

## Red Lines the EU Must Adhere to in Negotiating the Post-2015 Framework

The CONCORD-Beyond-2015 European Task Force (ETF) has been very encouraged by many elements of the European position on the post-2015 Framework as reflected in the EC's two Communications entitled "A Decent Life for All" and the June 2013 Council Conclusions on the post-2015 framework. Most particularly, we welcome the EU's insistence on the need for a single, comprehensive post-2015 framework applying to all countries and which addresses all three dimensions of sustainable development.

As discussions continue within the EU and at UN level, the EU must demonstrate its willingness to be a credible yet bold and progressive negotiating partner and, crucially, the EU's negotiating position should demonstrate its commitment to support the views of civil society in Europe and worldwide. Outlined below are the red line issues that the CONCORD-Beyond 2015 ETF urges the EU to uphold and defend.

### The Framework should be:

1. **Universal**, so that the goals agreed in the post-2015 framework apply to all countries and all countries are expected both to contribute to fulfilling the global goals and to take measurable steps towards improvements in all goal areas in their own national contexts.
2. **Comprehensive**, so that the interconnected dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) are addressed in full, as well as issues of governance, peace and security.
3. **One Integrated Framework** for Sustainable Development Goals and Post-2015 commitments.

### The Objective of the Goals should be to Prioritise People and Planet.

By this we mean:

1. **Respect and protect human rights**, paying particular attention to incorporating the key pillars of a human rights-based approach (such as non-discrimination, participation and empowerment and accountability) in the design, implementation and monitoring of the framework.
2. Address the **multi-dimensional aspects of poverty** which go beyond a lack of income and are manifested in a shortage of resources, capabilities, choices, security and power.
3. **Reduce inequality**, including gender inequality, thus ensuring that no one is left behind and that all people everywhere can realise their human rights.
4. **Reorient the economy** to secure human well-being<sup>1</sup> and protect the natural environment, and transform indicators of economic growth to reflect these priorities. It is imperative that the poorest and most marginalised people receive specific attention.
5. Recognise the ecological carrying capacity of the planet and ensure **natural resources** are managed equitably and sustainably, protecting **global commons**. The emergency of adapting to and mitigating **climate change** must be addressed within the framework.
6. **Confront the status quo** – focus on transformational, structural change addressing the root causes of the main global challenges we face today.

### Key Factors for Successful Implementation of the Post-2015 Framework:

7. Effective and meaningful **participation** (including democratic scrutiny through parliament) is a fundamental condition in the formulation and implementation of the Framework. The participation of women at all levels requires specific attention.
8. The principle of **Common but Differentiated Responsibility** is respected while all countries fulfil certain minimum commitments in line with human rights obligations and other international commitments.
9. **Policy Coherence for (sustainable) Development** is accepted as an international norm or standard that all major actors must abide by, monitor and report on in order to 'do no harm' to the aims and provisions of the framework through other policies or actions.

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<sup>1</sup> The ETF recommends that a well-being measure be developed to replace the current focus on individual income or GDP as a measure of progress. Such a well-being measure should include, at least, access to adequate food, shelter, quality basic services, healthy life expectancy, income security, decent work, physical security and a clean environment.

10. A fully comprehensive plan for **financing** the implementation of the framework is put in place with clearly defined deadlines for fulfilling commitments; **non-financial** means of implementation are equally important and must receive adequate attention and commitment.
11. Appropriate, rigorous, independent **accountability mechanisms** are identified and/or developed and built into the framework with duty-bearers at all levels clearly defined. Such mechanisms should also hold actors to account for their responsibility in providing both financial and non-financial means of implementation.
12. An appropriate, well-resourced **institutional architecture**, with clear mandates for supervision of implementation will be necessary to address the complexities of and inter-linkages between the different parts of the future framework.

**The ETF Vision for the Post-2015 framework is a just, equitable and sustainable world in which every person can realise their human rights, fulfil their potential and live free from poverty.**