



THE GLOBAL DEAL – TOGETHER FOR DECENT WORK AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

WELCOME TO THE GLOBAL DEAL NEWSLETTER

We are pleased to publish the first edition of the Global Deal newsletter. We hope you find it informative and helpful.

The Global Deal is an initiative that aims to jointly address challenges in the global labour market and enable everyone to benefit from globalisation. Initiated by Sweden's Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, the Global Deal was developed in close collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and launched in 2016 in collaboration with an initial core group of states, businesses, trade unions and other organisations.

The Global Deal is a multistakeholder partnership, focusing on enhanced social dialogue and sound industrial relations. Social dialogue includes all types of negotiation, consultation or exchange of information between or among representatives of governments, employers and workers on issues of common interest relating to economic and social policy. Effective social dialogue can contribute to decent work, quality jobs, increased stability and productivity, leading in turn to greater equality and inclusive growth and offering a win-win-win opportunity for all stakeholders.

The Global Deal is a true partnership in line with Goal 17 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It represents concrete input to the achievement of several Sustainable Development Goals, not least SDG 8 (decent work and inclusive economic growth) and SDG 10 (reducing inequalities within and among countries). The Global Deal provides political direction and leadership to scale up existing processes. It encourages exchanging ideas and best practices, capacity development, filling knowledge gaps, and policy advice.



“The Global Deal is about ensuring that more people around the world have secure and good jobs, and about a more equal distribution of our economic resources. Globalisation presents opportunities, but requires a more equitable distribution of its benefits. More people need jobs with decent conditions and a salary they can live on. This is a prerequisite for globalisation to be a positive force.”

**– Swedish Prime Minister
Stefan Löfven**

[The Global Deal Declaration of Support](#) is the foundation of the initiative, together with the voluntary commitments made by associated partners. The commitments are voluntary and may include new or ongoing efforts to promote sound industrial relations and social dialogue. The Global Deal does not create new obligations – it promotes positive action. It is not a one-size-fits-all concept; rather it is an approach that can be adapted to various circumstances and contexts. This means it can be applied anywhere in the world, from the most highly industrialised to the lowest-income countries.

“The Global Deal is an important and necessary partnership for our times. Major transformations occurring in labour markets are challenging our shared quest for decent work and social justice for all. The Global Deal provides the long-term vision we need to promote social dialogue as the means to achieve these goals and a more equitable global economic system.”

- ILO Director General Guy Ryder

Launch of the Global Deal partnership at the UN Headquarters in New York 21 September 2016



“The OECD believes that the Global Deal marks a tremendous opportunity for governments, businesses and trade unions to join forces and work together for the common good. As a forum where diverse stakeholders seek collective solutions to communal challenges, we are proud supporters of this initiative and will bring to bear our expertise in areas like inclusive growth, job quality and responsible business conduct to help make the Global Deal into a global reality.”

- OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE THE LAUNCH?

The Global Deal partnership currently has some 40 partners, and global interest is growing rapidly. Interest has been particularly evident in Latin America, with Uruguay and Argentina joining as new partner countries. Also, The Netherlands joined in June.

For the full list of partners, please visit [the Global Deal website](#).

Several studies highlighting the Global Deal and social dialogue are under way. In early 2017, Sweden partnered with the ILO and the OECD to conduct a **business case study**, analysing social dialogue from a private sector perspective. The findings will be launched later in the year. In addition, a **Global Deal Flagship Report** is conducted jointly by ILO and OECD. This will be a recurring report that provides updates on recent trends and developments on social dialogue as well as in-depth case studies and policy recommendations.

Partners continue to submit their voluntary commitments, and good examples and best practices will soon be posted on the Global Deal website.

2017 is an intense year for the Global Deal and several major events are in the pipeline for the remainder of the year, both at country and global level. However, many events have already taken place around the world. Below is a selection of the various events.

6–7 June 2017 – OECD Forum.

13 June 2017 – Launch of the OECD Employment Outlook 2017, which includes a chapter on collective bargaining in a world of changing work.

