



## Agenda

Time Allocated	Activity	Participants
<b>Moderated by:</b>	Deodat Maharaj, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General The Honourable Dr. Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance, Jamaica	
10 minutes	Opening Remarks	Deodat Maharaj, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Peter Phillips, Minister of Finance
10 minutes	Crowd Funding and the Investment Potential for Developing Countries	Peter Baeck, Principal Researcher, Public and Social Innovation, Nesta
10 minutes	Key Issues and Challenges to Facilitating a Successful Crowd Funding Architecture	Oliver Gadja, Executive Director, European Crowdfunding Network
10 minutes	Evidence on Private Sector and National Level Crowd Funding Projects	Jason Best, Co-Founder and Principal, CrowdFund Capital Advisors
30 minutes	Q & A	Audience
10 minutes	Commonwealth Perspectives on the Potential for Crowdfunding	Sam Attridge, Head of Finance and Development Policy, Economics Policy Division
5 minutes	Summary and Wrap-up	Deodat Maharaj, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General

## Biographies

### Peter Baeck - Nesta

Peter focuses on social innovation and innovation in public services. He is currently co-leading a large EU funded research project on digital social innovation.

Alongside this Peter has worked on much of Nesta's research into crowdfunding as an innovative way of financing products and services in the UK, and has co-authored the reports [Crowdingin](#) and [Working the Crowd](#), and worked on the development of the online crowdfunding directory, [Crowdingin.com](#).

Peter has also delivered research and project management for [People Powered Health](#) (PPH) - a one year Nesta programme that, through a partnership with six UK health localities, explored how coproduction for people living with long term health conditions, can be taken to scale within health services. A particular focus of PPH is capturing evidence on the impact on patient outcomes and cost of health services by coproduced solutions.



# The Commonwealth

Prior to joining Nesta Peter worked for Innovation Unit, a social enterprise that designs, delivers and evaluates public sector and social innovation programmes.

Peter co-authored the Radical Efficiency (2010) research paper which identified international examples of public sector innovations that deliver better quality outcomes for lower costs. He also helped design the service blueprint for a new joined up service for reoffending drug addicts that involve users in the design and delivery of the service, for a London local authority.

Peter holds an M.Sc in Politics and Public Administration from Aalborg University in Denmark.

## **Oliver Gadja - European Crowdfunding Network**

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Oliver is an independent public affairs advisor and consultant. He is founding Chairman and Executive Director at the European Crowdfunding Network and has been driving its professional activities with a view to establish an independent industry representation for the emerging crowdfunding sector and to help shape a progressive capital market union in Europe.

Oliver is an Advisory Board Member at Förderkreis Gründungs-Forschung e.V. (FGF) and a member of the European Crowdfunding Stakeholder Forum at the European Commission and co-founder at Lendery, a FinTech company offering technology and information for institutions to invest across online-lending platforms in Europe and the US.

The past decade, Oliver has worked with venture capital, microfinance, technology and social entrepreneurship in both commercial and non-profit settings in Europe and the USA. He is the initiator and editor of the first double peer reviewed academic compendium on crowdfunding "Crowdfunding in Europe. State of the Art in Theory and Practice. Springer. Frankfurt 2015.

A former journalist, Oliver started his career in the early 1990s in the publishing and business information industries. Oliver holds Masters degrees from Solvay Business School and from the University of Hamburg and studied at SEESS (UCL) in London.

## **Jason Best - CrowdFund Capital Advisers**

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Jason is a technology entrepreneur who co-authored the crowdfund-investing framework used in the JOBS Act to legalize securities-based crowdfunding in the U.S.A. He and his business partner led the 460-day grass roots campaign to change 80-year-old securities laws in the United States.

He has twice been invited to provide US Congressional testimony on early-stage finance, consulted with current and former SEC Chairpersons and Commissioners and attended the White House Rose Garden ceremony for President Obama to sign The JOBS Act into law, on April 5, 2012.

Since then, professional investors, large corporations, financial institutions, government ministries and multi-lateral organizations including the World Bank, engage CCA to create successful investing, policy and educational strategies in early-stage finance. CCA has worked on innovative finance advisory initiatives in 35 countries.



# The Commonwealth

Jason currently serves as an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at [UC Berkeley's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology](#). He co-authored the [World Bank's groundbreaking research "Crowdfunding's Potential in the Developing World"](#) and is also co-author of "Crowdfund Investing for Dummies", published by Wiley. The US State Department's Global Entrepreneurship Program selected CCA as a Key Partner and has sent CCA on 15 State Department Missions to consult and speak on entrepreneurship and crowdfunding.

Jason is also a Venture Partner at [Vectr Ventures](#), a Hong Kong-based Venture Capital fund, focused on financial technology investing in both Asia and the US.

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## Samantha Attridge - Commonwealth Secretariat

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Samantha is Head of Finance and Development Policy and is responsible for leading, shaping and managing the Commonwealth's policy work on financing for development, the global economy and the global development architecture and has written extensively on these issues for the Commonwealth.

Areas of policy focus include: post-2015 development framework; the G20 development agenda; sovereign debt and debt sustainability; innovative finance; effective development cooperation; policies and governance of international financial institutions; regulation and supervision of the international financial system; mobilisation of private capital and capital markets; international taxation and financial inclusion and literacy.

She manages the organisation and policy preparation for the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meetings and Commonwealth - G20 meetings and contributes regularly to these. Previously, she was Deputy Director of Sovereign Debt Management and Capital Market Development at Crown Agents, an International Development Consultancy, delivering technical assistance and capacity building in debt, economic and public financial management.

Samantha has worked extensively in Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific and Asia; and has an extensive experience in the private, public and not-for-profit Sector having worked for Save the Children. She is an ICAEW qualified Chartered Accountant who qualified with PricewaterhouseCoopers and has experience in the private sector of financial modelling, corporate finance and investment appraisal. She also holds a Masters degree in Development Economics, specialising in international economics and Africa; and a degree in Environmental and Agricultural Economics.