



TOOL KIT FOR  
CHAPTER CONSULTATIONS ON  
THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT  
AGENDA



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
*of the United States of America*  
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

## WELCOME

Welcome to the United Nations Association of the United States of America's consultation tool kit for the Post-2015 Development Agenda!

Since August 2012, the United Nations system has facilitated an unprecedented series of consultations with people the world over to seek their views on a new development agenda to build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The global conversation responds to a growing call for active participation in shaping the "World We Want" – the platform created by the United Nations and civil society to amplify people's voices in the process of building a global agenda for sustainable development -- and represents an extraordinary effort to engage with people all around the world on their priorities.

Taking place before governments sit down to negotiate and finalize a new agenda, the consultations underway provide evidence and perspective to governments about the challenges people face in improving their lives and those of their families and communities. By initiating the consultations before the MDG deadline on December 31, 2015, we hope that they will contribute to the UN Member states' efforts to agree to an effective development framework and that the consultations will deepen and widen national ownership of the new agenda.

This tool kit is designed to help you facilitate consultations in your own communities. By hosting and organizing consultation programs, you and your community can join in the global conversation!

## INTRODUCTION

What is now being called the Post-2015 Development Agenda is the next step in implementing the vision of the 2000 Millennium Declaration. In 2011, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon called for a global debate and stressed that the post-2015 development framework would have the most impact if it emerged from an inclusive, open, and transparent process.

Following the Secretary-General's call for a global debate, consultations have been taking place across the globe to foster a broad-based, open, and inclusive dialogue with all stakeholders on the post-2015 agenda. Conversations with civil society have been conducted through the online consultation platform of My World, as well as by the advocacy efforts by individuals and institutions to reach those without access to the Internet. The objective of the consultations is to stimulate an inclusive, bottom-up debate on the post-2015 development agenda, or, in the words of the Secretary-General, "The Future We Want." The idea is to facilitate a visioning process that is based on people's experiences of, and ideas for, the future of the world they live in. The consultations are intended to provide evidence and perspectives to governments about the challenges people face in improving their lives and those of their families and communities.

In support of this global effort, the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), a program of the United Nations Foundation, has undertaken a project to gather views from Americans throughout the United States about the post-2015 development agenda and what they want for themselves and the global community. The program invites wider participation in the dialogue about the post-2015 global development framework and fosters a community of advocates who will remain engaged and provide grassroots-level support for the Post-2015 Development Agenda process.

This tool kit has been designed to support and encourage UNA-USA members to convene and facilitate conversations in their own communities. Through the network of UNA-USA Chapters, the priorities and viewpoints of people from all over the United States can help build a collective vision that will be used directly by the United Nations and world leaders to plan a new development agenda launching in 2015, one that is based on the aspirations of all citizens.

This tool kit outlines how to go about organizing a consultation and includes many reference materials.

Share your voice. It all starts with you. What kind of world do you want?

## BACKGROUND

In 2000, world leaders met in New York, and through the Millennium Declaration, they committed themselves to redouble efforts to “free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected.” To achieve this objective, a global framework of eight main goals for human development was established, with the intention to achieve them by 2015. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) address some of the most fundamental causes and manifestations of extreme poverty

**GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER.**

**GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION.**

**GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN.**

**GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY.**

**GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH.**

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

**GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.**

**GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT.**

The MDGs have helped galvanize efforts, accelerate problem-solving, mobilize resources, and define global and national priorities while initiating action at the global, regional, and local levels. The 13 years since the Millennium Declaration have seen the fastest reduction of poverty in human history. The number of people living in poverty has fallen to less than half its 1990 level. Over two billion people have gained access to better drinking water. The share of slum dwellers living in cities fell, and the lives of at least 100 million people were dramatically improved.

The success of the Millennium Development Goals to date represents a tremendous expansion of opportunity and reduction of human suffering. Still, much more needs to be done. Some 1.4 billion people still live in extreme poverty. Every four seconds, a child dies from preventable causes, and over 900 million people, particularly women and youth, suffer from chronic hunger. Meanwhile, our population is expected to rise to 9.5 billion by 2050, and the food system is at the breaking point. Climate change threatens to destroy the lives of millions more and undo the progress we have made so far. Inequality is growing everywhere and human rights are being undermined in the world’s most fragile and conflict-affected countries while the world economy continues to falter. We need to achieve the MDGs while we initiate the post-2015 process.

Given the remarkable success of the MDGs, it is widely accepted that it would be a mistake to simply tear them up and start from scratch. The Secretary General, his High

Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Agenda, and world leaders from across the globe all agree that a new development agenda should carry forward the spirit of the Millennium Declaration and the best of the MDGs, with a practical focus on things like poverty, hunger, water, sanitation, education, and health care.

Yet, to fulfill the vision of eradicating extreme poverty and the imperative of promoting sustainable development, they also stressed that we must go beyond the MDGs. Many believe that the goals did not focus enough on reaching the poorest and most excluded people and were silent on the devastating effects of conflict and violence on development. The importance to development of good governance and institutions that guarantee the rule of law, free speech, and open and accountable government was not included, nor was the need for inclusive growth to provide jobs. Most seriously, the MDGs fell short by not integrating the economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, and by not addressing the need to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production. The result was that environment and development were never properly brought together. People were working hard—but often separately—on interlinked problems.

