Chairman’s Foreword

At least 600 million new jobs need to be created worldwide over the next fifteen years. Some estimates are much higher - a billion jobs over the coming decade.

In the 2013 World Development Report, the World Bank’s president Dr Jim Kim wrote: “A good job can change a person's life, and the right jobs can transform entire societies. Governments need to move jobs to centre stage to promote prosperity and fight poverty.”

That is why our Parliamentary Network continues to focus on this subject. A failure to address the need for jobs and livelihoods, as the recent UK Parliament report puts it, “will serious consequences and threatens widespread social and political unrest” (“Jobs and Livelihoods” published on 18th March 2015). In some parts of the world, we are already seeing this.

What needs to be done?

1. We need real commitment – I would say passion – to tackle this problem. It is not some technical economics exercise. It is about the futures of our children and grandchildren. Many of those who speak and write about the need for jobs – including me – have never been without one. We have little idea of what it means not to know where your income is coming from.

2. Preparation for work and livelihoods should be engrained into our education systems. These will be “hard” skills such as IT, mathematics, languages and design, and the “soft skills” such as communication and teamwork.

I am not saying that education should be all about a preparation for work – it is a preparation for life. But too often it includes little or no preparation for work.

3. Young people need guidance at an early age. The Hilton group estimates that there will be 70 million jobs created worldwide in the hospitality sector over the next ten years. We will need tens of millions of teachers and healthcare workers as universal secondary education and healthcare becomes the norm. Agriculture – including smallholders – and food processing,
far from being a business of the past, will be of increasing importance as demand continues to rise and productivity is improved. But unless students are given information and guidance, they will not be able to take advantage of the opportunities.

4. The quality of work is vital. Paying fair wages and providing safe conditions is not a ‘luxury’ as some employers seem to believe. It is a precondition for better quality and productivity, and by raising people’s income, you enable them to become customers for your products and services. Governments need to regulate for reasonable standards and then enforce them. A ‘race to the bottom’ is in no one’s interest.

5. Too often, women, the disabled, and other marginalised groups are overlooked. No country can afford to ignore their skills and talents. As the son of a father who worked for 30 years after he became disabled, I know at first hand both what he gave to others through his work and how important work was for him.

6. Access to finance –whether debt or equity– is still a huge barrier to the creation of jobs and livelihoods. But new sources are emerging every week. The World Bank could work with national organisations to provide an up-to-date list of all available financing sources in each member country.

This is just a brief overview of some of what we as parliamentarians can work on in our own countries.

When we do so, let us do so at scale. Projects and pilots are important and reach hundreds, thousands, perhaps tens of thousands. But we need programmes which create hundreds of thousands and millions of jobs and livelihoods. Only by working together across borders and with the support of organisations such as the World Bank will we be able to do that.

Jeremy Lefroy, MP United Kingdom
Chairman of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF
Editor’s Introduction

This compact issue contains information on various topics in development and international cooperation that may be of great interest to PN parliamentarians.

In “The Importance of Knowledge-Based Policymaking,” PN Board Member and Swedish MP Göran Pettersson stresses the importance of member parliamentarians’ engagement with the World Bank, IMF, and the OECD in building sound and sustainable policies for the future. He urges MPs to adopt a more “knowledge-based” approach and utilize up-to-date research and findings of the World Bank and IMF when devising policy.

“Video Conference on Ebola with World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim and Parliamentarians” discusses further measures that can be taken by parliamentarians of Ebola stricken countries to effectively contain the epidemic. We have also included for your information a relevant press release from the IMF on its new Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust designed to rally international support for the fight against Ebola.

In “Evaluation and Parliamentarians: Using Evidence from the Past to Inform Future Actions,” Director General and Senior Vice President of Evaluation of the World Bank Group Caroline Heider elaborates on the role of her unit Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) as WBG’s senior assessment body.

