



Much left to be done as the clock ticks on Ethiopia, DRC and private sector consultations

The clock is ticking in the run-up to three consultations that will help shape the new Global Financing Facility (GFF). For each consultation, there remains much to be done if FP and SRHR champions are to be assured a seat at the table.

In Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, the country consultation will take place on Friday, 6 March 2015, from 08:45 to 14:30 at the Addis Sheraton Hotel. Yesterday, invitations were sent out by the Federal Ministry of Health to members of the World Bank's in-country HPN Group, but there has been no indication as yet of participation by non-governmental FP champions outside that group. Members of the Coalition's GFF Advisory Group, led by Marie Stopes International, are working together with partners at both country and global level to ensure such broad-based participation. For more information, please contact RHSC Director [John Skibiak](#).

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Dates for the consultation in the DRC have not been set yet, though it is expected to take place in late March or early April. This week, Hadia Samaha of the World Bank visited Kinshasa in the hope that the dates and the contents of an agenda can be finalized. Advance Family Planning, also on the Coalition's GFF Advisory Group, are leading efforts

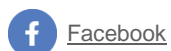
to ensure representation of FP champions in the country consultation. Together with in-country partners, they are translating and adapting the [GFF technical brief](#), initially developed for use by civil society participants at the Kenya consultation. For more information, contact [Alison Bodenheimer](#), Advance Family Planning.

In the private sector

Representatives from the private sector are still awaiting an official announcement as to when the World Bank will schedule its private sector consultation, and who will be invited. Unofficially, the event is scheduled for Wednesday, 11 March at 8:30am and will take the form of a 90-minute webinar. It is also understood that the Bank will make a room available for those based in DC who wish to join the consultation in person. For more information, contact [Anita Deshpande](#), RHSC or [Jessica Schwartzman](#), FP2020.

... and in Kenya

In Kenya, work toward that country's GFF investment case seems to have slowed since the January 23rd consultation. The first steering committee meeting, which was supposed to have taken place earlier this week on Tuesday, did not—and civil society groups expecting to attend have not received invitations. For more information, contact [Angeline Mutunga](#), East Africa Regional Program Advisor for Advance Family Planning.



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