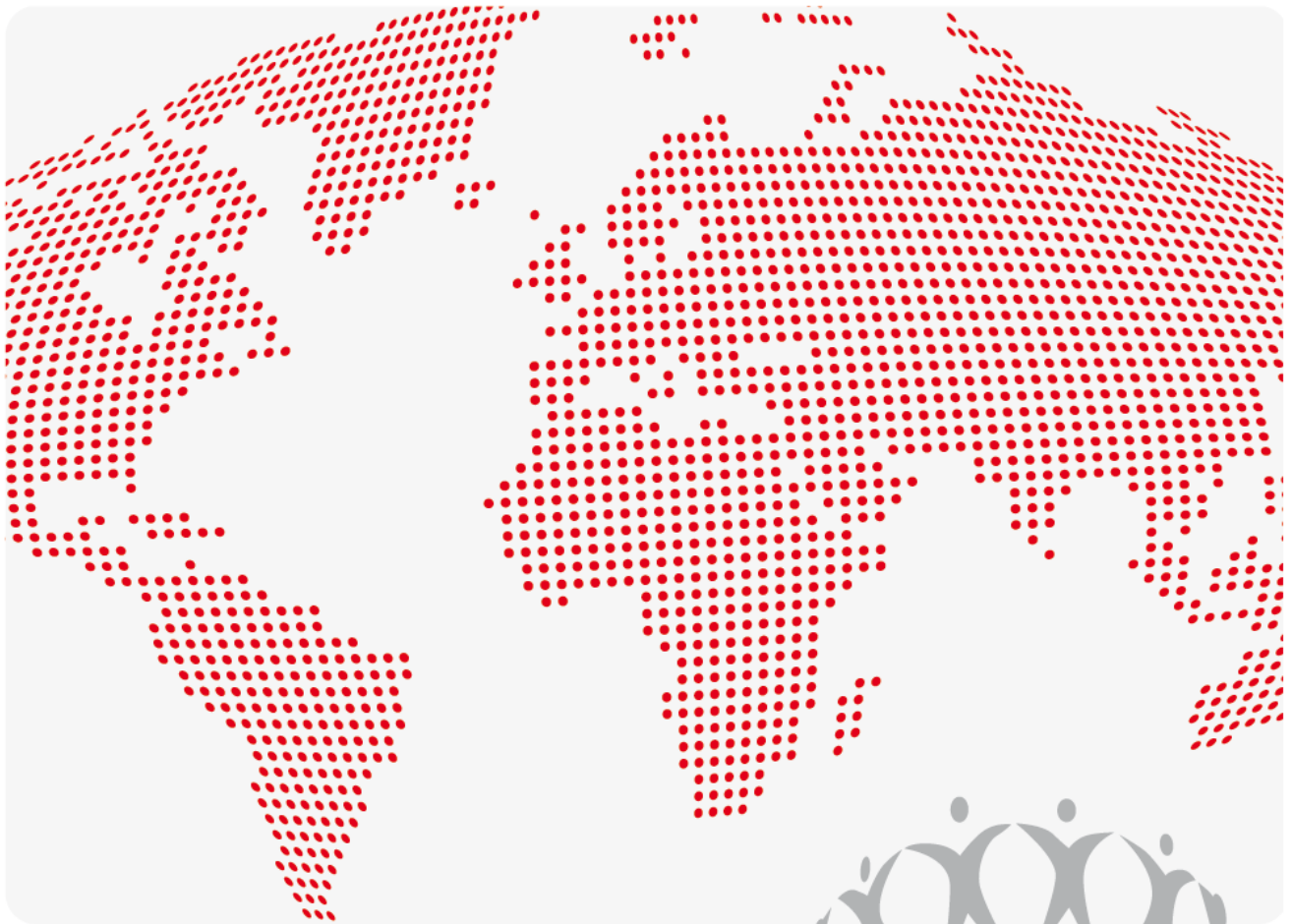


The World We Want Beyond 2015

European Seminar on the Post-2015 Framework

Brussels, 24-25 May 2012



Beyond2015

Campaigning for a global development framework
after the Millennium Development Goals

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PROGRAMME

DAY ONE, Thursday 24 May 2012

(Le Bouche à Oreille - Rue Félix Hap, 11 - 1040 Brussels)

- 
- 9:30 – 10:00** **Registration & Coffee**
- 10:00 – 10:30** **Welcome**
- Keynote Speech: The World We Have Versus The World We Want**
- **John Patrick Ngoyi** - *Executive Director of the Justice, Development and Peace Commission (JDPC) in Nigeria, and member of the Beyond 2015 Executive Committee.*
- 10:30 – 11:15** **Crosscutting Issues: Human Rights, Climate Change & Sustainability and PCD**
- **Nicolas Beger** - *Director, Amnesty International European Institutions Office.*
Human Rights underpinning the post-2015 consensus.
 - **James Mackie** - *Senior Adviser, ECDPM & Team Leader, ERD 2012-2013*
“*Development in a Changing World: Elements for a Post-2015 Global Agenda.*”
PCD underpinning the post-2015 consensus.
 - **Neva Frecheville** - *International Development Policy Advisor, WWF UK and Chair of the Rio+20 Taskforce of Beyond 2015.*
Climate Change & Sustainability underpinning the post-2015 consensus.
- 11:15 – 11:30** **Coffee Break**
- 11:30 – 12:00** **Gallery Walk: Proposals for post-2015 development paradigms**
- 12:00 – 13:00** **Working Group Session**
Thematic working groups to address the following questions:
- What are the key issues facing the world today that need to be considered in a post-2015 framework (for that thematic area)?
 - What are the key changes that we want to achieve?
- 13:00 – 13:45** **Lunch**
- 13:45 – 14:15** **Gallery Walk: Time to cross-fertilise: Discussion outcomes so far**
- 14:15 – 16:00** **Working Group Session (contd.)**
Thematic working groups to address the following questions:
- What kind of framework would best address the issues, links with other thematic areas and the desired change?
 - Proposed measures to accomplish the desired change?
- 16:00 – 16:15** **Break**
- 16:15 – 17:00** **Working Group Session: How to ensure accountability?**
- 17:00 – 17:30** **Plenary Conclusions**

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DAY TWO, Friday 25 May 2012

(Le Bouche à Oreille - Rue Félix Hap, 11 - 1040 Brussels)

9:30 – 10:00

Registration & Coffee

10:00 – 10:30

European civil society reflections: food for thought for policy-makers

10:30 – 12:30

High-level discussion panel

Moderator: Laura Shields - *Senior Associate at The Media Coach, Producer, Reporter & Writer at BBC & Reuters.*

Panel members:

- **Diana Alarcón** - *Development Policy and Analysis Division at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Co-convenor for the UN Task Team on the post-2015 UN Development Agenda.*
- **Françoise Moreau** - *Head of the Policy and Coherence Unit, Directorate General Development and Cooperation of the European Commission.*
- **Paul Sherlock** - *Senior Policy Advisor, Planning & Effectiveness section, Irish Aid.*
- **Hildegard Lingnau** - *Senior Counsellor, Strategic Analysis and Cross-Cutting Issues, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate.*
- **Mwangi Waituru** - *Co-chair of the Beyond 2015 Executive Committee, Principal Teacher of the Seed Institute and National Coordinator of GCAP Kenya.*

12:30 – 13:00

Closing remarks

- **Justin Kilcullen** - *President of CONCORD, Director of Trócaire*

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

Work Ahead: moving towards a common European position

Civil society working meeting to determine the next advocacy steps.