“Field Visit to Peru’ reflects on PN parliamentarians’ visit to Peru as part of the “Parliamentarians in the Field Program” jointly organized with the World Bank and IMF. Peru visit was the first time that the program took place in a “Middle Income Country.” PN delegates discussed Peru’s developmental achievements and challenges, and brought home valuable lessons that can be applied in their respective parliaments.

If you would like to contribute to the next issue, please send your material to me at enoh@princeton.edu or PN Junior Program Officer William Perlmutter at jpo1@parlnet.org. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions for improving the publication.

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Editor, PN Review
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Evaluation and Parliamentarians:
Using Evidence from the Past to Inform Future Actions

Caroline Heider
Director General and Senior Vice President, Evaluation, World Bank Group

In a recent blog I argued that evaluation should play a greater role in the work of parliamentarians. Why? As parliamentarians, you engage with the World Bank Group. You play an important role debating and passing your countries’ policies and legislation. You hold governments to account. And crucially, you are accountable to the constituencies who voted you into office.

In all of these functions, informed discussions – and informed decisions – require evidence: what has worked in the past, what hasn’t, and why? It is providing just such evidence that is at the heart of evaluation. This is not to say that evidence from evaluation is the only piece of information that should drive decisions; but it can, I believe, help to identify predictable risks, prevent avoidable mistakes and ultimately, produce better results.

What does this mean in practice?

Let’s take private sector development. IEG’s evaluation of the Bank Group’s work in public-private partnerships (PPPs) showed that many stakeholders see these arrangements as a desirable solution to deliver services. They believe the private sector is best placed to do so. This is often true, but not always. To make a partnership between public and private entities work, a lot more is needed. Our evaluation showed that if the political will is lacking, deals will fail before negotiations are completed; or if governments do not have the capacity to negotiate, engage in, and manage the partnership with the private sector, deals might not work, and certainly not for everyone. In the end, the delivery of services might be to just one segment of society, may not be as efficient as expected, or drain public resources, as fiscal dimensions are not adequately reflected. While plenty of examples exist of how service provision can improve through PPPs, it is hard to tell whether they benefit the poor.

How is this different from the advice that the World Bank Group gives?

IEG evaluates the World Bank Group’s various projects. We provide an independent assessment of the Bank Group’s programs to determine what works and what needs improving. We are independent in that we report to the Executive Board rather than management, and we have a mandate to take a critical look at the results and performance of the Bank Group. The Board decides the appointment of the Director General, Evaluation, and approves the program and budget.
IEG’s work is a systematic effort to ensure accountability vis-à-vis shareholders, client countries, and the public at large. As the World Bank agrees with client countries to finance projects, or introduce policy changes, it makes commitments for which it –and its partners– are responsible for achieving as promised in these interventions. Likewise, as the IFC supports private sector investments, it needs to bridge its dual role of promoting a healthy private sector that is financially viable, but at the same time generates development outcomes beyond profits for the company. Further, MIGA’s guarantee facilities aim to help countries secure investments with commensurate development results.

IEG evaluations draw lessons from experiences that help build on and replicate success, while preventing repetition of avoidable mistakes. Let’s look at another couple of examples from private sector development. When we evaluated the Bank Group’s targeted interventions to promote small and medium enterprise development, we found that too many of these interventions were not very clear about the market failures they aimed to address or what their effects were on enterprise development. As a result, questions remained about whether these interventions had created more businesses, whether businesses created more jobs or whether mechanization had produced efficiency gains and better profits. Our evaluation of interventions to improve the investment climate of client countries found that these reforms generally produced results in terms of legislation and favorable business processes, but there was little proof that they had resulted in greater foreign investment flows. The reforms to legislation also took an enterprise-centric perspective that focused less on the broader development effects of these reforms.

