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Introduction by **Michael GERBER**, Ambassador, Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Moderation by **Sabin BIERI**, Center for Development and Environment, University of Berne

Tuesday, 20th October 2015, 14:00 – 16:00 (followed by reception)

SDC, Freiburgstrasse 130, Berne (Room A2023)

Gender & Financing for Sustainable Development – after Addis Ababa: What is the role and responsibility of Switzerland?



In July 2015, the 3rd International Conference on Financing for Sustainable Development (FfSD) took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. There, the international community discussed further steps on how to finance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and agreed on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA). A new and progressive element of the AAAA is the strong link between aspired sustainable development outcomes and policies that promote economic opportunities for women and girls.

However, gender-equality on the ground mostly lags behind related policy commitments. Structural barriers that hinder women to fully participate in and contribute to economic development are often not addressed. Further, public finances are mostly raised and spent without gender-sensitivity. These gaps apply to developed as well as developing economies. The Addis Ababa Action Plan for Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment promoted by UN Women and supported by Member States such as Switzerland offers a promising answer. It defines priorities and policy actions on different levels to enforce commitments on gender equality in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

TRAVERSE will discuss the requirements for promoting gender-responsive public finances and an enabling environment for women's economic empowerment in development cooperation and the domestic Swiss context. Key questions to be addressed are:

- How can Switzerland contribute to the implementation of the Action Plan, both in international development cooperation and domestically?
- What are the role, experiences and the specific expertise of Swiss government and non-governmental actors?

We are looking forward to a lively debate!

SDC Analysis & Policy Division and the SDC Gendernet

Registration by 16th October 2015 at traverse@eda.admin.ch

(Free of charge, limited number of participants.)

For further information: www.eda.admin.ch/traverse