

## BROOKINGS BLUM ROUNDTABLE



### INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

ASPEN, COLORADO

AUGUST 1–3, 2012

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

8:40 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Welcome

#### BROOKINGS WELCOME

- ❖ Strobe Talbott, Brookings

#### OPENING REMARKS

- ❖ Richard C. Blum, Blum Capital Partners, LP and Founder of the Blum Center for Developing Economies at Berkeley
- ❖ Mark Suzman, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- ❖ Kemal Derviş, Global Economy and Development, Brookings

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Session I

#### FRAMING SESSION: TRANSLATING TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS INTO TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT

**Moderator:** Homi Kharas, Brookings

Some of the greatest successes in global development—India’s Green Revolution; stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS—have come about through the application of technology. Today, a combination of identification, communication and payment technologies augur the arrival of a new generation of solutions for reducing global poverty. However, translating technological innovations into transformational impact hinges on securing investment and establishing reliable delivery mechanisms to enable a transition to scale.

In this opening discussion, participants will explore the overarching questions for the roundtable: If the poor can readily be identified and if they have access to financial services and participate in technology-driven communication networks, how does this change the development paradigm? How can effective partnerships be forged to combine the efforts of different international and local actors (businesses, governments, foundations, NGOs, and



universities) in propagating solutions? Can scalable technologies raise the profile and potential of new business models, approaches and partnerships?

**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Thomas A. Kalil, White House Office of Science and Technology
- ❖ Michael Kubzansky, Monitor Group
- ❖ Lalitesh Katragadda, Google India
- ❖ Smita Singh, Independent

**10:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. Session II**

**MOBILE MONEY AND MASS PAYMENTS**

**Moderator:** Gillian Tett, Financial Times

Mobile money represents one of the most exciting and potential-laden innovations in the developing world. Financial transactions are becoming less expensive and more convenient, secure and accessible, spurring not only financial inclusion, but facilitating basic service delivery, social safety nets and the creation of countless new markets.

Is the rapid uptake of mobile money/payment technology throughout the developing world assured and if not, what (or whom) are the impediments? What is required to enable successful mass payments systems that employ mobile money technology? What is the optimal role of government, non-profits and private actors in supporting mobile money services? How can mass payments systems be used to implement national safety nets?

**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Neal Keny-Guyer, Mercy Corps
- ❖ Mwangi Kimenyi, Brookings
- ❖ Mung Ki Woo, MasterCard Worldwide Group Executive Mobile

**7:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m. Dinner Program**

**ASPEN INSTITUTE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LECTURE**

**FEATURING: RAJIV SHAH, ADMINISTRATOR, UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Aspen Institute Madeleine K. Albright Global Development Lecture recognizes an exceptional individual whose vision has provided breakthrough thinking to tackle the challenges of global development.



Thursday, August 2, 2012

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Session III

**MASS NETWORKS: LEVERAGING INFORMATION FROM THE CROWD**

**Moderator:** Walter Isaacson, Aspen Institute

Improving access to, and the quality and timeliness of, information can empower the poor and raise levels of public accountability in the developing world. Information sharing is also driving efficiency gains in areas such as agriculture and health. New communication technologies have spawned virtual networks that support these goals through facilitating the exchange and aggregation of knowledge and opinions obtained through SMS, e-mail, the Web and Twitter.

What are the most promising examples of using social media, crowdsourcing and “big data” to advance development and humanitarian outcomes? How can traditional foreign assistance make use of virtual networks to support transparency, democratic governance and improved service delivery? How can technologies be used to understand clients, promote beneficiary feedback and learning to fine tune business models in base of the pyramid markets?

**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Anne-Marie Slaughter, Princeton University
- ❖ Juliana Rotich, Ushahidi
- ❖ Robert Kirkpatrick, United Nations Global Pulse Initiative
- ❖ Rakesh Rajani, Twaweza

10:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Session IV

**INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR GREEN GROWTH**

**Moderator:** Al Gore, The Climate Reality Project

The pivotal role of innovation and technology in delivering green growth was confirmed at this year’s G-20 summit and the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development. Achieving sustainable and widespread prosperity for the world’s seven billion people depends on dramatically increasing the use of renewable energy and raising energy efficiency, especially in the developing world where energy use is projected to expand the fastest.

How advanced is green growth technology vis-à-vis the scale and urgency of the global climate challenge? What is the role of pricing and intellectual property and push and pull mechanisms in speeding up propagation within developed and developing markets? How can the goal of “sustainable energy for all” be achieved, and is it feasible in all countries?