The fact that these important lessons might not have been learned were it not for the evaluation process is, of course, relevant well beyond the World Bank Group. By generating evidence of success as well as failure, IEG’s work –and evaluations conducted by others– can ensure that policy debates within governments and among parliamentarians are informed by facts from past experience and result in better outcomes in the future.
Op-Ed: Developing Political Will
Jeremy Lefroy, Chair of the Parliamentary Network

In 2015, the current Millennium Development Goals will expire, and although much progress have been made some of the targets will not have been met. This year, we have the opportunity to achieve a renewed agreement that will best help us to tackle the existing problems of global poverty. When thinking about a post-2015 world two immediate questions come immediately to mind: How can the world be better prepared to respond much more quickly to future disease outbreaks? And, secondly, how can we better manage disaster risk so that we can help lower the impact of natural disasters on property and lives?

As other members of society, Members of Parliaments around the world will play a role in the creation of the post-2015 world. The Parliamentary Network along with the World Bank and the IMF will be hosting the largest parliamentary meeting in Washington DC on April 12 and 13, 2015. On this occasion the agenda will focus on three topics: The twin goals of boosting shared prosperity and eradicating poverty, the environment leading up to COP21 in Paris and jobs and unemployment. Last but not least, parliamentarians will discuss gender equity, an issue that has a profound impact on societies and economies. As Christine Lagarde said: “Gender inclusion is critically important, and, frankly, too often neglected by policymakers. In today’s world, it is no longer acceptable to block women from achieving their potential”.

As both instigators and scrutinizers of the national budgets affecting development outcomes, Parliamentarians have a particular role in shaping new frameworks for development. This meeting will allow them to regenerate commitment and build up political will for action. I am particularly proud of the recent collaboration between the Parliamentary Network and the World Bank Group responding to the Ebola Outbreak. The multilateral bank released nearly $1 billion to fight the pandemic at an unprecedented speed. Equally, the IMF provided debt relief worth hundreds of millions to the most affected countries in West Africa.

I am hopeful that we can do even more and even better in the future. That is why I fully support President Jim Yong Kim’s initiative to create a Pandemic Emergency Facility between donors and development partners to provide a “source of funding to be dispersed immediately. Not 8 months, but 8 hours.” This conference is solid proof that Parliamentarians remain a crucial element in international development and the implementation of projects and policies on the ground. The work that we will do on development over the next 15 years needs to represent developing countries. It is for that reason that the Members of Parliament in charge of representing these societies will play a crucial role in shaping and implementing the post-2015 development agenda.

Our goal is to adopt legislation that critically responds to the challenges in the new development paradigm and that engages citizens into inclusive and participative discussions around development issues. The post-2015 framework therefore has to acknowledge parliamentarians through a statement that reflects their engagement. I am confident that the Parliamentary Network will continue to grow and thrive in order to support its members to influence policies and events in the direction of the changes needed.
The Importance of Knowledge-Based Approach in Policymaking

MP Göran Pettersson (Sweden), PN Board Member

Many parliamentarians, while familiar with the capital loan programs of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, may not be familiar with the organizations’ other projects and functions. I believe that the Parliamentary Network (PN) can play an important role in informing our fellow parliamentarians about the diverse range of works of and opportunities offered by the World Bank and IMF, especially their advisory capacity enabled by vast expertise in various fields of development. Member governments and parliamentarians can and should consult with the World Bank and IMF with the goal of introducing sound and sustainable policies based on the best available knowledge from today’s research. Another organization parliamentarians can look to for policy advice is the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), whose motto “better policies for better lives” aptly sums up its goals and the kinds of projects it supports. PN parliamentarians from member states of the OECD are welcome to join the OECD Global Parliamentary Network, which meets twice a year, to be informed of and discuss the latest research in major policy areas, including economy, development, energy, and education. You can find more information about the OECD and its projects that involves parliamentarians by following this link:

http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/publicaffairs/relationswithparliamentarians.htm

It is only with a knowledge-based approach to policy that we, parliamentarians, can effectively serve our people and promote economic, environmental, and democratic sustainability and progress in our respective countries. Sound policies with concerns for the long-term health of the society at large can prevent future economic crises that may require rescue actions from the IMF. The PN can play an important role in encouraging parliamentarians to benefit from the expertise of the World Bank and IMF and thereby pave the way for more knowledge-based policymaking. Let us discuss this further when we meet in Washington D.C. in April.
Video Conference on Ebola with World Bank Group President
Jim Yong Kim and Parliamentarians

