

Post-2015 Development Agenda



In 1995, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were set up to address extreme poverty in its many dimensions, and these are set to expire at the end of 2015. UN Member States, the UN system, civil society organizations, academia, research institutions, and other stakeholders around the world are currently engaged in various processes to negotiate a new global framework for sustainable development - the post-2015 development agenda.

The post-2015 development agenda has two processes: one led by Member States to develop Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the other by the Secretary General to discuss what should replace the MDGs. These tracks will come together into one inter-governmental process to work towards one global framework and set of goals in September 2014.

The Open Working Group on SDGs

Intergovernmental process

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012, Member States agreed to launch a process for the development of a set of sustainable development goals which led to the establishment of the Open Working Group (OWG) in January 2013 by decision 67/555 (see A/67/L.48/rev.1) of the General Assembly. The OWG, which is co-chaired, by the permanent representatives of Hungary and Kenya, has 30 seats shared by 70 Member States from the five regional groups. The OWG met for 13 successive sessions from March 2013 to July 2014 and agreed to submit its proposal for 17 goals to the UN General Assembly at the close of its 13th session. The General Assembly will consider the proposed goals as part of its discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, which is expected to be adopted in September 2015.

UN Secretary General

Post MDGs

This mandate was established after the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the MDGs requesting the UN Secretary-General to report annually on progress in the implementation of the MDGs. As part of this mandate, various processes were undertaken including the work of UN System Task Team (UNTT); regional consultations; global, thematic, national consultations; the report of High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLP); report of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN); consultations of the UN Global Compact (UNGC); UN Non-governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS); report of the Secretary General – *A Life of Dignity for All*; and President of the General Assembly's special events on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Other Relevant Intergovernmental Processes

 Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing (ICESDF) This body of experts was established for the purposes of evaluating and proposing options for effective financing for sustainable development. The ICESDF works in parallel to the OWG on SDGs under the auspices of the General Assembly and is tasked with preparing a report by September 2014.

 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) This body is a universal intergovernmental highest level body for sustainable development within the UN system, which is intended to replace the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). It is anticipated that the HLPF will become the home of the SDGs and the body responsible for their implementation and monitoring.

Civil society and other stakeholders have been actively involved throughout these processes. One of the primary formal mechanisms for this engagement has been through the Major Group system to engage within the frameworks of the OWG and HLPF. However, in addition to the formal ones civil society has been actively involved through other informal initiatives that have been established to feed into and coordinate advocacy towards a sustainable development agenda.

NEXT STEPS: Below is an overview of the forthcoming events and proceedings, which will lead into the negotiations and adoption of a new global framework for the eradication of poverty through sustainable development.

 President of the General Assembly's High Level Stock-Taking Event (11-12 September 2014): PGA will provide a summary of the post-2015 processes and consultations, which will feed into the UN Secretary General's synthesis report on the post-2015 development agenda.

 UN Secretary General's Synthesis Report (November 2014): The Secretary General will synthesize the full range of inputs on the post-2015 development agenda for the consideration of the General Assembly. This report will provide the starting point for the intergovernmental negotiations.

 Intergovernmental negotiations (September 2014-August 2015): Member State-driven negotiations leading to the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, which will likely include one set of global goals to eradicate poverty in the context of sustainable development. This process will culminate in a high-level summit in September 2015.

Why is the Post-2015 Development Agenda Important for Women?

The post-2015 development agenda will be the guiding framework for the next 15 years on sustainable development, cooperation, and engagement between States and within States. It is important for the development agenda to address conflict prevention, peace, and militarism, all of which affect women's ability to flourish economically and socially. Women have a great stake in seeing a transformative shift that is cognizant of their challenges, needs, and expectations, and one that addresses women's human rights and gender equality as a way forward.

The Post 2015 Women's Coalition

The Post 2015 Women's Coalition is an international network of feminist, women's rights, women's development, grassroots,

peace and social justice organizations working, through advocacy and movement building, to challenge and reframe the global development agenda. The Coalition aims to ensure that discussions both reflect the multi-sectoral priorities of women and are framed by their material realities. The longer term of the Coalition is focused on feminist movement building from the ground up, beyond the Post 2015 processes to address the urgent need for strengthened feminist movement for sustained, nuanced, participatory and inclusive feminist engagement at multiple levels across issue areas. It will have the potential to act as a catalyst for change, contributing to the evolution of more inclusive and effective forms of advocacy for the realization of women's rights and gender equality.

For more, visit: <http://www.post2015women.com>



Beijing+20/CSW59

Beijing+20, or the 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59), is the process to review and assess the implementation of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly (2000). It is tentatively scheduled at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for March 9-20, 2015. Beijing+20 will engage diverse stakeholders from governments to civil society groups and the media in an assessment of global progress made in realizing the Platform for Action.

As 2015 marks the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference, the conclusion of the Millennium Development Goals, and the commencement of the Sustainable Development Goals, Beijing+20 also serves as an immense opportunity to push for the Platform's prioritization within the post-2015 development agenda. It thus serves as a means to revitalize international commitment to women's equality and empowerment.

What is Happening?

In preparation for Beijing+20, States were urged to conduct comprehensive national-level reviews of progress in implementing the Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. Their reviews incorporate challenges, trends, and achievements encountered and cover future plans for the Platform's accelerated implementation. In doing so, States were encouraged to consult with a broad range of stakeholders. Five regional commissions are also in the process of developing their own regional-level reviews, producing reports that specifically reflect intergovernmental processes. The national and regional reviews will feed into a global review and appraisal that will

take place during the CSW59. The global review will be developed by UN Women in consultation with relevant stakeholders and serve as a key input to post-2015 discussions. It will identify trends in the Platform's implementation, key issues, and necessary actions for its realization.

In the process, awareness-raising campaigns will be initiated to emphasize the relevance of the Platform for Action and rally the international community around the effort to achieve women's equality and empowerment. Both public and private donors will be called upon to close investment gaps in the gender equality agenda. In renewing the political will of all stakeholders, Beijing+20 will also catalyze the Platform's accelerated implementation in all twelve of its critical areas of concern.

Getting Involved

Beijing+20 will call the international community to action on the Platform for Action's twelve critical areas of concern: women and the environment, women in power and decision-making, the girl child, women and the economy, women and poverty, violence against women, the human rights of women, the education and training of women, the institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, women and health, women and the media, and women and armed conflict. It therefore serves as an immense opportunity for individuals invested in all issues pertaining to women's rights to push for their prioritization within the global agenda.

In addition to participating in the review (see the sheet on the Commission on the Status of Women), those who are interested in being a part of Beijing+20 can contribute to its awareness-raising campaign through social media and international events.

More information about Beijing+20 is available on its website: <http://beijing20.unwomen.org>