

High Level Meeting of the Least Developed Countries at the Fourth International Conference on Financing For Development (FFD4)

30 June to 3 July 2025, Seville, Spain

To strengthen Least Developed Countries' (LDCs) representation and access to finance within the global financial architecture, the Government of Nepal and United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS) will convene a High Level Meeting as a Special Event to the Fourth Financing for Development (FfD4) Forum, in Seville, Spain, 30 June to 3 July 2025. This meeting will bring together Heads of States and Government and Ministers from LDCs, leaders of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), Development Partners and Private Sector Representatives, to discuss how the FFD4 outcome can support LDCs to mobilize the financing, technical assistance and capacity-building support required to fully implement the Doha Programme of Action. As such, this will be a critical event for LDC governments, other stakeholders of LDCs, and development partners to achieve the common goal of financing the development of LDCs.

Background

The Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are characterized by low levels of income, weakened human and institutional capacities, and high levels of vulnerability to external shocks. These countries often face significant challenges in accessing international development assistance, which can limit their ability to address the pressing needs of their populations.

The 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) called on a broad diversity of actors to mobilize domestic and external financial resources in pursuit of sustainable development in the LDCs. However, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to LDCs has been stagnant, remaining below 2.5% of global FDI flows for nearly a decade, debt servicing burdens are increasing, and ODA to LDCs declined by 3% in 2024¹. Amidst a rapidly shifting global development landscape, all of these factors present ever deepening challenges for the LDCs and their achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The FFD4 Conference presents a crucial opportunity for

Objective of the Meeting

¹ [https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD\(2025\)6/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD(2025)6/en/pdf)

The FFD4 Conference Process presents the LDCs with a once-in-a-decade opportunity to shape the global financing for development framework in ways that are beneficial to their countries and their needs. Yet, the outcome document on its own will not deliver the commitments, promises and actions that are required. The aim of this high-level meeting is to put a spotlight on the special needs of the Least Developed Countries and to set the FFD4 outcome document in motion and to translate the framework into concrete actions that can be taken by a variety of stakeholders, in support of financing their development.

Draft Agenda

Opening by Chair of the Prime Minister of Nepal as Chair of the LDC Group

Statement by USG OHRLLS, Rabab Fatima

Statement by a Principal of an MDB

Statements by Heads of States and Ministers of LDCs

Commitments of Action by development partners, heads of MDBs, other stakeholders

Closing by USG Rabab Fatima and Chair of LDCs Group