic analysis mentioned by UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebeca Grynspan at the conference, showing that 10% tariff increases proposed by the Trump administration could reduce some countries’ international trade participation by 20%. “If we act [only] interest-oriented, and we do this in the selfish, purely transactional way, the selfishness is going to haunt us later on.”

The limits of MDBs

Multilateral development banks cannot single-handedly compensate for massive bilateral aid cuts as formerly generous donors slash their budgets, according to Carlo Monticelli, the governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank.

“We have to be clear ... there are limits to the amount of extra output that can be obtained by the MDBs without increasing the capital endowment,” Monticelli told Raj. “This is not to get off the hook, but just to be fully realistic and avoid generating the expectation that the MDBs can by themselves make good for quite important resource cuts.”



As Monticelli pointed out, the aid cuts are also hitting MDBs in two ways: Their trust funds and cheap lending programs both depend on fresh donor cash, which is now drying up. As chair of the Heads of MDBs Group this year, he's pushing efficiency reforms, including agreements that allow banks to share project reviews rather than duplicating each other's work. It may sound technical, but the potential cost savings are huge.

The bigger test is whether MDBs can actually mobilize private capital at scale. Ten years after the "billions to trillions" slogan emerged from Addis Ababa at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Monticelli borrowed an advertising phrase for his verdict on private sector engagement: "Just do it."

AECID test

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, or AECID, has transformed into a connector of partnerships rather than a traditional project implementer, with 50% of its financing now flowing through private sector channels, according to its director.

Antón Leis García told Devex that AECID increasingly sees itself as a "broker," linking countries, multilateral organizations, private investors, and civil society, rather than operating in isolation. The agency has doubled its annual budget to €708 million in grants and added nearly €400 million in annual lending capacity.

Spain is, of course, about to take center stage as Sevilla hosts the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, or FfD4. García expects the summit to showcase new partnerships blurring conventional north-south donor divisions.

Norway but up

Meanwhile, Norway's development agency has shifted from project-based funding to strategic portfolio management under its outgoing chief. Director-General Bård Vegar Solhjell told Devex that NORAD's five-year reform will focus on cash transfers, education system partnerships, and flexible contracting that allow the agency to act like a "financial manager," rather than a traditional donor. The overhaul also brought humanitarian and development funding together under NORAD's umbrella.

"We are trying to think in a more strategic way," Solhjell said of the 320-person agency, describing the move from singular projects to portfolio approaches targeting entire systems. NORAD now demands long-term results from partners, with some pay-for-performance contracts in areas such as global health and forestry.

The agency has also dramatically expanded cash transfers — a move based on effectiveness data across poverty reduction and climate adaptation. And rather than direct local contracting, NORAD selectively partners with organizations skilled in localization to maximize impact given its limited resources.

Solhjell is leaving his role this month to become CEO of Renewable Norway, though he's also still a candidate to lead the United Nations Development Programme. His departure creates succession uncertainty at the agency, but Solhjell still highlighted NORAD's relative stability in an era of agency downsizing. When pressed about continuity, he stressed that Norway's development assistance represents "a resource for us in global politics" — strategic value even as political support for development wavers.

The human cost



Global north countries weren't the only ones speaking out at the Hamburg conference. Maropene Ramokgopa, South Africa's minister in the presidency for planning, monitoring and evaluation, spoke about the withdrawal of support from the U.S. global AIDS initiative PEPFAR and how it's hit remote areas hardest — such as the Eastern Cape, where funding previously reached communities with poor infrastructure and limited health care access.

HIV patients in South Africa are now traveling far longer distances for lifesaving medication, while health care workers lose their jobs. U.S. funding cuts under Trump's "America First" agenda abruptly eliminated around 70% of the country's HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis programs.

The cuts were "so immediate" that they "didn't give us an opportunity to actually look at other alternatives," Ramokgopa told Devex. While "people won't die immediately," she warned that the disruption "will have an impact on the accessibility of health care" as families strain their resources to travel for treatment.

South Africa's finance minister has implemented emergency bridging measures while seeking new international partners, but Ramokgopa said the crisis exposes the dangers of aid dependency. She called for replacing "co-dependency" relationships with "mutual benefit" partnerships, noting that Africa loses \$90 billion annually to illicit financial flows — money that could fund domestic health programs instead of relying on donors whose priorities can shift overnight.

"We cannot destroy what has been rebuilt for 50 years," she said, referring to multilateral cooperation frameworks that have governed international development aid since the post-WWII era. But without reform, more health crises will follow, she warned.

City planning

The U.N.'s housing agency is betting its future on tackling what its chief calls a "global housing crisis" affecting almost every country as cities prepare for an unprecedented population surge.

UN-Habitat Executive Director Anacláudia Rossbach told Devex that the agency's new 2026-2029 strategic plan narrows the focus to "housing, land, and basic services" — returning to its original mandate as urbanization accelerates globally.

More than half the world already lives in cities, and that is expected to rise to 70% by 2050. "We're talking about hundreds of millions coming to cities that are already facing major infrastructure gaps," Rossbach said, pointing to African cities where 50% to 80% of residents live informally.

Rossbach rejected one-size-fits-all approaches to informal settlements, advocating for community-specific solutions rather than blanket relocation or upgrade strategies. "The best model is the one that fits locally," she explained, noting some settlements must move from disaster-prone areas while others can take advantage of existing community investments.

The strategic shift comes as UN-Habitat positions itself as the system's housing specialist while Germany — one of its strongest supporters — launches a new government with fresh development priorities. Rossbach's focus on core housing mandates reflects a bet that specialized U.N. agencies may weather current budget pressures better than those with sprawling, overlapping missions.



5. Episode 100: What happened in global development over the past 2 years?

Date: June 13, 2025

Source:
devex

For the 100th episode of our weekly podcast, Devex Business Editor David Ainsworth sits down with Devex President and Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar and Global Development Reporter Elissa Miolene to mark the occasion.

Listen on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), [Soundcloud](#), [YouTube](#), or search “Devex” in your favorite podcast app.



In celebration of our 100th podcast episode, we're revisiting the most impactful global development stories from the past two years, covering the period since our very first recording.

From the evolving aid landscape to the critical discussions around localization, we explore some of the key themes in global development that we have been covering. We examine the growing burden of debt in low-income countries and the urgent need for climate finance.

During this episode, we also look back at the key takeaways from the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, where Devex was a media partner.

For this week's edition, Business Editor David Ainsworth sits down with Devex President and Editor-in-Chief Raj Kumar and Global Development Reporter Elissa Miolene to mark this special occasion.



La SMT representa a Puebla en Alemania

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Diario de Puebla

HAMBURGO, ALEMANIA.- El Gobierno del Estado de Puebla que encabeza el mandatario Alejandro Armenta, participó en la “Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025”, a través de la Secretaría de Movilidad y Transporte (SMT). El evento es una de las plataformas internacionales más relevantes para el diálogo en torno a los Objetivos de Desarrollo



Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU, para fortalecer una movilidad segura, incluyente y sostenible en la entidad.

La invitación fue extendida por la Agencia de Cooperación Alemana (GIZ) y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), en donde la subsecretaria de Movilidad y Seguridad Vial, Cynthia Chávez Ríos, participó en el panel internacional titulado “Moldeando las Ciudades del Futuro: innovación social para la movilidad y economía circular”, en la que compartió la visión del gobernador Alejandro Armenta en torno a los principales retos en materia de transporte público, así como las estrategias actuales para avanzar hacia una movilidad más equitativa y sustentable. Cabe destacar que esta participación no representó gasto alguno para el Gobierno de Puebla, ya que fue cubierta por la organización del evento en reconocimiento al perfil técnico de la funcionaria.

Moderado por Benjamín de la Peña, director general del Centro de Movilidad Compartida de Chicago, el panel reunió a especialistas de India, Nueva York, Colombia y representantes del PNUD, con quienes se compartieron experiencias sobre soluciones innovadoras para los retos urbanos actuales. La subsecretaria Chávez Ríos expuso las estrategias de la administración poblana para la renovación vehicular del transporte público, el fortalecimiento de la seguridad para las mujeres usuarias y la formalización de modelos de transporte local.

En este foro internacional, la participación del Gobierno del Estado de Puebla refuerza su compromiso por una movilidad sustentable y de calidad, además de abrir nuevas oportunidades de cooperación técnica y generar sinergias que impactarán positivamente en el sistema de transporte estatal.



IFAD calls on Germany for global solidarity, rural development progress

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Donor Tracker

On June 2, 2025, IFAD president President Álvaro Lario called on Germany's leadership as crucial to rekindle global solidarity amid rising inequality, conflict, and climate challenges at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, meeting with the BMZ to reinforce IFAD's partnership with Germany, focusing on tackling hunger, poverty, and youth unemployment in rural areas, where 80% of the world's poorest reside.

Despite increased global wealth, acute hunger has tripled since 2018, now affecting nearly 300 million people in 53 countries. Climate extremes and conflict are rising, yet development funding falls short by an estimated US\$4 trillion (EUR3.7 trillion) annually. Lario urged Germany to catalyze private sector investment and help close the development gap.

Lario emphasized that investing in small-scale rural producers is a strategic move for global stability and food security, not charity. With 1.2 billion young people seeking work—90% in developing countries—agriculture and food systems could unlock over US\$4.5 trillion in new business yearly and create 120 million jobs, turning migration into a choice, not a necessity.



1. Blended finance must evolve to do more with less: Hamburg Sustainability Conference head

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Eco-Business

A global conference initiated to speed up implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will launch a new Asia Pacific-focused platform this year to mobilise resources for blended finance and boost deal origination for stakeholders in the region.

Known as the Asia-Pacific Blended Finance Community of Practice, it will also be aimed at improving collaboration and knowledge exchange, particularly at a time when development aid funding is dwindling, shared Henry Alt-Haaker, managing director of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSF).

Global blended finance volumes has held up in 2024 amid macroeconomic headwinds, but the contraction of foreign aid – most notably cuts to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – could test the market in the year ahead.

Alt-Haaker, who leads a 30-person team from Berlin and Hamburg, tells Eco-Business that the inaugural HSF which was held last year was convened at a time when the world was already defined by geopolitical fragmentation and weakening trust in multilateral institutions. Increasingly, it sees itself playing a larger role in fostering cross-sector alliances and delivering concrete solutions to advance the SDGs, including in the blended finance space.

The annual conference, which runs this week, is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme, the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.

In this Q&A, Alt-Haaker speaks with Eco-Business about the urgency of structural reform in blended finance as well as Europe's role in a shifting sustainability landscape.

How might shrinking development aid funding – which has conventionally been a major source of catalytic capital in emerging and developing economies – impact blended finance flows?

As development aid declines, global norms are challenged, and the international order grows more multipolar and polarised.

Established actors seem to be less reliable than in the past, and international cooperation is questioned globally. Shrinking development aid funding is expected to constrain the growth and impact of blended finance, especially in emerging and developing economies.

Sadly, development actors and private financiers will have to do more with less. Specifically, the increasing strain on donor budgets limits the availability of concessional and risk-taking capital – crucial components in blended finance structures. This funding squeeze is seen as potentially reducing the scale and reach of blended finance initiatives, making it harder to crowd in private capital.



As development aid has historically underwritten first-loss positions or technical assistance facilities, a decline in this support weakens the ability to de-risk projects, thereby discouraging private sector participation.

That, however, does not need to be a reason for despair but can also be an opportunity for innovation and creativity. If used intelligently, blended finance instruments can allow government funding to fulfil a role that private capital cannot and – intelligently set up – serve as a lever to increase the impact of joint financing tools.

HSC emerged as a vital forum to safeguard progress on the sustainable development goals (SDGs) at a time when the world was increasingly defined by geopolitical fragmentation, economic uncertainty and weakening trust in multilateral institutions. Now it continues to foster cross-sector alliances and deliver concrete solutions.

These will be developed during the sessions this week. Topics for discussion will likely include development impact bonds (DIBs), where private investors fund development programmes upfront and receive returns based on the achievement of agreed-upon outcomes, and social impact incentives (SIINC) that provide time-limited premium payments to companies for achieving social impact.

We are also likely to explore carbon finance mechanisms including carbon credit, as well as an initiative to scale blended finance through standardisation and centralised capital formation which was initiated at last year's conference.

As development aid has historically underwritten first-loss positions or technical assistance facilities, a decline in this support weakens the ability to de-risk projects...That, however, does not need to be a reason for despair but can also be an opportunity for innovation and creativity.

Henry Alt-Haaker, managing director, Hamburg Sustainability Conference

What new initiatives are set to come out from the conference to address some of these immediate strains in donor funding and longer-term structural challenges in blended finance, especially in the Asia Pacific region?

We see Asia Pacific as a highly important region. Initiatives focused on this region include the launch of the Asia-Pacific Blended Finance Community of Practice. This will be a regional platform aimed at improving collaboration, knowledge exchange, and deal origination among stakeholders. It is expected to enhance coordination and mobilisation of resources for blended finance in the region.

Furthermore, we are hosting a closed-door high-level roundtable on systemic issues. Here, we will focus on overcoming systemic barriers such as lack of standardisation, pipeline visibility, and data transparency. It seeks to drive consensus around the prioritisation of enabling reforms and policy tools to improve the blended finance ecosystem.

And finally, we aim to showcase scalable regional models. We have several sessions that will be discussing innovative financing mechanisms and regional structures (e.g., guarantee platforms, debt funds) that can scale despite constrained concessional capital. Special attention is given to Asian Development Bank initiatives and public-private collaboration models.

These initiatives aim to diversify funding sources, enhance local market capacity and institutionalise blended finance solutions, thereby addressing both the symptoms and root causes of underperformance in blended finance markets.



What are the interests and sentiments around sustainability emerging in Europe on the back of the shifting political landscape?

Europeans know from their hard and painful history that sustainability and peace are inherently intertwined.

As [United Nations Development Programme administrator] Achim Steiner said last year at the HSC: “There is no peace without development and there cannot be development without peace.”

This has not changed with some of the geopolitical upheavals of the last months and years. Germany, being at the heart of Europe, surrounded by friends and strongly dependent on international trade, has always been a champion of multilateral cooperation.

However, we also see clearly that the last decades of international cooperation have been equally beneficial to all states on the globe, and this is one reason why the rules-based international order faces unprecedented challenges, and the universality of global norms is being questioned.

The HSC provides a platform to build alliances for multilateral action to advance the SDGs. The task ahead is urgent: as nations struggle to adapt to shrinking development space, trade tensions, and fragmented governance, the need to forge alliances that transcend outdated public-private and north-south distinctions has never been more apparent.

Sustainability does not depend on a single champion; it thrives within a collaborative, distributed ecosystem of bold partnerships that can harness innovative solutions and inspire transformative action.

Is Europe still expected to be the centre for the most progressive region in terms of corporate sustainability standards and regulations, with more far-right parties coming into power?

Europe maintains the single most integrated market with a functioning rule of law to secure investments and business, high labour and environmental standards and an inherent interest in an equitable international order.

These are basic tenets of the European Union that cannot be changed by individual parties within member states. And given the role that the European market and innovative businesses still play in the world, this “soft power” is actually a “hard power” and will hence continue to shape international narratives and standards for the years and decades to come.

This does not diminish the changes that will come about through other dynamic regions like the Asia Pacific, which grows increasingly integrated, despite much more diverse political and economic systems. I don’t believe it is an “either or” but rather both will be true: Europe will remain a leader and important player, and others will be right there with it.

However, it is true that policy makers, think tankers, business leaders and public intellectuals must work harder to explain to the general public why the SDGs and sustainable development globally matter to them.

It is not a matter of charity or “nice to have” it is simply a matter of global survival of the human race, economic prosperity (both in Europe and beyond), lasting and positive peace and building a world for our children and grandchildren that they can thrive in.

What are some standardised blended finance models that the Hamburg Sustainability Platform have identified that can best scale private investments in the Asia Pacific region?



The Hamburg Sustainability Platform stakeholders recognise greater standardisation as one way to solve structural barriers to blended finance. As such, Hamburg Sustainability Platform does not operate with a geographical or regional focus, which allows for broad stakeholder engagement.

While the Hamburg Sustainability Platform approach can serve to standardise different vehicle types, it is likely that fund structures will be the first ones to be tackled. The Hamburg Sustainability Platform aims to set up investment vehicles which generate sustainable impact and – through standardisation – the Hamburg Sustainability Platform aims to do so faster, easier and more predictable. Further details will be presented during the HSC.

While there have been talks of the reshaping of international financial architecture for years, the US Trump administration has really stress tested the global financial system. What are some of the most urgent reforms that must be pushed so that the economy we build back amid this uncertainty is more inclusive, just and non-fossil fuel dependent?

These are exactly the kind of questions that leaders and experts, whose expertise far exceeds mine, will be discussing in Hamburg, both on public panels as well as in closed-door high-level sessions. I don't believe there are simple answers and trade-offs will have to be negotiated and managed.

In my conversation with leaders from all over the globe, however, I see that the mindset of simply “doing business as usual” won't work. Developing countries should not repeat the same mistakes Europe has made in its economic growth and the wealthier nations will – in their own interest – must support a different form of economic growth. And the wealthier nations should question the narrative of GDP growth at all costs, without internalising the real costs of business into the bottom line, behind.

There are so many sustainability conferences out there these days, how do you measure the impact of your conference?

Indeed, that was one of the first questions I asked when I joined the team at the beginning of this year. We are fully aware the world doesn't need just another conference.

That's why the Hamburg Sustainability Conference was designed not as a one-off event, but as a long-term, evolving platform for action – with roundtables and events over the course of the year. We measure our impact in how we build trust across sectors, challenge the traditional dynamics of global cooperation, and create space for new voices – especially from the Emerging Markets and Developing Economies (EMEDs) and the private sector – to not just participate, but lead.

Impact for us isn't only about the declarations signed (though there are many), but about the coalitions built, the capital mobilised, and the follow-through that happens between events. What sets the HSC apart is our commitment to co-creation – every session, every alliance, every process is shaped with our international partners.

For this we both evaluate output indicators after each event but also work with external evaluators to assess the much harder question on how we really impacted society and the progress for SDGs.

We are structured as a public-private partnership ourselves, because we believe that sustainability can only succeed when we model the kind of collaboration we want to see in the world. And we have a lean, passionate team working year-round to ensure that what happens in Hamburg doesn't stay in Hamburg – it moves the needle globally.



The interview has been edited for clarity and brevity. With additional reporting by Rhick Lars Albay and Gabrielle See.

The 2025 HSC will be held at the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and Hamburg City Hall between 2 and 3 June in Germany and can be accessed via livestream: <https://www.sustainability-conference.org/en/live>. The event coincides with Hamburg Sustainability Week celebrated from 1 to 6 June.

Eco-Business founder Jessica Cheam will moderate a panel discussion on Alleviating Structural Challenges in Blended Finance: Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) Moving to Action. Read our previously published Q&A with her.

2. Bridging global divides: Hamburg Sustainability Conference forges new alliances for a sustainable future

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Eco-Business

Published by Hamburg Sustainability Conference

On June 2 and 3, 2025, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) returns for its second edition. Again, the conference will bring together high-level representatives from politics, science, business, civil society, and international organisations to Hamburg.

Their shared goal: to forge alliances for sustainable development and accelerate progress on the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. This year, around 1,600 participants from more than 110 countries will convene across 60 sessions to develop concrete solutions to the most pressing global challenges of our time.

The conference will focus on three key objectives: reforming the international financial architecture, mobilising new investments to achieve the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and driving transformation in critical sectors — including mobility and logistics, global health, biodiversity, and digitalisation.

Although only eight months have passed since the first conference, the second HSC will unfold in a markedly different global context. It takes place at a time of profound shifts in international relations, rising geopolitical tensions, and increasing fragmentation. In a survey conducted by UNDP ahead of HSC 2025 among conference participants, approximately 67 per cent of respondents identified geopolitical tensions as the greatest challenge to global cooperation in the year ahead.

In this context, the HSC sends a clear and deliberate message: sustainable development can only succeed through joint action. The conference was intentionally conceived as a continuous process, with the ambition to generate impact well beyond the conference days.

This sustained, action-oriented approach is essential not only to achieve real-world impact, but also for the HSC to truly fulfill its mission: to co-create sustainable development. This year's high-level participation sends a strong signal: the HSC approach resonates widely — even in times of heightened uncertainty.



The HSC is supported by a strong alliance: the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Michael Ofto Foundation, and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

The first day of the HSC 2025 will be opened by the German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Reem Alabali-Radovan, the First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Peter Tschentscher, and UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner.

The subsequent opening panel will feature Reem Alabali-Radovan, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany; Joyelle Clarke, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment, St Kitts and Nevis; Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD; Cindy McCain, Executive Director, WFP; and Maropene Ramokgopa, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, South Africa. The second day of the conference will be opened by the German Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance, Lars Klingbeil, with a keynote address, followed by a Q&A session.

Further notable high-level participants include Michael Ofto, Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Ofto Group; Antoine Denoix, Chief Executive Officer, AXA Climate; Günther Thallinger, Member of the Board of Management for Investment, Management and Sustainability, Allianz SE; Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, Oxfam International; Sania Nishtar, Chief Executive Officer, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Carolina Pasquali, Executive Director, Greenpeace Brazil; and Elizabeth Wathuti, Climate Activist and Founder of the Green Generation Initiative.

A more profound list of selected high-level participants can be found [here](#). The diversity of participants and the cross-sector collaboration between leaders from politics, business, science, and civil society — across all world regions — reflects the HSC's multidimensional approach and creates the foundation for new alliances and collaborative action. This makes the HSC a platform for real, tangible progress.

Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan: “The international challenges are greater than ever before – which means that international cooperation must be stronger than ever before. If the Hamburg Sustainability Conference didn't already exist, then now would be the time to invent it. Many of the traditional forums for exchange are currently blocked. The value and the benefit of international cooperation are being questioned worldwide, in some cases quite aggressively. This makes a format like the Hamburg Sustainability Conference even more important, since it defies these attacks and breathes new life into a simple truth: It is better for all of us to work with each other and not against each other. And we are creating the framework for this to happen. This is how new alliances and models for cooperation are emerging.”

First Mayor Peter Tschentscher: “With the Sustainability Conference, Hamburg has created a forum to promote the practical implementation of the SDGs worldwide. Our city itself pursues a consistent sustainability strategy, is a strong business location and is well connected internationally. Last year, the conference led to many concrete agreements and projects. This should be continued. We are looking forward to the guests, an interesting exchange and new ideas for implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda.”

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner: “We are in a time of uncertainty with rising geopolitical divisions, where development pathways are under pressure because of aid cuts, trade tension, and the debt crisis. What we need now is more cooperation, not less. It is in opportunities like the Hamburg Sustainability Conference where we find those critical touch points to take on big ideas, rebuild trust, advance innovative solutions, and forge meaningful connections across communities around the world.”



Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Ofo Group Michael Ofo: “The enormous potential of the private sector to accelerate progress on the SDGs must be unleashed; the economy must be transformed from its role as a contributor to the sustainability crisis to a new role as the key solution.”

At its inaugural edition in 2024, the HSC delivered important progress with tangible results — including the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping, the Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation, and the first governments joining the Global Baftery Alliance.

Building on this momentum, HSC 2025 aims to take the next step by advancing significant new initiatives and alliances designed to deliver concrete improvements in key areas. These include the signing of the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs as well as the establishment of the Global Alliance against Inequality.

Detailed information about the conference program and the list of speakers is available [here](#). Livestreams of selected sessions can be found [here](#).

On June 4, HSC Future Economy Day will take a closer look at the challenges of achieving a just and sustainable transformation of the economy — building on core conference debates. Further information is available [here](#) on the HSC homepage.

From June 1 to 6, Hamburg Sustainability Week 2025 will take place, offering a diverse program aimed at engaging the people of Hamburg and the wider public. All information can be found [here](#).

3. Setting personal politics aside: Governments, corporates to form new company aimed at ‘fixing blended finance’

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Eco-Business

State leaders from Germany, Canada, global corporations and institutional investors called for standardisation of blended finance in order to speed up financial flows for sustainable development. The company, to be launched later this year, aims to develop specialised blended finance vehicles.



El puerto de Barcelona resalta el peso del hidrógeno verde en la Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
El Canal Marítimo y Logístico



La cumbre se ha celebrado por segundo año consecutivo tras la firma de la Declaración de Hamburgo

La directora de Relaciones Institucionales del puerto de Barcelona y presidenta del comité técnico de colaboración de datos de la International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), Ingrid Boqué, ha asistido a la Hamburg Sustainability Conference, que ha reunido a líderes políticos, empresariales, científicos y de la sociedad civil de todo el mundo para debatir y proponer soluciones para alcanzar los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU. En el encuentro, ha tenido especial relevancia la implementación del hidrógeno en los sectores aéreo y marítimo.

Boqué ha participado en la reunión de trabajo de los firmantes de la Declaración de Hamburgo sobre los corredores marítimos verdes, que tuvo lugar en la primera edición de la conferencia, impulsada el año pasado por el Ministerio Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania. La declaración buscaba ser un compromiso colectivo para avanzar hacia una descarbonización del transporte marítimo. Este año, los firmantes de aquella carta de intenciones se han vuelto a reunir para hacer el seguimiento de los compromisos adquiridos y profundizar en los retos.

El reto de incorporar el hidrógeno

En el marco de la conferencia, la representante del puerto de Barcelona ha participado en la sesión titulada Hydrogen's Role in Decarbonizing Air and Sea Transport, donde se ha debatido sobre la integración del hidrógeno para la descarbonización del transporte marítimo y aéreo. La reunión ha tratado el marco regulador para el uso del hidrógeno, y los instrumentos para financiar la transformación de los sectores marítimo y aéreo y debatir sobre los obstáculos.

La directora de Relaciones Institucionales del puerto de Barcelona ha subrayado que “la sesión ha destacado el papel clave del hidrógeno verde en la descarbonización, evidenciando las desigualdades que dificultan su implementación global: mientras el Norte global lidera la demanda y la inversión, a menudo impone estándares estrictos y plazos ajustados que pueden acentuar las desigualdades e ignorar los impactos sociales y ambientales en el sur global”.

Ingrid Boqué también ha participado en diversos actos relevantes, como la reunión con el secretario de Estado Parlamentario del Ministro Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania, Niels Annen; el CEO de Tanger Med, Mehdi Tazi-Riffi; el Executive Director del puerto de Los Angeles, Gene Seroka, y el CEO de la Autoridad Portuaria de Hamburgo, Jens Meier, donde se han abordado los principales retos actuales del sector.

Tres ejes temáticos

La Hamburg Sustainability Conference tiene el objetivo de reforzar el papel y la responsabilidad del sector privado en las nuevas alianzas de sostenibilidad. Por ello, el programa de este año ha constado de tres foros: Redefinición de la arquitectura financiera internacional, que ha tratado sobre cómo las instituciones financieras internacionales pueden impulsar el progreso de los ODS; Desbloqueando inversiones para los ODS, centrado en cómo se puede asegurar, incentivar y aumentar el impacto de las inversiones en desarrollo sostenible; y Aprovechando la transformación, que ha debatido sobre cómo debe producirse el apalancamiento de las inversiones en transformación sostenible.



EL PAÍS

1. Sania Nishtar, directora ejecutiva de Gavi: “Si no fuera por las vacunas, los cementerios estarían llenos de niños”

Date: June 25, 2025

Source:
El País

La CEO de la Alianza para las Vacunas defiende el modelo de la organización frente al contexto actual de recursos limitados y recortes de financiación e incide en la importancia de la inmunización a la hora de salvar vidas

“Tengo muchas esperanzas en que la reposición [de fondos] sea un éxito”, afirma Sania Nishtar (Pakistán, 62 años), directora ejecutiva de Gavi, la Alianza para las Vacunas, en una entrevista con este diario en Hamburgo, durante la Conferencia de Sostenibilidad, celebrada a principios de este mes. La responsable se refiere a que este miércoles 25 de junio se celebra en Bruselas la Cumbre Mundial Salud y Prosperidad a través de la Inmunización, organizada conjuntamente por la Unión Europea y la Fundación Gates, que busca recaudar al menos 9.000 millones de dólares (7.766 millones de euros) con los que financiar la estrategia de Gavi en el período 2026-2030.

“Creo que es un momento muy importante para el liderazgo en salud mundial y es importante que instituciones como Gavi se repongan y financien plenamente”, añade su directora ejecutiva.

La Alianza ya ha asegurado fondos de diferentes donantes, entre otros Portugal, que anunció una contribución de 2,5 millones de euros, Croacia, con un millón de euros, o la Fundación Gates, que reveló este martes que participará con 1.600 millones de dólares durante los próximos cinco años. “Esperamos contar con el apoyo de España. Se ha convertido recientemente en un país muy importante para la salud mundial”, dice Nishtar.

Pregunta. Estados Unidos aporta alrededor del 13% de su presupuesto. En marzo, The New York Times reveló que la organización que usted dirige figuraba en una lista de recortes de financiación. Ha habido algún avance o aclaración desde entonces?

Respuesta. No hemos tenido noticias de la administración estadounidense y esperamos poder entablar diálogo con ellos. Estados Unidos es un país muy importante, hemos tenido una muy buena relación en el pasado. Hemos trabajado muy estrechamente, incluso con la anterior administración Trump, que apoyó a Gavi y aumentó los recursos destinados. Así que esperamos y deseamos volver a trabajar con ellos.

P. En abril, Gavi, Unicef y la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) advertían de las posibles consecuencias de los recortes de fondos en programas de inmunización. Cuál será el impacto?

R. En respuesta a estos recortes de financiación, los países africanos, especialmente, están aumentando su compromiso con la movilización de recursos nacionales. La semana de la Asamblea Mundial de la Salud [celebrada a finales de mayo en Suiza] comenzó con una sesión del Centro para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC) de África sobre la financiación sostenible de la atención sanitaria en África. Ghana, por ejemplo, tenía un déficit de financiación debido a la retirada de los donantes, pero se comprometió a subsanarlo, y Malawi ha duplicado su gasto en salud. Así que los países están dando un paso al frente y asumiendo su responsabilidad, lo cual es muy positivo.



P. En Hamburgo se ha hablado sobre el modelo de ayuda al desarrollo actual, necesitamos uno nuevo para garantizar que nadie se quede atrás?

R. Estamos realizando cambios profundos en la forma en que colaboramos con los países, dándoles más capacidad de acción, más control sobre la toma de decisiones y sobre dónde quieren gastar el dinero. Hemos publicado un documento en el que detallamos esta reforma, presentamos los principios sobre los que debe estructurarse la ayuda internacional. A las ideas que acabo mencionar se suma también la necesidad de mandatos específicos y duración limitada de las organizaciones internacionales.

Qué ejemplos conoce de países del Sur Global que estén trabajando en impulsar la vacunación?

R. Recientemente estuve en Ghana, en Senegal y en Sierra Leona. Y el año pasado fui a la República Centroafricana, a Nigeria, a Costa de Marfil y a Uganda. Todos estos países son líderes. Lo he visto con mis propios ojos y solo estoy nombrando aquellos en los que he estado. Se toman muy en serio la vacunación, destinan recursos propios y copagan las vacunas.

Si África tienen su propia capacidad de fabricación de vacunas, no dependerán de dosis de otras partes del mundo

África alberga el 20% de la población mundial, pero solo produce el 0,1% del suministro de vacunas. Qué medidas deben tomarse para aumentar su capacidad de producción y garantizar que no dependa exclusivamente de suministros externos?

R. Durante la covid-19, África se quedó atrás, no recibió la parte que le correspondía de las dosis, fueron los últimos de la fila. Aprendiendo de eso, pusimos en marcha el Acelerador de la Fabricación de Vacunas en África (AVMA, por sus siglas en inglés). Se trata de una respuesta a la petición de los gobiernos africanos, los jefes de Estado y los ministros de Sanidad. Quieren ser autosuficientes en la producción de vacunas. Asegurarse de tener soberanía vacunal y que el 60% de las necesidades de vacunas del continente puedan ser satisfechas por la propia África en 2040.

En qué consiste?

R. Es un instrumento financiero innovador, un mecanismo de subvenciones a los fabricantes africanos para hacerlos más competitivos, reforzar la fabricación de vacunas en el continente y ofrecer un incentivo a los inversores para que inviertan en África en la producción local. Actualmente, contamos con 1.200 millones de dólares destinados a este fin. En primer lugar, si un fabricante de vacunas en África obtiene la precalificación de la OMS para uno de los antígenos prioritarios de la AVMA, tiene derecho a una subvención. Posteriormente, cuando participa en nuestras licitaciones y gana, vuelve a tener derecho a una subvención por dosis. Esa es nuestra contribución al sueño africano de soberanía en materia de vacunas. Por supuesto, hay muchos otros actores que deben desempeñar su papel. Los gobiernos deben crear un entorno propicio, facilitar la inversión, conceder exenciones fiscales, facilitar la actividad empresarial, invertir en recursos humanos... África, como continente, también debe comprometerse a comprar a fabricantes locales.

P. Ha mencionado la pandemia y la distribución de vacunas. Cómo se puede mejorar la cooperación internacional para evitar que esto vuelva a suceder?

R. El tratado de pandemias establece las normas de actuación, ha sido negociado por los países miembros de la OMS y se ha alcanzado cierto nivel de consenso. Se aprobó el mes pasado y todavía hay algunos asuntos que deben resolverse dentro del anexo. Así que estas son las reglas del juego que determinarán cómo se van a distribuir las dosis durante una emergencia. Dicho esto, Gavi ha jugado un papel importante creando los instrumentos financieros adecuados. Hemos hablado de AVMA. Si África tiene su propia capacidad de fabricación de vacunas, no dependerá de dosis de otras partes del mundo. También hemos



desarrollado un Fondo de primera respuesta. Cuando se produce una emergencia activamos ese fondo, compramos dosis lo antes posible y las ponemos a disposición de los países. Con la mpox pudimos asegurar dosis tres días después de que la vacuna recibiera la precalificación y estas fueron enviadas a nueve países africanos.

La gente tiene preguntas, preocupaciones, y es importante que les expliquemos que las vacunas son seguras, están muy reguladas, se someten a rigurosas pruebas y que salvan vidas

P. En estos últimos años ha crecido el movimiento antivacunas Le preocupa?

R. En la era actual de las redes sociales, las teorías de la conspiración se amplifican, por desgracia. La gente tiene preguntas, preocupaciones, y es importante que les expliquemos que las vacunas son seguras, están muy reguladas, se someten a rigurosas pruebas y salvan vidas. Son la herramienta de salud pública más importante y rentable. Si no fuera por las vacunas, los cementerios estarían llenos de niños. Por eso creo que hay que explicar la verdad a la gente para disipar las ideas erróneas.

P. Gavi cumple 25 años. Cuáles son sus principales retos?

R. No existe un solo programa en el que, al operar a una escala tan grande —nosotros vacunamos a más de la mitad de los niños del mundo—, no surjan retos. Pero, más que desafíos, yo veo la magnitud de la oportunidad. Así que sí, los hay, pero el modelo de Gavi es el adecuado para afrontar los retos de este difícil entorno.

Por qué?

R. En primer lugar, tenemos unos costes operativos muy bajos. No tenemos 200 oficinas en distintos países, ni oficinas regionales. Estamos adaptados a un entorno con recursos limitados. En segundo lugar, tenemos un modelo de copago. No operamos como una organización benéfica. Los países copagan el coste de las vacunas. Comienzan pagando 20 centavos por dosis, y cuando la situación económica mejora, su parte del copago incrementa, hasta que finalmente dejan de recibir apoyo y financian completamente sus vacunas. Ghana, por ejemplo, ahora paga el 50% del coste de las vacunas. Para 2030, pagará el 100% y saldrá de nuestro programa de apoyo. Ya han salido 19 países. Es exactamente el tipo de modelo que se necesita en el entorno actual, con recursos limitados.

P. Uno de los mayores retos actuales es el aumento del número de niños que no han recibido ninguna dosis, los llamados “cero dosis”. Qué medidas están tomando para invertir esta tendencia?

R. Estimamos que hay 14,5 millones de niños sin ninguna dosis en diferentes partes del mundo donde el acceso a las vacunas es difícil. Y, lamentablemente, a medida que se incrementan la fragilidad y los conflictos, así como los desastres climáticos, este número va en aumento. Por eso, Gavi tiene un programa específico para niños sin ninguna dosis. Se llama Programa de Inmunización de Dosis Cero (ZIP, por sus siglas en inglés) y está adaptado a estos entornos.

2. Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, economista: “Hay mucho dinero que sale de África cuando necesitamos desesperadamente invertir en ella”

Date: June 28, 2025

Source:
El País

La presidenta y directora ejecutiva del Centro Africano para la Transformación Económica incide en la diversificación de la economía y en la necesidad de inversiones sostenibles como el motor de crecimiento del continente



Para la economista Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi (Ghana, 55 años), presidenta y directora ejecutiva del Centro Africano para la Transformación Económica (ACET, por sus siglas en inglés), uno de los principales institutos de políticas económicas de África, el momento actual de crisis del multilateralismo y recortes a la cooperación también presenta una oportunidad para el continente. “Los países deben preguntarse: cómo generamos nuestros propios recursos? Cómo se pueden utilizar mejor las finanzas? Cómo podemos garantizar que no solo estamos haciendo crecer nuestras economías, sino también nuestras sociedades?”, mantiene en una entrevista con este diario en Hamburgo, durante la Conferencia de Sostenibilidad, celebrada a principios de este mes.

“Mientras los países del Norte Global miran hacia dentro [de sus fronteras], creo que es emocionante ver a África mirando hacia fuera, dentro del propio continente. Pensando en cómo los africanos pueden trabajar mejor juntos, comerciar, colaborar”, añade. “Somos 54 países, muchos mercados pequeños, pero al unirse se convierte en un gran mercado, el de más rápido crecimiento. Si colaboran para luego relacionarse con el resto del mundo, creo que África está en una posición mucho más fuerte que si hace lo que todos los demás en este momento, que es pensar solo en lo que está dentro de sus propias fronteras”, explica.

Es África parte de la solución en este cambio de paradigma global?

R. Sin duda. El continente africano seguirá haciendo lo que tiene que hacer, que es desarrollarse y crecer, con o sin el mundo. Necesita no solo crecer de la forma extractiva tradicional, sino transformar sus economías. Es una parte integral de la solución y el mundo no puede pensar que puede progresar sin África.

Qué condiciones hay que crear para atraer inversiones sostenibles al continente en lugar de simplemente extractivas?

R. La inversión sostenible tiene que ver con cómo se invierte en cadenas de valor completas y no solo en partes de esa cadena. Si queremos crear empleo, transformar nuestras economías y diversificarnos de la dependencia de materiales o materias primas, tenemos que preguntarnos cuáles son las leyes necesarias, qué infraestructura se requiere y qué tipo de capacidades se necesitan para atraer inversión destinada al desarrollo completo de la cadena de valor. También cómo podemos ayudar a los productores locales a integrarse en el proceso y cómo pasar de una parte de esa cadena a la siguiente. Puede que un solo país no lo haga todo. Podrías tener, por ejemplo, una situación en la que la República Democrática del Congo extrae el mineral, Zambia lo transforma en baterías, y Uganda las utiliza en coches eléctricos.

Luego tenemos que pensar en la facilidad de movimiento, en protocolos comerciales. Y recordemos que, durante mucho tiempo, debido al colonialismo, nuestro continente fue un lugar del que se extraían recursos. Por eso, nuestra infraestructura está diseñada para conectarse más fácilmente con el resto del mundo que entre nosotros.

Cuáles son las consecuencias para algunos países africanos de tener que gastar más en servicio de deuda que en salud o educación?

R. Es otra forma de extracción. Hay mucho dinero que sale de África cuando necesitamos desesperadamente invertir en ella. Estamos pagando altos niveles de deuda, el coste de los préstamos es extremadamente alto porque los niveles de financiación concesional y ayuda se han reducido mucho. Al final, son los africanos pobres los que sufren. Y si a eso le sumamos los recortes, las recientes decisiones sobre USAID [la agencia de cooperación de Estados Unidos], el impacto es enorme. Ya estábamos lidiando con problemas de liquidez. Varios países son insolventes y están negociando la reestructuración de su deuda. La pregunta es: de dónde va a salir el dinero? Ese es el reto.

Cuál sería la solución?

R. Incluso en una crisis se debe invertir en la transformación de las economías. Si tuviéramos



una economía más diversificada, tendríamos una fuente de ingresos más amplia, no estaríamos tan a merced del resto del mundo cuando hay una crisis. Sabe que somos importadores netos de tomate procesado? Por qué no podemos producir tomates enlatados y venderlos entre nosotros? Por qué, en un momento en el que necesitamos dinero, no solo estamos pagando deuda, sino también importando tanto? Gran parte de la solución reside en hacernos más competitivos en exportación, ser más productivos y utilizar mejor la tecnología. Y cada vez que empezamos a hablar de esto, la gente dice: “Es algo a largo plazo”. El largo plazo tiene que comenzar en algún momento.

Cómo pueden los países africanos mejorar su posición negociadora con los acreedores privados y multilaterales?

R. Fíjese en el Banco Mundial. Cuántos directores ejecutivos tenemos? Tres? Para cuántos países? 54? Gran Bretaña tiene uno. Cuál es la población de Gran Bretaña? 69 millones? Nigeria tiene 230 millones. Pero está ahí con no sé cuántos países más. Primero necesitamos un asiento y una representación justa en la mesa. Y una vez que la tengamos, entonces nos corresponde a nosotros asegurarnos de que las personas que ponemos allí sean nuestros mejores negociadores. Todo el mundo dice: negocien mejor. Pero cuando se representa a tantos países, hay un límite a lo que se puede hacer.

Mientras estamos ocupados retocando el sistema y dándonos palmaditas en la espalda, cada día nacen niños que salen perdiendo

Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, presidenta y directora ejecutiva del Centro Africano para la Transformación Económica

Las economías emergentes necesitan financiación para invertir en salud pública, educación, transporte. Pero se enfrentan a elevados costes debido al riesgo percibido por los mercados. Cómo revertir esta situación?

R. El reto con el riesgo es que se trata de una combinación de percepciones y un poco de realidad. Podemos abogar por un sistema de calificación más justo. Para tenerlo, nosotros, como países, debemos comprometernos más. Los que colaboran activamente con estas agencias, impulsan y comparten datos, cuestionan las calificaciones cuando se publican y se comprometen de verdad, obtienen mejores resultados que los que no lo hacen. PNUD, Africa Catalyst o ACET trabajamos para desarrollar la capacidad de calificación en los países africanos. Luego está el debate sobre la Agencia Africana de Calificación Crediticia (ACRA por sus siglas en inglés). No es que queramos una agencia de calificación que desafíe a las tres grandes, sino que se comprometa a nivel africano para comprender y garantizar que los sistemas de datos sean sólidos.