The massive changes in the world since 2000 and the changes that are likely to unfold by 2030 must also be considered. A billion more people are alive today, with world population at seven billion, and another billion are expected to inhabit the planet by 2030. More than half of us now live in cities. Private investment in developing countries now exceeds aid flows. The number of mobile phone subscriptions has risen from fewer than one billion to more than six billion. Mobile penetration in some countries now exceeds 100%. Thanks to the Internet, seeking business or information on the other side of the world is now routine for many. Yet inequality persists, and opportunity is not open to all. The 1.2 billion poorest people account for only 1 percent of world consumption while the billion richest consume 72 percent.

There is one trend—climate change—that will determine whether the new development agenda can deliver poverty eradication and sustainable development. Scientific evidence of the direct threat from climate change has mounted. The stresses of unsustainable production and consumption patterns have become clear in areas like deforestation, water scarcity, food loss and waste, and high carbon emissions. Losses from natural disasters, including drought, floods, and storms, have increased at an alarming rate. People living in poverty will suffer first and worst from climate change. The cost of taking action now will be much less than the cost of dealing with the consequences later.

In his report “A Life of Dignity for All...,” the Secretary-General recommended, “The post-2015 development agenda will therefore need to complete the Millennium Development Goals, scale up their success, expand their scope and address new challenges.” He went even further, calling upon all “Member States to adopt a universal post-2015 development agenda, with sustainable development at its core. Poverty eradication, inclusive growth targeting inequality, protecting and managing the natural resource base of our planet within a rights-based framework and cognizant of the nexus between peace and development—these are the overarching objectives of sustainable development. To realize this agenda, all countries need to recognize the profound

transformations required to address the emerging challenges of sustainable development. These include economic shifts to sustainable patterns of production and consumption, effective governance and a renewed global partnership and means of implementation.”

As the Secretary-General recognized, defining the post-2015 development agenda is daunting, inspiring, and historic. The global conversation about a post-2015 world is one of the most important debates of our time: Any policy framework agreed to by UN Member states in 2015/2016 will guide both future policies and spending on development. You now have an opportunity to join in this debate.

“Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. And overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. While poverty persists, there is no true freedom.”—Nelson Mandela, 2005

## A TIMELINE TOWARD 2015

### OUTCOME DOCUMENTS

At the President of the General Assembly’s Special Event on the MDGs, held on September 25, 2013, member states adopted an [Outcome Document](#) reaffirming their commitment to achieving the MDGs. The outcome document lays out a broad road map for forthcoming process. It says intergovernmental negotiations will be launched at the opening of the 69<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly in September 2014 and calls on the Secretary-General to deliver a synthesis report of all inputs by the end of 2014 to inform the negotiations.

The outcome document of the 2012 Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development also initiated an inclusive process to develop a set of sustainable development goals. There is growing agreement that the two processes (e.g., the development of new post-2015 framework and the development of sustainable goals under the Rio+20 mandate) should be closely linked and should ultimately converge in one global development agenda beyond 2015 with sustainable development at its core.

### UNITED NATIONS

Several processes are ongoing, all intended to complement and inform one and another. At the UN level these include the work of The Open Working Group, the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda.

#### **Open Working Group**

A 30-member Open Working Group of the General Assembly is mandated by the Rio+20 Outcome document to prepare a proposal on Sustainable Development Goals for consideration by the Assembly at its 68th session (Sept. 2013-Sept. 2014). The Open Working Group was established on January 22, 2013 by decision of the General Assembly. The Open Working Group will have eight meetings on various topics. Four sessions have already taken place as of October. The fifth session (November 25-27, 2013) will focus on sustained and inclusive economic growth; macroeconomic policy questions, including international trade, international financial system, and external debt sustainability; infrastructure development; and industrialization. The sixth session

(December 9-13, 2013) will focus on means of implementation (science and technology, knowledge-sharing, and capacity building); global partnership for achieving sustainable development; needs of countries in special situations, including African countries, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS, as well as specific challenges facing middle-income countries; human rights; the right to development; and global governance. The seventh session (January 6-10, 2014) will focus on sustainable cities and human settlements; sustainable transport; sustainable consumption and production (including chemicals and waste); climate change and disaster risk reduction. The eighth and final session (February 3-7, 2014) will focus on oceans and seas, forests, and biodiversity; promoting equality, including social equity, gender equality, and women's empowerment; conflict prevention, post-conflict peace-building; and the promotion of durable peace, rule of law, and governance.

### **High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda**

In July 2012, the UN Secretary-General launched his High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Co-chaired by the presidents of Indonesia and Liberia and the prime minister of the United Kingdom, the panel assembled representatives from civil society, private sector, academia, and local and national governments. In May 2013, the panel published its report, "A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development," outlining its vision and recommendations for a global development agenda beyond 2015.

### **UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda**

Established by the UN Secretary-General in January 2012, the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda includes more than 60 UN agencies and international organizations. The task team published its first report titled "Realizing the Future We Want for All" in June 2012. The report outlined the vision of the United Nations' system on the global development agenda beyond 2015. Moreover, the task team is currently engaged in three work streams. Two working groups that will provide analytical inputs on the global partnership for development and on monitoring and indicators were established.

## **NATIONAL, GLOBAL, AND THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS**

In addition to the UN level processes, national, global, and thematic consultations have been organized to facilitate an inclusive global conversation. To facilitate the participation of civil society, academia, scientists, youths, and ordinary people worldwide, the United Nations Development Group (UNDP) initiated consultations at the national and local level, as well as a set of 11 thematic consultations. These consultations reached over one million people through 88 national consultations, 11 thematic dialogues, and the online MY World global survey. A report with findings from the consultations, "A Million Voices: The World We Want—A Sustainable Future with Dignity for All," was published in September 2013.

