“MORE AND BETTER EUROPE”
CAPACITY BUILDING TOOL KIT

Strengthening Italian NGOs and CSOs capacity to participate in the Policy Coherence for Development and in the Post-2015 Debates

SECTION 2 - POST2015

In occasion of the Italian Semester of Presidency of the European Union in 2014
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Capacity Building Toolkit
An output of the project “More and better Europe”

A project by CONCORD Italia, in partnership with Oxfam Italia, ARCI-ARCS, CIPSI, CVC, FOCSIV and the associates Terra Nuova, Legambiente, Slow Food, Expo dei Popoli, Action Aid, co-funded by the European Union and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

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About The Project “More and better Europe”
“More and Better Europe” is a project aiming to ensure that the Italian Presidency of the European Union (EU) in the second semester of 2014 delivers a better EU framework to combat global poverty and inequality. It is composed by the projects:

- “More and better Europe – Ensuring Italian contribution to enhance EU role as a global and consistent player on sustainable development issues” (Project n. DCI-NSA/2013/334-175) co-funded by the European Union

- “Più Cooperazione in Europa. Più Europa nella Cooperazione. Il contributo delle ONG all’agenda per lo sviluppo del semestre di Presidenza italiana” (Project n. AID 10245/OXFAM/ITA) co-funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

The project “More and Better Europe” has been conceived and will be carried out by the Applicant Oxfam Italia, the co-Applicants ARCI-ARCS, CIPSI, CVC and FOCSIV and the associates Terra Nuova, Legambiente, Slow Food, Expo dei Popoli, Action Aid, within the framework of their common membership to the informal network of CONCORD Italia, the Italian national platform of CONCORD Europe, the European Confederation regrouping 42 members, 1,800 NGOs and associations operating in the spheres of development, humanitarian aid and global citizenship education.
About CONCORD Italia

CONCORD Italia forms part of the European confederation CONCORD, which represents, through its 42 members, including national platforms and international networks, 1,800 NGOs and associations operating in the spheres of development, humanitarian aid and global citizenship education. As united and plural national platform, CONCORD Italia represents the main NGOs in our country operating at a European level, in the spheres of development, humanitarian aid, sustainable development, global citizenship education, awareness building and mobilisation of the general public, through programmes, projects and campaigns. CONCORD Italia represents the stances, demands, and proposals of the CONCORD Confederation in relations with European Institutions, the European Commission and Parliament and with Italian government, ministries and Parliament. CONCORD Italia also promotes the dissemination in Italy of information, documents, viewpoints, reports and advocacy initiatives promoted by CONCORD Europe.

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About GVC

GVC-Civil Volunteer Group, is a non-governmental, secular, and independent organization, founded in Bologna in 1971. We are active in international development aid projects with complex action strategies: from humanitarian aid to populations suffering from conflicts and natural disasters to reconstruction, hygiene, and food security; from rural development to education, to the protection of women’s and children’s rights. In over forty years of activity, GVC has operated in all parts of the world, carrying out thousands of projects. We collaborate with public institutions, cultural associations, cooperatives, and Italian and European NGOs, organizing seminars, conferences, exhibits and festivals, laboratories in school and training courses for teachers. We produce educational materials and carry out communication activities on sensitive issues such as differences, human rights, women’s issues, sustainable trade, and biodiversity.

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About this Toolkit

In the second semester of 2014 Italy will assume the Presidency of the European Union and, for the first time since the beginning of the financial and Eurozone debt crisis in 2008, our country will be called to lead on advancing the EU agenda on a number of specific issues, including development policies.

The project “More and better Europe” aims to ensure that the Italian Presidency of the European Union (EU) in the second semester of 2014 delivers a better EU framework to combat global poverty and inequality.

This Toolkit has been created with this objective in mind and it represents an useful instrument enabling members, volunteers and activists of the NGOs and CSOs coalitions and platforms active on the global development agenda to increase their skills to participate into the Italian and EU policy debate, to better mobilize their constituency, to raise and multiply awareness among a wider public, and to advance the political debate on specific themes of interests that will be addressed in the Italian presidency, such as the Post-2015 framework or the EU policy coherence framework.

We encourage use of the materials released within the project: feel free to copy this Toolkit, make it available on your webpage, or distribute through any other means - as long as no fee is charged to users. If you excerpt or quote material, please make reference to the original source. If you adapt the material, please note that it was adapted from the material you find in the bibliography. The views expressed in this document solely reflect the opinions of the authors and collaborators.
Introduction

This Toolkit has been created within the framework of the “More and better Europe” project funded by the European Union and by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), and promoted by CONCORD ITALIA by some of its members. The project relies on the proactive participation of CONCORD ITALIA's constituency, thanks to whom the involvement of main Italian Non Governmental Development Organizations (NGDOs) and their networks (AOI, LINK2007, CINI), as well as the participation of other Italian Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), ensures an Italian contribution in enhancing the EU's role as a continuous global player in combating global poverty and inequality in a sustainable development framework.

This Toolkit, elaborated by GVC with the support of CONCORD ITALIA partners, includes material helping the Italian NGOs and CSOs taking part in the global processes for the Italian Presidency of the European Union and in advocacy activities to both raise awareness among the Italian public and increase their influence addressing EU and Italian policy makers (including Local Authorities). The Toolkit is divided into two sections:

- The first section focuses on Policy Coherence for Development (PCD), in particular within the European context, analysing how PCD is implemented in the European Union – with a focus on the Italian situation – in order to understand what role Italian NGOs and CSOs can play in this scenario.

- The second section focuses on the Post-2015 agenda, first looking at the structure, strengths and weaknesses of the current framework, then analysing the different processes and actors that are participating in the definition of the new Post-2015 development agenda – in order to understand the opportunities that Italian NGOs and CSOs can have in influencing this discussion.

In order to facilitate the work of the NGOs and CSOs, the two sections composing this Toolkit have been published in two separate documents. The following pages set up SECTION 2: POST-2015.

The suggestions and recommendations expressed in this document mainly reflect CONCORD's point of view, the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs.

The main effort of this Toolkit consists in providing the trainers and staff of NGOs and CSOs with a well thought out guide of the most relevant aspects discussed in publications and websites concerning the two topics in order to provide an overview of the main issues.

Specific paragraphs about the Italian scenario are included to provide practical information that might be useful to NGOs/CSOs, enabling greater participation.

References and essential bibliography included address the user who wants to examine the different themes in depth.

Finally two training packages, useful pedagogical tools to transfer knowledge to trainers and NGOs/CSOs staff are included:

- on PCD: “Good Practices guide on Policy Coherence for Development (PDC) for Concord Members” (see enclosed training tool n.1) and “Policy Coherence for Development Training” for trainers (handbook and slides) issued by CONCORD (see enclosed training tools n.2 and 3);

- on POST-2015: “The Post-2015 Agenda – Training of Trainers”, developed by GVC and CONCORD Italia to synthesize the focal points of section 2 of this Toolkit (see enclosed training tool n.4) and the “Advocacy Toolkit — Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda” output of the Sustainable Development 2015 (SD2015) programme, a multi-stakeholder engagement programme run by Stakeholder Forum and CIVICUS, in collaboration with UN DESA (see enclosed training tool n.5).

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1 CONCORD is the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs. It consists of 27 national associations, 17 international networks and 2 associate members that represent over 1,800 NGOs. It was founded in 2003 by development NGOs to act as the main partner for discussion with the EU institutions on development policy. CONCORD ITALIA is the Italian national platform of CONCORD Europe whose members are many of the main Italian NGDOs working with the EU. You can find more information about CONCORD at: http://www.concordeurope.org/about-us#sthash.9i905b35.dpuf

2 Oxfam Italia, CVC, ARCS, CIPSI, FOCSIV.
SECTION 2 – POST 2015
1. WHY DO WE NEED A POST-2015 FRAMEWORK?

The current global development framework is defined by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eight goals that all UN Member States have agreed to try to achieve by the year 2015, the fixed deadline. The United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000, commits world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women. The MDGs derived from this Declaration and their progress are measured through 21 targets and 60 official indicators – see Annex 1. Although MDGs have resulted in a series of unprecedented achievements, much remains to be done in order to fully uproot poverty and enhance global development. For this reason, it is crucial that an agreement is reached globally on how to move a similar but farther-reaching framework forward after 2015.

Consequently, policymakers, civil society organizations, the academia, the media and international organizations are currently engaged in a process to negotiate a new global development agenda, that will consist of a new set of goals, targets and indicators. The Post-2015 debate offers the opportunity to change the way development is delivered to address the reality of poverty today, since the international context has changed tremendously since 2000: new challenges, new actors, and new awareness have emerged.

Before focusing on the discussion about a Post-2015 development agenda, it is worthwhile to review how the current framework is structured, the bases on which the process is built, which aspects should be introduced and which others must be revised.
1.1 The Millennium Development Goals

At the Millennium Summit, held in September 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted the UN Millennium Declaration, committing their nations to a shared vision for development, to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty, and to a series of time-bound targets, with a 2015 deadline that have become known as the Millennium Development Goals:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
- Achieve universal primary education;
- Promote gender equality and empower women;
- Reduce child mortality;
- Improve maternal health;
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases;
- Ensure environmental sustainability;
- Develop a Global Partnership for Development.
The MDGs’ framework proved to be successful in many aspects; both international and civil society organizations recognized the value and the effectiveness of several elements of the global development agenda adopted in 2000.

The MDGs defined an influential framework that drew the attention of policymakers, civil society, academia, the media and international organizations on global development cooperation. They set a common reference point for many actors and provided the basis for converging advocacy and raising global consciousness about poverty.

The MDGs strengthened the global partnership for development, drove the allocation of resources towards key global development priorities, built a common agenda inducing governments to take concrete actions, and helped improve coordination and policy monitoring in support of poverty reduction efforts.

At the same time, many developing countries designed national development strategies explicitly aimed at achieving the MDGs and have aligned these objectives with other national priorities and needs. In some cases, new goals, targets, and related indicators have been added to address specific policy priorities, and mechanisms were established to localize the MDGs and engage local authorities in the achievement of national goals integrating the MDG agenda - or an adaptation of it - into their national development plans.

Moreover, MDGs facilitated various forms of intra-regional cooperation and improved coordination between development actors, thanks also to the support provided in the improvement of countries’ statistical capacity and coordination at national and international levels, and to the use of robust data in support of development policies. The monitoring requirements and their political importance have brought the recognition that better monitoring and data are vital for effective design and implementation of development programmes and policies. Increasing availability and enhanced use of quality data in policy-making have improved policy implementation and monitoring.

MDGs’ format extensively contributed to their success: they consist of a time bound and concrete set of goals that gave operational meaning to some of the basic dimensions of human development and global partnership for development. They include clear, simple, quantitative and easily communicable targets, and their well-identified indicators helped build accountability and improve governance.

Finally, the regional and sub-regional level responses, in terms of MDG advocacy, monitoring, good practices and lesson sharing have served as effective and powerful mechanisms pushing the MDG agenda forward.

Source: UN System task team Review of the contributions of the MDG Agenda to foster development lessons for the Post-2015 UN development agenda
1.3 MDGs’ weaknesses

Although the overall evaluation of the MDGs by international and civil society organizations is positive, they also acknowledged, as did the UN, that the framework presents some weaknesses and flaws which make it incapable of addressing today’s challenges.

First, the MDGs approach reduces “development” to progress on basic needs and assistance to the poorest, most problematic countries, thereby oversimplifying development. Also, the focus on minimum achievements has not captured the challenges of middle-income countries. MDGs have also failed to address the structural causes of poverty and inequality and to tackle global issues like environmental degradation. The MDGs led to overemphasizing financial resource gaps, economic growth and “outcomes” to the detriment of attention paid to institutional building, structural transformations, causes of poverty and enablers of development.

From this point of view, the MDGs present “an agenda rather than a development strategy”\(^3\). They do not recognize the different initial conditions of the poorest countries, nor the disparities in their efforts to meet the goals. There were no indications explaining how to tailor global targets to national or regional circumstances and priorities. This resulted in rigid national policy agendas that followed international benchmarks rather than national realities. Measuring “on/off-track” progress also failed to adequately account for progress made by countries despite not reaching targets. Little attention was paid to quality aspects and interdependencies, and relatively weak accountability mechanisms were envisaged.

Furthermore, MDGs are not universal, but address developing countries and aid only: by placing primary responsibility for action on the governments of low income countries, the MDGs failed to recognize the global responsibilities of high income countries and did not require them to act accordingly. Consequently the perception of a donor-centric agenda arose, creating high expectations about the role of aid which downplayed the critical importance of domestic revenue mobilization in financing MDG-oriented development strategies. MDGs’ monitoring was often perceived as a top-down exercise, given that the selection of indicators were the result of consultations that were limited to the international agencies.

MDGs also excluded some important issues – i.e. peace, governance, human rights, employment, gender equality, and inclusive, sustainable and resilient development. While all these issues are delineated in the principles and values of the Millennium Declaration, they were not made (fully) operational as goals and targets within the agenda.

Imprecise targets were then set for some dimensions – e.g. for the reduction of slum-dwellers and those related to MDG 8 (develop a global partnership for development). Moreover, the definition of targets in relative terms (halve poverty, reduce child mortality by two-thirds, etc.) failed to account for population dynamics. “Quick-fix” interventions appear to have diverted attention away from attending the multiple needs of more structurally disadvantaged groups requiring more costly and complex interventions, sustained funding and political commitment for prolonged periods of time. The MDG agenda has not delivered on all the commitments it made to the global partnership for development, and important steps remain to be done.

\(^3\) UN System Task Team (2012), Review of the contributions of the MDG Agenda to foster development: Lessons for the Post-2015 UN development agenda, pag. 9.
2. TOWARDS A POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
The world has radically changed since the turn of the millennium. **New economic powers** have emerged, **new technologies** are reshaping societies, **new patterns of human settlement** and activity are increasing pressure on the planet and **inequality is rising** in rich and poor countries alike.

Furthermore, the **global food, energy and financial crises** highlighted the fragility of global food supply systems and exposed systemic failures in the workings of financial and commodity markets and major weaknesses in the mechanisms of global governance. The rapid worldwide spread of the **financial fallout** in the United States and, more recently, the uncertainty in global financial markets generated by the **sovereign debt crises in Europe** have underscored the interconnectedness of the global economy.

Moreover, as the UN itself acknowledged⁴, nearly 1 billion people in the world are **undernourished** and more than 200 million are **unemployed**, labour incomes have been stagnant or have fallen as a share of national income in most developed and developing countries and only 28% of the global population is covered by comprehensive social protection systems. The global jobs crisis is deepening **marginalization and poverty** among vulnerable groups and the economic and food crises are compounded by the **global environmental crisis**, of which climate change has the most worrying implications.

Thus, the expiration of the MDGs represents an opportunity to design a new global development agenda that adequately identifies the **development needs of present and future generations**, and is capable of addressing the new global challenges with a new set of goals. The following paragraphs will give an overview of the different processes and actors that are currently participating in the debate on the definition of a Post-2015 development agenda.

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⁴ See UN System Task Team (2012), Realizing the Future We Want for All, Report to the Secretary-General
2.2 Setting the new agenda: MDGs vs SDGs

The target date for the expiration of MDGs is approaching, and the international community has embarked on a process aiming to define a new Post-2015 development framework in a context of remaining challenges and arising issues.

In 2010, the High-level Plenary Meeting of the UN General Assembly requested that the UN Secretary-General lead efforts to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015. Moreover, in June 2012 at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (also known as Rio+20 or Earth Summit 2012), governments agreed to launch a parallel government-led process to create a set of universal sustainable development goals (SDGs) to better respond to current challenges. This should enable countries to better target and monitor progress across all three dimensions of sustainable development (social, environmental and economic), to engage in more inclusive consultations, and to set goals that are global in nature and universally applicable to all countries.

These two events generated two Post-2015 discussions and processes, currently being conducted along different paths, yet which are coordinated and mutually supportive of one another that will ultimately converge in one single framework and set of goals:

a) On the one hand, a process whose objective is to review the Millennium Development Goals, adapting them to the new international context, is progressing under the direction of UN Secretary-General;

b) At the same time, the UN General Assembly is coordinating a different process aimed at creating a different set of goals based on the principle of sustainable development, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This process is based upon the belief that pressures on development, a rising population and economic growth are putting a huge strain on our environment and natural resources. This will have a huge impact on people, unless new ways to sustainably use Earth’s resources are found.

The following diagram is an overview of the two processes, of the actors involved, of the main documents they provided to enhance the debate, of the stakeholders they consulted, and of how these processes will converge. A more detailed analysis of these elements is provided in the paragraphs below.
MDGs and SDGs have the same purpose, the eradication of poverty, but they diverge in their approach to reach this objective—see Box 1.

**BOX 1 - FOCUS ON THE MAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE MDGS AND THE SDGS APPROACH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDGs</th>
<th>SDGs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Sustainable well-being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on developing countries</td>
<td>Focus on all countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aid and Trade Agenda</td>
<td>Human Rights, Justice, and measuring livelihoods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No recognition of planetary boundaries</td>
<td>Living within the limits of the resources of one planet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment is seen as secondary priority, economic development first</td>
<td>Environment (natural resources, healthy ecosystems) is basic for developing well-being</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Sustainable Development 2015, Advocacy Toolkit – Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda*

**a) The post MDGs process**

First, discussions about a post-MDGs framework originated from the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the MDGs in 2010, which requested that the UN Secretary-General report annually on the progress achieved in the implementation of the MDGs through 2015 and to make recommendations for further steps to advance the UN development agenda. The UN Secretary General has consequently taken the lead of this first track, aimed at collecting the information, suggestions and input from all the stakeholders involved in the debate; he will then include this in his final report submitted to the General Assembly in 2014—see Box 2.

To foster discussions, the UN Secretary General also established:

**BOX 2 - FOCUS ON THE ROLE OF THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THE POST-2015 FRAMEWORK**

The UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, reports annually on progress in the implementation of MDGs since the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, and a final report by the Secretary-General will be presented by December 2014, collecting all the input received. In 2012, he also released his initial input to the Open Working Group, a synthesis of the initial input received from a questionnaire sent to the Member States to make contributions to the work of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (see paragraph (b) below). In 2013, the UN Secretary General released the “A life of dignity for all” Annual Report, where he:

- **Renewed the commitment** to the interconnected objectives of economic development, social inclusion and environmental sustainability;
- **Reaffirmed the need for a far-reaching vision** of the future firmly anchored in human rights and universally accepted values and principles;
- **Stated the need for** a set of concise goals and targets aimed at achieving the priorities of the agenda, a global partnership for development to mobilize the means of implementation, a participatory monitoring framework for tracking progress, and a mutual accountability mechanisms for all stakeholders.