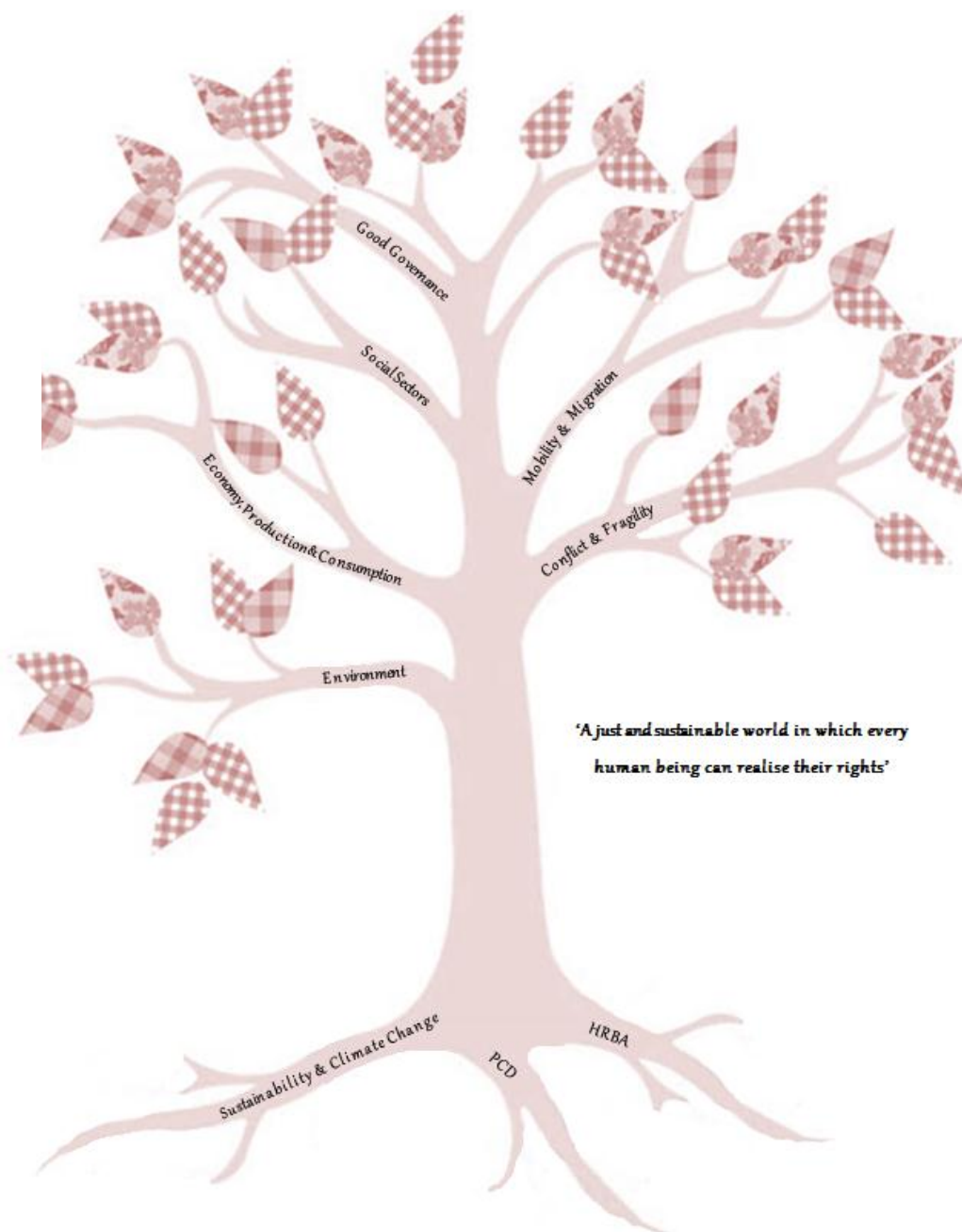
- *Plenary: Overview of influencing opportunities*
- *Working Group sessions (on strategy regarding EU/ UN/ Content)*
- *Plenary: feedback session*

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THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

Discussions at the seminar will be organised into the following six thematic working groups: The Social Sectors, Mobility, Economy, Consumption and Production, Environment, The Role of Good Governance in Poverty Eradication, and Development in Situations of Conflict and Fragility. The background papers which follow seek to guide the discussions, but should in no way be seen as exhaustive in terms of their approach to a subject. In addition, all discussions in the six working groups should reflect the three cross-cutting issues (Human Rights, Climate Change & Sustainability, and Policy Coherence for Development). The relationship between the six thematic areas and the three cross-cutting issues may be portrayed as in the diagramme below:



THE SOCIAL SECTORS AND POST-2015

The social sectors and social service provision are crucial for a healthy, well-educated population which in turn contributes to a country's prosperity and to its stability. However, under the influence of the international financial institutions' approaches to economic reform, many countries have been forced to reduce investment in the social sectors such as health, sanitation and education, and adopt a "quick results" approach which deflects attention from qualitative issues. Similarly, little attention has been paid to the importance of social protection systems to support people in times of need and build their resilience to shocks.

Health: Every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, no matter who they are, where they live, or what health-related issue may need to be addressed. In order for this to be achieved, universal access to affordable, quality healthcare is essential and the requisite investment must be made in the health system. Certain members of the population, such as children under five, adolescent girls and pregnant women, the elderly and the disabled need particular care. The global impact of maternal and newborn deaths alone is estimated to be \$15bn a year in lost productivity, so investing in the health system is clearly a sound economic decision!

While it has been estimated that 30-50% of Asia's economic growth between 1965 and 1990 is attributable to demographic and health improvements, including reductions in infant and child mortality, better access to reproductive health services and reductions in fertility rates¹, high economic growth does not always translate into improved healthcare and nutrition for many parts of a population. Very often there are discriminatory factors underlying whether a sector of a population does or not get access to social services.

Education: Children have the right to access free primary education and states are encouraged to develop different forms of secondary education and make them available and accessible to every child, including offering financial assistance if need be. However, no mention is made of the quality of that education and until recently attention was particularly focused on access, and the level of education that was reached. Indeed, critical though numeracy and literacy are, even they do not suffice to equip children to develop to their maximum potential and be truly productive members of society. Educational curricula are crucial to imparting information on issues such as hygiene, good nutrition, life skills, keeping safe, one's rights, and participation in one's own development.

Nutrition: The WHO states that poor nutrition is the most important single threat to the world's health. Today 1 child in 4 is stunted due to malnutrition. In developing countries this figure can be as high as 1 in 3. If current trends continue an extra 11.7m children will be stunted in sub-Saharan Africa in 2025 compared to 2010. Stunting irreversibly affects the physical and mental development potential of children. The economic impact of undernutrition has been estimated to lead to losses in GDP as high as 6% in some cases, as a result of lost productivity and income.²

¹D E Bloom and J G Williamson (1998) 'Demographic Transitions and Economic Miracles in Emerging Asia' *World Bank Economic Review* 12(3): pages 419–55

²A World Food Programme/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean study found that, in 2004 alone, the average cost of child undernutrition for the region was the equivalent of 6.4% GDP

While under-nutrition is a severe problem in many countries, over-nutrition and poor nutrition is a growing problem in many other parts of the world, as witnessed by the growing levels of obesity. In 2008, 1.5bn adults, 20 and older, were overweight. Of these over 200m men and nearly 300m women were obese.³ Overweight and obesity are the fifth leading risk for global deaths: they are therefore common, serious and costly.

