SIDE EVENT

“Leaving no one behind in the Asia-Pacific region: what will it take?”

Venue: Engagement Space, 1st floor, UNCC
Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Time: 08:30 – 10:00
Organizers: Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP), Asia Civil Society Partnership on Sustainable Development (APSD), and the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub.

Background

The commitment to ‘leave no one behind’ is a key feature of Agenda 2030, yet there is a danger that its centrality to SDG achievement is not well recognized or understood. The theme for this year’s High Level Political Forum (HLPF) panel ‘Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies’, presents an important opportunity to focus more clearly on this issue, as groups and individuals that have been left behind – or at risk of being left behind – are typically those that have the least resilience and struggle to recover from shocks, which can often reverse gains made on human development indicators.

This session will focus on ways to overcome some of the key challenges to operationalizing the ‘leave no one behind’ agenda in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Scope

This session will begin with an opening presentation on ‘leave no one behind’ – what it means, and what it will take to achieve this in the Asia-Pacific region. It will then be followed by short presentations addressing some of the key constraints that may pose obstacles to leaving no one behind, and potential solutions to them: the difficulties inherent in measuring progress, the uptake of existing data into the policy-making process and shifting entrenched inequalities. The presentations will then be followed by a ‘world café’, with each of the presenters facilitating the breakout groups.
Key Questions

1. **Measuring progress**: what are some good examples of policies to measure progress on Agenda 2030? What are some good examples of systems and mechanisms used to implement and monitor progress? Where and how can CSOs contribute and strengthen the monitoring process?

2. **Data and the potential of technology**: what are some of the challenges involved in getting access to reliable, timely and sufficiently disaggregated data? How can CSOs contribute to data collection and analysis? What is the potential of ICTs and technology to achieve the ‘leave no one behind’ agenda?

3. **Addressing inequalities**: what are the key factors of rising inequalities? Are the existing policy frameworks adequate to reverse the process of wealth accumulation in few? What mechanism and policy suggestions you have to address not only income inequality but also other forms of inequality e.g. gender, caste-based inequality and marginalization of the indigenous countries? How effectively CSOs can intervene to reduce inequalities?

Panelists/discussants

Beckie Malay, GCAP

Moizza Binat Sarwar, ODI

Aly Neel, UNF (YBC)

Moderator

Beckie Malay, GCAP (TBC)

Proposed Programme

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| 08:30 – 8:40 am| Achieving ‘leave no one behind’ in the Asia-Pacific region | Moderator: Beckie Malay, GCAP
Speaker: Moizza Binat Sarwar, ODI |
| 8:40 – 8:45 am | Measuring progress                                | Speaker: Aly Neel, UNF (TBC)                |
| 8:45 – 8:50 am | Data and the potential of technology              | Speaker: TBD                                |
| 8:50 – 8:55 am | Addressing inequalities                           | Speaker: Beckie Malay, GCAP                 |
| 8.55 – 9.20 am | Discussion: world café                            | Moderator: Beckie Malay, GCAP               |
| 9:20 - 9:30 am | Feedback from the discussion                      | Moderator: Beckie Malay, GCAP               |

For more details and information contact

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