Jointly organized by the Parliamentary Network and the World Bank

The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF (PN), jointly with the World Bank Group, co-organized an unprecedented historical gathering via video conference among parliamentarians from countries most-adversely affected by the Ebola epidemic. Members of Parliament (MPs) from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, in conjunction with MPs from Senegal and Mali, where the outbreak was successfully contained, met with MPs from key donor countries. The conference brought together MPs and practitioners of development initiatives. In his introductory remarks, Jeremy Lefroy (Chair of the Parliamentary Network) focused on “practical actions that can be taken by MPs and the World Bank Group” in unison, so that countries affected by Ebola can develop the capacity to address the crisis most effectively.

President Kim showed his solidarity with those countries affected by the Ebola epidemic. He offered his condolences, remarking, “The world was woefully unprepared for this epidemic.” He noted that although the number of cases has decreased significantly in recent months, “we must keep focus until we get to zero case.” President Kim placed emphasis on building robust health systems, what he calls a multiple-win approach: “We cannot simply focus on disease surveillance. Effective health care has to follow.” Finally, President Kim proposed a Pandemic Emergency Facility between donors and development partners to provide a “source of funding to be dispersed immediately; not in 8 months, but 8 hours.” He was optimistic that effective fight against epidemics such as Ebola can in the long run improve health system infrastructures, economic prospects, and multilateral cooperation in mobilizing public and private funds to “come up with a response equal to the challenge.”
Interventions

The members of parliament all gave stunning testimonies of the lessons learned from the Ebola outbreak. Several realities were highlighted by MPs of Ebola affected countries: first, fragile health systems were destroyed by the epidemic (Peter Coleman, MP Liberia). Second, traditions of local populations were detrimental to the medical efforts to isolate Ebola (Aboubacar Sylla, MP Guinea). Finally, the outbreak of Ebola caused huge economic damage (Patricia Brown, MP Sierra Leone). All of these culminated in a stigma for

"We have been given the courage and confidence that the end is near, but looking ahead, the road to recovery will not be easy." – MP from Sierra Leone
Patricia Brown (left, middle)

MPs from countries that successfully contained Ebola also gave input. Effective responses from political leaders – the President of Mali openly declared a “War against Ebola,” according to MP Guédiouma Sanogo – played a crucial role in eliminating Ebola in Mali as of 18 January 2015.
Furthermore, an all-encompassing Epidemic Management Plan in Senegal, led by the Minister of Health (a specialist in infectious diseases), strategically responded to Ebola by vocalizing and utilizing resources to “psychologically prepare doctors” (Mansour Sy Djamil, Deputy Speaker of Senegalese Parliament), control the national borders, strengthen structural capacity, and inform citizens of cultural practices detrimental to medical efforts.

MPs from Senegal share their story of containing Ebola from the outset.

“You (MPs) are the nexus between central and local government”
– Makhtar Diop, Vice President for Africa, World Bank Group

Vice President for Africa Makhtar Diop noted that in the past, vertical diseases shaped the global health discussion, but that advocacy must focus on creating robust healthcare systems. Additionally, Tim Evans, Senior Director for Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank Group, stressed the importance of making healthcare universally accessible. He added that ensuring the safety of healthcare workers will not only create employment opportunities in these countries, but also advance health infrastructure for the years to come. MP from Sierra Leone Helen Kuyembeh remarked, “The best money spent is for local people at a grassroots level.” Outreach and leadership can help prevent future outbreaks. As Head of the Finance and Budget Committee in Guinea Ousmane Kaba explained, “MPs are in direct communication with local populations.” Mr. Kaba also praised the World Bank’s rapid disbursement of funds and encouraged further development projects to be devised. As the meeting ended, PN Chairman Jeremy Lefroy reemphasized President Jim Yong Kim’s message: “We must get to zero cases. MPs can outreach and have a huge role to play in the future.” Successful fight against Ebola requires effective political response, and the Members from the PN are committed to delivering “the response equal to the challenge.”
IMF Establishes a Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust to Enhance Support for Eligible Low Income Countries Hit by Public Health Disasters

