



# CGD Spring Meetings Events 2026

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## Shock Absorbers in Debt Contracts for Poor Countries: Preventing Stress from Turning into Default

Tuesday, April 14 • 1:30–3:00PM ET • At CGD and Online

Join us for this in-person and live streamed event to hear a keynote address from Carmen Reinhart to discuss a new CGD proposal for temporary debt-service suspension clauses that focus on the magnitude, not the source, of the shock. Keynote by **Carmen Reinhart**, Harvard Kennedy School and former World Bank. Featuring **Nancy Lee**, CGD; **Liliana Rojas-Suarez**, CGD; **Anna Gelpern**, Georgetown University; **Starla Griffin**, Slaney Advisors and Sustainable Sovereign Debt Hub (SSDH); **Shohei Hara**, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); **Daouda Sembene**, AfriCatalyst and CGD. Moderated by **Nancy Lee**, CGD.

## Hard Questions: Expert Perspectives Ahead of the 2026 World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings

Tuesday, April 14 • 4:00–5:15PM ET • At CGD and Online

In a conversation co-hosted and moderated by Devex, leading researchers from the Center for Global Development will share their thoughts on the critical questions that will drive the agenda, insights into this moment in global development, and what they'll be watching. They will examine what the meetings may mean for the most pressing challenges facing developing economies, from the economic fallout from the war in Iran, to the role of MDBs in a shrinking aid landscape. In-person attendees are invited to a reception which will immediately follow the event. Featuring **Rachel Glennerster**, CGD; **Clemence Landers**, CGD; **Charles Kenny**, CGD; **Mikaela Gavvas**, CGD. Moderated by **Raj Kumar**, Devex.

## Rewriting the Case for Aid: Purpose, Priorities and Political Realities

Wednesday, April 15 • 11:00AM–12:15PM ET • At CGD and Online

This CGD event will unveil a vision for ODA at a moment when the traditional aid model is breaking down and serious debate has begun over what should replace it. Featuring **Gunn Jorid Roset**, Norad; **Bright Simons**, mPedigree; **Rémy Rioux**, Agence Française de Développement (AFD); **Carsten Staur**, OECD Development Assistance Committee. Moderated by **Masood Ahmed**, CGD. *Additional speakers TBA.*

## Sustainable Financing for Education: One of the World's Highest Return Investments

Wednesday, April 15 • 1:00–2:15PM ET • At CGD and Online

The Center for Global Development and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) will convene a high-level dialogue bringing together leading experts to examine how a sustainable financing approach can meet today's education challenges. The discussion will explore why long-term, system-level investments—rooted in domestic financing and strategically

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complemented by external support—are essential to delivering quality education at scale. Opening remarks by **Rachel Glennerster**, CGD. Introductory remarks by **David Evans**, CGD. Featuring **David Andrew**, Minister for Education, Youth, Sports and Culture, Grenada; **Laura Frigenti**, GPE; **Mulele M. Mulele**, Permanent Secretary for Economic Management and Finance at the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, Zambia; **Conrad Sackey**, Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education, Sierra Leone. Moderated by **Masood Ahmed**, CGD. *Additional speakers TBA.*

## Investments and Interventions to End Child Marriage

Wednesday, April 15 • 3:00–4:15PM ET • At CGD and Online

Join CGD, the Institute of Global Politics Women’s Initiative at Columbia University, Girls Not Brides, and the World Bank Africa Gender Innovation Lab for a dynamic discussion featuring voices from across the international development community. This event will explore new research and concrete actions that countries, funders, and communities can take to end child marriage. Featuring **Kehinde Ajayi**, CGD; **Laxman Belbase**, MenEngage Alliance; **Rachel Glennerster**, CGD; **Anju Malhotra**, John Hopkins University; **Kakenya Ntaiya**, Kakenya’s Dream; **Rachael Pierotti**, World Bank; **Rachel Vogelstein**, Columbia University. *Additional speakers TBA.*

## How Can Africa Finance Its Own Transformation?

Thursday, April 16 • 2:00–3:15PM ET • At CGD and Online

This discussion brings together leaders at the center of African finance and reform. They will examine what it takes to move from rhetoric about “mobilizing private capital” to building domestic financial systems capable of funding structural transformation. Featuring **Samaila Zubairu**, African Finance Corporation; **Tidjane Thiam**, former Prudential and Credit Suisse; **Greg Guyett**, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Moderated by **Yemi Osinbajo**, Future of Development Cooperation Coalition and former Vice President of Nigeria. *Additional speakers TBA.*

## Water as Health Policy: Outcomes for Lives and Livelihoods

Thursday, April 16 • 4:00–5:30PM ET • At CGD and Online

Hosted by the World Bank Group, Center for Global Development, and University of Chicago Development Innovation Lab, this event convenes policymakers, researchers, and practitioners to explore why strong evidence linking water and health has not translated into sufficient progress. Keynote address by **Saroj Kumar Jha**, World Bank Group. Featuring **Meike van Ginneken**, Water Envoy, Kingdom of the Netherlands; **Michael Kremer**, University of Chicago and co-recipient of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economics; **Ashok Meena**, Secretary, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Government of India. Moderated by **Leah Rosenzweig**, Market Shaping Accelerator and CGD. Closing remarks by **Richard Damania**, World Bank Group. *Additional speakers TBA.*