Social Protection: The provision of social protection is crucial, both as a right itself, and in order to realise other rights, to re-distribute wealth and the benefits of economic growth more fairly, to improve people's life chances (through access to education, healthcare, adequate, nutritious food, adequate housing, water and sanitation and to employment) and to protect people against the effects of risks and crises. Social protection should be viewed as an investment in both productive capacity and in development. Offering social protection has an important multiplier effect owing to the positive effects of access to social services generating significant consequences in the longer term for economic growth, and contributing to the conditions necessary for peace and stability in a country.

It is primarily the role of the state to provide social protection to its population. A social protection system must be based on an analysis of the country's own context and capacities, focusing on empowering the poor and meeting the needs of the most marginalised in the population. So while a nascent system may focus on providing certain basic levels of social protection to some segments of the population, the ultimate aim should be to provide the full range of provisions, including, for example, family benefits, unemployment, old age, invalidity, and maternity cover.

When discussing the post-2015 development consensus, it will be crucial to recognise and capitalise on the links between all the social sectors in order to contribute to inclusive and sustainable development. This includes the obvious links between health, education, nutrition, water and sanitation, but extends well beyond them to other sectors and to the potential harm that actions and policies (or lack thereof) in a wide variety of domains can cause. Examples include trade agreements (eg. as regards pharmaceutical products and generic drugs), climate change (eg. increasing numbers of natural disasters such as rivers flooding which can spread water-borne diseases), and agricultural policies (eg. subsidies for agricultural trade distort global food markets, buying agricultural land for biofuels impacts on nutrition), to mention but a few, have huge impacts on the social sectors.

People's chances of survival are also influenced by global economic conditions. The World Bank estimates that child deaths could increase by 200,000 to 400,000 per year between 2009 and 2015 as a result of the financial and economic crisis.⁴

It is therefore critical that the international community undertakes a thorough review of all policies and practices that damage the development prospects of poorer countries, and particularly of the more marginalised and discriminated-against populations within them. The post-2015 agenda provides an opportunity to throw all these issue under the spotlight and alter the way we do business.

³ WHO, Fact sheet N°311, Updated March 2011

⁴World Bank (2009) *Swimming against the tide: How developing countries are coping with the global crisis*, Background Paper prepared by World Bank Staff for the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, March 2009

MOBILITY POST-2015

Mobility in this context should be understood as the ability of individuals, family or any group to be physically and virtually mobile in order to realise their human rights and potential as productive actors in society. Such mobility is determined by adequate access to technology, infrastructure and other conditions such as a safe, healthy and non-discriminating environment, economic opportunities etc. Mobility as understood in this context is hindered by, for example, laws limiting the mobility of people within countries, prioritisation of particular types of infrastructure (e.g. large-scale, export-oriented etc.), trade rules (e.g. safeguarding intellectual property, trade protectionism preventing market access) and fundamental issues of exclusion and inability to influence decision-making.

Issues of market access and market or technological barriers are rising up the political agenda, along with imbalanced trade agreements. However, there is little political will to discuss questions that go much beyond the traditional ODA agenda. Nonetheless, if issues such as how people can physically reach their marketplace to sell their goods are not addressed in the context of post-2015 discussions, the realisation of their rights, as well as their well-being and prosperity, will always be limited.

Migration is another means by which people attempt to improve their economic status and security. Indeed, migratory flows are increasing for other reasons too, including conflict, political instability, climate change or access to resources. The implications for development and for poverty levels (migrant remittances remain higher than official development aid), are therefore also increasingly important. These should be factored in to the post-2015 consensus, just as they are being integrated into policy agendas in many countries.

Traditionally being treated as separate policy portfolios, migration and development are today increasingly viewed through the prism of the many links that exist between these two fields. While development-oriented actions can help tackling the root causes of migratory flows, migration can, in turn, contribute positively to development, including economic prosperity, social empowerment and technological innovation.

On the other hand, if not well-managed, migration can also pose challenges to countries' development efforts. Such phenomena as the 'brain drain', experienced by a number of developing countries in key development sectors, call for more cohesive and sustainable policies both on the part of the country of origin government as well as of the destination country. Greater partnership between countries of origin, transit and destination with the full participation of affected communities (in countries of origin and expatriate communities in countries of destination) as well as the full integration of the migratory dimension in development policies and dialogue on all levels are crucial steps in enhancing the development potential of migration.

A post-2015 framework would best address migration first of all through an honest narrative of shared problems between North and South, and an actionable agenda to resolve these, allowing all countries to have an equal stake and mutual expectations and accountability.

As with migration, broader issues of mobility are also politically sensitive touching upon questions of governance (how investment in infrastructure is prioritised, planned and implemented), trade policy (protectionism, market access), economic policy (export orientation, fixation on economic growth) and beyond. Adopting a human rights centred approach to addressing these issues in the post-2015 framework would typically result in policy responses which are quite different to mainstream policies (e.g. prioritising local road networks, technology and regulatory frameworks to enable small producers to get a fair return for their product) and would more adequately address the needs of poor people.

ECONOMY, CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP)-measured economic growth imperative has dominated development discourse from the 1970s on. While some would argue that the creation of the Human Development Index in measuring development caused a shift in the dominant 'economic growth equals development' paradigm (Bond, 2011), GDP-measured economic growth has nevertheless remained an overarching policy objective across political cultures and economies.

This GDP-measured growth imperative has fostered a consumerist culture across the world for those who can afford to participate in it. In the preface of the 2010 edition of his book 'The Development Dictionary: A guide to Knowledge as Power' Wolfgang Sachs speaks of the formation of a global middle class alongside the spread of the 'transnational economic complex,' a phenomenon associated with globalisation and increasing liberalisation of economies world-wide. It is defined as a 'social group which despite their different skin colours are less and less country-specific and tend to resemble one another more and more in their behaviour and lifestyles.'

Feeding this consumerist culture is the assumption that natural resources are a bottomless reservoir from which we can help ourselves at will. This applies both to natural resources (raw materials and energy), which are required for production processes, and to our planet's capacity to absorb all the waste from production and consumption.

Unequal power relations between countries, communities and large transnational companies have allowed market prices for energy, raw materials, labour and the disposal of waste to be low enough to prevent economic activity from being sustainable and socially just.

Today's globalised trade system is built on rules that promote export orientation and deregulation while undermining social and environmental protection. It has fostered today's business logic where companies "compete on price, not quality; externalise social and environmental costs; and seek out the cheapest inputs of material and labour."⁵ It has also facilitated the growth of today's consumer culture.

Neither the demand for a viable environment for future generations, nor the demand for safe and dignified living conditions for people who currently suffer as a result of the extraction of raw materials or the 'disposal' of waste, play a role in the market. Therefore market players are free to ignore these kinds of 'demands' in their own interest, since heeding them could result in price increases.

Consumption fuelled by the ready access to goods and services is encouraged by most economic thinking that assumes that the successful functioning of a market-based economy is directed by consumer demand for goods and services. Such thinking has stimulated the expansion of consumer credit in recent years, feeding the credit bubble that precipitated the financial meltdown in the US and has had economic repercussions worldwide.

