

WBG and UNIDROIT Joint Webinar

Strengthening WBG and UNIDROIT Cooperation to Facilitate Access to Credit, Support Sustainable Finance, and Combat Climate Change

The work of the WBG and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) is mutually beneficial. UNIDROIT's international best practice instruments in the fields of international private law and commercial law directly support WBG products and services across a range of sectors. Simultaneously, the WBG facilitates the promotion and implementation of UNIDROIT instruments across the world.

In the margins of the 6th International Secured Transactions Coordination Conference to be hosted by the IFC, the WBG will welcome a high-level delegation from UNIDROIT to Washington DC to further strengthen cooperation between the WBG and UNIDROIT. The workshop will provide an opportunity for WBG staff to learn more about how UNIDROIT's instruments in the fields of access to credit, sustainable finance, climate change, and agriculture support WBG's work around the world.

<i>Date</i>	Thursday, January 18, 2024, 8:00 – 9:30 EST
<i>Location</i>	1850 I Street NW, Washington DC, 20006; Conference room I 8-340
<i>Dial in details</i>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting</p> <p>Join on your computer, mobile app or room device Click here to join the meeting</p> <p>Meeting ID: 294 435 385 82 Passcode: Da4mRY Download Teams Join on the web</p> <p>Join with a video conferencing device wbg@m.webex.com Video Conference ID: 114 650 695 9 Alternate VTC instructions</p> <p>Or call in (audio only) +1 509-408-0991,,57349918# United States, Spokane Phone Conference ID: 573 499 18# Find a local number Reset PIN Learn More Meeting options</p>

<i>Agenda Items</i>	
8:00	<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>Harish Natarajan (Practice Manager, Financial Inclusion and Infrastructure, Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation, World Bank Group)</i></p>
8:05	<p>Introduction to UNIDROIT</p> <p><i>Ignacio Tirado (UNIDROIT Secretary-General)</i></p>
8:10	<p>Introduction to the IFC SECO Programme</p> <p><i>Elaine MacEachern (Senior Global Financial Infrastructure Specialist, IFC)</i></p>
8:15	<p>Panel: Existing UNIDROIT instruments that support the activities of the WBG in implementing access to credit reforms that create economic growth, investment, and sustainable finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Asset based financing and international trade: the success of the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft and Rail Protocols <p><i>Anna Veneziano (UNIDROIT Deputy Secretary-General)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The complementary nature of the Mining, Agriculture and Construction (MAC) Protocol with IFC project finance investments in infrastructure and sustainable agriculture. <p><i>William Brydie-Watson (Senior Legal Officer, UNIDROIT)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experiences from the field: implementing the Cape Town Convention alongside broader access to credit and registry reforms in developing countries <p><i>Marek Dubovec (International Law Institute)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to credit for MSMEs and supply chain finance: the UNIDROIT Model Law on Factoring and complementary regulatory reform and UNIDROIT Model Law on Warehouse Receipts <p><i>Louise Gullifer (Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bank insolvency <p><i>Ignacio Tirado (UNIDROIT Secretary-General)</i></p>
8:55	<p>Future work: WBG – UNIDROIT cooperation in negotiating new standards in the areas of carbon credits, agricultural supply chains, and sustainable development</p> <p><i>Ignacio Tirado (UNIDROIT Secretary-General)</i></p>
9:15	<p>Discussion</p>
9:30	<p>Close of workshop</p>

Agenda Items

**10:00 –
13:00**

In-person project-specific technical discussions

The meetings will take place in the conference room I 8-340

Speakers

Anna Veneziano

Anna Veneziano is Deputy Secretary-General of UNIDROIT, and a tenured Professor of Comparative Law at the University of Teramo, Italy (on leave), with an LL.M. degree from the Yale Law School and a PhD degree from the University of Florence (Italy), and a former position as Professor of European Property Law at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). Among her institutional activities before joining UNIDROIT, she was a member of the Italian delegation participating in the Governmental Expert Committees and the Diplomatic Conference for the Cape Town Convention and its Aircraft Protocol as well as its Space Protocol. Among other projects, at UNIDROIT Anna is responsible for the implementation of the Protocols to the Cape Town Convention (with a particular focus on the Rail and Space Protocols) and lead officer on the civil procedure principles of effective enforcement project.

