



UN Multi-Partner  
Trust Fund Office



## 2025 Partnership Forum of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO)

Hosted by the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the UN

The 2025 Partnership Forum of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO), hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany, convened high-level representatives from UN Member States, agencies, and partners to reflect on the MPTFO's contributions to UN development efforts and the future of pooled funding.

The Forum was also an opportunity to mark the release of the [2024 Annual Report of the MPTFO](#), commemorating 20 years of the Office. Overall, there was clear commitment from contributors and partners alike to advancing pooled funding as a unique tool to achieve collective results.

Key highlights of the meeting include:

- **The strategic role of the MPTFO:** Over the course of 2024, the MPTFO administered over \$1 billion across a variety of pooled funds and joint programmes, led by 41 UN entities, and supporting 116 countries. Germany and Norway joined other member state partners in calling on partners to raise the visibility of pooled funding, recognizing the MPTFO's commitment, as guiding principles, to
  - **Efficiency at scale** – with 71 contributors depositing \$910m for development, climate and environment, and peace and transitions outcomes
  - **Accountability through transparency** – real-time financial data, updated daily at project level
  - **and innovation for Sustainable Development** – from new approaches to private-sector outreach through the Cali Fund, to modelling new approaches to asset restitution through the [Uzbekistan Vision 2030 Fund](#)

This reflection was echoed by representatives from Fund Secretariats including the [Systematic Observations Financing Facility \(SOFF\)](#), [Global Disability Fund \(GDF\)](#), [Peacebuilding Fund \(PBF\)](#); and UN agencies such as UNFPA, UNECE, WHO, and UNEP.

- **Pooled funding as a catalyst for impact:**

Colleagues emphasized the importance of pooled funds in enhancing collaboration, aligning efforts with national priorities, and addressing more complex development challenges. Examples included the [Joint SDG Fund](#), [Spotlight Initiative](#), and [the PBF](#), which together have mobilized billions, driven measurable impact, and supported peace and gender equality initiatives globally.

- **Country-Level Perspectives:**

The Permanent Representative of Mali, HE Mr Issa Konfourou, highlighted the transformative role of pooled funding in his own country. He underscored the value of national ownership, alignment, and engaging different stakeholders, citing recent PBF efforts, reaching 9 million people in a campaign countering misinformation and hate-speech, and resolving 78 local conflicts. Representatives from the [Joint SDG Fund](#), [Spotlight Initiative](#), and [GDF](#) also commended pooled funding for its role in advancing country-level development, combating gender-based violence, and addressing complex disability challenges.

- **Updating the financial architecture:**

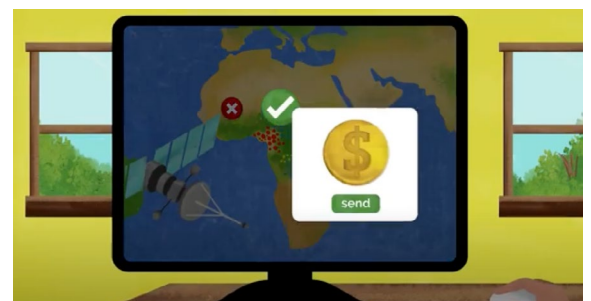
The Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany, HE Mr Thomas Zahneisen stressed the urgency of reforming global financial systems in light of persistent funding and liquidity crises. He called for a broader donor base, better-aligned resources, and incentives for behavior change across the UN system to enhance integrated programming, with pooled funds a crucial element of this effort.

- **Calls for Greater Support:**

Participants, from the UN Development Coordination Office, Sweden, and the UK, noted a disconnect between donor commitments and actual funding, urging renewed investment and support – including from non-traditional donors – to safeguard and scale up pooled funding mechanisms, and meet [UN Funding Compact](#) targets.

- **The UN80 initiative, and future perspectives:**

Participants called for sustained resources and highlighted new innovative approaches being piloted through pooled funds, from [SOFF](#) ‘impact bonds’, to the [Central African Forests Initiative’s \(CAFI\)](#) ‘payment by results’ model, as tools to be further developed as part of future development financing solutions.



[CAFI Payment for Environmental Services \(PES\)](#)