

Recovery towards what? Finance, justice, sustainability

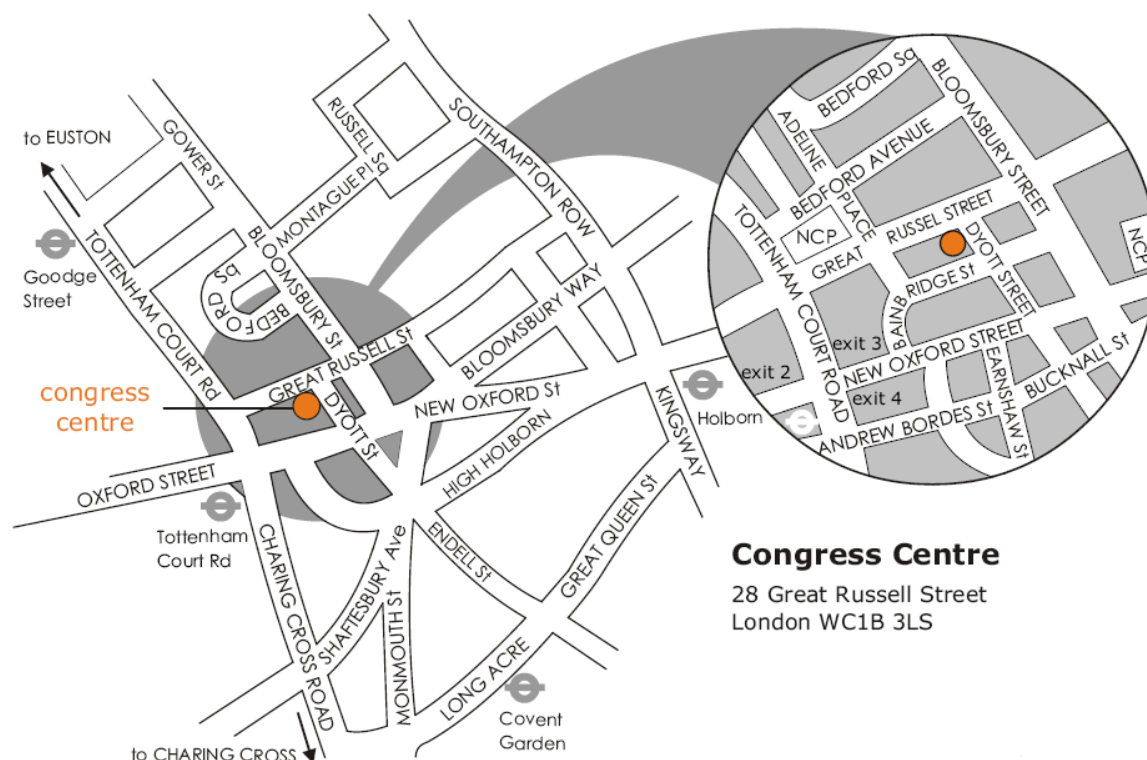
Friday, 6 November 2009, 9am to 7.30pm
Congress Centre, Central London
(Lunch will be provided)

Recovery towards what? Finance, justice, sustainability is an exciting and timely one-day conference on 6 November in London on global finance and its role in both developed and developing countries. It brings together experts, researchers, practitioners and civil society to discuss how to reshape finance so that it contributes to a just and sustainable economy.

The conference is open to everybody interested in hearing about and discussing how to make finance work. If you have not done so, please register online at www.brettonwoodsproject.org/registerconfnov6

Venue Information

The Congress Centre is right in the middle of London, a short walk (3 minutes) from Tottenham Court Road tube station (Northern line, Central line). Tottenham Court Road has direct tube links from Euston, Charing Cross, Waterloo and Liverpool Street mainline stations.



The venue can also be accessed by a large number of London bus lines, including numbers 1, 7, 8, 10, 14, 19, 24, 25, 29, 38, 55, 73, 98, 134, 176, 242, 390.

Meals

Tea, coffee, snacks and lunch will be provided during the conference for all attendees and speakers. However, we will not provide dinner in the evening on 6 November and you will be responsible for your own arrangements. We will endeavour to nominate a venue where conference attendees can optionally gather in the evening. We will provide information about this and near-by restaurants and eating options on the day of the conference.

Accommodation

If you need to book accommodation, the following hotels are recommended. If the conference organisers have agreed to cover your travel expenses, we will make the hotel arrangements on your behalf. Otherwise please call them for availability and prices.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Tavistock Hotel Tavistock Sq London, WC1H 9EU +44 (0)20 7636 8383 info@imperialhotels.co.uk http://www.imperialhotels.co.uk/</p> <p>This 3 star hotel is near Euston station and Russell Square. The conference venue is within a 15 minute walk or a short trip by public transport. Rates are from £65 a night. The Imperial group has additional properties in the area that are slightly more expensive.</p> | <p>St. Giles Hotel Bedford Avenue London WC1B 3GH +44 (0)20 7300 3000 groupres@stgiles.com http://centrallondon.stgiles.com/</p> <p>This 3 star hotel is right near Tottenham Court Road station and Oxford Street. The conference venue is a 2 minute walk. Single rooms are £89 a night.</p> |
|---|---|

General Information

The event is being co-organised by the Bretton Woods Project, the Trades Union Congress, ActionAid, new economics foundation, Friends of the Earth, and the Research on Money and Finance group of the University of London.

This event is being organised with the financial assistance of the Ford Foundation and the European Union. The event is the sole responsibility of the organisers and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the funders.

