

AGENDA

TITLE:

High-Level Roundtable on Skills Integration in Investment Operations

The High-Level Roundtable on Skills Integration in Investment Operations brings together senior representatives of Multilateral Development Banks and the European Commission and partner institutions to take stock of the progress achieved since the 2025 Torino High-Level Roundtable and to discuss the next phase of collaboration on skills and human capital development.

The event will provide the occasion to present the Joint Orientation Note on Skills Integration in Investment Operations, developed through a collaborative process coordinated by the ETF and involving six MDBs, and to reflect on how skills can contribute more systematically to investment effectiveness, competitiveness, resilience and sustainable development outcomes.

Beyond the presentation of the Orientation Note, the roundtable aims to explore concrete avenues for future cooperation, including the continuation of the Working Group on Skills Integration in Investment Operations, the development of a technical toolkit for practitioners, and preparations towards a potential joint MDB statement on skills and human capital development.

Through a strategic dialogue among institutions, the session seeks to strengthen a shared vision of skills as a driver of investment impact and to identify collective actions that can further advance this agenda

Time: 25 November, 2026; 14:30-16:30

Venue: OGR, Binario 3 Meeting Room

Chair: Georgios Zisimos, ETF, Head of Human Capital Development Policy Advice Unit

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
14:30-14:45	Opening and Welcome <i>Why skills matter for investment performance, competitiveness and sustainable development</i> Welcome remarks: - ETF Director - European Commission	Pilvi Torsti, <i>ETF Director</i> Mario Nava, <i>Director General, European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</i>
14:45 - 15:15	Presentation of the Joint Orientation Note <i>From the 2025 Torino Roundtable to a shared agenda for action</i> Presentation of: - Key milestones - The Orientation Note on Skills Integration in Investment Operations - Working Group on Skills	Moderator: Donatella Di Vozzo, <i>ETF Lead Expert on Skills Investment and Financing</i> Contributions: Julian Frede, <i>ETF external expert on Skills and Development Finance and Partner and Co-Founder of evolutiq Impact Advisory</i> Bjliana Radonjic Ker-Lindsay, <i>Associate Director, Gender & Economic Inclusion EBRD, Current Chair of the MDBs Working Group on Skills</i>
15:15 - 16.00	Building the Next Phase of the Knowledge Partnership Guiding question: <i>What should be the next collective step for advancing skills integration in investment operations?</i> Discussion on: - Development of a Technical Toolkit on Skills Integration - Pathway towards a Joint MDB Statement on Skills and Human Capital Development¹ - Roadmap of the Working Group	Moderators: Nikola Radovanovic and Elma Aga, <i>ETF Human Capital Development Experts</i> Contributions: MDBs Hendrina Chalwe Doroba, <i>Manager for the Education and Skills Development Division, AfDB;</i> Ayako Inagaki, <i>Senior Director Asian Development Bank - ADB Human and Social Development Sector Office</i> Sonia Jordan-Kirwan, <i>Director, Gender & Economic Inclusion EBRD</i>

¹ Participants will be invited to reflect on: institutional support, operational arrangements, possible launch venue (Global Gateway Forum 2027; Heads of MDBs Summit 2027)

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
		Joyce Liyan, <i>Head of Division Advisory Services, Corporate Finance and Global Activities Department, EIB Global</i> Tania Faller, <i>Director Technical Assessment and Monitoring Directorate, CEB</i> Christian Bodewig, <i>Director, Education & Skills, World Bank</i>
16.00-16.20	Guiding question: <i>What would success look like for this partnership over the next 2-3 years, and how could it best contribute to EU priorities on competitiveness, enlargement, neighbourhood cooperation and Global Gateway?</i>	Moderator: Asier Erdozain, <i>ETF Liaison Officer</i> Contributions: European Commission: Mathieu Bosquet, <i>Director for Enlargement Coordination, Strategy and Investments at the Directorate-General for Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood</i> Francisco Joaquín Gaztelu, <i>Director for North Africa within the Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf</i> Chiara Adamo, <i>Acting Director for Human Development, Governance, Migration, Peace and Security, DG International Partnership</i>
16:20 - 16:30	Closing Remarks and Next Steps Agreement on: • 2027 Working Group roadmap • Technical Toolkit development • Joint MDB Statement on skills	Georgios Zisimos, <i>ETF Head of Human Capital Development Policy Advice Unit</i>