La otra cuestión es que la interconexión del continente significa que si hay un problema en tu frontera, te afecta. No creemos que sea justo que la inseguridad en el Sahel deba afectar las calificaciones en Zambia. Pero si hay inseguridad en las fronteras de Nigeria y Ghana, puedo entender por qué preocupa que la situación se extienda y lo que eso significa para el riesgo crediticio. Debemos trabajar juntos para abordar estos problemas. Pero hay cosas que están dentro de nuestro campo de acción y otras en las que necesitamos resistir.

Cuáles?

R. El punto que mencionaste: la interpretación del riesgo. Cómo defines el riesgo? Y en qué medida tu percepción refleja una comprensión real del contexto en el que operas? Tú y yo podríamos decidir que Hamburgo es el lugar más peligroso del mundo. Pero tú nunca has estado, solo viste noticias en televisión sobre crímenes. Yo vivo en Hamburgo y sé que esas noticias representan solo una pequeña esquina de la ciudad. Mi percepción del riesgo es muy diferente de la tuya. El conocimiento y el contexto local es importante. También cómo se analiza el potencial de crecimiento del PIB y el riesgo asociado a ese crecimiento. Cómo se



evalúa la capacidad institucional es clave. Y algo que a menudo les cuestionamos a estos actores es: las instituciones de China no son perfectas, pero mira el desarrollo que ha tenido. Entonces, por qué asumes que nuestras instituciones tienen que serlo para que podamos desarrollarnos?

Hay mucho dinero que sale de África cuando necesitamos desesperadamente invertir en ella

Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, presidenta y directora ejecutiva del Centro Africano para la Transformación Económica

Es necesario reformar la arquitectura financiera mundial?

R. Se está trabajando en la reforma del Banco Mundial, en la mejora del marco común del G-20, en el funcionamiento del sistema comercial. El problema es que todo va demasiado lento. Si estos avances tardan 10 años, eso supone una generación de niños que se perderán una educación infantil y primaria de calidad. Mientras estamos ocupados retocando el sistema y dándonos palmaditas en la espalda, cada día nacen niños que salen perdiendo.

Por eso en África se habla mucho de cómo mejorar la arquitectura financiera del continente. Cómo pueden el Banco Africano de Desarrollo y los demás bancos multilaterales de desarrollo africanos aprovechar mejor su influencia? Qué regulaciones y políticas se necesitan para que nuestros fondos de pensiones reinviertan en África en lugar de quedarse en Norteamérica o Europa? Mientras luchamos por una mejor arquitectura financiera mundial, también estamos trabajando en la nuestra propia y en cómo ampliarla, mejorarla y hacerla más eficaz para las inversiones continentales. Debemos ser proactivos en hacer las cosas que están a nuestro alcance mientras abogamos para que el resto del mundo nos encuentre a mitad de camino.

EL UNIVERSO

Joven ecuatoriana presentó en Alemania su idea de un robot para detectar incendios forestales

Date: June 17, 2025

Source:
El Universo

Su propuesta fue socializada en la Conferencia de Sostenibilidad de Hamburgo, en el marco de soluciones tecnológicas ante las crisis ambientales.

La joven ecuatoriana Aliz Pinto, de 18 años, fue seleccionada como una de las catorce embajadoras juveniles para participar en la Conferencia de Sostenibilidad de Hamburgo (HSC, por sus siglas en inglés), en Alemania.

Del 2 al 4 de junio de 2025, más de 1.600 representantes de gobiernos, organismos internacionales, empresas y sociedad civil participaron en este encuentro, uno de los principales espacios internacionales sobre desarrollo sostenible.

La joven oriunda de Guayaquil participó en espacios de diálogo y reflexión desde su experiencia como activista por los derechos de la niñez, la igualdad de género y el clima,



haciendo un llamado a incluir a las nuevas generaciones en las discusiones sobre desarrollo sostenible.

“Es momento de sumar nuestras voces y nuestras ideas frente a desafíos como el cambio climático, que afectan directamente nuestro presente y futuro”, señaló.

Durante el evento, Aliz también presentó una propuesta desarrollada junto con estudiantes de la Universidad Politécnica Salesiana: SAIF, un robot diseñado para la detección temprana de incendios forestales, que demuestra el potencial de los jóvenes para aportar soluciones tecnológicas ante las crisis ambientales.

Aliz forma parte de Generación MÁS, la comunidad de adolescentes y jóvenes de Unicef Ecuador, y es miembro del Comité Asesor Regional de Juventud para América Latina y el Caribe.

Su participación en el HSC contó con el respaldo de Unicef, como parte del compromiso para promover la inclusión significativa de adolescentes y jóvenes en espacios de toma de decisiones.

empresa**EXterior**



El Port de Barcelona, protagonista en la Conferencia de Sostenibilidad de Hamburgo 2025

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Empresa Exterior

Ingrid Boqué, directora de Relaciones Institucionales del Port de Barcelona, lideró la participación de la institución en este evento global que reúne a líderes políticos, empresariales, científicos y de la sociedad civil.

El Port de Barcelona reafirmó su compromiso con la sostenibilidad y la descarbonización del transporte marítimo y aéreo durante la Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, celebrada el 2 y 3 de junio.

La conferencia sirvió como punto de encuentro para los firmantes de la Declaración de Hamburgo sobre los Corredores Marítimos Verdes, una iniciativa clave para la descarbonización impulsada el año pasado por el Ministerio Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania. En esta edición, los participantes se reunieron para dar seguimiento a los compromisos adquiridos y abordar los desafíos pendientes.

El Hidrógeno como Motor de la Transición Energética

Un punto central de la participación del Port de Barcelona fue la sesión "Hydrogen's Role in Decarbonizing Air and Sea Transport". En este debate de expertos, se analizó la integración del hidrógeno como un vector fundamental para la descarbonización de ambos sectores. La reunión de trabajo, que congregó a un selecto grupo de especialistas del ámbito público y privado, se estructuró en torno a dos ejes principales: el marco regulatorio actual para el uso del hidrógeno y las herramientas de financiación necesarias para la transformación energética.



Se destacó la importancia de superar los obstáculos de financiación, especialmente para los países en desarrollo que buscan invertir en infraestructuras portuarias sostenibles

Diálogo de Alto Nivel y Desafíos Globales

Durante la conferencia, Ingrid Boqué mantuvo encuentros de alto nivel con figuras influyentes del sector. Entre ellos, el Secretario de Estado Parlamentario del Ministro Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania, Niels Annen; el CEO de Tanger Med, Mehdi Tazi-Riffi; el Executive Director del Port de Los Ángeles, Gene Seroka; y el CEO de la Autoridad Portuaria de Hamburgo, Jens Meier. Estas reuniones abordaron los principales desafíos que enfrenta la industria actualmente.

Boqué enfatizó que la Declaración de Hamburgo continúa siendo un foro crucial para reunir a representantes de toda la cadena logística. Subrayó el papel esencial del hidrógeno verde en la descarbonización, pero también señaló las desigualdades globales que dificultan su implementación.

"Mientras el norte global lidera la demanda y la inversión, a menudo impone estándares estrictos y plazos ajustados que pueden acentuar las desigualdades e ignorar los impactos sociales y ambientales en el sur global", declaró Boqué. La directora de Relaciones Institucionales del Port de Barcelona destacó que la institución, próxima a presentar su propio plan de transición energética, reafirma la necesidad de alianzas globales y acciones conjuntas para una transición energética "sostenible, realista y compartida".

Tres Foros para Impulsar la Sostenibilidad

La Hamburg Sustainability Conference, en su segunda edición, busca fortalecer el rol y la responsabilidad del sector privado en las alianzas de sostenibilidad. El programa de este año se dividió en tres foros temáticos:

- "Redefinición de la arquitectura financiera internacional": Enfocado en cómo las instituciones financieras internacionales pueden impulsar el progreso de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU.
- "Desbloqueando inversiones para los ODS": Centrado en asegurar, incentivar y aumentar el impacto de las inversiones en desarrollo sostenible.
- "Aprovechando la transformación": Donde se debatió sobre cómo apalancar las inversiones en una transformación sostenible.

La participación del Port de Barcelona en esta cumbre internacional subraya su firme compromiso con la innovación, la colaboración internacional y la búsqueda de soluciones a los grandes retos que afronta el sector logístico y portuario global.



1. Hamburg Sustainability Conference: Gemeinsam für die Agenda 2030

Date: June 13, 2025



Source:
Entwicklungspolitik Online (epo.de)

Am 2. und 3. Juni 2025 findet die Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) statt. Zum zweiten Mal bringt die Konferenz hochrangige Vertreterinnen und Vertreter aus Politik, Wissenschaft, Wirtschaft, Zivilgesellschaft und internationalen Organisationen in Hamburg zusammen – mit dem Ziel, Allianzen für die nachhaltige Entwicklung zu schmieden und die Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen entscheidend voranzubringen. In diesem Jahr werden rund 1600 Teilnehmende aus mehr als 110 Ländern in über 60 Sessions zusammenkommen, um konkrete Lösungen für die drängendsten globalen Herausforderungen unserer Zeit zu erarbeiten. Im Fokus stehen drei zentrale Themenfelder: die Reform der internationalen Finanzarchitektur, neue Investitionen zur Umsetzung der globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele (SDGs) sowie Transformationsprozesse in Schlüsselsektoren, darunter Mobilität und Logistik, globale Gesundheit, Biodiversität und Digitalisierung.

Obwohl seit der ersten Konferenz nur acht Monate vergangen sind, findet die zweite HSC in einem deutlich veränderten globalen Kontext statt. Sie fällt in eine Zeit tiefgreifender Umbrüche in den internationalen Beziehungen, zunehmender geopolitischer Spannungen und wachsender Fragmentierung. In einer von UNDP im Vorfeld der HSC 2025 durchgeführten Umfrage unter den Konferenzteilnehmenden nannten rund 67 % der Befragten die geopolitischen Spannungen als größte Herausforderung für die globale Zusammenarbeit im kommenden Jahr. In dieser Situation setzt die HSC ein bewusstes Zeichen:

Nachhaltige Entwicklung gelingt nur im Schulterschluss. Die Konferenz wurde daher von Beginn an als fortlaufender Prozess konzipiert – mit dem Anspruch, Wirkung weit über die Konferenztage hinaus zu entfalten. Die hochrangige Beteiligung in diesem Jahr ist ein klares Signal: Der Ansatz der HSC findet auch in herausfordernden Zeiten breite Resonanz. Getragen wird die HSC von einer starken Allianz: dem Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ), dem Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen (UNDP), der Michael Otto Stiftung und der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg.

Eröffnet wird der erste Konferenztag der HSC 2025 durch Keynotes von Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan, Hamburgs Erstem Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher und dem UNDP-Administrator Achim Steiner. Das folgende Eröffnungspanel ist besetzt mit Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan; Joyelle Clarke, Nachhaltigkeitsministerin, St. Kitts & Nevis; Rebeca Grynspan, Generalsekretärin von UNCTAD; Cindy McCain, Exekutiv-direktorin des WFP; und Maropene Ramokgopa, Planungsministerin, Südafrika.

Den zweiten Konferenztag wird Vizekanzler und Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil mit einer Keynote und Q&A Session eröffnen.

Zu den weiteren hochrangigen Teilnehmenden zählen unter anderem Michael Otto, Ehrenvorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats, Otto Group; Antoine Denoix, Vorstandsvorsitzender, AXA Climate; Günther Thallinger, Mitglied des Vorstands für Investment, Management und Nachhaltigkeit, Allianz SE; Amitabh Behar, Geschäftsführender Direktor, Oxfam International; Sania Nishtar, Vorstandsvorsitzende, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Carolina Pasquali, Geschäftsführerin, Greenpeace Brasilien; und Elizabeth Wathuti, Klimaaktivistin und Gründerin der Green Generation Initiative.

Eine umfassendere Liste ausgewählter hochrangiger Teilnehmender mit den vollständigen Funktionstiteln finden Sie hier.



Die Vielfalt der Teilnehmenden und das sektorübergreifende Zusammenspiel von Entscheidungsträgerinnen und -trägern aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft – aus allen Regionen der Welt – schaffen die Grundlage für neue Allianzen und gemeinsame Initiativen. So wird die HSC zu einem Ort für konkreten Fortschritt.

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan: „Die internationalen Herausforderungen sind groß wie nie – daher muss die internationale Zusammenarbeit stark wie nie sein. Wenn es die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz noch nicht gäbe, müssten wir sie spätestens jetzt erfinden. Viele traditionelle Austauschforen sind derzeit blockiert. Der Wert und Nutzen internationaler Zusammenarbeit werden weltweit teils aggressiv in Frage gestellt. Umso wichtiger ist ein Format wie die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz, die diesen Attacken etwas entgegenhält und eine einfache Erkenntnis mit Leben füllt: Es geht uns allen besser, wenn wir miteinander arbeiten und nicht gegeneinander. Hierfür schaffen wir den Rahmen. So entstehen neue Allianzen und Kooperationsmodelle.“

Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher: „Mit der Sustainability Conference hat Hamburg ein Forum geschaffen, um die praktische Umsetzung der SDGs weltweit voranzubringen. Unsere Stadt verfolgt selbst eine konsequente Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie, ist ein starker Wirtschaftsstandort und international gut vernetzt. Im vergangenen Jahr hat die Konferenz zu vielen konkreten Vereinbarungen und Projekten geführt. Daran wollen wir anknüpfen. Wir freuen uns auf die Gäste, einen interessanten Austausch und neue Ideen zur Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen.“

UNDP-Administrator Achim Steiner: „Wir leben in einer Zeit der Unsicherheit mit zunehmenden geopolitischen Spannungen, in der Entwicklungswege unter Druck geraten – durch Kürzungen bei der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit, Handelskonflikte und die Schuldenkrise. Was wir jetzt brauchen, ist mehr Zusammenarbeit – nicht weniger. In Formaten wie der Hamburg Sustainability Conference finden wir genau diese entscheidenden Anknüpfungspunkte, um große Ideen anzugehen, Vertrauen wiederaufzubauen, innovative Lösungen voranzubringen und bedeutungsvolle Verbindungen zwischen Gemeinschaften weltweit zu schaffen.“

Ehrenvorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats der Otto Group Michael Otto: „Das enorme Potenzial des Privatsektors, die Fortschritte bei den SDGs zu beschleunigen, muss freigesetzt, die Wirtschaft vom Mit-Verursacher zur maßgeblichen Lösung der Nachhaltigkeitskrise umgestaltet werden.“ Bereits bei der ersten Konferenz wurden wichtige und konkrete Fortschritte erzielt – darunter die Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping, die Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation sowie der Beitritt erster Regierungen zur Global Battery Alliance.

Auf diesen Erfolgen baut die HSC 2025 nun gezielt auf. Auch in diesem Jahr werden bedeutende neue Initiativen und Allianzen gestartet – mit dem Ziel, konkrete Verbesserungen in zentralen Handlungsfeldern zu erreichen. Dazu zählen die Unterzeichnung der Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs sowie die Gründung der Global Alliance against Inequality.

Detaillierte Informationen zum Konferenzprogramm sowie die Übersicht der Sprechenden finden Sie hier.

Ein Livestream für ausgewählte Sessions ist auf der HSC-Homepage hier verfügbar.

Am 4. Juni wird der HSC Future Economy Day aufbauend auf die zentralen Diskussionen der Konferenz die drängenden Herausforderungen einer nachhaltigen Transformation der Wirtschaft vertiefend in den Blick nehmen. Weitere Informationen finden Sie hier.



Vom 1. bis 6. Juni findet die Hamburg Sustainability Week 2025 statt. Mit einem vielfältigen Programm richtet sich diese an die Hamburger Stadtgesellschaft. Alle Informationen dazu finden Sie hier.

2. Deutsche Führungsrolle in der EZ?

Date: June 13, 2025

Source:

Entwicklungspolitik Online (epo.de)

Während die USA ihre multilateralen Verpflichtungen unter Präsident Donald Trump aufgeben, versuchen andere Länder, die hinterlassenen Scherben der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit aufzukehren – allen voran Deutschland unter der neuen Bundesregierung. – So sieht es zumindest die US-Entwicklungsplattform Devex. „Germany dropped strong hints that it’s up to the job“, behauptet Autorin Hayley Mundeve, „Communications Lead“ bei Devex mit Sitz in Ruanda. Sie zieht diese Schlussfolgerung aus der Hamburg Sustainability Conference in der vergangenen Woche und dem Bekenntnis von Finanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) zum Multilateralismus. Doch es darf stark bezweifelt werden, dass Berlin die Lücke füllen kann, die USAID hinterlassen wird, meint epo-Herausgeber Klaus Boldt.

Klingbeil habe in Hamburg den Multilateralismus „vollumfänglich verteidigt“ und sich zur Notwendigkeit bekannt, die UN-Ziele für nachhaltige Entwicklung „wiedezubeleben“. „Multilateralismus ist die Antwort auf die globalen Herausforderungen“, zitiert Mundeve den deutschen Finanzminister. In seiner Grußbotschaft zur Konferenz (HSC25) mit rund 1.600 Teilnehmern habe Klingbeil gesagt, es sei im gemeinsamen Interesse, den Klimawandel, Vertreibungen, Ungleichheit, Hunger und Armut zu bekämpfen. Für die meisten Länder habe „eine regelbasierte internationale Ordnung die besten Erfolgsaussichten“.

Die „regelbasierte internationale Ordnung“ war bisher die von den USA dominierte Weltordnung. Dass die Bundesrepublik diese Rolle übernehmen kann, ist schlicht Traumtänzerie, auch in Hinsicht auf die Entwicklungsfinanzierung. Dennoch glaubt Devex offenbar, der deutsche Finanzminister könne die Welt retten:

„The dismantling of USAID has left Germany the world’s largest individual donor of official development assistance in absolute terms. But Klingbeil’s announcement also signals Germany’s readiness to champion the multilateral institutions and partnerships that Washington and London have increasingly abandoned. The initiative represents a calculated German bet that Berlin can step into a leadership void. The question now is whether low- and middle-income nations see the commission as a genuine partnership — or just another northern-led initiative.“

Mundeve bezieht sich auf einen angeblichen Plan Klingbeils zur Gründung einer „neuen Nord-Süd-Kommission, die Berlin als Bannerträger für multilaterale Zusammenarbeit in einer zunehmend fragmentierten Welt positioniert,“.

Klingbeil in den Fußstapfen Willy Brandts, der in den 1970er-Jahren der Nord-Süd-Kommission Leben einhauchte? Diese Schuhe sind wohl eine Nummer zu groß für den neuen deutschen Finanzminister, der sich von allen Seiten Milliarden-Forderungen für Aufrüstung, die Wiederbelebung der deutschen Wirtschaft und die Sanierung der maroden Infrastruktur im eigenen Land ausgesetzt sieht.

„The commission will develop “new north-south policies for a multipolar world” — acknowledging that Western dominance is ending and Germany intends to help shape what



comes next. Germany's broader strategy includes advancing the G20 Compact with Africa, promoting international tax cooperation, and backing the European Union's "Global Gateway" initiative." (Devex)

Ausgerechnet der deutsche Finanzminister, der angesichts leerer Kassen in der Kranken-, Pflege- und Rentenversicherung „Sondervermögen“ genannte Schuldenberge anhäufen muss, soll die Führungsrolle bei der Entwicklungsfinanzierung übernehmen? Diese Vorstellung fällt in die Kategorie „Visionen“. „Wer Visionen hat, sollte zum Arzt gehen“, meinte einst SPD-Ikone Helmut Schmidt.

Was Devex als „deutsche Strategie“ bezeichnet, wird als Luftnummer in die Geschichte eingehen. Genauso wie die Visionen früherer Minister der Kabinette Merkel und Scholz, Deutschland könne „Weltmarktführer“ in den Bereichen Erneuerbare Energie oder Künstliche Intelligenz werden. Deutschland hat die Rolle als „Exportnation Nr. 1“ längst an China verloren – und aufgrund seiner Rolle als „Juniorpartner“ der USA (Habeck) massiv an Ansehen im Rest der Welt. Deutschland bleibt nur in einer Disziplin die Nummer 1: in Sachen Bürokratie!

Environmental Finance

Allianz, Zurich and CDPQ sign up to ambitious blended finance investment project

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Environmental Finance

From Peter Cripps in Hamburg

A revamped and expanded blended finance initiative aims to facilitate several billion dollars of sustainable and impactful private investments in emerging markets.

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the recently launched Hamburg Sustainability Platform was rebranded as the SCALED initiative and attracted signatories including insurers Allianz and Zurich, and Canadian investment firm Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ). SCALED is a contraction of Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development.

The initiative aims to launch a company by the end of 2025 that will “immediately begin to work on investment vehicles, for example to support projects with sustainable impact such as solar farms or entrepreneurship support”.

It will look for suitable international and local asset managers to implement these investments.

“Private and public investors can use these vehicles to make their investments in a straightforward manner according to a recurring pattern,” according to a press release. “As such, the company is foreseen to significantly contribute to closing the existing financing gaps in emerging markets and developing countries.”



“Depending on funding commitments from public and private sources, the company could facilitate several billion US dollars of private investments in various sectors and regions over the next years to achieve sustainable impact,” it added.

The structure of the funds has yet to be decided, but one investor told Environmental Finance it could set up special purpose vehicles that package up and derisk private loans.

Danielle Brassel, head of responsible investment at Zurich Insurance Company, described the initiative as “a crucial step forward” in closing the investment gap in emerging markets.

“For institutional investors like Zurich, the lack of consistent standards creates unnecessary complexity and risk, hindering our ability to allocate capital efficiently and at scale to impactful projects. SCALED's efforts to harmonise approaches will significantly reduce these barriers.

“We especially welcome the platform's emphasis on strong public-private cooperation. We believe that effective cooperation here is essential to de-risking investments and ensuring that projects deliver both financial returns and positive social and environmental outcomes.”

Signatories to the initiative include Germany, Canada, Denmark, France, the UK, South Africa, the KfW Development Bank, and the private institutional investors Allianz, AXA, CDPQ, and Zurich. At the launch of predecessor initiative, only Allianz and CDPQ were signatories.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) are knowledge partners. SCALED's Secretariat is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

2. Lack of investable projects tops CDPQ's list of obstacles to investing in SDGs

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Environmental Finance

A lack of investable projects in emerging markets was named as the biggest obstacle to closing the financing gap to meet the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Hamburg Sustainability Conference heard.

Erich Crompton, director of business relations at Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ), said levels of funding towards the SDGs significantly lag what would have been expected when the goals were signed a decade ago.

Numerous obstacles stand in the way of raising the capital needed, but he said an “insufficient pipeline of investable projects” was arguably the biggest of these.

“This is emerging as the number one challenge,” he said.

Compounding the problem, is that projects are often not big enough to be an appropriate “ticket size for institutional investors”.

“This is a collective global action problem that needs to be addressed,” he added.

Other obstacles to raising the capital to meet the SDGs he identified as:



A lack of standardisation. "Every vehicle is built from scratch, reinventing the wheel."

"Pools of catalytic capital are scarce and dispersed with onerous application processes and very different reporting requirements."

Multilateral development banks are not mobilising enough private capital.

Prudential regulatory barriers. "Many regulations are well intended but have unintended consequences" and make it "inhibitive to deploy to emerging markets".

Insufficient and untransparent data. "There's a huge body of circumstantial evidence showing that investments in emerging markets are much less risky [than presumed]. The problem is that a lot of that data is privately held and not readily accessible. We really need to find creative ways to have access to private data and present it to regulators and credit rating agencies."

Overcoming these obstacles is imperative to closing the financing gap, he argued.

He hailed the SCALED initiative, launched yesterday at the conference, as a potential solution. CDPQ was among the signatories.

He said the initiative "seeks to address one of the challenges – of standardisation – through the creation of multiple blended finance vehicles using replicable architecture".

"It will be through initiatives like this that we can close the financing gap," he claimed.



Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
ESG Executive

Together We Co-Create Sustainable Development

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) stands as a catalyst for global change, dedicated to forging partnerships and developing innovative solutions for today's most urgent challenges. With a clear mission to drive sustainable change and accelerate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the HSC provides a platform where ideas and visions are translated into concrete solutions for measurable progress.

The first HSC on Oct 7–8, 2024 brought together 1,600 global leaders from politics, business, science, and civil society, representing 102 countries, all united in taking decisive steps toward achieving the UN SDGs. Through vibrant dialogue, trust-building, and solution-oriented collaboration, the HSC focused on addressing some of today's most pressing global challenges while fostering impactful, long-term partnerships. In over 60 sessions, participants explored ways to reshape international financial systems, increase investments in sustainable development, and harness innovation for transformative change. Together, they rethought, reorganized, and took concrete steps toward creating a sustainable future for all.



Conference

We need a new era of sustainability, new alliances with business leaders, global policymakers, and society. Halfway from the adoption of the SDGs in 2015 on the path to 2030, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference is establishing a new global platform to speed up the implementation of the SDGs and deliver result-oriented solutions.

Program

The conference provides a space for questioning topics such as the governance of international organizations and entrepreneurial approaches for sustainable development. Additional activities will be held throughout Hamburg for invited guests and the public. The Hamburg Sustainability Conference is a year-round process with numerous activities in locations around the world.

People

The conference convenes heads of state, as well as leaders from the private sector, academia, civil society and international organizations to develop joint solutions for the much-needed socio-ecological transformation. The program is being guided by the HSC Circle, a Supervisory Board and an international Advisory Board.

Partners

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference is to start a new era of sustainability, with new opportunities for companies to contribute to the achievement of the global agenda. Alongside public sector, academia, and civil society, corporate partners will play a key role in the Hamburg Sustainability Conference. The tremendous potential of the private sector and civil society to accelerate SDG progress must be unleashed.

Newsletter

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference is a new format with plans coming into place. As content is created, details will be shared through the HSC newsletter. Readers will receive updates about partners, key speakers, panels, workshops, satellite events and activities open to the public. News will also include general sustainability topics and SDG progress.

Press

The HSC press team offers a range of services to manage requests of local and international journalists. Press representatives will be updated about the program and confirmed speakers via dedicated press mailings. In case of media requests please contact our press team at press@sustainability-conference.org.

Initiators

The annual conference and its international satellites are a joint initiative of the United Nations (UNDP), the German Federal Government (BMZ), the Michael Otto Foundation and the City of Hamburg.



Blended Finance Initiative SCALED to Launch Platform for Private Capital in Emerging Markets

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
ESGtoday

A public-private coalition of major financial institutions and governments has revealed its plans to launch a dedicated company aimed at accelerating private investment in sustainable development projects across emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs).

Blended finance brings together public or philanthropic capital and private funding through a common investment structure, enabling investors to invest in certain types of investments that have high perceived risk profiles, such as new climate mitigation-related technologies.

The coalition – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development (SCALED) – was first introduced as the Hamburg Sustainability Platform at last year's Hamburg Sustainability conference. Since then, it has evolved into a formal partnership of financial institutions and governments including Allianz, AXA, Zurich Insurance Group, Canada, France and the UK, which is focused on growing sustainable blended finance-focused investment opportunities across EMDEs.

At this year's conference, which took place this week, the coalition has said it is preparing the launch of a service provider company that will be focused on investment standardization.

Achim Steiner, Administrator at the UN Develop Program, said:

“We are in a time of uncertainty with rising geopolitical divisions, where development pathways are under pressure because of aid cuts, trade tension, and the debt crisis. What we need now is more cooperation, not less. It is in opportunities like the Hamburg Sustainability Conference where we find those critical touch points to take on big ideas, rebuild trust, advance innovative solutions, and forge meaningful connections across communities around the world.”

The new company is expected to commence operations by the end of this year. It will be tasked with developing and establishing standardized financial vehicles that both public and private investors can utilise.

It will also play a key role in matchmaking, bridging persistent financing gaps across climate, infrastructure and development sectors.

SCALED expects the initiative to unlock billions of dollars in private investment over the coming years.

The announcement came as part of a wider series of developments at the conference, which convened around 1,600 global leaders across government, business and academia.

The Asia-Pacific Blended Finance Community of Practice was also launched. Serving as a regional hub to coordinate and mobilise blended finance solutions for sustainable



development, it is expected to enhance collaboration, knowledge exchange and deal origination.



1. Ministerin warnt vor Abbruch internationaler Zusammenarbeit

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Evangelische Zeitung

Rückzug der USA aus der Entwicklungspolitik, globale Spannungen: Die internationale Ordnung steht vor enormen Herausforderungen. In Hamburg suchen Vertreter aus mehr als 110 Ländern nach Antworten.

Internationale Zusammenarbeit ist nach Auffassung der neuen Entwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) aktuell wichtiger denn je. Die internationalen Herausforderungen seien so groß wie nie, sagte sie vor Journalisten zum Auftakt einer internationalen Nachhaltigkeits-Konferenz in Hamburg. Viele traditionelle Foren seien blockiert, der Wert und Nutzen internationaler Zusammenarbeit werde aggressiv infrage gestellt. "Die regelbasierte internationale Ordnung wird aktiv untergraben", so die Ministerin.

Besonders der Rückzug der USA trafen die internationale Zusammenarbeit und das multilaterale System mit voller Härte, so Alabali-Radovan. Dies habe lebensbedrohlichen Folgen für Menschen weltweit.

Konferenz im Zeichen der Nachhaltigkeit

Bei der zweiten "Hamburg Sustainability Conference" wollen rund 1.600 Vertreter aus Politik, Wirtschaft und Zivilgesellschaft aus mehr als 110 Ländern darüber beraten, wie sie die Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen gemeinsam noch verwirklichen können. Im Mittelpunkt stehen der verantwortungsvolle Umgang mit Künstlicher Intelligenz (KI), mit dem Klimawandel und der Schutz vor Pandemien. Auch geht es darum, wie besser in Entwicklungszusammenarbeit investiert werden kann.

Zu den Teilnehmern gehören auch Vizekanzler und Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) sowie Bundeslandwirtschaftsminister Alois Rainer (CSU). Aus dem Ausland werden die kongolesische Regierungschefin Judith Tuluka Suminwa sowie zahlreiche weitere Minister erwartet – vor allem aus Ländern des Globalen Südens.

Entwicklungspolitik: Wirkung nicht unmittelbar sichtbar

Laut Alabali-Radovan leidet Entwicklungspolitik oft darunter, dass ihre Wirkungen nicht unmittelbar sichtbar seien. "Niemand weiß, wie die Welt ohne Entwicklungspolitik aussehen würde", so die Ministerin. "Der Rückzug der USA macht diesen Unterschied jetzt leider auf fatale Art sichtbar." Das Leben von Millionen Menschen sei bedroht, Bildungschancen gingen verloren, besiegt geglaubte Krankheiten kehrten zurück, der Klimawandel schreite weiter voran und Hungersnöte träten auf.



“Umso wichtiger ist jetzt genau ein solches Format wie diese Konferenz, das diesen Attacken etwas entgegengesetzt.” Das Treffen stärke eine einfache Erkenntnis: “Es geht uns allen besser, wenn wir miteinander arbeiten und nicht gegeneinander.”

2. Klingbeil: Deutschland bleibt großer Geber internationaler Hilfe

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Evangelische Zeitung

Nach dem Rückzug der USA klafft eine Lücke in der Entwicklungsfinanzierung. Vizekanzler Klingbeil verspricht: Deutschland bleibt ein verlässlicher Partner.

Deutschland will sich nach Worten von Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) weiter führend in der Finanzierung von Entwicklungszusammenarbeit engagieren. “Gerade jetzt, wenn andere große Geberländer ihre Unterstützung zurückfahren, wird Deutschland ein verlässlicher Partner bleiben”, sagte der Vizekanzler bei einer internationalen Konferenz für Nachhaltigkeit in Hamburg. Angesichts der aktuellen Entwicklungen sei Deutschland auf dem Weg, der größte Geber öffentlicher Entwicklungszusammenarbeit zu werden, so Klingbeil auf Englisch.

Die weltweite Lücke bei der Entwicklungsfinanzierung könne Deutschland aber nicht allein kompensieren, so der Minister. “Wir fordern alte und neue Geberländer auf, ihre öffentliche Entwicklungshilfe auf ein ähnliches Niveau zu erhöhen wie wir. Und wir appellieren auch an alle Geber, an einer besseren Koordinierung dieser Hilfe zu arbeiten.”

Klingbeil spricht bei “Hamburg Sustainability Conference”

Dabei beraten noch bis Dienstagabend rund 1.600 Vertreter aus Politik, Wirtschaft und Zivilgesellschaft aus mehr als 110 Ländern darüber, wie sie die Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen gemeinsam noch verwirklichen können. Im Mittelpunkt stehen der verantwortungsvolle Umgang mit Künstlicher Intelligenz (KI), der Kampf gegen den Klimawandel und der Schutz vor Pandemien. Auch geht es darum, wie angesichts des Rückzugs der USA aus der Entwicklungsfinanzierung die internationale Hilfe aufrechterhalten werden kann. Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) hatte die Konferenz am Montag eröffnet.

Laut Klingbeil will die Bundesregierung die Zusammenarbeit mit den Ländern des Globalen Südens verbessern. Dazu wolle sie die Unabhängige Kommission für internationale Entwicklungsfragen wiederbeleben, die es von 1970 bis 1980 schon einmal gegeben hatte. Die sogenannte Nord-Süd-Kommission solle sowohl den Erwartungen des Nordens als auch des Südens gerecht werden.

Klingbeil: Regelmäßig globales Expertentreffen

“Ich stelle mir vor, dass unabhängige Expertinnen und Experten aus Politik, Zivilgesellschaft, Wirtschaft und Forschung aus allen Teilen der Welt regelmäßig zusammenkommen, um nach neuen Antworten zu suchen”, sagte der Minister. “Ich bin überzeugt, dass wir auch jüngere Teilnehmer und mehr Frauen als in der vorherigen Nord-Süd-Kommission brauchen.”



IFAD President calls on Germany's leadership as "essential to rekindle solidarity in a fragmented world"

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Farmers Review Africa

Hamburg/Rome, 2 June 2025 – At a critical juncture for global peace and prosperity, Álvaro Lario, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), calls on Germany's leadership as "essential to rekindle solidarity in a fragmented world" at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) today. The high-level gathering convenes influential voices in international development, underscoring Germany's role in shaping a fairer, more sustainable global future.

On the margins of the conference, Lario met with Reem Alabali-Radovan, Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development. President Lario reaffirmed IFAD's commitment to deepening the strategic partnership with Germany in tackling hunger, poverty and to create decent job opportunities for young people and the most disenfranchised across the food systems in rural areas, where 80 per cent of the world's poorest live.

Despite growing global wealth, the world today faces a surge in inequality, hunger, and a record number of armed conflicts and displaced people. Acute hunger has tripled since 2018, affecting nearly 300 million people in 53 countries. Extreme weather events, such as droughts, floods and extreme temperatures, are becoming more frequent and intense. Yet, development cooperation remains underfunded with an estimated US\$4 trillion annual gap in financing needed to address the magnitude of these interconnected challenges.

"At this historic crossroads, Germany has a unique opportunity to catalyze private sector engagement and drive transformative change, helping bridge the widening inequality gap between the Global North and Global South," said Lario.

IFAD's President also advocated for greater investment for small-scale rural producers during a closed-door high-level dialogue, focused on financial flows to and from developing countries, and the reform of the current rules-based order to better serve both North and South.

"Investment in small-scale food producers is not charity," Lario said. "It's a smart investment in global stability, food security and fair supply chains. It reduces human suffering as well as the need for expensive emergency aid, lowers pressure from migration, and helps youth find opportunity in the communities where they reside."

With 1.2 billion young people seeking decent work – nearly 90 percent of them in developing countries – rural youth face particularly limited prospects. Yet agriculture and food systems hold vast untapped potential. With the right investments, they could generate over US\$4.5 trillion in new business opportunities annually and create more than 120 million decent jobs, turning migration into a choice rather than a necessity.



Zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:

Fink Hamburg

Am Montag startet die zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz mit Gästen aus über 100 Ländern. Parallel dazu beginnt die erste Hamburg Sustainability Week. Dabei können Vereine, Initiativen und Bürger*innen auch eigene Veranstaltungen anbieten.

Am heutigen Montag beginnt die zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz. Mehr als 1600 Teilnehmende aus 110 Ländern werden erwartet. Ziel der Konferenz ist es, die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen voranzutreiben. Veranstaltet wird die Konferenz vom Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, dem Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg sowie der Michael Otto Stiftung.

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) eröffnete die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz am Montag um zehn Uhr. Für Dienstag ist eine Rede von Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) angekündigt. Die Konferenz endet am morgigen Dienstag.

100 Veranstaltungen, eine Idee

Sie bildet zugleich den Auftakt der Hamburg Sustainability Week, die vom 1. bis 6. Juni stadtweit stattfindet. Unter dem Motto "6 Tage, 100 Veranstaltungen, eine Idee: Wir machen Zukunft. Und zwar gemeinsam" laden zivilgesellschaftliche Initiativen, Institutionen und Bürger*innen zu Workshops, Talks und Aktionen ein. Unter anderem sind eine Barkassenfahrt für die Energiewende und ein Speed-Dating mit zehn Menschen geplant, die Nachhaltigkeit in Hamburg vorantreiben.

Ziel der Woche ist es, die lokale Nachhaltigkeitstransformation zu stärken und neue Lösungsansätze für die Nachhaltigkeitsziele zu entwickeln.



1. Meeting of Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonian with Executive Director of UN-Habitat Anacláudia Rossbach

Date: June 02, 2025



Source:
First Channel News

On June 2, on the margins of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonyan had a meeting with Anacláudia Rossbach, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat.

During the meeting, prospects for expanding the engagement of Armenia within the framework of UN-Habitat were touched upon. The Deputy Minister of Armenia emphasized the importance Armenia attaches to sustainable and green urban and rural development. In this context, the parties highlighted the importance of experience-sharing and joint initiatives with UN-Habitat in the fields of transportation infrastructure, engineering systems, and energy-efficient housing.

The interlocutors also exchanged views on prospective cooperation in the context of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.

The Deputy Minister of Armenia briefed his counterpart on the ongoing efforts of Armenia to address the short- and mid-term needs of forcibly displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh, emphasizing the importance of international support.

2. Armenia's Deputy Foreign Minister and UN Under-Secretary-General discuss preparation of COP17 to be hosted by Armenia

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
First Channel News

On June 2, on the sidelines of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonyan had a meeting with Guy Ryder, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Armenian Foreign Ministry reports.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on the UN80 initiative of the UN Secretary-General and the implementation of the fundamental reforms within its framework. The Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia emphasized the effective cooperation with the UN Office in Armenia, and touched upon the ongoing work in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2026-2030, as well as the programs implemented by UN agencies in Armenia in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The interlocutors also touched upon the preparation process of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.

The Deputy Foreign Minister briefed his counterpart on recent regional developments, reaffirming the commitment of Armenia to the peace agenda and, in this context emphasizing the importance of the swift signing of the Agreement on Peace and Establishment of Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

3. Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister discusses emerging challenges in international development system in Hamburg conference

Date: June 03, 2025



Source:
First Channel News

On June 2, within the framework of the annual Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonyan participated in and delivered remarks at a high-level closed roundtable discussion entitled "The Future of Development Cooperation." The discussion focused on the challenges facing the international development system and ways to address them.

Armenian Foreign Ministry said, in his remarks, Abisoghomonyan touched upon emerging challenges in the international development system, including the rapid growth of new digital technologies and the consequences of the pandemic and climate change. The need for more sustainable and flexible financing mechanisms in the development sector was emphasized.

In the context of health-related challenges, the Deputy Foreign Minister noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences exposed the vulnerabilities of the global health architecture and the interconnectedness of national health systems. The imperative to take steps to enhance the resilience of global health structures was highlighted.

Touching upon the humanitarian challenges, the Deputy Foreign Minister drew attention to the needs of forcibly displaced people from Nagorno-Karabakh and the necessity of addressing them. In this context, he emphasized the importance of establishing effective preventive, emergency response, and follow-up mechanisms within the global humanitarian response framework.

Regarding the challenges on climate change, the Deputy Foreign Minister emphasized the importance of addressing the needs of developing countries, pointing out that although they are not the primary contributors to global warming, biodiversity loss, or other environmental disruptions, they are disproportionately affected by the severe consequences of climate change.



Atsakingas dirbtinis intelektas ir tvarus žaliasis pokytis – Hamburgo tvarumo konferencijos tikslas

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
FM99

Podcast

Hamburgo Rotušėje vyksta antroji Hamburgo tvarumo konferencija (Hamburg Sustainability Conference – HSC), kurią Hamburgas tikisi padaryti tuo, kas saugumo srityje yra Miuncheno saugumo konferencija – vienu svarbiausių pasaulio forumų, skirtų tvarumui. Šiais metais



konferencijoje per 1600 dalyvių iš 110 pasaulio šalių. Tarp svarbiausių temų – atsakingas dirbtinio intelekto vystymas ir naudojimas.

Hamburgas yra tarp lyderiaujančių tvarumo srityje Europoje. Miestas į tvarumo iniciatyvas ir ekologiją žvelgia ne kaip į privalomą dalyką, bet kaip į galimybes ekonomikai, kuriomis nori pasinaudoti ir savo gyventojų labui, įgyvendindamas žaliąją miesto plėtrą. Tad ir šioje konferencijoje itin svarbus vaidmuo tenka bendradarbiavimui su verslui ir nevyriausybinio sektoriui. Stambus konferencijos rėmėjas ir svarbus dalyvis – Otto Grupė, vokiečių Amazon atitikmuo.

Tvarumas – gyvenimo būdas

Hamburgas siekia tapti klimatui neutraliu iki 2045 m., itin daug dėmesio skirdamas atsinaujinančiai energetikai, viešojo transporto modernizavimui bei žaliųjų erdvių plėtrai.

Net karo palikimas – milžiniški bunkeriai perkuriami šia linkme. Viena naujausių Hamburgo atrakcijų – pernai atidarytas Žaliasis bunkeris. Antrojo pasaulinio karo laikais propagandos tikslais pastatytas milžiniškas bunkeris judraus kvartalo St.Pauli centre buvo transformuotas į žaliosios energijos ir ekologinės architektūros projektą. Šis projektas turi ir simbolinę reikšmę – iš karo infrastruktūros paveldėto objekto sukurtas gyvybės, bendruomenės ir ekologijos centras.

Jau anksčiau dar vienas toks mieste stūkstantis bunkeris paverstas milžinišku šildymo katilu ir tiekia šilumą šimtams butų ir viešųjų pastatų aplink.

Šis naujasis projektas – Žaliasis bunkeris iš pilko betono monstro tapo žaliu miesto tašku. Bunkerio viduje jau ir anksčiau veikė baras, techno muzikos klubas, vieta tarnavo menininkams, bet dabar per kelerius metus ant betoninio monstro buvo pastatytas viešbutis, meno ir kultūros erdvės bei du restoranai. Nuo apželdinto stogo atsiveria beveik visas Hamburgas, ant bunkerio viršaus – daugiau nei 4 700 m² žalumos.

