

## 2025 FiCS Summit



### Partner' Side Event #10

## Fostering collaboration between international, regional and local PDBs to Advance Sustainable Food Systems

**Date and time:** Thursday 27 February 2025, 8:00-9:00 am SAST

**Venue**  
Hall 1B

### **Coordinator(s)**

**Coordinator 1,** Cecilia D'Alessandro, Deputy Workstream Head - Sustainable Food Systems, ECDPM, [cda@ecdpm.org](mailto:cda@ecdpm.org)

**Coordinator 2,** Thierry Latreille, Coordinator | Agricultural Public Development Bank Coalition Sustainable Production, Markets and Institutions (PMI Division) IFAD, [t.latreille@ifad.org](mailto:t.latreille@ifad.org)

### Detailed information about the session

<b>Rationale</b>	<p>The global food-financing gap continues to grow, and Official Development Assistance (ODA) alone cannot address the crisis. Public Development Banks (PDBs), with their unique ability to mobilise private investments, are critical to closing this gap and driving impactful, sustainable solutions for food systems.</p> <p>Global efforts such as the Finance in Common Summit (FiCS) and the G7 processes have emphasised the importance of PDBs working together to mobilise investments in food. The Public Development Bank Platform for Green and Inclusive Food Systems, launched at the</p>
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2021 Finance in Common Summit (FiCS) and coordinated by IFAD, exemplifies collaborative efforts to “finance in common” sustainable food systems, particularly at the intersection of food security and climate objectives. Similarly, G7 PDBs and Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) have decided to join forces to enhance food security and sustainable food systems in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) through the G7 Collaborative for Sustainable Food Systems.

Despite progress, challenges remain. Successful food investments require five key components: (i) deep local knowledge and networks to connect public and private actors, (ii) transfer of knowledge and good practices, and the provision of technical assistance, (iii) preparation and aggregation of projects to make them “bankable,” (iv) derisking instruments, and (v) a comprehensive approach combining climate resilience with development goals.

Collaboration between DFIs, international and regional/local PDBs offers a promising way forward. Regional PDBs bring essential insights into local contexts, while international PDBs and DFIs provide strategic expertise and access to larger funding sources. Together, they can leverage complementary strengths to unlock impactful investments and align them with i) both local priorities and global objectives; and ii) development and climate goals. However, such partnerships remain rare, limited to a few ad hoc examples.

To maximise PDBs’ impact on food systems, stronger collaboration is needed. This includes aligning strategies, cooperation on blended finance and the use of de-risking instruments such as guarantees, enhancing project preparation processes, using country platforms and fostering joint approaches that integrate climate and development perspectives. By combining resources, expertise, and networks, PDBs and DFIs can overcome barriers to food financing and scale up investments that drive transformative change and support sustainable practices, including agroecology, in food systems.

This side event seeks to explore the challenges and opportunities of fostering collaboration between DFIs, international and regional/local PDBs. It will highlight good practices and key recommendations to enhance PDBs’ collective impact, ultimately helping close the financing gap and advancing sustainable food systems, with a particular focus on the articulation between the G7 Collaborative for Sustainable Food Systems and the AgriPDB Platform. By

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	looking at a single sector, the practical recommendations from this side-event will also feed into broader policy processes and sectors.
<b>Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss complementarities and potential collaboration between the AgriPDB platform and the G7 Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems</li> <li>• Identify critical success factors and good practices that make partnerships between DFIs, international, regional, and local PDBs successful, including the main tools and incentives that need to be put in place to foster that collaboration.</li> <li>• Draw implications that can support key policy processes such as the fourth financing for development conference, where the notion of e.g. PDBs and DFIs working as a system or country platforms, will be discussed.</li> </ul>
<b>Target audience</b> <i>Select which applies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Open attendance</i></li> </ul>
<b>Outcome of the event</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced collaboration and coordination between the PDB Platform for Green and Inclusive Food Systems, and the G7 Collaborative on Sustainable Food Systems</li> <li>• Key success factors and good practices in terms of how collaboration between international and local/regional PDBs could be fostered are identified.</li> <li>• Integration and implementation of side-event recommendations by PDBs in a systemic manner.</li> </ul>
<b>Format</b>	Roundtable (O-shaped table): 1 keynote/chair, 1 moderator/facilitator and a maximum of 6 speakers/experts around the table

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Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)</li> <li>• International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</li> <li>• Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP)</li> </ul>
Proposed Keynote	Federica Diamanti, Associate Vice President for External Relations, IFAD
Proposed Moderator	Cecilia D'Alessandro, Deputy Workstream Head - Sustainable Food Systems, ECDPM
Proposed Speakers/Experts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enrico Petrocelli, Head of International Institutional Relations, CDP</li> <li>2. Lloyd Banda, CEO, MAIIC Malawi</li> <li>3. Mr. Shaji K.V., Chairman, India's National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)</li> <li>4. Mr. Frank Nyabundege, Managing Director of the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) (TBC)</li> <li>5. Suzanne Taylor, Principal on the Public Policy and Partnerships, FinDev Canada</li> <li>6. Ms Nnenna Nwabuofo, Vice President for the Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery, at African Development Bank Group</li> </ol>
Proposed Agenda	<p>8:00 - 8:02 (2') Welcome and introduction by the moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- welcomes the participants in the room and online</li> <li>- introduces the topic/objective and expected outcomes of the side event</li> <li>- gives floor to first speaker for opening remarks</li> </ul> <p>8:02 - 8:09 (7') Keynote speech, Federica Diamanti, Associate Vice President for External Relations, IFAD</p> <p>8:09 - 8:41 (30') Moderated panel discussion (max 5' min per speaker)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enrico Petrocelli, Head of International Institutional Relations, CDP</li> <li>- Suzanne Taylor, Principal on the Public Policy and Partnerships, FinDev Canada</li> <li>- Lloyd Banda, CEO, MAIIC Malawi</li> </ul>

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- Ms Nnenna Nwabufu, Vice President for the Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery, at African Development Bank Group
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- Mr. Frank Nyabundege, Managing Director of the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB)

8:40 - 8:55 (15') Open discussion

8:55 - 9:00 Concluding remarks (5')