

IPDCTALKS

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Powering Sustainable
Development
with Access to
Information

28 September 2017

Room IV, UNESCO HQ Paris, France

In partnership with



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



IFAP

Information for All
Programme



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



IPDCTALKS

Introduction

The goal of the IPDCTalks is to celebrate the International Day for Universal Access to Information and relate this to the implementation of SDGs.

Objectives

- * Demonstrate that public access to high quality information, along with strengthened media institutions and civil society that assure such access, is key to achieving the SDGs in their totality.
- * Increase support for the role of free, independent and pluralistic media, ICTs, and civil society, as part of monitoring progress on the SDGs in a creative, accessible and innovative way.
- * Raise public awareness about the important role of media, civil society and ICTs in monitoring progress towards the SDGs and in holding powerful actors accountable for their achievement, and to strengthen media development and access to information initiatives in this direction.

Format

Following the success of the first IPDCTalks, the format of this year's IPDCTalks will remain the same: TEDx Talks-style format (speakers standing), filmed and disseminated through social media. The speakers will appear alone on stage and will be introduced by a skillful presenter.

Guest speakers

A morning session will give the floor to world leaders, intellectuals, activists and experts who have strong messages to deliver on the achievement of a selection of Sustainable Development Goals. In the afternoon, media professionals, journalists and NGOs will speak about their work towards monitoring the progress towards sustainable development, educating and informing people, and holding those with power accountable for their achievement.

As a whole, the day will illustrate, with powerful examples and best practices, how access to quality information is crucial to the achievement of the SDGs. Regional and gender balance will be taken into account in finalizing the list of speakers.

The talks will address the following questions:

1. How can public access to quality information, enabled by civil society, media and use of ICTs contribute to the progress of the SDGs?
2. How can this access help monitor and generate progress of SDGs?
3. How can rights-holders (the media, environmental activists, transparency activists, ordinary people, etc.) be encouraged to optimize and 'own' information about and for progress of the 2030 Development Agenda.
4. What role should duty-bearers (authorities, UN bodies) play to protect and promote the right to access to information, and its relevance to sustainable development?

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of these IPDCTalks at Paris UNESCO Headquarters will be stakeholders with interests in SDG 16.10 on the potential of public access to information. These include:

- Members of delegations and experts on IPDC governing bodies
- Media (journalists, especially investigative journalists, and bloggers)
- Civil society (activists for transparency, anti-corruption, environmental goals, etc.)

Building on the success of last year's social media outreach, including trending topic on Twitter, the IPDCTalks will continue to aim attracting public attention through social media campaigns and live broadcasting of the Talks. Hereby, many more members of the public will be reached and benefit from the insight.

#IPDCTalks #SDGs

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Programme summary

Wednesday, 27 September, 2017
18:00-21:00 | Speakers' Welcome Dinner

A welcome dinner for all guest speakers will be provided through the courtesy of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to UNESCO. Building on the success of the welcome dinner from last year, all guest speakers and moderators are invited to join the Permanent Delegations of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Finland and Lithuania for the welcome dinner on the eve of the IPDCTalks. The welcome dinner is a perfect opportunity for all guest speakers and moderators to meet and get to know each other. The dinner will take place at the residence of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to France.

Thursday, 28 September, 2017
10.00-10.30 | IPDCTalks – Opening Ceremony

- **Ms. Irina Bokova** *Director-General UNESCO*
- **Ms. Albana Shala** *Chair of UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication*
- **Mr. Lionel Veer** *Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to UNESCO*
- **Ms. Irena Vaišvilaitė** *Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to UNESCO*

10.30-13.00 | IPDCTalks - Session one: A selection of SDGs

Moderators

- **Ms. Audrey Pulvar** *Canal + Anchor*
- **Ms. Joy Doreen Biira** *KTN Anchor*

10.30 – 10.50 | Talk 1 – SDG 1 End poverty

Mr. Salil Shetty (India) is the Secretary General of Amnesty International. As a long-term activist on poverty and justice, Mr. Shetty leads the movement's worldwide work to end human rights violations. Prior to joining Amnesty International, Mr. Shetty was Director of the United Nations Millennium Campaign from 2003 to 2010. He played a pivotal role in building the global advocacy campaign for the achievement of the SDGs. He previously served as chief executive of ActionAid, and is credited with transforming the organization into one of the world's foremost international development NGOs.