Tvari Hamburgo miesto vizija atsispindi tokiose iniciatyvose kaip „HafenCity“ – tai vienas didžiausių Europoje ekologiškai planuojamų kvartalų. Be to, miesto centre palaipsniui naikinamos automobilių stovėjimo vietos, skatinamas vaikščiojimas ir dviračių infrastruktūra. Hamburgas buvo pirmasis Vokietijos miestas, uždraudęs senesnius dyzelinius automobilius tam tikrose zonose.

HSC misija – skatinti ne pažadus, o tvarią plėtrą

Šiek tiek plačiau apie Hamburgo tvarumo konferenciją (HSC). Pasaulyje ištis gausu įvairaus lygio tarptautinių susitarimų, pažadų ir konferencijų, tad ši siekia išsiskirti konkrečiais veiksmais, sako Henry Alt-Haaker, HSC programų ir poveikio direktorius.

„Nenorime būti dar viena konferencija, kurioje skamba pažadai be realių veiksmų“, – teigia H. Alt-Haaker. HSC kuria ilgalaikę platformą, kurios dalyviai – nuo vyriausybių ir įmonių iki NVO – ne tik duoda pažadus, bet ir yra atsakingi už jų vykdymą. Konferencijos formatas apima ne vienkartinius renginius, bet tęstinę veiklą: diskusijas, apvalaus stalo susitikimus, ataskaitas ir pažangos vertinimą.

Konferencijoje susitinka idėjos, galimi jų finansuotojai ir įstatymų priėmėjai, galintys kurti tinkamą klimatą startuoliams. Visos šalys teikia konkrečius įsipareigojimus, vėliau sekama jų pažanga, identifikuojant lyderius ir „atsilikėlius“, išsiaiškinant priežastis, dėl ko pastariesiems nesiseka ir perduodant pirmaujančiųjų patirtis, galinčius padėti kitiems.



Tikslas – ne bausti, o padėti, sako konferencijos vadovas: „Ko čempionai gali išmokyti atsilikėlius? Kodėl jiems nesiseka? Gal trūksta politinės valios, finansinių resursų ar infrastruktūros?“

Kaip tai turėtų veikti, H. Alt-Haaker aiškina pavyzdžiu: „Pavyzdžiui, Nigerijos startuolis, kuris valo vandenyną ir taip uždirba pinigus, negali plėstis, nes rinkoje negauna finansavimo, nes tai aukštos rizikos zona. Tada klausiame bankų, kodėl neduodat finansavimo, juk tai puiki verslo galimybė ir jie valo vandenyną. Bankai sako, negalime duoti garantijų, visos reitingų agentūros sėdi Niujorke ir Londone ir neturi supratimo, kaip įvertinti investicijas Nigerijoje. Tada mes suvedame reitingų agentūras ir sprendimų priėmėjus į vieną vietą, kad jie galėtų pakeisti reguliavimus ir tokios investicijos būtų įmanomos. Tokia Hamburgo tvarumo konferencijos strategija“.

Pirmieji rezultatai

Konferencija startavo tik pernai rudenį ir jos tikslai nėra greitai įgyvendinami, tačiau rezultatus jau skaičiuoja. Hamburge pasirašomos deklaracijos, kuriose dedantieji parašus prisiima konkrečius įsipareigojimus.

Tarp pavyzdžių – žaliąją aviaciją skatinantys įsipareigojimai, kuriuos dalyviai pristatė pirmojoje konferencijoje 2024 metų rudenį. Jie ne tik įsipareigojo mažinti taršą, bet ir sugrįžo į HSC po pusmečio aptarti įgyvendinimo pažangos.

Konferencijoje gimęs įdomus projektas – elektromobilių pakartotinis naudojimas. Žmonės nelinkę pirkti naudotų elektromobilių, nes nėra tikri, ar jų baterija dar tinkama naudoti, todėl jie labai greitai keliauja į atliekas. Tačiau atsirado technologija, kaip patikrinti baterijos būklę ir užtikrinti pirkėjui, kad automobilis dar ilgai bus tinkamas naudoti, taip smarkiai pailginant jų naudojimo laiką.

Dar vienas iš HSC pavyzdžių – diskusijos apie biologinę įvairovę, kuriose, pavyzdžiui, dalyvauja Amazonės regiono vietinių bendruomenių atstovai. „Kaip padaryti, kad bioįvairovės išsaugojimo naudą suprastų ne tik ekologai, bet ir politikai, imonės, ekonomistai?“ – klausia Alt-Haaker. Diskusija sunki ir supratimas įmanomas tik dalyvaujant visoms pusėms, ko ir siekia konferencija.

Atsakingas dirbtinis intelektas

HSC sprendžia vieną iš aktualiausių šių dienų klausimų – kaip tvariai plėtoti dirbtinį intelektą, kuris naudoja daug energijos ir resursų, todėl būtina jam užtikrinti žaliąją energiją, sumažinti skaičiavimo galios poreikį ir įtraukti infrastruktūros kūrėjus bei inžinierius į sprendimų priėmimą. Be to, labai svarbu, kad DI vystymas būtų demokratiškas, ne vien vakarietiškų duomenų monopolis, apimtų ir pietų šalis.

Šių metų Hamburgo tvarumo konferencijoje tarp kitų pasirašyta ir deklaracija dėl atsakingo dirbtinio intelekto. Vėlgi su ja seka ir įsipareigojimai, pažadai DI vaisiais ir galimybėmis dalintis su skurdesnėmis šalimis, apmokyti Afrikos šalių gyventojus ir panašiai.

H. Alt-Haaker pabrėžia, kad siekiama sujungti HSC rezultatus su kitomis pasaulinėmis iniciatyvomis, pavyzdžiui, aplinkosaugos COP ir nesikartoti, o papildyti jas.

Trejų metų perspektyva

Skaičiuoti viščiukus, kokia įtaka buvo padaryta, ketinama po trejų metų.

„Ar mūsų konferencija padėjo pasiekti daugiau tvarios plėtros tikslų? Į šį klausimą galėsime atsakyti po trejų metų“, – sako H. Alt-Haaker. Šis „startuolis“, kaip pats vadina Hamburgo



konferenciją, siekia ne momentinių rezultatų, o sisteminės kaitos – per dialogą, spaudimą ir bendradarbiavimą. Belieka tikėtis, kad HSC nevirs dar viena kalbų tribūna, bet taps erdve realiam pokyčiui, per atvirumą ir atskaitomybę.

Forum

Nachhaltig Wirtschaften

Kinder appellieren an Politiker bei der Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:

Forum Nachhaltig Wirtschaften

Die Hamburger Kinder und Schülerinnen der Staatlichen Jugendmusikschule Vikky und Pippa Munyoro (12 Jahre) sowie Lucas Etcheverria aus Brasilien haben auf der Hamburg Sustainability Conference die Weltpremiere von „ALL FOR ONE“ aufgeführt.

Die Hymne ist ein dringender Appell von Kindern und Jugendlichen an Entscheidungsträger, sofort für Frieden, Klimaschutz und Nachhaltigkeit zu handeln. Die Hymne soll von Hamburg aus als globaler Aufruf zum Handeln verbreitet werden. Komponiert von Wolf Kerschek (FIFA, Olympische Spiele, Weltmeisterschaft), ist der Text von Ingo Mende. Partner der Hymne sind die ALL FOR ONE- Alle Menschen für eine Erde, Brücken für Kinder e.V., Viva con Agua, die Deutsche Meeresstiftung und der World Future Council.

Frank Otto, Hamburger Medienunternehmer sagt:

„Es ist Zeit zum Handeln. Entscheidungsträger auf der Hamburg Sustainability Konferenz aus Politik, Wirtschaft und Medien sollten dem Appell der Kinder folgen und sich für effektiven Frieden und Klimaschutz in der Welt einsetzen.“

Alexandra Wandel, Geschäftsführerin von ALL FOR ONE – Alle Menschen für eine Erde kommentiert. „Kinder brauchen dringend eine Stimme in der Politik. Die Hymne „ALL FOR ONE“ verdeutlicht die Themen, die Kinder und Jugendlichen am Herz liegen: Frieden, Natur – und Klimaschutz im Interesse zukünftiger Generationen. Von Hamburg aus geht dieser Appell für eine bessere Welt an die gesamte Welt.“

Gegen das Erodieren der Hilfe

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Selten waren die Zeiten für internationale Zusammenarbeit so schlecht wie heute. Auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz will man dem etwas entgegensetzen.

Der Rückzug der USA aus der internationalen Hilfe hat nach Angaben der neuen Entwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) „lebensbedrohliche Folgen“ für viele Menschen weltweit. Vor dem Hintergrund massiv gestiegener geopolitischer Spannungen und



geschwächter internationaler Organisationen rief Alabali-Radovan bei der Eröffnung der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz am Montag zu verstärkter Zusammenarbeit auf. Sie warnte davor, dass Klimawandel, Konflikte und Hunger Millionen Menschen bedrohten und zur Flucht zwingen. Die Herausforderungen seien so groß wie nie, der Nutzen internationaler Zusammenarbeit werde weltweit aggressiv in Frage gestellt, so Alabali-Radovan.

Die Ministerin nutzte ihren Auftritt in Hamburg für scharfe Kritik an Israel. Was in Gaza zu sehen sei, sei eine „menschengemachte Katastrophe“. Jedes staatliche Handeln unterliege der Verhältnismäßigkeit, es könne kein militärisches Ziel sein, dass Kinder verhungerten. Die israelische Regierung müsse den Zugang für humanitäre Hilfe dauerhaft ermöglichen.

Die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz fand zum zweiten Mal statt; initiiert wurde sie 2024 unter der Ampel-Regierung. Bei der Eröffnung sagte Olaf Scholz (SPD), es solle ein Signal zur Aufholjagd ausgehen in Bezug auf die Ziele der Weltgemeinschaft für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung. Bis 2030 sollten unter anderem die extreme Armut sowie Hunger und Unterernährung verschwinden. Schon länger ist klar, dass die meisten Ziele unerreichbar sind. Zuletzt aber hat sich die Lage in vielen Entwicklungsländern massiv verschlechtert. Es fehlt an Geldern und Perspektiven, nicht zuletzt in Folge der Abwicklung der Hilfsorganisation USAID unter Donald Trump.

Sparkurs und Zölle treffen die Ärmsten

Zu beobachten sei ein massiver Abzug von Geldern in der internationalen Zusammenarbeit zu einer Zeit, in der es mehr denn je davon brauche, sagte der Leiter der UN-Entwicklungsprogramms UNDP, Achim Steiner. In Bezug auf den von den USA losgetretenen Zollkonflikt warnte er, dieser treffe vor allem die Ärmsten. Rebecca Greenspan von der UN-Konferenz für Handel und Entwicklung, UNCTAD, warnte, die 40 am wenigsten entwickelten Staaten der Welt würden durch die von den USA erhobenen Zölle massiv beschädigt, obwohl sie nur einen Bruchteil zum Handelsdefizit Amerikas beitrügen.



St. Katharinen: »Hier dreht sich was!«

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Hafen City Zeitung

Event. Noch bis 17. Juli leuchtet die Kunstinstallation »Gaia« in der HafenCity-Kirche St. Katharinen

Der Name ist Programm: „Gaia“, griechisch für Erde. Dass sie von der menschen- und industriegemachten Erderwärmung wie dem auch daraus folgenden Klimawandel existenziell bedroht ist, wird nur von Ignoranten und Sektierern bestritten. Zu den bekanntesten Verfechtern eines Lebens im Einklang mit der Natur und unserem Planeten gehört der Hamburger Meteorologe, Ozeanograf und Klimaforscher Prof. Mojib Latif vom Kieler Helmholtz-Zentrum für Ozeanforschung, der bilanziert: „Das Klima der Erde verändert sich seit Beginn der Industrialisierung mit einer atemberaubenden Geschwindigkeit, und die Menschen sind die Ursache.“



Foto oben: Die magisch leuchtende Erdkugel dreht sich im Kirchenschiff von St. Katharinen. Hauptpastorin Ulrike Murmann: „Wir werden über die Verwundbarkeit des Planeten sprechen und gemeinsam darüber nachdenken, wie wir ihn besser schützen und bewahren können.“ © Timo Neuscheler

Der international anerkannte Klimaforscher Mojib ist neben Ex-Bundesumweltministerin Steffi Lemke, Klimaschutzaktivistin Luise Neubauer und Benjamin Adrion von Viva con Agua Leitfigur des mehrwöchigen Programms „Hier dreht sich was!“, das mit einem umfangreichen Begleitprogramm – Podiumsgesprächen, Lesungen, Konzerten, Filmabenden, Gottesdiensten, Andachten – zum Thema informiert. „Unter dem Motto ‚Hier dreht sich was!‘ kommen wir zu wichtigen Themen unserer Zeit wie Klimaschutz, globale Gerechtigkeit und Menschenrechtsfragen ins Gespräch. St. Katharinen ist zudem Erlebnisort der ‚Hamburg Sustainability Week‘, die noch bis 6. Juni in Hamburg Nachhaltigkeitsthemen präsentiert und sich am Programm der ersten Ausstellungswoche beteiligt“, so Hauptpastorin und Pröpstin Dr. Ulrike Murmann von St. Katharinen.

Das plakative, sinnliche Ausrufezeichen des siebenwöchigen Veranstaltungsprogramms ist die Installation des britischen Künstlers Luke Jerram, eine im Durchmesser sieben Meter große beleuchtete Erdkugel im Kirchenschiff von St. Katharinen, die sich langsam dreht. Es ist eine originalgetreue Nachbildung der Erde, die aus Nasa-Bildern zusammengefügt wurde.

Die Großinstallation selbst und ihre Präsenz in St. Katharinen haben Hauptpastorin Ulrike Murmann in den Bann gezogen: „Ich freue mich riesig auf die sieben Meter große, detailgetreue Abbildung der Erde, die sich vom 1. Juni an sechseinhalb Wochen unter dem Sternenhimmel von St. Katharinen drehen wird. Wir werden die Erdkugel so erleben, wie Astronauten sie aus dem Weltraum sehen, und wahrscheinlich über ihre unfassbare Schönheit staunen. Das wird ein einzigartiges, faszinierendes und inspirierendes Erlebnis.“

Unter dem von Luke Jerram geschaffenen „Gaia“-Kunstwerk „werden wir über die Verwundbarkeit unseres Planeten sprechen und gemeinsam darüber nachdenken, wie wir ihn besser schützen und bewahren können“, so Murmann.

Sie freut sich darüber, dass „morgens Kitas und Schulklassen in der Kirche sind, mittags um 12.30 Uhr gibt es ‚was auf die Ohren‘, also Musik, und abends folgen jeweils Gespräche, Lesungen und Filme“. In dem Sinne „sagen wir in Katharinen in diesen Wochen: ‚Hier dreht sich was!‘ Kommen Sie unbedingt vorbei! Das sollten Sie nicht verpassen.“



Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025

Date: 04 June, 2025

Source:
Hafen Hamburg



Mit der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) 2025 rückt die Hansestadt erneut in den Mittelpunkt der internationalen Nachhaltigkeitsdebatte. Die Konferenz vereint führende Vertreterinnen und Vertreter aus Politik, Wirtschaft und Wissenschaft, um gemeinsam konkrete Lösungen für die globalen Herausforderungen unserer Zeit zu entwickeln und den Wandel hin zu einer klimafreundlichen und resilienten Zukunft aktiv zu gestalten.

Im Zentrum der HSC 2025 stehen die Kernthemen umweltfreundliche Schifffahrt, nachhaltige Luftfahrt und zukunftsfähige Finanzierung. „Die Bereiche sind von entscheidender Bedeutung, um sicherzustellen, dass die Investitionen des öffentlichen und privaten Sektors mit den globalen Nachhaltigkeitszielen in Einklang stehen“, betont Jens Meier, CEO der Hamburg Port Authority (HPA) und Präsident der International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH).

Jens Meier zog dabei einen interessanten Vergleich zum Sport: Klare Regeln, Anreize für gute Leistungen und Sanktionen bei Verstößen seien ebenso notwendig wie der kontinuierliche Austausch von Know-how und Talenten. Solche Regeln müssen vor Spielbeginn festgelegt werden, die gleiche Wettbewerbsbedingungen sicherstellen und dürfen auch nicht während eines laufenden Spiels verändert werden. Nur durch internationale Zusammenarbeit und das Teilen von Best-Practice-Lösungen könne die maritime Branche den Herausforderungen des Klimawandels wirksam begegnen.

Ein Highlight im Rahmen der diesjährigen Konferenz war ein hochrangiges Networking-Event, das am 1. Juni 2025 vom Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) gemeinsam mit der HPA organisiert wurde. Die Barkassenfahrt durch den Hamburger Hafen bot eine Plattform für persönliche und den Austausch zwischen Entscheidungsträgerinnen und Entscheidungsträgern. Gerade in Zeiten multipler Krisen ist eine enge und vertrauensvolle Zusammenarbeit entscheidender denn je. Die Dekarbonisierung unserer Industrie ist ein komplexes Thema, das nur durch gemeinsame Anstrengungen aller Beteiligten gelöst werden kann.

Die HPA unterstreicht mit ihrer Rolle auf der Konferenz ihr langfristiges Engagement für Innovation, Klimaschutz und nachhaltige Transformation im Hafenbetrieb. Der Hamburger Hafen soll dabei nicht nur als internationales logistisches Drehkreuz, sondern zunehmend auch als Schrittmacher für klimafreundliche Technologien, digitale Prozesse und sektorübergreifende Kooperation wahrgenommen werden.



HSC 2025: Antworten auf globale Herausforderungen

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:
Hamburg News

1.600 Teilnehmende aus rund 110 Ländern bei der Hamburg Sustainability Conference. KI spielt Schlüsselrolle bei Nachhaltigkeit. Hamburg News war vor Ort

Eine faire KI, resiliente Städte und Vertrauen in die Kraft des Multilateralismus. Zwei Tage lang diskutierten hochkarätige Vertreter:innen aus Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft, Politik und Zivilgesellschaft im Hamburger Rathaus und der Handelskammer über Lösungsansätze für Probleme, die Menschen in aller Welt umtreiben. Zur Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)



kamen in diesem Jahr sogar noch mehr Teilnehmer:innen, als zur Premiere im Oktober 2024. Gut 1.600 Gäste aus rund 110 Ländern nutzten die Chance zum persönlichen Austausch. Und der sei gerade jetzt wichtiger denn je, betonte Vizkanzler und Finanzminister Lars Klingbeil: „Die Welt erlebt derzeit enorme Umstrukturierungen. Das Kräfteverhältnis in der Weltwirtschaft und in der internationalen politischen Zusammenarbeit verschiebt sich bereits seit Jahren. Zum Wohle der Weltbürgerschaft müssen wir die multilaterale Zusammenarbeit wieder aufbauen. Multilateralismus ist die Antwort auf globale Herausforderungen.“

Metropolen als Schlüssel für Innovationen

Dem stimmte auch Peter Tschentscher bei der Eröffnung am 2. Juni zu. Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister betonte: „Globale Entwicklungen können nur im Schulterschluss und gemeinsam erreicht werden.“ Hamburg als Gastgeberin der Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz kann dazu praktische Erfahrungen beisteuern – in Hamburg leben Menschen aus über 180 Nationen. Eine kluge Gestaltung der Rahmenbedingungen unterstützt einerseits die Chancen, die sich aus der multinationalen Zusammensetzung der Stadtgesellschaft ergeben und berücksichtigt andererseits die ökologischen Folgen des städtischen Lebens. „Mehr als die Hälfte der Weltbevölkerung lebt in urbanen Räumen. Sie verbrauchen 80 Prozent der weltweiten Energie, sind für 70 Prozent der Treibhausgasemissionen verantwortlich und produzieren mehr als die Hälfte der Abfälle“, so Tschentscher. Deshalb hätten globale Metropolen eine besondere Verantwortung, aber auch das Potenzial, Lösungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft zu entwickeln. „Hamburg ist dazu bereit und hat sich bereits 2017 verpflichtet, die UN-Nachhaltigkeitsziele (SDGs) konsequent umzusetzen.“

Resilienz als Treiber für Wachstum

Zudem hat Hamburg im Februar eine Klimaanpassungsstrategie beschlossen, um die Stadt resilienter aufzustellen und Extremwetterereignissen wie Hitzewellen, Dürren, Starkregen oder Sturmfluten zu begegnen. „Mehr Resilienz bedeutet mehr Lebensqualität“, ist Tschentscher überzeugt. Und Resilienz ist ein Treiber für wirtschaftliches Wachstum – so ein Fazit der verschiedenen Panels zur Zukunft von urbanen Räumen.

Wasserresilienz gefragt

Investitionen in resiliente Strukturen kommen somit sowohl der Ökologie als auch der Ökonomie zugute. Landwirtschaftsminister Alois Rainer verwies auf die Bedeutung von klimaangepasster Landwirtschaft sowie auf Maßnahmen zur Einsparung von Wasser, wie sie etwa in Deutschlands Nationaler Wasserstrategie zusammengefasst sind. Und er betonte den grenzübergreifenden Ansatz in Europa „Die EU arbeitet an einer Wasserresilienzstrategie, die in Kürze verabschiedet werden soll.“ Auf globaler Ebene ist für Dezember 2026 die Wasserkonferenz der Vereinten Nationen geplant, um das 6. SDG-Ziel - sauberes Wasser und Sanitäreinrichtungen für alle zu gewährleisten - voranzutreiben. Einen technischen Lösungsansatz, um Wasserknappheit entgegenzuwirken bietet die Vista Geowissenschaftliche Fernerkundung GmbH. „Wir nutzen maschinelles Lernen und KI, um Lösungen in den Bereichen Agrarmonitoring, Smart Farming, Nachhaltigkeit und Klimawandel bereitzustellen“, so Gründerin Heike Bach. Durch die Entwicklung Digitaler Zwillinge seien Einsparungen von 20% bei Wasser, Energie und Dünger zu erzielen. „Bislang sind wir besonders im globalen Süden tätig. Doch durch den Klimawandel rückt zunehmend auch der globale Norden in unseren Fokus“, erklärt Bach.

Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI

Auch in der Metropolregion Hamburg wird KI genutzt, um eine ressourcenschonende Landwirtschaft voranzutreiben. So werden im Verbundprojekt SAMSON (Smarte



Automatisierungssysteme und –services für den Obstanbau an der Niederelbe) Digitale Zwillinge für die Apfelfelder im Alten Land entwickelt. Mit einem Klick lässt sich der Blütenbesatz im Frühling und die Zahl der Äpfel im Herbst anzeigen. Selbst der Durchmesser eines jeden Apfels lässt sich bestimmen – und das millimetergenau.

KI birgt großes Potenzial, sind sich die Expert:innen einig, sei es in Landwirtschaft, Mobilität, Gesundheit oder im Energiesektor. Allerdings sei die technologische Entwicklung so rasant, dass die Weltbevölkerung kaum noch Schritt halten könne, globale Vereinbarungen und Regulierungen müssten gefunden werden. Auf der HSC wurde deshalb die “Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals” unterzeichnet.

Allianzen und Vereinbarungen

Ein echter Meilenstein, findet Achim Steiner, Leiter des UN-Entwicklungsprogramms. „Die Zukunft von KI muss global gedacht werden. Mit der Declaration erkennen wir an, dass KI als Waffe eingesetzt werden kann – oder als Instrument der Menschlichkeit.“ Mit der Unterzeichnung durch ein breites Bündnis von Vertreter:innen aus über 40 Regierungen, Organisationen der Privatwirtschaft, der Zivilgesellschaft und führender Forschungseinrichtungen könne letzteres maßgeblich gesichert werden, hofft Steiner. „Die Declaration ist ein zentrales Bekenntnis, künstliche Intelligenz verantwortungsvoll zu nutzen – mit dem Ziel, Gerechtigkeit zu fördern, Gemeinschaften zu verbinden und globale Ungleichheiten zu verringern.“ Mit der zweiten HSC sei der Schritt zur Marke getan, betont Steiner. Bis zur HSC am 29. und 30. Juni 2026 sollen die erzielten Vereinbarungen mit Leben gefüllt werden. Neben der KI-Declaration wurde etwa eine Absichtserklärung zur Mobilisierung privater Investitionen für nachhaltige Entwicklung („SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development“) unterzeichnet oder eine globale Allianz gegen Ungleichheit gegründet. Die Allianz setzt auf regionenübergreifende Zusammenarbeit, politischen Dialog und Innovation, um das Vertrauen in öffentliche Institutionen zu stärken und friedliche, gerechte Gesellschaften zu fördern.

Das Unmögliche möglich machen

Vertrauen war ein Schlüsselwort auf der HSC. Bereits beim Eröffnungspanel betonte Reem Alabali-Radovan, Bundesministerin für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, die Bedeutung des vertrauensvollen Dialogs auf der HSC und der Möglichkeit, miteinander statt übereinander zu sprechen. Und Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General of United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD), plädierte für die Stärkung des Vertrauens in Multilateralismus, das angesichts des zunehmenden Fokus auf nationale Interessen gelitten habe. Allerdings müsse das multilaterale System neu gedacht werden – und hier wurde der sonst vorwiegend sachliche Ton durchaus emotional. „Wir brauchen einen Multilateralismus, der alle Menschen mitnimmt und der auf Teilhabe, Offenheit und verlässlichen Regeln basiert“, forderte etwa Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow am Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). Eine Utopie? Dem widersprach Achim Steiner: „Wer sich für die Zukunft wirklich interessiert und engagieren möchte, findet Partner. Und dann wird das Unmögliche möglich.“



Hamburger Abendblatt

1. Wo Bürger erleben können, was Nachhaltigkeit für sie bedeutet

Date: June 01, 2025

Source:

Hamburger Abendblatt

Hamburg. Während sich Schwergewichte aus Wirtschaft und Politik in der Handelskammer treffen, gibt es mehr als 100 Events zum Thema in der ganzen Stadt.

Alles auf Nachhaltigkeit – das ist das Credo in Hamburg in der kommenden „Sustainability Week“. Den Auftakt machen der Erste Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) und Michael Otto, Co-Initiator der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), bereits am Sonntagabend (1. Juni) in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen. In den kommenden Tagen können Hamburgerinnen und Hamburger dann bei mehr als 100 Veranstaltungen „erleben, was Nachhaltigkeit auch für sie bedeutet“, teilen die Initiatoren mit. „Verbindungen schaffen, Veränderung beschleunigen“ lautet das Motto der Aktionswoche.

Die Nachhaltigkeitswoche findet parallel zur HSC am 2. und 3. Juni in der Handelskammer statt. Die HSC ist ein globaler Gipfel, bei dem sich Entscheidungsträger aus Hamburg und aller Welt treffen, talken und vernetzen, um gemeinsam politische Rahmenbedingungen für globale Nachhaltigkeit zu gestalten. Dreh- und Angelpunkt der Konferenz sind die von den Vereinten Nationen ausgelobten 17 Nachhaltigkeitsziele („Sustainable Development Goals“, kurz: SDG). Die Sustainability Conference fand erstmals im vergangenen Herbst in Hamburg statt.

Tschentscher, Klingbeil, Otto: Entscheidungsträger auf der Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Die Gästeliste vereint in- und ausländische Schwergewichte aus Wirtschaft und Politik. Bei der HSC, deren Hauptveranstaltungen in der Handelskammer am Adolphsplatz stattfinden, wird sich Peter Tschentscher als Schirmherr der Nachhaltigkeitswoche tummeln, auch Michael Otto ist vor Ort, ebenso Finanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD), Landwirtschaftsminister Alois Rainer (CSU) und Entwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD).

Weitere Speaker bekleiden Ämter bei den Vereinten Nationen, der Welthandelsorganisation (WTO) oder der OECD, managen Banken, forschen und lehren an Universitäten oder haben sich als Gründer auf das Thema Nachhaltigkeit spezialisiert. Die Keynotes, Sessions und Panels reichen von „Ernährungssicherheit und Resilienz in Konfliktgebieten“ bis hin zu „Die Zukunft der globalen Zusammenarbeit: Neudefinition der Rolle Deutschlands“ (mit CDU-Politikerin Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer als Speakerin).

Hamburg Sustainability Week bietet mehr als 100 öffentliche Veranstaltungen für Bürger

„Es ist uns wichtig, parallel zur HSC mit ihren internationalen Teilnehmenden auch direkt mit der Stadtgesellschaft in den Dialog zu treten“, betont Henry Alt-Haaker, Co-Geschäftsführer der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC). Deshalb können Hamburger bei mehr als 100 öffentlichen Veranstaltungen abseits der Konferenz Einblicke erhaschen, was Nachhaltigkeit im Großen wie im Kleinen heißt – und was sie für ihr eigenes Leben und ihre Zukunft bedeutet.

Eine Auswahl aus dem breit gefächerten Programm der Nachhaltigkeitswoche:

- In der Kirche St. Katharinen finden unter der schwebenden Weltkugel-Installation „GAIA“ des britischen Künstlers Luke Jerram verschiedene „Planetary Talks“ und



„Planetary Sounds“ statt. Im Laufe der Woche unter anderen mit dem Meteorologen und Klimaforscher Mojib Latif, dem Autor Christian Buske, der Leipziger Buchpreisträgerin Kristine Bilkau und Journalistin Elisabeth von Thadden sowie Regisseur Lars Jessen.

- Das Abaton-Kino zeigt an verschiedenen Tagen Filme, die sich mit dem Thema Nachhaltigkeit beschäftigen. Außerdem ist eine Panel-Diskussion geplant, mit dabei ist Regisseur Tom Tykwer.
- Am Montag, 2. Juni, ab 14 Uhr gibt es eine exklusive Führung über den Energieberg Georgswerder.
- Am Dienstag, 3. Juni, veranstaltet die Behörde für Umwelt, Klima, Energie und Agrarwirtschaft (BUKEA) ein „Speeddating der Nachhaltigkeit“. Zehn Menschen aus Verwaltung, Wirtschaft und Zivilgesellschaft, die das Thema Nachhaltigkeit in Hamburg vorantreiben, stellen sich und ihre Arbeit vor und beantworten Fragen.
- Am Mittwoch, 4. Juni, ab 18 Uhr veranstaltet das Hadley's beim Schlump ein Pub-Quiz „für Freunde gepflegter Geselligkeit“ passend zur Aktionswoche.
- Am Freitag, 6. Juni, ab 20 Uhr bietet die Loki Schmidt Stiftung eine naturkundliche Abendwanderung im Naturschutzgebiet Fischbeker Heide an.

Das gesamte Programm mit allen Veranstaltungen findet sich unter www.sustainability-conference.org. Die Teilnahme ist in der Regel kostenfrei, teils ist eine Anmeldung erforderlich.

Umweltsenatorin Fegebank: „Hamburg nimmt Vorreiterrolle in puncto Nachhaltigkeit ein“

Die Hamburg Sustainability Week wird maßgeblich von der Behörde für Umweltbehörde unterstützt. „Hamburg nimmt bereits eine Vorreiterrolle in puncto Nachhaltigkeit ein. Aber wir müssen noch besser darin werden, gemeinsam Lösungen zu erarbeiten, die Wachstum und Wirtschaftlichkeit in einen guten Einklang mit den Nachhaltigkeitszielen bringen“, sagt Senatorin Katharina Fegebank.

„Nachhaltigkeit ist ein Querschnittsthema, das nur gemeinschaftlich bewegt werden kann. Nachhaltigkeit heißt Kultur, heißt Arbeitsplatz, heißt Wohnraum, heißt Umweltschutz“, so Fegebank. Die „Week“ sei eine tolle Chance, gemeinsam ins Gespräch zu kommen, Initiativen kennenzulernen und eigene Ideen einzubringen.

2. Hamburg-News: Wird das Volksparkstadion abgerissen?

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:

Hamburger Abendblatt

Podcast

Heute geht es um den Brand im Marienkrankenhaus, der von einem Patienten gelegt worden sein könnte. Weitere Themen: Die Pläne für ein neues Volksparkstadion, die erste Unfallbilanz – und der Start der internationalen Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz in Hamburg.

Schock im Marienkrankenhaus: Ein Brand, möglicherweise von einem Patienten gelegt, erschüttert Hamburg. Bleiben Sie dran für Details zum Vorfall, Updates zum neuen Volksparkstadion, die erste Unfallbilanz und den Start der internationalen Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz in unserer Stadt!



3. Nachhaltigkeitsgipfel: Warum SPD-Außenpolitiker so gerührt war

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Hamburger Abendblatt

Hamburg. Zur Hamburg Sustainability Conference reisten 1600 hochrangige Gäste an. Vizekanzler Klingbeil bricht Lanze für neue Allianzen und Investitionen.

Die zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) ist zu Ende gegangen. Für den Hamburger, Sozialdemokraten und Staatssekretär im Ministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) Niels Annen ist damit eines besiegelt: „Die Konferenz hat sich nun etabliert“, sagt er während einer kurzen Abschlussrede. Der zweite Aufschlag bringe besondere Herausforderungen mit, entscheide über die Zukunft einer solchen Veranstaltung – doch die HSC hat die Hürde laut Annen genommen. Das ruft nach einer dritten Edition.

Rund 1600 Teilnehmende aus aller Welt – darunter hochrangige Vertreter aus Politik, internationalen Organisationen, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft – kamen am 2. und 3. Juni in Handelskammer und Rathaus zusammen, um neue Allianzen zu schmieden und die Fortschritte bei der Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen zu beschleunigen. Zu den unterzeichneten Abkommen gehören eines über die verantwortungsvolle Nutzung Künstlicher Intelligenz und eine Erklärung, Hürden für private Investitionen in nachhaltige Entwicklung abzubauen.

Niels Annen: „Wir prägen hier Debatten und wir haben wichtige Abkommen getroffen.“

Er sei „gerührt“, so Annen, ob der beiden Konferenztage, des Austauschs, positiven Feedbacks und der Ergebnisse. „Wir prägen hier Debatten und wir haben wichtige Abkommen getroffen.“ Unter großem Applaus – insbesondere in Anbetracht dessen, dass viele Delegationen schon vor dem offiziellen Ende die Rückreise angetreten hatten – erfolgt das Abschlussfoto und der Dank an alle Beteiligten.

„Ich bin sehr ermutigt, weil ich den Eindruck habe, dass sich hier wirklich in Hamburg diejenigen versammelt haben, die sich für eine starke UN (Vereinte Nationen), für ein starkes internationales System einsetzen.“ Das sei angesichts der „Angriffe auf das internationale System“ der vergangenen Monate nicht selbstverständlich.

Hamburger als UN-Flüchtlingskommissar nominiert – ergattert er den Posten als erster Deutscher?

Annen war bei den vergangenen Bundestagswahlen nach vier Legislaturen nicht erneut als Kandidat für Eimsbüttel angetreten. Nunmehr hat er das Amt des Staatssekretärs der Entwicklungsbehörde inne, auf Anfrage der Ministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan: „Das ist eine wichtige Aufgabe und ein Angebot, dass mich sehr ehrt und das man auch gar nicht ablehnen kann“, so Annen gegenüber dem Abendblatt.

Allerdings: Eine Bewerbung läuft noch. Annen wurde im September als Hoher Flüchtlingskommissar der Vereinten Nationen (UN) nominiert, durch die damalige Bundesregierung unter Olaf Scholz. Ob Annen das Amt als erster Deutscher übernehmen darf, hängt davon ab, ob der UN-Generalsekretär Antonio Guterres dem Vorschlag folgt und die Generalversammlung anschließend positiv votiert. Allzu lang darf das nicht mehr dauern. Im Herbst endet die Amtszeit des aktuellen UN-Flüchtlingskommissars Filippo Grandi.



Lars Klingbeil fordert auf Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz mehr „Action“ – „Europa ist zu langsam“

Den zweiten und letzten Gipfeltag der HSC eröffnete am Dienstagmorgen Vizeminister und Finanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD), vor geladenen Gästen im prunkvollen Festsaal des Rathauses sowie per Livestream in den Räumen der Handelskammer. Klingbeil formulierte seine Botschaft – auch in einer Rede, vielmehr noch aber im anschließenden Gespräch mit Economist-Journalistin Rachana Shanbhogue – deutlich: Jetzt ist die Zeit der Investitionen, jetzt ist die Zeit der neuen Allianzen.

Das Finanzministerium müsse nun zu einem Investitionsministerium werden, sagte Klingbeil und verwies auf das 500 Milliarden schwere Sondervermögen für Deutschlands Infrastruktur. „Jeder jetzt ausgegebene Euro macht sich in der Zukunft bezahlt und Untätigkeit wird einen hohen Preis haben“, so der Minister.

Mehrfach betonte er zudem die Notwendigkeit, Deutschland und Europa attraktiv zu machen für neue Allianzen, gerade mit Ländern aus dem globalen Süden. Auch China bringt Klingbeil als möglichen Partner ins Gespräch. Es gebe viele Bereiche, in denen Europa und China gemeinsame Interessen hegen. „Das müssen wir nutzen – ohne unsere Prinzipien dafür zu opfern“, etwa die Einhaltung der Menschenrechte, sagte Klingbeil.

Auch hier wirbt der Sozialdemokrat für mehr „Action“: „Europa ist zu langsam“, seufzte er am Dienstagmorgen tief. „Europa ist zu viel Bürokratie und nicht genug politische Entscheidungen.“

„Weltpremiere“ – globaler KI-Pakt in Hamburg geschmiedet

Künstliche Intelligenz (KI oder AI) entwickelt sich rasant – doch regulatorische Beschlüsse zur ethischen Nutzung von KI sind noch immer Mangelware, vor allem wenn es um internationale Abkommen geht. Die Hansestadt macht hier nun einen großen Schritt nach vorn.

Im Rahmen der HSC unterzeichnen zahlreiche Staaten, Nichtregierungsorganisationen (NGOs) und Unternehmen die „Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs“ – eine Erklärung, KI verantwortungsvoll und im Sinne der 17 Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen einzusetzen. Dabei könne die neue Technologie schließlich eine „führende Rolle spielen“, so Achim Steiner, Leiter des UN-Entwicklungsprogramms.

Eine „Weltpremiere“ sei das, sagt Steiner. Eine gemeinsame Erklärung mit so vielen und vielfältigen Stakeholdern, die sich darauf einigen, dass KI nicht missbraucht werden darf, habe es zuvor noch nicht gegeben. Zu den Unterzeichnern gehören Länder wie Kanada, Frankreich und Deutschland, aber auch Unternehmen und Institutionen aus aller Welt von Unicef bis KfW.

Staatssekretärin auf HSC 2025: „Dürfen KI nicht ein paar wenigen überlassen“

Steiner verweist in Hamburg auf die „bahnbrechenden Möglichkeiten“, die KI bietet. Die Technologie könne beispielsweise die Entwicklung und Produktion von Medikamenten beschleunigen und vergünstigen. Ein weiteres Anwendungsfeld ist die Versorgungssicherheit. So können KI-gestützte Simulationen helfen, Landwirtschaft effizienter und resilienter zu machen. Auf der anderen Seite berge die Technologie hohe Risiken, könne Falschinformationen verbreiten und antidemokratische Kräfte stärken.

Damit es gelingt, Künstliche Intelligenz stets zum Wohl des Menschen und Förderung der UN-Nachhaltigkeitsziele einzusetzen. Müssen „alle am Tisch sitzen“, heißt es von den Beteiligten. Die Unterschriften unter der Hamburger Deklaration sollen ein Zeugnis dessen sein. „Um KI mit Bedacht einzusetzen, dürfen wir sie nicht ein paar wenigen überlassen“, sagt Bärbel Kofler



(SPD), Staatssekretärin im Entwicklungsministerium, anlässlich der Unterzeichnungs-Zeremonie im Hamburger Rathaus. „KI ist mehr als ein bloßes Business“.

Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Schatten von Donald Trump

Mit einem extrem kritischen Blick auf die USA und die Politik von Präsident Donald Trump startete die zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) in Handelskammer und Rathaus. Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher und die neue Bundesministerin für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, Reem Alabali-Radovan (beide SPD), empfingen die Prominenten unter den Teilnehmern auf dem sogenannten „Spiegel“ am roten Teppich im Rathaus.

Der Initiator der Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz, Ehrenbürger und Unternehmer Michael Otto, sagte: „Innovative Firmen sind die Treiber der Nachhaltigkeit.“ Schon die erste HSC habe mit Blick auf die 17 Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen („Sustainable Development Goals“, kurz: SDG) einiges gebracht. Bei der viel beachteten Premiere im Oktober 2024 habe man sich auf „grüne“ Entwicklungen bei Schifffahrt und Luftfahrt verständigt.

Der Auftakt der HSC hatte bereits am Sonntag in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen stattgefunden. Wegen der Konferenz mit rund 1600 Teilnehmern, zahlreichen Staatsgästen, Unternehmern, Bankern, Vertretern der Weltbank und der Vereinten Nationen ist das Areal in der Hamburger Innenstadt zum Hochsicherheitsgebiet erklärt worden. Die Polizei hat unter anderem ein Flugverbot für Drohnen verhängt.

Konflikt zwischen Israel und Hamas: Ministerin Alabali-Radovan spricht von „Konsequenzen“

Keine internationale Konferenz ohne das heikle Thema Israel/Gaza: Ministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan erinnerte wenige Tage vor dem Besuch von Bundeskanzler Friedrich Merz in Washington an die Haltung der Bundesregierung in dem sich verschärfenden Konflikt und die humanitären Aspekte: „Die Bilder aus Gaza lassen niemanden kalt. Tausende unschuldige Zivilisten – Männer, Frauen, Kinder – sind in den vergangenen Monaten ums Leben gekommen. Viele unter Trümmern. Kinder, die hungern. Familien, die keinen Zugang zu sauberem Wasser, zu Medikamenten, nicht einmal zu Brot haben. Krankenhäuser ohne Strom, ohne Verbandsmaterial – ohne Hoffnung. Was wir dort sehen, ist eine menschengemachte humanitäre Katastrophe – und sie verschärft sich mit jedem Tag.“

Die Ministerin nannte den Angriff der Hamas auf Israel am 7. Oktober 2023 einen „barbarischen Akt“. Die eigene Bevölkerung zu schützen, das gestand sie Israel ausdrücklich zu, mit politischen wie militärischen Mitteln. Allerdings: „Es kann und darf kein militärisches Ziel geben, das rechtfertigt, dass Kinder verhungern, dass Mütter ihre verletzten Kinder nicht behandeln lassen können, dass ganze Familien unter Trümmern begraben werden. Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird.“ Gleichzeitig müsse man „über Konsequenzen sprechen“, sollte Israel seine Hilfe-Blockade aufrechterhalten.

Hamburg: Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz HSC 2025 unter hoher Sicherheitsstufe

Zum HSC-Auftakt erklärte die neue Entwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan, die Ergebnisse der Konferenz sollten in den nächsten Weltklimagipfel eingebracht werden. Allerdings: „Die Zusammenarbeit im internationalen Kontext ist nicht leichter geworden.“ Alabali-Radovan (SPD; 35) ist erst gerade zur Bundesministerin im Kabinett von Bundeskanzler Friedrich Merz (CDU) berufen worden. Es ist ihr erster Auftritt auf internationalem Parkett in neuer Rolle.



