

General description

In 2015 [Millennium Development Goals](#) will expire. App. a year ago UN has started the process of formulating the post-2015 development framework. The shape of the framework is still very unclear. Most likely it will be a new set of development goals, but their focus, scope or accountability mechanisms will only become a subject of the debate later in the process. Despite being widely criticised for their narrow focus and most of all – failure to mobilise the global community to actually deliver them, MDGs have been one of the most important global development frameworks, with the support of serving as a reference for almost all other global and national policies and agreements. That is why the new framework is in the centre of interest of many government, international organisations and civil society organisations.

UN process

The UN process on post-2015 development framework started with the Secretary-General's [report on MDGs and post-2015 development agenda](#) published in July 2011, followed by a briefing session on this topic at the last General Assembly. In January a Task Team, led by UNDESA and UNDP with a few UN agencies and other multilateral institutions on board, started its work – producing a report and setting grounds for the High-Level Panel that will take over in late June. The HLP will be chaired by David Cameron (while CSOs advocate introduction a Southern co-chair). In the meantime, UN Millennium Campaign has been tasked with leading consultations with civil society and launching an online platform (by August 2012). UNDP will organise national consultations in 50 countries of the South (May 2012 – January 2013). The consultations and report produced by the High Level Panel will feed into the discussions with the culmination in September 2013 at the UN MDG Summit.

Thematic consultations with academia, media, private sector, employers and trade unions, civil society and decision makers will include the following topics:

- Inequalities (across all dimensions, including gender)
- Health (including issues covered by MDGs 4, 5, 6, plus non communicable diseases)
- Education (primary, secondary, tertiary and vocational)
- Growth and employment (including investment in productive capacities, decent employment, and social protection)
- Environmental sustainability (including access to energy, biodiversity, climate change)
- Food security and nutrition
- Governance (at all levels)
- Conflict and fragility (including post-conflict countries, and those prone to natural disasters)
- Population dynamics (including ageing, international and internal migration, and urbanisation)

Civil society process

Concord, the European federation of NGDOs, created the [Beyond 2015 campaign](#) with the ambition to mobilise and coordinate global civil society in the post-2015 process. They have entered into cooperation with another global campaign – [GCAP](#). The platforms will organise joint consultations on country level and set up regional hubs. The hubs in Europe and Latin America are already in place with Africa and Asia following soon. The major CSOs as well as the two platforms keep track of the UN process through the Millennium Campaign. Beyond 2015 has put forward [5 names](#) of high-level CSO representatives as recommendations for the HLP. The final composition of the HLP is not public yet.

Related frameworks

The most important framework that will feed into the post-2015 debate in the next months will be the Sustainable Development Goals (coming out of the [UNCSD Rio+20](#)). The exact contribution of SDGs to the post-2015 framework has not yet been decided.

The next UNDCF meeting will also be an important policy debate space in relation to the post-2015 framework. The current UN Task Force includes the representatives of the major multilateral organisations: World Bank, OECD etc., which makes the development agendas of these institutions relevant frameworks as well.

Timeline

<i>July 2011</i>	Report of the Secretary-General on MDGs and post-2015 published
<i>4 Nov 2011</i>	Informal briefing for Member States at the UN General Assembly
<i>Beginning of January 2012</i>	First meeting of the UN Task Team on post-MDGs
<i>25 January 2012</i>	UN SG lists post-MDG as one of priorities of his 5-year agenda
<i>First quarter of 2012</i>	Beyond 2015 encourages National NGDO Platforms & GCAP National Coalitions to organise national deliberations. First deliberations start.
<i>First half of 2012</i>	Formal deliberations in the UN General Assembly (GA)
<i>May 2012</i>	UNDP starts 50-country consultations on post-MDG
<i>May 2012</i>	UN Task Team's report to the SG published
<i>June 2012</i>	UNCSD Rio+20 and the Sustainable Development Goals
<i>End of June 2012</i>	UN High Level Panel appointed
<i>August 2012</i>	Online platform launched
<i>February 2013</i>	Report of the High Level Panel delivered
<i>September 2013</i>	MDGs Summit at the UN General Assembly

Debated approaches

With David Cameron as the chair, the HLP risks to follow the UK approach to development, which includes a strong focus on economic growth and the role of private sector. Also, having the chair coming from the North, is seen as a threat to the ownership and thus, legitimacy of the future framework.

European Commission seems to be pushing for a strong LIC and poverty eradication focus. ECDPM has been tasked to provide EC with a report on the post-2015.

Japan proposes to frame the post-2015 agenda as “a global pact for well-being” with poverty reduction, climate change etc. as common challenges and equity, human security, sustainability etc. as guiding principles. The numeric targets would reflect more-or-less the MDG 2-7. The ‘enabling environment’ would include the principles of inclusive, sustainable and green growth together with increased effectiveness.

Many CSOs and academic institutions advocate a deeper paradigm change with human rights, equality, well-being and sustainability at the core.

If the Sustainable Development Goals will become the base for the post-2015 framework, as some suggest, the framework risks to remain oriented strongly on environmental issues with ‘green economy’ and ‘green growth’ at the core.

Trade union engagement

ITUC is involved in the CSO group being consulted by the UN Millennium Campaign. The regional and national affiliates will be encouraged to closely follow and take part in the UNDP as well as the Beyond 2015/GCAP national consultations. ITUC has submitted Sharan Burrow's nomination for the High Level Panel.

More information

- [UN ECOSOC page on post-2015 framework](#)
- [Beyond 2015 campaign](#)
- [Post-2015 policymaking. What is being planned, what might actually happen, and CAFOD's current policy lines](#)