The [MY World Global Survey](#) was created to facilitate online participation through



which anyone's voice could be heard. Without having to sign up, users worldwide can select their six priorities out of a list of 16 themes. Results of the survey feed into a central database to record what the citizens of the world is saying about their priorities for a better world.

# HOSTING A CONSULTATION

## PLANNING YOUR EVENT

In planning your meeting, and selecting a time, date, and venue, consider that consultations should be accessible, inclusive, bottom-up, and participatory.

- Accessible and inclusive: Your consultation should be accessible to people from all parts of the community, not only UNA-USA; there needs to be a diversity of voices.
- Bottom-up: Your consultation should be about capturing people's realities, stories, and concerns. What is happening for them, and what do they see in their communities that they would like to change?
- Participatory: Think about how your consultation will encourage active participation.

A sample meeting checklist is provided in the resources section.

### Who to Invite?

Given the wide level of interest in the post-2015 discussions and the importance of conducting a participatory, inclusive, and open process, every effort should be made to include a wide range of representatives.

You could invite schoolteachers, teachers' associations, student groups, mothers' groups, children's groups, young girls' and boys' groups, youth-led organizations, health-care workers, representatives from civil society and/or the non-profit sector, representatives from the environmental sector, representatives from community foundations, activists and practitioners in the human rights community, socially excluded minorities, young people, older people, representatives from trade unions and social movements, academia, and think tanks, local government representatives, faith groups, business associations, entrepreneurs, people with disabilities, women and representatives from women's organizations, etc.

Organizers should identify a core group of resourceful people who are familiar with the post-2015 international process. These individuals can act as facilitators for the break-out/discussion groups and should be able to guide the discussions and synthesize them in feedback sessions and the workshop report.

### Some Thoughts on Facilitation

“Collaboration is predicated on the powerful idea that out of fragmentation can come collaboration, from diversity can come unity, and from cross-fertilization can come innovation. The power of collaboration does not presume a single outcome. Rather, it draws its power from the conviction that people of good will forge their own solutions, directions and alliances and uncover new ways to combine and leverage resources.”—  
The Opportunity Collaboration

- Good facilitators energize the group and spread their contagious passion.
- Good facilitators listen and put threads of conversation together for others.
- Good facilitators link and connect contributions and make everyone feel comfortable.
- Great facilitators set the stage quickly but get others talking.
- Good facilitators are good listeners and know how to bring relevant people into the conversation at the right moment.
- Good facilitators are also participants.
- Good facilitators allow for and encourage dialogue.
- Good facilitators allow for and control disagreements.

## SETTING THE AGENDA

The aim of consultations around the Post-2015 Development Agenda is to encourage a dialogue about priorities for creating a better world. To this end, the agenda for a consultation program should include opportunities for meaningful discussions of the many and complex issues presented in formulating a universal development agenda.

The 16 themes represented in the My World survey provide an effective starting point for discussions about the future development agenda. They include: 1) better job opportunities, 2) better health care, 3) support for people who can't work, 4) access to clean water and sanitation, 5) action to be taken on climate change, 6) an honest and responsive government, 7) a good education, 8) affordable and nutritious food, 9) freedom from discrimination and persecution, 10) reliable energy at home, 11) protecting forests, rivers, and oceans, 12) better transport and roads, 13) protection against crime and violence, 14) political freedoms, 15) equality between men and women, and 16) phone and Internet access. Organizers are encouraged to use break-out/discussion groups organized around these themes with a focus on the areas of most interest to their community.

The recommended agenda includes three main parts: 1) an introductory session on the background and content of the original goals, their successes, and shortcomings, 2) break-out/discussion groups in which participants are invited into a more in-depth discussion about the future framework based on the themes identified in the My World survey, and 3) a final plenary session in which the break-out/discussion groups can report to the larger group on their work and findings. This session is followed by closing remarks.

### 1. Background for Discussion around the Post-2015 Development Agenda

The 2011 Annual Report of the Secretary-General lays out the broad principles of the post-2015 process. These include the need to foster an inclusive, open, and transparent consultation process with multi-stakeholder participation. At the substantive level, the report recommends drawing on the values and principles in the Millennium Declaration and on a thorough, broad-based, and inclusive review of the MDGs, which should be put in the context of the global development challenges ahead, as the starting point for the discussion of a new development agenda beyond 2015. (\*Sample introductory remarks are included in the resource section of this tool kit.)

### 2. Explore and Discuss the Material Related to the Selected Themes

The challenges to framing a universal development agenda are numerous, complex, and interconnected. To encourage meaningful participation and productive conversation, a small breakoutgroup discussion format is suggested, with no more than 10 or 12 people per group.

Break-out groups can be organized around the 16 themes identified in the My World Survey. The resource section contains background information and suggested discussion

topics for each of the 16 themes. Depending on available resources, capacity, and interest in your community, organizers should feel free to pick and choose among the themes and/or combine topic areas. The resource section also contains sample instructions for the break-out/discussion groups.

The material contained in the discussion topics was drawn principally from the results of the national and thematic consultations and the reports of the High Level Panel and the Secretary General. Links to these reports are also provided in the resources section. The topics and questions are intended to fuel discussion and not to be suggestive of any one outcome. Facilitators are encouraged to use the material freely, partially, or completely.