14 June 2017 – Ministerial roundtable discussion on the Global Deal in the margins of the International Labour Conference in Geneva. Participants included Swedish Minister of Employment and Integration Ylva Johansson, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder and OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría.

19–20 June 2017 – A ‘Global Deal’ visit to Sweden by Chilean tripartite delegation.

21 June 2017 – The Global Deal convened a meeting in Paris, hosted by the OECD, to take stock of the Global Deal’s activities to date and discuss the programme of work for the remainder of the year.

28–30 June 2017 – OECD Global Forum on Responsible Business Conduct.

10 July 2017 – Ministerial roundtable discussion in the margins of the Aid for Trade Global Review in Geneva, attended by Swedish Minister for EU Affairs and Trade Ann Linde, WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo, among others.

Global Deal in The Human Development Report

On 21 March, the 2016 Human Development Report was presented in Stockholm in the presence of Prime Minister Stefan Löfven and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for International Cooperation and Climate Isabella Lövin. Ms Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), highlighted the Global Deal as an initiative that makes development more inclusive. Chapter 4, ‘Caring for those left out – national policy options’, presents the Global Deal as a triple win strategy benefiting workers, companies and whole societies.

Click here to watch the speech of:

[Prime Minister Stefan Löfven](#)



[UNDP Administrator Ms Helen Clark](#)

[Read the 2016 Human Development Report](#)

SEMINAR ON SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

On 9 May 2017, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) hosted the event 'Social Dialogue – a tool for development?' as part of its regular 'Development Talks' seminar series.

Participants included Lennart Båge, Sida's Acting Director-General, Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, President of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO), Sofia Östmark, Ambassador and Coordinator of the Global Deal, Susan Hayter, ILO Senior Labour Relations Specialist, Lars-Åke Bergqvist, H&M Sustainability Business Expert, Mats Svensson, IF Metall International Secretary, and Andreas Johansson, Sida Programme Officer and First Secretary at the Swedish Embassy to Cambodia.

Discussions at the seminar focused on the potential of social dialogue as a tool for development. A clear message that emerged was that not enough attention has been paid to labour market issues in international development cooperation, and even less to social dialogue. Social dialogue can be important in the informal economy and serve as a tool for

transition from the informal to the formal economy. The seminar underscored the particularly significant role of social dialogue in countries where a large proportion of the labour force is in the informal economy. International development cooperation can also play a role in strengthening social dialogue at enterprise level, and a practical example from Cambodia was discussed, which highlighted the business case from a private sector perspective.

[Click here for more information about Sida's work on social dialogue](#)



Lennart Båge, former Acting Director General, Sida and Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, Chairman, LO (the Swedish Trade Union Confederation) discussing the advantages of using social dialogue as a tool for development cooperation.



GLOBAL DEAL SUPPORT UNIT

A Global Deal Support Unit has been established, initially located at Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Support Unit leads the work of developing the Global Deal initiative and coordinating with the various partners, in close cooperation with the ILO, the OECD and others. The Support Unit is headed by Ambassador Sofia Östmark.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Support Unit via globaldeal@gov.se



"I am pleased that the support unit is now up and running. We are a small but eager team and we look forward to taking the Global Deal forward together with existing and new partners."

**– Global Deal Ambassador
Sofia Östmark**

UPCOMING EVENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

18 September 2017 – High-level follow-up meeting of the Global Deal in New York, hosted by Sweden's Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, ILO's Director-General Guy Ryder, and OECD's Secretary-General Angel Gurría.

26 September 2017 – Side event in the margins of the WTO Public Forum.

30 October 2017 – Global Deal event in Tunis, attended by Sweden's Minister for EU Affairs and Trade Ann Linde.

23 November 2017 – A Senior Officials meeting will gather all partners to the Global Deal, Geneva.

More information about upcoming events will be published on the Global Deal website and in the next edition of this newsletter.

What would you like to see in the next newsletter?

Please send your ideas and comments to globaldeal@gov.se.

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