The cyclical nature of economic growth and the 'bubbles' that are most commonly associated with these 'boom and bust' cycles are implicit to the financial system. These bubbles are fed by financial market speculation, a mode of profit creation that has become far more lucrative than investing in the

⁵ Excerpt from (UNEP, ILO, IOE, ITUC, Green Jobs: Towards decent work in a sustainable, low-carbon world. 2009)

real economy. This fact is clearly manifested in the exponential growth of the financial market: in 2008 for example, trading in financial products was approximately 74 times higher than nominal global gross domestic product. In 1990, it was only 15 times higher. In the past decade, the trading of derivatives and foreign exchange has surpassed global trade. The pursuit of profit regardless of the cost to society and the real economy has led to financial crises across the world- Latin America, Asia, the USA and most recently Europe. Yet, fed by the fear of slowing down economic growth, policy makers have failed to adequately regulate financial markets and regulation that is in place is further weakened by the ever-powerful financial lobby.

The problems of over-exploitation of natural resources and waste disposal are slowly being acknowledged by policy-makers. There is still considerable potential for an increase in resource efficiency and the development of climate-neutral procedures. At the same time the past has demonstrated that measures to enhance efficiency in particular can have a rebound effect. For example more efficient fuel-consumption technology has increased the incentive to use cars. The development of alternatives to fossil fuels such as bio-ethanol has led to increases in food insecurity and unsustainable models of agriculture. The computer led to more paper consumption. And so it goes on.

The observance of absolute limiting values will be the only guarantee of sustainable production and consumption. Sustainable global 'prosperity for all' will not be achievable without a real drop in national per capita income in the old industrial countries of the north and the material prosperity of the affluent world over. This necessarily involves redistribution, and also education with a view to change consumerist mind-set and behaviours, both in the North and in the South.



ENVIRONMENT

The current poor management and regulation of natural resources and environmental services are major factors behind food, water and energy insecurity. By 2030, the world will need at least 50 per cent more food, 45% more energy and 30% more water – at a time when environmental boundaries are putting the brakes on supply. The current global development model is unsustainable.

We are losing 5.2 million hectares of forest cover per year while 85 % of all fish stocks are already depleted or overexploited. Around 50 per cent of global carbon emissions are generated by just 11 per cent of the world's population. Climate change is inevitable and indeed is already happening. A likely temperature increase of between 2.5 and 5 degrees C by the end of this century will put millions of lives at risk and have critical impacts on the way we all live in the future. Some 50 per cent of global carbon emissions are generated by just 11 per cent of people.

Freshwater is a vital natural resource in all areas of development and the functions provided by freshwater ecosystems underpin food security. Demand for water is already beyond sustainable use levels in many areas of the world leading to depletion of both ground and surface water resources. Climate change will further exacerbate the problem and by 2025 up to two thirds of the world's people are likely to live in water-stressed conditions.

The Stockholm Resilience Centre has identified nine key planetary boundaries – climate change, stratospheric ozone, land use change, freshwater use, biological diversity, ocean acidification, nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to the biosphere and oceans, aerosol loading and chemical pollution. It argues that three of these boundaries (climate, biodiversity and nitrogen flows) have been crossed while others are nearing their tipping points. Further findings suggest that humanity may soon be approaching the boundaries for interference with the global phosphorus cycle, global freshwater use, ocean acidification and global change in land use.

Ecological footprints quantify demand on ecosystems by measuring the total productive land and sea needed to produce and regenerate the resources that an individual or population consumes. Currently global consumption overshoots planetary capacity by 1.5 times (ie humanity is already using fifty per cent more natural resources than the earth can regenerate in a year). The ecological footprint of high income countries is three times that of middle income countries and five times that of low income countries. Therefore, we are not only living beyond the earth's means but also distributing the unsustainable proceeds inequitably, with at least 27% of the world's population living in absolute poverty and an increase of 20 million undernourished people since 2000. Clearly, future generations will face resource scarcities and environmental degradation not of their making, reducing their own development options and potentially leading to conflict and insecurity.

Issues of resource scarcity are rising up the political agenda, along with various concepts of a “green economy”, but there is less political appetite to discuss questions of access to natural resources, equity, participation in decision-making on the use of resources, transparency of revenue and benefits or other governance issues.

One of the drivers of environmental degradation and natural resource loss is the failure of current global economic systems to incorporate the real value of natural capital in national accounting systems and to incorporate the real costs of poor environmental management and pollution. This is the concept behind calls for new indicators for measuring growth – “beyond GDP”. We must make explicit the costs of inaction.

THE ROLE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN POVERTY ERADICATION BEYOND 2015

Poverty and inequality are not accidents of fate. They are the results of specific power relations and policy decisions which are discriminatory, exclusionary and unjust. It is this injustice that underpins poverty. Governance describes the institutional context within which human rights are achieved or denied. It is about how power and authority are exercised in the management of a national and global public affairs and resources. Crucially, it is about whether the most marginalised are empowered to participate meaningfully in decision-making. Governance, as it relates to discussions on a post-2015 framework, can be viewed from two different angles.

1. Global Governance arrangements and the potential impact upon a future development framework

At the turn of the millennium the world enjoyed relative political and economic stability, multilateralism was the lingua franca amongst international leaders, with the United Nations (UN) enjoying a central place. Indeed, the current MDG framework included a goal, albeit limited, which touched on some dimensions of MDG-governance. Today, changes in international structures and power dynamics, the position within which Northern countries find themselves due to the impact of the economic and financial crisis, and the transfer of, and access to, information, make the model of 2000 almost completely obsolete.

- Future global governance arrangements will be shaped by a number of critical contextual developments: The changing face of multilateral arrangements in running in parallel “to the UN”- such as the G20, G24 as well as the increasing spheres of influence of actors/processes BRICS, IBSA, Shanghai Cooperation, etc;
- Private sector actors continue to increase in influence and impact upon governance issues traditionally within the sole remit of the state, e.g. water service provision. However, mechanisms to ensure their accountability and transparency are still ineffective
- Due to the economic and financial crisis in the North, financing for development has suffered a severe setback, resulting in a challenge to the traditional weight and influence of Northern countries within the sector;
- The demands for more and better democracy around the world (Arab Spring, Indignados, Occupy Wall Street, etc.) and the socialization of access to information through new technologies, has contributed to the opening of new “doors” with the potential to modify traditional North-South relations.

These changes pose new challenges to the institutional architecture of development that must be addressed to meet the needs of billions of people. What is needed is new thinking on global governance arrangements to produce effective development models that exceed the classical dichotomy between the national and global interest and address the realities of the current international development environment:

- In a democratic and open society the state is not the only legitimate actor in governance at national and international levels. Citizen-centered democracy from local to global level needs to take root effectively
- Multilateralism rather than bilateralism or regionalism should be the cornerstone of global

governance and international development.

- Important values, such as subsidiarity, participation, legitimacy and accountability should underpin global governance structures and processes.
- The UN must be reformed in order to become the forum in which all issues that have an impact on development are addressed from a global perspective, in an equitable manner, appropriate to the current context, and in which the effective and meaningful participation of all stakeholders including communities, especially women, is guaranteed.
- More active role by States in regulation and monitoring of corporate governance and how the activities of private sector actors impact upon the well-being of citizens;
- Coherence within the international system is required to ensure the effective governance of a post-2015 framework.
- Global systems need to practice downwards accountability towards citizens and respond to economic, environmental, democratic and social matters equally.

2. The relationship between governance, participation and democracy and poverty (negative) and poverty eradication outcomes (positive)

According to the measure of people living on less than \$1 a day, a billion people worldwide live in extreme poverty. This is a manifestly unjust situation in itself, which should cause outrage in a world in which the financial, technological and intellectual resources for poverty reduction are clearly available. However, poverty is about much more than a low income. When poor people are asked to define it for themselves, poverty is described as voicelessness, powerlessness and exclusion from decision-making⁶.