*Source: 2013 UN Secretary General Annual Report A life of dignity for all.*
a.1) Global consultations with stakeholders

The UN Secretary General requested that the greatest possible number of stakeholders provide their points of view. Consultations have taken place at regional, global, thematic and national levels:

- **Regional Consultations**: five UN Regional Commissions - Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) - provided a regional perspective on the ongoing global debate on the Post-2015 United Nations development agenda. The document is based upon the results of a series of inclusive sub-regional and regional consultations conducted between Governments, civil society, business and academia, bringing together the UN system agencies at the regional level with non-UN regional and sub-regional partners and organizations.

- **Global, thematic and national consultations**: the UN conducted the online Global Survey *My World*, a global survey for citizens to collect people’s voices, priorities and views. Individuals were asked to choose six out of sixteen possible issues (such as good education, affordable and nutritious food, better job opportunities, etc.) that they feel are the world’s top priorities which would make the most difference in their lives. The UN Development Group (UNDG) also conducted 11 thematic consultations in the 2012–2013 period. The chosen themes were: Addressing Inequalities; Conflict, Violence and Disaster; Education; Energy; Environmental Sustainability; Governance; Growth and Employment; Health; Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition; Population Dynamics; and Water. For each theme, groups led by specialized UN agencies were set up, and the consultations were co-hosted by one or more countries, whose input was evaluated. The consultations envisaged the active participation and support from civil society — individual citizens and organizations — academic research institutes and the private sector.

- **Regional Consultations**: five UN Regional Commissions - Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) - provided a regional perspective on the ongoing global debate on the Post-2015 United Nations development agenda in the joint document published in 2013 "A Regional Perspective on the Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda". This identifies the key regional priority areas for a global development agenda from a regional perspective, and highlights the need to adapt global goals to regional and national ones. The document is based upon the results of a series of inclusive sub-regional and regional consultations conducted between Governments, civil society, business and academia, bringing together the UN system agencies at the regional level with non-UN regional and sub-regional partners and organizations.

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5 UN Development Group is a consortium that unites the 32 UN funds, programmes, agencies, departments, and offices playing a role in development.
6 The thematic consultations included a web consultation phase, with a call for contributions and papers, in some cases preparatory meetings with relevant stakeholders, and a global high-level meeting which summarized and endorsed the consensus achieved.
7 National consultation methodologies included face-to-face meetings, focus group discussions, stakeholder interviews, radio phone-in programmes, television panel interviews, specific group and expert group meetings, and also offline surveys were used in several countries (including MY World surveys) and also text messaging.
country teams in coordination with governments, the private sector, think tanks and civil society. In addition to national consultations in the South, multi-stakeholder consultations around the Post-2015 agenda also took place in many 'developed' countries such as Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the European Union.

The results of these three kinds of consultations were summarized in the report: "A Million Voices: The World We Want", issued in 2013 by the UNDG.

From April 2014 to April 2015 the UNDG will also engage in deliberation about implementation at the national level. These deliberations will consist in a series of public meetings and on-line discussions, where policy planners, civil society representatives, academics, community and private sector leaders will identify solutions and strategies for increased efficiency and effectiveness in development results related to six thematic areas: (i) localizing the post-2015 development agenda; (ii) helping to strengthen capacities and institutions; (iii) Participatory Monitoring for Accountability; (iv) partnerships with civil society and other actors; (v) engaging with the private sector; (vi) culture and development.

• UN Global Compact consultations: UN Global Compact business participants were surveyed and consulted on global development priorities they consider central to any future development agenda, and in 2013 the UN Global Compact released the report "Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda". It includes the views collected during: (i) 43 country-based consultations carried out on the Post-2015 agenda from January to April 2013 by UN local networks involving over 500 corporate participants in Africa, Asia/Australia, Europe, Middle East/North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa; (ii) A series of discussions held within the Global Compact LEAD—the UN Global Compact’s leadership platform comprised of 56 highly committed and engaged multinational corporations— which have taken place since the 2012 Rio+20 summit, (iii) the UN Global Compact discussion platforms on water and on corruption annual meetings held in March 2013, where over 250 companies discussed of their relation to a Post-2015 agenda and the two webinars held with signatories of the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment, (iv) a UN Global Compact survey conducted in November-December 2012, collecting the views of 1,712 companies from over 100 countries.

a.2) High-Level-Panel of eminent persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

In July 2012, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the 27 members of a High-level Panel created to advise on the global development framework beyond 2015. The Panel was co-chaired by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia, and Prime Minister David Cameron of the United Kingdom, and it includes leaders and eminent persons from all over the world, with important positions in their national governments (several ministers in sectors such as Environment, Economics, Finance, Foreign Affairs, Health, and Urban rehabilitation), in the academia, in the business sector, in international institutions (such as the European Union – see Box 3, the African Union, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund) in development cooperation and in humanitarian and human rights associations.

The work of the Panel took the new development challenges, the results achieved and the areas for improvement of MDGs into consideration, integrating them with their expertise and the

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8 You can find more information about the dialogues and the country teams participating in each thematic areas group at http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/UNDG%202nd%20dialogues.pdf or visit http://www.worldwewant2015.org/sitemap
9 The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. By doing so, business, as a primary driver of globalization, can help ensure that markets, commerce, technology and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere.
10 The UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Initiative is an international network of investors working together to put the six Principles for Responsible Investment—that you can find here— into practice. The Principles were launched in April 2006 and involve 1260 signatories.
11 You can find the full list of members of the High Level Panel at http://www.un.org/sg/management/hlppost2015.shtml
input received during consultations with civil society, business sector, politicians and academia. The outcome of this work resulted in the report released in 2013 “A new global partnership: eradicate poverty and transform economies through sustainable development”, containing recommendations to the Secretary-General that identified five transformative shifts to include in the new agenda:

- **Leave No One Behind**: making sure that no person, regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status, is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights;
- **Put Sustainable Development at the Core**: making a rapid shift to sustainable patterns of production and consumption, with developed countries in the lead, to slow the alarming pace of climate change and environmental degradation, which pose unprecedented threats to humanity;
- **Transform Economies for Jobs and Inclusive Growth**: encouraging an economic transformation that can end extreme poverty and promote sustainable development, improving livelihoods by harnessing innovation, technology, and the potential of business, developing more diversified economies with equal opportunities for all, that can drive social inclusion, especially for young people, and foster respect for the environment;
- **Build Peace and Effective, Open and Accountable Institutions for All**: achieving freedom from violence, conflict, and oppression, starting to recognize peace and good governance as a core element of well-being, not an optional extra;
- **Forge a New Global Partnership**: shifting to a new spirit of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual accountability, built on a shared humanity and based on mutual respect and mutual benefit.

12 Panel members organized meetings with the representatives of farmers, indigenous and local communities, workers, migrants, people with disabilities, small business owners, traders, young people and children, women’s groups, older people, faith-based groups, trade unions, academics and experts, politicians and philosophers. Moreover, they received input from over 5000 civil society organisations working in about 120 countries – ranging from grassroots organisations to global alliances – and from the chief executive officers of 250 companies in 30 countries, academics from developed and developing countries, international and local NGOs.
The European Union is contributing to the definition of a Post-2015 framework through:

1. Membership in the High Level Panel on Post-2015 development agenda
Andris Piebalgs, the outgoing European Commissioner for Development (2009-2014), joined the other advisers from UN organisations, governments, private sector and civil society composing the High Level Panel on Post-2015 development agenda (see paragraph a.2), selected to provide advice on the global development agenda;

2. Consultations
The European Commission launched an online public consultation with the purpose of collecting views from a wide range of stakeholders, organizations and individuals from public authorities, civil society, the private sector and academia, as part of its efforts in participating in the creation of a new development agenda and analyzes the role of the EU. The consultation collected the views of 119 organisations and individuals and focused on the benefits and limitations of MDGs, the feasibility, and the potential scope and shape of a future framework. The report “Towards a Post-2015 development framework”, summarising the contributions received, was published in 2012;

3. European Report on Development
The Commission and seven EU Member States (Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom) released the 2013 European Report on Development “Post-2015: Global Action for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future” that reaches key conclusions for the outcome of a new Post-2015 agenda and analyzes the role of the EU. It states that the EU should continue to increase ODA (Official Development Assistance - as almost no EU member will reach the levels agreed at Monterrey of 0.7% ODA/GNI see chart below), that it should make progress on PCD, and should actively participate in the international negotiations for the Post-2015 debates;

Chart on % ODA/GNI of DAC members in 2013 (Source OECD, as of 8 April 2014):

Net ODA in 2013 - as a percentage of GNI

- UN Target 0.7
- Average country effort 0.40
The European Commission published two important documents that hold that the EU should participate in the debate at the UN and worldwide on a new global development agenda:

- **“A decent life for all – Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future”** in 2013. This document proposes a common approach to the EU engagement in international processes to define an overarching framework for Post-2015 ensuring a “Decent Life for All” by 2030. The document suggests that the new agenda should include drivers for sustainable, inclusive growth and development. These drivers must ensure structural transformations of the economy needed for the creation of productive capacities and employment, the transition to an inclusive green economy capable of addressing climate challenges, and the sustainable management of natural resources. The paper also underlines the importance of establishing a framework addressing justice, equality and equity, as well as the empowerment of women and gender equality;

- **“A decent Life for all: from vision to collective action”** in 2014: this is a contribution to the EU position in international negotiations on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as the follow-up to the MDGs. It describes key principles and proposes priority areas (poverty, inequality, health, food security, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, sustainable energy, decent work, inclusive and sustainable growth, sustainable consumption and production, biodiversity, land degradation and sea and oceans) and related potential objectives, as a step towards establishing a limited number of goals. The importance of a framework that ensures a rights-based approach and addresses justice, equality and equity, good governance, democracy and the rule of law, peaceful societies and freedom from violence is also stated.


**a.3) The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)**

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was launched by UN Secretary-General in August 2012, to mobilize scientific and technical expertise in support of sustainable development problem solving at local, national, and global scales. It brings together members from universities, research institutions, foundations, civil society, and other organizations. The SDSN conducted worldwide consultations with its leadership Council and 12 thematic groups on key issues of sustainable development, comprising leading scientists, engineers, academics and practitioners from business and civil society, experts in their given area. The Council has explored what an integrated, concise, science-based, and action-oriented agenda for the world might look like, and its document **“An Action Agenda for Sustainable Development”** released in 2013 summarizes the main conclusions of these discussions, of the work of thematic groups, and of a two-week public consultation.
a.4) The UN System Task Team

The UN System Task Team (UNTT) was established in 2011 by the Secretary-General. It is co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme and brings together senior experts from over 50 UN entities and international organizations to provide system-wide support to the Post-2015 consultation process, including analytical input, expertise and outreach, in consultation with all stakeholders. In 2012 it released the document “Realizing the Future We Want for All”, informed by consultations organized by the UN System Task Team with Member States, academics, civil society organizations and the private sector\(^\text{13}\). It is also based on a thorough review of the main literature on the subject.

The terms of reference of the Task Team include: assessing ongoing efforts within the UN system, consulting external stakeholders, such as civil society, academia and the private sector and defining a system-wide vision and road map on the Post-2015 UN development agenda – see Box 4. Within the UNTT sits also the UN Technical Support Team (TST), providing support to the Open Working Group\(^\text{14}\) - see paragraph (b) below.

**BOX 4 – FOCUS ON THE UN SYSTEM TASK TEAM**

The UN System Task Team published its first report suggesting that the new Post-2015 framework should be based on the core values of human rights, equality and sustainability, and reorganized along four key dimensions:

- **Inclusive social development**: ensuring universal coverage and quality service delivery, supporting social development interventions to empower families thanks to new health and information technologies and culturally relevant communication initiatives;
- **Inclusive economic development**: stronger policy consistency and coordination, growth strategies for the future, partnerships and institutional capacity building across countries and regions, better governance of the economic and financial sectors to build resilience against economic shocks, in order to maintain regulatory frameworks that respect human rights and protect the environment, to deal with the global job crisis and support productive activities to create full employment and decent work, to ensure access to land, natural resources, energy input and services for smallholder farmers;
- **Environmental sustainability**: ensuring a stable climate, stopping ocean acidification, preventing land degradation and unsustainable water use, sustainably managing natural resources and protecting natural resources;
- **Peace and security**: promoting peace and security, including freedom from political persecution, discrimination and all forms of violence, paying particular attention to violence against women and girls.

To achieve this project, a high degree of policy coherence at the global, regional, national and sub-national levels will be required, as will shared responsibilities and the identification of development enablers.

The Task Team warns that in the process of defining the post-2015 agenda, the international community should be cautious of three dangers: overloading, being either too prescriptive or too vague, and donor-centrism.

*Source: UNTT (2012), Realising the future we want for all, Report to the Secretary-General*

\(^{13}\) The UN System Task Team organized an Expert Group Meeting on 27-29 February 2012, and three informal briefings with Member States (General Assembly in November 2011 and February 2012; and ECOSOC in March 2012). The Report is also informed by ongoing consultations held between UN system entities and civil society organizations.

\(^{14}\) The Open Working Group is a 30-member intergovernmental group of the General Assembly, mandated by the Outcome Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to prepare a proposal on the SDGs.
b) The SDGs process

The second process, encouraged by the UN General Assembly, originated from Rio+20 - the UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012\(^\text{15}\). On that occasion, the General Assembly decided to begin a process to develop Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based upon the MDGs which is supposed to converge with the Post-2015 development agenda.

To promote discussions on SDGs, the UN General Assembly established:

- An intergovernmental **High Level Political Forum (HLPF)** on sustainable development:
  This is a universal intergovernmental forum to provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development, as the new deliberating body\(^\text{16}\) for sustainable development in the UN. Its task is to regularly review and follow up on the implementation of sustainable development at the United Nations. The HLPF also acts as a platform for partnerships with the involvement of Major Groups and other relevant regional entities and stakeholders. All Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies participate in the Forum, which meets every four years at the level of Heads of State and Government under the auspices of the General Assembly and every year under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. Starting in 2016 it will also conduct regular reviews on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives.

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\(^\text{15}\) You can find the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference, “The Future We Want”, at [http://www.unssd2012.org/content/documents/727The%20Future%20We%20Want%20June%20201230pm.pdf](http://www.unssd2012.org/content/documents/727The%20Future%20We%20Want%20June%20201230pm.pdf)

\(^\text{16}\) The High Level Forum replaces the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), established by the UN General Assembly in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the Earth Summit.
The HLPF works to enhance the integration of economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, to have a focused, dynamic and action-oriented agenda and to consider new and emerging sustainable development challenges. Its inaugural meeting was held in September, 2013. On that occasion, the UN Under-secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs presented an executive summary of a prototype for a future Global Sustainable Development Report, and after further review and consultations, the full “Prototype Global Sustainable Development Report” was presented at the second HLPF meeting in 2014. The report brings together findings of scientific assessments to support the work of the HLPF.

- **An Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing (ICESDF):**
  The Committee consists of 30 experts on sustainable development financing who come from different yet evenly represented geographical regions. They are tasked with assessing financing needs, considering the effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks, and evaluating additional initiatives. The goal is to prepare a report that proposes options for an effective sustainable development financing strategy to facilitate the mobilization of resources and their effective use in achieving sustainable development objectives.
  Its work is open to consultation with relevant stakeholders and in this respect, a steering committee has been formed to coordinate the involvement of non-state actors. Public calls to all stakeholders for input have also been issued as the work of the committee progressed: interested relevant international and regional financial institutions and other relevant organizations could send their contribution regarding the selected clusters: “assessing financing needs, mapping of current flows and emerging trends, and the impact of domestic and international environments”; “Mobilisation of resources and their effective use”; and “Institutional arrangements, policy coherence, synergies and governance issues.”
  The Committee held 5 sessions and in August 2014 it published the document “Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing”, where a list of financing measures are proposed for sustainable development, such as the promotion of tax reform, tax compliance and deeper international cooperation, exploring the potential contributions of national development banks, providing access to financial services for households and micro-enterprises, channelling international funds towards long-term investment in sustainable development, or facilitating the flow of remittances and private development assistance. These proposals will provide a basis for future discussion on financing sustainable development.

- **An Open Working Group:**
  The 30-member Open Working Group (OWG) of the General Assembly was established in January 2013 and given the mandate to prepare a proposal on SDGs for consideration by the UN General Assembly. It is co-Chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Hungary and Kenya, the seats are shared by 70 Member States, nominated by Member States from the five United Nations regional groups. Each of the 30 seats of the OWG is shared by one to four countries from the same UN regional group (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, Western Europe and Others, Eastern Europe), while representatives of other Member States—those with no seat in the OWG—can still participate and speak on behalf of their countries at the meetings of the OWG. **Italy participates in the Western European and Others Groups together with Spain and Turkey**, and was represented by the Italian permanent representation at the UN in New York and the Italian Ministry of Environment.
  First (from March 2013 to February 2014), the OWG held regular thematic sessions, facilitating discussions and gathering input on a variety of topics. From March 2014 it negotiated and wrote its report, taking into account the input of Major Groups—see Box 11—and other stakeholders, such as UN and international organizations that it received during the previous sessions. In June, 2014 it released the “Zero Draft”, a first report that includes goals and targets, subsequently discussed and revised until the OWG released the final output document in July, 2014 which will be submitted to the General Assembly—see Box 5.
The Open Working Group (OWG) presented its final output document “Introduction to the Proposal of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals”, in July 2014. The document was the result of discussions with stakeholders and Major Groups - see Box 11 - about the first draft released by the OWG, the so-called ‘Zero Draft’.

The final goals proposed are 17, each proposed goal is accompanied by a set of targets (169 in total) intended to measure progress towards the achievement of these objectives.

List of Proposed Sustainable Development Goals to be attained by 2030:

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere;
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture;
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all;
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all;
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries;
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns;
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts;
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss;
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;
17. Strengthen the means of implementation* and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development Finance.

* The notion of ‘Means of implementation’ describes the interdependent mix of financial resources, technology development and transfer, capacity building, inclusive and equitable globalization and trade, regional integration, as well as the creation of a national enabling environment required to implement the new sustainable development agenda, particularly in developing countries.

