



SDG 16 CONFERENCE

Peace, Justice & Inclusive Societies



SDG 16 as a compass for navigating intersecting crises

30 May – 1 June 2023
Rome, Italy

SPEAKER BIO

Dr. Helder da Costa, General Secretary, g7+ Secretariat



Helder da Costa is the General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat. He has held this position since 2014. The main role of the General Secretary is to act at the Secretary of the Ministerial Forum and Advisory Council Meetings. Dr. Helder also responsible in close coordination with the Chair, Deputy Chair and Member States for setting up the agenda of the Ministerial Meeting. Dr. Helder oversees the management of the Secretariat including enter into legal agreement on behalf of g7+. He was one of the 18 Sherpas representing the g7+ in the negotiation of the Busan Partnership Agreement for Effective Development Cooperation, OECD in 2011.

Da Costa earned his PhD in Trade Policy at the School of International Applied Economics, University of Adelaide, South Australia, in 2001. He has over 20 years of management experience in the academic and development fields in Southeast Asia, Australia, and New Zealand.

Before joining g7+, he worked as an Advisor on Aid Effectiveness for 5 years to the Ministry of Finance, Timor-Leste. He has also consulted for various international development agencies over the past decade including United Nations Development Program, United Nations, Asia Development Bank, World Bank, AusAID and Australian Center for International Agriculture Research, and it leads him to be a regular contributor to refereed journals on development issues. Dr. Da Costa's worked as Tertiary Education Manager and the Asia Programme Manager over 6 years with the Asia New Zealand Foundation and the Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA) based in Wellington, New Zealand which overseeing 5 countries in Asia (Bhutan, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Timor-Leste).