Trends in democratisation are both positive and negative. On the one hand social mobilisation is on the increase, while on the other hand there is a deepening of authoritarianism and repression in many contexts, with human rights defenders in particular being under threat. Internationally, the framework for human rights is expanding, but the post- 9/11 environment has further contributed to the securitisation of aid, the abuse of human rights and the redefinition of key internationally accepted principles. The state has a duty to protect citizens against human rights abuses by third parties (including the private sector and multilateral bodies) through appropriate policies, regulation, and adjudication, and – of course – not to abuse rights itself. Can a post-2015 framework contribute to changing the structures and processes of governance that perpetuate and deepen injustice, poverty, exclusion and abuses of human rights? How can a framework support the empowerment of poor and marginalised people to participate in governance processes, claim their rights and demand accountability from the state?

Decentralisation of power from central to lower levels of government has been a strong trend in democratisation and development for over a decade. Decentralisation can facilitate the empowerment of citizens by bringing the institutions that affect their lives closer to them and by creating formal structures for people to engage with elected leaders and public servants. However, research indicates that, in and of itself, decentralised government is no more likely to be more accountable to citizens than centralised government.⁷ It can consolidate elite capture and local inequalities, such as the exclusion of

⁶ Narayan, D. et al (2001), *Can Anyone Hear Us? Voices of the Poor*, World Bank, Washington DC.

⁷ DFID, 'The Politics of Poverty: Élités, Citizens and States, Findings from ten years of DFID-funded research on Governance and Fragile States, 2000 – 2010'. Synthesis Paper, pg. 47.

women. In response to the perceived crisis of democracy, numerous experiments are underway that are developing new forms of citizen participation, on the one hand, and of government responsiveness on the other⁸. These are not to replace representative democracy, but to deepen it. Additionally, social media is increasingly playing a role in this. The aim is to create more direct mechanisms for ensuring access to information and citizen voice in the decision-making process which are deliberative, empowering and inclusive. The proposition is that participatory, rights-bearing forms of citizenship will contribute to more responsive and accountable forms of governance, which in turn will be pro-poor. How can a new framework benefit from such trends in participatory democracy, ensuring better and more sustainable poverty eradication outcomes? How can we localise the global this time around?



⁸ Particularly in emerging economies such as those of Brazil, India and South Africa.

DEVELOPMENT IN SITUATIONS OF CONFLICT AND FRAGILITY POST-2015

One billion people, including about 340 million of the world's extreme poor, are estimated to live in fragile states. This thematic working group will look into the links between conflict, fragility and development, including social, economic and environmental factors.

Development is not "conflict neutral". Since 1990, armed conflict has cost Africa almost \$300 billion, which is about the same amount as it received in development aid during the same period. The lack of a peaceful and secure environment can slow, or even halt, development progress and widespread violence often reverses hard-won progress. Violent conflicts damage societies by eroding their political institutions - particularly with respect to their ability to provide basic social services - destroying vital infrastructure, discouraging investments, disrupting social networks, as well as the destroying or depleting natural resources. Violent conflicts lead to poverty, particularly in cases of protracted conflict and when associated with the collapse of state institutions.⁹ Clearly, conflict prevention should be seen as an integral and necessary part of inclusive and sustainable development and addressing situations of conflict, fragility and insecurity will be critical to the success of a post-2015 development consensus.

Conflict is a natural phenomenon that is typically indicative of change within a society. Conflict risks becoming *violent*, however, when there is a lack of appropriate and effective structures and mechanisms within a society that enable the constructive and peaceful management of differences. At the heart of both development and peace-building processes is the need to strengthen resilience and the capacity within society to manage change and resolve differences.¹⁰

A number of elements need to be in place in order to minimise the risk of conflict and these include, but are not limited to:

- A well-functioning state, with checks and balances in the political system, including representativeness and the participation of the people in decision-making power (at the very least through regular fair and free elections at various levels of authority).
- Application of the rule of law through a strong judicial system.
- Respect for human rights, including the principle of non-discrimination.
- Sound economic management – in addition to macroeconomic stability, policies which ensure access to and sustainable use of resources, decent work, the redistribution of wealth and the protection of more marginalised and disadvantaged members of society are necessary; corruption should be kept to a minimum.
- Provision of social services such as education.
- Free, independent and strong media and civil society.
- Dispute resolution mechanisms, which would include the ability to deal with large flows of migrants or refugees, resolve differences between ethnic groups etc.
- Stable external environment, in all its forms, eg. arms control initiatives, border management, absence of external support for corrupt governments etc.

It will therefore be essential that the post-2015 development consensus adequately reflects consideration of the root causes of conflict and the factors which serve to perpetuate or worsen situations of conflict, fragility and insecurity. Similarly, the links between conflict and key policy areas such as the social sectors (health, education etc), agriculture (food security and nutrition), the economy and trade, and the environment should be considered. And lastly, the roles and responsibilities of all actors, including governments, civil society, the private sector, international actors (be they donors, international institutions, the UN) etc should be addressed.

⁹ The European Steering Group of Beyond 2015 would like to thank EPLD for the use of its material in this paragraph.

¹⁰ idem

ACCOUNTABILITY IN A POST-2015 FRAMEWORK

“The shortfalls have occurred not because the goals are unreachable, or because time is too short. We are off course because of unmet commitments, inadequate resources and a lack of focus and accountability.” UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, March 2010

Why is accountability important?

As the UN Secretary General has recognized, absence of accountability has been one of the main factors limiting progress in achieving the current MDGs.

Worse still, the limited progress in meeting the MDG commitments has scarcely prompted any form of accountability on the part of those responsible. The absence of clearly delineated responsibilities among the broad range of actors involved in the development process has made it easier for each to attribute blame elsewhere for lack of progress, particularly since the onset of the global financial and economic crisis. “Shared responsibility” has in practice led to diffuse responsibility. Where it has been addressed, accountability has been skewed, focusing on the accountability of developing states to donor countries rather than the accountability of states to their citizens and to those living in poverty.

Broadly speaking, accountability refers to policy-makers and power-holders being held to transparent performance standards against which they are answerable to those affected by their decisions and actions. Accountability is central to democratic governance and fulfilment of human rights, as it defines the relationship between state and citizen and between the “rights-bearer” and “duty-holder” under international human rights law. Accountability improves policy-making and ensures that those whose rights are infringed in the development process are able to seek effective redress.

Grounding the post-2015 ‘development consensus’ in human rights standards reinforces accountability by stressing that meeting development commitments is not a matter of charity, or even good will, but of legal obligation. It can therefore help ensure that the post-2015 framework does not become yet another set of failed global promises.

Strengthening accountability in the post-2015 context

A window of opportunity exists now to address past accountability deficits. Proposals for the post-2015 framework will need to address the “who, what and how” of accountability:

Who is accountable?

- How are the differentiated responsibilities of developing states, donor countries, international financial and trade institutions, the private sector and other key actors in the development process to be defined and assured in practice?
- What are the implications for accountability of the increased diversity of actors on the development scene at the international level, including BRICs and other emerging economies, as well as large private donor foundations?

- At the national and sub-national level, how has accountability been affected by processes such as decentralisation and privatisation?

Accountability for what?

- By what standards should states and others responsible be held to account?
- Could accountability be strengthened by better aligning the post-2015 framework with states' binding obligations under international human rights standards?
- How to ensure decision-makers answer not just for the results achieved (eg progress on a global outcome indicator) but for the reasonableness of their policy efforts, including their use of resources available domestically and internationally?
- How can the concepts of "policy coherence" and "mutual accountability, prominent in current development debates, be reinforced with reference to states obligations to respect and protect human rights beyond their own borders?