Press Release No. 15/53
February 13, 2015

The Ebola epidemic in parts of West Africa is a humanitarian catastrophe that has drawn attention of the international community to the need of addressing the rapid spread of life threatening infectious diseases that cause substantial domestic disruption and cross international borders.

On February 4, 2015, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) discussed how to better support Low-Income Countries hit by public health disasters. The Board approved the establishment of the Catastrophe Containment and Relief (CCR) Trust, allowing the Fund to provide debt relief in these cases, as well as to members experiencing other types of catastrophic disasters. These grants can ease pressures on the members’ balance of payments and create fiscal space to tackle relief and recovery challenges.

The CCR will provide grants for debt relief totaling $100 million for the three countries affected by Ebola in West Africa—Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. This comes in addition to the $130 million of assistance provided in September 2014, and a second round of new concessional loans amounting to about $160 million to be considered soon by the Executive Board.

Background

In their November 2014 meeting in Brisbane, the G-20 called on the Bretton Woods Institutions to continue their strong support to countries severely affected by the Ebola outbreak through a combination of concessional loans, debt relief and grants, and asked the institutions to explore new, flexible mechanisms to address the economic effects of future comparable crises. The CCR Trust is the Fund’s response to that call. It replaces the Post-Catastrophe Debt Relief (PCDR) Trust established on June 25, 2010 in the wake of a massive earthquake in Haiti, and expands the circumstances under which the Fund can provide exceptional assistance to its low income members to include public health disasters.

Through the new instrument, the Fund is able to quickly and flexibly adjust its policies in the face of unexpected international developments, including pandemics, to serve the needs of its membership, especially the most vulnerable.

At the conclusion of the Executive Board meeting on the CCR, IMF Managing Director Christine stated: “I welcome the establishment of the Catastrophe Containment Relief Trust. It aims at enhancing our support to the countries in Africa hit by Ebola, as well as other low income countries that may be affected by public health disasters in the future.”
Executive Board Assessment:

Directors welcomed the opportunity to discuss how the Fund can enhance its support to member countries affected by public health disasters. They agreed that the Fund has an important role to play as part of a broad international effort to assist affected countries, and underscored the importance of close coordination and effective collaboration with other international institutions, including the World Bank. Directors broadly supported the staff’s proposals, although a number of them felt that it would have been helpful to include a discussion of other options, such as increased access under the PRGT facilities.

Directors considered and supported the transformation of the existing Post-Catastrophe Debt Relief (PCDR) Trust into a Catastrophe Containment and Relief (CCR) Trust and the underlying policy framework as set out in the staff paper. They agreed with the proposed two windows under the CCR Trust: (i) a Post-Catastrophe Relief window, which would replicate the design and functions of the PCDR Trust; and (ii) a Catastrophe Containment window to support countries hit by public health disasters.

Directors broadly supported the proposal that eligibility for assistance from the CCR Trust should be limited to the poorest and most vulnerable PRGT-eligible countries, consistent with the existing eligibility criteria for support from the PCDR Trust. Some Directors called for the inclusion of other PRGT-eligible members, including but not limited to microstates. In this context, a few Directors noted that references to low-income countries in the staff paper needed qualification, given that not all low-income countries hit by public health disasters would be eligible to access the CCR. Directors agreed that access to grant resources from the Catastrophe Containment window should be limited to cases where the country is experiencing an epidemic of a life-threatening disease that has spread across several areas of the country, is causing significant economic disruption and balance of payments pressures, and has the capacity to spread, or is already spreading, rapidly within and across countries. Directors called on Fund staff to draw on assessments of the situation by relevant international agencies, especially the World Health Organization, and national authorities when conducting its analysis.

