

Closing Plenary

Where Reforms Matter the Most for Growth?

This plenary will bring together prominent experts and partners to reflect on a central question emerging from the 29th Sustainable Development Conference (SDC): which areas of economic policy and governance matter most for accelerating growth and development?

While economic reforms are often discussed in broad terms, governments face difficult choices regarding where limited political, administrative, and fiscal capital should be directed. The plenary will, therefore, focus on identifying the economic policy and governance functions that have the greatest influence on investment, productivity, competitiveness, employment, exports, fiscal sustainability, and long-term economic transformation.

Drawing on insights generated throughout the SDC, the plenary will explore how reform priorities can be systematically identified and sequenced. Discussions will consider the relative importance of different government functions - ranging from taxation, trade facilitation, energy governance, regulatory quality, investment promotion, and labour market institutions to broader coordination and implementation systems. Speakers will also examine political economic considerations, institutional constraints, and practical pathways for translating reform priorities into actionable agendas. The objective is to conclude the 29th SDC with a forward-looking discussion on where reforms are likely to generate the highest economic returns and how governments can focus reform efforts where they matter most for growth.

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