Sie meisterte die Begrüßung der Gäste mit Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher extrem souverän. Und sie sagte: „Der Rückzug der USA aus mehreren Organisationen trifft das internationale System mit voller Härte.“ Als bereits besiegt erachtete Krankheiten brächen wieder aus, Hungersnöte seien ein gewaltiges akutes Problem. „Umso wichtiger ist ein Format, das diesen Attacken etwas entgegensetzt.“

Uno-Topmann Achim Steiner: Die Vereinten Nationen sind tief besorgt – auch wegen Donald Trump

Der Rückzug der USA macht das auf fatale Weise sichtbar. Besiegte Krankheiten brechen wieder aus, es geht um Hungersnöte. Umso wichtiger ist ein Format, das diesen Attacken etwas entgegensetzt. Heute und morgen treffen sich hier in Hamburg die Weltoffenen.“

Deutschlands Uno-Topverantwortlicher Achim Steiner (UN Development Program) sagte: „Viele Länder haben sich noch nicht von der Covid-Pandemie erholt.“ Eine neue Ungewissheit mache sich breit. Donald Trumps Zollpolitik führe zum Schließen von Märkten: „Aus Sicht der Vereinten Nationen sind wir tief besorgt, weil in einer Welt in Aufruhr man nicht mehr miteinander redet. Die Nachhaltigkeit kann uns wieder zusammenbringen“, sagte Steiner.

Hamburgs Umweltsenatorin Fegebank: Städte können zu globalen Problemlösern werden

Hamburgs Zweite Bürgermeisterin Katharina Fegebank (Grüne) hat als Umweltsenatorin eine neue Rolle. Auch wenn sie nach wie vor den Beitrag der Wissenschaft zur Entwicklung der Nachhaltigkeit betonte, ging sie zum Konferenzauftritt auf die Bedeutung der Städte für die globale Entwicklung ein.

Schon Ministerin Alabali-Radovan hatte die Prognose vorgebracht, dass in 20 Jahren 70 Prozent der Weltbevölkerung in Städten leben würden. Das erfordere neue private Investitionen und eine Vernetzung der Städte untereinander. Fegebank sagte: Städte könnten Talente anziehen, neue Technologien hervorbringen und so nicht nur Probleme der globalisierten Welt symbolisieren, sondern auch zu deren Lösung beitragen.

Bischöfin Fehrs mahnt die HSC-Gipfelteilnehmer

Die Hamburger Bischöfin Kirsten Fehrs, die auch Ratsvorsitzende der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) ist, erinnerte vor der Konferenz an die Bewahrung der Schöpfung. Sie sei „eine den ganzen Menschen, ja die ganze Menschheit fordernde Aufgabe“. Unter dem Motto „Hier dreht sich was!“ wurde in St. Katharinen die Kunstinstallation „Gaia“ des Künstlers Luke Jerram vorgestellt, die die Erde in einem einzigartigen Blick zeigt.

Die Installation ist eine Nachbildung der Erde, basierend auf Fotoaufnahmen der Nasa. Mit einem Durchmesser von sieben Metern dreht sich die blaue Kugel mitten in der Kirche um sich selbst. „Gaia“ ist bis zum 17. Juli in St. Katharinen zu Gast. Fehrs sagte: „Nicht die drohende Apokalypse steht am Anfang des Nachdenkens über unsere Zukunft, nicht die Angst, Verzweiflung, nicht endzeitliche Narrative extremistischer Positionen, sondern dieser einmalig schöne Planet, Schöpfung Gottes, mit dem alles Leben begann.“

HSC 2025: Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz für alle

Die HSC ist in die Hamburg Sustainability Week eingebettet. Die Aktionswoche zum Thema Nachhaltigkeit umfasst neben der Konferenz mehr als 100 öffentliche Veranstaltungen, die Hamburgerinnen und Hamburger zwischen dem 1. und 6. Juni in der gesamten Stadt erleben und dort erfahren können, was Nachhaltigkeit für sie im Großen wie im Kleinen bedeutet.



Darunter sind „Planetary Talks“ in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen, unter anderem mit dem Klimaexperten Mojib Latif, Filmvorführungen im Abaton – hier schaut auch Regisseur Tom Tykwer auf einen Talk vorbei –, Workshops der Universität Hamburg oder auch ein Pub Quiz im Hadley's. Das gesamte, facettenreiche Programm lässt sich unter www.sustainability-conference.org abrufen.

4. Lars Klingbeil: Mehr Willy Brandt als Helmut Schmidt wagen

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Hamburger Abendblatt

Hamburg. Bei der Hamburg Sustainability Conference setzt der Finanzminister auf den „Wumms“ des 500-Milliarden-Pakets – und mokiert sich über seinen Vorgänger.

Was sagt man als Bundesfinanzminister und Sozialdemokrat, gerade wenige Wochen im Amt, wenn man die große Bühne betritt? Wenn der Vorgänger Christian Lindner (FDP) heißt und der davor Olaf Scholz (SPD)? Wenn die Zuhörerschaft bunt und globalisiert ist und der opulente holzvertäfelte Hintergrund des Podiums, auf dem man steht, von einem gigantischen Wandgemälde des Hamburger Hafens dominiert wird? Lars Klingbeil griff zur Sozi-Melodie in einer Moll-Tonart: Er zitierte Willy Brandt.

In Hamburg Helmut Schmidt zu bemühen, den Mann der härteren Dur-Töne, das vermied Klingbeil tunlichst. Seine Rede beim Nachhaltigkeitsgipfel Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) sollte die Konferenz vom Aufbruch der großen Koalition in Deutschland und ihrem neuen Selbstverständnis in der Welt überzeugen und selbstredend die SPD-Seele streicheln. Kaum jemand wurde binnen Wochen aus einer gescheiterten Regierungskoalition namens Ampel so schnell auf einen Minister- und Vizekanzlersessel geschossen wie der Bayern-München-Fan Klingbeil. Die Spitzen-Mitgenossin Saskia Esken wird sich eine neue Tätigkeit suchen müssen. It's Lars-time.

Lars Klingbeil in Hamburg: Lieber Willy Brandt als Helmut Schmidt

Der frühere Bundeskanzler Willy Brandt soll nach seiner Amtszeit 1980 gesagt haben: „Die Herausforderungen der künftigen Jahrzehnte werden nicht von einem feindlichen System aus Siegern und Verlierern bewältigt – Nord gegen Süd oder Ost gegen West –, sondern von einer menschlichen Solidarität und internationaler Zusammenarbeit aller.“ Das kommt an bei einem Gipfel, der die 17 Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen voranbringen will in einer Welt, die dominiert wird von Angriffskriegen der Autokraten (Wladimir Putin), Drohungen der Chinesen (Xi Jinping) und Zoll-Peitschenschlägen aus dem Weißen Haus (Donald Trump).

Beim G7-Finanzminister-Treffen in Kanada war Klingbeil gerade. Von „Warmlaufen“ für Hamburg konnte keine Rede sein. Es war kühl, auch das Wetter. „Keiner weiß, was morgen passiert“, sagte Klingbeil im Großen Festsaal des Hamburger Rathauses. Diese Anspielung auf erratische Wirtschafts- und Finanzpolitik der Trump-Administration verstand jeder. „Wir können nicht auf die nächste Pressekonferenz im Weißen Haus warten.“

Hamburg: Nachhaltigkeitsgipfel HSC mit wenigen Versprechungen für den globalen Süden

Europa müsse selbst das Heft in die Hand nehmen: Bürokratie abbauen, investieren wie die Bundesregierung mit dem Sondervermögen von 500 Milliarden Euro, eine globale Mindeststeuer einführen. Das nütze auch den Ländern des globalen Südens, denn das wären ja sichere Einnahmen. Diese könnten sie in ihre Wirtschaft stecken. Klingbeil machte keine



finanziellen Zusagen. Es war viel von Zusammenarbeit die Rede in einer unsicheren Welt, von Multilateralismus, Respekt, Partnerschaft und gemeinsamen Zielen.

Und natürlich gönnte sich Klingbeil einen Seitenhieb auf Amtsvorgänger Lindner. Die „Ampel“ habe viel auf den Weg gebracht, aber an einer internen Opposition gelitten. „Das waren nicht die Grünen.“

Der Populismus und das Gegengift: „Der VW-Arbeiter muss das verstehen“

In ihrer glockenklaren und professionell nachhakenden Art versuchte die „Economist“-Journalistin Rachana Shanbhogue anschließend, Klingbeil mehr Lösungen als Problembeschreibungen für die globalen Herausforderungen zu entlocken. Was, so fragte sie den deutschen Vizekanzler, sagen Politiker, die auf der großen Bühne den Multilateralismus beschwören, denn ihren Bürgern zu Hause, die überall den Populisten und Nationalisten in Scharen hinterherlaufen? Klingbeil sagte, die Leute müssten sehen, dass in der Politik schnell etwas passiere – und bemühte ein altes Klischee: „Der VW-Arbeiter in Niedersachsen und der Stahlarbeiter in Duisburg muss das verstehen.“

Und dazu diene ja das Mega-Paket der Merz-Regierung an Investitionen in die Infrastruktur. „Ich halte das auch im Kampf gegen Rechtspopulismus für sehr wichtig, um den Menschen zu zeigen, dass sich das Land modernisiert, dass sich etwas tut und dass das Leben durch Investitionen in die Infrastruktur einfacher wird.“ Klingbeil erinnerte an die Wahlen in Polen, die bevorstehenden in Frankreich 2027. Europa könne sich nicht mehr auf die USA verlassen und müsse selber viel schneller handeln.

Deshalb, so sagte er, habe die neue Bundesregierung die unabhängige Kommission für internationale Entwicklungsfragen von 1977 (Nord-Süd-Kommission) wieder ins Leben gerufen. „Wir wollen einen neuen, partnerschaftlichen Dialog etablieren.“ In dieser Kommission hatte, kein Zufall, der frühere Bundeskanzler Willy Brandt den Vorsitz.

5. Meinungen der Abendblatt-Leser: 6. Juni 2025

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:
Hamburger Abendblatt

Vor Ort handeln

3. Juni: Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Schatten von Trump

Dass Hamburg sich mit den UN-Nachhaltigkeitszielen beschäftigt, ist ja grundsätzlich gut. Doch erscheint das Ganze eher als Prestigeveranstaltung. Die Beantwortung der Frage, warum wir in Deutschland und in Hamburg so weit davon entfernt sind, die Ziele zu erreichen, wird völlig ausgeklammert. Wo ist die Diskussion darüber, warum die Weltgemeinschaft die Ziele nicht erreicht? Vielleicht wollen wir das aber gar nicht wissen, denn das würde bedeuten, dass wir politische Weichen stellen müssen, die uns allen abverlangen wird, die Komfortzone zu verlassen und unseren Lebensstil zu ändern. Das Budget von Frau Ministerin Alabali-Radovan wird von der Regierung gekürzt. Da braucht man nicht auf Trumps Politik zu zeigen. Hamburg hat noch immer keine Regel zur nachhaltigen Beschaffung z. B. mit Fair-Trade-Produkten in Schulen, Kitas, Behörden. Warum? Organisationen, die sich für weltweite Gerechtigkeit einsetzen, kämpfen ums finanzielle Überleben. Darum, Herr Tschentscher: mehr Mut zum Handeln in der eigenen Stadt!



SPD-Chef als „Dreck“ beleidigt – Hamburger Gericht fällt Urteil gegen 65-Jährigen

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Hamburger Morgenpost

Wegen Beleidigung des SPD-Politikers und heutigen Vizekanzlers Lars Klingbeil ist ein 65-Jähriger vom Amtsgericht Wandsbek verurteilt worden.

Die Verurteilung beinhaltet zudem einen Strafvorbehalt von 30 Tagessätzen zu je 30 Euro – umgangssprachlich auch „Geldstrafe auf Bewährung“ genannt, wie eine Gerichtssprecherin mitteilte. Außerdem erhielt er eine Auflage zur Zahlung von 500 Euro.

Lars Klingbeil beleidigt – Anzeige!

Der 65-Jährige hatte den SPD-Vorsitzenden Klingbeil den Angaben zufolge im März vergangenen Jahres in einem auf Telegram veröffentlichten Video als „Dreck“ bezeichnet. Er war daraufhin wegen Beleidigung angezeigt worden, jedoch nicht von Klingbeil oder einem Vertreter, wie es hieß.

Weil er auch gegen das Waffengesetz verstoßen haben soll, hatte er einen Strafbefehl über 60 Tagessätze erhalten. Dagegen hatte sich der in Wandsbek wohnende Mann zur Wehr gesetzt.

Freispruch wegen Waffendelikts

In der jetzt vom Amtsgericht getroffenen Entscheidung wurde der 65-Jährige hinsichtlich des Waffendelikts freigesprochen. Nach Angaben des Gerichts konnte ihm nicht nachgewiesen werden, dass er von einem Gewehr, das in seiner Garage gefunden worden war, gewusst habe.

Die Entscheidung des Gerichts fiel, während sich Klingbeil zu Terminen in Hamburg aufhielt. So besuchte der Vizekanzler die Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Rathaus und nahm als Finanzminister an der Präsentation der Jahresbilanz des Zolls teil.

Handelsblatt

„Afrika verspricht ein riesiger Markt zu werden“

Date: June 05, 2025



Source:
Handelsblatt

Weltbank-Vize Axel van Trotsenburg warnt vor Kürzungen in der Entwicklungspolitik. Er wirbt für private Investitionen in Afrika – und erklärt Energie zum Überlebenssthema für den Kontinent.

Hamburg. Internationale Organisationen wie die Weltbank stehen seit dem erneuten Amtsantritt von US-Präsident Donald Trump unter Druck. Droht ihnen das gleiche Schicksal wie der USAID, der amerikanischen Behörde für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit? Sie soll nach den Vorstellungen Trumps rund 90 Prozent ihrer Mittel verlieren.

Axel van Trotsenburg, Vizechef der Weltbank, verteidigt im Interview mit dem Handelsblatt seine Organisation. „Die Weltbank bringt sehr viel Mehrwert für die ganze internationale Gemeinschaft und auch für die Vereinigten Staaten“, sagt van Trotsenburg.

Der Wirtschaftswissenschaftler erklärt, warum seltene Erden die Wende für Entwicklungsländer bringen könnten, er beschreibt seine ambitionierten Ziele für Afrika und nennt drei Gründe, warum deutsche Investoren jetzt auf dem Kontinent investieren sollten.

Lesen Sie hier das gesamte Interview mit Axel van Trotsenburg:

Herr van Trotsenburg, US-Präsident Donald Trump hält nicht viel von internationalen Organisationen. Wider Erwarten unterstützen die USA die Weltbank jedoch weiterhin. Rechnen Sie damit, dass die Mittel irgendwann noch gestrichen werden?

Die Weltbank bringt sehr viel Mehrwert für die ganze internationale Gemeinschaft und auch für die Vereinigten Staaten. Wir haben seit 80 Jahren hart an Fragen des Wiederaufbaus und der Entwicklung gearbeitet. Wir sind in Krisengebieten vertreten, wir helfen der Ukraine. Ich würde behaupten, dass wir eine ziemlich professionelle Führung haben, die sehr genau auf die Resultate schaut und diese Organisation straff führt.

Also alles in bester Ordnung?

Nein, das alles heißt nicht, dass es keine Kritik gäbe. An der Weltbank hat es immer Kritik gegeben, ich halte das für wichtig.

Bei USAID, der Behörde für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit, hat Trump die Zuschüsse massiv gestrichen. Welche Auswirkungen haben solche Kürzungen für die betroffenen Länder? Jede Regierung hat das Recht, ihr Budget umzuorganisieren. Wir kommentieren diese Entscheidungen nicht. Es gibt auch in Europa starke Kürzungen, Entwicklungsministerien werden mit Außenministerien fusioniert. Es gibt Gewichtsverschiebungen weg von Entwicklung, mehr auf Handel oder andere Gebiete.



Neue globale Allianzen auf der HSC 2025

Date: June 06, 2025



Source:
Hospitality Inside

Die zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) hat am 3. Juni 2025 ihren Abschluss gefunden. Zwei Tage lang wurden Allianzen geschmiedet, zentrale Initiativen angestossen oder weiterentwickelt.

Rund 1.600 Teilnehmende aus aller Welt – darunter eine bemerkenswerte Zahl hochrangiger Vertreter aus Politik, internationalen Organisationen, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft – kamen am 2. und 3. Juni in Hamburg zusammen, um die Fortschritte bei der Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen zu beschleunigen.

Die HSC 2025 stand im Zeichen wichtiger neuer Initiativen und erzielter Einigungen, darunter jene auf die Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs. Die HSC 2025 knüpfte an das Momentum der ersten Konferenz im Oktober 2024 an – trotz der herausfordernden Rahmenbedingungen. Wie im Conference Paper zur HSC 2025 dargelegt, fand die diesjährige Konferenz in einem deutlich veränderten internationalen Umfeld statt. Die geopolitischen Spannungen haben zugenommen, die Fragmentierung hat sich verschärft und der Raum für wirksames multilaterales Handeln scheint zunehmend eingeschränkt.

Ergebnisse und Erfolge

1. Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs:

Am Montag, 2. Juni, unterzeichneten das Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen (UNDP) und das Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) gemeinsam mit über 40 Regierungen, Unternehmen, zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen und führenden Forschungseinrichtungen die Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals. Diese wegweisende Initiative – die erste globale Erklärung, die sich gezielt mit dem Einsatz von Künstlicher Intelligenz in der internationalen Entwicklungs-Zusammenarbeit befasst – formuliert gemeinsame Prinzipien und Verpflichtungen für eine gerechte, inklusive und nachhaltige Entwicklung und Anwendung von KI weltweit, mit besonderem Fokus auf der Stärkung von Entwicklungsländern. Aufbauend auf einem Papier zu wichtigen Grundsätzen, das auf der HSC 2024 vorgestellt wurde, ist die Erklärung das Ergebnis eines einjährigen globalen Konsultationsprozesses mit politischen Entscheidungsträgern, Wissenschaft, Privatwirtschaft und Zivilgesellschaft.

2. SCALED: Mobilisierung privater Investitionen für nachhaltige Entwicklung:

Ebenfalls am Montag unterzeichneten die Mitglieder der Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) eine gemeinsame Absichtserklärung und bekräftigten damit ihr Engagement, bestehende Hürden für grossvolumige nachhaltige Investitionen abzubauen. Die Initiative wird künftig unter dem Namen "SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development" öffentliche und private Akteure zusammenbringen, um die Koordination zu verbessern. Bis Ende 2025 soll im Rahmen von SCALED ein spezialisiertes Unternehmen gegründet werden, das private Investitionen effizienter mobilisiert – etwa für Projekte wie Solaranlagen oder Programme zur Förderung unternehmerischer Tätigkeiten. Als Dienstleister wird das Unternehmen standardisierte Investitionsinstrumente entwickeln, gleichgesinnte Investoren vernetzen und mit Vermögensverwaltern zusammenarbeiten, um die Investitionen umzusetzen. Ziel ist es, Finanzierungslücken in Entwicklungsländern zu schliessen – mit dem Potenzial, in den kommenden Jahren mehrere Milliarden US-Dollar an privaten Investitionen freizusetzen.

3. Gründung der Global Alliance against Inequality:



Am Dienstag, 3. Juni, wurde die Global Alliance against Inequality offiziell ins Leben gerufen. Die Allianz vereint Regierungen und Partner in einem ambitionierten Vorhaben, die systemischen Ursachen von Ungleichheit zu adressieren, die weltweit sozialen Zusammenhalt und demokratische Regierungsführung gefährden. Deutschland und Sierra Leone unterzeichneten gemeinsam mit der Pathfinders-Initiative eine Absichtserklärung, in der sie sich zu einer evidenzbasierten Politik zur Bekämpfung wirtschaftlicher und sozialer Ungleichheiten bekennen. Die Allianz setzt auf Regionen übergreifende Zusammenarbeit, politischen Dialog und politische Innovation, um das Vertrauen in öffentliche Institutionen zu stärken und friedliche, gerechte Gesellschaften zu fördern.

Weitere Vereinbarungen, Unterzeichnungen und Ankündigungen:

- Memorandum of Understanding zwischen der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) und Euler Hermes zur Stärkung der Unterstützung für deutsche Exporte und Investitionen in Entwicklungs- und Schwellenländern im Kontext nachhaltiger Entwicklung;
- Biodiversitätsfonds der Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) mit einem Startkapital von 500.000 Euro zur Förderung von Projekten zum Schutz der biologischen Vielfalt, insbesondere im Bereich globaler textiler Lieferketten;
- Beitritt eines neuen Unterzeichners zur Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation sowie zweier neuer Unterzeichner zur Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping – beide Erklärungen wurden im Rahmen der HSC 2024 initiiert;
- Gemeinsame Erklärung von Akteuren aus verschiedenen Sektoren zur Verbesserung des Zugangs von Kommunen zu privatem Kapital; sowie die Präsentation des Konzepts für das "Institute for Sustainability Arbitration" (ISA), das als spezialisierte Einrichtung geplant ist, um durch fachkundige Schiedsverfahren Rechtssicherheit in Nachhaltigkeitskonflikten zu gewährleisten.

Im kommenden Jahr findet die dritte HSC statt – als Termin wurde der 29./30. Juni 2026 festgelegt.



DEKRA und UNICEF: Gemeinsam für sauberes Wasser und Zukunftschancen

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
HSK News

Die Prüforganisation DEKRA und UNICEF, das Kinderhilfswerk der Vereinten Nationen (UN), bündeln ihre Kräfte, um Kinder in Äthiopien und Indien mit sauberem Trinkwasser zu versorgen und so ihre Gemeinden widerstandsfähiger gegen die Auswirkungen des Klimawandels zu machen. Die Partnerschaft wurde auf der Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) bekannt gegeben.

Ziel der Partnerschaft ist es, eine nachhaltige Versorgung mit sauberem und bezahlbarem Trinkwasser für rund 860.000 Kinder und ihre Familien in Äthiopien und Indien sicherzustellen.



DEKRA wird UNICEF in den nächsten fünf Jahren mit insgesamt fünf Millionen Euro unterstützen. „Bei DEKRA steht Sicherheit seit nunmehr 100 Jahren im Zentrum unseres Handelns. Doch in einer sich wandelnden Welt braucht es ein erweitertes Verständnis von Sicherheit – eines, das auch den Schutz vor den Folgen des beschleunigten Klimawandels mit einschließt“, so Stan Zurkiewicz, CEO von DEKRA, bei der Ankündigung der Partnerschaft in Hamburg. „Mit UNICEF setzen wir genau hier an. Gemeinsam schaffen wir Sicherheit, wo sie am dringendsten gebraucht wird. So leisten wir unseren Beitrag dazu, die Zukunft von Kindern in einer sich wandelnden Welt zu schützen und ihnen neue Perspektiven zu eröffnen.“

Sauberes Wasser als Grundlage für bessere Lebensbedingungen

Der Zugang zu sauberem Trinkwasser ist für Kinder überlebenswichtig – doch weltweit leben UNICEF zufolge mehr als 450 Millionen Kinder in Regionen mit hoher Wasserunsicherheit. Etwa alle zwei Minuten stirbt ein Kind an einer durch verunreinigtes Wasser verursachten Krankheit. Die neue Partnerschaft unterstützt UNICEF in seinem weltweiten Engagement für „Water Security for All“, einer Initiative, die durch innovative, klimaresiliente „WASH“-Programme (Wasser, Sanitärversorgung und Hygiene) die Lebensbedingungen besonders gefährdeter Bevölkerungsgruppen verbessert. „Kinder sind am wenigsten für die weltweite Wasser- und Klimakrise verantwortlich, aber sie tragen die größte Last der Auswirkungen“, so Kitty van der Heijden, stellvertretende UNICEF-Exekutivdirektorin. „Investitionen in Wassersicherheit bieten große Chancen – für Kinder, für die Wirtschaft und für die Zukunft unseres Planeten. Klimaschutz ist zwar für die langfristige Stabilität des Klimas unerlässlich, reicht aber nicht aus. Klimaanpassung geht die Auswirkungen an, die bereits jetzt entstehen. Unternehmen spielen eine wichtige Rolle dabei, diese Lücke zu schließen. DEKRA beweist genau das durch die signifikante Unterstützung unserer WASH-Programme.“

Partnerschaft mit Wirkung – lokal und global

Die Fördermittel aus der Partnerschaft fließen unter anderem in solarbetriebene Wasserpumpen, den Aufbau technischer Kompetenzzentren für Wissenstransfer und Schulungen rund um Solarenergie sowie den Einsatz innovativer Technologien zur Grundwasseraufbereitung. Diese Maßnahmen unterstützen nicht nur die Gemeinden bei der Anpassung an den Klimawandel, sondern fördern auch Bildung, Gesundheit und lokale Entwicklungsmöglichkeiten. Der Erfolg wird anhand von Kennzahlen für nachhaltige Entwicklung, basierend auf den Zielen der UN (Sustainable Development Goals, kurz SDG), gemessen und berichtet.

Neuer Ansatz für unternehmerische Klimaverantwortung bei DEKRA

Die Partnerschaft mit UNICEF ist Teil des „DEKRA Climate Impact“-Programms, das DEKRA anlässlich seines hundertjährigen Bestehens initiiert hat. Mit dem Programm übernimmt das Unternehmen Klimaverantwortung: Es kombiniert eine ambitionierte, wissenschaftsbasierte interne Dekarbonisierung entlang des 1,5°C-Ziels mit der gezielten Förderung externer Projekte mit nachweislicher Klimawirkung. Dabei geht das Unternehmen zugunsten eines wirkungsorientierten Engagements bewusst über klassische Kompensationsmodelle und pauschale „Klimaneutralität“-Claims hinaus.

„Das DEKRA Climate Impact Programm steht exemplarisch für einen wirkungsvollen Ansatz von Unternehmen, Verantwortung für die globalen Herausforderungen des Klimawandels zu übernehmen. Für uns ist die Partnerschaft mit UNICEF ein integraler Bestandteil dieses Engagements“, so Stan Zurkiewicz. Der gemeinsame Start der Partnerschaft wird bei der Jubiläumsfeier von DEKRA am 3. Juli in Berlin gefeiert.



Why is Blended Finance Key for Asian Market Growth?

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Impakter – Business of Sustainability

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference has highlighted blended finance as crucial for economic growth in Asian markets for European businesses. Why?

Today's ESG Updates

- Hamburg Backs Blended Finance: New Asia-Pacific platform to help close \$4.2T SDG funding gap despite investor concerns.
- Europe's Biggest E-Fuel Plant Opens: INERATEC starts 2,500-tonne annual output to boost green transport fuels.
- Saithe Loses MSC Certification: North Sea saithe fishery deemed unsustainable, prompting ESG and regulatory concerns.
- Top Cities for Green Tourism: Paris, Kyoto, Cape Town, and Medellín named leading eco-friendly travel destinations.

Hamburg Sustainability Conference calls for a need to boost blended finance

A global conference initiated to speed up the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will launch a new Asia Pacific-focused platform this year called the Asia-Pacific Blended Finance Community of Practice. The platform aims to mobilise resources for blended finance and boost deal origination for stakeholders in the region whilst further improving collaboration and knowledge exchange. The estimated funding gap to achieve the SDGs is around \$4.2 trillion, with the new platform scaling sustainable investments to align with SDG targets. Private investors remain skeptical about the risks and uncertainty around blended finance.



UNDP leverages every dollar to promote investments of nearly \$60 for Sustainable Development, shows new report

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:

India Education Diary



New York — A new report released today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reveals that for every US\$1 received in funding between 2022 and 2024, UNDP promoted nearly US\$60 in public and private investments aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—a catalytic effect that has mobilised a total of US\$870 billion for sustainable development in emerging economies.

The publication also highlights UNDP's ambition to mobilise US\$1 trillion in SDG-aligned investments by the end of 2025. It details how UNDP collaborates with governments, financial institutions, and private-sector partners to reduce investment risks, strengthen public financial systems, and unlock capital for inclusive and green growth in over 170 countries and territories.

“Strategic development assistance can unlock transformative investments—shifting the system from short-term crisis response to long-term resilience and prosperity”, UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner said. “This report shows that development assistance, when deployed strategically, can be a powerful catalyst for long-term investments that deliver financial returns as well as meaningful social and environmental impact.”

The report arrives amid growing global discussions on development finance ahead of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Seville. It addresses a stark reality: the world faces an annual US\$4.2 trillion SDG financing gap, despite the existence of more than US\$450 trillion in global wealth. This persisting gap leaves poverty, inequality, and climate vulnerability largely unaddressed.

The UNDP is also scaling up the use of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) to help countries align their financial strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals. With 86 countries now using INFFs, and over 50 actively reforming financing policies based on their frameworks, this approach is becoming a cornerstone of development finance. In countries like Cabo Verde, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Gabon, INFFs are guiding tax reforms, budget alignment, and investment prioritisation, while helping governments mobilise domestic and international resources to fund national sustainability plans.

Through initiatives like the SDG Investor Maps, SDG Impact Standards, and blended finance mechanisms, UNDP has helped align US\$380 billion in private sector investment and US\$430 billion in public budgets with the SDGs.

Regional initiatives featured in the report highlight how UNDP's approach is tailored to country contexts—from clean energy and agriculture in Africa, to climate bonds in Asia-Pacific, and gender-inclusive finance in Europe and Central Asia. Country case studies from Cabo Verde, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Gabon illustrate how public-private collaboration, data transparency, and policy reform can unlock financing for sustainability even in fragile contexts.

“With the 2030 deadline fast approaching, what's needed now is not just policy ambition, but financial action,” said Marcos Neto, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support. “UNDP will continue to partner across sectors and borders to help developing countries build the financial foundations for a resilient, equitable, and sustainable future.”



Urgent R32 million budget for water security in the Western Cape

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
IOL

Anton Bredell, Western Cape's local government and environmental affairs minister, backing a bold R32 million push to upgrade ageing water infrastructure and secure the province's future supply.

In response to mounting climate pressures and growing demands on municipal services, the Western Cape Government has committed R32 million in the 2025/26 financial year to assist local municipalities with critical water and wastewater infrastructure upgrades.

Western Cape Minister for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Anton Bredell, announced the allocation during a panel discussion on food and water security at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference on June 2.

Bredell painted a stark picture of the challenges facing the province.

"We also have the added complexity of poverty, inequality and a fast-growing population," he said.

"These socio-economic dynamics make it very challenging to plan, budget and construct the water and wastewater infrastructure we need to provide future water security in our region."

The R32 million allocation for the 2025/26 financial year will be used to support municipalities as they upgrade and expand critical infrastructure, a move seen as urgent given the province's limited potential for new bulk water storage facilities.

Bredell said there are only limited opportunities for additional bulk water storage in the Western Cape, and as such, future water security will have to come from improved supply and demand management, alternative sources such as groundwater, the re-use of water, and desalination.

While the Western Cape boasts the lowest per capita water use in the country, at 160 litres per person per day, compared to the national average of 216 litres, much of that water is lost or unaccounted for.

According to Wouter Kriel, spokesperson for Minister Bredell, the Western Cape manages to generate revenue from 70.4% of water supplied to consumers, meaning that 30% of water is either lost in the system, or it was delivered to a consumer without generating any revenue.

"A portion of the non-revenue water is water supplied free of charge to poor and vulnerable residents. This is part of a dignity basket which also includes a set amount of free electricity and other basic municipal services," said Kriel.



Bredell said the current national threshold of free water is no longer realistic.

“Our research on what constitutes water dignity found that the current 6 kilolitres a month per household, as prescribed in South African legislation, is not sufficient, and it should be much higher, at 15 kilolitres per household,” he said.

“These findings raise serious questions on our approach to water management in South Africa and especially in our local governments where rate payers are being pushed to pay more for services to also help subsidise the dignity basket to an increasing number of indigent households.”

Kriel confirmed the provincial support, saying; “The Western Cape Government is budgeting R32 million for the 2025/26 financial year to support municipalities with water and wastewater infrastructure projects.”



IOM at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
IOM – UN Migration

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, IOM joins global partners to highlight the growing challenge of internal displacement and the urgent need for sustainable solutions.

By the end of 2024, more than 83 million people were displaced within their own countries (GRID 2025, IDMC). That number has more than doubled in a decade. Behind these figures are millions of lives disrupted by conflict and disasters.

The need for durable solutions is urgent. We must unlock new, long-term development financing and build transformative partnerships across governments, international financial institutions, the private sector, and civil society.

Now is the time to reduce dependence on humanitarian aid and help build sustainable futures towards a world where leaving one’s home is a question of choice, not of necessity.



Heavyweight blended finance initiative to launch service provider



Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
IPE

A public-private initiative backed by Allianz, AXA, CDPQ and Zurich Insurance Group is preparing to launch a company dedicated to more easily mobilising private capital for sustainable development projects.

The Hamburg Sustainability Platform, now rebranded as SCALED, was announced at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference last year as an initiative to scale up private sustainable investments in emerging markets and developing economies through standardisation.

It now includes Germany, Canada, Denmark, France, the UK, South Africa, and the KfW Development Bank, in addition to the aforementioned asset owners.

In connection with this year's Hamburg Sustainability Conference the Platform announced the initiative will be operating under the name SCALED, for Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development, and will be "putting standardisation into practice by preparing the launch of a company dedicated to mobilising private capital for sustainable development projects more easily, quickly, and efficiently".

It said the new company was expected to commence operations at the end of 2025 and immediately begin setting up standardised financial vehicles, such as funds.

The idea is that private and public investors could use these investment vehicles "in a straightforward manner according to a recurring pattern".

"As such, the company is foreseen to significantly contribute to closing the existing financing gaps in emerging markets and developing countries," it said, estimating that it could facilitate "several billion US dollars of private investments" in various sectors and regions over the next years.

"The initiative is a significant step toward overcoming structural obstacles hindering large-scale investments in sustainable development"

Günther Thallinger, member of the board of management for investment management, sustainability, Allianz SE

The company also plans to bring together investors with common interests and find suitable international and local asset managers to implement the investments.

In a report last month, the blended finance network Convergence said that funds were becoming the most scalable and replicable blended finance vehicle.

The SCALED blended finance initiative's plans were unveiled at the second Hamburg Sustainability Conference this week

In a speech at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference today, Danielle Brassel, head of responsible investment at Zurich Insurance Group, said SCALED was "a crucial step forward" in overcoming significant hurdles to unlocking blended finance's power.

"For institutional investors like Zurich, the lack of consistent standards creates unnecessary complexity and risk, hindering our ability to allocate capital efficiently and at scale to impactful projects," she said.



“SCALED’s efforts to harmonise approaches will significantly reduce these barriers.” Günther Thallinger, member of the board of management for investment management, sustainability, at Allianz, echoed this sentiment, saying that the rebranded platform was “a significant step toward overcoming structural obstacles hindering large-scale investments in sustainable development”.

“Our involvement in this initiative aligns with our broader strategy of supporting the transition to a net-zero economy while promoting sustainable economic growth. By working together, we can unlock substantial private investments that will contribute to a more equitable and sustainable future.”

IT BOLTWISE

empowered by Digital Technology

1. Hamburgs Appell für humanitäre Hilfe in Gaza: Ein globales Anliegen

Date: June 02, 2021

Source:
IT Boltwise

HAMBURG / LONDON (IT BOLTWISE) – Auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz wurde ein dringender Appell an die internationale Gemeinschaft gerichtet, um den Zugang zu humanitärer Hilfe im Gazastreifen zu erleichtern.

Die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz, die sich mit den globalen Herausforderungen der Nachhaltigkeit befasst, bot eine Plattform für die Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan, um die dringende Notwendigkeit ungehinderter humanitärer Hilfe im Gazastreifen zu betonen. Sie forderte Israel auf, den Zugang für humanitäre Organisationen zu erleichtern, um die dringend benötigte Unterstützung für die leidende Bevölkerung zu gewährleisten.

Obwohl Israel in den letzten Monaten teilweise Hilfslieferungen zugelassen hat, bleibt der Zugang stark eingeschränkt. Dies betrifft insbesondere die Vereinten Nationen, die von der Verteilung der Hilfsgüter ausgeschlossen sind. Die umstrittene Gaza Humanitarian Foundation hingegen erhielt die Erlaubnis, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, was zu Kritik und Bedenken hinsichtlich der Fairness und Transparenz führte.

Die Konferenz, die Teilnehmer aus über 110 Ländern versammelte, widmete sich den 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitszielen der Vereinten Nationen, darunter Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit. Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher sprach über die globalen Veränderungen und die Herausforderungen, die durch Krisen und Konflikte entstehen. Er betonte die Notwendigkeit internationaler Zusammenarbeit, um nachhaltige Lösungen zu finden.

Achim Steiner, Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, rief trotz der bestehenden Unsicherheiten zu Optimismus und Entschlossenheit auf. Er unterstrich die Bedeutung von Zuversicht in Zeiten globaler Herausforderungen und die Rolle der internationalen Gemeinschaft bei der Bewältigung dieser Probleme.

Die Forderung nach ungehinderter humanitärer Hilfe im Gazastreifen ist nicht nur eine politische, sondern auch eine moralische Verpflichtung. Die internationale Gemeinschaft steht vor der Aufgabe, sicherzustellen, dass humanitäre Hilfe nicht durch politische Strategien



blockiert wird. Die Diskussionen auf der Konferenz verdeutlichen die Dringlichkeit, effektive Maßnahmen zu ergreifen, um den Zugang zu lebensnotwendigen Ressourcen zu gewährleisten.

Die Konferenz in Hamburg zeigt, dass die globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele nur durch gemeinsame Anstrengungen erreicht werden können. Die Teilnehmer betonten die Notwendigkeit, über mögliche Konsequenzen zu sprechen, sollte der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern weiterhin behindert werden. Diese Diskussionen sind ein wichtiger Schritt, um langfristige Lösungen für die humanitären Herausforderungen im Gazastreifen zu finden.

2. Lars Klingbeil drängt auf schnelle Infrastrukturmaßnahmen zur Modernisierung Deutschlands

Date: June 03, 2021

Source:
IT Boltwise

BERLIN / LONDON (IT BOLTWISE) – In einer Zeit, in der die Modernisierung der Infrastruktur als Schlüssel zur Bekämpfung des Rechtspopulismus gesehen wird, hat Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil die Dringlichkeit von Investitionen in Deutschland hervorgehoben.

Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil hat bei der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz die Notwendigkeit betont, die geplanten Milliardeninvestitionen in die deutsche Infrastruktur noch in diesem Jahr umzusetzen. Diese Investitionen sind nicht nur ein Mittel zur Modernisierung, sondern auch ein Zeichen für die Bürger, dass ein spürbarer Wandel stattfindet, insbesondere im Kampf gegen den aufkommenden Rechtspopulismus. Klingbeil unterstrich, dass Deutschland beweisen müsse, dass Investitionen das Leben der Menschen erleichtern können.

Die schleppenden Investitionsprozesse, die bis zu zwei Jahrzehnte dauern könnten, sind ein großes Hindernis. Klingbeil forderte die deutsche Wirtschaft auf, sofortige finanzielle Engagements zu zeigen. Gleichzeitig mahnte er zur Entschlossenheit auf europäischer Ebene. Europa sei durch überbordende Bürokratie gehemmt und benötige rasche politische Entscheidungen, um zukunftsfähig zu bleiben. Vor dem Hintergrund der bevorstehenden Präsidentschaftswahlen in Frankreich und Polen warnte Klingbeil vor den ungewissen politischen Entwicklungen.

Optimistisch äußerte sich der Bundesfinanzminister hinsichtlich des aktuellen Zollstreits mit den USA. Deutschland und Europa verfolgen das Ziel, eine einvernehmliche Lösung herbeizuführen, während auf deutscher und europäischer Seite die notwendigen 'Hausaufgaben' gemacht werden müssten. In Bezug auf China forderte Klingbeil eine andauernde Kooperation, jedoch mit der deutlichen Warnung, dass ein Angriff auf Taiwan eine entschiedene Wendung bedeuten würde.

Auf dem Gebiet der Entwicklungsfinanzierung bekräftigte Klingbeil, dass Deutschland ein verlässlicher Partner bleiben werde, speziell in Anbetracht der sinkenden Unterstützung durch andere Geberländer. Er hob hervor, dass Deutschland auf dem besten Weg sei, der weltweit größte Unterstützer im Bereich der öffentlichen Entwicklungshilfe zu werden. Zudem äußerte Klingbeil Stolz über die Pläne der Bundesregierung, die historische Nord-Süd-Kommission zu revitalisieren, um einen neuen Dialog zwischen den Ländern des Globalen Südens und des Globalen Nordens zu fördern.



Kingdom reaffirms commitment to SDGs at Hamburg conference

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:
Khmer Times

The Kingdom has reaffirmed its commitment to global sustainable development initiatives by participating in the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025 (HSC 2025), highlighting the efforts towards the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Chhieng Yanara, Senior Minister in charge of Special Missions and also Second Vice-Chairman of CDC, participated in the conference, held in Hamburg, Germany, a statement by the CDC said yesterday.

The conference was attended by approximately 1,600 key dignitaries from 110 countries, including government officials, international organisations, private sector leaders, and civil society actors.

Among the notable participants were Reem Alabali-Radovan, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ), and Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The event aimed to advance high-level policy dialogue and develop actionable solutions to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, with a strong focus on reforming the International Financial Architecture and promoting investments in support of the SDGs.

During the conference, the Senior Minister attended a closed-door roundtable on 'An Economic System that Works in a Multipolar World' and delivered a keynote address in the session titled 'The Future of Development Cooperation'.

In his remarks, Yanara outlined Cambodia's national development priorities and underscored the critical role of inclusive partnerships and global cooperation in achieving the SDGs.

He reaffirmed Cambodia's commitment to advancing both national and global sustainable development efforts, with a continued focus on inclusive partnerships, mutual accountability, and effective development cooperation.

On the sidelines of the conference on Tuesday, the Senior Minister held a bilateral meeting with Bärbel Kofler, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Member of the German Bundestag.

The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of developmental cooperation between Cambodia and the Federal Republic of Germany and exchanging views to further strengthen future collaboration, particularly in preparation for the upcoming Cambodian-German Governmental Negotiations on Development Cooperation.

According to a CDC announcement, the meeting concluded successfully in a spirit of strengthened friendship, mutual understanding, and equal partnership.



Both sides expressed optimism about deepening collaboration across key sectors, including economic development, climate action, and capacity building.

Both countries continue to deepen cooperation through bilateral agreements and government negotiations, aiming to boost economic growth, enhance capacity building, and promote inclusive, long-term development.



1. Hamburgs Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz: Appell für ungehinderte humanitäre Hilfe in Gaza

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Klamm

Auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz forderte Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan, dass Israel humanitären Organisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen ermöglicht. Der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern bleibt jedoch limitiert, und andere Organisationen wie die Vereinten Nationen sind von Hilfslieferungen ausgeschlossen.

Auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz hat die Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) die Regierung Israels eindringlich aufgefordert, weiteren humanitären Organisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen zu ermöglichen. Sie betonte, dass politische Strategien nicht zur Blockade lebensnotwendiger Hilfe führen dürfen. Sollte der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern längerfristig behindert werden, müsse über mögliche Konsequenzen gesprochen werden.

Nachdem Israel in den letzten drei Monaten teilweise Hilfslieferungen erlaubt hatte, können derzeit nur begrenzte Mengen an die leidende Bevölkerung im Gazastreifen verteilt werden. Hierbei wurde der umstrittenen Gaza Humanitarian Foundation ermöglicht, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, wobei andere Organisationen, einschließlich der Vereinten Nationen, umgangen werden.

Mit rund 1.600 Teilnehmern aus über 110 Ländern wird auf der zweitägigen Konferenz über Themen wie Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit im Rahmen der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen diskutiert. Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) äußerte sich zu den Veränderungen in der Welt und den Herausforderungen, die Krisen und Konflikte mit sich bringen.

Achim Steiner, Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, mahnte trotz Unsicherheiten zur Zuversicht.

2. Lars Klingbeil fordert rasche Infrastrukturinvestitionen und mahnt zur europäischen Handlungsfähigkeit

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Klamm



Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil betont die Dringlichkeit von Infrastrukturinvestitionen in Deutschland zur Modernisierung und Bekämpfung des Rechtspopulismus. Er fordert entschlossene politische Entscheidungen in Europa und kündigt Deutschlands anhaltende Unterstützung in der Entwicklungsfinanzierung an, während er die Bedeutung einer Kooperation mit China unterstreicht.

Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil hat bei der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz eindringlich auf die Notwendigkeit hingewiesen, die geplanten Milliardeninvestitionen in die Infrastruktur Deutschlands noch in diesem Jahr umzusetzen. Er betrachtet diese Maßnahmen als essenzielles Mittel zur Modernisierung des Landes, um den Bürgern zu demonstrieren, dass ein spürbarer Wandel stattfindet – besonders im Kampf gegen den aufkommenden Rechtspopulismus. Deutschland müsse beweisen, dass Investitionen das Leben erleichtern können, betonte der Vizekanzler.

Angesichts der trög verlaufenden Investitionsprozesse, die bis zu zwei Jahrzehnte in Anspruch nehmen könnten, rief Klingbeil die deutsche Wirtschaft auf, sofortige finanzielle Engagements zu zeigen. Gleichzeitig mahnt er zur Entschlossenheit auf europäischer Ebene. Europa sei durch überbordende Bürokratie gehemmt und benötige rasche politische Entscheidungen, um zukunftsfähig zu bleiben. Vor dem Hintergrund der bevorstehenden Präsidentschaftswahlen in Frankreich und Polen warnte Klingbeil vor den ungewissen politischen Entwicklungen.

Zuversicht äußerte der Bundesfinanzminister im Hinblick auf den aktuellen Zollstreit mit den USA. Deutschland und Europa verfolgen das Ziel, eine einvernehmliche Lösung herbeizuführen, während auf deutscher und europäischer Seite die notwendigen 'Hausaufgaben' gemacht werden müssten. In Bezug auf China forderte Klingbeil eine andauernde Kooperation, jedoch mit der deutlichen Warnung, dass ein Angriff auf Taiwan eine entschiedene Wendung bedeuten würde.

Auf dem Gebiet der Entwicklungsfinanzierung bekräftigte Klingbeil, dass Deutschland ein verlässlicher Partner bleiben werde, speziell in Anbetracht der sinkenden Unterstützung durch andere Geberländer. Er hob hervor, dass Deutschland auf dem besten Weg sei, der weltweit größte Unterstützer im Bereich der öffentlichen Entwicklungshilfe zu werden. Zudem äußerte Klingbeil Stolz über die Pläne der Bundesregierung, die historische Nord-Süd-Kommission zu revitalisieren, um einen neuen Dialog zwischen den Ländern des Globalen Südens und des Globalen Nordens zu fördern.



Hamburg Sustainable Conference: Supporting Transition in Vital Sectors

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Mauritanian News Agency

Mr. Mohamed Ould Khaled, the Minister of Energy and Oil, took part in the conference on sustainable development held in Hamburg on 2-3 June.



On the sidelines of his participation, the Minister held talks with Ms. Reem Abali Radovan, the German Minister for Cooperation and Development, and Ms. Barbel Kofler, the Minister Delegate for Cooperation.

The talks focused on strengthening cooperation between Mauritania and Germany, which the German Minister for Cooperation and Development pledged to consolidate by urging German companies to invest in Mauritania, particularly in renewable energies and manufacturing industries.

The Minister of Energy and Oil also took part in two seminars, one on infrastructure financing for energy projects and the other on Mauritania, organized by the African Development Authority, during which he gave a presentation on energy and investment opportunities in Mauritania.

The second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference brings together high-level representatives from over 110 countries in 60 sessions to devise solutions to development challenges, build alliances for sustainable development, and accelerate efforts to implement the UN Agenda 2030.

The conference focused on important topics, including: mobilizing investment to achieve sustainable development goals and promoting the transformation of vital sectors, particularly energy and related infrastructure.

The Hamburg conference is supported and sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the Michael Otto Foundation, and the District of Hamburg.



UNDP Amplifies \$1 Into \$60 For Sustainable Growth

Date: May 28, 2025

Source:
Mirage News

A new report released today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reveals that for every US\$1 received in funding between 2022 and 2024, UNDP promoted nearly US\$60 in public and private investments aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-a catalytic effect that has mobilized a total of US\$870 billion for sustainable development in emerging economies.

The publication also highlights UNDP's ambition to mobilise US\$1 trillion in SDG-aligned investments by the end of 2025. It details how UNDP collaborates with governments, financial institutions, and private-sector partners to reduce investment risks, strengthen public financial systems, and unlock capital for inclusive and green growth in over 170 countries and territories.

"Strategic development assistance can unlock transformative investments-shifting the system from short-term crisis response to long-term resilience and prosperity", UNDP Administrator



Achim Steiner. "This report shows that development assistance, when deployed strategically, can be a powerful catalyst for long-term investments that deliver financial returns as well as meaningful social and environmental impact".

The report arrives amid growing global discussions on development finance ahead of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Seville. It addresses a stark reality: the world faces an annual US\$4.2 trillion SDG financing gap, despite the existence of more than US\$450 trillion in global wealth. This persisting gap leaves poverty, inequality, and climate vulnerability largely unaddressed.

The UNDP is also scaling up the use of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) to help countries align their financial strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals. With 86 countries now using INFFs, and over 50 actively reforming financing policies based on their frameworks, this approach is becoming a cornerstone of development finance. In countries like Cabo Verde, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Gabon, INFFs are guiding tax reforms, budget alignment, and investment prioritisation, while helping governments mobilise domestic and international resources to fund national sustainability plans.

Through initiatives like the SDG Investor Maps, SDG Impact Standards, and blended finance mechanisms, UNDP has helped align \$380 billion in private sector investment and \$430 billion in public budgets with the SDGs.

Regional initiatives featured in the report highlight how UNDP's approach is tailored to country contexts—from clean energy and agriculture in Africa, to climate bonds in Asia-Pacific, and gender-inclusive finance in Europe and Central Asia. Country case studies from Cabo Verde, Colombia, Ethiopia, and Gabon illustrate how public-private collaboration, data transparency, and policy reform can unlock financing for sustainability even in fragile contexts.

"With the 2030 deadline fast approaching, what's needed now is not just policy ambition, but financial action," said Marcos Neto, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support. "UNDP will continue to partner across sectors and borders to help developing countries build the financial foundations for a resilient, equitable, and sustainable future."

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1. Over-concentration of resources in urban centres stifling national economic progress – Nii Moi Thompson

Date: June 05, 2025



Source:
MyJoyOnline

Chairman of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Dr. Nii Moi Thompson, has stressed the critical role of local economic development in driving sustainable national progress.

Speaking at the sidelines of the 2025 Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany, Dr. Thompson, who also serves as Senior Advisor to the President on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), outlined the need for decentralised economic strategies to ensure equitable growth.

Dr. Thompson argued that Ghana's national economy is an aggregation of local economies, and thus, development efforts must originate at the grassroots level.

"Every national development strategy must be situated within the context of local economic development, because your national economy is the aggregation of local economies," he stated.

"If you want to strengthen your national economy, you necessarily have to start from the local level."

He cautioned against over-concentration of resources in urban centers like Accra, warning that such an approach stifles broader economic progress.

"You cannot strengthen your national economy in Accra and concentrate everything in Accra... at some point, it becomes counterproductive. Accra becomes saturated. The rest of the country is deprived, but nothing moves forward."

Dr. Thompson revealed that the NDPC is already prioritising local economic development in its planning strategies.

He reiterated this commitment during the commission's recent launch, emphasising that neglecting local economies would hinder national progress.

"Attention to local economic development is key to any development strategy that we launch. The commission is already working in that regard. And when the commission was launched last week, I made that point that we will not, as a nation, go anywhere without paying attention to local economic development."

The NDPC Chairman also criticized the current practice where contracts signed in Accra often divert resources away from poorer districts, benefiting only a few businesses in the capital.

"We're not going to go anywhere by taking monies, signing contracts in Accra to buy things for district assemblies, and then siphoning wealth and resources from some of the poorest districts in Ghana to a few businesses in Accra. It's unfair and ultimately, counterproductive."

At the conference, Dr Thompson addressed two sessions comprising; 'Navigating Sustainability and International Cooperation in a Multipolar World' and 'A Matter of Choice: People and Possibilities in the Age of AI.'



2. Innovation Hubs as Engines of Sustainability: Charting Ghana's path with lessons from the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025

Date: June 06, 2025

Source:
MyJoyOnline

At the 2025 Hamburg Sustainability Conference, one of the defining themes that emerged was the intersection of innovation, sustainability, and the future of work. As cities and countries worldwide grapple with the dual challenge of climate resilience and economic transformation, the role of innovation ecosystems, particularly innovation hubs, is gaining unprecedented recognition.

For Ghana, where the need to create green jobs, transition to low-carbon growth, and empower a rising youth population is urgent, innovation hubs offer a practical and scalable platform for driving sustainability. Anchored in the spirit of co-creation, experimentation, and entrepreneurship, these hubs are uniquely positioned to foster solutions that are local in insight and global in relevance.

What Hamburg Taught Us: Innovation as a Climate and Economic Strategy

The Hamburg conference showcased how innovation spaces are being harnessed globally as strategic instruments for both economic inclusion and climate action. In Germany, hubs have evolved into collaborative ecosystems that unite startups, academia, government, and civil society around mission-driven challenges — from renewable energy to circular economy models and sustainable urban farming.

Crucially, these hubs are no longer just startup incubators. They are policy partners, research testbeds, and civic platforms. Their value lies in their agility — the ability to test solutions quickly, fail fast, and scale what works.

This model is highly relevant for Ghana, where climate risks, youth unemployment, and informal urbanisation converge as pressing policy issues.

Ghana's Innovation Hubs: Seeds of a Green Future

Over the past decade, Ghana has witnessed a vibrant growth in innovation hubs, tech labs, maker spaces, incubators, and creative collectives, particularly in Accra, Kumasi, Tamale, Takoradi, Techiman, Wa, Ho, and Koforidua. These hubs have largely driven entrepreneurship, digital innovation, and skills development. But their potential as sustainability drivers remains under-leveraged.

This is where the Ghana Hubs Network (GHN) — a national consortium of nearly 100 innovation hubs — can step in as a unifying force to catalyze green innovation across regions.

The Role of Ghana Hubs Network in Driving Sustainability

1. Localizing Sustainability Solutions:

Hubs can serve as centers for developing and deploying community-level solutions in waste management, clean cooking, water access, and green mobility — ensuring that sustainability is not an abstract policy goal, but a lived, localized reality.



2. Building the Green Workforce:

Through partnerships with universities and vocational institutes, hubs can offer training in green skills — from solar panel installation to sustainable agriculture and eco-design — preparing youth for the jobs of the future.

3. Acting as Policy Labs:

GHN can support the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) in piloting climate innovation policies. For instance, by serving as experimental zones for green financing models, low-emission technologies, or carbon credit tracking tools.

4. Supporting Green Entrepreneurship:

Hubs already host and nurture entrepreneurs. By embedding sustainability criteria into incubation programs, such as climate-smart agriculture, circular product design, or digital tools for environmental monitoring, hubs can accelerate the emergence of eco-enterprises.

Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships: A National Imperative

To achieve this vision, cross-sector collaboration is key. The Ministry of Environment, Science, and Technology can provide policy direction and integrate hubs into national sustainability planning and climate strategies such as the National Adaptation Plan.

The German Development Cooperation in Ghana (GIZ), which already supports several innovation and skills projects, can play a pivotal role by aligning its support with a green innovation mandate. Technical expertise, funding, and exposure to German green technologies can significantly enhance the capabilities of Ghanaian hubs.

Together, GHN, MEST, and GIZ can co-create an Innovation for Sustainability Framework, guiding how hubs contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).

The Future of Work: Green, Digital, and Inclusive

The Hamburg deliberations were clear: the future of work will be green and digital. For Ghana, the innovation hubs can serve as bridges between the informal and formal economies, between rural and urban solutions, and between traditional knowledge and frontier technologies.

They can help young Ghanaians see sustainability not just as a policy topic, but as a business opportunity, a career path, and a civic responsibility.

Conclusion: A Decade to Deliver

As Ghana positions itself for inclusive, green, and tech-enabled development, innovation hubs must be seen and supported as strategic national assets. With coordinated support from government and development partners, and with lessons drawn from global platforms like the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the Ghana Hubs Network can lead a generational shift, where innovation becomes the heartbeat of a sustainable Ghana.

3. Deputy Finance Minister urges diasporans to continue sending remittances despite cedi appreciation

Date: June 07, 2025



Source:
MyJoyOnline

Deputy Finance Minister Thomas Nyarko Ampem has called on Ghanaians living abroad to continue investing and transferring funds home, assuring them that the government is committed to maintaining the stability of the cedi.

Speaking to members of the Ghanaian community in Germany on the sidelines of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, Mr Ampem addressed concerns that some diaspora members might be delaying remittances and investments due to the cedi's recent appreciation against major foreign currencies.

"Don't hold back, because we are going to work hard to make sure the cedi remains strong," Ampem stated.

"If you want to wait, hoping that the cedi will depreciate before you transfer money, you are going to be disappointed. Keep bringing the funds because we need them. We need the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)."

The Deputy Finance Minister explained the government's efforts to stabilize the local currency and boost economic growth.

He noted that a stronger cedi benefits the economy and should encourage rather than deter financial inflows from abroad.

"Locally, we are trying our best to strengthen the cedi and boost the economy," he said. "We are doing our best back home so that you will be proud and want to come back and contribute in whatever way you can."

Mr Ampem's comments come amid growing discussions about the impact of exchange rate fluctuations on diaspora remittances and investments.

Ghana has seen increased remittance inflows in recent years, playing a crucial role in supporting households and local businesses.

The government has implemented several measures, including tighter monetary policies and improved forex management, to stabilize the cedi after periods of depreciation.

Mr Ampem was confident in the government's recent these policies while urging Ghanaians abroad to remain active participants in national development.

"Your contributions matter, and we are working to ensure that your investments are safe and beneficial to both you and the country," he added.

4. Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025 concludes with new global alliances and concrete commitments for a sustainable future

Date: June 08, 2025

Source:
MyJoyOnline

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) has successfully concluded its second edition, reinforcing its position as a vital global platform for advancing sustainable development.



Around 1,600 participants from all across the world—including a notable number of high-level representatives from politics, international organizations, business, academia, and civil society—convened in Hamburg on June 2 and 3 to forge new alliances and accelerate progress toward the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

HSC 2025 marked the launch of important initiatives and the achievement of new consensus, such as the agreement on the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs.

HSC 2025 built on the momentum created by its first edition in October 2024—despite even more challenging conditions. As outlined in the HSC 2025 Conference Paper, this year's conference took place in a significantly altered international context. Geopolitical tensions have heightened, fragmentation has deepened, and the space for effective multilateral engagement appears increasingly constrained.

Against this backdrop, the mission of the HSC proves more vital than ever. In this sense, HSC 2025 came at the right time and sent a clear and important signal: even in these times of uncertainty, there is strong support for collective, cross-cutting action—and it remains possible to forge new alliances and make tangible progress.

The four HSC initiators highlighted the pressing need to forge new alliances and launch cross sector initiatives to advance a sustainable future—especially in these challenging times. German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Reem Alabali-Radovan: “At a time when nationalist tendencies are jeopardising international cooperation, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference stands for the spirit of cooperation that binds the world together. Hamburg sends out a strong signal for solidarity and cooperation, an encouragement to us all.

For two days, around 1,600 dedicated individuals and experts in their field have breathed new life into the promise upon which international cooperation is founded: that it is better for all of us if we pull together—instead of focusing solely on our own interests. The Hamburg Sustainability Conference has made progress on concrete solutions for some of the key challenges that we must face in the future: for cities of the future that will be liveable places for more and more people despite climate change, for the common fight against inequality or for artificial intelligence that benefits all people.”

First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg Peter Tschentscher: “The 17 Sustainable Development Goals aim to give 8 billion people worldwide a good life and a secure future, with access to education, health, participation, peace, security, and prosperity. Implementing this is a mandate and a great responsibility for the international community, because global developments can only be achieved through cooperation and joint efforts.”

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner: “The Hamburg Sustainability Conference is a moment to challenge conventional wisdom, redefine possibilities, and craft a new narrative—not one of division and decline, but of unity, cooperation, and collective progress. The Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals marks an important milestone in this journey. Initiated at this conference in 2024, this landmark declaration has just been endorsed by representatives from over 40 governments, private sector organizations, civil society, and leading research institutions. This outcome represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities and addresses global inequalities. This collaboration does not end here. Our task now is to work together to ensure AI's extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally.”

Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Otto Group Michael Otto: “Everyone has a role to play in tackling global challenges. I firmly believe that the private sector holds many of



the keys to viable solutions. At the same time, it is crucial that policymakers establish enabling frameworks and the scientific community drives innovation. The initiatives built upon since last year, together with the new alliances forged at HSC 2025, show that the conference brings the right stakeholders to the table—and that it's driving real impact.”

Key Achievements and Outcomes

The following list provides an overview of some key initiatives launched or advanced during HSC 2025. More information—on the sessions, signings, and breakthroughs—will be made available soon after the conference.

1. Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs

On Monday, June 2nd, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) endorsed the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals, together with over 40 governments, private sector organizations, civil society, and leading research institutions. The landmark initiative – the first global declaration focused specifically on AI in international development – outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development and deployment of artificial intelligence worldwide, with particular emphasis on empowering developing countries. Building on a set of principles presented at HSC 2024, the Declaration is the result of a year-long global consultation involving policymakers, academia, private sector, and civil society.

2. SCALED: Unlocking Private Investment for Sustainable Development: On Monday, June 2nd, the members of the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) signed a joint declaration of intent, reaffirming their commitment to removing barriers to large-scale sustainable investment. Rebranded as “SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development,” the initiative brings together public and private institutions to enhance coordination. By the end of 2025, SCALED plans to launch a dedicated company to mobilize private capital more efficiently for projects such as solar farms or entrepreneurship support. As a service provider, the company will create standardized investment vehicles, connect aligned investors, and work with asset managers to implement investments. It aims to help close financing gaps in developing countries and could unlock several billion USD in private capital over the coming years.

3. Launch of the Global Alliance against Inequality

On Tuesday, June 3rd, the Global Alliance against Inequality, was officially launched. The coalition unites governments and partners in a bold effort to tackle the systemic roots of inequality undermining social cohesion and democratic governance worldwide. Germany and Sierra Leone, alongside the Pathfinders Initiative, signed the declaration of intent committing to evidence

based policies that address economic and social disparities. The Alliance emphasizes cross regional collaboration, dialogue, and policy innovation to rebuild trust in public institutions and foster peaceful, just societies. Among the other notable agreements, signings, and announcements during HSC 2025 are the following:

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Euler Hermes to strengthen support for German exports and investments in developing and emerging countries within the framework of sustainable development; the new Biodiversity Fund of the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF), with an initial capital of €500,000 aimed at supporting biodiversity conservation projects particularly within global textile supply chains; The addition of one new signatory to the Hamburg Declaration on



Green Aviation, and two new signatories to the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping — both initiated at HSC 2024; The Joint Statement of stakeholders across sectors on Enhancing Municipalities' Access to Private Capital; and the presentation of the concept for the “Institute for Sustainability Arbitration” (ISA), which is envisioned as a specialized body dedicated to ensuring legal certainty in sustainability-related disputes through expert arbitration.

A Platform for Continuous Impact

The HSC 2025 has come to a close, but the work of the HSC continues at full speed. Tomorrow, on June 4, the HSC Future Economy Day will take place at the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, focusing on pathways toward a just and sustainable economic transformation. This week marks the Hamburg Sustainability Week, offering a diverse and engaging program for the city's broader public. In the months ahead, the HSC will continue its work through various Round Tables, staying true to its mission as a platform for continuous impact — because lasting progress requires ongoing commitment. Next year, the third edition of the conference will take place, on June 29–30, 2026.

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5. Climate change & sustainability: Kenneth Awotwe Darko champions equitable forest finance at Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025

Date: June 09, 2025

Source:
MyJoyOnline

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) 2025, Ghanaian moderator Kenneth Awotwe Darko steered a critical conversation on forest finance, ensuring Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IP&LCs) took center stage in the fight against deforestation.

The session, Protecting Forests, Protecting the Planet: Financing Solutions for Nature and Climate, became a rallying point for rights-based solutions, with Mr Darko's incisive questions and strategic framing linking forest protection to broader climate and biodiversity goals ahead of COP30.

Around 1,600 participants from all across the world—including a notable number of high-level representatives from politics, international organizations, business, academia, and civil society—convened in Hamburg on June 2 and 3 to forge new alliances and accelerate progress toward the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

HSC was organised by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Michael Otto Foundation and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

During the session on forest financing, Mr Darko, a journalist with JoyNews and Myjoyonline, opened the session by engaging Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN).



He communicated Germany's will to engage effectively in ensuring that key considerations are implemented for designing effective forest finance mechanisms. This, according to Mr Flasbarth include supporting holistic and integrated approaches to forest finance.

Kenneth advanced the conversation by underscoring forests' dual role as biodiversity sanctuaries and carbon sinks, a theme echoed by panelists from Brazil's Articulation of Indigenous Peoples (APIB), the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), and Greenpeace.

"Forests, home to millions of people, two-thirds of the world's biodiversity and crucial carbon sinks, are vital for achieving climate and nature protection goals. With deforestation contributing 15% of global emissions, we need to explore opportunities for COP30 and beyond to enhance financing mechanisms and accelerate action to end deforestation and forest degradation by 2030," Mr Darko remarked on June 3, setting the tone for a discussion that prioritised equity alongside environmental urgency.

He posed a pivotal question to Dinamam Tuxá, an Indigenous leader from Brazil: "How urgent is it to redesign forest finance to guarantee direct access for IP&LCs on the ground?"

Tuxá's response laid bare systemic gaps. According to him, without our inclusion, even the best-intentioned funds fail.

For him, it is unconscionable that the Amazon territories safeguard 80% of the world's biodiversity yet less than 1% of climate finance reaches them directly.

In a moving speech, Deputy General Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB), Alcebias Mota Constantino expressed his frustration about the plethora of commitments with no real action to back them.

For him, while these delays persist in terms of mechanisms that could potentially ensure better accessibility to support IP and community-led solutions on the ground, their conditions worsen.

Mr Darko's handling of the panel uncovered stark realities and solutions. On finance as justice, Leslie Quarzazi of CAFI highlighted how Central Africa's deforestation crisis demands "policy coherence and community-level funding," a point Mr Darko expanded by linking to Ghana's own efforts towards conserving forest reserves amid exploitation, and the SCALED initiative's potential to bridge investment gaps.

Regarding COP30 as a turning point, Greenpeace Brazil's Carolina Pasquali, prompted by Mr Darko, stressed that COP30 must move beyond pledges to enforceable mechanisms, particularly for high-integrity forests.

On the point of holistic frameworks and long-term sustainability, Leslie Quarzazi explained how finance models could balance equity and effectiveness.

The Road to COP30 and beyond

In closing, Mr Darko synthesized the panel's consensus: "Credible solutions require respecting the people who live with the forests." His summary echoed the session's key messages:

- Direct Access: Finance mechanisms must bypass bureaucracy to reach IP&LCs.
- Integration: Climate and biodiversity agendas are inseparable in forest policy.
- Accountability: COP30 must deliver tangible commitments, not just dialogue.



Kenneth Awotwe Darko's leadership exposed a truth too often ignored, that forest finance is not just about dollars, but dignity.

As global leaders prepare for COP30 in the Amazon, his call and that of his panelists to listen to the guardians of these ecosystems offers a blueprint for turning rhetoric into reality.

In the end, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) successfully concluded its second edition, reinforcing its position as a vital global platform for advancing sustainable development.

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Among the other notable agreements, signings, and announcements during HSC 2025 are the following: The Memorandum of Understanding between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Euler Hermes to strengthen support for German exports and investments in developing and emerging countries within the framework of sustainable development; the new Biodiversity Fund of the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF), with an initial capital of €500,000 aimed at supporting biodiversity conservation projects particularly within global textile supply chains; The addition of one new signatory to the Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation, and two new signatories to the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping—both initiated at HSC 2024; The Joint Statement of stakeholders across sectors on Enhancing Municipalities' Access to Private Capital; and the presentation of the concept for the “Institute for Sustainability Arbitration” (ISA), which is envisioned as a specialized body dedicated to ensuring legal certainty in sustainability-related disputes through expert arbitration.

6. HSC 2025: Protecting forests, protecting the planet: Financing solutions for nature and climate

Date: June 25, 2025

Source:
MyJoyOnline

Forests, home to millions of people, two-thirds of the world's biodiversity and crucial carbon sinks, are vital for achieving climate and nature protection goals.

With deforestation contributing 15% of global emissions, panelists explored opportunities for COP30 and beyond to enhance financing mechanisms and accelerate action to end deforestation and forest degradation by 2030.

How can holistic forest finance accelerate progress on forest conservation and climate and nature goals?

This was the focus of the 'Protecting forests, protecting the planet: Financing solutions for nature and climate' session at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025 in Germany.

Participants included: Dinamam Tuxá - Executive Coordinator, Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB); Carolina Pasquali - Executive Director, Greenpeace Brazil; Leslie Ouarzazi - Deputy Head, Secretariat of Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI); Jochen Flasbarth - State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Moderation: Kenneth Awotwe Darko - Journalist & Climate Activist, JoyNews, TV & MyJoyOnline in Ghana.



Green hydrogen everywhere

Date: June 10, 2025

Source:
Namibian Sun

The Africa Green Hydrogen Summit kicks off in Cape Town, South Africa on Thursday 12 June. This year's theme is "Unlocking European Union Investments in Africa's Green Hydrogen Value Chains". High-level speakers are expected to explore opportunities and challenges, according to the European Union.

A similar event is scheduled for Windhoek later this year from September 9 to 11, when the Global African Hydrogen Summit comes to Namibia. The September summit is being organised by the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB) supported by the Namibia Green Hydrogen Council and the Namibia Green Hydrogen Programme. Themed "Ambition in Action: Fuelling Africa's Green Industrial Revolution", the three-day summit is expected to convene heads of state, ministers, business leaders, project developers, investors, technologists and end-users from across Africa and around the globe.

'Major milestone'

Meanwhile, the Namibia-German Green Hydrogen Research and Development Conference took place in Windhoek last week. According to the Southern African Science Service Centre for Climate Change and Adaptive Land Management (SASSCAL), the conference marked a major milestone in showcasing progress on Namibia's leading green hydrogen research project: The Daures Green Hydrogen Village, which is Africa's first integrated green hydrogen village.

Jointly organised by the Namibia Green Hydrogen Research Institute (NGHRI) and the University of Namibia (UNAM) in collaboration with SASSCAL and the Institute of Energy Economics and Rational Energy Use at the University of Stuttgart in Germany, the conference centred around 15 research presentations on Daures.

Topics included life-cycle assessments of green hydrogen production, water extraction and treatment from brine sources, green ammonia-based fertilisers and soil fertility in desert agriculture, techno-economic modelling and national energy system pathways, hydrogen infrastructure materials and corrosion-resistant coatings, environmental compliance, biodiversity monitoring and conservation, gender inclusion and community perceptions, and also skills localisation and workforce readiness.

Site visit

Head of the Research Department of System Analysis and Renewable Energy at the University of Stuttgart, Ludger Eltrop, who attended the successful workshop, said he enjoyed an insightful site visit to the Daures Green Hydrogen Village.

"The progress is visible anytime I am there. The Daures team around Jerome Namaseb is doing



a great job,” he said.

Eltrop observed that the GH2 and ammonia facility at Daures is nearing completion and that vegetable production has been in operation for some time.

“The well-equipped research laboratory is ready for students and researchers,” he added.

However, Daures is still in search of an off-taker for its green hydrogen - “a decisive piece in this puzzle to become commercially viable. But altogether a very successful approach looking at an integration of various components, also beyond green hydrogen production,” he said.

Eltrop says he is committed to supporting the project and to see its ultimate success.

Meanwhile, the Hyphen Green Hydrogen project, the government’s chosen development aimed at establishing a giant green hydrogen industry in southern Namibia, was present at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025.

Hyphen’s Tobias Bischof-Niemz and Toni Beukes participated in a round-table discussion there, sharing insights and perspectives on preparing the Namibian workforce for the ‘green economy.’ They were also able to update industry experts from around the world on the progress of Hyphen’s mega-project in Namibia.

Daures has advertised an opening for a solar plant technician while Belgium’s CMB.TECH - partners in O&L’s Cleanergy green hydrogen production plant - is looking for engineering specialists in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, automation and control systems engineering, as well as chemical engineering and industrial engineering. Applications can be sent to hr.namibia@cmb.tech with the reference Engineering Specialists.



Barcelona participa en una reunión sobre corredores marítimos verdes en la Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Naucher Global

La directora de Relaciones Institucionales del Port de Barcelona, Ingrid Boqué, ha asistido a la ‘Hamburg Sustainability Conference’, que el 2 y 3 de junio ha reunido a líderes políticos, empresariales, científicos y de la sociedad civil de todo el mundo para debatir y proponer soluciones para alcanzar los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU. Boqué ha participado en la reunión de trabajo de los firmantes de la Declaración de Hamburgo sobre los Corredores Marítimos Verdes, que se produjo durante la primera edición de la conferencia, impulsada el año pasado por el Ministerio Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania.

Esta declaración marcó un compromiso colectivo para avanzar hacia una descarbonización efectiva del transporte marítimo. Este año, los firmantes de aquella carta de intenciones se han



vuelto a reunir para hacer el seguimiento de los compromisos adquiridos y profundizar en los retos. En el marco de la conferencia, la representante del Port de Barcelona ha participado en la sesión titulada “Hydrogen’s Role in Decarbonizing Air and Sea Transport”, donde se ha debatido sobre la integración del hidrógeno como vector clave para la descarbonización del transporte marítimo y aéreo. El pasado mes de febrero se celebró un encuentro preliminar centrado en esta misma temática.

La reunión de trabajo, que ha reunido un reducido grupo de expertos de los sectores público y privado, se ha articulado alrededor de dos grandes ejes: el marco regulatorio actual para el uso del hidrógeno, que ha contado con las intervenciones de responsables del más alto nivel del transporte marítimo internacional y de algunos de los principales puertos del mundo; y la financiación, que ha permitido conocer los instrumentos para financiar la transformación de los sectores marítimo y aéreo y debatir sobre los obstáculos que se encuentran, especialmente los países en desarrollo, a la hora de financiar nuevas infraestructuras portuarias sostenibles.

Retos de los corredores verdes

Ingrid Boqué también ha participado en varios actos relevantes, como ha sido la reunión con un reducido grupo de responsables de primer nivel, como el secretario de Estado Parlamentario del ministro Federal de Cooperación Económica y Desarrollo de Alemania, Niels Annen; el CEO de Tanger Med, Mehdi Tazi-Riffi; el executive director del Port de Los Angeles, Gene Seroka; y el CEO de la Autoridad Portuaria de Hamburgo, Jens Meier, donde se han abordado los principales retos actuales del sector.

La directora de Relaciones Institucionales del Port de Barcelona ha destacado que “la Declaración de Hamburgo sigue reuniendo representantes de primer nivel de toda la cadena logística para abordar los retos asociados al establecimiento de corredores verdes. La sesión ha destacado el papel clave del hidrógeno verde en la descarbonización, evidenciando las desigualdades que dificulta la implementación global: mientras el norte global lidera la demanda y la inversión, a menudo impone estándares estrictos y plazos ajustados que pueden acentuar las desigualdades e ignorar los impactos sociales y ambientales en el sur global. El Port de Barcelona, a punto de presentar su plan de transición energética e implicado activamente en colaboraciones internacionales, vuelve a poner de manifiesto la importancia de las alianzas globales y de la acción conjunta para avanzar hacia una transición energética sostenible, realista y compartida”. Además, “esta participación reafirma el compromiso del Port de Barcelona con la sostenibilidad, la innovación y la colaboración internacional para hacer frente a los grandes retos del sector logístico y portuario”.

La Hamburg Sustainability Conference, que se ha celebrado por segundo año consecutivo, tiene el objetivo de reforzar el papel y la responsabilidad del sector privado en las nuevas alianzas de sostenibilidad. Por eso, el programa de este año ha constado de tres foros: ‘Redefinición de la arquitectura financiera internacional’, que ha tratado sobre cómo las instituciones financieras internacionales pueden impulsar el progreso de los ODS; ‘Desbloqueando inversiones para los ODS’, centrado en cómo se puede asegurar, incentivar y aumentar el impacto de las inversiones en desarrollo sostenible; y ‘Aprovechando la transformación’, que ha debatido sobre cómo se tiene que producir el apalancamiento de las inversiones en transformación sostenible.





1. NDR Info 15:00 | 02.06.2025

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
NDR

Die Nachrichten für den Norden: Nawrocki-Sieg in Polen und die Folgen für die Grenzregion / Nachhaltigkeits-Konferenz in Hamburg

2. Auftakt der Nachhaltigkeits-Konferenz in Hamburg

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
NDR

Gut 1.600 Gäste sind zur "Hamburg Sustainability Conference" gekommen, um zu beraten, wie die Welt nachhaltiger werden kann.

3. "Hamburg Sustainability Conference": Nachhaltigkeit im Fokus

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
NDR

Wie kann die Gesellschaft nachhaltiger werden? Darum ging es bei einer internationalen Konferenz in Hamburg.

Mehr als 1.600 Gäste aus 113 Ländern kamen zur "Hamburg Sustainability Conference" in die Handelskammer, darunter Vizekanzler Lars Klingbeil (SPD) und die Premierministerin des Kongo. Das Ziel sei klar, sagte Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) zu Beginn der Konferenz. "Die Länder der Welt zusammenzubringen. Denn der globale Klimawandel, die globalen Belastungen von Natur und Umwelt, lassen sich nur weltweit in Kooperationen mit allen lösen", so Tschentscher.

Klingbeil: Deutschland gründet Nord-Süd-Kommission

Am Dienstag kündigte Vizekanzler und Bundesfinanzminister Klingbeil bei der Konferenz an, dass Deutschland eine neue Nord-Süd-Kommission gründen werde. Sie soll ein Forum werden, in dem sich ärmere und reichere Länder regelmäßig austauschen können. Konkrete Ziele nannte Klingbeil allerdings nicht.

Bekämpfung von Armut und Ungleichheit

Bereits bei der Eröffnung der internationalen Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz am Montag sagte die neue Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD), dass die internationale Zusammenarbeit aktuell wichtiger denn je sei.

Klimaschutz, Bekämpfung von Armut und Ungleichheit, Bildung oder Frauenrechte: 17 Punkte umfasst die Liste der Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen. Und diese Ziele zu erreichen sei schwieriger geworden, seitdem in den USA wieder Donald Trump als Präsident regiert und sich die USA aus vielen internationalen Programmen zurückgezogen haben, sagte Alabali-



Radovan. "Ganz unmittelbar geht es um das Leben von Millionen Menschen es geht um verlorene Bildungschancen, es geht um besiegt geglaubte Krankheiten, die plötzlich wieder ausbrechen, um das Voranschreiten des Klimawandels und es geht um Hungersnöte", betonte sie.

Erklärung zu verantwortungsvoller KI unterzeichnet

Am Montag war auch die "Hamburger Erklärung zu verantwortungsvoller Künstlicher Intelligenz" unterzeichnet worden. Das Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung verpflichtet sich darin, etwa in Afrika, Zehntausenden Menschen den Umgang mit KI beizubringen. Auch am Dienstag sind weitere Absichtserklärungen geplant, unter anderem soll eine globale Allianz gegen Ungleichheit auf den Weg gebracht werden.

Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitswoche rund um Konferenz

Die Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz der Vereinten Nationen fand bereits zum zweiten Mal in Hamburg statt. Rund um die Konferenz gibt es rund 100 weitere Veranstaltungen in der Hansestadt - und zwar im Rahmen der ersten "Hamburg Sustainability Week", die bis zum 6. Juni stattfindet. Auf dem Programm stehen etwa eine Führung über Hamburgs Gründächer, ein Planspiel für Schulklassen, ein Speeddating mit Nachhaltigkeitsakteuren der Stadt, ein Pub-Quiz der HAW und ein Workshop zum flexiblen Wohnen.

Bürgermeister Tschentscher eröffnete die "Hamburg Sustainability Week" bereits am Sonntagabend in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen. "Letztlich brauchen wir nicht nur Regierungen, die Wirtschaft und Internationale Organisationen. Wir brauchen wirklich auf kommunaler Ebene alle Menschen, die diesen Gedanken der Nachhaltigkeit verinnerlichen und in der Umsetzung dann auch mit bewegen", sagte Tschentscher.



1. Global Leaders Endorse First Responsible AI Pact for Development

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
News Ghana

Government, business, and civil society leaders have adopted the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for Sustainable Development Goals at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, establishing the first international framework for ethical artificial intelligence deployment in global development.

The agreement outlines principles prioritizing human rights, environmental sustainability, and equitable access, with specific provisions supporting developing nations and vulnerable communities.



United Nations Development Programme Administrator Achim Steiner emphasized the imperative: “AI’s potential remains unrealized for most developing countries. This declaration commits to ensuring it promotes equity and addresses inequalities.” German Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan added: “AI must become a driver of inclusion and sustainable development,” acknowledging widespread exclusion from digital innovation benefits.

The framework emerged from year-long consultations led by UNDP and Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. It mandates signatories to invest in inclusive AI systems, scale local innovation, and expand AI education access—particularly for women and girls. Smart Africa CEO Lacina Koné framed the declaration as transformative: “AI can be the great equalizer, but only if inclusive, ethical, and co-created. Africa is shaping this future.”

This consensus responds to documented AI implementation gaps: UNDP reports show 78% of AI capacity concentrated in developed economies, while UNESCO warns of algorithmic bias disproportionately affecting marginalized groups. The pact establishes a multilateral coordination mechanism to align AI development with Sustainable Development Goal acceleration, positioning technology as a tool for resilient digital inclusion rather than exacerbating existing disparities.

2. Ghana Appeals to Diaspora for Remittances Amid Currency Stability Push

Date: June 08, 2025

Source:
News Ghana

Deputy Finance Minister Thomas Nyarko Ampem has urged overseas Ghanaians to maintain remittances and investments, citing government efforts to stabilize the cedi.

The appeal occurred during a Hamburg Sustainability Conference side-event with Ghana’s German diaspora community.

“Continue transferring funds – we’re ensuring cedi strength and investment security,” Ampem stated, addressing currency concerns. He warned against delaying transfers for potential depreciation: “That expectation will disappoint. We require these inflows and Foreign Direct Investment.”

The minister linked diaspora contributions to Ghana’s economic recovery but provided no specific currency protection mechanisms. Bank of Ghana data shows remittances reached \$4.7 billion in 2024, accounting for 6.3% of GDP.

This outreach occurs amid sustained cedi volatility, with the currency losing 8.2% against the dollar year-to-date despite recent IMF program gains.



Armenia deputy FM meets with UN-Habitat executive director



Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
NEWS.am

Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonian on Monday met with Anaclaudia Rossbach, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat), on the margins of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.

During the meeting, prospects for expanding the engagement of Armenia within the framework of UN-Habitat were touched upon, informs the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia. The deputy FM emphasized the importance Armenia attaches to sustainable and green urban and rural development. In this context, the parties highlighted the importance of experience-sharing and joint initiatives with UN-Habitat in transportation, infrastructure, engineering systems, and energy-efficient housing.

The interlocutors exchanged views also on prospective cooperation in the context of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.

Also, the deputy FM briefed his colleague on the ongoing efforts by Armenia to address the short- and mid-term needs of forcibly displaced Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh, emphasizing the importance of international support in this regard.



1. Hamburg: Entwicklungsministerin appelliert auf Konferenz an Israel

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
NEWS.de

Zu der zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz werden rund 1.600 Teilnehmer erwartet. Ministerin Alabali-Radovan sagte während des Auftakts, humanitäre Hilfe dürfe nicht blockiert werden.

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) hat Israels Regierung aufgefordert, weiteren Hilfsorganisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen zu ermöglichen. "Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird", sagte Alabali-Radovan laut Manuskript zu Beginn der zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Rathaus der Stadt. Wenn der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern dauerhaft blockiert werde, müsse über Konsequenzen gesprochen werden.

Israel hatte nach nahezu drei Monaten zuletzt wieder Hilfslieferungen an die hungernde Bevölkerung im Gazastreifen in begrenztem Umfang erlaubt. Israel ermöglicht es der umstrittenen Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, um auf diese Weise andere Hilfsorganisationen wie die der Vereinten Nationen zu umgehen.

Ausrichter erwarten Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern



Zu der zweitägigen Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz erwarten die Ausrichter rund 1.600 Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern. Die Konferenz war erstmals vergangenen Oktober ausgerichtet worden, um die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen zu fördern. Themen dieser sind unter anderem Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit.

Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) sagte, die Welt habe sich in den vergangenen Jahren verändert: Krisen, Kriege und Konflikte überschatteten Bemühungen, Klima und Natur zu schützen. Orientierung biete die Agenda 2030, die die Nachhaltigkeitsziele definiert. Nachdenklich äußerte sich auch der Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, Achim Steiner. "Die Welt ist nicht gerade vorangekommen", sagte er auf Englisch. Unsicherheit und Angst nähmen zu. Es sei dennoch nicht Zeit für Mutlosigkeit.

