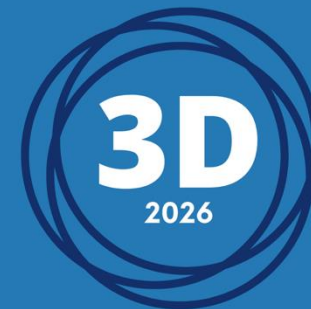




Geoeconomics and International Sustainable Development

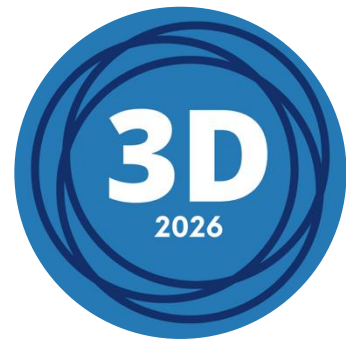
Digital Development Dialogue – Hybrid Homecoming Event 2026

Hosted by the University of Göttingen

Organized by Sarah Langlotz & Lennart Kaplan in Cooperation with:



Funding from KfW is gratefully acknowledged.



Guidelines of the Dialogue

Online Participants

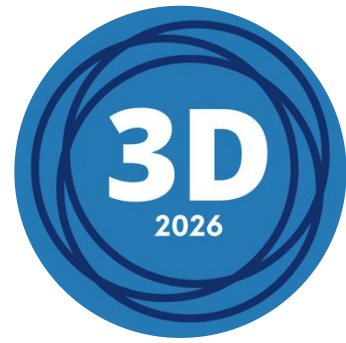
- Please add your affiliation to your name
- Please turn on your webcam
- To ask a question, please raise your virtual hand and type your question into the chat



In-person Participants

- Please keep your questions for the moment, and raise your hand when you wish to ask

➤ We do not record the seminar



Today's Speakers



Tabea Lakemann
(BMZ)

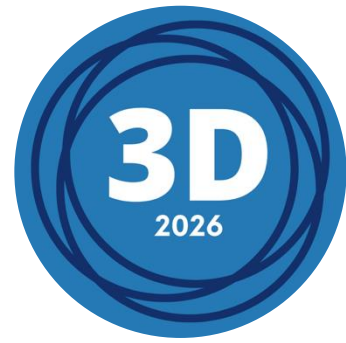


Katharina Richert-Döring
(C4ED)



Roland Siller
(DEG)

Tabea Lakemann (BMZ)

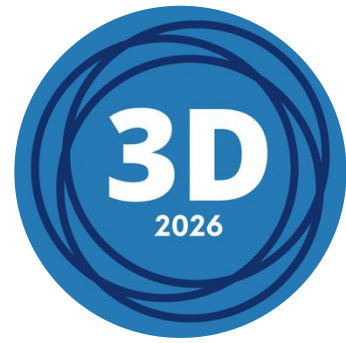


The BMZ reform plan – Four goals

- GOAL 1 Ending hunger, poverty and inequality; protecting the rule of law and civic space
- GOAL 2 Peace and stability – promoting security over the long term
- GOAL 3 Facilitating economic cooperation for sustainable and equitable growth
- GOAL 4 Strengthening strategic alliances for global solutions and the multilateral system



Development Financing

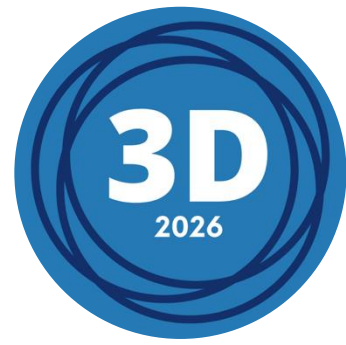


2025 FfD4 Conference and Compromiso de Sevilla

Structure of development financing

- Annual SDG financing gap of USD 4 trillion (UN 2026)
- Historic decline in ODA
- Private capital as essential volume driver for SDG investment gap
- Domestic revenue mobilization (DRM) as foundational pillar for long-term national financial sovereignty





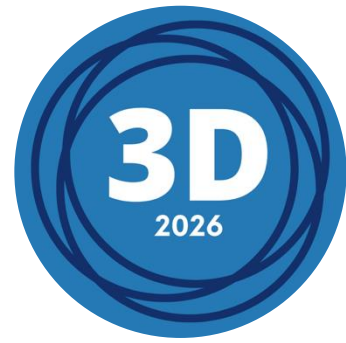
Domestic revenue mobilisation (DRM)

DRM – mobilisation of own funds, primarily through taxes, to finance public spending independently – is seeing renewed attention.