2.3 Convergence

Though still separate, the MDGs-review and the SDGs processes have both highlighted the interrelated nature of poverty eradication and sustainable development. The two processes are converging on the definition of a new set of goals that should be universal, addressing the entire world population, that should involve countries on the basis of a common but differentiated responsibility, and that should move towards a sustainable type of development, comprised of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, and capable of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

There have been repeated calls to merge the two processes into a single development agenda.
• As far as the MDGs are concerned, by December 2014 the Secretary General will share a synthesis report containing the full range of input on the Post-2015 development for the consideration of the General Assembly. This report will provide the starting point for intergovernmental negotiations to define and agree upon the details of the Post-2015 development framework, which will likely be based on a set of global goals to eradicate poverty in the context of sustainable development;

• As far as the SDGs go, the OWG is mandated to present its final report to the General Assembly by the end of its 68th Session (September 2014). Its report should contain a set of SDGs that are universal, limited in number, inspiring, easy to communicate and address the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic manner.

The input collected throughout the MDGs and SDGs’ processes will then be merged into one single agenda by the end of 2015. The President of the UN General Assembly hosted a special event on September 25th, 2013, to define the direction and form of the new development agenda—see Box 6.

The two processes will converge as it is illustrated below:

Sources: outcome document of the UNGA Special Event, SD 2015 Advocacy Toolkit – Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda
2.4 The challenges for the next framework

The debate about the new development agenda focuses on several points, among these are the definition of priority areas to be included, and the form and approach to the new goals. The next framework will face new challenges that derive from a growing globalization and integration among countries. Social, economic and environmental crises are not confined and can not be faced by single countries anymore. These new problems affect the world at a global scale and therefore require global solutions. Developed countries too, once considered exempt from social or economic difficulties, are now experiencing severe difficulties, and there is the necessity to act together, going beyond the North vs South paradigm.

2.4.1 Measurability

The first question up for debate regards the methodology that should be adopted to measure the progress in achieving the new goals. Despite the MDGs identification of clear, simple and easily communicable targets that facilitated the measuring of progress, this solely quantitative approach failed to adequately account for the improvement and efforts made by countries coming from different starting points. It is agreed that the new goals and targets should be “SMART” criteria: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound.

Moreover, the standard measure for economic progress is poorly suited to measure progress towards sustainable development. Most economies today are built on a premise that equates the growth of a country’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with well-being. However, the GDP of a country only counts the monetary value of all officially recognised goods and services that it produces over the course of a year, and it is therefore insufficient as a measure of progress because it does not take into consideration other important factors, such the exploitation of natural resources, the creation of pollution, or the living standards. A Well-Being Measure would contribute to a redefinition of the concept and measurement of national progress, relevant to all categories of countries—see Box 7.
BOX 7 - FOCUS ON NEW MEASURES FOR WELL-BEING

GDP per capita and national income accounts generally do not reflect the environmental and social consequences of a country's development path, nor do they accurately capture well-being at an individual or household level. This kind of approach must therefore be revised and complemented with measures that include subjective well-being, a nation's human and natural capital as well as the goods and services produced, and all the factors affecting environmental, social and economic sustainability.

There are currently several propositions for measuring the well-being of a country that have been advanced to overcome the measure of GDP that instead only identifies economic growth, without taking into consideration other very important, factors.

The European Union is trying to fostering this debate, promoting the “EU Beyond GDP” initiative, that aims to share information on recent developments and ongoing work concerning the development of indicators other than GDP that are more inclusive of environmental and social aspects of progress. GDP needs to be improved, adjusted and complemented with indicators that concisely incorporate social and environmental achievements (e.g., improved social cohesion, accessibility and affordability of basic goods and services, education, public health and air quality) and setbacks (e.g., increasing poverty, more crime, depleting natural resources).

Examples of alternative measures to GDP are:

- The Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI), a project by the Center for Sustainable Economy (an environmental economics think tank engaged in speeding the transition to a sustainable society, based in the US) and the Institute for Policy Studies (a US think tank working on peace, justice and the environment). Their joint effort consists of a single framework that consolidates critical economic, environmental and social factors - with 26 indicators - in order to give a more accurate picture of progress and setbacks; For further information, visit [http://genuineprogress.net/genuine-progress-indicator/](http://genuineprogress.net/genuine-progress-indicator/)

- BES (Benessere Equo e Solidale): an Italian project to measure equitable and sustainable well-being - born of a joint initiative of the National Council for Economics and Labour (Cnел – a body of experts for legal, economic and social issue consultation) and the Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat – a public research organisation, the main Italian producer of official statistics in the service of citizens and policy-makers, operating in complete independence and continuous interaction with the academic and scientific communities). The central idea of BES is that economic parameters alone are inadequate to evaluate the progress of societies and should be complemented by social and environmental information and by measures of inequality and sustainability. Therefore it identifies 12 dimensions of well-being to measure: (1) Health; (2) Education and Training; (3) Work and Life Balance; (4) Economic Well-Being; (5) Social relationships; (6) Politics and Institutions; (7) Security; (8) Subjective Well-Being; (9) Landscape and Cultural Heritage; (10) Environment; (11) Research and Innovation; (12) Quality of Services; For further information, visit [http://www.misuredelbenessere.it/index.php?id=51](http://www.misuredelbenessere.it/index.php?id=51)

- Better Life Index: a project developed by the OECD, to involve citizens in the debate on measuring well-being. It identifies 11 topics considered essential to well-being in terms of material living conditions (housing, income, jobs) and quality of life (community, education, environment, governance, health, life satisfaction, safety and work-life balance). The interactive tool available on the website allows the user to see how countries perform according to the importance he/she gives to each of 11 topics that make for a better life. For further information, visit [http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/about/better-life-initiative/](http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/about/better-life-initiative/),
The debate on measuring should also include the principle of **accountability, transparency and effective review of progress**, establishing appropriate rules and institutions to increase the ability of people to participate in policy choices that affect them and to hold governments and other actors accountable for progress. A new framework also provides an opportunity to develop a global mechanism endorsed and supported at the highest political level to ensure that national governments and other actors, including the private sector, are held **accountable** for the implementation of the framework, to review progress rigorously, to accelerate action and to press for additional actions wherever necessary. Civil society, local authorities and the private sector should play a key role in advancing action and accountability, promoting transparency through the collection, publication, assessment and easy accessibility of data and information on the pace of progress made, nationally and internationally.

### 2.4.2 Responsibilities

While the MDGs’ agenda was **donor driven** and (except MDG8) **mostly addressed to poor countries**, all the stakeholders agree that the **new agenda** should be directed to all **countries worldwide**. A universal and transformative agenda should be built around goals and targets that are of concern and relevance to all countries and all stakeholders should be engaged in its implementation. The Post-2015 process should therefore be **inclusive and fair** in itself, ensuring to include the views of as many different people as possible. Part of the debate is about who should be leading the whole process, and how to ensure that the most vulnerable and deprived people – the ones who are often not represented – can truly participate this time.

As the European Commission\(^\text{18}\) pointed out, the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development are both **common**, since they are of **universal concern and relevance to all countries and people**. Including future generations, **and global**, since in an interdependent world many challenges call for collective action and global solutions.

While goal and target setting should be for all, the **implementation** of the universal framework should take into account differing **national context and circumstances** and **respect national policies and priorities**. There are various ways in which such differentiation can be achieved, including different approaches to reaching targets or through differentiated indicators to measure progress.

Other stakeholders, such as CONCORD\(^\text{19}\), have highlighted the importance of the principle of **common but differentiated responsibilities** which holds that the goals should be global, universal and applicable to all countries, but should be seen through **national or regional context specific targets**. Common but-differentiated responsibility also applies to two different

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17 For further information about the debate on accountability, see CESR’s Report “Who Will Be Accountable? Human Rights and the Post-2015 Development Agenda”
18 EC (2014), A decent Life for all: from vision to collective action
19 For more information see Beyond2015, Putting People and Planet First
aspects of the path towards the achievement of global goals:

- On the one hand, it relates to the fact that countries are at different stages of development and the degree and the precise nature of their response to the same issue - such as poverty or unemployment - will need to be tailored;
- On the other hand, it relates to acknowledging countries’ different present and historical contributions to the challenges the world faces and therefore their responsibility in addressing them.

Accordingly, all countries must commit to contributing to the achievement of all the goals which are agreed upon at the global level, but some may need to do more than others - in line with their responsibility for the current situation and in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice.

More discussions concern the need to replace the prevailing paternalistic and charitable notion of development assistance with a common conceptualisation of burden-sharing between rich and poor countries, and by implementing a system of Policy Coherence for Development (PCD)\textsuperscript{20} that strengthens the developed countries’ responsiveness to the needs and aspirations of the world’s poorest and most marginalised people. It is based on the principle of ‘do no harm’ to their human rights and development perspectives – see Section 1 of this Toolkit.

2.4.3 Sustainability

The new Post-2015 framework should ensure a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights. It should address justice, equality and equity, good governance, democracy and the rule of law, as well as peaceful societies and freedom from violence. Goals and targets need also to incorporate all three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) and their inter-linkages in a balanced way. Recognising and addressing these inter-linkages will assist in arriving at a more integrated and less fragmented framework.

Moreover, different actors expressed the need of changing the main paradigm of the current development agenda, focused on development aid delivered through financial transfer (seen as a moral obligation on the part of rich countries to the developing world) to an approach based on rights and justice that fairly distributes natural resources within and among nations, in accordance with their need to build and sustain their well being. This would address the root causes of unsustainable consumption and production patterns, transforming them into sustainable lifestyles and livelihoods that benefit all. This approach would use a paradigm that replaces the mainly growth-based economic model with a new model that aims to achieve sustainable and equitable economies and societies worldwide and ensures greater public participation in decision-making.

The new universal framework needs also to be transformational and must address the structural causes of the new global challenges. This includes tackling issues of global concern that were not sufficiently covered in the MDGs, such as: inclusive and sustainable growth, inequalities, sustainable consumption and production, migration and mobility, decent work, digital inclusion, health and social protection, sustainable management of natural resources, climate change, disaster resilience and risk management, and knowledge and innovation. Transformational reform of economic structures, financial systems, trade, global governance and increasing accountability of the private sector are thus needed, and this will require strong engagement to move towards truly sustainable development—see Box 8.

BOX 8 – FOCUS ON FROM BUSINESS AS USUAL TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

All development cooperation stakeholders agreed on the vision of a new framework in which sustainability is one of the key principles.

The new global agenda will thus need an operational sustainable development framework that could mobilize national and local governments, civil society, business, science and academia in every country, moving from the actual business-as-usual trajectory towards a sustainable development path. Under business-as-usual (the normal conduct of business regardless of the circumstances, especially difficult events which pose a potential negative impact) many countries will continue to prosper and converge rapidly, while others will continue to stagnate or fall deeper into poverty; the liberalization and the deregulation will increase, causing a decrease in terms of taxation, labour, and environmental standards and to great difficulties raising the public revenues needed to invest in human capital, infrastructure, public services, and environmental protection. In such a context will not be possible to support vulnerable regions, reduce inequalities between skilled and unskilled workers, or guarantee a healthy start for children without adequate governance and cooperation.
Thus, the root causes of poverty and inequalities would not be tackled, causing the failure of international coordination and cooperation. Moreover, it is essential to avoid the development of “green MDGs”, that would not change the future perspectives and can not face today’s environmental threats.

Worryingly, the planned US-EU trade deal the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) goes exactly in this direction. Development experts, representatives of third countries and NGOs have recently expressed concerns regarding this agreement that could undermine and contradict the global development targets that are currently being negotiated in the Post-2015 processes. TTIP’s content is in fact not available to the public, and it is being implemented by the two biggest economic blocs, and will therefore set global standards in trade and investment for the next decades. The fact that the US has not recognised all the fundamental labour conventions established by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), is an example of the reason why many stakeholders have concerns about the fact that the deregulation that such an agreement could imply will ultimately undo the development effort implemented at the UN level. TTIP should be coherent with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are currently being discussed. Indeed, SDGs should not be seen as detached from economic and trade agreements being negotiated in parallel, and more transparency is needed in order to ensure policy coherence for development.

Sustainable Development should be seen as a new radical change in the current unsustainable economic production and consumption pattern systems.

For further information about the stakeholders’ position on the TTIP, see http://stop-ttip-italia.net/

2.4.4 A new global partnership

Many stakeholders, including the UN System Task Team (UNTT)\(^\text{21}\), have affirmed the need for a renewed global partnership for development. MDG 8 (develop a global partnership for development) is the only Goal that gave direct responsibility to developed countries, perpetuating the “donor-recipient” paradigm, rather than calling for collective action at the multilateral level to achieve a stable global economic environment. In addition, MDG 8 did not reflect the important role of other actors in development cooperation such as, civil society, private philanthropic foundations and other new forms of cooperative and collective actions. The role of the private sector in development cooperation is currently the subject of several international discussions\(^\text{22}\). The business sector, including corporations and financial intermediaries is a potential actor both as source of finance and as a partner for governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and donors. Many stakeholders, amongst them CONCORD, are nevertheless very cautious. They want to examine what the private sector’s contribution to development would be in detail before committing to it, and want to be sure that companies operating on the ground do no harm, behave in a sustainable way and pay their fair share of taxes. They must contribute to fighting poverty and inequalities, promoting human rights, sustainable development and economic justice, and must be responsive, accountable and respectful of the environment, human rights, and transparency standards before being fully considered actors for development.


The transformational change that is needed for sustainable development requires in fact a well-designed accountability framework to turn promises into effective commitments which are focused on a limited number of goals, targets and indicators that the UNTT considers to be achievable with a dual structure:

- Creating a broader “international enabling environment”, including explicit commitments towards a renewed global partnership for development with a focus on creating an enabling environment for development, promoting the contribution of multiple partners, covering areas of common and, in some cases, differentiated responsibilities;
- Well defined partnerships mainstreamed under each thematic goal.

The Fourth High Level Forum (HLF4) held in Busan23 in 2011, established a new, inclusive forum, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation, bringing together a wide range of countries and organisations to foster engagement, communication and knowledge sharing among development actors, and also to work at maintain political support for the commitments reached in Busan, and to ensure that development co-operation has the maximum possible impact on development results. The First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, held in April, 2014 provided input for the characteristics, content and format of a renewed global partnership for development – see Box 9.

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**BOX 9 – FOCUS ON GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

The Global Partnership for effective development cooperation was created to help nations, business and organisations to work better together to end poverty. It is a forum for shared advice, learning and action to support the implementation of principles that form the foundation of effective development co-operation. The First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, held in April, 2014 identified the key characteristics of a new Global Partnership for Development, to rebuild within the Post-2015 development Agenda:

- It should be grounded in equity, solidarity and basic rights;
- It should bring together the Monterrey track, on Financing for Development, and the Rio track, on financing for sustainable development and means of implementation;
- It should be equitable and inclusive, with a fair sharing of responsibilities, and with strong monitoring and accountability;
- It should be a multi-stakeholder partnerships, organized around specific sectors or issues, complement of the intergovernmental global partnership for development;
- It must have the highest legitimacy and the most broad-based buy-in to bring North and South together.


23 The Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness was held in 2011 in Busan, Republic of Korea. The conference concluded the OECD/DAC-led process on aid effectiveness that was launched by the Paris Declaration in 2005, and aimed both to evaluate progress already made towards achieving more effective aid, and to define an agenda for the future. The HLF4 concluded with the endorsement of the “Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation”, where key principles for an effective cooperation were defined: ownership by developing countries, focus on results, inclusive development partnerships, and transparency and accountability to one another.
3. INFLUENCING THE NEW DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
3.1 Which role should civil society have in influencing the Post-2015 Agenda?

The international context has deeply changed since 2000 when the Millennium Development Goals were conceived. For the new global agenda for development to be adopted by the end of 2015, it is crucial to understand what the transformational changes needed are, that address the new challenges that the people and the planet face nowadays. Civil society has a very important role to play in the definition of the new framework. Its organizations are called upon to influence the new agenda, bringing to the highest political level the voices of people, especially the most vulnerable ones, and to hold governments accountable for progress in the Post-2015 framework.

- On one hand, CSOs and NGOs are participating in the different processes with the global, national, local and thematic consultations organized by several actors involved in the definition of the new development agenda. It is therefore crucial for them to identify the right moments and occasions to provide their views, input and suggestions—see Box 10.

**BOX 10 - FOCUS ON KEY EVENTS TO INFLUENCE THE POST-2015 AGENDA**

The MDGs review and the SDCs development processes, that will define the Post-2015 framework, are still in progress, and the following table shows the key steps that are still to be made before they will converge in a single agenda:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key events for the Post2015 Development Agenda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2014 – April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2014 – August 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is therefore crucial for NGOs and CSOs to seize the right moment to develop an advocacy action. The following table summarizes best opportunities for NGOs and CSOs to intervene:

*Source: Sustainable Development 2015, Advocacy Toolkit – Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Means to Influence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global</strong></td>
<td>Open Working Group</td>
<td>Decision-making: Intergovernmental negotiations on the SDGs</td>
<td>July 2014 (Final session = 14-18 July)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global</strong></td>
<td>Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on SD Financing</td>
<td>Decision-making: Intergovernmental discussions on financing the post-2015 framework</td>
<td>August 2014 (Final session = 4-8 August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global</strong></td>
<td>Intergovernmental process on the post-2015 development agenda</td>
<td>Decision-making: Intergovernmental negotiations on one set of global goals and an overarching narrative</td>
<td>September 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global</strong></td>
<td>PGA thematic debates and high-level events</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement: Gather government and stakeholder perspectives to feed into ongoing intergovernmental processes on the post-2015 agenda</td>
<td>June 2014 (Final event: 9-10 June)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regional</strong></td>
<td>UN Regional Commissions</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement: Taking regional perspectives to the global level</td>
<td>September 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global / Regional / National</strong></td>
<td>UNDG dialogues on the implementation of the post-2015 agenda</td>
<td>Stakeholder consultation: Gathering global-regional-national perspectives</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National</strong></td>
<td>National Government</td>
<td>Decision-making: Taking national perspectives to global fora; developing national policy</td>
<td>August 2015 to influence the global post-2015 framework; Ongoing to influence national policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National</strong></td>
<td>National advisory Bodies</td>
<td>Advice and influence: Developing national policy and positions</td>
<td>August 2015 to influence the global post-2015 framework; Ongoing to influence national policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Sustainable Development 2015, Advocacy Toolkit – Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda*
Input from NGOs and CSOs has been welcomed by several institutions up to date. The UN Development Group, the UN System Task Team, the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons, the European Union and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network organized consultations with them. The Open Working Group, instead, involved CSOs and NGOs through the Major Groups — see Box 11.

**BOX 11 - FOCUS ON MAJOR GROUPS**

Civil Society Organizations can influence the Post-2015 Agenda with the participation in Major Groups. Since the first UN Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 - the Earth Summit - it was recognized that sustainable development could not be achieved by governments alone. This notion was reflected acknowledging **nine sectors of society** as the main channels through which citizens could organize and participate in international efforts to achieve sustainable development through the United Nations.

