“INDICATORS FOR THE POST-2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA”

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WHAT IS THE POST 2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA?

AN ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS THE UNMET NEEDS AND PROMISES
THE CURRENTS OF CHANGE

The UN SG action agenda identities 6 drivers of change

- Demographic transformation
- The emergence of new centres of economic dynamism
- Accelerating inequality within and across nations
- Challenges to the existing social contract by a disillusioned and mobilized citizenry
- Technological and organizational transformation linking people directly
- Climate change
GLOBAL ACTION PATHS TO ADDRESS DRIVERS

- Integrated solutions across interconnected issues areas such as development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian action
- Universal dialogue
- Mobilization of new constituencies to join Governments and international organizations
- new norms, structures and processes for international cooperation
The next five years will be crucial for
- defining and agreeing on a common vision for the future,
- making path-shaping investments,
- broadening the base of constituencies working together and
- adopting a flexible but robust international architecture that can address the increasing stresses on our international system.
ELEMENTS OF POST 2015 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

- Accelerate progress on the Millennium Development Goals
- Address climate change
- Forge consensus around a post-2015 sustainable development framework
- Prevention
- Building a safer and more secure world by innovating and building on our core business
- Supporting nations in transition
- Working with and for women and young people
LESSONS LEARNED FROM IMPLEMENTING MDGs AND SOME OTHER GLOBALLY AGREED GOALS

Data Gaps: “what can’t be measured, can’t be managed”
MDGS AND GEGS FACTS

- 8 MDGS
- 18 TIME BOUND TARGETS AND
- 48 QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS
  - SOME PROGRESS, THREE BEING MET BY 2015
- UNEP GEO-5 ANALYSIS OF 90 GLOBALLY ENVIRONMENTAL AGREED GOALS
  - SOME PROGRESS, ONLY 4 ARE SOMEHOW MET
REALIZATION OF GLOBAL GOALS: ANALYSIS IN GEO-5

- Significant progress: 4
- Some progress: 40
- Further deterioration: 7
- Little to no progress: 24
- Insufficient data / too soon to assess: 15

90 Internationally agreed goals and objectives assessed
WHICH INDICATOR FOR MEASURING PROGRESS

- Provide relevant and robust measures of progress towards the targets of the Millennium Development Goals
- Be clear and straightforward to interpret and provide a basis for international comparison
- Be broadly consistent with other global lists and avoid imposing an unnecessary burden on country teams, Governments and other partners
- Be based to the greatest extent possible on international standards, recommendations and best practices
- Be constructed from well-established data sources, be quantifiable and be consistent to enable measurement over time
CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS IN MEASURING MDGS

- The lack of adequate data
- The availability of data needed to calculate the indicators in each country depends on the capacity of the national statistical services to produce the necessary data and/or to report them in a timely manner to the relevant international agencies
- Slow communication of recent data from countries
- Lack of compilation of the indicators (leading agencies to make estimates based on data available on related variables or other methodologies)
- Risks of sampling errors for survey data
- Timelag between surveys
CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS FOR MEASURING MDGs

- Difficulties to have disaggregated data
- Limited reliability of some datasets (e.g. difficulty in distinguishing deaths related to pregnancy from deaths that are not)
- Differences in use of terminology: (the definition of skilled health personnel)
- Absence of trend data for newly monitored indicators
- Incomplete measurements or proxies
  - The designation of an area as protected is not confirmation that protection measures are actually in force.
  - Data from administrative sources on access to water sources generally refer to existing sources, whether used or not
SOME CONCEPTUAL LIMITATIONS OF MDGS

- Focus on developing countries
- Sustainability overlooked
- MDG 7 scope too broad for easy definition of targets and indicator
- Interlinkages between SD pillars not reflected
- National circumstances downplayed
POST RIO+20: ROAD AHEAD
Recognize the importance and utility of a set of sustainable development goals,

- Based on Agenda 21 and the JPOI and all the Rio Principles,
- Taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities
- Contribute to implementation of the outcomes of all major summits
- Incorporate in a balanced way three dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages.
- Coherence with and integrated into the UN development agenda beyond 2015.
Sustainable development goals should be

- action-oriented,
- concise and easy to communicate,
- limited in number,
- aspirational,
- global in nature and universally applicable to all countries while taking into account different national realities, capacities …

- progress towards the achievement of the goals needs to be assessed and accompanied by targets and indicators, while taking into account different national circumstances, capacities …

- need for global, integrated and scientifically based information on sustainable development.
Options for long-term and intermediate targets
Nexus between globalized, nationalized and localized targets be incorporated and operationalized in the post-2015 development agenda?
Use of quantitative and qualitative targets in the post-2015 development agenda
Which fields would require what kind of targets?
Which advantages and disadvantages could the use of only quantitative or qualitative targets have?
Options to reflect inequalities in a new monitoring framework
Possible role of enablers addressing the means to achieve the goals and of the inter-linkages between the three pillars of sustainable development
Targets and indicators to guide an understanding of the factors determining achievement
Issues in relation to current national statistical capacities and data availability
Possible role of sub-national and regional institutions in the monitoring of targets and indicators
RELEVANT ISSUES

FOR GOALS
- Aspirational and Universal goals
- Non regression (MDGs)
- Coherency: reflect and interlink the 3 pillars of SD

FOR INDICATORS
- Definition of flexible but concrete indicators
- Consideration of enablers
- Data sources and related capacity
- Data quality/reliability
- Methodologies
- Periodicity
Without clear metrics for measuring progress towards sustainable development, achieving internationally-agreed goals will remain elusive. In bringing sustainability to the core of decision-making, rethinking the way economic development and human well-being are currently measured and monitored becomes crucial. This requires a broader set of indicators for measuring economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development that go beyond GDP, the most used indicator of development.


THANK YOU!