How can accountability be strengthened post-2015?

- What new mechanisms can be created, or existing ones invoked, to hold the range of actors and institutions answerable for what they are doing to meet the commitments? What can be learnt from current MDG-specific accountability mechanisms, such as the one proposed by the Commission on Information and Accountability for Maternal and Child Health, which has proposed international mechanisms for monitoring, reviewing and remedying compliance with commitments under MDGs 4 and 5? At the national level, how could judicial, parliamentary, administrative and social accountability mechanisms play a more effective role in securing compliance with the post-2015 commitments? What examples of good practice can be drawn from? What can be learnt from the use of such tools as social policy impact assessment or participatory budgeting?
- How can national and international human rights oversight mechanisms be more effectively used? What should be the consequences for specific failures which violate human rights standards or other relevant principles of public policy?
- How can an enabling environment for accountability be generated? For example, ensuring that civil and political rights (such as freedom of expression, association and information) are respected, so that people living in poverty can freely and meaningfully participate in policy decision-making, challenge actions and omissions that deprive them of their rights and claim redress through accessible and effective grievance mechanisms of different kinds.

This note has been prepared by the Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR), a member organisation of the Beyond 2015 Executive Committee. It outlines some of the issues addressed in a forthcoming joint publication by CESR and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), "The MDGs and human rights: Who's Accountable?", to be launched in late 2012.

BACKGROUND ON EXISTING PROPOSALS FOR A POST-2015 FRAMEWORK

Millennium Consumption Goals

The Millennium Consumption Goals (MCGs) seek to provide consumption targets designed to motivate the world's rich to consume more sustainably, and make the human development path more sustainable. The MCG idea was proposed formally at the January 2011 UN sessions in New York, during preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, UNCSD 2012 (or Rio+20) in Brazil.

The most obvious and easily measurable MCGs would target:

1. Carbon emissions reduction.
2. Energy (conservation, renewable energy fraction).
3. Water (conservation, quality).
4. Pollution abatement (air and water effluents, solid waste, and toxic waste).

Further areas might include: efficient transport; urban footprint and sustainable dwellings; land use, deforestation and biodiversity loss; food security, sustainable agriculture and healthier diets; sustainable livelihoods and lifestyles; reduced working hours and improved working conditions; and progressive taxation. Certain government expenditures could also be considered, like the US\$1.6 trillion per year currently spent on armaments worldwide.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Colombia has proposed a set of SDGs as an input into the Rio+20 conference, aiming to translate the Green Economy / Sustainable Development debate into tangible goals. The SDGs would be based on Agenda 21 given that it already maps requirements for sustainable development.

The Colombian proposal suggests a focus on the following:

- **Food security: production, access and nutrition**
- **Integrated water management for sustainable growth**
- **Energy for sustainable development**
- **Sustainable and resilient cities**
- **Healthy and productive oceans**
- **Enhanced capacity of natural systems to support human welfare**
- **Improved efficiency and sustainability in resource use**
- **Enhanced employment and livelihood security**

There are some positive elements of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for example that they discuss universal goals (rather than just goals for the developing world). However proposals seem to run parallel to, rather than integrated with, the MDGs. This could undermine attempts to achieve either set of goals and efforts to develop a comprehensive post 2015 agenda.

Centre for International Governance Innovation and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Proposal

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) convened a meeting of development experts, representatives from international organizations and research institutes, and policy and governance experts to discuss a post-2015 development paradigm.

The principal purpose of the meeting was to develop options on what could succeed the Millennium Development Goals. Discussions focused on how to frame certain development challenges and which elements of complex issues to include, to improve the proposed options for post-2015 Goals.

CIGI POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT GOALS	
GOAL	INDICATOR
1. Reduce poverty	Improving living standards for the poor
2. Assure Adequate Food and Safe Water	Eradicating hunger; reducing obesity; and ensuring safe water for drinking and sanitation.
3. Achieve Universal Literacy	Ensuring citizens have the basic skills to contribute to their societies
4. Promote Healthier Lives	Reducing diseases and preventable deaths
5. Reduce Violence	Protecting citizens—particularly women, children and vulnerable groups—from violence and the threat of violence
6. Promote Gender Equality	Empowering women and eliminating discrimination against women and girls
7. Improve Environmental Sustainability	Ensuring better management of the earth's limited resources
8. Achieve Universal Connectedness	Creating ties that bind
9. Improve Disaster Reduction & Crisis Management	Increasing capabilities to deal with disasters and crises
10. Civil and Political Rights	Fulfilling people's right to be politically active and engaged in decision-making
11. Good and Equitable Global Governance	Ensuring fair participation, transparency and accountability in international institutions
12. Equitable Economic Rules	Ensuring rules in our global economy that promote economic development

Gross National Happiness (GNH)

The four pillars of Bhutan's GNH are the promotion of sustainable development, preservation and promotion of cultural values, conservation of the natural environment, and establishment of good governance. Through collaboration with an international group of scholars and empirical researchers the Centre for Bhutan Studies further defined these four pillars with greater specificity into 8 general contributors to happiness physical, mental and spiritual health; time balance; social and community vitality; cultural vitality; education; living standards; good governance; and ecological vitality.

A second-generation GNH concept, treating happiness as a socioeconomic development metric, was proposed in 2006. The metric measures socioeconomic development by tracking 7 areas. GNH value is proposed to be an index function of the total average per capita of the following measures: Economic Wellness, Environmental Wellness, Mental Wellness, Workplace Wellness, Social Wellness, and Political Wellness.

David Cameron and Nicolas Sarkozy have been exploring the concept of happiness indexes in the UK and France respectively. In September 2011 Jeffrey Sachs stated his support for the GNH.

