



The Commonwealth



COVID-19 Policy Briefing Series

COVID-19 and Commonwealth FDI: Immediate Impacts and Future Prospects

Wednesday 2 December 2020, 1500 – 1600 GMT

COVID-19 is affecting all aspects of foreign direct investment (FDI). The pandemic has led to a slowdown in the implementation of existing investment projects, resulting in delayed FDI flows; and many firms have deferred investment decisions amid heightened uncertainty, significant income losses and, in certain cases, factory closures and supply disruptions. As a result, FDI inflows into all Commonwealth countries are expected to fall by 50 per cent to US\$178 billion in 2020. A significant loss of FDI will undermine economic growth and transformation in Commonwealth countries and could constrain Commonwealth trade in the medium- and long-term.

This webinar will discuss the findings of a recent study by the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNCTAD, including:

- Emerging and projected impacts of COVID-19 on global FDI flows.
- COVID-19 impacts on FDI inflows into Commonwealth countries and effects on greenfield FDI in the Commonwealth.
- Prospects for post-COVID-19 recovery in Commonwealth FDI flows.

Speakers



Dr Neil Balchin

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Dr Brendan Vickers (moderator)

Head, International Trade Policy Section, Commonwealth Secretariat

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