10.50 -11.10 | Talk 2 – SDG 4 Quality education

Mr. Tarek Shawki (Egypt) is the Minister of Education in Egypt. Mr. Shawki is a strong supporter for the modernization of education by including ICT in education, science and culture. His refreshing ideas on education has attracted worldwide attention. He developed several innovative initiatives, including an online digital portal that includes educational, research and cultural resources, and training programs for teachers to use ICT techniques in education. Mr. Shawki formerly e.g. served as the Chief of Section for “ICTs in Education, Science and Culture” and Senior Advisor on Education and Science to President el-Sisi.

11.10 -11.30 | Talk 3 – SDG 7 Clean and affordable energy

Mr. Fatih Birol (Turkey) is the Executive Director of the International Energy Agency. He also chairs the World Economic Forum's Energy Advisory Board and serves as member of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on 'Sustainable Energy for All'. Mr. Birol has been named by Forbes Magazine as one of the most powerful people in terms of influence on the world's energy scene.

11.30 -11.50 | Talk 4 - SDG 5 Gender equality

Ms. Liliane Ploumen (Netherlands) is the Dutch Minister of Foreign Trade and Development. Ms. Ploumen recently attracted worldwide media attention after establishing the international foundation 'She Decides', aimed at raising funds for safe abortions, sexual education in LDC's. Ms. Ploumen previously led several international development organizations, e.g. Cordaid and Stop Aids Now!

11.50 -12.15 | Talk 5 - SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

Ms. Tarja Halonen (Finland) is the former President of the Republic of Finland (2000-2012). Prior to her presidency, she served as Cabinet Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Justice and Minister of Social affairs and Health. President Halonen is known for her political commitment to human rights, gender equality and social justice. She serves e.g. as the co-Chair of the UN High-level Panel on Global Sustainability and Council of Women World Leaders.

12.15 – 13.00 | Questions & Answers

13.00 – 15.00 | Lunch

15.00 – 16.45 | IPDCTalks - Session two: Access to information & SDG 16

15.00 – 15.20 | Talk 6 – Access to Information

Mr. Cobus De Swardt (South Africa) is the former Secretary General of Transparency International (2007-2017) and currently serves as the Special Representative of Transparency International. He is member of the UN Global Compact and member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Transparency & Anti-Corruption. Mr. De Swardt was identified as one of the 500 most powerful individuals by the Foreign Policy Power Map in 2013 and was active in the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa as Chair of the African National Congress in Cape Town.

15.20 – 15.40 | Talk 7 – Access to Information

Ms. Ximena Puente De La Mora (Mexico) is the President of the Mexican Federal Institute for Access to Information and Data Protection, the main body for ensuring the people's right to access government information as well as personal data protection. As a former professor at the Law Faculty of the University of Colima, Ms. Puente de la Mora specialized in transparency, access to information, personal data protection and information technologies.

15.40 – 16.00 | Talk 8 – Access to Information

Ms. Gwen Lister (Namibia) is a Namibian journalist, publisher, apartheid opponent and press freedom activist. She founded The Namibian in 1985 during apartheid colonialism in the country. The newspaper and staff were consistently targeted by right-wing elements because of the perception that the newspaper supported the liberation movement. Lister was jailed twice. Lister won the International Press Freedom Award. She is member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists Advisory Committee, known for their role in the Panama Papers.

16.00 – 16.20 | Talk 9 – Access to Information

Ms. Nadia Al-Sakkaf (Yemen) was the first woman appointed information minister in Yemen. Before that, she was Chief Editor of Yemen's leading media establishment The Yemen Times. She is a renowned journalist, activist and human rights defender who left her mark on Yemen's media and political scene, in recognition of which she received many international awards including the first Gebran Tueni Award, Oslo Business for Piece Award in 2013 and was recognised by the BBC as one of 100 women who changed the world in the same year.

16.20 – 16.45 | Talk 10 – SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed (Nigeria) is the current Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and former Minister of Environment of Nigeria, where she steered the country's efforts to protect the natural environment and conserve resources for sustainable development. Prior to this role, she served as Special Adviser to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Post-2015 Development Planning. Ms. Mohammed is also Adjunct Professor in Development Practice at Columbia University and serves on the Global Development Program of the Ball & Melinda Gates Foundation, the African Women's Millennium Initiative, as well as the ActionAid International Right to Education Project.

16.45 - 17.15 | Closing Ceremony

- **Mr. Pekka Puustinen** *Ambassador of Finland to UNESCO*
- **Ms Chafica Haddad** *Chair of UNESCO's Information For All Programme*
- **Mr. Frank La Rue** *Assistant Director-General of UNESCO
Communication & Information Sector*