Veranstalter der Konferenz sind das Bundesentwicklungsministerium, das Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, eine Stiftung des Hamburger Mäzens Michael Otto und die Stadt Hamburg.



1. Championing Equitable Forest Finance: Kenneth Awotwe Darko's Impact at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025

Date: June 09, 2025

Source:
New Z9

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) 2025, a crucial dialogue unfolded around forest finance, emphasizing the voices of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IP&LCs) in the battle against deforestation. Moderated by Kenneth Awotwe Darko, this session titled "Protecting Forests, Protecting the Planet: Financing Solutions for Nature and Climate" was a pivotal moment, linking forest preservation to wider climate goals ahead of COP30.

Approximately 1,600 attendees, including prominent figures from various sectors, gathered to foster new partnerships and push towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Organized by key entities like the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the conference served as a vital platform for sustainable development.

During the forest financing session, Mr. Darko skillfully guided the conversation by engaging Jochen Flasbarth from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment. Flasbarth stressed the importance of integrated forest finance mechanisms to support biodiversity and climate action.

Darko highlighted that forests are not only biodiversity sanctuaries but significant carbon sinks, a sentiment echoed by panelists from Brazil's Articulation of Indigenous Peoples and Greenpeace. He pointed out that deforestation is responsible for 15% of global emissions and called for improved financing strategies to combat this issue.

One of the central questions posed by Darko was directed at Dinamam Tuxá, an Indigenous leader from Brazil. He asked how urgent it was to redesign finance systems to ensure direct



support for IP&LCs. Tuxá answered starkly, stating that without their inclusion, funds often miss the mark.

He highlighted the paradox: regions like the Amazon, home to a vast majority of the world's biodiversity, receive meager funding compared to what is necessary. Alcebias Mota Constantino, another Indigenous leader, added that despite numerous commitments, actionable results are still lacking, worsening conditions on the ground.

The discussion made it clear that finance is not just about money but also about justice and respect for the people protecting these ecosystems. Leslie Quarzazi from the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) emphasized that sustainable policies require both community-level funding and a broader strategy.

Greenpeace Brazil's Carolina Pasquali insisted that COP30 must transition from mere commitments to enforceable actions, particularly for high-integrity forests. Quarzazi further explained how finance models could harmonize equity with effectiveness, ensuring that resources reach those most impacted.

As this session wrapped up, Darko underscored some essential takeaways: finance mechanisms should enable direct access for IP&LCs, climate and biodiversity agendas should be intertwined, and COP30 must lead to concrete commitments rather than vague promises.

With preparations for COP30 underway, experts believe this moment could redefine global forest finance strategies. Many advocate for listening to those who live among the forests, as their insights can guide more effective solutions. The HSC 2025 demonstrated a strong call for collaboration in these uncertain times, reinforcing its role as an essential global platform for sustainable advancement.

The conference also saw the launch of critical initiatives, including the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals, showcasing a commitment to leveraging technology for equitable growth.

In a world facing heightened geopolitical tensions, the 2025 conference served as a reminder of the importance of unity in pursuing sustainability. As new partnerships form, there remains hope for impactful actions that prioritize both the planet and its people.

2. St. Kitts and Nevis: Championing Climate Finance at Global Sustainability Forums

Date: June 14, 2025

Source:
New Z9

St. Kitts and Nevis have recently taken center stage in conversations about climate finance and sustainable development, led by Hon. Dr. Joyelle Clarke. As the Minister for Sustainable Development, she emphasizes the struggles of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in securing necessary funding to combat the climate crisis.

At recent conferences, including the Hamburg Sustainability Conference and the United Nations Oceans Conference, Dr. Clarke pointed out a significant issue: the current financial systems often don't meet the unique challenges faced by island nations. She highlighted how poverty and the need for climate resilience are critical issues that demand urgent solutions, such as improved financing methods.



Dr. Clarke stated, “We have to deal with poverty and ensure climate resilience. To do that, we need fast access to green financing and risk-sharing mechanisms.” This sentiment was shared among financial experts like Peter Cripps, Editor at Environmental Finance, who challenged the classification systems that often exclude SIDS from essential funding.

Axel van Trotsenburg from the World Bank added that using per capita GDP as a measure often misrepresents the financial realities of these nations. For instance, although Barbados has a per capita GDP of \$22,000, the actual living conditions tell a different story. Disasters like hurricanes can damage up to 60% of a SIDS’ GDP, worsening their already fragile economic situation.

To address these challenges, experts advocate for tools like the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI). This index looks beyond just income levels to assess risks comprehensively. The UN officially adopted this framework in August 2024, marking a crucial moment for SIDS in their quest for adequate funding.

Dr. Clarke believes that effective financing must also include results-based frameworks and a strong presence of experts to help local governments. St. Kitts and Nevis aim to transition to sustainable energy sources like geothermal power, which could significantly lower costs for water, food, and manufacturing.

The government has already embarked on initiatives to cut single-use plastics and promote recycling, demonstrating their commitment to sustainability. Their long-term goal is to achieve full sustainability by 2040, focusing on clean energy, local food production, waste reduction, and resilient infrastructure.

On the global stage, Dr. Clarke’s engagements are vital for creating alliances to ensure the region’s voice is heard in discussions about sustainability. She has been vocal about the need for localized climate financing, emphasizing that community leaders must play a central role in these efforts.

At the Oceans Conference in Nice, she represented her nation’s position on ocean sustainability, advocating for Marine Protected Areas and the High Seas Treaty, which St. Kitts and Nevis recently signed.

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew praised Dr. Clarke’s efforts, recognizing her role in bringing attention to these important issues. St. Kitts and Nevis’ strong commitment to sustainability and climate resilience highlights their prominent role in global conversations about the future of our oceans and climate diplomacy.

As the world faces an urgent need for climate action, the voices of small island nations are crucial. Their unique challenges and innovative solutions can serve as models for broader global conversations.

2. Empower Our Planet: HSC 2025’s Innovative Financing Solutions for Forest Protection and Climate Action

Date: June 25, 2025

Source:
New Z9

Forests cover a large part of our planet and are home to countless species. They play a crucial role in absorbing carbon dioxide, making them key players in the fight against climate change.



Despite their importance, deforestation is responsible for about 15% of global greenhouse gas emissions. This alarming statistic highlights the need for urgent action.

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, experts gathered to discuss fresh ideas on financing forest conservation. The focus was on how to boost efforts to halt deforestation and protect these vital resources by 2030. A key question was: how can better financial solutions lead to healthier forests and a more stable climate?

Among the speakers were prominent figures like Dinamam Tuxá from the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil and Carolina Pasquali from Greenpeace Brazil. They emphasized that involving local communities is essential for successful conservation efforts. Jochen Flasbarth, a representative from Germany's Ministry of the Environment, shared insights on policy changes that could support sustainable forest management. Recent studies show that investing in forest conservation can yield significant returns. According to a report from the World Resource

s Institute, every dollar spent on conservation generates about four dollars in environmental benefits. This means that supporting forest financing isn't just good for the planet—it's also economically smart.

Social media has been buzzing about forest protection, especially among younger audiences. Many use platforms like Twitter and Instagram to raise awareness about climate issues, sharing messages about the importance of forests in achieving environmental goals. This grassroots engagement is changing the conversation and driving more people to advocate for action.

Understanding the value of our forests is more important now than ever. By aligning financial incentives with conservation efforts, we can help ensure a healthier planet for future generations.



Germany News. Sustainable Development Conference in Hamburg

Date: June 13, 2025

Source:
Nslowa

1,600 international experts at the Hamburg Conference on Sustainable Development

Around 1,600 participants from over 110 countries met in Hamburg on 2 and 3 June to forge alliances to promote sustainable development and to support the implementation of the UN's 2030 Agenda. At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), high-ranking representatives from politics, science, business, civil society and international organisations sought solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Rima Alabali-Radovan, said before the conference:

– International problems are greater than ever, so international cooperation must be closer than ever.



This year, the discussion focused on three thematic areas: reform of the international financial architecture, new investments in the implementation of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and transformational processes in key sectors, including mobility and logistics, global health, biodiversity and digitalization. The conference is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.

Hamburg (d.de).



En Alemania, Puebla comparte estrategias para mejorar el transporte

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Oronoticias

El Gobierno del Estado de Puebla que encabeza el mandatario Alejandro Armenta, participó en la “Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025”, a través de la Secretaría de Movilidad y Transporte (SMT). El evento, realizado en Alemania, es una de las plataformas internacionales más relevantes para el diálogo en torno a los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU, para fortalecer una movilidad segura, incluyente y sostenible en la entidad.

La invitación fue extendida por la Agencia de Cooperación Alemana (GIZ) y el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), en donde la subsecretaria de Movilidad y Seguridad Vial, Cynthia Chávez Ríos, participó en el panel internacional titulado “Moldeando las Ciudades del Futuro: innovación social para la movilidad y economía circular”, en la que compartió la visión del gobernador Alejandro Armenta en torno a los principales retos en materia de transporte público, así como las estrategias actuales para avanzar hacia una movilidad más equitativa y sustentable. Cabe destacar que esta participación no representó gasto alguno para el Gobierno de Puebla, ya que fue cubierta por la organización del evento en reconocimiento al perfil técnico de la funcionaria.

Moderado por Benjamin de la Peña, director general del Centro de Movilidad Compartida de Chicago, el panel reunió a especialistas de India, Nueva York, Colombia y representantes del PNUD, con quienes se compartieron experiencias sobre soluciones innovadoras para los retos urbanos actuales. La subsecretaria Chávez Ríos expuso las estrategias de la administración poblana para la renovación vehicular del transporte público, el fortalecimiento de la seguridad para las mujeres usuarias y la formalización de modelos de transporte local.



Aid by Trade Foundation Turns 20, Invests Heavily in New Biodiversity Fund

Date: June 04, 2025



Source:
Pakistan Textile journal

To effectively promote nature conservation and biodiversity, the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) announced at the second Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) that it would be investing 500,000 euros in the 'AbTF Biodiversity Fund' to mark the foundation's 20th anniversary. Since it was established in 2005 by the entrepreneur Prof. Dr Michael Otto, AbTF has been committed to transforming the textile and fashion industries. The foundation has made it its mission to conserve nature in areas where cotton and cashmere are produced. It pursues these goals through its internationally recognised sustainability standards as well as by supporting farming families in optimising their agricultural operations. Its support enables them to improve their living conditions and build up the resilience of their farming to climate change and market fluctuations.

Panorama nyheter

Tyskland melder seg som global bistandsleder etter USAs kutt

Date: June 10, 2025

Source:
Panorama Nyheter

Den tyske regjeringen varslar at de vil fylle mer av tomrommet etter USAs bistandskutt under president Donald Trump.

Tyskland har allerede blitt verdens største enkeltgiver av offisiell bistand (ODA) i absolutte tall, etter Trumps omfattende kutt i amerikansk bistand.

Men på konferansen Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2.–3. juni sa Tysklands viseskansler og finansminister Lars Klingbeil at de også ønsker å overta lederrollen som USA har hatt innen global utvikling, vil opprette en ny kommisjon og «gjenopplive» FNs bærekraftsmål.

– Multilateralisme er svaret på globale utfordringer, sa Klingbeil i åpningstalen på bærekraftskonferansen, som samlet 1600 deltakere, ifølge nyhetsnettstedet Devex.

Vil opprette ny kommisjon

Som del av det å ta en internasjonal lederrolle, vil Tyskland opprette en såkalt «nord-sør-kommisjon». Målet er å forme det nye internasjonale bistandssystemet, samtidig som de erkjenner at vestlig dominans er i ferd med å ta slutt.

– Ingen krise kan løses uten samarbeid mellom landene i det globale sør og det globale nord, sa Klingbeil.

Det er likevel et ubesvart spørsmål om lav- og mellominntektsland vil se på kommisjonen som et reelt partnerskap, eller bare nok et initiativ ledet av land i nord, skriver Devex.

Klingbeil lovet også å kjempe for de internasjonale institusjonene og partnerne som USA, sammen med andre store giverland som Storbritannia, i økende grad forlater.



I tillegg vil Tyskland fremme G20-pakten med Afrika, internasjonalt skattesamarbeid og støtte EUs «Global Gateway»-initiativ, ifølge Klingbeil.

– Vi har tross alt mange felles interesser: å bekjempe klimaendringer, fordrivelse og utvisning, ulikhet, sult og fattigdom, blant annet. En regelbasert internasjonal orden gir flest mulig land best mulighet til å lykkes, sa han.

– Ikke veldedighet

Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven, direktør i Tysklands statlige utviklingsetat, GIZ, spådde at flere og flere land åpent vil anerkjenne nasjonale egeninteresser i utviklingsarbeid i dette tiåret på konferansen.

Hun sa at de går fra å utelukkende fortelle en historie om veldedighet, til å også fortelle en historie om egeninteresser. Det mener hun er sunt.

– Dette er ikke bistand, dette er ikke veldedighet. Det er en investering i vår felles fremtid, sa hun, ifølge Devex.

Samtidig sa hun at en rent transaksjonell tilnærming, som enkelte land har, er skadelig.

– Hvis vi bare handler interesseorientert, og vi gjør dette på en egoistisk, rent transaksjonell måte, vil egoismen hjemseke oss senere.

PORTS | EUROPE

Port News & Information
Mediterranean, Black & Caspian Seas

Port of Barcelona attends Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
Ports Europe

Hamburg, Germany (Ports Europe) June 5, 2025 – The Port of Barcelona reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable maritime transport at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, held on 2–3 June. Ingrid Boqué, Director of Institutional Relations, represented the port in key discussions on decarbonisation and green shipping corridors.



1. HSC 2025: Premium Times Editor-in-Chief to moderate session at Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: May 30, 2025



Source:
Premium Times Nigeria

During the event, Mr Mojeed will facilitate a high-level panel discussion entitled "Shaping a More Equal Future: Confronting Inequality for Global Progress."

The Editor-in-Chief of PREMIUM TIMES, Musikilu Mojeed, has received an invitation to serve as the moderator for a distinguished panel session at the upcoming Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) scheduled to take place next week in Germany.

The annual conference is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.

According to a letter addressed to Mr Mojeed and jointly signed by the directors of the conference, Imke Rajamani and Henry Alt-Haaker, the event is billed for 2 June at the Chamber of Commerce Hamburg, Germany.

During the event, Mr Mojeed will facilitate a high-level panel discussion entitled "Shaping a More Equal Future: Confronting Inequality for Global Progress."

Joining him on the panel will be eminent speakers, including Amitabh Behar, Executive Director of OXFAM International; Fernando Marani, Director of the Inequality and Exclusion Programme at Pathfinders International; Kadiatu Allie, Deputy Minister of Finance for Sierra Leone; and Niels Annen, State Secretary from Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

HSC 2025

HSC is an international forum that convenes distinguished leaders from politics, business, academia, and civil society to develop solutions to the most pressing global challenges of the time.

According to the organisers, this year's edition of the HSC will center on three thematic pillars; it will address the urgent need to reshape the global financial architecture, ensuring fairer and more sustainable financing models while alleviating debt burdens associated with climate change and other transnational challenges.

The event will also focus on unlocking investment flows to accelerate progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and global climate and biodiversity targets, with particular emphasis on mobilising private sector capital for sustainable projects in emerging and developing economies.

Additionally, the conference is expected to explore strategies for ensuring a just transition to a sustainable future, encompassing green urban infrastructure, sustainable mobility solutions, and socially inclusive ecological transformation.

"Given its broad international reach and interdisciplinary approach, the HSC presents a unique opportunity to forge strategic alliances and drive transformative action. The diversity of perspectives represented at the conference, coupled with its integration of political, economic, and societal dimensions, solidifies its role as an influential global forum," the organisers said.

As a global platform, it said the HSC provides an unparalleled space for shaping collective positions and fostering meaningful dialogue on shared objectives.



“As one of the foremost global platforms for sustainability discourse, the HSC fosters critical dialogue at the highest level, enabling heads of state and government, senior decision-makers, and key stakeholders to engage in discussions on pivotal issues such as climate justice, sustainable financing mechanisms, and the advancement of global partnerships,” the organisers said.

About Musikilu Mojeed

Mr Mojeed is an award-winning investigative journalist who co-founded PREMIUM TIMES in 2011.

He has reported extensively on corruption, human rights, and human trafficking, establishing himself as one of Africa’s most respected investigative journalists.

Mr Mojeed is a 2012 Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford University and a Ford Foundation International Fellow at The City University of New York.

He has served as a jury member for the UNESCO World Press Freedom Awards and is a member of the Expert Council of the Fetisov Journalism Awards.

He is a winner of several awards, including a shared Pulitzer Prize for the Panama Papers investigation.

He has also been honoured with the Global Shining Light Award, FAIR’s Editor’s Courage Award, the Wole Soyinka Investigative Reporting Awards, Global Editors Network’s Data Journalism Award, among others.

2. HSC 2025: Hamburg Sustainability Conference kicks off amidst geopolitical tensions

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:

Premium Times Nigeria

The HSC organisers said this year’s conference aims to take the next step by advancing significant new initiatives and alliances designed to deliver concrete improvements in key areas.

Participants from more than 110 countries are gathered today in Hamburg, Germany, for the second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC).

This event aims to foster partnerships for sustainable development and to expedite advancements in the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

According to a statement issued Sunday by the organisers and shared with PREMIUM TIMES, this year, around 1,600 participants from more than 110 countries will convene across 60 sessions to develop concrete solutions to some of the most pressing global challenges.

PREMIUM TIMES’ Editor-in-Chief and Chief Operating Officer, Musikilu Mojeed, received an invitation from the German government to facilitate a high-level panel discussion at the event this year.



The HSC is an international forum that convenes distinguished leaders from politics, business, academia, and civil society to develop solutions to the most pressing global challenges of the time. The German Government organises it in partnership with other relevant stakeholders.

The annual conference is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.

According to the organisers, this year's edition of the HSC will centre on three thematic pillars; it will address the urgent need to reshape the global financial architecture, ensuring fairer and more sustainable financing models while alleviating debt burdens associated with climate change and other transnational challenges.

The event will also focus on unlocking investment flows to accelerate progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and global climate and biodiversity targets, particularly mobilising private sector capital for sustainable projects in emerging and developing economies.

Additionally, the conference is expected to explore strategies for ensuring a just transition to a sustainable future, encompassing green urban infrastructure, sustainable mobility solutions, and socially inclusive ecological transformation.

“Geopolitical tensions”

The organisers noted that although only eight months have passed since the first edition of the conference, the second HSC will unfold in a markedly different global context.

“It takes place at a time of profound shifts in international relations, rising geopolitical tensions, and increasing fragmentation,” the statement said.

It noted that in a survey conducted by UNDP ahead of HSC 2025 among conference participants, approximately 67 per cent of respondents identified “geopolitical tensions” as the “greatest challenge” to global cooperation in the year ahead.

In this context, the organisers said the HSC sends a clear and deliberate message that sustainable development can only succeed through joint action.

“The conference was intentionally conceived as a continuous process, with the ambition to generate impact well beyond the conference days. This sustained, the action-oriented approach is essential not only to achieve real-world impact but also for the HSC to truly fulfil its mission: to co-create sustainable development,” the statement said.

Additionally, the conference organisers explained that this year's high-level participation sends a strong signal that the HSC approach resonates widely—even in times of heightened uncertainty.

“Period of global uncertainty”

In his remarks, the German Development Minister, Alabali-Radovan, said the international challenges are greater than ever before, which means that international cooperation must be stronger than ever before.

“If the Hamburg Sustainability Conference didn't already exist, then now would be the time to invent it. Many of the traditional forums for exchange are currently blocked. The value and the



benefit of international cooperation are being questioned worldwide, in some cases quite aggressively,” he said.

On his part, First Mayor Peter Tschentscher said the HSC has created a forum to promote the practical implementation of the SDGs worldwide.

“Our city itself pursues a consistent sustainability strategy, is a strong business location and is well connected internationally. Last year, the conference led to many concrete agreements and projects. This should be continued. We are looking forward to the guests, an interesting exchange and new ideas for implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda,”

Similarly, UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner said, “We are in a time of uncertainty with rising geopolitical divisions, where development pathways are under pressure because of aid cuts, trade tension, and the debt crisis. What we need now is more cooperation, not less.”

The official said the conference offers opportunities where they can find those critical touch points to take on big ideas, rebuild trust, advance innovative solutions, and forge meaningful connections across

Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Otto Group, Michael Otto, explained that the enormous potential of the private sector to accelerate progress on the SDGs must be unleashed and that the economy must be transformed from its role as a contributor to the sustainability crisis to a new role as the key solution.

At the inaugural edition of the HSC last year, organisers said it delivered important progress with tangible results—including the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping, the Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation, and the first governments joining the Global Battery Alliance.

Building on this momentum, HSC 2025 aims to take the next step by advancing significant new initiatives and alliances designed to deliver concrete improvements in key areas.

These include the signing of the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs as well as the establishment of the Global Alliance against Inequality.

Notable dignitaries

The German Federal Minister will open the first day of the HSC 2025 for Economic Cooperation and Development, Reem Alabali-Radovan, the First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Peter Tschentscher, and UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner, organisers said.

It noted that the subsequent opening panel will feature Reem Alabali-Radovan, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany; Joyelle Clarke, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment, St. Kitts and Nevis, among others.

The second day of the conference (3 June) will be opened by the German Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister of Finance, Lars Klingbeil, with a keynote address, followed by a Q&A session.

Further notable high-level participants include Michael Otto, Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Otto Group; Antoine Denoix, Chief Executive Officer, AXA Climate; Günther Thallinger, Member of the Board of Management for Investment, Management and Sustainability, Allianz SE; Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, Oxfam International; Sania Nishtar, Chief Executive Officer, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Carolina Pasquali, Executive Director,



Greenpeace Brazil; and Elizabeth Wathuti, Climate Activist and Founder of the Green Generation Initiative.

“The diversity of participants and the cross-sector collaboration between leaders from politics, business, science, and civil society—across all world regions—reflects the HSC’s multidimensional approach and creates the foundation for new alliances and collaborative action. This makes the HSC a platform for real, tangible progress,” the statement said.

3. HSC 2025: Global leaders endorse pact on responsible AI usage to achieve SDG targets

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
Premium Times Nigeria

The UN said the path forward requires collective effort and that only through coordinated global action can AI be harnessed responsibly to achieve SDGs and create a more equitable digital future for all

World leaders participating in the ongoing Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) in Germany have endorsed a new initiative entitled “the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI.”

This endorsement is part of broader efforts to accelerate the attainment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal targets by 2030.

The move was announced in a statement issued by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Hamburg on Monday. The UN agency described the landmark initiative as “the first global declaration focused specifically on Artificial intelligence in international development”.

“At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), global leaders from the public sector, business, science, and civil society have jointly endorsed the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals,” the statement said.

It noted that the initiative outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development and deployment of artificial intelligence worldwide, emphasising empowering developing countries.

The UN said the declaration centres on ensuring AI technologies uphold human rights, serve and protect marginalised communities, and combat disinformation.

“Co-signatories further commit to improving the resource efficiency of AI systems, expanding access to AI education for women and girls, and supporting the growth of local AI innovations in developing countries,” the statement said.

Earlier, PREMIUM TIMES reported that participants from more than 110 countries gathered today in Hamburg, Germany, for the second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC).

This event aims to foster partnerships for sustainable development and to expedite advancements in the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.



According to a statement issued Sunday by the organisers, around 1,600 participants from more than 110 countries will convene across 60 sessions to develop concrete solutions to some of the most pressing global challenges.

PREMIUM TIMES' Editor-in-Chief and Chief Operating Officer, Musikilu Mojeed, received an invitation from the German government to facilitate a high-level panel discussion at the event this year.

The HSC is an international forum that convenes distinguished leaders from politics, business, academia, and civil society to develop solutions to the most pressing global challenges of the time. The German Government organises it in partnership with other relevant stakeholders.

The annual conference is a joint initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the Michael Otto Foundation.

According to the organisers, this year's edition of the HSC will centre on three thematic pillars; it will address the urgent need to reshape the global financial architecture, ensuring fairer and more sustainable financing models while alleviating debt burdens associated with climate change and other transnational challenges.

The event will also focus on unlocking investment flows to accelerate progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and global climate and biodiversity targets, particularly mobilising private sector capital for sustainable projects in emerging and developing economies.

Additionally, the conference is expected to explore strategies for ensuring a just transition to a sustainable future, encompassing green urban infrastructure, sustainable mobility solutions, and socially inclusive ecological transformation.

Addressing global challenges together

In his remarks, the UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner said, "Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its potential remains unrealised for most developing countries."

The official explained that the "Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for Sustainable Development" represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities, and addresses global inequalities.

He said the declaration underscores "our collective responsibility" and that the task now is to ensure AI's extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally.

On her part, German Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan said improving access to fair and sustainable AI worldwide is one of the "great challenges of our time".

The official explained that too many people remain excluded from the benefits of digital innovation and that the Hamburg Declaration marks a turning point.

"AI must become a force for good, a driver of inclusion, equality, and sustainable development," she said.

From commitment to action



On Monday, the UNDP said that the declaration resulted from extensive collaborations that began at HSC 2024.

According to the statement, the UNDP, in partnership with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), introduced a set of principles for leveraging AI responsibly for sustainable development.

“Over the last year, a series of inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagements have further strengthened this shared vision. The result is a rallying call for global collaboration, challenging governments, businesses, and civil society to turn commitment into action—by investing in inclusive and sustainable AI, supporting local innovation, and ensuring no region is excluded from the digital future,” the statement said.

It said the path forward requires collective effort and that only through coordinated global action can AI be harnessed responsibly to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and create a more equitable digital future for all.

PRESSEPORTAL

Aid by Trade Foundation investiert zum 20. Stiftungsjubiläum 500.000 Euro in neuen Biodiversity Fund

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Presseportal

Hamburg, 03.06.2025. Um den Naturschutz und die biologische Vielfalt effektiv zu fördern, gibt die Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) auf der zweiten Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) bekannt, anlässlich ihres 20-jährigen Stiftungsjubiläums 500.000 Euro in ihren "AbTF Biodiversity Fund" zu investieren. Seit ihrer Gründung 2005 setzt sich die von dem Unternehmer und Stifter Prof. Dr. Michael Otto ins Leben gerufene AbTF mit ihren international anerkannten Nachhaltigkeitsstandards für den Schutz der Natur in den rohstoff erzeugenden Anbaugebieten ein. Außerdem unterstützt sie Bäuerinnen und Hirtinnen dabei, ihre landwirtschaftlichen Betriebe zu optimieren. Auf diese Weise sollen sie ihre Lebensbedingungen verbessern und ihre Resilienz hinsichtlich Klimawandel und Marktveränderungen stärken können.

„Angesichts der weltweiten Klima- und Naturkrise müssen wir unser Handeln und dessen Umweltauswirkungen grundlegend überdenken“, erklärt Tina Stridde, Geschäftsführerin der Aid by Trade Foundation, „Unser ‚Aid by Trade‘-Ansatz schafft es, den Handel zu aktivieren, um so positive Wirkungen für Natur, Menschen und Tiere zu schaffen und ein zentrales Anliegen unserer Stiftung mit wesentlichen finanziellen Mitteln zu unterstützen: der Erhalt der Biodiversität und Artenvielfalt.“

Das erste vom AbTF Biodiversity Fund geförderte Projekt wird gemeinsam mit African People and Wildlife (APW) umgesetzt, einer renommierten Organisation für gemeinschaftsorientierten Naturschutz mit Sitz in Tansania. APW hat sich international einen Namen für die friedliche Koexistenz von Menschen und gefährdeten Wildtieren gemacht.



Das Prinzip Aid by Trade

Die Aid by Trade Foundation hat in den letzten 20 Jahren durch ihre Nachhaltigkeitsstandards Cotton made in Africa® (CmiA), Cotton made in Africa Organic, The Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS) und Regenerative Cotton Standard® (RCS) die Textil- und Fashionindustrie weltweit verändert.

2005 wurde die AbTF vor dem Hintergrund der WTO-Konferenz 2003 in Cancún von Unternehmer Prof. Dr. Michael Otto mit dem Ziel gegründet, einen entscheidenden und messbaren Beitrag für die Zukunftsfähigkeit von Rohstoffproduzentinnen und ihren Gemeinschaften zu leisten, Arbeits- und Lebensbedingungen zu verbessern, und die Natur zu schützen. *Was mit Cotton made in Africa® in drei afrikanischen Ländern begann, ist heute eine global agierende Stiftung, die vier anerkannte Nachhaltigkeitsstandards für Baumwolle und Kaschmir führt und damit Perspektiven für Retailer und Brands, Rohstoffproduzentinnen, die textile Lieferkette und nicht zuletzt für Konsument*innen schafft. Sie ist ihrem Ansatz Marktkräfte zu aktivieren, um Hilfe zu leisten, seit jeher und mit wachsendem Erfolg treu geblieben.*

„Wer hätte 2005 gedacht, dass heute eine weltweite Allianz von Modemarken und Textilunternehmen die Rohstoffe nachfragt, die nach den Standards der Aid by Trade Foundation verifiziert werden?“, sagt Prof. Dr. Michael Otto. „Das freut mich sehr und ich bin sicher, dass die Stiftung auch in Zukunft einen wesentlichen Beitrag für nachhaltige Mode leisten und mit ihrem neu geschaffenen Biodiversity Fund wegweisende Impulse für die Menschen und die Umwelt setzen wird.“

Erfolge im Handel und auf dem Feld

Die Aid by Trade Foundation hat ihre Aktivitäten seit 2005 kontinuierlich ausgebaut. Jährlich tragen viele Millionen Textilien ein Label der Aid by Trade Foundation. Die Stiftung mit Sitz in Hamburg ist mit ihrem Nachhaltigkeitskonzept weltweit erfolgreich. Mehr als 3.000 Partner im Markt setzen ihre Ziele mit der AbTF um. Gleichzeitig leisten sie mit der Stiftung einen maßgeblichen Beitrag für den Naturschutz, für menschenwürdigere Arbeits- und Lebensbedingungen in den Anbauregionen und für das Wohl der Tiere.

Als erste Initiative startete die AbTF im Jahr 2006 CmiA mit 100.000 Kleinbäuerinnen in drei Ländern Afrikas südlich der Sahara. Im Jahr 2025 arbeitet CmiA mit circa 800.000 Kleinbäuerinnen in 10 Ländern Afrikas, 22 Baumwollgesellschaften und 65 Retailern und Brands zusammen. Damit verifiziert der Standard mehr als ein Drittel der afrikanischen Baumwollproduktion.

Mit Cotton made in Africa Organic und Regenerative Cotton Standard® kamen zwei weitere Baumwollstandards hinzu. Mit RCS führt die Stiftung erstmals einen Standard, der auch außerhalb Afrikas, in Indien, einen holistischen Ansatz verfolgt und erfolgreich tätig ist. Wirkungsvoll sind auch die Aktivitäten des 2019 initiierten The Good Cashmere Standards®, dem ersten Standard für nachhaltiges Kaschmir aus der Inneren Mongolei. Bereits nach kurzer Zeit entwickelte er sich zu einem weltweit führenden Standard in der nachhaltigen Kaschmirproduktion und wird von über 50 Modemarken und Textilunternehmen, darunter H&M, J.Crew, Zadig&Voltaire oder The White Company, nachgefragt. GCS arbeitet mit etwa 5.500 Hirt*innen in der Inneren Mongolei Chinas zusammen, auf deren Farmen rund 2,4 Millionen Ziegen leben.

Weiterführende Informationen für Redaktionen:



Lesen Sie hier mehr zur Wirkung der Standards: Cotton made in Africa:

[https://cottonmadeinafrica.org/was-wir-bewirken/The Good Cashmere Standard:](https://cottonmadeinafrica.org/was-wir-bewirken/The%20Good%20Cashmere%20Standard%20GCS_Factsheet_DE-2024.pdf)

GCS_Factsheet_DE-2024.pdf Regenerative Cotton Standard: RCS: Beeindruckende Ergebnisse nach erster Ernte in Indien Hier finden Sie die Meilensteine der AbTF der letzten 20 Jahre:

<https://www.aidbytrade.org/en/20-years-aid-by-trade-foundation/> Über die Aid by Trade Foundation:

Die Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) wurde 2005 von dem Unternehmer Prof. Dr. Michael Otto gegründet und ist heute eine international renommierte und agierende Non-Profit-Organisation für nachhaltige Rohstoffe. Mit ihrer Arbeit leistet sie einen entscheidenden und messbaren Beitrag zur Verbesserung der Lebensbedingungen von Menschen und Tieren sowie zum Schutz der Umwelt. Mit ihren verifizierten Rohstoffen Cotton made in Africa® (CmiA), Cotton made in Africa Organic (CmiA Organic), Regenerative Cotton Standard® (RCS) und The Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS) setzt die Stiftung ihre Ziele in die Tat um. Eine weltweit aktive Allianz aus Textilunternehmen und Marken fragt die verifizierten Rohstoffe nach und bezahlt dafür eine Lizenzgebühr an die Marketinggesellschaft der Stiftung, die ATA KORA Fördergesellschaft GmbH. Dies berechtigt die Partner, ihre Ware mit den Labels der Standards zu vermarkten. *Angesichts der steigenden Herausforderungen an Kleinbäuerinnen und Textilunternehmen sind die Standards von grundlegender Bedeutung für ihre Resilienz und Zukunftsfähigkeit. Die Stiftung arbeitet in enger Kooperation mit Branchenexpertinnen, Tier- sowie Naturschutzspezialist*innen.*



Armenian Deputy FM, UN Under-Secretary-General for Policy discuss preparation for COP17

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Public Radio of Armenia

On the sidelines of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Robert Abisoghomonian had a meeting with Guy Ryder, UN Under-Secretary-General for Policy.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on the UN80 initiative of the UN Secretary-General and the implementation of the fundamental reforms within its framework. The Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia emphasized the effective cooperation with the UN Office in Armenia, and touched upon the ongoing work in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2026-2030, as well as the programs implemented by UN agencies in Armenia in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The interlocutors also touched upon the preparation process of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), to be hosted by Armenia in 2026.

The Deputy Foreign Minister briefed his counterpart on recent regional developments, reaffirming the commitment of Armenia to the peace agenda and, in this context emphasizing



the importance of the swift signing of the Agreement on Peace and Establishment of Interstate Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.



2. Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz: Internationale Zusammenarbeit im Fokus

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
SAT1 Regional

TV

In der Hamburger Handelskammer ist am Montag die 2. Internationale Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz gestartet. 1.600 Gäste aus 113 Ländern werden erwartet. Es geht vor allem um die Frage, wie wir beim Klima, im Sozialen, und auch international nachhaltiger werden können. Und das – da ist man sich in Hamburg einig – kann nur durch Zusammenarbeit der Länder der Welt gelingen und nicht durch Abschottung.



Governments, Stakeholders Endorse Responsible AI for SDGs

Date: June 11, 2025

Source:
SDG Knowledge Hub

The UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of Germany, and more than 40 representatives of governments, private sector organizations, civil society, and research institutions endorsed a declaration seeking to shape human-centric, human rights-based, inclusive, open, sustainable, and responsible artificial intelligence (AI) for the SDGs.

The Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs – the first global declaration focused specifically on AI in development – outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development through worldwide deployment of AI, with an emphasis on empowering developing countries. To deliver on the Declaration's priorities, the signatories take on a set of voluntary commitments to deliver for people, the planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships, in alignment with other international efforts, including the Pact for the Future's Global Digital Compact and the outcomes of the AI Action Summit.



The signatories undertake to advance human rights, gender equality, and inclusivity (people) by promoting human rights-based and human-centered AI, enabling equity and inclusive participation, and ensuring trust, safety, and protection from harm.

To support climate action and environmental stewardship (planet), the signatories commit to: advancing green computing; leveraging AI to accelerate climate action and advance sustainability and environmental solutions; and promoting transparency and accountability in AI's environmental impact.

In an effort to ensure that AI systems support economic growth, innovation, and equity (prosperity), the signatories will build sustainable AI and data infrastructure to support economic growth, use AI as an engine for economic growth and local innovation, and invest in skills development and workforce readiness.

To ensure integrity and cohesive societies (peace), the signatories commit to preserving and promoting information integrity while safeguarding public trust and promoting safe digital spaces.

The signatories envision deepening global cooperation for responsible AI (partnerships) through multistakeholder collaboration, approaching open access and AI as digital public goods, and enhancing knowledge sharing and mutual learning.

The Declaration was launched at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, which convened in Hamburg, Germany, from 2-3 June. Delegates also signed a joint declaration of intent, reaffirming their commitment to removing barriers to large-scale sustainable investment through the 'SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development' initiative, and formed a global alliance against inequality, among other outcomes.



DIE TÄGLICHE DOSIS ENTERTAINMENT SEIT 2014 - powered by Kick-Media

Zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference mit hochkarätiger Besetzung

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Smalltalk Entertainment

Moderatorin Liz Shoo führte am 2. Juni durch das Eröffnungspanel der Hamburg Sustainability Conference. Die international besetzte Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz in der Hansestadt findet nach dem erfolgreichen Auftakt 2024 nun zum zweiten Mal statt.

Die zweitägige Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) hat sich zum Ziel gesetzt, Politik, Wissenschaft und Wirtschaft sowie Zivilgesellschaft und internationale Organisationen zusammenzubringen, um Lösungen für die Herausforderungen unserer Zeit zu entwickeln. Es gehe laut Ankündigung der Veranstalter darum, „Allianzen für die nachhaltige Entwicklung zu schmieden und die Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen entscheidend voranzubringen“.



Nach der erfolgreichen Premiere im vergangenen Jahr hat am gestrigen 2. Juni die zweite Auflage der Konferenz in der Hansestadt begonnen. Insgesamt werden rund 1.600 Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern zur diesjährigen Hamburg Sustainability Conference erwartet. Über 60 thematische Sessions mit namhaften Speakern stehen auf dem Programm, das gestern u.a. von Hamburgs Erstem Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) eröffnet wurde.

Wie schon im Vorjahr ist auch die WDR- und Deutsche Welle-Journalistin Liz Shoo wieder als Moderatorin an der HSC beteiligt. Sie führte am Montag u.a. durch das Eröffnungspanel, bei dem die Direktorin des Welternährungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, Cindy McCain, die südafrikanische Planungsministerin Maropene Ramokgopa und die Bundesministerin für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, Reem Alabali-Radovan, teilnahmen. Am heutigen 3. Juni wurde die Hamburg Sustainability Conference u.a. mit einer Keynote und Q&A-Session mit Bundesfinanzminister und Vizekanzler Lars Klingbeil (SPD) fortgesetzt. Parallel zur Konferenz findet noch bis einschließlich Freitag die Hamburg Sustainability Week statt, die sich mit einem vielfältigen Programm an die Stadtgesellschaft richtet.



1. Minister Maropene Ramokgopa attends Hamburg Sustainability Conference, which takes place in Germany, 2 to 3 Jun

Date: May 31, 2025

Source:
South Africa News Agency

The Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Ms Maropene Ramokgopa, will attend the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, which takes place in Germany on 2 and 3 June 2025.

This conference, which brings together governments, policymakers, business leaders, civil society and other stakeholders, seeks to accelerate global action to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Minister Ramokgopa's participation at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference will underscore South Africa's continued efforts to advance accelerated action to achieve domestic development goals through the National Development Plan Vision 2030 (NDP) and the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP), and global goals through the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063. The Minister will also advance the importance of partnerships and equality to achieve to achieve sustainable development.

2. Minister Ramokgopa to Attend Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
South Africa News Agency

Reproduction: Africa Pulse; AllAfrica; Ein PressWire; Ground News.

Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Maropene Ramokgopa, is set to represent South Africa at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany, which takes place in Germany on 2 and 3 June 2025.

The Ministry in The Presidency: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation said the conference seeks to accelerate global action to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Minister Ramokgopa's participation at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference will underscore South Africa's continued efforts to advance accelerated action to achieve domestic development goals through the National Development Plan Vision 2030 (NDP) and the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP), and global goals through the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

"The Minister will also advance the importance of partnerships and equality to achieve to achieve sustainable development," the Ministry said in a statement on Saturday.

Established in 2024, the two-day conference will bring together key decision-makers from governments, civil society, and the private sector.

Spearheaded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Michael Otto Foundation, and the Free Hanseatic City of Hamburg, this initiative is designed to drive sustainable change.

The conference offers a unique platform to forge new partnerships and demonstrates the power of collaboration in tackling global challenges and transforming lives.

According to the Director, Germany Representation Office at the UNDP, Melanie Hauenstein, the world is at a pivotal moment and confronting extraordinary challenges - climate change, conflict, and economic instability, all while investment in development and international cooperation faces unprecedented constraints.

She said that these realities underscore why multilateralism is essential for addressing shared challenges and securing a more stable, sustainable future.

"The Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) is a vital platform for advancing this critical agenda. The HSC goes beyond reflection - it's an opportunity to deepen our understanding of development and to imagine the sustainable futures we can create together," she said.

3. MEC Anton Bredell presents water security strategies at Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 02, 2025



Source:
South Africa News Agency

Anton Bredell, Western Cape Minister for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning yesterday, 2 June, represented the Western Cape Government at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference during a panel discussion on food security and water management in the context of global climate change.

Minister Bredell said water security and food production systems are directly linked in the Western Cape, as it is a water scarce region. Climate change is making the region hotter and drier, with more intense wildfires, droughts and floods. “We also have the added complexity of poverty, inequality and a fast-growing population. These socio-economic dynamics makes it very challenging to plan, budget and construct the water and wastewater infrastructure we need to provide future water security in our region.”

Minister Bredell said the average daily water consumption per person in South Africa is 216 litres, higher than the international average of 173 litres. In the Western Cape it is the lowest in South Africa, at 160 litres.

The Western Cape manages to generate revenue from 70.4% of water supplied to consumers, meaning that 30% of water is either lost in the system, or it was delivered to a consumer without generating any revenue. A portion of the non-revenue water is water supplied free of charge to poor and vulnerable residents. This is part of a dignity basket which also includes a set amount of free electricity and other basic municipal services.

“Our research on what constitutes water dignity, found that the current 6 Kilolitres a month per household, as prescribed in South African legislation, is not sufficient, and it should be much higher, at 15 kilolitres per household. These findings raise serious questions on our approach to water management in South Africa and especially in our local governments where rate payers are being pushed to pay more for services to also help subsidise the dignity basket to an increasing number of indigent households.”

Minister Bredell said there are only limited opportunities for additional bulk water storage in the Western Cape, and as such future water security will have to come from improved supply and demand management, alternative sources such as ground water, the re-use of water, and desalination.

The Western Cape Government is budgeting R32 million for the 2025/26 financial year to support municipalities with water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

4. Water issues thrashed out at Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
South Africa News Agency

Water security and food production were some of the issues that Western Cape MEC for Local Government, Environmental Affairs, and Development Planning, Anton Bredell spoke to at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany.

This as the MEC participated in a panel discussion focused on food security and water management in the context of global climate change.