### **3. Tying It All Together: Group Reports**

At the end of the break-out session, there should be time for each group to present the results of its discussion. Not everyone in the group needs to agree, but these areas of non-consensus should be reflected in the group's report.

To ensure that the work of each of the discussion groups can effectively feed back into the work of the group as whole, it is important to use the same reporting format for all the discussion groups. The reporting format can create a nexus for the work of the larger group and should require the groups to identify the main issues related to their theme area, the areas of priority agreed to, any areas for which no consensus was found, the stakeholders and partnerships they see as necessary to move progress forward, how these priorities should be reflected in a universal agenda and/or the need for national policy goals, and finally, how development under their theme can be made more sustainable. A sample-reporting format is included in the reference section.

You can end your event with a synthesis of the work of the break-out/discussion groups. You can also use this time to suggest further involvement in your association or activities you may want to plan.

## EVENT RESOURCES

### MEETING PLANNER CHECKLIST

Activity	Due Date
Select a date for your event. You may want to create an event timeline, noting the dates for invitations to be sent out, RSVPs to be received, catering finalized, etc.	
Develop a list of participants/invitees. Include chapter members, but also consider including representatives from local NGOs, women's groups, youth/college groups, and academia, etc. Using this list, determine the approximate size of your event based on your resources and the capacity of available venues. The minimum is probably 40 and the maximum 120.	
Reserve a meeting room. Think about possible room arrangements that will allow for group presentations and space for break-out groups.	
Reserve type and quantity of equipment needed: microphone/sound system, projection equipment, laptops, web access, flip charts and easels, video/photo equipment.	
Arrange for food and beverages.	
Determine the agenda.	
Send out invitations. Invite approximately 40% more participants than you expect to attend. (For example, to net 60 participants, send out approximately 100 invitations.)	
Arrange for volunteers for meeting registration, note takers, and IT needs.	
Send meeting reminder notice (include directions to meeting location).	
Finalize agenda based on RSVP list.	
Prepare name badges or table tents.	
Copy handouts and assemble meeting materials packets.	
Assemble facilitation supplies (markers, self-stick notes, large cards, markers, colored dots, digital camera, masking tape, sticky wall, etc.)	

## **SAMPLE AGENDA**

- 8:30-9 a.m. Registration
- 9-9:15 a.m. Introductory remarks
- 9:15-9:45 a.m. Background for discussion about the post-2015 agenda
- 9:45-9:50 a.m. Instruction for break out/discussion groups
- 9:50-10 a.m. Break
- 10-11:15 a.m. Break out/discussion groups
- 11:15-11:30 a.m. Break
- 11:30-12:15 p.m. Presentations by break-out groups (time based on number of groups)
- 12:15-12:30 p.m. Closing

## INTRODUCTORY MATERIAL

### Sample Introductory Remarks

Welcome! You have been invited here to join in the global conversation on the development and conceptualization of a post-2015 global development agenda.

Since August 2012, the United Nations system has facilitated an unprecedented series of consultations with people the world over to seek their views on a new development agenda to build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The global conversation responds to a growing call for active participation in shaping the “World We Want 2015” and represents an extraordinary effort to engage with people all around the world on their priorities.

Taking place before government representatives sit down to negotiate and finalize a new agenda, the consultations provide evidence and perspective to those representatives about the challenges people face in improving their lives and those of their families and communities. By initiating the consultations before the MDG deadline, we hope that they will contribute to the UN Member states’ efforts to agree to an effective development framework and that the consultations will deepen and widen national ownership of the new agenda.

You are now part of this process. Our meeting will represent an ideal round table on post 2015. You are invited into an imaginary UN conference room to help us think critically about the future of global development. Let your voice be heard!

Our time together will be structured as follows.

1. We will review where we have been, the current eight MDGs, and what we have achieved to date.
2. We will then break into focus groups. Each group will have a set of questions or statements to discuss. You have all been pre-assigned to groups.
3. We will then come back together, and each group will be asked to report on their findings and suggestions.
4. Next we will have closing remarks and time for questions.

(HOUSEKEEPING RULES – INFO, ETC.)



## DISCUSSION GROUP MATERIALS

### Sample Instructions for Discussion Groups

#### GUIDELINES FOR DISCUSSION GROUPS

These materials are intended to focus the group's discussion. They reflect the outcome of national and thematic consultations that have taken place all over the world, as well as the reports of the Secretary General ("A Life of Dignity for All") and his High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It may be helpful to read all the material before you begin. Listed are suggestions to guide your conversation, but they are only intended as a starting point. You are encouraged to ask additional questions, debate the statements, and consider how these issues affect your family, community, state, country, and ultimately the World You Want.

#### Sample Reporting Format

#### SAMPLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the main issues and challenges your group identified within your theme?
2. What do you think the priorities are for the next 15 years within this theme?
3. What key partnerships, if any, do you think are important to progress in this area?
4. How can progress within your theme be made more equitable?
5. How can progress within your theme be made more sustainable?
6. Will national targets/commitments will be needed to achieve meaningful progress in this area?
7. Is there a human rights dimension?
8. Is progress in any other area necessary for progress in your area?