These nine sectors are officially known as "Major Groups", and are:

1. Women;
2. Children and youth;
3. Indigenous peoples;
4. NGOs;
5. Workers and trade unions;
6. Local authorities;
7. Business and industry;
8. The scientific and technical community;

Members of the each Major Group are organisations and individuals who are contributing to intergovernmental negotiations on sustainable development and environment. The outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference, "The Future We Want", likewise reaffirms that sustainable development requires the meaningful involvement and active participation of Major Groups and all relevant decision makers in the planning and implementation of sustainable development policies.

Governments have committed to work more closely with Major Groups and other stakeholders and to encourage their active participation in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels. Each of the Major Groups is coordinated by two or more OPs, Organising Partners (you can find the full list of Major Groups' OPs [here](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/majorgroups.html)) who confer on a monthly basis to be informed of each other’s activities and discuss topics where civil society participation is involved. The OPs disseminate information, provide guidance, help prepare written statements, and facilitate participation and interventions at the OWG and other intergovernmental processes, such as the High Level Political Forum (HLPF).

Representatives of each of the Major Groups are given a seat at the OWG sessions as official observers and may intervene in the discussions when invited to do so by the Co-Chairs. During the input phase, Major Groups and other stakeholders formed thematic clusters to produce briefings, statements and presentations for and during OWG sessions. During the consensus building phase, the Major Groups prepared thematic and constituency-based statements.

On the other hand, NGOs and CSOs can engage in international campaigns whose purpose is to influence the Post-2015 debate, involving the world’s citizens in their advocacy strategy towards the identification of the priorities for a new development agenda. Some of the most important advocacy campaigns in the Post-2015 debate are **Beyond2015** (by CONCORD – that you can find below), the **Human Rights Litmus Test** (by Human Rights Caucus) and **Justice2015** (by GCAP) that you will find in Annex 2, together with GCAP’s discussion and position papers – see Annex 3. However, many other organizations are actively campaigning too; examples of other campaigns are the Campaign for People’s Goals for Sustainable Development (the People’s Goals)²⁴ and Action/2015²⁵. Other kind of campaigns focus on specific thematic goals or targets of the framework of the new global development agenda²⁶.

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²⁴ The Campaign for People’s Goals for Sustainable Development is comprised of a network of grassroots organizations, labor unions, social movements, non-governmental organizations and other institutions committed to challenge governments, and the broader multilateral system to commit to real reforms that address the demands of the poor and marginalized under ten major thematic concerns. See more at: [http://peoplesgoals.org/about-us/#sthash.R2u5iOO.dpuf](http://peoplesgoals.org/about-us/#sthash.R2u5iOO.dpuf)


²⁶ For example, the campaign “Dichiariamo Illegale la Povertà” (Banning Poverty 2018) that promotes the banning of actions causing poverty by 2018, the year of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, see more at [http://www.banningpoverty.org/?lang=it](http://www.banningpoverty.org/?lang=it)
3.1.1 Beyond2015

The European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs, CONCORD Europe is currently developing one of the main advocacy actions promoted at the international level around the Post-2015 debate, Beyond2015, a global civil society campaign, pushing for a strong and legitimate successor framework to the MDGs.

The campaign, created in 2010, is built on a diverse, global base and ranges from small community based organisations to international NGOs, academics and trade unions. A founding principle of the campaign is the partnership between civil society organisations from the ‘North’ and the ‘South’ – bringing together groups from developing, emerging and developed economies. Beyond2015 is playing an important role in Italy as well, where it is coordinated by GCAP (Global Call for Action against Poverty) - a platform of different NGOs and CSOs – also involving CONCORD Italia and many other organizations.

In 2013, Beyond 2015 released its Report presenting its vision on a universal Post-2015 framework – see Box 12.

BOX 12 – FOCUS ON BEYOND2015’S VISION OF A NEW DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Beyond2015 calls for an agenda consisting of global goals and with all countries contributing to their achievement. The nature of the improvement demanded by each country must therefore be tailored to the precise context of the country concerned. The principle of common but differentiated responsibility should also be applied to targets and indicators as well. Essentially, the report proposes seven key principles:

1. Application of human rights principles;
2. Well-being as a measure of progress;
3. Focus on structural change;
4. Sustainability;
5. Policy coherence for sustainable development;
6. Global framework with global goals;
7. Common but differentiated responsibility.

The campaign came also up with 21 global goals across the four categories of:

- Inclusive social development;
- Economic transformation;
- Environmental sustainability;
- Just governance.

Beyond2015 also recommends that the socioeconomic goals and targets must be recognized as human rights in themselves, which would improve accountability and public acceptance of them. According to the campaign, states and international organizations should also ensure that their laws and policies are designed and implemented consistently with existing human rights standards.

Moreover, the private sector and international financial institutions should remain accountable and should fully respect human rights and the environment.

Beyond2015 then suggests the introduction Critical Success Factors (CSF), indicators of the implementation of the whole framework tracking the way all goals are pursued, and the consideration of financing for development and policy coherence for development as enablers for development, in order to pursue structural, transformational and sustainable objectives. The campaign is also pushing for the institution of intermediate benchmarks (every 5 years at international level, and every year at a national level).

Source: Beyond 2015 Putting People and Planet first

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27 Ranging from small community-based organisations to international NGOs, academics and trade unions, Beyond 2015 currently brings together more than 600 civil society organisations from over 95 countries across the world to achieve a global, overarching, cross-thematic framework reflecting Beyond 2015’s policy positions, but which is also participatory, inclusive and responsive to the voices of those directly affected by poverty and injustice.
3.2 What can Italian NGOs/CSOs do to participate in the Post-2015 debate?

3.2.1 The Italian participation in the Post-2015 debate

The Italian government expressed its will\(^28\) to contribute to the definition of the Post-2015 development agenda and to adapt its action to the new international context. The government shares the vision of a new framework built upon a single agenda, including the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development, giving importance to good governance, respect for human rights, gender equality, food and nutrition security, integrated rural development (centred on smallholder farmers) and developing the role of the private sector.

Italy also participates as a member in the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, there represented by the Permanent Representation of Italy to the UN in New York and the Ministry of Environment.

In order to foster the debate surrounding Post-2015, the Italian inter-institutional table on development cooperation\(^29\) organized a thematic group on the Italian contribution to the Post-2015 agenda, headed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment. The group meets on a regular basis and includes the main actors of international cooperation, as well as representatives of several ministries, the Banca d’Italia, Istat, Confindustria, CeSPI, Concord Italia, GCAP, and several NGOs.

The Italian thematic group is favourable to the convergence of the MDGs’ review and the SDGs’ processes, stating that poverty eradication remains the main goal to be achieved and that the new agenda is concerned with the different aspects of poverty and inequalities, and tries to pursue a more inclusive economy, decent work for all and the sustainable management of natural resources.

According to the thematic group, a qualitative approach would be needed, integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development to pursue a limited number – of goals, with monitoring indicators adaptable to the national level. Moreover, the group highlighted the need for a stronger global partnership including all the stakeholders, and for a people-centred and planet sensitive agenda, adopting a human-rights based approach and respecting the planetary boundaries.

The thematic group is currently working on the preparation of two working papers to enhance the Italian contribution to the Post-2015 debate. One on sustainable food security and nutrition and the other about planetary boundaries, ecosystem services, and the sustainable use and management of resources.

The thematic group works to update the participants about the progress of the Post-2015 debate; it offers a place to share documents, collect comments and suggestions to help define the Italian position in the debate, especially in the context of the forthcoming international events, such as the semester of Italian Presidency of the European Union and the Expo2015 hosted in Milan that will give our country great visibility.


\(^{29}\) The Inter-Institutional Table on Development Cooperation was set up in 2010 at the behest of the Directorate General for Development Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MFA-DGDC), and works to establish a clearer framework for the Italian development cooperation system.
3.2.2 The opportunities for Italian NGOs and CSOs

Italian Civil Society and Non-governmental Organizations should identify opportunities to influence the Post-2015 Agenda, joining in the processes and consultations currently taking place.

- One of the best chances that Italian NGOs and CSOs have to express their position and to share their point of view is participation in the events promoted alongside the semester of the Italian Presidency of the European Union — see Box 13.

**BOX 13 - FOCUS ON ITALIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION - DEVELOPMENT SECTOR**

The Italian Semester of Presidency of the European Union represents for our country a great occasion to gain great visibility and to influence the international debate.

As far as development cooperation is concerned, the Italian priorities that will be considered are the following:

- **The Post-2015 Agenda**: outlining a common EU Position on the Post-2015 Agenda;
- **PPP & Development**: adopting Council Conclusions on the role of the Private Sector in Development at the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) that will take place in December;
- **Migration & Development**: adopting Council Conclusions on Migration and Development at the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) that will take place in December;
- **Expo 2015**: promoting Expo 2015 within the European Year of Development.

The events promoted, by the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and by CSOs, in the framework of the Italian Presidency of the European Union on the Post-2015 Agenda are the following (as of July 2014):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>ORGANIZERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.09.2014</td>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>Agenda Post 2015: il dibattito sugli SDGs e il ruolo dell’Europa e dell’Italia per un futuro di Sviluppo E(C)QUOsostenibile</td>
<td>Concord Italia, GCAP, MAE-DGCS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several occasions for advocacy actions will also emerge during the European Year of Development (YD2015), an initiative promoted by the European Union, from an initial proposal by the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development (CONCORD).

The EU is the biggest donor of official development assistance (ODA) in the world. In the year of the expiring date of the MDGs and four years after the adoption of the Agenda for Change, 2015 is the ideal time for donors and stakeholders to come together to look at what has been achieved so far, and most importantly, what still needs to be done.

The EYD2015 seeks to stimulate the active interest of European citizens in development cooperation and foster a sense of responsibility and opportunity as regards their participation in policy formulation and implementation. It will raise awareness of the role of EU development cooperation, which brings a wide range of benefits not only for recipients, but also for EU citizens, in a changing and increasingly interdependent world.

Communication campaigns, conferences, events, initiatives, studies and surveys at European, national, regional and local level, to convey key messages, disseminate information on EU development cooperation and invite EU citizens to participate and actively contribute to the EYD2015 will be organized during 2015, under the official slogan: “Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future”.

Training tools are additional essential instruments in order to strengthen NGOs/CSOs’ in-house advocacy actions and monitoring capabilities and to transfer knowledge to trainers and staff that will enable them to effectively play their role. For this purpose it is suggested the use – coupled with the present toolkit – of the following training instruments:

- “Advocacy Toolkit – Influencing the Post-2015 development agenda” output of the Sustainable Development 2015 (SD2015) programme, a multi-stakeholder engagement programme run by Stakeholder Forum and CIVICUS, in collaboration with UN DESA. (See Training Tool n.5);
- “The Post-2015 Agenda - Training of Trainers”, a document that synthesizes the main topics of this Toolkit, Developed by GVC and CONCORD Italia in the framework of the project “More and better Europe” In occasion of the Italian Semester of the European Union (see enclosed Training Tool n. 4).
For More Information:

Institutional Framework Documents:


The document is a contribution to the EU position in international negotiations on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as the follow-up to the MDGs. It describes key principles and proposes priority areas (poverty, inequality, health, food security, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, sustainable energy, decent work, inclusive and sustainable growth, sustainable consumption and production, biodiversity, land degradation and sea and oceans) and potential targets, as a step towards establishing a limited number of goals. The importance of a framework that ensures a rights-based approach and addresses justice, equality and equity, good governance, democracy and the rule of law and address peaceful societies and freedom from violence is also stated.


The document proposes a common approach to the EU engagement in international processes to define an overarching framework for Post-2015 ensuring a Decent Life for All by 2030. The document proposes that the new agenda should cover drivers for sustainable, inclusive growth and development to ensure structural transformation of the economy needed for the creation of productive capacities and employment, the transition to an inclusive green economy capable of addressing climate challenges, and the sustainable management of natural resources. The Communication also underlines the importance of the establishment of a framework addressing justice, equality and equity, as well as the empowerment of women and gender equality, that are vital for inclusive and sustainable development, but are also important values in their own right.


This is the annual report of the UN Secretary General on the progress in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and his recommendations for further steps to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015. "A Life of Dignity for All" report identifies policies and programmes that have driven success in the achievement of the Goals and can contribute to accelerating it. These include emphasizing inclusive growth, decent employment and social protection; allocating more resources for essential services and ensuring access for all; strengthening political will and improving the international policy environment; and harnessing the power of multi-stakeholder partnerships. The Secretary also affirms that sustainable development — enabled by the integration of economic growth, social justice and environmental stewardship — must become a global guiding principle and operational standard, and that the international community, including the United Nations, embrace a more coherent and effective response to support the agenda.


This is the outcome document of the UN General Assembly special event on the MDGs to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and to delineate the form of the new development agenda. The document recommended i) to adopt the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities; ii) to commit to poverty eradication, coherently balancing the social, economic and environmental aspects of the sustainable development; iii) to set a new set of goals, universal in nature and applicable to all countries yet respecting national policies and priorities; iv) to promote peace and security, democratic governance, the rule of law, gender equality and human rights for all. It also launched a process of intergovernmental negotiations involving all stakeholders - including civil society, scientific and knowledge institutions, parliaments, local authorities and the private sector; urged the OWG and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing to complete their work by September 2014, and requested the President of the General Assembly to convene consultations to organize a Summit at Heads of State and Governments level, in September 2015 for the final adoption of the Post-2015 development agenda.


“The Future we want” is the outcome document adopted at the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012. The UN General Assembly adopted the document, which expresses the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their inter-linkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions. It recognizes that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development, and affirms the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration and restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges.

Further Readings:


The report proposes the Post-2015 framework to be universal, with global goals and all countries contributing to their achievement. Every country must commit to make improvements in all goal areas, but the nature of the improvement must necessarily be tailored to the precise context of the country concerned. The document focuses on 21 global goals across the four categories of inclusive social development, economic transformation, environmental sustainability and just governance and on the inclusion of 7 key principles in the framework (human rights protection, well-being as a measure of progress, focus on structural change, sustainability, policy coherence for (sustainable) development, global framework with global goals, common but differentiated responsibility). Critical Success Factors (CSF) as “well-being”, “meaningful participation and people’s empowerment” and “equality and non-discrimination” are also recommended, to track the way all goals are pursued. Financing and Policy Coherence for Development should then to enable the structural, transformational and sustainable changes the framework will imply. The document also identifies that the objectives of the Post-2015 framework are to be achieved within one generation – i.e. within 20 years, with the institution of intermediate benchmarks (every 5 years at an international level, even every year at a national level), and have to develop assistance and new types of international solidarity.


The High Level Panel of eminent persons engaged in consultations with politicians, trade unions, civil society associations, business, local communities, experts and governments in order to consider the new development challenges and report to the Secretary-General their recommendations for a new development agenda. In this document, the Panel identified five transformative shifts necessary to meet the new goals: i) Leave No One Behind: making sure that no person, regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status, is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights; ii) Put Sustainable Development at the Core: making a rapid shift to sustainable patterns of production and consumption; iii) Transform Economies for Jobs and Inclusive Growth: encouraging an economic transformation that can end extreme poverty and promote sustainable development, improving livelihoods by harnessing innovation, technology, and the potential of business, developing more diversified economies with equal opportunities for all, that can drive social inclusion, especially for young people, and foster respect for the environment; iv) Build Peace and Effective, Open and Accountable Institutions for All: achieving freedom from violence, conflict, and oppression, starting to recognize peace and good governance as a core element of wellbeing, not an optional extra; v) Forge a New Global Partnership: shifting to new spirit of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual accountability, built on shared humanity and based on mutual respect and mutual benefit.


A Litmus test, comprising of a series of questions and criteria, developed by Human Rights Caucus, a cross-constituency coalition of different kinds of associations, aimed to evaluate whether proposals for the Post-2015 framework respect and reflect pre-existing human rights norms, standards and commitments.


This document summarizes the main conclusions of the discussions conducted among thematic groups on the key issues of sustainable development. As a body comprising scientific and operational expertise on the broad range of sustainable development challenges, the SDSN has explored what an integrated, concise, science–based, and action–oriented agenda for the world might look like. It suggested the creation of an operational sustainable development framework able to mobilize all key actors (national and local governments, civil society, business, science and academia) in every country, to move from the Business-As-Usual (BAU) trajectory towards a Sustainable Development (SD) path and based upon four normative concepts: (i) the right to development for every country, (ii) human rights and social inclusion, (iii) convergence of living standards across countries, and (iv) shared responsibilities and opportunities. The SDSN also recommended the set of limited priorities and related goals (no more than 10): end extreme poverty including hunger, achieve development within planet boundaries, ensure effective learning for all children and youth for life and livelihood, achieve gender equality, social inclusion and human rights for all, achieve health and wellbeing at all ages, improve agriculture systems and raise rural prosperity, empower inclusive, productive and resilient cities, curb human-induced climate change and ensure sustainable energy, secure ecosystem services and biodiversity, and ensure good management of water and other natural resources, transform governance for sustainable development.

Tavolo Interistituzionale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo - Gruppo Tematico sull'Agenda Post-2015 (2013). Resoconto del primo anno di attività del Gruppo Tematico sull'Agenda Post-2015


This report is based on a master set of data that has been compiled by an Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators led by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in response to the wishes of the General Assembly for periodic assessment of progress towards the MDGs. This report shows that significant and substantial progress has been made in meeting many of the targets, despite the impact of the global economic and financial crisis, but it also underlines that the achievement of the MDGs has been uneven among and within countries, and that progress in many areas is far from sufficient.


This report synthesizes the results of a global consultation led by the United Nations that has involved more than 1 million people across all countries and from all backgrounds. A special effort was made to reach out to the poor, the marginalized and others whose voices are not usually heard. Modern communications technology, the mobilization of UN agencies and volunteers engage in this effort. People have engaged energetically in 88 national consultations, 11 thematic consultations, and through the MY World global survey. Among the main messages resulted from the consultations, there are the restatement of the importance of the fundamental areas covered by the MDGs - education, health, water and sanitation, and gender equality, and not only for people living in poorer countries. There are also calls to go beyond quantitative targets: people want access to a good-quality education throughout their lives, as well as to comprehensive and better health care. A general feeling that the benefits of economic growth are distributed unequally generates a demand of decent jobs and livelihoods. During the consultations, citizens have expressed their wish for better governance, an equal participation in decisions that affect them, and for a world they can live in without fear of violence or conflict. Another critical problem that came out is the persistence of inequalities and social exclusion (of poorer people, women and girls, people living in rural areas, in urban slums, in disabilities, migrants, displaced and indigenous people, and those marginalized for their religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation). People also call for affordable and nutritious food, availability of water, safer energy sources, and ultimately for a sustainable future development.