Elaine MacEachern

Elaine MacEachern is the Global Financial Infrastructure Program Manager with the Financial Institutions Group (“FIG” based in Washington, DC). Elaine works with IFC and WB clients and teams in the Asia, Africa and Caribbean regions extensively and contributes regularly to the ongoing Financial Inclusion development agenda of ASEAN and APEC Financial Infrastructure working groups, as well as co-chair of the International Coordinating Committee on Secured Transactions Reforms. Elaine has over twenty years of public and private sector experience in international and national secured lending policy formulation, promotion and implementation including electronic public registry modernization projects.

Harish Natarajan

Harish Natarajan is the Practice Manager, Financial Inclusion and Infrastructure, Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation at the World Bank Group. Harish leads a global team working on financial inclusion; payments and market infrastructures; digital finance; and credit infrastructure topics. He represents the World Bank in several international working groups on these topics. He was a lead contributor to the IMF-World Bank Bali Fintech Agenda, co-led the Future of Finance flagship paper, and co-chaired the CPMI-World Bank taskforce on Payment Aspects of Financial Inclusion. Prior to joining the World Bank, Harish worked in senior-level positions at Visa in business development, operations, and risk management. He holds an under-graduate degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology -Madras, India and a Post Graduate Diploma, from Indian Institute of Management-Calcutta, India specializing in Finance and Systems.

Ignacio Tirado

Professor Ignacio Tirado was appointed Secretary-General by the Governing Council at its 97th session and officially took office on 27 August 2018. A national of Spain, Professor Tirado (Commercial, Corporate and Insolvency Law, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain) holds a Ph.D. from the Universities of Bologna and Autónoma de Madrid and an LL.M. from the University of London. Professor Tirado has been a Senior Legal Consultant at the World Bank’s Legal Vice-Presidency and Financial Sector Practice for more than nine years, having also consulted for the IMF on insolvency related matters as well as for the Asian Development Bank on commercial legal reform. Amongst other accolades to his professional experience, Professor Tirado is Founding Member of the European Banking Institute, Member of the Expert Group of the European

Commission on insolvency reform, Vice President of the Conference on European Restructuring and Insolvency Law (CERIL), former Vice-President of the International Insolvency Institute, and Member of the American College of Bankruptcy.

Louise Gullifer

Louise Joan Gullifer KC (Hon) FBA is a British legal academic and barrister who is Rouse Ball Professor of English Law at the University of Cambridge, and formerly Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Oxford. She is known for her contributions to English law both as an academic, and for representing the United Kingdom as delegate to United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and UNIDROIT. She is a Bencher of Gray's Inn. Louise is currently working with UNIDROIT at its headquarters in Rome on a number of projects related to access to credit, digital assets and climate change.

Marek Dubovec

Dr. Marek Dubovec is the Director of Law Reform Programs at the International Law Institute (ILI). For over 15 years, Marek has been working with international standard-setters, including UNCITRAL and UNIDROIT to draft conventions, model laws, principles and guides that assist States in modernizing their commercial law frameworks. He has worked on the implementation of these standards under projects funded by the World Bank Group, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, FSD-Kenya, and others. He has assisted countries in Africa (e.g., Kenya), Asia (e.g., the Philippines), Eastern Europe (e.g., the Ukraine), the Middle East (e.g., the UAE) and Latin America (e.g., Colombia), with reforms of their frameworks on secured transactions, factoring, warehouse receipts and related legislation. In these projects, Marek drafted laws and regulations, assisted with building technological infrastructures, including collateral registries, and provided capacity building to various stakeholders, including financial institutions, government officials, and judges.

Marek has produced several policy papers, reports and other publications for international organizations, including the Secured Transactions, Collateral Registries, and Movable Asset-Based Financing Knowledge Guide, and Guidance Notes on Distributed Ledger Technology and Secured Transactions for the World Bank Group. He has authored and co-authored numerous articles and books, including the 2019 Secured Transactions Law Reform in Africa. Additionally, Marek is Professor of Practice at the University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law and has served as a visiting scholar at the Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies of the Bank of Japan, and a visiting professor at the University of Puerto Rico, School of Law.

Will Brydie-Watson

William Brydie-Watson is a Senior Legal Officer at the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT), based in Rome. Specialising in secured transactions law, William has primary responsibility for the development of the UNIDROIT Model Law on Factoring and also works on the implementation of the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Assets and its Protocol on mining, agricultural and construction equipment (the "MAC Protocol"). William also serves as the Institute's formal liaison to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and works closely with other international organisations and regional fora in coordinating international commercial law reform. Previously, William was a Legal Officer in the Private International Law section of the Australian Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. Admitted to practice law by the Supreme Court of New South Wales, William has a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and a Master of Laws from the Australian National University.