AGENDA - **Recovery towards what? Finance, justice, sustainability**

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Registration and coffee |
| 9:30 – 9:45 | Welcome and opening remarks <i>Speaker:</i> Brendan Barber (Trade Union Congress) |
| 9:45 – 11:30 | Opening Debate (Main Hall) <i>Topic:</i> What kind of financial system do we want? <i>Description:</i> Re-regulation is upon us, but some are questioning whether it can really solve the root causes of the crisis. The session will begin the exploration of the purpose of the financial system and its regulation as well as its potential impact. Can it create regulation financial stability as well as environmental and social responsibility? What do we want from finance? <i>Chair:</i> Larry Elliot (Guardian) <i>Speakers:</i> Jane Fuller (Fuller Analysis), Costas Lapavistas (School of Oriental and African Studies), Adam Lent (Trade Union Congress), Poul Nyrup Rasmussen (Party of European Socialists) |
| 11:30 – 13:00 | Breakout session 1 – in depth discussion of regulation |
| | <i>Topic:</i> Regulation in the UK and Europe (Main Hall) <i>Description:</i> The session will present an in-depth look at the domestic and regional proposals for re-regulation. What is the right boundary between domestic and EU measures, and are they sufficient? Is the political will there for using regulation as a tool towards larger goals? <i>Chair:</i> Janet Williamson (Trade Union Congress) <i>Speakers:</i> Mel Evans (Platform), Johan Frijns (BankTrack), Myriam Vander Stichele (Centre for Research on Multilateral Corporations, SOMO), Nicolas Véron (Bruegel) |
| | <i>Topic:</i> Global regulation: what progress, what prospects? (Congress Suite 1 & 2) <i>Description:</i> Global regulation agencies such as the IMF, Bank for International Settlements and Financial Stability Board are fragmented, limited and contested. What are the pros and cons of increasing their roles and how can concerns about their legitimacy and effectiveness be overcome? Is the time right to push for a new World Financial Authority or a similar body? <i>Chair:</i> Alex Wilks (European Network on Debt and Development) <i>Speakers:</i> Filomeno III Sta. Ana (Association for Economic Reform), Barbara Ridpath (International Centre for Financial Regulation), Xiaoke Zhang (University of Nottingham) |
| | <i>Topic:</i> Regulating global imbalances (Congress Suite 3 & 4) <i>Description:</i> Much blame for the financial crisis has been laid at the door of global imbalances, i.e. the US trade deficit and China's surplus, creating pressures on the financial system. Can these imbalances be addressed equitably? How realistic are the calls for a global reserve currency? <i>Chair:</i> Peter Chowla (The Bretton Woods Project) <i>Speakers:</i> Gérard Duménil (French National Centre for Scientific Research), Gao Haihong (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), Terry McKinley (School of Oriental and African Studies), Ann Pettifor (Advocacy International) |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 14:00 – 15:30 | <p>Plenary Two (Main Hall)</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> What are our alternatives?</p> <p><i>Description:</i> If current proposals for regulation are not the answer, then we must look elsewhere. The plenary will begin the exploration of what other economic and financial policies might be needed to bring about the desired social and environmental outcomes.</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Belinda Calaguas (ActionAid)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Nancy Kachingwe (ActionAid), Miriam Kennett (Green Economics Institute), James Vaccaro (Triodos Bank), Robert Wade (London School of Economics)</p> |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | <p>Tea Break</p> |
| 16:00 – 17:30 | <p>Breakout session 2</p> <p><i>Topic: Alternative banking models</i> (Congress Suite 1 & 2)</p> <p><i>Description:</i> The crisis demonstrates that the banking industry needs reform, but is the only solution a return to a utility model of banks? Do we need more alternatives such as micro-credit, solidarity finance, and national development banking? And which of the alternatives is right for the poor and marginalised in both developed and developing countries?</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Sargon Nissan (New Economics Foundation)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Ugo Biggeri (Responsabilidad Etica), Gary Dymski (University of California), Faisal Rahman (Fair Finance), Jean-Claudio Rodríguez-Ferrera (Association for Community Development)</p> <p><i>Topic: The public sphere as an alternative</i> (Congress Suite 3 & 4)</p> <p><i>Description:</i> As economic models embraced neo-liberal theory, the public sector came under attack as inefficient and ineffective. Is a return to the public sector part of the solution? Should and how can the public sector take back ground in heavily privatised areas like health and housing?</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Jeff Powell (School of Oriental and African Studies)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Kate Bayliss (School of Oriental and African Studies), Vincent Dlamini (National Public Services and Allied Workers Union), Sally Ruane (De Montfort University Leicester)</p> <p><i>Topic: Financing a new paradigm</i> (Room 3)</p> <p><i>Description:</i> Reorienting the economy for social and environmental outcomes is going cost dearly. This is especially true in low-income countries which need a development path that meets the need for environmental sustainability. Where the money going to come from and how should it be disbursed?</p> <p><i>Invited Chair:</i> Robin Webster (Friends of the Earth)</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Alison Evans (Oversea Development Institute), Colin Hines (Finance for the Future), Lauren Phillips (London School of Economics), Kunibert Raffer (University of Vienna)</p> |
| 18:00 – 19:30 | <p>Keynote Speeches – a public event in the evening (Main Hall)</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> Solving our financial and economic problems through global governance</p> <p><i>Invited Chair:</i> Claire Melamed (ActionAid)</p> <p><i>Invited Speakers:</i> Jomo KS (UN Department for Social and Economic Affairs), YV Reddy (formerly Reserve Bank of India)</p> |

Sponsors: Bretton Woods Project, Trades Union Congress, ActionAid, Friends of the Earth, new economics foundation, Research on Money and Finance