Directors supported the proposal to provide assistance via the Catastrophe Containment window of the CCR Trust in the form of up-front grants to immediately pay off upcoming debt service payments to the Fund on eligible debt. Eligible debt would not include credit committed concurrently with, or after, qualification. Directors also agreed that the amount of grant support would be set at 20 percent of the member’s quota, subject to the constraint that such support could not exceed the level of eligible Fund debt outstanding and conditional upon the availability of resources in the CCR Trust.

Directors broadly supported the proposal to allow for the possibility of providing assistance in excess of 20 percent of quota under the exceptional circumstances specified in the staff paper. A number of Directors, however, expressed reservations regarding using these exceptions, while some Directors stressed the need for flexibility in responding to public health disasters. In all exceptional cases, management intends to consult informally with the Executive Board when there is a potential case for providing grants in excess of 20 percent of quota under these exceptions, before bringing the proposal for formal Board consideration.
Directors supported the proposal to liquidate the MDRI-I Trust and to transfer all remaining balances to the General Account of the CCR Trust (through the SDA). They also agreed to amend the liquidation provision of the MDRI-II Trust Instrument to allow for the transfer of remaining balances upon its liquidation to the General Account of the CCR Trust, which would become effective upon each contributor’s consent. Some Directors expressed concern that the transfer of MDRI balances to the CCR Trust could divert potential resources away from the PRGT. Directors underscored the importance of securing additional bilateral resources to ensure adequate financing of the CCR Trust for potential future cases.

Directors looked forward to a comprehensive review of the CCR Trust five years after its establishment, or earlier if warranted.

Click [here](#) to read the IMF Survey and interview with Sean Nolan, Deputy Director of the IMF’s Strategy, Policy and Review Department.
Field Visit to Peru jointly organized by the Parliamentary Network, World Bank and IMF

The “Parliamentarians in the Field” programme is one of the Parliamentary Network’s flagship events and is jointly organized with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. It was the first time that a PN Field Visit took place in a “Middle Income” Country, offering ample opportunity to discuss the achievements, challenges and lessons learned in Peru. The 2015 Field Visit Delegation represented 16 Members of Parliament coming from Argentina, Belgium, Cameroon, Haiti, Kenya, Lithuania, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Timor Leste and Turkey between 1-4 March 2015.

“It would be ideal to have fluid communication between MPs and Ministers to avoid a democratic deficit” – Ovidio Sánchez Díaz (MP, Spain)

Senior Officials from the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund introduced Peru within the context of regional and international economic development. Alberto Rodriguez, Country Director for Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, opened on the World Bank perspective of Peru today.

Peru grew at an average rate of 5.6% GDP between 2000 and 2010. Among impoverished groups, 45% of the population was considered poor in 2005; today, this number is 25%. Further, a strong middle class is emerging, once representing 15% of the population in 2005 and representing 35% of the population in 2012. According to Alejandro Santos, Resident Representative of the IMF in Peru, the economy in the last decade has had the lowest inflation rate in the LAC region.
With the help of precautionary IMF arrangements, a framework for conducting policy resulted in a robust and sustainable economy in the last decade. The government since 1991 has only borrowed from the IMF twice, and all credit has been paid since 2007. Today, only technical assistance and surveillance are done by the IMF in the country, a sign of Peru’s fiscal achievement. The country now has a surplus of 0.2% GDP, high international reserves and preferential trade access to in 73% of countries in the world. Challenges were weighed such as further development of the securities market (only 2.9% of GDP), diversifying the currency of financing, a slowdown of growth in Peru in FY2014, and creating a broader tax base to pay for public projects (as 60% - 70% of the Peruvian economy is informal).