This report offers a synthesis of the input received to a questionnaire sent to Member States and is presented as an input to the work of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. It identifies several priorities areas, the setting of a sustainable goal principle and of a new Global Partnership for Development. The report expresses the need to balance the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, together with the importance of a key use of sustainable development goals at the country level, and the definition of national targets for global and universally applicable goals. The document reports the member states’ call for the incorporation of the existing goals and target in the new agenda on Sustainable Development, that should also be coherent with the Post-2015/MDGs review’s process, and should engage all the stakeholder with an inclusive and participatory elaboration process. Suggestions came also for the methodology to adopt, especially for global level assessments to allow for aggregate measures of progress, as well as more detailed assessments by regions, country groups and others.

*United Nations Global Compact has been asked to bring business and investor perspectives and recommendations in the areas of: i) determining the core of the Post-2015 agenda, including proposals on sustainable development goals and targets about the poverty Apex, human needs and capacities, the resource triad and an enabling environment; ii) outlining how to engage business and investors towards SDGs; iii) recommending ways governments can advance inclusive and sustainable markets. Perspectives on the Post-2015 agenda presented in this report are based on country-based Local Networks that carried out 43 consultations involving over 500 corporate participants attended. Consultations took place in Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Belarus, Bulgaria, Greece, Germany, Macedonia, Netherlands, Nordic Network, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Egypt, Gulf States, Iraq, Syria, Kenya, Uganda and Zambia. A series of highly focused discussions within Global Compact LEAD—the UN Global Compact’s leadership platform comprised of 56 highly committed and engaged multinational corporations—have taken place. Companies participating in UN Global Compact issue platforms on water and on corruption devoted their annual meetings to discussion of their relation to a Post-2015 agenda (over 250 participants). Two webinars were also held with signatories of the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment. The report also collects the views of 1,712 companies from over 100 countries expressed in the 2012 UN Global Compact Annual Implementation Survey.*

UN System Task Team (2013), *A renewed global partnership for development*, available at [http://bit.ly/1rTFgHS](http://bit.ly/1rTFgHS)


*This report aims to serve as a reference to orient the ongoing discussions and the broader consultation process taking place among governments, the UN system and other international organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector. The document begins by reflecting on the experience of the UN system in supporting the implementation of the MDG framework. Building on the lessons learned, it provides an assessment of the key development challenges to which the global development agenda should respond and offers initial ideas for possible contours of a Post-2015 UN development agenda. It concludes by laying out a possible road map for the process of defining the agenda, including ways of bringing different voices of people around the world into the consultations. The report is informed by the initial consultations organized by the UN System Task Team with Member States, academics, civil society organizations and the private sector, and it is also based on a review of the growing literature on the subject.*


**Useful Websites:**


GCAP: [http://www.whiteband.org/it/content/post-2015](http://www.whiteband.org/it/content/post-2015)


The World We Want: [http://www.worldwewant2015.org](http://www.worldwewant2015.org)


Annex 1: Official list of MDGs

(Goals, targets, indicators and achievements so far)

**Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)</th>
<th>Indicators for Monitoring Progress</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day</td>
<td>1.1 Proportion of population below $1 (PPP) per day</td>
<td>1.1 from 46.7% in 1990 to 22% in developing regions in 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Poverty gap ratio²</td>
<td>1.2 from 16.1% in 1990 to 6.8% in developing regions in 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption</td>
<td>1.3 N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people</td>
<td>1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person employed</td>
<td>1.4 from 0.6% in 2001 to 1.5% in 2013*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.5 Employment-to-population ratio</td>
<td>1.5 from 61.2% in 2000 to 59.7% in 2013*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.6 Proportion of employed people living below $1 (PPP) per day</td>
<td>1.6 from 26.5% in 2000 to 11.8% in 2013*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.7 Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment</td>
<td>1.7 from 52.5% in 2000 to 47.6% in 2013*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger</td>
<td>1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age</td>
<td>1.8 from 25% in 1990 to 15.1% in 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption</td>
<td>1.9 from 15.5% in 2000-02 to 12% in 2011-13*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

| 2.1 Net enrolment ratio in primary education | 2.1 from 85.1% in 2000 to 91.1% in 2012 |
| 2.2 Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary | 2.2 from 75.3% in 2000 to 74.8% in 2011 |
| 2.3 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men | 2.3 from 87.3% in 2000 to 89.4% in 2011 |

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

| 3.1 Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education | 3.1 from 0.92% in 2000 to 0.97% in 2012 for primary and secondary education and from 1.00% in 2000 to 1.08% in 2012 for tertiary education |
| 3.2 Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector | 3.2 from 37.6% in 2000 to 39.8% in 2012 |
| 3.3 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament | 3.3 from 13.6% in 2000 to 22.1% in 2014 (as of 31 January) |

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

| 4.1 Under-five mortality rate | 4.1 from 75 in 2000 to 48 in 2012 (deaths of children before reaching the age of five per 1,000 live births) |
| 4.2 Infant mortality rate | 4.2 from 53 in 2000 to 35 in 2012 (deaths of children before reaching the age of one, per 1,000 live births) |
| 4.3 Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles | 4.3 from 84% in 2000 to 84% in 2012 |

---


2 The poverty gap ratio at $1.25 a day (2005 PPP) measures the magnitude of poverty. Expressed as a percentage of the poverty line, it is the result of multiplying the proportion of people who live below the poverty line by the difference between the poverty line and the average income of the population living under the poverty line.
### GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

**Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Goal 2015</th>
<th>Goal 2015 Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Maternal mortality ratio</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>From 330 in 2000 to 210 in 2013 (maternal deaths per 100,000 live births)</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>From 58% in 2000 to 69% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Goal 2015</th>
<th>Goal 2015 Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>Contraceptive prevalence rate</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>From 61.5% in 2000 to 63.5% in 2012</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>From 51.6 in 2000 to 50.1 in 2011 (number of live births per 1,000 adolescent women aged 15-19)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Adolescent birth rate</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>From 71% in 2000 to 83% in 2012 (at least one visit and at least four visits)</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>From 44% in 2000 to 52% in 2012 (at least four visits)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>Antenatal care coverage</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>From 12.8% in 2000 to 12% in 2012</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>From 12.8% in 2000 to 12% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

**Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Goal 2015</th>
<th>Goal 2015 Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 year</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Condom use at last high-risk sex</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Percentage of women who are using any method of contraception among women aged 15-49 years old</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Condom use at last high-risk sex</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Goal 2015</th>
<th>Goal 2015 Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>Incidence and death rates associated with malaria</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>The estimated numbers in 2000 were: 226,000 malaria cases and 881,000 malaria deaths; the estimated numbers in 2012 were: 207,000 malaria cases and 627,000 malaria deaths (reduction of 25% in case incidence and of 42% in mortality rates between 2000 and 2012)</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>36% (data available for the period 2008-2012 and for 36 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa)</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>37% (data available for the period 2008-2012 and for 38 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa)</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Goal 2015</th>
<th>Goal 2015 Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>From 45% cases detected in 2002 to 67% in 2012, and from 69% of patients successfully treated in 2000 to 87% in 2011</td>
<td>6.11</td>
<td>Data available just for the Sub-Saharan Africa region and for the period 2007-2012</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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3 Percentage of women who are using any method of contraception among women aged 15-49, married or in union
4 Defined as the percentage of women (15-49 years old) who received antenatal care during pregnancy from skilled health personnel.
5 Percentage of women who have an unmet need for family planning among women aged 15-49, married or in union
6 Trend data for the actual MDG Indicator 6.1 “HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years” is just available from 35 countries, almost exclusively Sub-Saharan Africa and is therefore not presented here. However, estimated incidence rate among people 15-49 years is now available for all regions and from 60 countries. Therefore HIV incidence rate is presented here together with HIV prevalence data among population aged 15-49 years.
7 In 36 countries young women and in 28 countries young men (15-24 years old) were surveyed about the use of a condom during sexual intercourse with a non-regular (non-marital and non-cohabiting) sexual partner in the last 12 months, among those who had such a partner in the last 12 months.
8 In 40 countries young women and in 31 countries young men (15-24 years old) were surveyed. The percentage refers to the proportion of young men and women who correctly identify the two major ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV (using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner), who reject two common local misconceptions, and who know that a healthy-looking person can transmit the AIDS virus.
9 Data available just for the Sub-Saharan Africa region and for the period 2007-2012
10 Number of new cases/existing cases/deaths per 100,000 population, including HIV-infected
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources</strong></td>
<td>7.1 Proportion of land area covered by forest</td>
<td>7.1 from 31.4% in 2000 to 31% in 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.2 CO2 emissions, total, per capita and per $1 GDP (PPP)</td>
<td>7.2 from 23,841 (millions of metric tons) in 2000 to 31,387 in 2010 (total); from 3.91 (metric tons) in 2000 to 4.57 in 2010 (per capita); from 0.50 (kilograms) in 2000 to 0.47 in 2010 (per $1 GDP)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.3 Consumption of ozone-depleting substances</td>
<td>7.3 from 263,241 in 2000 to 44,167 in 2012 (All ODSs consumption in tons of ozone depletion potential)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.4 Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits</td>
<td>7.4 from 25.4% in 2000 to 12.7% in 2009 (non-fully exploited); from 47.2% in 2000 to 57.4% (fully exploited); from 27.4% in 2000 to 29.9% in 2009 (overexploited)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.5 Proportion of total water resources used</td>
<td>7.5 8.8% in 2008</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.6 Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected</td>
<td>7.6 from 11.3% in 2000 to 14% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.7 Proportion of species threatened with extinction</td>
<td>7.7 from 91.7% in 2000 to 91.3% in 2012 (Percentage of species not expected to become extinct in the near future)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss</strong></td>
<td>7.8 Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source</td>
<td>7.8 from 76% in 1990 to 89% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.9 Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility</td>
<td>7.9 from 49% in 1990 to 64% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation</strong></td>
<td>7.10 Proportion of urban population living in slums</td>
<td>7.10 from 39.3% in 2000 to 32.7% in 2012 in developing regions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target 7.D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 The actual proportion of people living in slums is measured by a proxy, represented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the four characteristics: (a) lack of access to improved water supply; (b) lack of access to improved sanitation; (c) overcrowding (3 or more persons per room); and (d) dwellings made of non-durable material.
### Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

**Target 8.A: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.**
Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction — both nationally and internationally

**Target 8.B: Address the special needs of the least developed countries**
Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries’ exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction

**Target 8.C: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)**

**Target 8.D: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term**

**Target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries**

**Target 8.F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications**

---

**Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states.**

#### Official Development Assistance (ODA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data 1990</th>
<th>Data 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors’ cross national income</td>
<td>52.8%</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>85.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their cross national incomes</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>ODA received in small island developing states as a proportion of their cross national incomes</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Market access**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data 2000</th>
<th>Data 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their cross domestic product</td>
<td>2.37%</td>
<td>0.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Debt sustainability**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Data 2000</th>
<th>Data 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>Total number of countries that have reached their Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.11</td>
<td>Debt relief committed under HIPC and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiatives</td>
<td>32 (billion USD) in 2000 to 95 (billion USD) in 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.12</td>
<td>Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services</td>
<td>12% in 2000 to 3.1% in 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries**

8.13 Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis

8.14 Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis

**Target 8.F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications**

8.14 Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants
8.15 Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants
8.16 Internet users per 100 inhabitants

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**Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states.**

8.1 from 52.8 billions USD – 0.22% ODA/CNI (to developing countries) and 15.1 billions USD - 0.09% ODA/CNI (to LCDs) in 1990 to 133.7 billions USD – 0.29% ODA/CNI (to developing countries) and 40.5 billions USD – 0.09% ODA/CNI (to LCDs) in 2012

8.2 from 15.5% in 2000 to 18.2% in 2012
8.3 from 67.6% in 1990 to 85.8% in 2012
8.4 from 10.2% in 1990 to 3.2% in 2012
8.5 from 1.9% in 1990 to 3.3% in 2012

8.6 from 62% (developing countries) and 76% (LCDs) in 2000 to 83% (developing countries) and 90% (LCDs) in 2012
8.7 from 10.8% (agricultural goods), 1.4% (textile) and 9.2% (clothing) in 2000 to 7.9% (agricultural goods), 0.9% (textile) and 7.7% (clothing) in 2012
8.8 from 2.37% in 1990 to 0.94% in 2012
8.9 from 38.5% in 2001 to 33.8% in 2012

8.10 from 34 countries in 2000 to 39 countries in 2012
8.11 from 32 (billion USD) in 2000 to 95 (billion USD) in 2012
8.12 from 12% in 2000 to 3.1% in 2012

8.13 N/A

8.14 from 16% in 2000 to 16.7% in 2012
8.15 from 12.1% in 2000 to 89.3% in 2012
8.16 from 6.6% in 2000 to 35.5% in 2012
Annex 2: A deeper focus on some NGOs and CSOs campaigns

The Human Rights Litmus Test

The Human Rights Litmus Test is an advocacy tool, which has been developed by the Post-2015 Human Rights Caucus, a constituency coalition of development, environment, trade union, feminist and human rights organizations worldwide aiming to lay out a roadmap for embedding human rights into the core of the Post-2015 sustainable development agenda. This Litmus Test has been designed to be used to evaluate whether the OWG proposals for the Post-2015 framework respect and reflect pre-existing human rights norms, standards and commitments, in line with the Rio+20 agreement that sustainable development goals be “consistent with international law.” The Test consists of a series of questions and indicators to articulate the bottom-line expectations for the outcomes of the Post-2015 sustainable development process, and also to provide a tool for assessing whether Post-2015 proposals truly encapsulate what the UN Secretary General envisioned as “a far-reaching vision of the future firmly anchored in human rights.”

THE TEST

Do the post-2015 sustainable development framework proposals...

Test 1: Support human rights comprehensively, taking into consideration their universality, indivisibility and interdependence?

a) Apply universally to all people in all countries, while recognizing local realities;

b) Frame all goals and targets consistently with existing human rights obligations;

c) Improve the accessibility, availability, acceptability, and quality of goods and services essential to realizing economic, social and cultural rights, in particular the human rights to health, education, food, water, sanitation, housing and social security;

d) Include concrete targets to protect civil and political rights, in particular the freedoms of expression, association, peaceful protest, political participation, access to information, and guarantees an enabling environment for civil society and human rights and environmental defenders.

Test 2: Ensure full transparency and meaningful participation of all people, especially the most disadvantaged, in decision-making at all levels?

a) Ensure the right to prompt and effective access to high-quality information on public policies, including on budget, financial and tax policies, disaggregated on the basis of various grounds of discrimination, including compound and intersecting forms;

b) Secure active and meaningful participation of all without fear in the design, implementation, and monitoring of all relevant policies and programs, and in decisions about how they are resourced.
Test 3: Ensure human rights accountability of all development actors?
   a) Support citizen-led systems of monitoring of performance in meeting the goals;
   b) Ensure human rights accountability domestically, including by securing for all the right to effective remedy for civil, political, social, economic, cultural and environmental human rights abuses through equal access to and confidence in effective, accountable and impartial justice systems;
   c) Ensure human rights accountability internationally, including by supporting access to effective remedy for those people adversely affected by policies which have spillover effects across borders;
   d) Eradicate existing barriers to justice, particularly for people in poverty and other disadvantaged groups.

Test 4: Guarantee that the private sector respects human rights?
   a) Promote effective legislative and regulatory measures to guarantee in practice that all companies act in line with international human rights law and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;
   b) Introduce mandatory, independent assessments and periodic public reporting of the human rights and sustainable development impacts of large businesses.

Test 5: Combat inequality and end discrimination in all its forms?
   a) Guarantee timely collection of disaggregated data on the basis of the most nationally-relevant grounds of disparity and discrimination, taking into account compound and intersecting discrimination;
   b) Ensure that any non-zero or non-universal sectoral commitments are complemented by time-bound targets to progressively eliminate inequalities between groups by prioritizing a more ambitious rate of progress for those most disadvantaged groups;
   c) Combat economic inequality within and between countries;
   d) Protect decent work and fundamental worker's rights for all, reducing unfair income disparities;
   e) Seek to eradicate cross-border tax evasion, return stolen assets, forgive odious debt and progressively combat tax abuses as critical instruments to reduce inequality between countries.

Test 6: Specifically and comprehensively support girls' and women's rights?
   a) Ensure all individuals meaningful access, including financial access, to acceptable, available, and quality sexual and reproductive health information and services and full sexual and reproductive autonomy;
   b) Prevent, investigates and punishes all forms of gender-based violence, including harmful traditional practices;
   c) Increase the share of women's control over land, property, productive and natural resources, their economic independence, access to labour market and political participation;
   d) Reduce the burden of unpaid care work;
   e) Eliminate the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination women and girls face, and entails a series of positive measures to overcome structural discrimination and ensure substantive enjoyment of equality;
   f) Ensure that gender equality and girls' and women's rights are mainstreamed throughout all goals, including by developing gender-sensitive targets under other goals.
**Test 7:** Secure a minimum floor of *socioeconomic well-being* for all?

a) Embrace a universal or zero target approach for all minimum core economic and social rights obligations, such as nutritionally adequate and safe food to ensure all people’s freedom from hunger, free primary education, essential primary healthcare, and a basic essential level of safe water;

b) Guarantee a quality social protection floor for all, in line with human rights and ILO recommendation 202.

**Test 8:** Ensure that any *global partnerships for sustainable development* are aligned with human rights?

a) Ensure human rights-guided policy coherence, with governments and international financial institutions mandated to conduct independent and periodic public assessments of the human rights and sustainable development cross-border impacts of their policies and agreements, particularly those related to trade, investment, aid, tax, migration, intellectual property, debt, monetary policies and financial regulation;

b) Include clear, time-bound commitments for all actors in development, including high-income countries, international institutions and large businesses;

c) Develop a robust, multi-faceted global monitoring and accountability framework which tracks the compliance and accountability of all development actors to their commitments, including high-income countries, international institutions and large businesses, with full civil society participation and in constructive interaction with the human rights protection regime.

**Justice 2015**

*Justice 2015* is a broad-based people’s campaign promoted by **Global Call to Action Against Poverty** (GCAP) to hold governments, the private sector and international institutions to account for the equality of the new development agenda. For GCAP the Post-2015 process is an important space for advocacy and action, it identified four key issues and 15 solutions to reach a just framework for the Post-2015 Agenda. This “solutions” will be used as a tool during their campaign for uniting their mobilisation actions.

