

Challenges and Opportunities in Development Finance

How do we get it right?



Thursday, March 16th

12:30 - 2:00 pm

Amazon Watch / CIEL Conference Room
1350 Connecticut Ave. NW #1100
(Above Cosi, Dupont Circle South)
Washington, DC

If you had the chance to design a major development project today, what would you do to ensure it delivered its promised results? In the current political climate, what challenges and opportunities would you face? How do you overcome obstacles and mitigate risks along the way? How do you ultimately deliver real, sustainable benefits to people on the ground?

In recent years, we have seen the rise of new actors in development finance, potentially creating avenues for bottom-up growth, but also often with disastrous consequences for environmental and human rights protections. We are also facing great uncertainty as U.S. commitments toward international institutions and development remain in question and European cooperation wanes. Nonetheless, in the midst of these changes and turmoil, there may be opportunities to transform traditional approaches to development and ensure that it can be a winning proposition for all stakeholders.

Please join us for our next "Green Bag" lunch, which brings together experts in development finance to lead a roundtable discussion on current challenges and opportunities and share what it takes to get it right.

About the Presenters:



Carla García Zendejas is the Director for the People, Land and Resources Program at the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). Carla directs CIEL's efforts to protect and defend the environment and human rights against the adverse impacts of development by monitoring, advocating for policy reform, and seeking remedy in collaboration with partners and communities.



Gretchen Gordon is a human rights advocate and Coordinator of the Coalition for Human Rights in Development, a global coalition of social movements and civil society groups working to ensure that development finance institutions respect, protect and fulfill human rights.



Jeff Hall is the Executive Director of the Bank Information Center (BIC). BIC advocates for social, ecological, and economic justice by amplifying local voices and democratizing international development finance.



Preksha Krishna Kumar is a Programs Specialist at the International Accountability Project (IAP). IAP is a human rights advocacy organization that seeks to end forced eviction and create new global policy and practice for development that respects people's homes, environment, and human rights.



Kindra Mohr serves as the Policy Director for Accountability Counsel, a non-profit legal organization that works with communities around the world to defend their environmental and human rights through advocacy and direct case support.

Calendar of Upcoming "Green Bag" Presentations:

March 23rd: Amazon Indigenous Delegation

March 30th: Colombia Peace Process

April 13th: Environmental and Climate Justice

April 20th: Corruption and Transparency