## Action Taken on Climate Change

This means that governments should take on binding commitments to reduce carbon emissions to levels that can keep the rise in global temperatures below 2 degrees and invest in adaptation measures, particularly involving vulnerable communities

International development is happening in the context of an environmental crisis. The World Bank report “Turn Down the Heat: Why a 4°C Warmer World Must be Avoided” predicts a temperature increase of more than 3°C by the end of this century under current global policy. With this degree of warming, a high level of climate unpredictability, constraints on water resources, and increased extreme weather are all inevitable. As the report suggests, the adverse effects of global warming are “tilted against many of the world’s poorest regions” and likely to not only undermine or even reverse development efforts and goals, but also will threaten the very survival of nations and populations. Member states are divided about whether developed or developing countries should take primary responsibility for future climate change action.

Actions taken today shall determine the living conditions and options for future generations. If climate change is to be reversed, developed countries must act now to reduce their dependency on fossil fuels and shift to balanced carbon economies. The impacts of climate change are already significantly affecting food prices, human settlement, water access, health, and lives.

Concerted actions are needed for mitigation of climate change, disaster risk management, and adaptation to move toward climate-resilient and sustainable development. Actions on all fronts must be mutually supportive and complementary. This requires sectors and disciplines, such as environment and development, to work together.

## Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

This means that every person should have access to safe water for drinking, cooking, and washing, and access to sanitation. This is a global minimum standard that should be applied to everyone, regardless of income quintile, gender, location, age or other grouping. Access to water is a basic human right. Safe drinking water is something everyone in the world needs.

The world met the MDG drinking water target five years ahead of the 2015 deadline; that meant more than two billion people have gained access to an improved water source since 1990. Yet despite this important milestone, 783 million people remain without access. Moreover, 1.8 billion of those who gained an improved source still use water known to be unsafe to drink. Sustainability of water services remains a challenge because many pipes leak and pumps remain in disrepair.

More alarming is that 2.5 billion people still have no access to improved sanitation, while 1.1 billion people still practice open defecation. Improving access to sanitation is one of the most off-track MDGs. While mortality rates of children under the age of five have been falling globally, diarrhea remains the second leading cause of death; 88 percent of diarrhea deaths are water-related. Rapid urbanization is compounding the problem in the burgeoning cities in the developing world.

Lack of access to clean water and sanitation spreads preventable disease and causes the death of millions. It jeopardizes trust in governance, whether local or national. It costs 1.5 percent to 4.3 percent of GDP, stunts children's growth, drains women's time and energy, empties school chairs, forces needless risks, and denies human dignity. But the converse is also true. Investing \$1 in water, sanitation, and hygiene in classrooms and health facilities yields at least \$4.30 in revenue, a conservative estimate that rises when one includes tourism, natural asset protection, and productivity.

## Affordable and Nutritious Food

This means that everyone should get the food he or she needs. No person in the world should be constantly hungry, and no person should become malnourished, especially pregnant women and children less than two years of age.

Food is essential to all living beings. Producing it takes energy, land, technology, and water. Food security is not just about getting everyone enough nutritious food—it is also about access, ending waste, and moving toward sustainable, efficient production and consumption. The world will need about 50 percent more food by 2030, or we will have to reduce food loss/waste that occurs because of overconsumption by developed countries and the inability of farmers in developing countries to get their products to market before they spoil. Producing enough food sustainably is a global challenge.

## Better Health Care

This means that good quality health services should be available to everybody. Efforts should be made to reduce the impact of infectious and other chronic diseases. Both the funding and the organization of health systems should suit the needs of the individual country and its citizens.

Discussions focused on health have reconfirmed how central health is to any future development agenda. Health enables people to reach their potentials. Healthy children learn better. They become healthy adults. Healthy adults work longer and more regularly, earning higher and more regular wages, and are better able to contribute to the success of their communities. Healthy mothers are more likely to produce healthy children. When mothers have access to quality health-care services, children survive longer and live healthier lives.

There is considerable evidence to suggest that the current health MDGs will remain priorities after 2015. Despite impressive progress in lowering mortality rates, in 2015, far too many people will still be dying from causes that are preventable. A broad set of preventive and curative interventions including adequate nutrition, access to safe drinking water, good sanitation and hygiene practices (such as hand washing), vaccinations, reduction of indoor air pollution, and access to health-care services will facilitate the achievement of this goal.

## Better Job Opportunities

This means that governments and private sector companies should do more to make sure that everyone can find a job for which he or she earns a decent wage, and can contribute and feel valued as a productive member of society.

Job creation—for both dignity and income—will remain a major social challenge, encompassing almost all economies, including wealthy ones, well beyond 2015. The jobs question consistently dominates national consultations. Regardless of gender, age, educational level, and geographical location, having a job is identified as a cornerstone to achieving human and economic development.

The contributors to the growth and employment consultations widely agreed that employment should be one of the central development objectives in the new agenda, along with inclusive growth and sustainable development. Jobs are not only as a way out of poverty; they also give women and men a sense of self-esteem and social respect. The absence of job opportunities and exclusion from the labor markets increase inequalities, weaken social cohesion, and diminish trust in political leadership and institutions.

There is no quick, easy way to create jobs for all. Every country struggles with this challenge. Globally, the number of unemployed people has risen by about 28 million since the onset of the financial crisis in 2008, with another 39 million who have likely given up looking for work in frustration. Between 2015 and 2030, 470 million more people will enter the global labor force, mostly in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

This is potentially a huge boon that could sustain growth that is already happening. Over the past decade, six of the 10 fastest growing economies in the world were in Africa. As more young people enter the work force and birth rates decline, Africa is set to experience the same kind of demographic dividend that has boosted growth in Asia over the last three decades. Unemployment particularly affects youth; this will be a particularly pressing issue in Africa where the “youth bulge” is set to come to a head. But young people in Africa, and around the world, will need jobs—jobs with security and fair pay—so they can build their lives and prepare for the future.