Bredell stated that water security and food production systems are interconnected in the Western Cape, a water-scarce region affected by climate change, which is making the province hotter and drier, contributing to more intense wildfires, droughts, and floods.

“We also have the added complexity of poverty, inequality, and a fast-growing population. These socio-economic dynamics make it very challenging to plan, budget, and construct the water and wastewater infrastructure we need to provide future water security in our region,” he said.

Held from 2-3 June 2025, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference brought together leading actors from politics, business, science, and civil society to jointly shape actionable pathways toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The MEC stated that the average daily water consumption per person in South Africa is 216 litres, higher than the international average of 173 litres.

The Western Cape manages to generate revenue from 70.4% of water supplied to consumers, meaning that 30% of water is either lost in the system or it was delivered to a consumer without generating any revenue.

Meanwhile, a portion of the non-revenue water is supplied free of charge to poor and vulnerable residents. The provincial government said this is part of a dignity basket, which also includes a set amount of free electricity and other basic municipal services.

“Our research on what constitutes water dignity found that the current 6 kilolitres a month per household, as prescribed in South African legislation, is not sufficient, and it should be much higher, at 15 kilolitres per household.

“These findings raise serious questions on our approach to water management in South Africa and especially in our local governments, where ratepayers are being pushed to pay more for services to also help subsidise the dignity basket to an increasing number of indigent households.”

The MEC stated that there are only limited opportunities for additional bulk water storage in the Western Cape. He believes that this will help ensure future water security will rely on improved supply and demand management, alternative sources such as groundwater, water reuse, and desalination. The Western Cape Government is budgeting R32 million for the 2025/26 financial year to support municipalities with water and wastewater infrastructure projects.



1. Lokales (D 2025)

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
SUPER TV



TV

In dem Magazin wird vom aktuellen Geschehen in Hamburg berichtet. Im Mittelpunkt stehen dabei die Menschen und was sie bewegt. Entsprechend geht es häufig um gesellschaftsrelevante Themen. Es werden auch Leute aus der Region vorgestellt, die sich für das Allgemeinwohl engagieren oder sonst etwas interessantes tun. Auch in Sachen Feste und Jubiläen bleibt man stets auf dem Laufenden.

Thema

Auftakt Hamburg Sustainability Conference.
Prozessauftakt um 15-jährigen Schützen in Shisha-Bar.
Ironman Hamburg – Zieleinlauf der letzten Teilnehmer.
Das Kindermuseum Klick zieht um.
Sir Simon Rattle in der Elbphilharmonie.
Die Rathaus-Pavillons sind fertig saniert.

2. Tagesgeschehen (D 2025)

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
SUPER TV

TV

Nach Präsidentschaftswahl in Polen: Wie Pendler in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern auf den Sieg des rechtskonservativen Karol Nawrocki reagieren
Klimawandel, Armut und Hunger begegnen: zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz beginnt
Inklusion an Schulen stößt laut Studie bundesweit an Grenzen: Warum Menschen mit Einschränkungen auch in Norddeutschland barrierefreie Bauten fehlen

Thema: Nach Präsidentschaftswahl in Polen: Wie Pendler in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern auf den Sieg des rechtskonservativen Karol Nawrocki reagieren.

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Moderation: Bibiana Barth



Hamburg Sustainability Conference: Was von der Konferenz bleibt

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
Table.Media



Die zweite Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) war der groß angelegte Versuch, die Wirtschaft für die Finanzierung der Nachhaltigkeitsziele zu gewinnen. Gelingt der Aufbau einer Plattform für mehr Zusammenarbeit? Vier Beobachtungen.

Wirtschaft kaum integriert. Ein Drittel aller 1.600 Teilnehmenden der Hamburg Sustainability Conference in dieser Woche waren Vertreter aus der Wirtschaft, wie es von den Organisatoren hieß. Sehr präsent waren sie an den ersten beiden Tagen allerdings nicht. Vor allem die Industrie fehlte. „Deutsche und internationale Vorstände waren auf der HSC eher weniger vertreten“, sagt Sabine Nallinger, Vorständin der Stiftung Klimawirtschaft. „Es wäre gut, künftig mehr von ihnen auf der Konferenz zu haben.“ Hubertus Drinkuth, Geschäftsführer der ESG-Beratung Systain, sagt: „Ich war beeindruckt von der Afrika-Präsenz. Aus Asien habe ich dagegen kaum Vertreter wahrgenommen.“ Für ein ausgeglichenes Bild wäre dies aber wichtig. Asien sei für Unternehmen ein relevanter Wirtschaftsraum, der einen erheblichen Einfluss auf die globale Nachhaltigkeit habe.

Der „Future Economy Day“ fand erst am dritten Tag statt – nach- dem alle Gäste am Vorabend bereits offiziell verabschiedet worden waren. Es war ein separates Event, mit deutlich weniger Publikum. Auch Gastgeber Achim Steiner, als UNDP-Chef ein Zugpferd der HSC, der zuvor „stolz“ auf die Beteiligung der Wirtschaft war, war zu dem Zeitpunkt schon wieder auf dem Rückweg nach New York.

Teilnahme von Unternehmen allein kein Heilmittel. „Für eine politische Konferenz ist es ein interessanter Ansatz, die Wirtschaft einbinden zu wollen“, sagt Bodo Ellmers, Direktor des Programmbereichs Finanzierung für nachhaltige Entwicklung der NGO Global Policy Forum. „Entscheidend in der Entwicklungsfinanzierung ist es aber, mit welchen Renditeerwartungen Unternehmen Geschäfte im Globalen Süden machen wollen. Sind diese zu hoch, geraten die Länder finanziell noch stärker unter Druck.“

Das führt zu einem Dilemma. Denn privatwirtschaftliche Investitionen sind in politisch instabilen Regionen größeren Risiken aus- gesetzt – weshalb Investoren dort eher höhere Renditen erwarten. Westliche Staaten müssten also bürgen, sind aktuell aber auf Sparkurs, wie die sinkenden Mittel für Entwicklungshilfe zeigen.

Keine Durchbrüche zu erwarten. Es ist ein Vorteil der HSC, dass sie keine politische Abschlusserklärung produzieren will, auf die sich alle Parteien einigen müssen. So lässt sich offener diskutieren – die Beteiligten ziehen sich nicht gleich auf ihre starren Positionen zurück. Und es ist in dieser geopolitisch angespannten Zeit ein Wert an sich, dass Menschen aus 113 Ländern bei der HSC zusammenkamen. Das schafft Vertrauen. Gerade wenn Politik, Zivilgesellschaft und Wirtschaft noch gegenseitige Vorbehalte ausräumen müssen.

Das bedeutet aber zugleich: Durchbrüche sind von der HSC nicht zu erwarten. Der Fortschritt bewegt sich langsam, und die Wirkung angestoßener Initiativen zeigt sich bestenfalls erst in Jahren. Wünschenswert wäre allerdings mehr Transparenz. „Es war bei den Diskussionen nicht immer klar, worum es konkret ging, was Inhalt und Wirkung der unterzeichneten Vereinbarungen ist“, sagt Hubertus Drinkuth. „Das sollte besser erklärt und transparenter gemacht werden, um den Erfolg der Konferenz für die breite Öffentlichkeit sichtbarer zu machen.“

Termin schwierig.

Die Resonanz ist ermutigend für die Organisatoren. Die HSC musste im Rathaus und in der angrenzenden Handelskammer so viele Räume belegen, dass sich der Hamburger Senat genötigt sah, eine Sitzung digital abzuhalten. Trotzdem war der Termin nicht ideal. „Der politische Konferenzkalender ist besonders in diesem Jahr bereits voll, das macht es für die HSC nicht leicht, ihren Platz zu finden“, sagt Bodo Ellmers.



Die Klimaspezialisten treffen sich schon in wenigen Tagen in Bonn. Ende Juni findet in Sevilla die UN-Konferenz für Entwicklungsfinanzierung statt. Kurz darauf geht es nach New York, wo beim High Level Political Forum über den Stand der Agenda 2030 debattiert wird. Je mehr Veranstaltungen, desto größer die Gefahr, dass die Fokussierung fehlt und die Teilnehmer ermüdet ausbleiben.

Außerdem, so Ellmers: „Der Regierungswechsel in Deutschland hat bei den Einladungen wahrscheinlich auch nicht geholfen.“ Anders als bei der HSC-Premiere kamen diesmal weder der deutsche Kanzler noch internationale Staats- und Regierungschefs. Andererseits: „Die zweite HSC hatte nur acht Monate Zeit für die Vorbereitung“, so Sabine Nallinger. „Man muss die Erwartungen an die Konferenz bremsen. Sie soll ein Nachhaltigkeits-Pendant zur Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz sein – die MSC hatte sicherlich in ihren Anfangstagen auch noch nicht die Bedeutung, die sie heute hat.“



tagesschau

Aktionswoche zum Thema Nachhaltigkeit in Hamburg beginnt

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
tagesschau.de

TV

Wie kann die Gesellschaft nachhaltiger werden? Darum ging es bei einer internationalen Konferenz in Hamburg. Mehr als 1.600 Gäste aus 113 Ländern kamen zur "Hamburg Sustainability Conference" in die Handelskammer, darunter Vizekanzler Lars Klingbeil (SPD) und die Premierministerin des Kongo. Das Ziel sei klar, sagte Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) zu Beginn der Konferenz. "Die Länder der Welt zusammenzubringen. Denn der globale Klimawandel, die globalen Belastungen von Natur und Umwelt, lassen sich nur weltweit in Kooperationen mit allen lösen", so Tschentscher. Klingbeil: Deutschland gründet Nord-Süd-Kommission Am Dienstag kündigte Vizekanzler und Bundesfinanzminister Klingbeil bei der Konferenz an, dass Deutschland eine neue Nord-Süd-Kommission gründen werde. Sie soll ein Forum werden, in dem sich ärmere und reichere Länder regelmäßig austauschen können. Konkrete Ziele nannte Klingbeil allerdings nicht. Bekämpfung von Armut und Ungleichheit Bereits bei der Eröffnung der internationalen Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz am Montag sagte die neue Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD), dass die internationale Zusammenarbeit aktuell wichtiger denn je sei.

Auftakt der Nachhaltigkeits-Konferenz in Hamburg

Klimaschutz, Bekämpfung von Armut und Ungleichheit, Bildung oder Frauenrechte: 17 Punkte umfasst die Liste der Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen. Und diese Ziele zu erreichen sei schwieriger geworden, seitdem in den USA wieder Donald Trump als Präsident regiert und sich die USA aus vielen internationalen Programmen zurückgezogen haben, sagte Alabali-Radovan. "Ganz unmittelbar geht es um das Leben von Millionen Menschen es geht um verlorene Bildungschancen, es geht um besiegt geglaubte Krankheiten, die plötzlich wieder ausbrechen, um das Voranschreiten des Klimawandels und es geht um Hungersnöte", betonte



sie. Erklärung zu verantwortungsvoller KI unterzeichnet Am Montag war auch die "Hamburger Erklärung zu verantwortungsvoller Künstlicher Intelligenz" unterzeichnet worden. Das Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung verpflichtet sich darin, etwa in Afrika, Zehntausenden Menschen den Umgang mit KI beizubringen. Auch am Dienstag sind weitere Absichtserklärungen geplant, unter anderem soll eine globale Allianz gegen Ungleichheit auf den Weg gebracht werden. Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitswoche rund um Konferenz Die Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz der Vereinten Nationen fand bereits zum zweiten Mal in Hamburg statt. Rund um die Konferenz gibt es rund 100 weitere Veranstaltungen in der Hansestadt - und zwar im Rahmen der ersten "Hamburg Sustainability Week", die bis zum 6. Juni stattfindet. Auf dem Programm stehen etwa eine Führung über Hamburgs Gründächer, ein Planspiel für Schulklassen, ein Speeddating mit Nachhaltigkeitsakteuren der Stadt, ein Pub-Quiz der HAW und ein Workshop zum flexiblen Wohnen. Bürgermeister Tschentscher eröffnete die "Hamburg Sustainability Week" bereits am Sonntagabend in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen. "Letztlich brauchen wir nicht nur Regierungen, die Wirtschaft und Internationale Organisationen. Wir brauchen wirklich auf kommunaler Ebene alle Menschen, die diesen Gedanken der Nachhaltigkeit verinnerlichen und in der Umsetzung dann auch mitbewegen", sagte Tschentscher.



Nachhaltige Finanzen: Deutschland bleibt auf Kurs bei Entwicklungsarbeit

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
Tagesspiegel

Finanzierungszusagen, ein Vertrag, um privates Kapital fixer und in größerem Umfang mit staatlichen Mitteln zu kombinieren, eine neue Nord-Süd-Kommission: Die SPD-Bundesminister Lars Klingbeil und Reem Alabali-Radovan haben bei der zweiten Hamburg Sustainability Conference versprochen, Kurs zu halten bei der internationalen Entwicklungszusammenarbeit.



Responsible AI Takes Centre Stage as Global Leaders Endorse Hamburg Declaration

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
TechAfrica News

The Declaration centres on ensuring that AI technologies uphold human rights, serve and protect marginalised communities, and combat disinformation.



At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), global leaders from the public sector, business, science, and civil society have jointly endorsed the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals. The landmark initiative – the first global declaration focused specifically on AI in international development – outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development and deployment of artificial intelligence worldwide, with particular emphasis on empowering developing countries.

The Declaration centres on ensuring that AI technologies uphold human rights, serve and protect marginalised communities, and combat disinformation. Co-signatories further commit to improving the resource efficiency of AI systems, expanding access to AI education for women and girls, and supporting the growth of local AI innovations in developing countries.

Addressing global challenges together

“Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its potential remains unrealized for most developing countries. The Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for Sustainable Development represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities, and addresses global inequalities. The Declaration underscores our collective responsibility. Our task now is to ensure AI’s extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally.”

-Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP

“Improving access to fair and sustainable AI worldwide is one of the great challenges of our time. Too many people remain excluded from the benefits of digital innovation. The Hamburg Declaration marks a turning point — AI must become a force for good, a driver of inclusion, equality, and sustainable development.”

-Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan, Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

From commitment to action

The Declaration is the result of extensive collaborations that began at HSC 2024. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), introduced a set of principles for leveraging AI responsibly for sustainable development. Over the last year, a series of inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagements have further strengthened this shared vision. The result is a rallying call for global collaboration, challenging governments, businesses, and civil society to turn commitment into action by investing in inclusive and sustainable AI, supporting local innovation, and ensuring no region is excluded from the digital future.

“AI can be the great equaliser but only if it’s inclusive, ethical, and co-created. Today, Smart Africa proudly endorses the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs. Africa is not a bystander, we are shaping the future.”

-Lacina Kone, CEO, Smart Africa.

The path forward requires collective effort: only through coordinated global action can AI be harnessed responsibly to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and create a more equitable digital future for all.



1. Global leaders unite behind Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for sustainable development

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Tech Review Africa

Leaders from governments, businesses, academia, and civil society have endorsed the groundbreaking Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This first-of-its-kind global initiative establishes a shared commitment to ensuring artificial intelligence is developed and deployed in ways that promote equity.

The Declaration sets out key principles to guide AI's role in global development, emphasizing human rights protection, support for marginalized communities, and the fight against disinformation. Signatories also pledged to enhance the energy efficiency of AI systems, expand AI education opportunities for women and girls, and foster homegrown AI innovations in the Global South.

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner underscored the urgency of this mission, stating, "AI is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its benefits remain out of reach for many developing countries. This Declaration is a vital step toward ensuring AI advances equity, connects communities, and reduces inequality—not widens it."

German Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan echoed this sentiment, calling the Declaration a turning point in making AI a force for inclusion rather than exclusion. "Too many people are still left behind in the digital revolution," she said. "AI must become a driver of equality and sustainable progress for all."

The Hamburg Declaration builds on discussions that began at HSC 2024, where the UNDP and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) first proposed a set of responsible AI guidelines. Over the past year, extensive multi-stakeholder consultations refined this vision, culminating in a global call to action.

Now, the challenge is implementation. The Declaration urges governments, businesses, and civil society to invest in sustainable AI solutions, support local innovators, and ensure no region is left behind in the digital transition. Only through coordinated global efforts can AI fulfill its potential as a tool for achieving the SDGs and creating a fairer future.

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference, co-hosted by BMZ, UNDP, the Michael Otto Foundation, and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg serves as a critical platform for advancing sustainable solutions. The 2025 edition, held on June 2–3, reinforced the need for collaboration across borders and sectors.



2. Social partners address gender digital divide at Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Tech Review Africa

The urgent need to close the persistent gender gap in digital access took center stage at this year's Hamburg Sustainability Conference during a powerful session titled "Breaking Biases & Barriers: Gender Equality in the Digital Age." Organized by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the discussion brought together experts to confront the alarming reality that 244 million fewer women than men have internet access globally, with the disparity most acute across the Global South.

Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven, Managing Director of GIZ, noted the critical importance of addressing this digital divide as she participated in the high-level dialogue. The session explored concrete strategies to not only connect more women but also ensure their meaningful participation and leadership in ICT fields. Ms. Hoven highlighted the potential of initiatives like the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI to create transformative opportunities for women in technology, calling it a potential "game-changer" in empowering female innovators.

The conversation gained additional momentum with a special message from Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, who reinforced the global imperative to accelerate progress toward digital gender equality. Participants examined how systemic barriers from cultural norms to infrastructure limitations continue to exclude women from the digital revolution, despite technology's growing role in economic opportunity and social development.

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference continues to serve as a vital platform for translating such urgent discussions into concrete partnerships and policies. This year's focus on gender and digital inclusion reflects the growing understanding that sustainability goals cannot be achieved without addressing systemic inequalities in technology access and participation.

By: Nana Appiah Acquaye



Aid by Trade Foundation turns 20, invests half a million Euros in new biodiversity fund

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Texdata International

To effectively promote nature conservation and biodiversity, the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) announced at the second Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) that it would be



investing 500,000 euros in the 'AbTF Biodiversity Fund' to mark the foundation's 20th anniversary. Since it was established in 2005 by the entrepreneur Prof. Dr Michael Otto, AbTF has been committed to transforming the textile and fashion industries.

The foundation has made it its mission to conserve nature in areas where cotton and cashmere are produced. It pursues these goals through its internationally recognised sustainability standards as well as by supporting farming families in optimising their agricultural operations. Its support enables them to improve their living conditions and build up the resilience of their farming to climate change and market fluctuations.

Aid by Trade Foundation launches biodiversity fund

"In view of the global climate and environmental crises, we need to fundamentally rethink our actions and their impact on the environment," explains Tina Stridde, the managing director of the Aid by Trade Foundation, adding, "Our 'Aid by Trade' approach is succeeding in activating trade to create positive effects for nature, people, and animals and to provide essential funding for an issue close to our hearts: the preservation of biodiversity."

The first project funded by the AbTF Biodiversity Fund will be implemented in collaboration with African People and Wildlife (APW), a renowned organisation for community-oriented nature conservation based in Tanzania. APW has earned international recognition for its efforts in promoting peaceful coexistence between people and endangered wildlife.

The Aid by Trade Principle

The Aid by Trade Foundation has changed the textile and fashion industry worldwide over the past 20 years through its sustainability standards: Cotton made in Africa® (CmiA), Cotton made in Africa Organic, The Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS), and the Regenerative Cotton Standard® (RCS).

In 2005, against the backdrop of the WTO conference in Cancún in 2003, AbTF was founded by the entrepreneur Prof. Dr Michael Otto with three primary aims: making a decisive and measurable contribution to the sustainability of raw-material producers and their communities, improving their working and living conditions, and protecting nature. What began with Cotton made in Africa in three African countries is now a global foundation that maintains four recognised sustainability standards for cotton and cashmere. These standards are opening doors for retailers and brands, raw-material producers, and the textile supply chain, not to mention for consumers. AbTF has always remained true to the principle of activating market forces to provide aid—and this approach is only growing more successful.

"Who, in 2005, would have thought that a global alliance of fashion brands and textile companies would now be demanding raw materials verified according to the standards of the Aid by Trade Foundation?" asks Prof. Dr Michael Otto. "I am thrilled that this is the case today," he continues, "and I am convinced that the foundation will keep making a significant contribution to sustainable fashion and will lead the way for people and the environment through its new biodiversity fund."

Success in Trade and in the Field

The Aid by Trade Foundation has been continuously expanding its operations since 2005. Every year, millions of textiles bearing a label of the Hamburg-based Aid by Trade Foundation are sold. More than 3,000 partners in the market are implementing their sustainability goals with AbTF. By partnering with the foundation, they also make a significant contribution to nature



conservation, animal welfare, and more dignified working and living conditions in cultivation regions.

AbTF launched its first initiative, CmiA, in 2006 with 100,000 small-scale farmers in three countries in Africa South of the Sahara. Now, in 2025, CmiA works with 22 cotton companies, 65 retailers and brands, and approximately 800,000 small-scale farmers in ten African countries. This means that the standard is verifying over one third of all cotton produced in Africa.

Eventually, two other cotton standards were added: Cotton made in Africa Organic and Regenerative Cotton Standard®. The launch of RCS with its holistic approach also represented AbTF's first expansion of a cotton standard beyond Africa, to India. The Good Cashmere Standard®, established in 2019 as the first standard for sustainable cashmere from Inner Mongolia, has also proved its effectiveness. Having quickly risen to become a global leader in verifying sustainable cashmere production, GCS is now in demand by more than 50 fashion brands and textile companies, including H&M, J.Crew, Zadig&Voltaire, and The White Company. In China's Inner Mongolia, GCS works with around 5,500 herders on whose farms 2.4 million goats live.



Aid by Trade investiert zum 20-jährigen Jubiläum 500.000 Euro in die Biodiversität

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
Textile Value Chain

Anlässlich ihres 20-jährigen Jubiläums hat die Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) 500.000 Euro für die Einrichtung des neuen AbTF Biodiversity Fund bereitgestellt und damit ihr Engagement für Umwelt- und Naturschutz bekräftigt. Die Ankündigung erfolgte im Rahmen der zweiten Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) und unterstreicht das kontinuierliche Engagement der Stiftung für einen umweltbewussten Wandel in der Textil- und Modebranche.

Die 2005 von Prof. Dr. Michael Otto gegründete AbTF setzt sich für den Naturschutz im Baumwoll- und Kaschmiranbau ein. Durch ihre weltweit anerkannten Nachhaltigkeitsstandards und die direkte Unterstützung von Bauernfamilien verbessert die Stiftung die Lebensbedingungen in ländlichen Gebieten und fördert die Widerstandsfähigkeit der Landwirtschaft angesichts des Klimawandels und wirtschaftlicher Herausforderungen.

„Angesichts der globalen Klima- und Umweltkrise müssen wir unsere Auswirkungen auf die Umwelt neu bewerten“, sagte Tina Stridde, Geschäftsführerin der AbTF. „Mit unserem ‚Aid by Trade‘-Modell nutzen wir die Kraft des Handels, um positive Ergebnisse für Natur, Gemeinschaften und Tiere zu erzielen – insbesondere durch unseren neuen Fokus auf die Biodiversität.“

Die erste Initiative des Fonds wird eine Zusammenarbeit mit African People and Wildlife (APW) in Tansania sein, einer angesehenen Organisation, die für die Förderung der Harmonie zwischen Gemeinschaften und gefährdeten Wildtieren bekannt ist.



20 Jahre Wirkung: Von Baumwolle bis Kaschmir

Seit seiner Gründung hat AbTF den globalen Textilsektor durch vier wichtige Nachhaltigkeitsstandards neu gestaltet:

- Cotton made in Africa® (CmiA)
- CmiA Bio
- Der Good Cashmere Standard® (GCS)
- Regenerative Cotton Standard® (RCS)

Was mit einem Fokus auf CmiA in drei afrikanischen Ländern begann, erstreckt sich mittlerweile auf zehn Länder und unterstützt weltweit 800.000 Baumwollbauern und über 3.000 Geschäftspartner. Die Initiativen von AbTF haben Marken geholfen, Nachhaltigkeitsziele zu erreichen und gleichzeitig die Lebensbedingungen der Rohstoffproduzenten zu verbessern.

Im Laufe der Jahre erweiterte AbTF seine Präsenz über das RCS auf Indien und gründete 2019 das GCS für nachhaltigen Kaschmir in der Inneren Mongolei. Heute arbeitet das GCS mit mehr als 50 globalen Modelabels zusammen – darunter H&M, J.Crew und Zadig&Voltaire – und unterstützt 5.500 Hirten, die 2,4 Millionen Ziegen versorgen.

Prof. Otto meint: „2005 hätte kaum jemand vorhersehen können, dass globale Marken unsere Nachhaltigkeitsstandards übernehmen würden. Ich bin stolz auf unsere bisherigen Erfolge und zuversichtlich, dass unser Biodiversitätsfonds auch weiterhin nachhaltige Mode für Mensch und Umwelt vorantreiben wird.“

TextilWirtschaft

Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz: Aid by Trade Foundation investiert in Biodiversitätsfonds

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
Textil Wirtschaft Online

Südlich der Sahara startete 2005 die erste CmiA-Initiative mit 100.000 Kleinbauern. Heute wird der Standard von mehr als 800.000 Kleinbauern in zehn afrikanischen Ländern genutzt, wie hier in Mosambik.

Auf der gerade zu Ende gegangenen zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz kündigt die zur Otto Group gehörende Stiftung Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF) ein Investment von 500.000 Euro in einen "AbTF Biodiversity Fund" an. Gleichzeitig ziehen die Verantwortlichen zum 20jährigen Bestehen ein Fazit der bisher erreichten Ziele.

"Angesichts der globalen Klima- und Umweltkrise müssen wir unser Handeln und dessen Auswirkungen auf die Umwelt grundlegend überdenken.



The Financial Analyst

Coalition Launches Firm to Boost Green Investment in Emerging Markets

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
The Financial Alayst

In a bold move to tackle the trillion-dollar gap in financing for sustainable development, a powerful coalition of financial institutions and governments has unveiled plans to launch a dedicated company. This entity, born out of the Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development (SCALED) initiative, aims to turbocharge private investment in sustainable development projects across emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs).

The new company, set to commence operations by the end of this year, will focus on investment standardization, a critical step in unlocking the vast potential of blended finance. Blended finance, a strategy that combines public or philanthropic capital with private funding, enables investors to engage with high-risk, high-impact opportunities, such as innovative climate mitigation technologies. By standardizing financial vehicles, the company will make it easier for both public and private investors to participate, bridging persistent financing gaps across climate, infrastructure, and development sectors.

The coalition, which includes heavyweights like Allianz, AXA, Zurich Insurance Group, and governments of Canada, France, and the UK, is not shying away from the challenges ahead. Achim Steiner, Administrator at the UN Development Program, underscored the urgency of the task, stating that cooperation is more crucial than ever in the face of geopolitical divisions, aid cuts, trade tensions, and debt crises. The Hamburg Sustainability Conference, where the announcement was made, served as a critical touchpoint for global leaders to advance innovative solutions and forge meaningful connections.

But the conference didn't stop at the launch of the SCALED company. The Asia-Pacific Blended Finance Community of Practice was also unveiled, serving as a regional hub to coordinate and mobilize blended finance solutions. This initiative is expected to enhance collaboration, knowledge exchange, and deal origination, further amplifying the impact of blended finance in the region.

The coalition expects the initiative to unlock billions of dollars in private investment over the coming years. However, the real test will be in execution. Can this public-private coalition deliver on its promises? Can it navigate the complex political and economic landscapes of EMDEs? And perhaps most importantly, can it inspire other regions and sectors to follow suit?

The stakes are high, but the potential rewards are even higher. If successful, this initiative could revolutionize the way we finance sustainable development, proving that cooperation and innovation can overcome even the most daunting challenges. But let's not get ahead of ourselves. The real work is just beginning. And as always, the devil will be in the details.



THE HIGH STREET JOURNAL

1. First Global Pact on Responsible AI for Development Endorsed

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
The High Street Journal

First global declaration on AI in development sets ethical roadmap for inclusive, sustainable digital progress

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), global leaders from government, business, academia, and civil society have endorsed the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals, the first international commitment focused specifically on the ethical and inclusive use of artificial intelligence in global development.

The Declaration sets out a shared framework to guide the responsible development and deployment of AI, with a strong focus on equity, human rights, and support for developing countries.

It outlines principles to ensure AI technologies are inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and supportive of local innovation. It also calls for urgent action to expand access to AI education, particularly for women and girls, and to strengthen protections for vulnerable communities.

A Call to Harness AI for the Common Good

“Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its potential remains unrealized for most developing countries,” said Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

“The Hamburg Declaration represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities, and addresses global inequalities. Our task now is to ensure AI’s extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally.”

German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Reem Alabali-Radovan, added: “Improving access to fair and sustainable AI worldwide is one of the great challenges of our time. Too many people remain excluded from the benefits of digital innovation. The Hamburg Declaration marks a turning point, AI must become a force for good, a driver of inclusion, equality, and sustainable development.”

From Principles to Practice

The Declaration builds on work initiated at HSC 2024 by UNDP and Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), which introduced foundational principles for the responsible use of AI in development. Over the past year, these were refined through broad-based consultations across sectors and geographies.

This global agreement now serves as a rallying point for multilateral collaboration. It calls on governments, companies, and civil society to translate principles into practice by investing in



inclusive AI systems, scaling locally driven innovation, and ensuring that no region is left behind in the digital age.

“AI can be the great equaliser, but only if it’s inclusive, ethical, and co-created,” said Lacina Koné, CEO of Smart Africa. “Today, Smart Africa proudly endorses the Hamburg Declaration. Africa is not a bystander, we are shaping the future.”

As Artificial intelligence continues to reshape economies, institutions, and societies, the Declaration underscores the need for global coordination. It calls for a collective commitment to ensure that AI becomes a tool for accelerating progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and building a more equitable, inclusive, and resilient digital future for all.

2. Cedi Gains Should Not Stall Remittances, Gov’t Tells Diasporan Investors

Date: June 08, 2025

Source:
The High Street Journal

The loss in the value of the dollar against the Ghana cedi should not deter Ghanaians living abroad from sending remittances home.

This was the central message delivered by Ghana’s Deputy Finance Minister, Thomas Nyarko Ampem, during the 2025 Hamburg Sustainability Conference, where he engaged members of the Ghanaian diaspora in Germany.

Amid recent appreciation of the cedi against major foreign currencies, concerns have emerged about the potential impact on remittance flows. But Mr. Ampem reassured the diaspora that Ghana’s economic outlook remains favourable, arguing that a strong cedi is not a setback, but rather an opportunity.

“Don’t hold back. We are working hard to keep the cedi strong,” he said. “Waiting for depreciation before sending money may lead to missed opportunities. A stronger currency supports economic growth and should boost your confidence in investing back home.”

A Rising Trend in Remittances

Ghana has consistently recorded an upward trend in remittance inflows over the past five years. According to Bank of Ghana data, personal remittances rose from \$3.6 billion in 2020 to \$4.7 billion by the end of 2023, with early projections indicating continued growth through 2025.

These inflows have become a vital pillar of household income, community development, and small business financing. They also play a stabilizing role in the country’s external accounts, supporting foreign exchange reserves and helping cushion the economy against external shocks.

In 2022, remittances accounted for nearly 6% of Ghana’s GDP, surpassing earnings from cocoa exports and positioning the diaspora as a critical economic force.

How a Stronger Cedi Changes the Game

Recent monetary tightening by the Bank of Ghana, prudent fiscal management, and foreign exchange reforms have contributed to the cedi’s appreciation since late 2024. While this trend



has prompted some overseas Ghanaians to delay remittances in anticipation of more favourable exchange rates, economists warn that this strategy could backfire.

“A stable currency means reduced inflation, more purchasing power, and a better environment for business,” Mr. Ampem explained. “It lowers the cost of imports, increases economic predictability, and encourages more efficient long-term investment planning.”

Financial analysts note that holding back remittances in the hope of future depreciation may cost the sender more in lost opportunities, especially with inflation easing and consumer prices stabilizing domestically.

New Frontiers for Investment

Beyond routine family support, the Deputy Minister encouraged Ghanaians abroad to explore opportunities in strategic sectors like agribusiness, renewable energy, real estate, and tech innovation.

“These are areas the government is prioritizing under our economic recovery and transformation agenda,” he said. “Your contributions can have outsized impact, not just for your families, but for Ghana’s broader development.”

To that end, the government is intensifying outreach efforts to the diaspora, including facilitating access to land and financing, streamlining investment registration processes, and promoting diaspora bonds to mobilize foreign capital.

Building Confidence Amid Volatility

Mr. Ampem also highlighted reforms aimed at protecting remittances and bolstering confidence in the economy. These include:

Enhanced regulation of forex bureaux and money transfer operators

Expansion of formal remittance channels with better rates and lower fees

Incentive packages for diaspora investors in high-impact sectors

“The message is simple,” he concluded. “A stronger cedi should not be seen as a barrier, it’s a sign of resilience. And with your continued support, we can build an economy that works for all Ghanaians.”



THE KATHMANDU POST

Flagship international meet on sustainability concludes

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
The Kathmandu Post

The two-day event brought together global leaders from various sectors to develop solutions for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



The second edition of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the flagship global gathering on the topic, concluded on Tuesday. The two-day event brought together global leaders from various sectors to develop solutions for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This year's theme was "Together We Co-Create Sustainable Development."

The concluding session of the event, titled "Empowering Municipalities with Private Capital for Sustainable Urban Development," focused on key issues related to urban finance.

Topics discussed included the challenges of urban climate finance and their connection to the SDGs, strategies for mobilising private capital for municipalities, and the difficulties local governments face in leveraging private finance.

Participants in the session included Niels Annen, Designated State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development; Ming Zhang, Global Director for Urban, Resilience and Land at the World Bank; María Fernanda Espinosa, Former President of the UN General Assembly; and Claire Coustar, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors at Deutsche Bank Turkey.

The session, hosted by Biswas Baral, Editor of The Kathmandu Post, also featured remarks by J. Cleo Kawawaki, Director General at the Asian Development Bank, and Mark Bowman, Vice President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Closing remarks were delivered by Anaclaudia Rossbach, Executive Director of UN-Habitat.

During the session, Baral spoke about the challenges faced by Nepal's cities—Kathmandu in particular—including difficulties in budget utilisation and ongoing struggles with urban flooding, lack of public spaces, and ineffective waste management.



German minister warns Israel that no military goal justifies Gaza deaths

Date: October 09, 2024

Source:
The National

Reem Alabali-Radovan makes emotional plea on behalf of Palestinians in warning to Israel of man-made catastrophe

Germany's Development Minister Reem Alabali-Radovan, a refugee born of Iraqi parents, was on the verge of tears on Monday as she called on Israel to stop "destroying lives in Gaza".

Newly appointed as a cabinet minister in the post of Federal Minister for Economic Co-operation and Development, Ms Alabali-Radovan demanded full humanitarian access to the besieged territory.

"My personal history as a refugee coming to Germany shows the point that if we don't do anything with those crises is that people tend to flee". Reem Alabali-Radovan



“There can and must be no military goal that justifies children starving, mothers being unable to receive treatment for their injured children, or entire families being buried under rubble,” she told the Hamburg Sustainability Conference. “No political strategy must lead to the blocking of humanitarian aid.”

Warning of a “man-made humanitarian catastrophe”, Ms Alabali-Radovan said an immediate ceasefire must be followed by permanent restoration of aid flows. “Without a ceasefire, there will be no protection for civilians, no secure supply, and no prospect of political solutions,” she said.

“The continued violence is not only destroying lives, but also any prospect of peace. The Hamas terrorist attack on October 7 was a barbaric act. Protecting one's own population is a legitimate goal – both military and political,” she added. “But every state action is subject to international law.”

German political culture has been highly supportive of Israel throughout the conflict, with ministers loath to depart from an approach guided by history. Chancellor Friedrich Merz, of the centre-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU), has entered office at a time of crisis in Germany's position on Gaza.

He is reportedly charting a new course with a harder line on aid access. The German leader spoke by phone with Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu to warn of the urgent need to allow sufficient humanitarian aid to flow into the Gaza Strip.

Ms Alabali-Radovan was backed up in her assertions by Cindy McCain, the director general of the World Food Programme, who hit out at accusation of looting and diversion of aid on entry to Gaza. “In the case of Gaza it is such a catastrophe,” she said.

“These people are not terrorists, they are starving to death. If they see an aid truck coming they want food for their families. I would do anything to feed my family. I think you would too.”

The Social Democrat politician is the first from her Middle Eastern background to have reached the highest rung of German politics. She was born in Moscow, where her Chaldean Iraqi parents were exiled in the Soviet Union, having fled the regime of Saddam Hussein.

The family then moved to Germany, where she grew up. In the early part of her career she worked with refugees before entering politics and working for a spell as minister for integration. Now as a development minister at time when the US and other major allies have cut spending designed to assist the world's poorest, Ms Alabali-Radovan is seeking to use Germany's strong budget for global assistance to build trust.

“It is my job to explain why it is important to Germany that we cope with the crisis we are speaking about,” she said. “My personal history as a refugee coming to Germany shows the point that if we don't do anything with crises then people tend to flee, they don't want to but they have to, and I give this example to show why it's important.”

Sponsors of the Hamburg conference hope the meeting can provide a counter-balance to the dramatic move by the Trump administration to withdraw from the multilateral international institutions.



The New York Times

Merz Gets Warm Reception, but Fails to Secure Trump Commitment on Russia

Date: June 05, 2025

Source:
The New York Times

The German chancellor had come to Washington hoping to persuade President Trump to play a more active role in defending Ukraine.

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz had one main ask of President Trump during his Oval Office visit on Thursday: that the American president stand with Europe in pressuring Moscow to back down from attacks on Ukraine and push to end the three-year war.

To which Mr. Trump replied: Maybe they need to fight a little longer.

“Sometimes you see two young children fighting like crazy,” Mr. Trump told reporters in the Oval Office as Mr. Merz looked on, stone faced. “They hate each other, and they’re fighting in a park, and you try and pull them apart. They don’t want to be pulled. Sometimes you’re better off letting them fight for a while and then pulling them apart.”

It was the latest pivot by Mr. Trump away from the bloody conflict that he once said confidently that he would end.

On Thursday, however, he compared the Russia-Ukraine war to a hockey game, where referees sometimes allow players to drop gloves and brawl on the ice — an observation he said he had also made earlier in the week in a private phone call with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia. “I gave that analogy to Putin yesterday,” he added. “I said, ‘President, maybe you’re going to have to keep fighting and suffering a lot, because both sides are suffering, before you pull them apart, before they’re able to be pulled apart.’”

Mr. Trump’s posture comes at a moment that German officials say could be decisive for Ukraine’s chances of forging peace on favorable terms. Mr. Merz had come to Washington hoping to persuade Mr. Trump to play a more active role in defending Ukraine, bringing unrivaled U.S. power to the task of forcing Russia to end its invasion of its smaller neighbor.

The German leader told reporters in the Oval Office that both he and Mr. Trump favored stopping the war soon. “And I told the president before we came in,” he said, “that he is the key person in the world who can really do that now by putting pressure on Russia.”

But Mr. Trump made no promises of such pressure, and he made no concrete commitments to provide weapons or back sanctions, either publicly or privately with Mr. Merz. The closest he came was in response to a question about if and when he might favor new financial penalties on Russia, as European leaders, including Mr. Merz, have proposed. Mr. Trump said he had a deadline “in my brain” for when he might favor such a move.

He also suggested that Ukraine, the victim of Russian aggression, might come in for financial punishment. “We’ll be very, very, very tough, and it could be on both countries, to be honest,” Mr. Trump said. “You know, it takes two to tango.”



Aides say that Mr. Trump is exasperated with both presidents in the conflict, but often more so with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine. Mr. Trump has told his advisers that Mr. Zelensky is a “bad guy” who is edging the world to the precipice of nuclear war. But Mr. Trump has also told aides that it is understandable that Mr. Zelensky is fighting back, given he is in a war against an enemy that seems determined to keep bombing Ukrainian cities.

With Mr. Putin, the president seems more disappointed than angry. He had seemed to genuinely believe that his personal relationship with the Russian leader would bring a swift end to the war, advisers say. But Mr. Trump has learned the limits of American leverage with Russia when he is reluctant to send Ukraine more money or weapons.

Superficially, at least, the Oval Office appearance went better for Mr. Merz than he and his advisers privately had expected. There were none of the blowups that have characterized some of Mr. Trump’s other meetings with foreign leaders. The two men had a warm rapport and exchanged compliments.

Aware in advance that Mr. Trump tends to dominate conversations with foreign leaders, Mr. Merz spoke relatively little. But he was repeatedly praised by the president.

The chancellor is a “very good man to deal with,” Mr. Trump said. “He’s difficult, I would say. Can I say that? It’s a positive.”

Mr. Merz had rehearsed for the trip, and his aides sought advice from other foreign officials who have recently visited the White House. They were determined to avoid the sort of public dressing-down that Mr. Trump had given Mr. Zelensky and President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa in recent months.

The Germans were elated with the results. Mr. Merz’s phone lit up with congratulations from fellow European leaders. He told reporters after the meeting that he and Mr. Trump “get along well on a personal level.”

German and American officials said before the meeting that the war in Ukraine would top the leaders’ agenda, along with discussions of European military spending and efforts to help resolve trade tensions between the United States and the European Union.

And while Mr. Trump occasionally veered into domestic topics during the news conference — including the vetting of international students at Harvard University and elsewhere, tensions with his former adviser Elon Musk over a sprawling domestic policy bill and conspiracy theories about former President Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s use of an autopen to sign legislation — reporters and Mr. Merz nudged him back to discussing a war that has turned out to be far more difficult to end than Mr. Trump had predicted.

Mr. Trump promised during the presidential campaign that he could make peace between Russia and Ukraine within 24 hours, but he now says he was being sarcastic when he offered that time frame. More than four months into his second term, he increasingly talks about the war as if he were a bystander, powerless to affect the outcome.

The president is caught between wanting a legacy as a peacemaker and wanting to avoid ownership of what he increasingly views as a hopeless war, advisers say. He routinely distances himself from the conflict, calling it “Biden’s war,” and claims that Mr. Putin would have never ordered the invasion if Mr. Trump had been president in 2022.



“That’s typical Trump,” said John R. Bolton, Mr. Trump’s former national security adviser and now a critic of his leadership. “He’s always a winner, he’s never a loser and he believes that if you don’t talk about something, it will go away.”

“His instinctive reaction to bad news is to say, ‘play it down, play it down,’” he added.

After calling Mr. Putin “absolutely crazy” last month, Mr. Trump shifted his tone and said he wanted to give the Russian leader two weeks to show signs of progress. He then dropped the timeline altogether in a statement on social media on Wednesday, instead simply relaying Mr. Putin’s intent to attack Ukraine in retaliation for its stunning drone attack over the weekend against nuclear-capable bombers inside Russia.

