



**SECOND  
WORLD SUMMIT  
FOR SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
DOHA 2025**

## **Second World Summit for Social Development**

### **Human Development Principles for Climate Resilient Inclusive Social Development**

**5 November 2025, 16-45:18:00, Room 104**

**Organized by: The Republic of Azerbaijan and the  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for  
Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)**

**Azerbaijan, in its capacity as COP29 Presidency, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), convened a Solution Session on “Human Development Principles for Climate-Resilient Inclusive Social Development” on 5 November 2025 on the margins of the Second World Summit for Social Development held in Doha from 4 to 6 November 2025.**

#### **Background**

Climate change is fundamentally a human development challenge, disproportionately affecting marginalized populations with limited capacity to cope. Addressing climate risks requires policies that prioritize people’s well-being, equity, and resilience. The Baku Guiding Principles on Human Development for Climate Resilience—launched at COP29 in 2024—offer a framework for embedding education, health, decent work, and social protection into national climate strategies. This Solution Session provided an opportunity to introduce these Principles and highlight how governments across Asia and the Pacific

are integrating human development considerations into climate-resilient, inclusive social development.

The Session, moderated by **Dr. Srinivas Tata**, Director of ESCAP's Social Development Division, brought together ministers, senior officials, and international organizations to discuss how to operationalize human development in climate strategies.

Opening the Session, **Mr. Samir Sharifov**, Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan, underscored the importance of the Baku Guiding Principles as a practical tool for integrating human development into climate and social inclusion policies. He highlighted the organization of the first-ever Human Development Day at COP29 and the establishment of the **Baku Continuity Coalition on Climate and Health**, jointly led by COP26–COP30 Presidencies and WHO.

**Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, emphasized that a human development lens ensures climate action promotes equity, social protection, and resilience—particularly for women, youth, migrants, and informal workers.

Ministers from Azerbaijan, Brazil, the Philippines, and the Kyrgyz Republic, alongside senior representatives from Indonesia, Thailand, and Mongolia, shared national experiences in integrating social protection, sustainable urbanization, gender-responsive policies, and investments in education and health into climate resilience agendas. Their interventions demonstrated that inclusive and people-centered policies can safeguard livelihoods, empower communities, and ensure that the transition to a green economy leaves no one behind.

Global and regional partners—including ILO, UN-Habitat, UNDRR, UNECE, WHO, ADB, AIIB, and UCLG—reaffirmed support for advancing the Baku Guiding Principles and committed to continued collaboration to translate them into action.

### **Key Issues Discussed**

- A human development lens is essential for designing climate mitigation and adaptation policies that leave no one behind.
- Vulnerable groups—women, youth, informal sector workers, migrants, refugees—require tailored support to build resilience and navigate just transitions.
- Investing in **adaptive and inclusive social protection** is critical to addressing growing vulnerabilities.
- Labour markets are being disrupted by climate change, particularly in climate-exposed sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, and tourism, risking deeper inequalities.
- Skills development—reskilling, upskilling, technical and vocational training—is often overlooked in climate strategies; the Baku Guiding Principles encourage integrating green skills into future NDCs, including for SMEs.

- Cities are central to the climate response; localizing the Baku Guiding Principles is vital for improving infrastructure, service access, and community resilience.

### **Key Recommendations / Commitments for the Doha Solutions Platform for Social Development**

- **Operationalize and localize the Baku Guiding Principles**, ensuring climate policies proactively integrate human development and empower people and communities.
- **Invest in adaptive social protection systems** that strengthen resilience from the bottom up and protect the most vulnerable.
- **Promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and green skills**, enabling women and young workers—especially in climate-vulnerable sectors—to access decent jobs in the formal economy.
- **Leverage data and innovative tools** at national and local levels to enhance the delivery of assistance before, during, and after climate-induced disasters.
- **Strengthen vertical and horizontal government coordination**, and foster collaboration with the private sector and civil society to support collective climate action.
- **Incentivize public–private partnerships and innovative financing** to advance human development in nutrition, education, and health for climate resilience.

### **Conclusion**

The Session underscored the importance of cross-sectoral policy coherence, regional cooperation, and mobilizing resources to advance inclusive, climate-resilient social development. Concluding the Session, **Mr. Elmar Mammadov**, Head of the Economic Cooperation Department of Azerbaijan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-Lead of the COP29 Action Agenda Team, highlighted that the Baku Initiative and Guiding Principles will be advanced globally through the Second World Social Development Summit; regionally through the **82nd session of UN ESCAP in Baku in April 2026**; and locally through the **13th World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku in May 2026**, where the housing and human development nexus will be in focus.