As the Post-MDGs and Sustainable Development Goals processes present a major political opportunity to place truly transformative change on the agenda, GCAP promoted the **JUSTICE 2015** campaign to hold governments, the private sector and polluters accountable, and therefore identified 15 solutions for 2015, for them to adopt, in order to eliminate poverty and enable a life of dignity for all:

**a) Holding Governments Accountable: Human Rights and Social Protection:**
1. Respect Human Rights
2. Gender Equality and Ending Violence Against Women
3. Social Protection so that no one is left behind
4. Clean Water, Quality Health, Education and Toilets for All
5. Foster Peace

**b) Make the Private Sector Accountable: Tax Justice & True Social Responsibility:**
6. Respect Human Rights
7. Decent Work and Employment
8. Tax Justice and Transparent Financial Systems
9. Trade Justice
10. Land Grabs and Extractive Industries

**c) Holding Polluters Accountable: Climate Justice:**
11. Climate Justice and Respecting Planetary Boundaries
12. Sustainable Production and Consumption

**d) Achieving Accountability through People’s Participation:**
13. Public Participation in Decision-Making
14. Transparency, Access to Information and Private Sector Influence
15. Strengthen People’s Actions and Civil Society Space

Source: GCAP’s website [http://www.whiteband.org/sites/default/files/Campaign%20Narrative%202015%20%28May%202014%20revision%29.pdf](http://www.whiteband.org/sites/default/files/Campaign%20Narrative%202015%20%28May%202014%20revision%29.pdf)
The following documents have been published by GCAP Italy and include discussion and position papers on topics related to the debate on the Post-2015 agenda. The results of the discussion converged in a final position paper on the Post-2015 framework. The documents are the following:

- **EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT** - Anna Maria Donnarumma (Prodocs);
- **SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY** - Maria Grazia Midulla, Gianfranco Bologna (WWF);
- **GENDER EQUITY AND WOMEN’S RIGHTS PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL IN THE POST 2015** - Maria Grazia Panunzi (AIDOS - Action for Global Health);
- **THE RIGHT TO HEALTH FOR ALL POST 2015 AGENDA** - Maria Grazia Panunzi (AIDOS - Action for Global Health). Stefania Burbo (Osservatorio Italiano sull’Azione Globale contro l’AIDS);
- **MIGRATION DEFAULT IN POST 2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS** - Andrea Stocchiero (FOCSIV and CeSPI);
- **ARGUING ON QUALITIES AND PROCESSES REASONING ‘OUT OF THE BOX’ ON CURRENT BEYOND 2015 DEBATES** - Massimo Pallottino (LVIA/FOCSIV-GCAP);
- **JUSTICE, DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY IN OUR FOOD SYSTEMS** – A position from the Italian civil society;
- **THE ROLE OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR IN DEVELOPMENT: A PRINCIPLED APPROACH**;
Education is a fundamental human right and therefore should be guaranteed not only in respect of the principle of equality for every person accessing to it, but also of the principle of equality in the starting human conditions and outcomes opportunities so that every person, without any distinction, may develop his potentiality and achieve the desired goals for his life project. It is evident the close relationship between education and development to the extent that this has been also recognized at the international level as a fundamental right in 1975.

Equality of opportunity, guaranteed as a right, ought to be connected to the principle of educational equity, that is, access to all the possibilities and opportunities that society offers to each person according to their potentiality and ability with no exclusion. The right to education becomes the key to the enjoyment of all other human rights and should be effective without any discrimination, including the right to freedom of opinion, expression and participation in building one own community. In this regard, it is an individual guarantee and a social right, whose highest expression is the person acting as citizen. Here appears the close link between social human rights and civil/political human rights. The splitting of these two areas would make the same rights difficult to recognize, thus they ought to be constructed (based on the capabilities theorized by Sen) through transversely to every sphere of society, with all due respect for organizational pluralism and different identities.

In this regard we speak today of Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) to understand and learn to know how to live in our ever-changing contexts. They require information and awareness that involve some crucial elements: critical thinking, global inter-linkages, value-based, working on skills/dispositions/competencies.

It is important to develop awareness and critical consciousness among citizens to get confidence in their ability, to make changes and to make responsible decisions in relation to a globalized society, supporting their active commitment to promote social justice, human rights and sustainable ways of life in the struggle for eradicate poverty.

We need to change paradigms and go beyond a Eurocentric perspective, taking experiences and challenges both present in the North and South, taking into account the social dimension of globalization.

Education should be seen as the engine of a process of personal growth in one’s context which is expressed today with several key definitions:

CONCORD/DF definition of DE “Development education is an active learning process, founded on values of solidarity, equality, inclusion and co-operation. It enables people to move from basic awareness of international development priorities and sustainable human development, through understanding of the causes and effects of global issues to personal involvement and informed actions.”

DEEP 4 Mission “… addresses global challenges by addressing the structure and power relations inherent within the current global political, socio-economic system. […] These changes can only happen through a renewed civil society, driven by a new generation of active citizens empowered by global learning and emancipatory campaigning practices, and joined as and in an organized international civil society in their demands for global social
justice. [...] This renewed civil society as a discursive space should become a driving force in stimulating necessary cultural changes, building cross-sectoral, inclusive movements in order to fight root causes of global injustice and nurturing innovation processes towards a new, fair and sustainable economic and political system. DEEEP aims to achieve this systemic change through fighting jointly with the global civil society but also through influencing organizational changes within CSOs so that they involve citizens in a participatory and emancipatory way.”

Current DEAR trends Study of 2020, in particular the European Commission’s Agenda for Change, recommends to implement policies and strategies using the best theories and practices already in place and to concentrate efforts on long-life training in support of: * inclusive growth and sustainable human development to strengthen participatory democracy; * choices and behaviors that are able to handle the challenges of security, fragility and transition to guarantee human rights, promote active citizenship, democracy and other key elements of good governance; * the development-security nexus, reinforcing policies on peace building and conflict prevention; * a strong impact to continue towards the reduction of poverty and injustice; * the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals Beyond 2015 as a key priority to continue holding the EU Member States accountable for their commitments to ensure CSO voices to be heard in intergovernmental negotiations and to work on the Sustainable Goals’ agenda together with environmental NGOs.

Thus, it is urgent to request to the domestic and international Communities to pay attention to:

1) the meaning of education that should be emphasized as a right not to be expressed economically but to be expressed by its intrinsic value bound to the integral development of the person, having the goal to form a subject of rights and responsibilities based on human rights. This is why education should be conceived from the optics of human development and economic growth, helping to build financial resources, especially values and knowledge to develop human dignity.

2) Education should be always understood as a “right” and not as a “service”. The fee shall be payable, inalienable and indivisible, as recognized by international instruments of human rights. Being payable, the right to education must be justiciable. In fact, more and more, the case law at national, regional and international level shows that flagrant violations to economic, social and cultural rights are amenable to appeals of criminal procedures in the event of violations; education must be among those rights.

3) Public policies, in matters of education, need to be more aware of their responsibility in promoting or prejudicing the principle of equity in planning an educational system that provides equal opportunities in the access to education for all, without any distinction with respect to the socio-economic level of the people, their cultural and ethnic backgrounds, or any other variable that implies a discriminatory power.

4) Education as a right goes beyond mere access to formal schooling to include the right to a quality education with equal opportunities for all to enable/allow the full development of the human personality without any kind of distinction. And this right refers not only to the quality of the resources, such as the validity of the curricula and the preparation of teachers, learning resources, material and financial resources, processes and strategies of educational administration, but especially the quality of the results that refer for example to the indicators of learning achieved by learners compared to the years of education attended, with the quality and quantity of the resources made available by public institutions of expertise, to the technician support (laboratories) that is proportional to the schools in their management for institutional bring forward innovative projects tied directly to the quality and levels of participation in decision-making processes on the part of the school community. To all this must be added the quality of curricula which determine the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values essential-basic-configuring-structuring to allow children and young students to participate effectively in life as citizens, fathers, mothers, workers. The quality of the results depends on the amount of resources that are allocated to the education system by public policy.

5. Educational process goes on and it is a long life process. We ought to care the right to a decent life for all and the legacy of a world free of the indignity caused by poverty, environmental degradation and patterns of unsustainable development.
Human beings have become a significant force for environmental change within the Earth system. Humanity’s impact on the natural systems has grown increasingly with the development of civilization, gradually reaching a global dimension since industrial revolution. About half of the Earth’s land surface has been transformed and about a quarter of the biomass produced there is used by humans. The oceans are today in a much worse state than they were just a few decades ago – as a result of ocean acidification, overfishing, pollution, coral-reef destruction, etc. The anthropogenic emissions, mainly by the combustion of coal, oil and natural gas, have increased the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere by 40% and caused a serious radiative forcing in the atmosphere. In consequences of the large scale transformation of nature, there is a threat of a man-made, global species extinction that could reach proportions comparable to the previous five major extinction events in the Earth’s history, which were probably related to large scale changes in the Earth system(such as volcanism, climate and sea-level changes, asteroid impacts etc.).

Paul Crutzen, Nobel prize winner for chemistry and Eugene Stoermer have proposed regarding this massive anthropogenic influence as the beginning of a new geological period, which they refer to as the Anthropocene. Five thousand years ago the Earth most likely contained fewer than 20 million people; at the beginning of the common era the total was about 200 million; a millennium later it had risen to about 300 million; in 1500, at the onset of the early modern era, it was still less than 500 million, and one billion was passed shortly after 1800. In 1900 the total was about 1.6 billion, in 1950 2.5 billion, in 2000 6.1 billion, now it surpassed 7.2 billion and in 2050 (medium variant of UN World Population Prospect last report) will be 9.6 billion. It is and will become more and more difficult to provide water, food and energy to this huge number of people; beside this, inequality and increased futile and useless consumption are likely to be detrimental to the welfare of all. Population size and per capita impacts are severely undermining the ability of Earth to provide most basic needs for people. This is why the sustainable use of resources and their equitable distribution are two sides of the same coin. Moreover, extreme inequality is a threat for nature and environment, and poses harmful economic effects at the same time.

That’s why GCAP Italy considers that addressing all dimensions of sustainable development is crucial: without taking into account global environmental change as the base for SDGs, poverty eradication also will become impossible.

The scientists has developed the concept of “planetary boundaries” and “planetary guard rails” to limit global environmental change; Planetary boundaries, planetary guard-rails are defined as damage thresholds whose transgression would have intolerable consequences either today or in the future. When boundaries are transgressed, the maintenance of natural life-support systems is put at risk and with it poverty eradication and sustainable development.

The Earth system and human civilization have become a closely coupled system, with humanity using resources and services of the Earth system that are indispensable for present and future sustainable development.

The beginning of the Anthropocene also marks the beginning of a new era of responsibility: human societies must limit anthropogenic changes to the Earth system for the sake of its own future, if the damage to global...
Society is to remain tolerable. In the age of Anthropocene sustainability is no longer possible without taking the impact of human activities on the Earth system into account.

Sustainable development in the Anthropocene is the development that meets the needs of the present while safeguarding Earth’s life-support system, on which the welfare of current and future generations depends.

GCAP considers important that both Equity and Sustainability are considered in the priority goals and target and, at the same time, as transformative levers crossing all goals. Climate Change, one of the biggest challenge and risk for humanity, must be clearly stated as goal and a cross cutting issue.

In this contest, the goals and target we see as very relevant are:

1. Increase the number of women and the number of men, indigenous peoples and local communities, who have secure tenure of land, property and natural resources that support their well-being and livelihoods.
2. Improve governance and equitable sharing of natural resources that support people’s rights to a healthy, clean environment, sustainable livelihoods and livable habitats.
3. Implement internationally agreed accounting standards for environment and social well-being in national accounting systems and corporate reporting requirements.
4. Create the conditions for entrepreneurship and innovation to decouple resource use and waste generation from economic development.
5. Bring global emissions on track for staying below 1.5-2°C global warming, and establish and implement national plans to ensure a just transition to climate resilient development in all countries.
6. Halt biodiversity loss and restore and manage ecosystems equitably and sustainably to sustain services and assets and build resilience.
7. Reduce loss and degradation of all natural habitats, including forests, to near zero by 2020.
8. Integrate internationally comparable indicators in national and local development planning and reporting systems to measure the value and status of ecosystem goods and services.
9. Manage large agricultural systems to sustain ecosystems services, achieve high water, energy and land use efficiency, use low synthetic inputs and ensure resilience to climate change.
10. Increase the productivity of smallholders and small-scale fishers through sustainable, climate-resilient resource management including traditional practices.
11. Reduce food loss and waste by 50% from 2013 levels by 2020.
12. Achieve universal access to clean, reliable and affordable energy services in all developing countries with a strong increase in clean renewable energies.
13. Achieve an annual global rate of improvement in energy per unit GDP of 4.5%.
14. Increase the share of clean renewable energy to at least 45% of all primary energy use.
15. Implement integrated management approaches and improved water governance systems that safeguard and restore ecosystems in all major watersheds.
16. Ensure freshwater withdrawals and diversions are in line with adequate availability for people and nature.
17. Establish and fully implement national water quality standards.
18. Protect ecologically critical marine habitats to ensure full ecosystem functions including livelihood support, climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
19. Guarantee full and equal access to ownership, property and use rights and land titles and equitable distribution of benefits, including from sustainable natural resource use.
20. Decrease the number of deaths and illnesses from all forms of environmental degradation.
21. Reduce transnational organised crime, including human, drug, arms, and natural resource and wildlife trafficking.

SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY
Gender inequality is the most pervasive form of inequality around the world and a pressing human rights concern. Recent decades have seen gains in some areas, such as in girls’ enrolment in education; however progress has been uneven, with gender inequalities persisting and even growing along several dimensions. Progress on gender equality is fundamental for realizing human rights for all, creating and sustaining peaceful societies, and building socially inclusive and sustainable development trajectories where the benefits of development are equitably shared.

Inequalities between women and men, and boys and girls, play out across all areas of life in every country, cutting across both public institutions, such as governance systems and markets, and the private sphere. Gender inequalities are reflected in the daily realities of women’s and girls’ lives.

A transformative stand-alone gender equality goal in the new framework will galvanize resources and political will, and will serve as an accountability mechanism to monitor progress and address the remaining gaps in implementation. In addition, any goals of the new framework must transform gender relations by tackling the structural underpinnings of gender inequalities, as agreed in the Beijing Platform for Action. To be transformative, this comprehensive universal approach should ensure accountability through robust monitoring frameworks and timely and reliable statistics. Therefore, gender-specific targets should also be integrated into other goals in order to ensure meaningful achievement of those goals by addressing the specific areas of gender-based discrimination that limit prospects for eradicating poverty, creating sustainable consumption and production patterns, promoting transparent and accountable governance, ensuring access to high quality education and health care, and ensuring sustainable water and energy access while protecting the environment.

In this context and taking into consideration the proposals on the next framework coming from the civil society organizations both at national and international level, we consider relevant the inclusion of the following references within the Goal 5 “Attain Gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere”:

- The elimination of all forms of discrimination based on gender against women and girls of all ages revoking all gender discriminatory legislations, policies and practices which criminalise or stigmatise different social groups, and ensuring access to justice and effective remedial mechanisms for human rights violations.
- The elimination of all forms of gender based violence against all women and girls in all their diversity in public and private spaces; the elimination of the impunity for gender based violence such as sexual

GENDER EQUITY AND WOMEN’S RIGHTS
The right to achieve the highest attainable standard of health (hereafter summarised as the right to health) is a universal right belonging to everyone, everywhere\(^1\). Realising the right to health is critical to achieve equitable, sustainable development and as a global public goal, health should be considered as a key priority in the post-2015 framework. Each component of a health goal should be captured with its own comprehensive sets of indicators. Moreover, the post-2015 framework must also include health-related targets and indicators under the other appropriate global objectives, as health cuts across most sectors, e.g. gender, water and sanitation.

**Universal Health Coverage (UHC),** ensuring that all people have access to health information and services (promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative), should be supported as the key instrument to realize any new health goal. The different components of UHC – quality health services, availability, accessibility and acceptability of services for everyone, everywhere and financial risk protection for all those accessing services – are all critically inter-linked. How universal access to quality health services and products is ensured will be different in every country. But it has to meet the needs of the population, adopting a gender approach and responding to the country-specific disease burden and health threats. UHC should also address the social determinants of health, such as gender inequality, income inequality, working conditions, sexual orientation, social or ethnic minorities, in driving health outcomes. Governments must ensure that no one will be left behind and specifically seek to remove measures that pose barriers for marginalized, vulnerable groups to access health services and that stigmatize and criminalize people on the basis of their HIV status, sexual orientation, gender identity, engagement in sex work and drug use.

The adoption of a **gender approach** will contribute to understand inequalities, inequities and discriminations that affect women, women’s health care and health information and will contribute to identify strategies and policies to remove inequalities and discriminations. The achievement of **sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR)** is at the core of sustainable development, contributing to each of its three pillars: social, economic and environmental. The right to bodily integrity and the ability to make decisions about fertility and sexuality, free from coercion, stigma and discrimination are cornerstones of gender equality, women’s empowerment and self-determination. From the individual level to the macro level, access to SRHR information, services and supplies is a stepping stone on the pathway to

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\(^1\) Constitution of the World Health Organization, New York, WHO, 1946; Universal declaration of human rights, Geneva, United Nations, 1948: Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (...).
Crippling barriers still exist that undermine efforts and magnify inequalities within and among countries in achieving universal access to **HIV and TB prevention, treatment, care and support**. Women and girls, for example, face a disproportionate risk and impact of HIV due to gender power imbalances. Others at higher risk, including people who use drugs, sex workers, people in prison and people from LGBT communities, often cannot access evidence-based prevention because of punitive laws, stigma and discrimination. Young people are also denied access to information on their sexual and reproductive health and rights, including HIV prevention.

**IN THIS CONTEXT and taking into consideration the proposals on the next framework coming from the civil society organizations both at national and international level, WE CONSIDER RELEVANT THE FOLLOWING REFERENCES ARE INCLUDED WITHIN THE HEALTH GOAL:**

- The elimination of preventable **maternal mortality and morbidity**
- **Universal health coverage (UHC),** including financial risk protection, can be achieved paying particular attention to the most marginalized and people in vulnerable situations, guaranteeing prevention, treatment, care and support for communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), mental health and wellbeing, as well as addressing the social determinants of health
- Guaranteeing equitable, universal and affordable access to prevention, treatment, care and support for all people across the life course, with a particular focus on adolescents and young people, is key to end **HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases**
- Achieving universal access to **sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)** for all, including access to quality, comprehensive, affordable and integrated SRHR information, education and services throughout the life-cycle, including modern methods of contraception and promoting respect, protection and fulfilment of sexual and reproductive health and rights of all individuals, with a particular focus on young people, adolescents, women and marginalized as well as criminalized groups
- **Strengthening health systems:** greater and more effective investments in health systems (as well as in research and innovation) are crucial to achieve healthy life for all at all ages
- The recruitment, development, training and retention of the **health workforce** must be on a gender basis and the strengthening of the community health workforce has to be considered as part of the overall health workforce.