Spotlight on German support for DRM

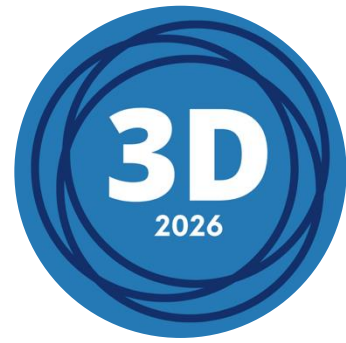
- Objective: support partner countries in building fair and efficient tax systems
- Addis Tax Initiative (ATI)
- One of the largest bilateral donors, active in 25 countries
- OECD and IMF capacity development

In a nutshell



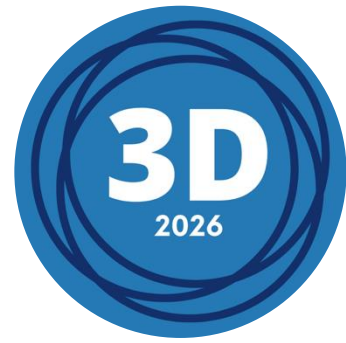
- Geo-economics is the context; supporting sustainable development is the mission.
- Limited funds need to be used for maximum impact: by mobilizing other sources of development financing, and by basing allocation and design decisions on solid evidence.

Roland Siller (DEG)



- A greater role for Europe and other middle powers in a changing geopolitical landscape
- Paradigm shift in development finance: from aid to investment and partnership
- Investing in emerging markets also strengthens Germany and Europe
- DFIs invest with impact where commercial investors don't – and DEG is ready to scale up

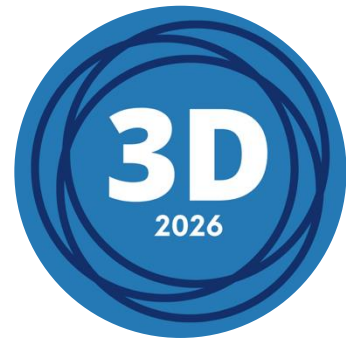
Katharina Richert-Döring (C4ED)



Context

- Evaluations with scientific rigor (impact evaluations among others)
- Set-up monitoring systems
- Upon demand, i.e. following open tenders
- For multilaterals, bilateral donors, foundations

Do we see a paradigm shift and how has evaluation changed?



Financial resources: Lower demand for evaluations

- Cancelled last minute
- Less demand for impact and quantitative evaluations (high data collection costs)
- Higher burden for project teams during project implementation

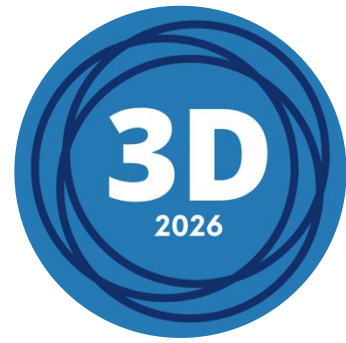
Topics: Global perceivable shift

- Not systematically visible yet
- Project relabeling to fit the global political agenda
- Within projects: indicators/evaluation questions and mainstreaming topics unchanged (e.g. gender and climate priorities)

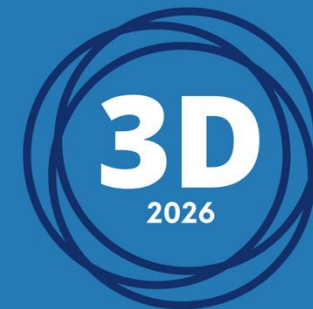
Methods: Less evaluation, more monitoring

- Could respond more to a skeptical domestic principal
- Away from *“what can we learn, how can we improve”* to *“did the money do what we wanted”*?

Conclusion for sustainable development



- Shift: number of projects evaluated & methodology
- Shift away from learning & improvement (evaluation) to verification & accountability (monitoring)
- Twofold consequences for sustainability
 1. Less learning, less sustainability knowledge
 2. External budgetary constraints + AI development → chances for sustainability
 - More practical, tailored, user-friendly monitoring (conducted project-internally → more ownership → more sustainable)
 - Monitoring to take over some of the external evaluation functions (e.g. automated analysis)
 - Reduce evaluation costs → efficient use of scarce resources



We look forward to the upcoming dialogues in the autumn/winter season.

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