Participants also recognized that economic growth is necessary for sustained employment generation, but there were calls for a shift in attention toward the quality of growth—towards inclusive growth that generates employment and decent work, reduces inequalities, and is economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable.

## Freedom from Discrimination and Persecution

This means that no person in the world should have his or her economic, social, or political opportunities limited because of race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual preference, or any other reason, and that no person should fear for his or her personal safety for the same reasons

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed over 60 years ago, set out the fundamental freedoms and human rights that form the foundations of human development. It reiterated a simple and powerful truth—that every person is born free and equal in dignity and rights.

When world leaders adopted the landmark Millennium Declaration in 2000, they recognized that they could not make “the right to development a reality for everyone” and free “the entire human race from want” without also promoting equality, non-discrimination, and human rights. This declaration established the basis for the Millennium Development Goals, which have inspired significant action and investment to address some of the most pressing needs of the world’s poorest and most marginalized. In translating the Millennium Declaration into a set of goals, targets, and indicators, however, its core commitments to equality and human rights were largely lost.

Thirteen years on, it is now widely accepted that one of the biggest shortcomings of the MDGs was its lack of rigorous focus on equality and incentives to address the needs of the poorest and most marginalized. Without doubt, there has been significant progress, but this progress was not equally shared either within or between countries.

Since the millennium, concern about inequalities within and between countries has become more prominent. The view that global and national inequalities have grown is supported by evidence. The consultations stressed that national averages have concealed often highly uneven progress toward MDG targets, with groups such as women and girls, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, and families in remote rural and urban slum localities being systematically left behind.

One view is that the focus on goals not only diverted attention away from the underlying principles of the equality and human rights, but it also meant that the focus was often on symptoms of problems and not on the underlying drivers of progress. All this has led to calls for a new framework that incorporates and reaffirms the values and principles associated with human rights, equality and non-discrimination, the right to participate, freedom from fear and all forms of violence, access to justice, and respect for nature.

“We have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world’s people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs.”—United Nations Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 2, 2000

## A Good Education

This means that all children should receive a high quality primary and secondary education that equips them for employment and an enjoyable life. Governments and the private sector should work together to provide opportunities for lifelong learning and skills development for adults.

Education is a fundamental right. It is one of the most basic ways people can achieve well-being. It lifts lifetime earnings as well as how much a person can engage with and contribute to society. Quality education positively affects health and lowers family size and fertility rates. The availability of workers with the right skills is one of the key determinants of success for any business and capable and professional public bureaucracies and services. Investing in education brings individuals and societies enormous benefits, socially, environmentally, and economically. But to realize these benefits, children and adolescents must have access to education and learn from it.

All countries grapple with issues of equity and quality in their educational systems, which might serve as part of the explanation why education is consistently ranked in the top of the “My World” priorities, regardless of the respondent’s stated country of origin.

There is wide consensus that the post-2015 education agenda should include a single harmonized global education framework recognizing education as a fundamental human right and a public good that should be available to all. Additionally, we must consider how we address the quality of education. When we measure attendance or enrollment, we rarely capture the true learning of students. It is vital that all students who graduate from primary school are able to read and do basic mathematical calculations.



## **An Honest and Responsive Government**

This means that governments should be effective, transparent, accountable, and not corrupt. People should have a say in what the government's priorities should be and confidence that the government will implement those priorities competently. Governments should agree upon and implement standards for making information available to everyone about how public money is spent.

Good governance and accountability are emerging as strong and all-encompassing post-2015 priorities. In the My World survey, "an honest and responsive government" was consistently voted as one of the top four issues most important for individuals and their families across the world, regardless of gender, location, and economic standing.

People care no less about sound institutions than they do about preventing illness or ensuring that their children can read and write, if only because they understand that the former play an essential role in achieving the latter. Good institutions are, in fact, the essential building blocks of a prosperous and sustainable future. The rule of law, freedom of speech and the media, open political choice and active citizen participation, access to justice, non-discriminatory and accountable governments, peace and stability, and public institutions help drive development and have their own intrinsic value. They are all means to an end and an end in themselves.

## Support for People Who Can't Work

This means that every person should have enough money to live on, either through employment or government help. When people can't work or are affected by events like natural disasters or economic crises, governments should make sure that they and their families won't go hungry, their children won't drop out of school, and they can get the health care and other essential services they need.

Everyday poverty condemns one out of seven people on the planet to a struggle to survive. Many of those living in extreme poverty are ignored, excluded from opportunities, sometimes for generations. Today, 1.2 billion people suffer under the hardship of living on less than the equivalent of \$1.25 per person per day. This means that they can only buy the same amount of goods and services as \$1.25 would buy in the United States. For more than a billion people, \$1.25 a day is all there is to feed and clothe, to heal and educate, to build a future. We can be the first generation to eradicate this extreme poverty. This is a global minimum standard and must apply to everyone, regardless of gender, location, disability, or social group.

If current growth trends continue, about 5 percent of people will be in extreme poverty by 2030, compared with 43.1 percent in 1990 and a forecast 16.1 percent in 2015. With slightly faster growth and attention to ensuring that no one is left behind, we can eradicate extreme poverty altogether.