**Key references**

- Action for Global Health, Global Development Framework
- Beyond 2015 reaction to and recommendations on the OWG Focus Area Document, 30\(^{th}\) April 2014
- EuroNGOs C2015E-IPPFEN-ASTRA Post-2015 1 pager, June 2014
Migration Default in Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals

Andrea Stocchiero (FOCSIV and CeSPI)

Human beings have become a significant force for environmental change within the Earth system. Humanity’s impact on Migration or, better, human mobility, should be conceived as a freedom of choice and a human right. Every human person should enjoy freedom of movement and of establishment in agreement with local communities. But, the majority of migrations represent a choice constrained by diverse root causes and/or forced by dramatic events and processes. Poverty, inequalities, discriminations, lack of freedom and democracy, wars and social conflicts, natural disasters and climate change, are the root causes of migrations. In this sense migration is a cross-cutting issue, transversal in the diverse topics of the main three sustainable development dimensions (society, economy and environment) addressed by MDGs/SDGs. The sustainable development goals should make migration a freedom of choice, fighting the root causes.

On the other hand a fundamental political issue is how to overcome nationalistic barriers, fears of “invasion” and competition for jobs, racism and xenophobia, that limit the freedom of movement and the construction of a cosmopolitan world based on the effective implementation of human rights at transnational level. MDGs/SDGs processes represent a multilateral framework composed by nation-states that show important difficulties and constraints in managing the migration issue. The power of nation-states is founded on territorial sovereignty and it maintains a strong grip on migration policies balancing the security requisites with economic, social-and demographic needs. So far the political position of nation-states and public opinions is restrictive and impede the smooth adoption of positive transnational policies on the nexus between migration, mobility and development.

The international community acknowledges that migrations have both positive and negative effects on sustainable development, depending on contexts and processes. Policies should be aimed at maximizing positive effects, such as the multiplier effect of remittances on local consumption and investment, and minimizing negative impacts, such as brain and skill drain and dependency behavior in origin communities. The post 2015 MDGs/SDGs processes have recognized migration as a cross-cutting issue and put it as an enabling factor for sustainable development. Migrations contribute to local development, in countries of destination and origin, through labour and entrepreneurship, remittances, brain circulation and returns, trade and investments, innovations. Migrants are development actors in the labour markets, in people-to-people cooperation and in economic internationalization. They are social and inter-cultural agents that improve connections and interactions between territories and cities of destination and of origin. Diasporas have an important role in peace building and crisis management. But, they are also vulnerable people affected by slavery and forced labour, they are victims of human trafficking, they are asylum seekers, unaccompanied
Migrants and single mothers with children, divided families with left behinds. They are people who need urgently social protection at local and transnational level.

MDGs/SDGs should comprehend diverse migration dimensions whose improvements have important effects on development goals. At least four dimensions are needed.

**Improving mobility and international protection.** Regional cooperative agreements on human mobility, VISA facilitation and liberalization, are needed for increasing regular flows and their contribution to the labour market in decent jobs. The spreading of crisis requires more and more efforts to secure international protection to displaced people and asylum seekers.

**Improving inclusion.** Migrant’s inclusion represents another fundamental dimension for sustainable human development, that covers the respect of human rights and access to regular labour market, education and health, economic integration and social protection, portability of social rights, family reunification.

**More empowerment.** The contribution of migrants to development depend on their empowerment at diverse levels: enhancement of their resources and capacities, skills and brains for local sustainable development in destination and origin countries; and at political level, through double citizenship, vote right, their access and capacity to be actors in political institutions and partnerships. And it implies the fight against xenophobia, racism and gender discrimination.

**Partnership, enforcement and monitoring.** New partnerships at transnational, national and local levels should be promoted to integrate migration in sustainable development policies. New transnational mobility regimes and new migration and cooperation schemes between territories and communities sharing sustainable development models should be established. Enforcement processes of these partnerships and monitoring mechanisms are essential elements for securing a concrete implementation of positive policies on development and migration.

**Specific targets** of great human and political relevance related to the migration issue could be integrated in post-2015 development goals, such as: elimination of trafficking in human beings, elimination of slavery and work exploitation of irregular migrants, elimination of xenophobia and racist crimes, increase social and economic inclusion of migrants and particularly of vulnerable groups, increase mobility through regular channels, reduce the cost of remittance transfers and of recruitment, ... Indicators on these targets are already developed and diffused. To this regard the Zero Draft on SDGs of the Open working group and the EC Communication on “A decent life for all: from vision to collective action”, are seriously insufficient. But it is at political level that lies the most important challenge: create a strong positive social consensus towards migration in all the countries, and elaborate positive and coherent policies on the nexus between migration and sustainable human development. What is lacking in MDGs/SDGs framework is this political and cultural dimension.

**Key References**

- Skeldon Ronald (2013), Bringing Migration into the Post-2015 Agenda: Notes, Reflections and Policy Directions.
- UNDP (2009), Human development report - Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development.
ARGUING ON QUALITIES AND PROCESSES

REASONING ‘OUT OF THE BOX’ ON CURRENT BEYOND 2015 DEBATES

Massimo Pallottino (LVIA/FOCSIV-GCAP)

Measuring development

The International debate on the objectives of development, and on the ways it they needs to be measured and appreciated has seen remarkable progresses during the last years. GDP has been for long the most accepted synthetic indicator of the advancement of the human societies, and the effort of replacing it with something different and more comprehensive has kept busy for years scholars and development practitioners. In 1993, the UNDP first published its Human Development Index, thus opening an important space in the international debate, that was further deepened with the different thematic summit of the nineties and an increased awareness about the biophysical limits of the earth. This reflection found one of its peaks with the Millennium Declaration, on which the Millennium Development Goals were then founded. This renewed understanding of change in human societies represents a real advancement; yet, the framework on which MDGs are based and the MDGs themselves are not perfect, and have become object of criticism. Issues have been raised at various levels, and discussions have been revived when looking at cases such as those of some of the countries that experienced the so-called ‘Arab springs’ during the last years: they were recorded among the best MDG performers just until immediately before serious social unrests highlighted that perhaps MDG were not fully measuring the ‘right’ things. For instance, cross-cutting issues such as inequality, or elements related to social and environmental sustainability, seem to largely escape to goals as commonly defined.

The issue arising can be stated as it follows: is the problem with ‘those’ goals and the way they were formulated? Or there is something that the goals as such are not really able to capture? Clearly enough, if the problem laid exclusively with ‘that kind of goals’, it would be enough to improve them, within a sort of MDG 2.0 exercise; if not, a question has to be raised on what, beside the goals, would be needed to represent in a more consistent and holistic way the transformation of societies, in order to support analysis and decision making.

Some issues with goals

Goals offer a direction; be they really achievable or only defined in aspirational terms, they indicate a clear line of action, which helps consolidating a consensus among the different social actors. They do it by showing the possibility of a series of actions that are supposed to transform the reality through a relatively understandable ‘theory of change’. Finally, goals indicate the boundaries of what is assumed to be worth looking at, therefore operating a double-sided selection: by establishing a priority among the elements of the intended social change; and by redistributing power and influence among the institutions/organizations that have a stake in the process.

The first element recalled above raises questions about ‘consensus on what’, with reference to the objectives identified: how well in technical terms they really capture the change that should take place; but even more importantly whether they stem out of an ‘holistic’ representation, and of a fair mediation between the
oftentimes diverse (and perhaps contrasting) priorities of the social actors. Beside the differences that may well exist in the ideas and values that are ‘upstream’ in the identification of any goal, the legitimacy of goals and objectives (how inclusive has been the process that defined them?) is crucial. Furthermore, there are unanswered questions on the relation between an ‘universal’ set of objectives (based on a shared understanding of human rights) and how practically they can fit well to the specificities of the myriads of specific situations.

Whether the change can be really represented in relatively simple cause-effect terms is still also an open issue. The most recent research highlights the need of adopting a vision which is open to considering the world under a perspective of ‘complexity’: goals can then be functional, but they cannot fully respond to the needs of understanding the ways change takes place. Oftentimes, change cannot be described only by intercepting it ‘downstream’, by measuring the change that took place, without questioning the planned or unplanned circumstances that brought it about.

If the risk of reducing the understanding of the reality to a given set of variables, goals, objectives, is to be avoided, an extra effort will be required in keeping the necessary link with the whole social transformation process. However, such an effort is often made nearly impossible by the necessary concentration on the objectives themselves. The clear delimitation of the boundaries around an objective generates a further important consequence, by incentivizing a process of organizational and institutional reification within those boundaries. This mechanism is at the root of the often criticized ‘silo effect’ which, from this point of view, is not a ‘side effect’ of the goal/objectives approach, but rather one key feature of the latter.

**Room for more comprehensive views?**

Going beyond these limitations requires a better awareness about the need for flexibility; a deeper understanding of change under different situations, circumstances, cultures; a higher consideration of the levels of legitimacy of the processes defining goals and objectives; a better appreciation of the qualities of the processes through which the change takes place; a capacity of understanding the interconnections between the different sets of objectives; a stronger link between the process of change and its context.

The international debate ‘beyond-2015’ is currently focusing on a ‘new’ set of goals/objectives/targets: as if something not reflected into a ‘goal’ may be considered not really important; in this, giving a very limited response to the issues raised before. Yet, the awareness of the need for ‘something more’ than an almost business-as-usual perspective (at least under this profile), can be read in backlight: for example, the report “A new Global Partnership” shows an encouraging move by putting forward the idea of the five ‘transformative shifts’: an approach that could surprise for the strength of its wording. In other cases, the debate seems to witness a shared concern for a more comprehensive approach than that implied by the goals/objectives only.

An alternative view has not so far concretized into an elaboration able to complement the (often only apparent) strength of the commonly adopted ‘goals and outcomes based’ approach. The concerns summarized above risk therefore to become marginal if not given an appropriate attention and prescriptive content. If we want to reason ‘out of the box’, we should perhaps recognize that what we need now is making those elements more visible in the international debates ‘beyond 2015’: paying more attention to the need of reflecting the specificities of the different situations, to the qualities of the processes, to the political spaces where change has to be monitored and appreciated.

**Key References**


Hunger is a result of injustice, not of scarcity!

According to FAO, 842 million people are still living in constant hunger and malnutrition is responsible for nearly half of all deaths in children under five. But hunger in our world today is a result of injustice, not of scarcity: talking about access to food implies considering the inequalities that make inaccessible the food and the resources needed to produce it. It’s an issue of power rather than distribution. Discussing about power over food implies a reflection on production, transformation, distribution, consumption; issues related to food have crucial implications in territorial and environmental terms, as well as in cultural and social terms. As a whole, such a reflection urges a wider and more holistic view than one based on a purely economic and functional perspective. According to the Declaration of Nyeleni, the above concerns can be expressed in terms of ‘food sovereignty’, defined as “…the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.”

As highlighted by CONCORD, food system need to enable everyone to eat a healthy, nutritious diet that is based in the right to food, shaped by planetary boundaries, resilient and defined by people. The basis for this just and sustainable food system already exists, in the local food systems – family-based, small scale, diversified- that already feed the majority of the world’s people. However its potential is thwarted by the dominance of a corporate and industrial food model which receives disproportionate political attention and support.

How to change things?

Addressing the current challenges of our current food system requires:

- to ensure democracy and coherence in policy making, with a bottom-up approach. Governments must in particular respect and strengthen the role of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) that offers a promise to improve coordination and governance of the global food system.
- to opt for agro-ecological methods of production that maintain and increase biodiversity, regenerate ecosystems and opt out from production methods that ignore planetary boundaries.
- to prioritize local economies and trade that can support local producers to meet the growing and changing demand of city dwellers. International trade rules must allow policy space to support livelihoods and jobs where people live and ensure food is at all-time available locally.

1 Declaration of the Forum for Food Sovereignty, Nyéléni, 2007
2 See CONCORD (2014) Justice, democracy and diversity in our food systems, Bruxelles, from which many of the following reflections are drawn.
• to focus investment policies on the provision of public goods (infrastructure, research and extension services, bank loans) which complement farmers’ own investments rather than facilitating foreign private sector investment that legitimize land and water grabs and promote corporations’ interests and products.
• to ensure stable and fair prices by using policy tools which help to stabilize food markets and food producers to cope with unpredictable harvests. Governments should be able to take measures against import surges, prices spikes and for the management of buffer stock.
• to guarantee the access to productive resources through secure and equitable rights for family farmers, especially women, to land, water, seeds and livestock breeds, fisheries and forests.
• to enable and promote better responsible food consumption in terms of quality and quantity and healthy diets by improving policies on public procurement, regulating the marketing of foods, ensuring consumers have access to information and discouraging high meat and dairy consumption. A special focus is needed to meet the nutrient requirements of newborns, children and youth, whom potential sets the opportunity to change and improve the life conditions of future generations.
• to encourage actions to reduce the waste of food, in pre and post-harvest phases, and to reduce food loss and waste globally and nationally.
• to redirect agricultural research towards meeting the needs of family farmers, improving nutrition, developing innovative agro-ecological methods and restoring the environment in direct collaboration with food producers.
• better aid and development policies that are built on the human rights and support their realization, including the right to food and nutrition, with heightened attention to under-fives and mothers.

Points of reflection for Italian and European institutions

Europe has a key role in setting the agenda towards more just and sustainable food systems. In this view, a clear stand has to be taken on all the issues mentioned above, and the following points should be prioritized:

• Hunger is a result of injustice, not of scarcity. The focus on equity, human rights, the inclusion of the more marginalized groups, the reduction of excessive vertical inequality should always be at the forefront of any policy initiative.
• All national and supranational institutions should make a clear commitment in favor of the full implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Right to Food, and of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure, promoted by the FAO
• Europe has an enormous responsibility towards the whole planet, when it comes to ensuring policy coherence among the various policy components intended to intervene inside and outside Europe’s boundaries: the strict adherence to the principle of policy coherence should therefore be enforced at all times.
• The principles behind and the support to the New Alliance for food security and nutrition promoted by G8 should be deeply reconsidered: its vision of food security as market based (rather than firmly connected to human rights and to the ‘right to food framework’) is reason of deep concerns, as it could potentially undermine progress towards the eradication of hunger.
• In view of a growing debate about the role of private sector in development, we urge looking at the crucial impact it may have particularly on food systems. Private sector actors, while legitimately pursuing their ends, should be tightly hold to a publicly guaranteed regulatory framework.
• European and Italian institutions should reconsider the reasons behind their vote against the “Elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises with respect to Human Rights”, adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) on the 26th June 2014. The way TNC operate have dramatic implications on food systems.
• The debate around the adoption of principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments (RAI) should be completely refocused in order to avoid the risk that they are used to justify bad practices such as land grabbing, and the spread of agro-fuel at the expenses of local food productions. The key concerns should be that of building resilient and sustainable local and national food systems.
The Italian Coalition for the fight against poverty (the national chapter of GCAP – the Global Call Against Poverty) welcomes the opportunity for CSOs and other constituencies to meet the EU development ministers in an outreach session back-to-back the informal meeting that takes place in Florence on 14/15 July under the EU Italian Presidency.

At this particular time when the development landscape is changing, we acknowledge the importance of an open dialogue that looks into the role that the private sector as a development actor, which is one of the critical areas in the current debate on the post 2015 development agenda as well as on the future of development cooperation and on new global partnership for development. We look forward to the discussion in Florence to share our views and to understand the next steps that the EU will take with regard to this critical agenda in the light of the most recent Communication1 and EU Council Conclusions2.

The role of the private for-profit sector is a centre piece of the ongoing debate on the best strategies to implement the Internationally Agreed Development Goals, which has attracted diverse opinions from different constituencies. We believe there is now the opportunity to frame the discussion around the globally agreed principles for effective development3, which all actors willing to play a role in development arena are required to implement. The Busan declaration4 makes provisions for the wide formula “shared principles, common goals and differentiated commitments”, which offers all development actors ample opportunities to stay true to the effectiveness principles: ownership, results, inclusivity and accountability.

We plead the international community and the EU leaders in particular to take a differentiated approach that clearly reflect the diversity in the private for profit sector. It is then critical to acknowledge that the for-profit sector may play different roles, from implementation to financing (e.g. through blending). Also, support for private sector in Partner Countries will require other frameworks than those that will eventually apply to companies from donor countries.

On the most recent EU positions on the private sector, we would like to echo Concord’s reaction5 to the Conclusions adopted on June 236. It is encouraging that Ministers endorsed the clear message that “that EU and Member States’ support for private sector development should be based on the Busan principles for effective development cooperation”. In fact, the Busan Partnership compels all development actors to operationalize four key principles: national ownership of development process, focus on results, inclusive development and transparency & mutual accountability. Notably, at the first High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (Mexico City, April 2014)7, the global community also agreed that public policies and national priorities should be properly factored in when shaping public private partnerships and scaling up financing for development. As the private sector is actively involved in the Global

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1 EC Communication “A Stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries” – May 13th, 2014
2 EC Council Conclusions, June 23rd, 2014
3 Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, Dec 2011.
4 Ibid
6 Ibid
7 Conclusions of the first HLM of the GPEDC, Mexico City – 15/16 April - http://effectivecooperation.org/hlm2014/
Partnership for the Effective Development Cooperation, we rely on a full support for the Busan principles on its part as well and we trust the EU will stay vigilant in this regard.

The EU general support for the Busan principles is then complemented by the statement that the support for the private sector “should also be in line with a rights-based approach to development cooperation, encompassing all human rights, and should also be in line with internationally recognised guidelines and principles including, inter alia, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises as well as with the UN Global Compact”. Also, the EU is the process of adopting a Results Framework8 with the intention of enhancing its capacity to monitor and report back on its global efforts to achieve the development goals. It is then critical to make sure that such a framework will also applied to development projects with the private sector.

We believe that a EU on the role of the private sector in development should factor in the determination of the discussion on the global post 2015 agenda, which has also been the subject of a most recent Communication, which follows up to a previous one on the same matter9, “A Decent life for All” of February 2013. In this regard, we really appreciate the profile given to the issue of accountability. We agree with the statement that the new post 2015 framework should “include actions which significantly increase the ability of people to participate in policy choices that affect them and to hold governments and other actors accountable for progress”; we strongly support that a new global mechanism should be “endorsed and supported at the highest political level to ensure that national governments and other actors, including the private sector, are held accountable for the implementation of the framework,...”

