



Peace, justice and inclusive societies for Sustainable Development

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SPEAKER BIO



Mr. Helder Da Costa, General Secretary, g7+ Secretariat

Mr. Helder da Costa is the General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat, an inter-governmental platform of 20 fragile and post-conflict affected countries around the world, based in Dili, Timor-Leste and Lisbon, Portugal.

Da Costa earned his PhD in Trade Policy at the School of International Applied Economics, the 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. Mr. Da Costa's professional career includes 6 years of senior posts with both the Asia New Zealand Foundation and Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA) based in Wellington, New Zealand as a Tertiary Education Manager and the Asia Programme Manager overseeing 5 countries in Asia (Bhutan, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Cambodia and Timor-Leste).

Previously he was appointed as 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 UNDP, UN, ADB, World Bank, AusAID and ACIAR. He has contributed to refereed journals on development issues.