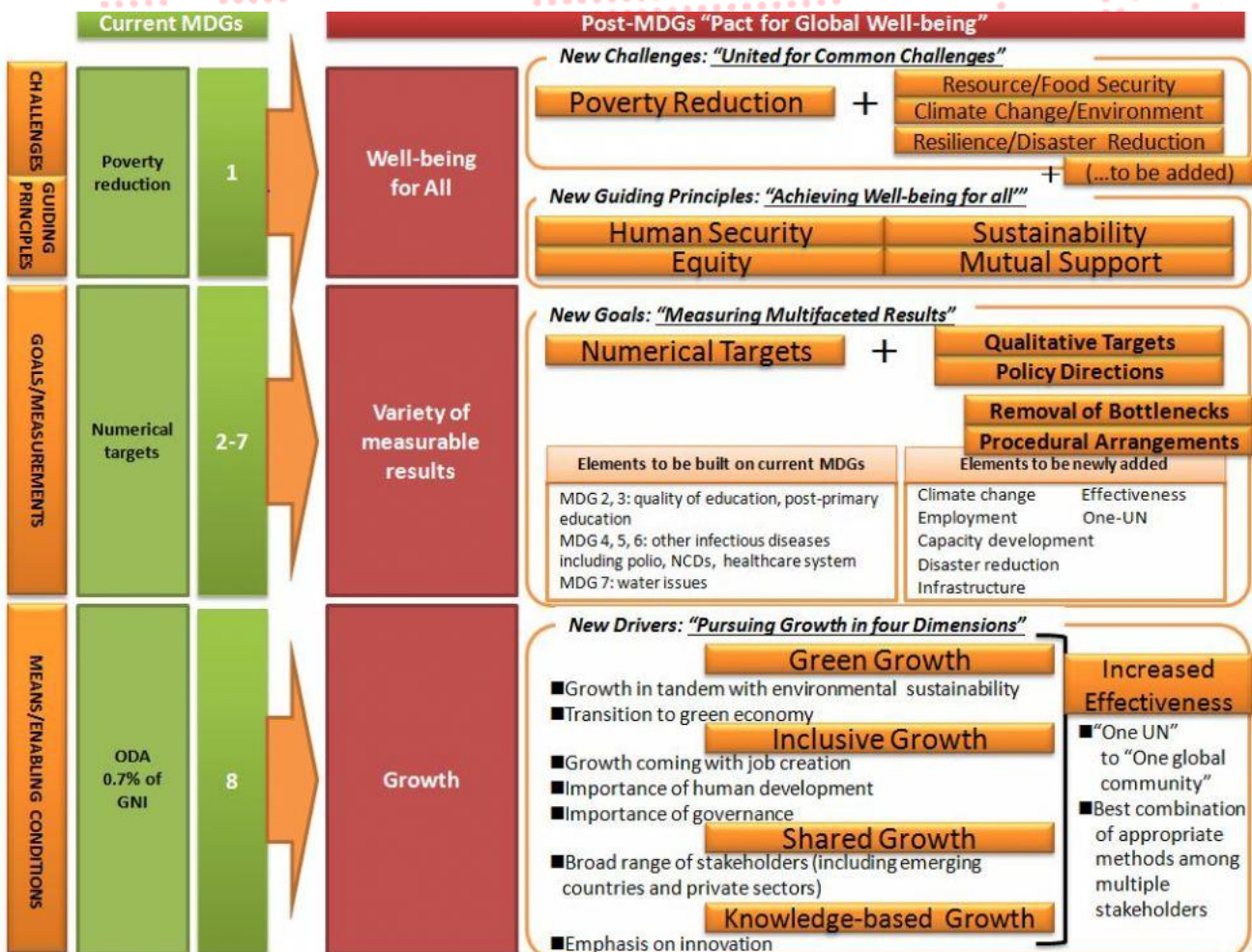
Human Well-being

Ideas around 'human well-being' are emerging as a complement to the more traditional and material ways of conceptualising and measuring poverty and deprivation. The commission appointed by former President Sarkozy of France is one of several recent attempts to look at alternative measures of progress. The commission, which included both Joseph Stiglitz and Amartya Sen, identified eight dimensions of well-being which are critical to happy and fulfilled lives:

- Material living standards
- Health
- Education
- Personal activities including work
- Political voice and governance
- Social connections and relationships
- The present and future environment
- Security, both economic and physical

Pact for Global Well-being

Japan is convening an 'MDG Contact Group' which brings together a small number of governments to discuss the post-2015 agenda, with the aim to make recommendations to the UN High Level Panel on post-2015. Japan has developed a proposal which is being discussed by the MDG Contact Group:



CALENDAR OF INFLUENCING OPPORTUNITIES

DATE	INTERNATIONAL PROCESS	EUROPEAN PROCESS
January 2012	<p>The UNSG creates a UN Task Team responsible for coordinating a process to formulate the post-2015 UN development agenda.</p> <p>25th - UNSG inauguration Speech. The UNSG presents his "Five-Year Action Agenda."</p> <p>Initial discussions on the Zero draft of the Rio+20 outcome document.</p> <p>UNSG's High-level Panel on Global Sustainability launches its report "Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing" on 30 January 2012.</p>	<p>Danish EU Presidency</p> <p>Beyond 2015 European Steering Group inaugural meeting (23rd January)</p>
February 2012	<p>National Consultation on Post 2015 in Nepal (Kathmandu, 8 February 2012)</p> <p>UNDP "Brown bag" meeting on Beyond 2015 (9 Feb).</p> <p>UNEP's thirteenth Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (Nairobi, 18-19 February 2012)</p> <p>Expert Group Meeting of the UN Task Team on post-2015 (NY, 27-29 Feb)</p>	<p>National deliberations. National Platforms are encouraged to organise national deliberations on post-2015.</p> <p>National meetings taking place in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ireland (see here) • UK (see here). <p>Paris Conference on the European Report on Development (29th Feb, details here)</p>
March 2012	<p>Global Human Development Forum (Istanbul, 22-23 March 2012)</p> <p>UNECA's High Level Panel Discussion on "Articulating a Post-2015 MDG Agenda" (Addis Ababa, 26-27 March 2012)</p> <p>Beyond 2015 launches process to select Civil Society representatives for the UN High Level Panel</p>	<p>OECD DAC Meeting (Paris, 7 March 2012)</p> <p>7 March European Taskforce meeting, Brussels</p> <p>17th March' International Civil Society Conference DANIDA</p>
April 2012	<p>ECOSOC Briefing on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (New York, 4 April 2012)</p> <p>Towards an Ethos of Inclusion - A contribution to the post-2015 development dialogue, Amartya Sen & Olav Kjørven, April 2012</p> <p>XIIIth UNCTAD Conference (Doha, 21-26 April 2012)</p> <p>UN releases details of its process to create a post-2015 development framework</p>	<p>European Steering Group commissions research on European position.</p> <p>Senior-Level Meeting of the OECD DAC (Paris, 3-4 April 2012)</p> <p>Post-2015 Development Goals: Targets and Indicators (Paris 10-11 April 2012)</p> <p>FoRZ-Trialog Seminar (24th April)</p> <p>Beyond 2015 UK Parliamentary event (25th April)</p>

<p>May 2012</p>	<p>Asia-Pacific Perspectives for the Post-2015 Development Agenda (Manila, 7 May 2012)</p> <p>Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: Assessing the Evidence, Continuing the Dialogue (New York, 7-8 May 2012)</p> <p>Thematic Consultation in Japan: Growth, Structural Change and Employment (Tokyo, 15-16 May)</p> <p>UNSG appoints co-chairs of the UN High Level Panel on post-2015. Beyond 2015 reacts.</p> <p>The UN Task Team delivers their report (tbc)</p>	<p>Beyond 2015 Brussels Seminar (24-25) European civil society discusses content of European position on post-2015</p> <p>Belgian parliament establishes a working group on Post-2015</p> <p>JPA in Denmark (28-30) Capacity building session on post-2015.</p> <p>European Commission launches online consultation on post-2015 (late May – early June)</p>
<p>June 2012</p>	<p>20-22 June, The UN Conference on Sustainable Development / Rio +20</p> <p>MDG Review Meeting in Zambia</p> <p>ECOSOC's Biennial Development Cooperation Forum (5-6 June, NY). The DCF brings together developing and developed countries, parliamentarians and CSOs, local governments and the private sector for a frank dialogue on the trends in development cooperation.</p>	<p>European Commission holds online consultation on post-2015 (late May – early June)</p> <p>National discussion on post-2015 in Italy (date tbc).</p> <p>Belgian parliament launches hearings on post-2015</p> <p>Session on post-2015 at CONCORD's General position. Draft European position tested (5-6 June).</p>
<p>July 2012</p>	<p>A UN High-level panel is appointed to act as a focal point for post-2015 planning.</p>	<p>Cyprus EU Presidency</p> <p>National discussion on post-2015 in launched in France (date tbc).</p>
<p>August 2012</p>		<p>National meeting/deliberation organised in Denmark (tbc)</p>
<p>September 2012</p>	<p>UN General Assembly - Presentation of UN Task Team and High Level panel's work thus far.</p> <p>EU-Latin-America Civil Society Forum.</p> <p>5-7 Sept, CIVICUS World Assembly</p>	<p>CONCORD position signed off by Concord Board (TBC).</p> <p>European position on post-2015 framework launched.</p>
<p>October 2012</p>	<p>31 Oct-2nd Nov Global Perspectives CSC Berlin. European position presented/tested.</p>	
<p>November 2012</p>		
<p>Dec 2012</p>		<p>Cyprus Seminar on post-2015(date tbc)</p>

January 2013	Report to be published in 2013 by the five UN regional commissions entitled “Beyond 2015: A Future UN Development Agenda”	Ireland’s EU presidency. National platform planning Beyond 2015 as a key theme.
February 2013	World Social Forum Report of HLP delivered to the UNSG	
July 2013		Lithuania’s EU presidency.
September 2013	MDG Summit 2013 Special event to be held in 2013 – during the 68th session of the UNGA – to follow-up efforts towards achieving the MDGs This event will provide a good opportunity to reach an initial consensus on the post-2015 development framework. It will also allow enough time to continue refinement of the content and structure of the future development agenda.	

