



# SDG 16 CONFERENCE

## Peace, Justice & Inclusive Societies



**People-Centered Governance in a Post-Pandemic World**  
21-22 April 2022

**In Rome and Online**  
**Co-organized by UN DESA, IDLO, and the Government of Italy**

### **SPEAKER BIO**

#### **Mr. Helder da Costa, General Secretary, g7+ Secretariat**



Mr. Helder da Costa is General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat, an association of 20 fragile and post-conflict affected countries, ranging from the Pacific, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean, based in Dili, Timor-Leste.

It is a platform for sharing lessons and experiences among fragile and conflict-affected States to support each other through peer learning in their self-led transitions from fragility to resilience, based on voluntarism, solidarity, and cooperation. He served as Senior Advisor on Aid Effectiveness to the Ministry of Finance, Timor-Leste (2008-2014), and

represented the g7+ in the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in 2012-2014.

Mr. da Costa earned his Ph.D. in Trade Policy at the University of Adelaide, South Australia in 2001. His professional career in management and academic fields included holding senior posts with both the Asia New Zealand Foundation and Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA) based in Wellington, New Zealand. He has also consulted for various international development agencies including UNDP, UN, ADB, World Bank, AusAID, and ACIAR Australia. He has contributed several book chapters and articles in academic journals on development in fragile and post-conflict settings.