We look forward to a fruitful multi-stakeholder dialogue to shape the donors’ policies, and EU’s in particular, for the private sector in the most effective way. This dialogue should adopt the post-2015 development agenda comprehensive approach based on human rights, which focuses on the inter-linkages between the three sustainable development dimensions and requires a coherence among diverse policies. Market cannot stand alone and separated by social and environmental issues; in this regard, cooperation policies with private for profit sector must be defined in strict coherence with trade, investment and financial EU policies aimed at achieving a human sustainable development. The next few months are crowded with key moments at global and regional level that offer the opportunity to take the private sector agenda forward on the right track.

Thus, in view of the discussion at the informal meeting of development ministers on July 15th, we would like to reiterate the call from the European CSOs10 that:

- support to and cooperation with private sector must contribute to fighting poverty and inequalities, promoting human rights, sustainable development and economic justice. Economic growth and job creation alone is not enough
- local actors and markets in partner countries must be prioritized
- PPPs are not a solution to be applied across all development contexts, especially in the case the governance of the global commons
- blending grants and loans must still prove its financial and development additionally; priorities pursued through aid should be kept in line with shared development goals rather than being diverted to other ends
- accountability is crucial: multi-stakeholder approaches and mechanisms should be established to pre-assess, monitor and evaluate private sector initiatives in a transparent way and that intended local communities are centrally involved in these processes; it is a priority to establish the conditions for an equitable and balanced relation between local communities and local/global private sectors actors
- cooperation with the for-profit private sector must be coherent with frameworks to ensure that trade, investment and financial policies are consistent with sustainable development goals.

9 EC Communication on post 2015 “A decent Life for all: from vision to collective action” June 2nd, 2014

THE ROLE OF BUSINESS SECTOR IN DEVELOPMENT
GLOBAL EQUITY AT THE CORE OF POST-2015 AGENDA

The definition of the global framework that will inform the policy debate in the next few years is coming now to a turning point. The process leading to the UNGA in September 2015 will still see some important milestones, with the Italian led European semester and the EXPO in Milan. Italy has a crucial responsibility in facilitating the process that will lead the European Union to speak with one voice in the post-2015 debate: the new framework will have to be universal, and based on the human rights, opening a perspective for a balanced, equitable and sustainable development.

The level of the current debate so far shows interesting opportunities, but, as the outcome of the OWG clearly shows, there is now the need of giving a boost: the new Sustainable Development Goals should go well beyond the MDG framework as well as the latest proposals so far. In spite of important elements that are now being discussed, an overcomplex articulation of goals and sub-goals - shaped under the visible influence of the so-called ‘silo effect’ and consistent with a relatively traditional view of economic development - risk to narrow down the scope for an endeavor that should motivate the effort of the whole humanity in the next 15 years.

A much more slower than expected and claimed success in poverty eradication, suggests to us that additional attention should be paid to the kind of perspective. It is known that the statistics on which the MDG poverty target is assessed suffer heavily of the bias brought in by specific countries and by the baseline originally set. The inadequacy of the USD 1,25 parameter (now once again taken as the key indicator in the Goal 1 in the last OWG elaboration) is also demonstrated by the fact that hunger has been reduced far less than poverty; which leads to the paradoxical conclusion of recognizing that some people are no longer poor but they still starve. We experience that the disconnect between economic trends on one side and people and the planet on the other hand is much larger than 15 years ago; but we still fall short in fully integrating the acknowledgment of the biophysical limits of the earth in our policies; and we still fail in bringing in a coherent view of what is needed to promote a minimum level of social rights for all the inhabitants of the planet. Inequalities are increasing in all domains (economic, social, political, environmental) and are challenging the social foundations of our nations: for the first time in modern history, there is one common concern which is shared by the poor and marginalized as well as struggling middle classes across the entire globe. The current state of the world and the arising of multiple sources of violence and war suggest the need for a far sharper reflection on peace and conflict: not only promoted in terms of ‘security’ or absence of open and violent confrontation, but in terms of a new culture of peace, respectful of the rights and the dignity of everybody.

The Post 2015 Agenda will not be the silver bullet to resolve all the world’s problems. But it offers a critical opportunity to advance the search for a set of values, norms, policies and agencies that can inform and inspire...
our emerging global citizenship. Beside the importance of setting shared and well thought goals, we should pay the right attention to the process as much as in the actual outcomes. We might not be able to embody all our aspirations in its final format. But the test of its relevance – and the legitimacy of all institutions behind it – will be its capacity to advance the bridging of the gap between our economies and the people and the planet.

PROMOTING EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Equity and environmental sustainability

GCAP Italy considers that addressing all dimensions of sustainable development is crucial: without taking into account global environmental change as the base for SDGs, even poverty eradication will become impossible. The concept of planetary boundaries and ecological carrying capacity are critical for the whole framework and not only one individual goal area in the SDGs. Governments and all development actors need to develop a far better understanding of how fully integrating in practice equity and environmental sustainability dimensions. The focus should be firmly kept on economic inclusion and equity within the planetary boundaries and the carrying capacity of our ecosystem services, promoted through the economic empowerment of the most vulnerable and marginalized social groups. Policy coherence for sustainable development is an important tool to promote within the new framework and where the EU can share its experience of applying this principle in its own policy-making.

Italy (and EU) should support all dimensions of sustainable development integrated in a balanced way, promoting alternative measures of development which include social and natural capital. It should also promote the full integration of social and environmental costs and an ambitious target to achieve absolute decoupling of economic activity from environmental degradation. Low carbon development pathways should be proposed, not just in infrastructure and production but also in trade, investment and financial systems. For the EU and other industrialized countries, sustainable consumption has to include ways to reduce consumption and to reduce our overall footprint on the planet. The EU should propose ambitious targets at the international level which are technologically and economically feasible today, starting with at least at doubling of the share of renewables in global energy mix and tripling the annual rate of energy efficiency improvement by 2030 compared to today. Climate change should be addressed in specific importance, as the greatest challenge that humanity will face in the next future, and as a cross-cutting issue, understanding how climate change will undermine the achievement of any proposed goals in all sectors. These may be linked, for example, to mitigation, to resilience, to adaptation, to disaster risk reduction, or to promoting low carbon development alternatives. We underline the necessity of including social or economic targets approaching ecosystems and biodiversity, demonstrating the clear interlinkages: for example, equitable access to natural resources and participation in decision making over their use and management. The mainstreaming of ecosystems and biodiversity values in national and local planning and development processes is essential for sustainable development.

Participation, accountability, social inclusion

First of all, we contend that in order to effectively pursue a shared and just path for improving the livelihood of each and every human being, a much larger participation and public debate is needed, as well as formal mechanisms to allow all voices to contribute to the setting of the priorities to be pursued through public policies. Relying on government level exchanges will provide an important dimension of legitimacy, but may miss the opportunity of including all voices. The rule of law, in the sense of a framework of transparent rules that are applicable to all individuals, communities and social groups is not an end by itself but only the mean for ensuring that human rights are respected and enforced for the benefit of everybody, including those whose voices are often marginalized in local and transnational political and social processes: women, children, ethno-
linguistic minority groups, migrants, other minorities. Gender equity, and the importance of promoting the 
empowerment and participation of women at all levels represents a key area of concern both as a priority area 
of action and as a cross-cutting issue. Improving the accountability, widening up the debate beyond the 
targeted instances where it currently takes place, allowing the participation of all social groups/stakeholders, and helping the governments themselves in making a stronger and more representative 
mediation of the different needs and priorities, represents our view the stronger imperative at multilateral 
and regional level, as a way of promoting progressively wider consensus on global issues: in this phase of 
elaboration of the future framework, but also and more importantly, in establishing mechanisms for 
monitoring and reviewing the targets and the qualities of the processes led at local level. The new agenda 
should reaffirm the centrality of citizenship as the cornerstone of governance at all levels, building on existing social capital and on various forms of citizens’ association, as the only way of building up sustainably peaceful societies for a more just world, where the dignity of each human being is defended and promoted.

Food and food systems
Food and food systems are at the core of all the societies. And all the peoples, communities, individuals, should be given the power and the knowledge of establishing what and how should be produced, transformed, traded and consumed when satisfying, above all, basic subsistence needs. Evidence shows that hunger is the result of injustice, not scarcity: we therefore strongly contend that policies only based on the increment of production and productivities will be largely ineffective in reducing deprivation, if not put in a framework of rights and food sovereignty. We urge the international community to an unambiguous affirmation of the right to food and nutrition, the recognition of adequate diet as the stepping stone of healthy lives, and an understanding of food as being the expression of values, cultures and social relations. The right to food and nutrition is hampered by economic, social and political inequalities as well as by existing power imbalances: hence, the need to ensure proper regulations, transparency and accountability of powerful economic actors, such as transnational corporations. 

Unbalanced food systems threaten the environment and compress the rights of the people, forcing them to migrate. These challenges can only be met by prioritizing local economies, agro-ecological methods of production, and a smallholder family farming model of production and distribution; a conception of global food system as being built of local food systems which are centered on sovereignty, agro-biodiversity, local knowledge, and local value chains; a fair global food system governance, able to bridle the devastating impact of unjust trade practices and regulations, and of financial speculation; a definition of agricultural productivity that fully incorporates the ecological, social and political dimensions of production and embodies the sustainable livelihoods of families and communities; regional/national social protection systems that is able to ensure that the growing food demand of the of rural and urban dwellers is met. Special attention should be paid to those countries with the highest number of undernourished people most of whom are children, by promoting large-scale nutrition programs. This can be done by encouraging policy environment and interventions that positively can change nutritional behaviors and attitudes. In this, ensuring policy coherence at all levels is a key.

The role of private sector
The discussion on the role of the private/business sector in the development agenda should be firmly linked to proper diagnostic and analysis, avoiding the risk of a mish-mash of different considerations and anecdotic celebratory evidence of success, fostered perhaps by the expectation for accessing freshly generated resources. An appropriate reflection on this issue, including an articulated consideration of the different issues arising in connection to the role played by local, international and transnational companies, is essential if we want to redirect the current drivers of growth in a developmental direction. Among the different issues to focus on, key elements arise in the area of the re-orientation of the business model towards greater social inclusion and responsibility, environmental sustainability and transparency/accountability. It is only in this
context that the “creation of enabling environment business” makes sense from a development point of view:
in absence of such reorientation, it reinforces the current unsustainable business (if not predatory) practices. A
further reflection is also needed on the provision of public services by the private sector. It may be true that
the private sector might be more efficient and maybe effective in the provision of some public services.
However, these services remain “public” in nature and their provision should therefore be guided by careful
analysis of the differential impact of social groups and spatial realities. It should not correspond to the
abdication of responsibility by the public sector nor to charging the private sector with mandates it does not
have. Furthermore, “private” provision might increasingly include different forms of not-profit agency, which
are too little contemplated in the current discussion though increasingly important in several areas of the
planet. Lastly, attention should be paid to the broader role of the private sector in the provision of (global)
public goods. There is increasing recognition that the provision of public goods might be better served by
partnerships between different forms of agencies and the increasing role of the private sector might therefore
make sense in this context. However, clear rules of the engagement are necessary such as mandatory
guidelines for the relations with corporations, clear provisions on conflict of interest and disclosure policies,
transparency on funding by the corporate sector, among others.

The private sector will have an important role to play in delivering sustainable development in the new
framework, but corresponding accountability measures should be in place and requirements to adhere to
international goals and standards in the field of environment, labour and human rights.

Migration and development

Migration is an issue of overwhelming importance, and shows many linkages with several domains such as
decent work and social protection issues, health and education rights, participation and empowerment needs,
including specific protection needs of vulnerable groups like children, women, divided families on the move
from violence, trafficking and exploitation that they often experience during migration. All this suggest that
migration and human mobility related issues should be tightly integrated within SDGs. A lively debate has
brought to the elaboration of the civil society “Stockholm Agenda” on migrant and migration-related goals and
targets in post-2015 global and national development agendas. Specific targets have been proposed on
facilitating mobility and inclusion, portability of skills and benefits, reduction of cost on remittances

But, until now, migration and human mobility have been poorly inserted in SDGs and in EU positions, being a
hot topic of conflicts among nation-states. More multilateralism and open regionalism should be promoted for
overcoming different interests and perceptions between governments and public opinions, between public
and private actors, spurring collaboration and protection systems in countries of destination, transit and
origin. Italy has a key role in pushing EU to the forefront of the international debate on migration in SDGs, and
in assuming a pro-active stance for enhancing migration in a human development perspective and finance
appropriate structures that provide vulnerable groups with opportunities to flourish. Its geopolitical role in the
Mediterranean and specifically on sensitive migration routes should motivate its commitment in promoting
regional mobility and international protection regimes aimed at facilitating the movement of the people,
adequately addressing the specific needs of vulnerable groups on the move across international borders,
their inclusion and protection, and their effective contribution to human development in destination and
origin countries.

OUR CLAIMS

We feel that renewed commitments are strongly needed in order to bring about a shared and mobilizing
perspective for the post-2015 framework, based the above mentioned elements to inform the policy
perspective in all domains. Particularly, we call for a firm commitment by the Italian government to operating
at European and global level to include these concerns in the debate.
We feel that the following four issues require a timely and comprehensive response:

- Which position will be promoted by Italy in developing a joint European Union position for the post-2015 framework, where the promotion of the rule of law is firmly connected to the universal and inclusive respect of the human rights? What mechanisms of participation and accountability will be established in order to ensure that all voices are heard in the setting of local targets, in reviewing those targets, in monitoring the qualities of the processes?
- What kind of priorities will be promoted by the Italian government consistently with the principle of policy coherence, particularly during the next round of negotiation about climate that will have their critical point in Lima?
- Will Italy and EU reconsider their negative vote against the “Elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises with respect to Human Rights”, adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) on the 26th June 2014?
- What kind of commitment will have Italy and the EU in affirming and widening the presence of the issue of migration and development in the upcoming post-2015 framework in a open human development perspective? Define and enforce a real common EU policy on mobility-migration and international protection in the framework of the new SDGs, aimed at facilitating the movement and inclusion of people seeking a better life and able to participate and contribute to human development in destination and origin countries. An effective transnational cooperation must be based on the best interest of vulnerable groups and include an appropriate response to their needs across international borders in order to protect them from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence. In the meantime, Italian Cooperation must elaborate new guidelines and include new actions dedicated to migration and development issues in the 2015-2018 programming.

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE POST 2015 FRAMEWORK

The attention of the Italian civil society networks coordinated by GCAP in the current debate is focused of the Italy-led EU semester, at the end of which a common position of the EU on the B2015 is expected. Such a position will build on the communication ‘A decent life for all: from vision to collective action’, but will also take into account the most recent developments, and more particularly the final outcome of the OWG. Although some European government have publicly expressed their satisfaction with the latter, and that many important elements are reflected therein, a much more courageous approach is needed in order to avoid a ‘slightly-better-than-usual’ approach that seem to lead the current debate. We feel it is absolutely necessary to keep away from a low level mediation dictated more by the ‘fear of the vacuum’ than by an original and forward looking vision for the future of the humanity and the planet. We need to focus on transformational, structural change addressing the root causes of the main global challenges we face today, going beyond the purely rhetoric use of strong ‘transformative’ terms in the official documents.

We therefore urge the Italian government to incorporate the concerns expressed in the document ‘Red Line the EU must adhere to in negotiating the Post-2015 framework’ (CONCORD-Beyond 2015 European Task Force). More specifically, we recommend the following points to be reflected in positions promoted during the forthcoming UNGA, an in the future consolidated EU position on post-2015:

a) Inequality should stand as a priority area in the future internationally agreed framework, including a clear reference to intra- and inter-state inequality; and to the horizontal as well as vertical dimensions of inequality. Gender inequality and women and girls empowerment should be kept as a priority area. These concern should be addressed based on appropriately disaggregated statistical data.

b) The attention to vulnerable groups should be pervasive and strictly related to all areas of intervention, including children, women, divided families on the move from violence, trafficking and exploitation, elderly, disabled people, ethnic and social minorities.
c) The emphasis on the increase of the share of renewables in global energy mix and the improvement of the rate of energy efficiency improvement should be reinforced. Climate change should be addressed in specific importance and as a cross-cutting issue with its linkage to strategies of mitigation, resilience, adaptation, disaster risk reduction.

d) The approach to food should be widened from production, productivity and efficiency to a wider and more realistic approach tackling the food/resources access inequality dimension. A clear support should be given to sustainable, local, small scale, family farming.

e) Migration and human mobility related issue cannot be absent from the future framework. We are extremely concerned by the very weak attention that was paid to the issue so far, and we strongly state that it cannot be ignored further.

f) Poverty and well-being (as a policy objective) should more clearly defined in multidimensional terms; the international debate has clearly highlighted the need of going beyond GDP based indicators, Italy and EU should promote the adoption of a renewed set of indicators which include social and natural capital, and whereby social and environmental costs are fully accounted for, building up the ground for complete decoupling of economic activity and environmental degradation

g) A further move away from the ‘growth-at-all-costs’ vision should be promoted, by connecting it more firmly to multidimensional ways of looking at poverty and well-being. Growth should always be treated in connection to the constraints of the planet boundaries and to the need of contributing to the creation of decent jobs.

h) The focus on human rights, rule of law, and peace did not bring to a consensus within the OWG. These elements should however be firmly kept within the agenda for the future post-2015 framework. Peace and conflict related concerns should be strengthened in the direction of a fuller consideration of a whole range of opportunities to prevent and transform open and violent conflict including, among others: the promotion of dialogue instances and policy spaces, the adoption of non-violent conflict resolution instruments, the monitoring and reduction of military expenses and arms trade.

i) Reference to the different actors of development is welcomed; a clear connection should however be stated between the contribution of the private sector and the need of looking at it through the lenses of human rights.

j) A much larger attention than in previous documents should be devoted to identification of the means of implementation, both in financial and non financial terms.

k) EU should help reaching a wide consensus for including some ‘global partnership’ issues in the post-2015 framework. The approach to market should always put at the forefront the respect of the basic human and social rights, and highlight the importance of the local and regional dimension of trade.

l) Financial markets have to be specifically considered in the framework, in order to avoid the degeneration due to unregulated financial movements and speculations and their impact, particularly in terms of unsustainable volatility on food and energy commodities markets.

m) The whole post-2015 framework identification and monitoring should find deep root in a renewed concept of citizenship, participation and accountability, where the participation of different stakeholders and not only of the governments is considered a cornerstone of the whole exercise. This should include the identification of the main elements for promoting policy dialogue spaces at national level as a way of capturing the qualities of the process of change and not only its quantitative aspects.

n) Appropriate, rigorous and independent accountability mechanisms and institutional architecture should be put in place in order to make all the above recommendations real and concrete.
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