Have we forgotten something? Are you planning an event on post-2015?
Please let us know at gvives@concordeurope.org !!!



FAQs ON BEYOND 2015

WHAT IS BEYOND2015?

Beyond 2015 is a global civil society campaign, pushing for a strong and legitimate successor framework to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Whilst participating organizations represent a range of views on the content of the post-MDG agenda, the campaign unites behind one **vision** on how the post-MDG framework should look like and come about:

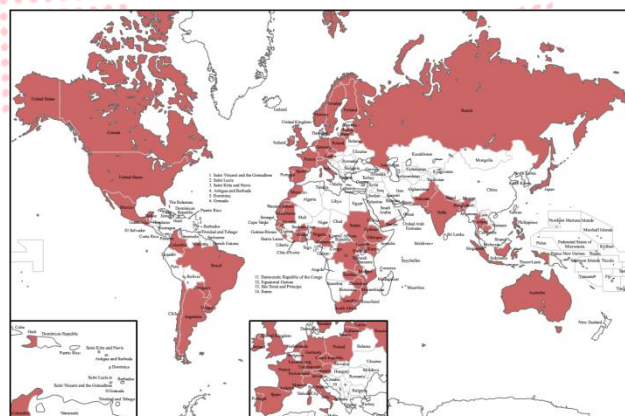
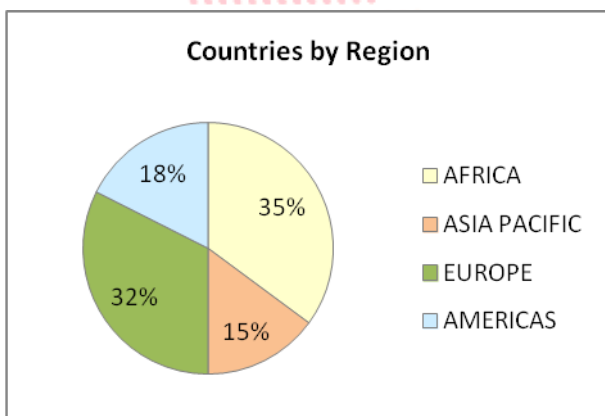
- That a **global overarching cross-thematic framework** succeeds the Millennium Development Goals, reflecting Beyond2015's policy positions.
- That the process of developing this framework is **participatory, inclusive** and responsive to **voices of those directly affected** by poverty and injustice.

WHY BEYOND2015?

2015 is the **end of the timeline** for the MDGs. This presents an opportunity for the world to adopt a **twin track approach** of ensuring the MDGs are met by 2015, while at the same time creating a post 2015 global development framework. The Beyond 2015 campaign has convened a global dialogue on the **essential must-haves** that would need to be met in order for any new framework to be considered legitimate. You can find this essential must-haves on www.beyond2015.org

WHO IS PART OF BEYOND2015?

The campaign is built on a **diverse, global base**. It ranges from small community based organisations to international NGOs, academics and trade unions. A founding principle of the campaign is that it is a partnership between civil society organisations from the 'North' and the 'South'. In April 2012, the campaign was made up of **314 organisations** based in **74 countries**: Africa (26), Asia (11), Europe (24), Americas (13). The graphic and map below show the campaign's global presence across the regions.



HOW IS BEYOND2015 STRUCTURED?

Beyond2015 is governed by an **Executive Committee** which consists of **six 'Southern'** and six 'Northern' organisations and is chaired by one **co-chair** from the 'North' and one from the 'South'.

The campaign is also setting up **national hubs** that aim to:

- Create specific, concrete policy asks for national governments aiming at influencing their position on the post-2015 debate, and use these asks in an ongoing and concerted manner to engage with and influence governments.
- To create a civil society position on a post-2015 framework and clear strategies to realize this position that can be employed at local, national, sectoral and regional levels.
- To influence the UN-led consultation process at national and international level.

- To amplify the voices of people directly affected by poverty and injustice and their perspectives on a future global framework.

Beyond2015 sets up **task forces** and **working groups** for specific tasks and projects. Current groups include:

- **European Taskforce** (to influence the EU position): The Task Force has organised this seminar and started the elaborating of a European civil society's position on the post-2015 development framework. It has employed a consultant to help create the first draft of the European position. Priorities are supporting as many European national deliberations on post-2015 as possible.
- **Rio+20 Taskforce** (to influence decision-making at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development). The Taskforce has organised several events on the links and relationships between the Rio process, SDGs and post-2015. The Task Force has been working on developing the links between the SDG proposal and the MDGs in order to ensure that the campaign's essential must haves of legitimacy, accountability, leadership and substance are met.
- **Civil Society Position Working Group**. The plans are to finalise a consultation document and to receive inputs from the broader 2015 campaign in order to finalise Beyond 2015's position on guidelines and criteria for a post-2015 framework.
- **Institutional Funding Working Group**, well, the name says it all
- **UN Working Group** to follow and influence the UN process. The Working Group nominated civil society representatives for the UN High Level Panel on post-2015, and made these recommendations to the UN Secretary General and other key figures in the UN. The Group also wrote to the UN Secretary General to influence the Terms of Reference of the UN High Level Panel on post-2015, ensuring that at least one of our suggested civil society representatives is invited onto the Panel and that strong channels of communication exist between Beyond 2015 and this representative.

To find out about the work and participants of the working groups and taskforces, please follow the respective links above.

WHAT ARE THE BEYOND 2015 ESSENTIAL MUST HAVES?

Beyond 2015 has worked with global partners to create a set of 'Essential Must Haves' focusing mainly on the process of creating a global post-MDG framework. The Essential Must Haves are a living document shaped by an ongoing dialogue within the campaign. Therefore it is advisable to check for the latest version online. Key recommendations of the Essential Must Haves include:

- The UN must agree on a roadmap, including time-specific milestones to develop the framework. This must use the 2013 MDG Summit to define the vision for the post 2015 process, and culminate in a 2015 Summit to adopt a new framework
- The post 2015 debate should be connected to the on-going discussions about sustainable development, aid effectiveness and financing for development.
- National governments must have primary ownership of, and accountability for, the framework and its delivery.
- The development of the framework must be open and transparent, participatory, inclusive and responsive to voices and expertise of those directly affected by poverty and injustice.
- The framework must set out global goals, as well as contextualised national targets for developed and developing countries aiming at a sustainable and equitable global development, as well as the eradication of extreme poverty.
- The framework must clearly lay out enforceable accountability mechanisms.

Have a look at the latest version of the Essential Must Haves regarding **leadership**, **substance**, **legitimacy** and **accountability**.

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