“Social inclusion starts with people, so we begin by measuring a single person” – Ariela Luna, Minister of Development and Social Inclusion

The delegation learned about programmes addressing childhood development and day-care, extreme poverty recognition, and providing quality, nutritious and various food groups to young children. Issues of good governance and society in Peru were also addressed throughout the Field Visit. Upon meeting with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the MPs saw a variety of perspectives from those analyzing trends within the country. As one participant stated, “People could say that Peru is a miracle, or you could say that the glass is half-empty.” Participants discussed access to information, political participation, the informal economy, corruption, and transparency at the local, regional, and national level.

Field Visits

“Africa is immensely rich, yet the people are very poor. What is happening in Peru that is not happening in Africa?” – Mansour Sy (MP, Senegal)

The Delegation saw a wide variety of projects which were financed by the World Bank Group and its organ, the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The Delegation visited SEDAPAL, which is currently managing projects to rehabilitate old piping systems in Lima and El Callao. The water supply in each community has remained uninterrupted during the 92 kilometer replacement project. Entire neighbourhoods can be completed within 4-5 days. The Parliamentarians also saw Metropolitano, a new mass transit system for Lima. The system serves approximately 600,000 passengers during peak hours. The bus system opens opportunities for employment and mobility throughout the city.
MPs visited a private university initially funded by the IFC, bringing substantial life improvements to Peruvians: 90% of students find jobs in their field of studies with salaries 50% higher than those who will enter the job market simultaneously.

“What percentage of the population is the future job market?” – Yusuf Ziya İrbeç (MP, Turkey)

The Delegation focused on the challenges of higher education in Peru and bringing the successes of Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) to other parts of Peru. The final visit took place at LNG Peru, the leader in natural gas liquefying for South America. The Delegation raised issues of royalties from extraction revenues and energy sources for local communities.

The Field Visit to Peru was diverse in perspective and rich in knowledge-sharing, helping MPs to further understand both the successes and challenges in Peru and to bring such lessons to their respective parliaments.
GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
April 12-13, 2015 - Washington D.C.

The Global Conference is the Parliamentary Network’s flagship event, bringing together between some 150 Network parliamentarians from over 100 countries, leaders from civil society and partner organizations, and top officials from a number of International Financial Institutions including the World Bank, IMF and regional development banks.

This year’s confirmed keynote speakers include both IMF Managing Director Ms. Christine Lagarde and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim.

Past Keynote speakers include the Presidents of Brazil, Indonesia and Senegal but also Nobel Economics Laureates, high-level national officials, CSOs, academia, and private sector representatives. This edition of the Global Conference will be hosted by the World Bank Group and IMF in Washington DC.

The post-2015 framework presents a unique opportunity to build on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), while also addressing the dimensions that lag behind. Parliamentarians must focus on the remaining tasks and future challenges facing international development.

Parliamentarians have a particular role in shaping new frameworks for development. They are both the instigators of the legislation leading to better development results, as well as the scrutinizer of the national polices and budgets affecting development outcomes. Therefore, it is vital that Parliamentarians lead a well-informed and knowledge-based development process.

This year’s Conference agenda focuses on: (i) the twin goals of boosting shared prosperity and eradicating poverty, and macroeconomic stability; (ii) Transparency and governance and (iii) gender equity. By focusing on these three areas, the Network aims to: (i) increase Parliamentarians’ knowledge of these individual subject matters, push for legislations and reforms in key areas; (ii) underline Parliamentarians’ roles in improving these areas in their respective countries; and (iii) look at how international development partners such as the World Bank and IMF can support them in this task.

Parliamentarians and parliamentary organizations interested in participating in the Global Conference, please contact jpo1@parlnet.org and Line Zouhour at: lzouhouradil@worldbankgroup.org.
Call for Submissions

If you would like to contribute to the next issue, please contact Editor Eu Na Noh at enoh@princeton.edu or PN Program Officer Gergana Ivanova at givanova@parlnet.org.

The Delegation of MPs at Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas during the 2015 Parliamentarians in the Field Programme.

Disclaimer

The articles that appear in this newsletter only reflect the opinions of the authors, and shall not be seen as the official position of PN, the World Bank, or the IMF.