**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Mary Robinson, Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice
- ❖ Helen Clark, United Nations Development Program
- ❖ Arthur Njagi, International Finance Corporation
- ❖ Viswanathan Shankar, Standard Chartered Bank

**12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Lunch Program**

**PARTNERING WITH ACADEMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS**

**Moderator:** Javier Solana, ESADE

This discussion will explore partnerships between public sector development institutions and academic research institutions to support global development goals. Topics will include the constraints to research; how to make research more relevant to developing country problems; issues around incentives for scientists and universities; and relationships between universities, financiers and implementers.

**Panel:**

- ❖ Richard C. Blum, Blum Capital Partners, LP and Founder of the Blum Center for Developing Economies at Berkeley
- ❖ Luis Alberto Moreno, Inter-American Development Bank
- ❖ Shankar Sastry, University of California, Berkeley
- ❖ Alex Deghan, U.S. Agency for International Development



Friday, August 3, 2012

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Session V

**BUSINESS SOLUTIONS AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT**

**Moderator:** Laura Tyson, University of California, Berkeley

The private sector represents a rich source of ideas for solving many of today's development challenges. Entrepreneurship is a key driver of innovation, while market forces, where applicable, offer the quickest and most efficient means to deliver and disseminate solutions. Nevertheless, private sector interest is constrained by the presence of multiple market failures and the narrow commercial opportunities that exist in low-income consumer markets.

What role can the new breed of socially conscious private actors (e.g., social enterprises and impact investors) play in overcoming finance and delivery constraints and scaling up development impact? Where is the need for investment finance most acute, and who or what can fill these gaps? How are management approaches evolving to suit base of the pyramid markets? What are the impediments to the adoption or adaptation of scalable technologies by developing country enterprises, and are southern innovations being efficiently spread? What is constraining private sector development in Africa, and is technology a key bottleneck?

**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Rob Mosbacher, Mosbacher Energy Company
- ❖ Mathews Chikaonda, Press Corporation Limited
- ❖ Elizabeth Littlefield, Overseas Private Investment Corporation
- ❖ Amy Klement, Omidyar Network

10:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Session VI

**DELIVERING U.S. LEADERSHIP: ROLES FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

**Moderator:** Sylvia Burwell, Walmart Foundation

The U.S. government has long been a leading proponent of technology in addressing global development challenges. The Obama administration has sought to build on this tradition with the launch of a number of initiatives which seek to draw on the country's strength in scientific research and entrepreneurialism.

What is an appropriate role for the U.S. government in promoting technological solutions for development and scaling these up? How should the government leverage new private sector players? What are the best examples of, and lessons learned from, earlier and on-going public private partnerships? How can the U.S. government work more effectively to support local innovation and technology in developing countries?

**Introductory Remarks:**

- ❖ Raj Shah, U.S. Agency for International Development



- ❖ Sam Worthington, InterAction
- ❖ Henrietta Fore, Holsman International

**12:20 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Closing Remarks**

- ❖ Richard C. Blum, Blum Capital Partners, LP and Founder of the Blum Center for Developing Economies at Berkeley
- ❖ Kemal Derviş, Global Economy and Development, Brookings

**12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch Program**

**A CONVERSATION WITH MICHAEL FROMAN AND THOMAS NIDES**

**Moderator:** Madeleine K. Albright, Albright Stonebridge Group

This conversation will focus on the politics and finance of the US government's efforts on global development, including its specific initiatives regarding technology and innovation for development. The session will provide insights into the breakthroughs, frustrations, realities and constraints of the administration's efforts to reform global development: the challenge of working effectively with Congress, the management of risk, the pressures of fiscal uncertainty, and working in an election year.

**Public Event**

**Brookings and the Aspen Institute Present:  
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**“A Conversation with Former World Bank President Robert Zoellick”**

Global Economy and Development at Brookings and the Aspen Strategy Group will host Robert Zoellick, who recently stepped down as president of the World Bank after serving in that office for the past five years. Mr. Zoellick has held several senior positions in the U.S. Government, including deputy secretary of state and U.S. trade representative under President George W. Bush.

Moderated by: **Strobe Talbott**, President, Brookings

Location: **Paepcke Auditorium**, Aspen Meadows Resort

*Fee: \$15 - Tickets at [www.aspenshowtix.com](http://www.aspenshowtix.com)*