



MIC FORUM

A series offering high-level officials from middle-income countries (MICs) the opportunity to focus on key issues, knowledge, and experience relevant to MICs and the World Bank's agenda.



MIC FORUM: THE RISE OF THE MIDDLE CLASS

Friday, April 19, 2013, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

World Bank Headquarters, Room I 2-220, 1850 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

AGENDA

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| 2.00-2.10 | Welcoming Remarks
Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director, The World Bank |
| 2.10-2.20 | Insights from “Economic Mobility and the Rise of the Latin American Middle Class”
Augusto de la Torre, Chief Economist, Latin America and Caribbean Region, The World Bank |
| 2.20-2.40 | Discussant: The East Asia Perspective
H.E. Florencio Abad, Secretary of Budget and Management, The Philippines |
| | Discussant: The European Perspective
H.E. Marek Belka, President, National Bank of Poland |
| 2.40-3.25 | Open Discussion |
| 3.25-3.30 | Concluding Remarks
Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director, The World Bank |



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The third MIC Forum will be an open dialogue among senior officials of middle-income countries and World Bank on the implications of the remarkable process of social transformation associated with the rise of the middle class. The conversation, chaired by World Bank Managing Director Sri Mulyani Indrawati, will provide an opportunity for senior officials to discuss policy priorities to support the rise of the middle class, which may not necessarily be the same as those needed to move people out of poverty. It will also be an opportunity for representatives from middle-income countries (MICs) to engage with World Bank senior management on the role the Bank can play in supporting middle income countries to achieve poverty reduction and shared prosperity.

Drawing on the recent report, *Economic Mobility and the Rise of the Latin American Middle Class*, the World Bank will present insights on the nature and determinants of a growing middle class. Following this, a distinguished panel of senior MIC officials will provide perspectives and experiences on the critical policy challenges to support large segments of the population to achieve a more secure middle-class lifestyle. This will set the stage for a wider discussion among participants on the trade-offs and policy options to enable the generation of high-value jobs, increased productivity and competitiveness while promoting inclusive growth and safeguarding social programs.