Poverty is not, of course, just about income. Wherever they live, people in poverty are always on the edge, chronically vulnerable to falling sick, losing a job, forced eviction, climate change, or natural disaster. Their earnings vary by day, by season and by year. When shocks hit, their results are catastrophic. Since 2000, deaths related to natural hazards have exceeded 1.1 million, and over 2.7 billion people have been affected. Poor people often lack the resources or support to recover.

The post-2015 agenda should tackle all aspects of poverty and confront inequality to make sure no one is left behind. People want the chance to lift themselves out of poverty, and they aspire for prosperity.

## Reliable Energy at Home

This means that all family members should have reliable and affordable electricity or other sources of energy at home for lighting, heating, and cooking. More of that energy should be sustainably generated.

Participants were unanimous that universal access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy should be a global goal in the post-2015 development agenda. Many called energy the “missing MDG” that must be addressed. They emphasized that sustainable economic growth and social well-being cannot be achieved without access to affordable modern energy services.

The stark contradictions of our modern global economy are evident in the energy sector. We need reliable energy to reduce poverty and sustain prosperity, but we must increasingly get it from renewable sources to limit the impact on the environment.

Globally, 1.3 billion people do not have access to electricity. Some 2.6 billion people still burn wood, dung, coal, and other traditional fuels inside their homes, resulting in 1.5 million deaths per year from inhaling toxic fumes. At the same time, extensive energy use, especially in high-income countries, creates pollution, emits greenhouse gases, and depletes non-renewable fossil fuels.

The scarcity of energy resources will grow ever greater. Between now and 2030, high-income economies will continue to consume large amounts. They will be increasingly joined by countries that are growing rapidly and consuming more. By 2030, when the population of the planet reaches around eight billion people, there will be two billion more people using more energy. All this energy use will create enormous strains on the planet.

These challenges are enormous, but so are the opportunities. Done right, growth does not have to bring with it huge increases in carbon emissions. Investments in efficient energy usage, renewable energy sources, waste reduction, and less carbon-intensive technologies can have financial benefits as well as environmental ones. Tools are already available. We can reach large-scale, transformative solutions worldwide with more investment, collaboration, implementation, and political will.

## **Protecting Forests, Rivers, and Oceans**

This means that natural resources should be looked after, because people depend on them for food, fuel, and other resources. Governments should agree on plans to reduce pollution in oceans and rivers, plant new forests and preserve existing ones, and move toward sustainable agriculture and food systems. Global agreements should protect biodiversity and fragile ecosystems

Protecting and preserving the earth's resources is not only the right thing to do, but it is also fundamental to human life and well-being. Integrating environmental, social, and economic concerns is crucial to meeting the ambition of a future that is more equal, more just, more prosperous, greener, and more peaceful.

People living in poverty suffer first and worst from environmental disasters like droughts, floods, harvest failures, and rising sea levels, but every person on earth suffers without clean air, soil, and water. If we don't tackle the environmental challenges confronting the world, we can make gains toward eradicating poverty, but those gains may not last.

## Better Transportation and Roads

This means that transportation and roads should be improved so people can move freely and easily to visit their friends and families, find new economic opportunities, and use the services they need.

Back in 2000/2001 when the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and associated targets and indicators were developed, there was a debate about the contribution of different areas of economic and social activity to achievement of the goals. There was broad agreement that the MDGs cannot be met without investment in infrastructure, yet the MDGs do not include specific references to transport and mobility.

The specific mention of infrastructure in the current MDGs is partly a consequence of infrastructure being seen as an enabler of economic growth and human development. With the exception of water, infrastructure services are in demand for what they enable people to do; therefore, they are enablers of growth and connectivity and the achievement of health, education, and other economic and social objectives. This is reinforced by the view that the MDGs cannot be achieved through a single sector approach and that transportation investments have impacts across sectors.

In its report, the High Level Panel called for a “quantum leap forward in economic opportunities and a profound economic transformation to end extreme poverty and improve livelihoods.” This means a rapid shift to sustainable patterns of consumption and production—harnessing innovation, technology, and the potential of private business to create more value and drive sustainable and inclusive growth. Infrastructure has been identified by the World Bank as critical to achieving economic growth and transitioning to more sustainable development pathways.

Diversified economies with equal opportunities for all can unleash the dynamism that creates jobs and livelihoods, especially for young people and women. Yet sustained, broad-based, equitable growth requires more than raising GDP. It takes deliberate action. Businesses need reliable, adequate infrastructure. That means roads, power, transportation, irrigation, telecommunications, and cross-border arrangements that facilitate the movements of goods to new markets. In short, for the new agenda to tackle the causes of poverty, exclusion, and inequality, it must ensure that everyone has what he or she needs to grow and prosper, including access to quality education and skills, health care, clean water, electricity, telecommunications, and transportation. This is a challenge for every country on earth.

## Protection against Crime and Violence

This means that all people should expect to live in a community that protects them from the threat of crime and violence. This should include domestic violence and sexual assault against women and girls. Every person should be able to get justice through a court or other system if he or she is a victim of a crime.

Without peace, there can be no development. Without development, there can be no enduring peace. Peace, stability, and rule of law are prerequisites for progress. We must acknowledge a principal lesson of the MDGs: Peace and access to justice are not only fundamental human aspirations, but also cornerstones of sustainable development. Without peace, children cannot go to school or access health clinics. Adults cannot go to their workplaces, to markets, or out to cultivate their fields. Conflict can unravel years, even decades, of social and economic progress in a brief span of time.