He continued in that vein on Thursday, despite Mr. Merz’s repeated efforts to extract a more solid commitment. At one point, in what appeared to be a rehearsed line, Mr. Merz reminded the president that the anniversary of the D-Day operation was coming on Friday: June 6, “when the Americans once ended a war in Europe.”

The line did not have its intended effect.

Mr. Trump interjected a joke about the Nazis. “That was not a pleasant day for you,” he said, referring to America’s defeat of Adolf Hitler.

Mr. Merz countered, in a serious tone, that “in the long run, Mr. President, this was the liberation of my country from Nazi dictatorship.”

“We know what we owe you,” the chancellor added, “but this is the reason why I’m saying that America is, again, in a very strong position to do something on this war and ending this war.”

Mr. Trump made no commitments. Instead, he boasted about the U.S. economy and military recruitment numbers under his leadership. And then he compared the war to children fighting, or a hockey game.

Aides say that Mr. Trump is still considering piling more pressure on Mr. Putin, including financial measures, but that he is not sure that it would make a difference, given that the Russian president has engineered his economy to withstand punishing sanctions.

Mr. Trump has yet to endorse bipartisan legislation advanced by his ally, Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, which would impose severe economic penalties against Russia. He told reporters on Thursday he had not read the bill, but that senators would ultimately follow his lead in deciding how to act against Russia.

Aides say Mr. Merz is under no illusions about his potential influence on Mr. Trump when it comes to the war. They sought to lower expectations ahead of the trip, saying that Mr. Merz was simply hoping to keep Mr. Trump engaged with his European allies in backing Ukraine.

Mr. Trump told reporters on Thursday that he had urged Mr. Putin to stop the war in a phone call this week, but that Mr. Putin told him he had no choice but to attack based on Ukraine’s strikes over the weekend.

And, Mr. Trump added, “it’s probably not going to be pretty.”



THE TIMES OF INDIA

1. SCALED to mobilize sustainable private investment in emerging markets, developing economies

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
The Times of India

BATHINDA: The members of the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) rechristened as Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development (SCALED), an initiative of public and private institutions is laying the foundation for scaling private investment for sustainable development in emerging markets and developing countries.

Signing a joint declaration of intent at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025, on Monday, the HSP reaffirmed their joint commitment to remove structural obstacles that so far stood in the way of mobilizing large-scale investments. Being a joint effort between several public and private institutions, the initiative sends a strong signal towards better coordination.

SCALED is putting standardization into practice by preparing the launch of a company dedicated to mobilizing private capital for sustainable development projects more easily, quickly, and efficiently. The new company is expected to commence operations at the end of 2025 and immediately begin to work on investment vehicles, for example to support projects with sustainable impact such as solar farms or entrepreneurship support.

As a service provider for the whole market, the company aims at bringing together investors with common interests, set up standardized financial vehicles, such as funds, and find suitable international and local asset managers to implement the investments. Private and public investors can use these vehicles to make their investments in a straightforward manner according to a recurring pattern. As such, the company is foreseen to significantly contribute to closing the existing financing gaps in emerging markets and developing countries.

Depending on funding commitments from public and private sources, the company could facilitate several billion USD of private investments in various sectors and regions over the next years to achieve sustainable impact.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD, and the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB, support SCALED as knowledge partners.

2. Hamburg declaration on responsible AI: Global leaders commit to responsible AI for sustainable development

Date: June 03, 202

Source:
The Times of India

BATHINDA: At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), global leaders from the public sector, business, science, and civil society have jointly endorsed the 'Hamburg Declaration on Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'.



The landmark initiative – the first global declaration focused specifically on AI in international development – outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development and deployment of artificial intelligence worldwide, with particular emphasis on empowering developing countries.

The declaration centres on ensuring that AI technologies uphold human rights, serve and protect marginalized communities, and combat disinformation. Co-signatories further commit to improving the resource efficiency of AI systems, expanding access to AI education for women and girls, and supporting the growth of local AI innovations in developing countries

Achim Steiner, UNDP administrator, said “Artificial Intelligence is one of the most transformative forces of our time, yet its potential remains unrealized for most developing countries. The Hamburg declaration on Responsible AI for Sustainable Development represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connects communities, and addresses global inequalities. The Declaration underscores our collective responsibility. Our task now is to ensure AI’s extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally”.

Germany’s federal minister for economic cooperation and development, Reem Alabali-Radovan said “Improving access to fair and sustainable AI worldwide is one of the great challenges of our time. Too many people remain excluded from the benefits of digital innovation. The Hamburg Declaration marks a turning point, AI must become a force for good, a driver of inclusion, equality, and sustainable development”.

3. New global alliances, commitments for a sustainable future at Hamburg Sustainability Conference

Date: June 04, 2025

Source:
The Times of India

BATHINDA: The Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) concluded its second edition, reinforcing its position as a vital global platform for advancing sustainable development. Around 1,600 participants from all across the world—including a notable number of high-level representatives from politics, international organizations, business, academia, and civil society—convened in Hamburg on June 2 and 3 to forge new alliances and accelerate progress toward the United Nations 2030 Agenda. HSC 2025 marked the launch of important initiatives and the achievement of new consensus, such as the agreement on the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs.

German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Reem Alabali-Radovan: “At a time when nationalist tendencies are jeopardising international cooperation, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference stands for the spirit of cooperation that binds the world together. Hamburg sends out a strong signal for solidarity and cooperation, an encouragement to us all. The conference has made progress on concrete solutions for some of the key challenges that we must face in the future: for cities of the future that will be liveable places for more and more people despite climate change, for the common fight against inequality or for artificial intelligence that benefits all people.

First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg Peter Tschentscher: “The 17 Sustainable Development Goals aim to give 8 billion people worldwide a good life and a secure future, with access to education, health, participation, peace, security, and prosperity. Implementing this is



a mandate and a great responsibility for the international community, because global developments can only be achieved through cooperation and joint efforts.”

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner: “The Hamburg Sustainability Conference is a moment to challenge conventional wisdom, redefine possibilities, and craft a new narrative—not one of division and decline, but of unity, cooperation, and collective progress. The Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals marks an important milestone in this journey. Initiated at this conference in 2024, this landmark declaration has just been endorsed by representatives from over 40 governments, private sector organizations, civil society, and leading research institutions. This outcome represents a crucial commitment to harnessing AI responsibly, ensuring it promotes equity, connect communities and addresses global inequalities. This collaboration does not end here. Our task now is to work together to ensure AI's extraordinary capabilities drive sustainable development, benefiting everyone, everywhere, equally.”

Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Oto Group Michael Oto: “Everyone has a role to play in tackling global challenges. At the same time, it is crucial that policymakers establish enabling frameworks and the scientific community drives innovation. The initiatives built upon since last year, together with the new alliances forged at HSC 2025, show that the conference brings the right stakeholders to the table—and that it's driving real impact.”

Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs: On Monday, UNDP and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development endorsed the Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the Sustainable Development Goals, together with over 40 governments, private sector organizations, civil society, and leading research institutions. The landmark initiative – the first global declaration focused specifically on AI in international development – outlines shared principles and commitments to promote the equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development and deployment of artificial intelligence worldwide, with particular emphasis on empowering developing countries.

SCALED: Unlocking Private Investment for Sustainable Development: The members of the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) signed a joint declaration of intent, reaffirming their commitment to removing barriers to large-scale sustainable investment. Rebranded as “SCALED – Scaling Capital for Sustainable Development,” the initiative brings together public and private institutions to enhance coordination. By the end of 2025, SCALED plans to launch a dedicated company to mobilize private capital more efficiently for projects such as solar farms or entrepreneurship support. It aims to help close financing gaps in developing countries and could unlock several billion USD in private capital over the coming years.

Launch of the Global Alliance against Inequality: The Global Alliance against inequality, was officially launched. The coalition unites governments and partners in a bold effort to tackle the systemic roots of inequality undermining social cohesion and democratic governance worldwide. Germany and Sierra Leone, alongside the Pathfinders Initiative, signed the declaration of intent committing to evidence based policies that address economic and social disparities. The Alliance emphasizes crossregional collaboration, dialogue, and policy innovation to rebuild trust in public institutions and foster peaceful, just societies.

Among the other notable agreements, signings, and announcements during HSC 2025 are the Memorandum of Understanding between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and Euler Hermes to strengthen support for German exports and investments in developing and emerging countries within the framework of sustainable development; the new Biodiversity Fund of the Aid by Trade Foundation (AbTF), with an initial capital of €500,000 aimed at supporting biodiversity conservation projects particularly within global textile supply chains; The addition of one new signatory to the Hamburg Declaration on



Green Aviation, and two new signatories to the Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping – both initiated at HSC 2024; The Joint Statement of stakeholders across sectors on Enhancing Municipalities' Access to Private Capital; and the presentation of the concept for the “Institute for Sustainability Arbitration” (ISA), which is envisioned as a specialized body dedicated to ensuring legal certainty in sustainability-related disputes through expert arbitration.



South Africa's Vikky, Pippa Munyoro champion climate action through 'All for One' song at Hamburg conference

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
TNX Africa

At the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, the world witnessed the powerful debut of “All for One,” a moving children’s anthem for peace, climate action, and sustainability.

The powerful performance by South African sisters Vikky and Pippa Munyoro, alongside Brazilian guitarist Lucas Etcheverria, in a heartfelt moment stirred the audience.

Vikky and Pippa stood confidently on stage, dressed in elegant white dresses, positioned behind a microphone as they belted out the captivating song.

Their expressions radiated emotion and purpose as they harmonised to the stirring lyrics. Lucas Etcheverria, dressed in a light grey suit, gently strummed his acoustic guitar, adding a melodic depth that perfectly complemented their vocals.

The Hamburg Sustainability Conference's theme is Securing Tomorrow: Scaling Innovations for Future Generations.

The musicians lit up the stage, which had a colourful backdrop that added a sense of unity and global celebration, symbolising the diverse voices they represented.

“All for One” is more than just a song. It is a musical call to arms from the younger generation, pleading for a sustainable, peaceful, and united world.

Through their voices, Vikky and Pippa conveyed the urgency of protecting the planet and fostering global harmony, values echoed in every note and lyric.

The audience, a diverse group of attendees from around the world, sat captivated by the performance. The powerful blend of youthful voices and acoustic guitar created an atmosphere of hope and reflection, reminding listeners of the vital role children play in shaping the future.



This anthem is not just about music; it is a global message representing a growing movement of young people who are demanding to be heard on the issues that will shape their lives, from climate change to peace and equality.

As the final notes rang out and applause filled the room, one thing was clear: the message of “All for One” had been heard, and it was a poignant reminder that while adults make decisions today, the voices of tomorrow are already singing out, loud, clear, and united for a better Earth.



German finance minister: need to reform many international organisations

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Trading View / Reuters

German Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil said on Tuesday many of the international organisations that Germany is part of require reform to better reflect the changing global balance of power.

"These new alliances will probably be more issue based than in the past. We don't need to agree on everything to become partners," Klingbeil said in a speech at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.



Eine vielfältige, erfolgreiche Woche im Zeichen der Nachhaltigkeit

Date: June 10, 2025

Source:
Universität Hamburg

Vom 2. bis zum 6. Juni gab es parallel zur Hamburg Sustainability Week in der Hansestadt zahlreiche Vorträge, Veranstaltungen und Mitmachaktionen zum Thema Nachhaltigkeit auf und um den Campus Von-Melle-Park herum. Zudem verabschiedete die UHH ihre Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie 2030.

Ob bei einer Podiumsdiskussion mit Erdsystemwissenschaftler Prof. Dr. Dirk Notz vom Institut für Meereskunde der Universität in der Hauptkirche St. Katharinen, beim Ausleihen von Gegenständen an der Mietbar der „UHH Teilt“-AG, einem Science Slam im Schrödingers Hamburg, dem Fahrradaktionstag vor dem Audimax, bei einer Kunstaustellung oder einem Workshop im Tiny House oder auf dem Offenen Plenum 6.0 im Lichthof der Staats- und



Universitätsbibliothek: Studierende, Forschende, Lehrende und Beschäftigte der Uni sowie alle Interessierten hatten an fünf Tagen unterschiedlichste Möglichkeiten, sich über das Thema Nachhaltigkeit an der Universität Hamburg zu informieren und selbst aktiv zu werden.

„Man hat den Eindruck, dass Nachhaltigkeit aus der Mode gekommen und auch Klimawandel gar nicht mehr so wichtig ist. Wir wollen zeigen, dass das nicht so ist und wir da nicht lockerlassen“, sagte dann auch Universitätspräsident Prof. Dr. Hauke Heekeren beim Offenen Plenum 6.0. Und Prof. Dr. Laura Marie Edinger-Schons, Chief Sustainability Officer der Uni Hamburg, betonte dafür die besondere Vorgehensweise an der Uni: „Wir haben in Hamburg ein viel partizipativeres Verfahren als bei vielen andere Universitäten. Unser Ziel ist, dass alle das Thema Nachhaltigkeit mitdenken.“ Das werde auch in der auf der Sustainability Week verabschiedeten Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie 2030 deutlich.

Die Bildergalerie zeigt einige Eindrücke aus der Woche.



Ringen um Zukunft: Zweite Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
Vatican News

Über 1600 Gäste aus über 110 Nationen kommen noch bis diesen Dienstag auf der zweitägigen Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz zusammen, um Lösungen für Hunger, Armut und den Klimawandel zu finden. Radio Vatikan war vor Ort.

Zum zweiten Mal innerhalb von neun Monaten kommen Fachleute aus über 110 Ländern in der norddeutschen Stadt Hamburg zusammen, um über Nachhaltigkeit und die Zukunft der Menschheit zu sprechen. Die erste Konferenz wurde letztes Jahr von Olaf Scholz geleitet, kurz nach der Wahl Donald Trumps als US-Präsidenten. Doch die weltpolitische Lage hat sich im Vergleich zur vorherigen Konferenz im Oktober stark verändert.

Seit Amtsantritt des US-Präsidenten sind die Vereinigten Staaten nicht nur aus vielen wichtigen internationalen Abkommen ausgetreten, sondern das größte Geberland kürzte seine Entwicklungshilfe fast auf null. Hinzu kommt Trumps aggressive Zollpolitik und der damit drohende Handelskrieg, sowie die eskalierenden Kriege in der Ukraine und im Gazastreifen.

All diesen Herausforderungen will man auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz entschlossen entgegentreten und der Weltgemeinschaft zeigen: „Nachhaltige Entwicklung gelingt nur im Schulterschluss“, wie es in der Eingangserklärung der Organisatoren heißt. Nachhaltigkeit sei eines der wenigen Themen, bei dem sich trotz globaler Herausforderungen alle Staaten schnell einigen können, so Achim Steiner, Leiter des UN-Entwicklungsprogramms UNDP.

Zentrales Thema: Entwicklungsfinanzierung



Zentrales Thema dieses Jahres ist besonders die Finanzierung von weltweiter Entwicklung. Durch die stark gekürzte Entwicklungsfinanzierung der USA, einer weltweit schwächelnden Wirtschaft und überschuldeter Länder im Globalen Süden werden Rufe zur Reform internationaler Finanzinstitutionen wie der Weltbank lauter. Auf der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz werden Möglichkeiten besprochen, diese Probleme zu lösen. Entschlüsse werden dann voraussichtlich auf der UN-Konferenz zur Entwicklungsfinanzierung im Juli in Sevilla getroffen.

Papst Franziskus hatte sich 2024 dafür ausgesprochen, im Jahr der Hoffnung 2025 allen Entwicklungsländern ihre Schulden voll zu erlassen. Auch an Umschuldungsprozessen sind vatikanische Vermittler immer wieder beteiligt.

Andere Themen auf der Konferenz sind außerdem die Nachhaltigkeitsziele der UN sowie Gesundheit, Mobilität und Biodiversität. Diese werden teils auf öffentlichen Bühnendiskussionen, teils in geschlossenen Räumen, besprochen. Dies sei das Besondere an der Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz, so die neue deutsche Entwicklungsministerin der SPD: „Hochrangiger Austausch in vertraulichen Räumen.“

Doch auch die Konflikte in der Ukraine und im Gazastreifen spielen auf dieser internationalen Bühne eine Rolle. So kritisiert die SPD-Ministerin, die selbst eine Migrationsgeschichte hat, in ihrer Eröffnungsrede die israelische Regierung für ihr Vorgehen im Gazastreifen mit scharfen Worten: „Es kann und darf kein militärisches Ziel geben, das rechtfertigt, dass Kinder verhungern [...] Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird.“

Zusammenarbeit mit dem Vatikan

Die katholische Ministerin legt zusätzlich Wert auf die Zusammenarbeit mit dem Vatikan. So äußerte sie gegenüber Vatican News: „Natürlich ist die Zusammenarbeit mit der katholischen Kirche sehr wichtig. Ich habe die ersten Statements des neuen Papstes sehr positiv wahrgenommen und freue mich auf die Zusammenarbeit mit der katholischen Kirche, aber auch mit den Kirchengemeinden insgesamt.“

Die katholische Kirche ist auf der Konferenz vor allem durch ihre Hilfswerke vertreten, so ist beispielsweise Gesine Ames für das Hilfswerk Misereor anwesend. Sie hat konkrete Forderungen, was auf der HSC besprochen werden soll: „Die Konferenz muss einen Fokus auf die Bedürfnisse der Länder des globalen Südens legen.“ Dabei müsse vor allem die Stimme der Zivilgesellschaft aus Ländern des Globalen Südens gehört werden.

Misereor selbst helfe dabei, diese Stimme hörbar zu machen. So ermöglicht das Hilfswerk einer afrikanischen Umweltschutz NGO die Teilnahme an der Konferenz: „Das ist wichtiger denn je, in Zeiten, in denen in Deutschland die Gaskraftwerke ausgebaut werden sollen.“

Papst Leo hat bereits wenige Tage nach Amtsantritt deutlich gemacht, dass er beim Thema Schöpfungsschutz mit Papst Franziskus übereinstimmt. So ermunterte er Universitäten weltweit anlässlich des zehnten Geburtstages der Sozialenzyklika Laudato Si in einer Videobotschaft zum Einsatz für ökologische Gerechtigkeit.



1. 02.06.2025 12:48:23 - Entwicklungsministerin appelliert auf Konferenz an Israel

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:

Volksbank Heilbronn / dpa-AFX)

HAMBURG (dpa-AFX) - Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) hat Israels Regierung aufgefordert, weiteren Hilfsorganisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen zu ermöglichen. "Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird", sagte Alabali-Radovan laut Manuskript zu Beginn der zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Rathaus der Stadt. Wenn der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern dauerhaft blockiert werde, müsse über Konsequenzen gesprochen werden.

Israel hatte nach nahezu drei Monaten zuletzt wieder Hilfslieferungen an die hungernde Bevölkerung im Gazastreifen in begrenztem Umfang erlaubt. Israel ermöglicht es der umstrittenen Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, um auf diese Weise andere Hilfsorganisationen wie die der Vereinten Nationen zu umgehen.

Ausrichter erwarten Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern

Zu der zweitägigen Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz erwarten die Ausrichter rund 1.600 Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern. Die Konferenz war erstmals vergangenen Oktober ausgerichtet worden, um die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen zu fördern. Themen dieser sind unter anderem Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit.

Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) sagte, die Welt habe sich in den vergangenen Jahren verändert: Krisen, Kriege und Konflikte überschatteten Bemühungen, Klima und Natur zu schützen. Orientierung biete die Agenda 2030, die die Nachhaltigkeitsziele definiert. Nachdenklich äußerte sich auch der Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, Achim Steiner. "Die Welt ist nicht gerade vorangekommen", sagte er auf Englisch. Unsicherheit und Angst nähmen zu. Es sei dennoch nicht Zeit für Mutlosigkeit.

Veranstalter der Konferenz sind das Bundesentwicklungsministerium, das Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, eine Stiftung des Hamburger Mäzens Michael Otto und die Stadt Hamburg./lkm/DP/stw

Quelle: dpa-AFX

2. 03.06.2025 12:41:01 - Klingbeil: Menschen sollen in diesem Jahr Ergebnisse sehen

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Volksbank Heilbronn

HAMBURG (dpa-AFX) - Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) will noch in diesem Jahr Ergebnisse bei den geplanten Milliardeninvestitionen in die Infrastruktur sehen. "Ich halte das auch im Kampf gegen Rechtspopulismus für sehr wichtig, um den Menschen zu zeigen, dass sich das Land modernisiert, dass sich etwas tut und dass das Leben durch Investitionen in die Infrastruktur einfacher wird", sagte der Vizekanzler bei der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz "Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)". In Deutschland dauere es manchmal bis zu 20



Jahre, bis der erste Euro investiert werde. "Mein Ziel ist es, dass die Menschen in diesem Jahr sehen, dass sich etwas tut." Zudem appellierte er an die deutsche Wirtschaft: "Jetzt ist es Zeit zu investieren."

Klingbeil: "Europa ist zu langsam."

Gleichzeitig forderte er Europa zur Eile bei politischen Entscheidungen auf. "Europa ist zu langsam." Es gebe zu viel Bürokratie und zu wenig Politik. Er wolle jedoch rasch politische Entscheidungen zur Zukunft Europas. Schon 2027 stehe in Frankreich die Präsidentschaftswahl an. "Niemand weiß, was dann passieren wird." Und die Präsidentschaftswahl in Polen sei schon nicht gut ausgegangen für Europa.

Zuversichtlich zeigte er sich im Zollstreit mit den USA. "Wir werden letztendlich Lösungen finden." Die klare Botschaft Deutschlands und Europas an die Vereinigten Staaten sei: "Wir wollen einen gemeinsamen Weg und suchen nach einer gemeinsamen Lösung in der Zollfrage." Für ihn als Vizkanzler und Finanzminister sei jedoch das Wichtigste, "dass wir unsere Hausaufgaben in Deutschland und in Europa erledigen". Mit Blick auf China sagte der Minister, die Bundesrepublik sollte unbedingt mit China kooperieren. Gleichzeitig gelte aber die klare Botschaft: Werde Taiwan angegriffen, ändere sich alles.

Deutschland bei Entwicklungsfinanzierung verlässlicher Partner

Klingbeil kündigte an, dass Deutschland bei der Entwicklungsfinanzierung ein verlässlicher Partner bleiben werde - "gerade jetzt, da andere wichtige Geberländer ihre Unterstützung reduzieren". Deutschland sei sogar auf dem Weg, der weltweit größte Geber von öffentlicher Entwicklungshilfe zu werden, sagte Klingbeil. Gleichzeitig forderte er alte und neue Geberländer auf, ihre öffentliche Entwicklungshilfe zu erhöhen.

Stolz zeigte sich der Minister über den Plan der Bundesregierung, die unabhängige Kommission für internationale Entwicklungsfragen von 1977, auch bekannt als Nord-Süd-Kommission, wieder ins Leben zu rufen. Denn er sei überzeugt, dass in diesen Zeiten keine Krise ohne die Zusammenarbeit der Länder des Globalen Südens und des Globalen Nordens gelöst werden könne, sagte Klingbeil. "Deshalb wollen wir einen neuen, partnerschaftlichen Dialog etablieren."/klm/DP/stw

Quelle: dpa-AFX



Bundesfinanzminister Klingbeil: „Jetzt ist es Zeit zu investieren“

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:
WELT

Vizekanzler Klingbeil ist überzeugt, die Milliardeninvestitionen in die Infrastruktur helfen auch gegen Rechtspopulismus. Die Menschen sollen deshalb noch in diesem Jahr sehen, „dass sich etwas tut“, sagte der SPD-Parteichef bei einem Nachhaltigkeitskongress in Hamburg.



Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil (SPD) will noch in diesem Jahr Ergebnisse bei den geplanten Milliardeninvestitionen in die Infrastruktur sehen. „Ich halte das auch im Kampf gegen Rechtspopulismus für sehr wichtig, um den Menschen zu zeigen, dass sich das Land modernisiert, dass sich etwas tut und dass das Leben durch Investitionen in die Infrastruktur einfacher wird“, sagte der Vizekanzler bei der Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz „Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC)“. In Deutschland dauere es manchmal bis zu 20 Jahre, bis der erste Euro investiert werde. „Mein Ziel ist es, dass die Menschen in diesem Jahr sehen, dass sich etwas tut.“ Zudem appellierte er an die deutsche Wirtschaft: „Jetzt ist es Zeit zu investieren.“

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Hamburg Sustainability Conference vereint eine Welt im Umbruch für nachhaltige Zukunftsallianzen

Date: June 30, 2025



Source:
Windkraft Journal

Am 2. und 3. Juni 2025 findet die Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC) statt.

(WK-intern) – Zum zweiten Mal bringt die Konferenz hochrangige Vertreterinnen und Vertreter aus Politik, Wissenschaft, Wirtschaft, Zivilgesellschaft und internationalen Organisationen in Hamburg zusammen – mit dem Ziel, Allianzen für die nachhaltige Entwicklung zu schmieden und die Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen entscheidend voranzubringen.

In diesem Jahr werden rund 1600 Teilnehmende aus mehr als 110 Ländern in über 60 Sessions zusammenkommen, um konkrete Lösungen für die drängendsten globalen Herausforderungen unserer Zeit zu erarbeiten.

Im Fokus stehen drei zentrale Themenfelder: die Reform der internationalen Finanzarchitektur, neue Investitionen zur Umsetzung der globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele (SDGs) sowie Transformationsprozesse in Schlüsselsektoren, darunter Mobilität und Logistik, globale Gesundheit, Biodiversität und Digitalisierung.

Obwohl seit der ersten Konferenz nur acht Monate vergangen sind, findet die zweite HSC in einem deutlich veränderten globalen Kontext statt. Sie fällt in eine Zeit tiefgreifender Umbrüche in den internationalen Beziehungen, zunehmender geopolitischer Spannungen und wachsender Fragmentierung. In einer von UNDP im Vorfeld der HSC 2025 durchgeführten Umfrage unter den Konferenzteilnehmenden nannten rund 67 % der Befragten die geopolitischen Spannungen als größte Herausforderung für die globale Zusammenarbeit im kommenden Jahr. In dieser Situation setzt die HSC ein bewusstes Zeichen:

Nachhaltige Entwicklung gelingt nur im Schulterschluss. Die Konferenz wurde daher von Beginn an als fortlaufender Prozess konzipiert – mit dem Anspruch, Wirkung weit über die Konferenztage hinaus zu entfalten. Die hochrangige Beteiligung in diesem Jahr ist ein klares Signal: Der Ansatz der HSC findet auch in herausfordernden Zeiten breite Resonanz. Getragen wird die HSC von einer starken Allianz: dem Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ), dem Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen (UNDP), der Michael Otto Stiftung und der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg.

Eröffnet wird der erste Konferenztag der HSC 2025 durch Keynotes von Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan, Hamburgs Erstem Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher und dem UNDP-Administrator Achim Steiner. Das folgende Eröffnungspanel ist besetzt mit Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan; Joyelle Clarke, Nachhaltigkeitsministerin, St. Kitts & Nevis; Rebeca Grynspar, Generalsekretärin von UNCTAD; Cindy McCain, Exekutiv-direktorin des WFP; und Maropene Ramokgopa, Planungsministerin, Südafrika.

Den zweiten Konferenztag wird Vizekanzler und Bundesfinanzminister Lars Klingbeil mit einer Keynote und Q&A Session eröffnen.

Zu den weiteren hochrangigen Teilnehmenden zählen unter anderem Michael Otto, Ehrenvorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats, Otto Group; Antoine Denoix, Vorstandsvorsitzender, AXA Climate; Günther Thallinger, Mitglied des Vorstands für Investment, Management und Nachhaltigkeit, Allianz SE; Amitabh Behar, Geschäftsführender Direktor, Oxfam International; Sania Nishtar, Vorstandsvorsitzende, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Carolina Pasquali, Geschäftsführerin, Greenpeace Brasilien; und Elizabeth Wathuti, Klimaaktivistin und Gründerin der Green Generation Initiative.



Eine umfassendere Liste ausgewählter hochrangiger Teilnehmender mit den vollständigen Funktionstiteln finden Sie hier.

Die Vielfalt der Teilnehmenden und das sektorübergreifende

Zusammenspiel von Entscheidungsträgerinnen und -trägern aus Politik, Wirtschaft, Wissenschaft und Zivilgesellschaft – aus allen Regionen der Welt – schaffen die Grundlage für neue Allianzen und gemeinsame Initiativen. So wird die HSC zu einem Ort für konkreten Fortschritt.

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan: „Die internationalen Heraus-

forderungen sind groß wie nie – daher muss die internationale Zusammenarbeit stark wie nie sein. Wenn es die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz noch nicht gäbe, müssten wir sie spätestens jetzt erfinden. Viele traditionelle Austauschforen sind derzeit blockiert. Der Wert und Nutzen internationaler Zusammenarbeit werden weltweit teils aggressiv in Frage gestellt. Umso wichtiger ist ein Format wie die Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz, die diesen Attacken etwas entgegenhält und eine einfache Erkenntnis mit Leben füllt: Es geht uns allen besser, wenn wir miteinander arbeiten und nicht gegeneinander. Hierfür schaffen wir den Rahmen. So entstehen neue Allianzen und Kooperationsmodelle.“

Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher: „Mit der Sustainability Conference hat Hamburg ein Forum geschaffen, um die praktische Umsetzung der SDGs weltweit voranzubringen. Unsere Stadt verfolgt selbst eine konsequente Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie, ist ein starker Wirtschaftsstandort und international gut vernetzt. Im vergangenen Jahr hat die Konferenz zu vielen konkreten Vereinbarungen und Projekten geführt. Daran wollen wir anknüpfen. Wir freuen uns auf die Gäste, einen interessanten Austausch und neue Ideen zur Umsetzung der Agenda 2030 der Vereinten Nationen.“

UNDP-Administrator Achim Steiner: „Wir leben in einer Zeit der Unsicherheit mit zunehmenden geopolitischen Spannungen, in der Entwicklungswege unter Druck geraten – durch Kürzungen bei der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit, Handelskonflikte und die Schuldenkrise. Was wir jetzt brauchen, ist mehr Zusammenarbeit – nicht weniger. In Formaten wie der Hamburg Sustainability Conference finden wir genau diese entscheidenden Anknüpfungspunkte, um große Ideen anzugehen, Vertrauen wiederaufzubauen, innovative Lösungen voranzubringen und bedeutungsvolle Verbindungen zwischen Gemeinschaften weltweit zu schaffen.“

Ehrenvorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats der Otto Group Michael Otto: „Das enorme Potenzial des Privatsektors, die Fortschritte bei den SDGs zu beschleunigen, muss freigesetzt, die Wirtschaft vom Mit-Verursacher zur maßgeblichen Lösung der Nachhaltigkeitskrise umgestaltet werden.“ Bereits bei der ersten Konferenz wurden wichtige und konkrete Fortschritte erzielt – darunter die Hamburg Declaration on the Decarbonisation of Global Shipping, die Hamburg Declaration on Green Aviation sowie der Beitritt erster Regierungen zur Global Battery Alliance.

Auf diesen Erfolgen baut die HSC 2025 nun gezielt auf. Auch in diesem Jahr werden bedeutende neue Initiativen und Allianzen gestartet – mit dem Ziel, konkrete Verbesserungen in zentralen Handlungsfeldern zu erreichen. Dazu zählen die Unterzeichnung der Hamburg Declaration on Responsible AI for the SDGs sowie die Gründung der Global Alliance against Inequality.

Detaillierte Informationen zum Konferenzprogramm sowie die Übersicht der Sprechenden finden Sie hier.

Ein Livestream für ausgewählte Sessions ist auf der HSC-Homepage hier verfügbar.



Am 4. Juni wird der HSC Future Economy Day aufbauend auf die zentralen Diskussionen der Konferenz die drängenden Herausforderungen einer nachhaltigen Transformation der Wirtschaft vertiefend in den Blick nehmen. Weitere Informationen finden Sie hier.

Vom 1. bis 6. Juni findet die Hamburg Sustainability Week 2025 statt. Mit einem vielfältigen Programm richtet sich diese an die Hamburger Stadtgesellschaft. Alle Informationen dazu finden Sie hier.

PM: HSC 2025 / BMZ Pressestelle

PB: Unleashing Investments for SDGs

The role of private sector investments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be at the forefront of discussions at this year's Hamburg Sustainability Conference. This forum will spotlight innovative approaches to mobilizing private capital for sustainable development. Experts will explore strategies for aligning investments with the SDGs, emphasizing the importance of finance in driving long-term economic and social progress. The conversation will address the critical question: How can we ensure that every investment contributes to a successful transition?



Navigating the Tides of Climate Finance: St. Kitts and Nevis at Global Sustainability Forums

Date: June 14, 2025

Source:
WINN Media SKN

St. Kitts and Nevis (WINN)—The global stage has recently witnessed St. Kitts and Nevis at the forefront of critical discussions on climate finance and sustainable development, with the Hon. Dr. Joyelle Clarke, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action & Constituency Empowerment, championing the unique needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Her interventions at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference and the United Nations Oceans Conference have underscored the profound challenges Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face in accessing crucial funding, while also highlighting the interlinked nature of global environmental and economic issues.

The Disconnect in Climate Financing for SIDS

The heart of the challenge for SIDS lies in the existing international financial architecture, which often fails to account for their inherent vulnerabilities adequately.



During a session at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, Minister Clarke articulated this critical disconnect, emphasising the pressing need for accessible and appropriate financing mechanisms.

“The reality on the ground is that we have to deal with poverty, we have a serious percentage of our budget is in social protection, and we have to transition not just our economy, but we have to be more climate resilient. To do that, we need fast access to green financing, we need some risk-sharing mechanisms, we need to ensure that there is co-financing and grant-based financing, and concessional financing. Oftentimes we sit in meetings and we hear there’s funding available but oh not for St. Kitts and Nevis, not for Antigua and Barbuda, not for Barbados and that’s a problem and we understand that the challenge is how we assess vulnerabilities and that’s why our CARICOM leaders are pushing for the adoption of the MVI, look at our vulnerabilities more holistically but also our assets, multi-dimensional vulnerability index which it uses more than just the GDP as an indicator of your status.”

This sentiment was echoed by Peter Cripps, Editor at Environmental Finance, who directly questioned the categorisation of these nations.

Axel van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director at the World Bank, acknowledged this as a “really serious problem for island countries,” noting that the conventional metric of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita often presents a misleading picture of their economic reality.

Barbados, for instance, with a per capita GDP of \$22,000, faces a starkly different reality on the ground.

This traditional assessment method means SIDS are frequently ineligible for concessional finance, despite being on the frontlines of the climate crisis.

The disproportionate impact of natural disasters further exacerbates the situation. Hurricanes and typhoons can inflict damages ranging from 10% to a staggering 60% of a SIDS’ GDP, leading to dire consequences for their debt situations and trapping them in a “vicious circle”.

“So we have been trying to deal, particularly in the Pacific, we have made all the countries IDA eligible. We’ve been trying to do that also with a certain number of countries in the Caribbean but not everybody is accepting from the donors that other countries could be IDA eligible and that is a problem for these countries because they are hit regularly by hurricanes or typhoons and then the damage is not half a percent of GDP, you talk about 10 to 50, 60% of GDP in damages and that that has of course huge consequences on the debt situation so they get into a vicious circle,” shared Axel van Trotsenburg, Senior Managing Director at the World Bank.

This acute vulnerability necessitates a shift towards a more comprehensive assessment tool, such as the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI), which considers economic, environmental, and social risks beyond mere income levels.

The UN General Assembly formally adopted the MVI framework in August 2024, marking a significant step forward after decades of advocacy from Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The MVI aims to capture exogenous vulnerabilities and a lack of resilience to external shocks, ensuring a more credible and comparable assessment of needs.

The Path to Sustainable Transformation

Minister Clarke emphasised that for co-financing to be truly effective, it must come with results-based financing and a sustained presence of experts within national systems.



This approach, she noted, could finally allow nations like St. Kitts and Nevis to access the financing needed to transform their economies and contribute to global benefits.

She highlighted the critical need for an injection of concessional financing, possibly in the billions, to facilitate the transition to renewable energy, specifically geothermal power, which could solve challenges related to water, food, and manufacturing costs.

While commitments from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Caribbean Development Bank are a start, the scale of investment required necessitates a collaborative effort involving private sector money and World Bank financing.

St. Kitts and Nevis is committed to this transformative journey, aiming to become a fully Sustainable Island State by 2040 through a comprehensive seven-pillar system.

This vision encompasses reliable, affordable, and clean energy; increased local food production; a circular economy with zero waste; diversified and resilient sectors; and infrastructure designed to withstand the impacts of climate change.

The nation has already taken concrete steps, including initiating a three-phase ban on single-use plastics and spearheading a national recycling program.

Forging Global Alliances for a Livable Planet

The recent engagements, including Minister Clarke's participation at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, have underscored the critical interlinkages within multilateral spaces.

Whether the focus is on protecting marine ecosystems, accelerating renewable energy transitions, or fostering a just and circular path to sustainability, progress in one area fundamentally supports progress in all of them.

The conference served as a meaningful step towards cultivating deeper alliances and delivering results-oriented solutions across countries and continents.

Minister Clarke's robust advocacy was also seen at the United Nations Oceans Conference in Nice, France, where she led the Federation's delegation, emphasising the existential threat that climate change poses to Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

She stressed the urgent need for localised climate financing for coastal communities and called for adaptive, bottom-up financing approaches that empower local actors as leaders in climate response.

Further, she underscored the importance of solid legislative frameworks, meaningful regional partnerships, and strong community engagement for the success of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), asserting that "conservation is not just about protection, it is about prosperity".

During the conference, St. Kitts and Nevis also became a signatory to the Agreement on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), also known as the High Seas Treaty, reinforcing the nation's commitment to multilateralism in safeguarding global marine biodiversity.

Prime Minister Dr. Terrance Drew offered congratulations to Minister Clarke for her outstanding leadership, noting that her "timely interventions and strong representation ensured that our nation's voice was meaningfully heard on critical issues related to ocean sustainability and climate resilience."



He commended her for her “tireless advocacy and for successfully engaging regional and international partners on behalf of our people and our planet.”

This unwavering commitment to shaping a sustainable, resilient, and equitable future for its people and shared oceans demonstrates St. Kitts and Nevis’s role as a bold and principled voice in global ocean and climate diplomacy.

yahoo!news dpa • international

1. Sustainability conference in Germany urges action despite conflicts

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Yahoo News / dpa international

A major conference on sustainability and development opened in the northern Germany city of Hamburg on Monday, as participants warned that global environmental issues are being sidelined by conflicts.

Around 1,600 people from some 110 countries are expected to attend the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, which is centred on the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The two-day event, first held last October, is being jointly organized by the German Development Ministry and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) along with local foundations.

Hamburg Mayor Peter Tschentscher said “in recent years, the world has changed.”

“Crisis, wars, and conflicts increasingly overshadow the focus on climate change and the global pressures on nature and the environment,” he argued.

Tschentscher said the SDGs “aim to give 8 billion people worldwide a good life and a secure future with access to education, to health, participation, peace, security, and prosperity.”

“Implementing this is a mandate and a great responsibility for the international community of states, because global developments can only be achieved through cooperation and joint efforts,” the mayor added.

UNDP head Achim Steiner admitted that “the world has not exactly moved forward” since the last conference in October, and that “this is not a good moment to encourage people to believe in the scope, value, and potential of international cooperation.”

“My hope is that here, out of Hamburg, out of this Hamburg Sustainability Conference, emerges a new way to actually think about the future and not only to think, but to act on it,” Steiner added.

2. German finance minister wants quick results from state investments

Date: June 03, 2025

Source:

Yahoo News / dpa international



Germany's Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil wants to see results from the planned multibillion-euro investments in infrastructure before the end of this year.

"I think this is also very important in the fight against right-wing populism, to show people that the country is modernizing, that something is happening and that life is becoming easier thanks to investments in infrastructure," the vice- chancellor said at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC).

"My goal is for people to see that something is happening this year." He also appealed to German businesses, "now is the time to invest."

At the same time, he called on Europe to speed up political decisions, saying there is too much bureaucracy and too little politics. He pointed out that the presidential election in Poland did not turn out well for Europe, and that 2027's presidential election in France is approaching. "No one knows what will happen then," he said.

He expressed confidence in the outcome of the trade dispute with the United States. Germany and Europe's clear message to the United States is "We want a common path and are looking for a common solution."

With regard to China, Klingbeil said that Germany should definitely cooperate with Beijing, but at the same time the clear message is that if Taiwan is attacked, everything will change.

Klingbeil said that Germany would remain a reliable partner in development financing, "especially now that other important donor countries are reducing their support." Germany is on track to become the world's largest donor of official development assistance, he added.

ZEIT ONLINE

Ministerin Alabali-Radovan eröffnet Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz

Date: June 02, 2025

Source:
ZEIT ONLINE

Bundesentwicklungsministerin Reem Alabali-Radovan (SPD) hat Israels Regierung aufgefordert, weiteren Hilfsorganisationen den Zugang zum Gazastreifen zu ermöglichen. «Keine politische Strategie darf dazu führen, dass humanitäre Hilfe blockiert wird», sagte Alabali-Radovan laut Manuskript zu Beginn der zweiten Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz im Rathaus der Stadt. Wenn der Zugang zu Hilfsgütern dauerhaft blockiert werde, müsse über Konsequenzen gesprochen werden.

Israel hatte nach nahezu drei Monaten zuletzt wieder Hilfslieferungen an die hungernde Bevölkerung im Gazastreifen in begrenztem Umfang erlaubt. Israel ermöglicht es der umstrittenen Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, Hilfsgüter zu verteilen, um auf diese Weise andere Hilfsorganisationen wie die der Vereinten Nationen zu umgehen.

Ausrichter erwarten Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern
Zu der zweitägigen Hamburger Nachhaltigkeitskonferenz erwarten die Ausrichter rund 1.600 Teilnehmer aus mehr als 110 Ländern. Die Konferenz war erstmals vergangenen Oktober



ausgerichtet worden, um die Umsetzung der 17 globalen Nachhaltigkeitsziele der Vereinten Nationen zu fördern. Themen dieser sind unter anderem Armut, Hunger und Gesundheit.

Hamburgs Erster Bürgermeister Peter Tschentscher (SPD) sagte, die Welt habe sich in den vergangenen Jahren verändert: Krisen, Kriege und Konflikte überschatteten Bemühungen, Klima und Natur zu schützen. Orientierung biete die Agenda 2030, die die Nachhaltigkeitsziele definiert. Nachdenklich äußerte sich auch der Leiter des Entwicklungsprogramms der Vereinten Nationen, Achim Steiner. «Die Welt ist nicht gerade vorangekommen», sagte er auf Englisch. Unsicherheit und Angst nähmen zu. Es sei dennoch nicht Zeit für Mutlosigkeit.

Veranstalter der Konferenz sind das Bundesentwicklungsministerium, das Entwicklungsprogramm der Vereinten Nationen, eine Stiftung des Hamburger Mäzens Michael Otto und die Stadt Hamburg.