The commitment of the Millennium Declaration to prevent and peacefully resolve conflicts, build peace, combat all forms of violence against women, and reduce the number and effects of natural and human-induced disasters was not reflected in the MDGs themselves. Yet, it will be impossible to eradicate poverty in our time without tackling conflict—a condition that has been called development in reverse—head-on.

The character of violence has shifted dramatically in the past few decades. The blurring of boundaries, the lack of clear front lines or battlefields, and the frequent targeting of civilian populations are now common characteristics of conflict. Violence, drugs, and arms spill rapidly across borders in our increasingly connected world. Stability has become a universal concern.

The profile of global poverty is also changing. In 1990, 80 percent of the world's poor lived in stable, low-income countries. Today, roughly half of the poor live in stable, middle-income countries, while 41 percent are living in fragile and conflict-affected states. By 2015, more than 50 percent of the total population in extreme poverty will reside in places affected by conflict and chronic violence, and by the year 2030, it is predicted that the vast majority of the world's poorest people, mainly children and young people, will live in countries and regions affected by chronic conflict, violence, and disasters. To ensure that no one is left behind in the vision for 2030, we must work collectively to protect the most fundamental condition for human survival, peace.

## Political Freedoms

This means that every person should be able to play a part in political processes in his or her own country, including through voting and forming or joining political parties. People should be able to exercise freedom of expression including through free media. People should be able to join and participate in trade unions and all aspects of civil society, including diverse forms of civic engagement and voluntary action.

Political freedom has been recognized as an important feature of democratic societies. It has been described as a relationship free of oppression or coercion that enables the positive exercise of civil and political rights. Civil and political rights protect individual freedoms from unwarranted infringement by governments and private organizations and ensure one's ability to participate in the civil and political life of the state without discrimination or repression. They include including freedom of information, expression, movement, association, and assembly.

## Equality between Men and Women

This means that men and women should have the same rights and opportunities. Boys and girls should have equal access to school and the same quality of education; men and women should stand the same chance of getting elected to parliaments, have the same chances to be involved in political and social life, and experience the same opportunities and rewards in the workplace.

Far too many women continue to face oppression and deeply embedded discrimination. This affects everything from access to health care and education to the right to own land and earn a living, to equal pay and access to financial services, to participation in decision-making at local and national levels, to freedom from violence. This embedded discrimination is often seen in national laws that deny women the same rights in marriage, citizenship, inheritance, and child guardianship.

Globally, young women and girls are less educated, less healthy, and less free than their male peers. Girls in many settings, particularly those outside of parental care, are highly vulnerable to sexual abuse, violence in schools, and early marriage, factors that significantly affect their schooling and development. The additional barriers faced by girls in rural areas, those with disabilities, and racial, religious, and ethnic minorities prevent many from breaking out of poverty and unequal social structures.

Investing in girls can be the single most effective way to reduce poverty and achieve progress across the entire range of goals. Educated women are more likely to seek and use family planning and skilled care at birth and other sexual and reproductive health services and to ensure that their children receive essential preventative and curative health care (primary and critical care, vaccinations, etc.).

Women's participation in decision-making and the labor force fosters greater investments in the health and well-being of themselves, their families, and communities and creates the conditions for stronger economic growth and good governance. A 2006 International Monetary Fund survey concluded that "societies that increase women's access to education, health care, employment, and credit, and that narrow differences between women and men in economic opportunities, increase the pace of economic development and reduce poverty."

The message is simple. Women who are safe, healthy, educated, and fully empowered to realize their potential transform their families, their communities, their economies, and their societies. We must create the conditions so they can do so.



## Phone and Internet Access

This means that governments and the private sector should make sure that everyone has access to a minimum level of information and communications technology (ICT) to get online information and participate in social networks

The only MDG target related to communications infrastructure is found under Goal 8, which called for the development of a Global Partnership for Development, and in cooperation with the private sector, the expansion of the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications. The limited specific mention of technology in the current MDGs is partly a consequence of technology being seen as an enabler of economic growth and human development, but is also a reflection of how much the world has changed since 2000.

There are a billion more people on the planet today, and another billion are expected by 2030. More than half of us now live in cities. Private investment in developing countries now dwarfs aid flows. The number of mobile phone subscriptions has risen from fewer than one billion to more than six billion. Thanks to the Internet, seeking business or information on the other side of the world is now routine for many. Yet inequality persists, and opportunity is not open to all. The 1.2 billion poorest people account for only 1 percent of world consumption, while the billion richest consume 72 percent. Furthermore, we must ask how technology, particularly green, sustainable technology, should be transferred to developing countries.

In its report, the High Level Panel called for a quantum leap forward in economic opportunities and a profound economic transformation to end extreme poverty and improve livelihoods. This means a rapid shift to sustainable patterns of consumption and production—harnessing innovation, technology, and the potential of private business to create more value and drive sustainable and inclusive growth. Diversified economies with equal opportunities for all can unleash the dynamism that creates jobs and livelihoods, especially for young people and women. Yet sustained, broad-based, equitable growth requires more than raising GDP. For the new agenda to tackle the causes of poverty, exclusion, and inequality, it must ensure that everyone has what he or she needs to grow and prosper, including access to quality education and skills, health care, clean water, electricity, and technology. This is a challenge for every country on earth.