

REVIEW OF POST-2015 REPORTS: VIEWS FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH

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B A N G L A D E S H

a civil society think-tank



1. Introduction

- Notwithstanding some criticisms of MDGs, the relative success of MDGs has inspired the global community to address the unfinished agenda and go for more ambitious targets.
- Several reports have come out in recent weeks which have contributed to the discourse of post-MDGs.
- The objective of the presentation is to provide a comparative analysis of these reports, establish their commonalities, highlight their distinctive features and identify cross-cutting issues. It also raises concerns of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the context of post-MDG targets.
- This presentation is a summary of a fuller report being prepared by the CPD.



1. Introduction

- **Following reports are considered for discussion:**
 - High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Agenda (HLP)
 - *“A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies Through Sustainable Development”*
 - Sustainable Development Solution Network (SDSN)
 - *“An Action Agenda for Sustainable Agenda”*
 - United Nations Global Compact
 - *“Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 development Agenda”*
 - Regional Commissions
 - *“A Regional Perspective on Post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda”*



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Goals

HLP	SDSN	Global Compact
1. End Poverty	1. End extreme poverty including hunger	1. End poverty and increase prosperity via inclusive economic growth
2. Empower Girls and Women and Achieve Gender Equality	4. Achieve Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, and Human Rights	3. Achieve women and girls' empowerment
3. Provide Quality Education and Lifelong Learning	3. Ensure Effective Learning for All Children and Youth for Life and Livelihood	2. Quality education for all
4. Ensure Healthy Lives	5. Achieve Health and Wellbeing at all Ages	4. Universal health coverage
5. Ensure Food Security and Good Nutrition	6. Improve Agriculture Systems and Raise Rural Prosperity	5. Good nutrition for all through sustainable food and agricultural systems
6. Achieve Universal Access to Water and Sanitation	Did not feature distinctively; under goal 6 - Improve Agriculture Systems and Raise Rural Prosperity	6. Water and sanitation for all
7. Secure Sustainable Energy	8. Curb Human-Induced Climate Change and Ensure Clean Energy for All	7. Sustainable energy for all



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Goals

HLP	SDSN	Global Compact
8. Create Jobs, Sustainable Livelihoods, and Equitable Growth	No separate goal; under goal 3 – reduce youth unemployment	No separate target for jobs; under Goal 1 – create jobs through decent work
9. Manage Natural Resource Assets Sustainably	9. Secure Ecosystem Services, Biodiversity and Good Management of Natural Resources	No separate target
10. Ensure Good Governance and Effective Institutions	10. Transform Governance for Sustainable Development	10. Good governance and realization of human rights
11. Ensure Stable and Peaceful Societies	No Target and goal on this	8. Build peaceful and stable societies
12. Create Global Enabling Environment and Catalyse Long-Term Finance	10. Transform Governance for Sustainable Development	10. Good governance and realization of human rights



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Goals

Commonality of goals

➤ 8 goals of SDSN report and 9 goals of Global Compact report are common with HLP goals.

Distinct goals

➤ There are 2 distinct goals in the SDSN report, 1 in HLP report and 1 distinct goal in the Global Compact report.

- HLP: 8. Create Jobs, Sustainable Livelihoods, and Equitable Growth
- SDSN: 2. Achieve development within planetary boundaries
7. Empower Inclusive, Productive and Resilient Cities
- Global Compact: 9. Modernise infrastructure and technology

Targets

- There are targets under each goal
- a total of 54 in HLP, 30 in SDSN and 49 in Global Compact.



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Goals

Report of the Regional Commissions

- Post- 2015 development agenda prioritises issues for the regions of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Western Asia, Europe and Central Asia under 4 dimensions of sustainable development
- Priorities have been selected on the basis of the needs of the regions
- However, priorities are broadly similar. The variation among regions in terms of economic growth, saving, investment, human development are not adequately reflected.
- Priorities do not have specific targets and goals.



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Key questions

- Setting \$1.25/day as the poverty line indicates lower ambition level. It should be revised upward to at least \$2.00/day
- Sustainable development goals appear to be an overarching goal. However, environmental and climate change related targets should not be universal for all countries. This has different implications for countries depending on their level of development.
- Does the idea of sustainable development goals do justice to balancing economic, social and environmental concerns?
- In case of inclusive growth indicators should be extended beyond decent jobs. *What about tracking productive capacities?*
- Employment does not have any specific target, particularly in view of the demographic bulge in low income countries



2. Comparative Analysis of Post-2015 Reports: Key questions

- Inequality within the country has been mentioned. What about inequality among countries? How the targets should be prioritised in view of such inequality?
- How can a universal agenda address the concerns of those most vulnerable countries, fragile states, LDCs, small islands, land-locked countries and countries in conflict?
- SDSN report refers to some specific cross-cutting issues: for example, inequality, cities, young people, and women. Why vulnerable countries do not feature as a specific cross-cutting issue in the report?
- There is no assessment of resource requirement. When will the resource requirement be assessed?



5. Reflection of LDC Concerns

Post-2015 reports seem to ignore development challenges of LDCs that may arise from various sources, particularly in view of the heterogeneity and specific difficulties confronting LDCs:

- IPoA also talks of many concerns, goals and actions. These should be reflected in post-MDGs.
- In terms of the global partnership goal there is no mention of key issues such as market access, technology transfer and IP.
- MDG8 was the "weakest link" and it seems this is the case once again with global partnerships in the HLP report.
- Accountability of all partners is mentioned. But how accountability would be ensured and monitored?
- There is mention of intra-country inequality but nothing about inter- country inequality and access to resources.
- Which are the global institutions that would be in charge of it? What are the peer-monitoring and independent monitoring mechanisms that will be put in place?



6. Way forward

A number of issues will feature prominently in the coming days:

- How the implementation plan will be formulated? Will it come as a separate document?
- Will resource requirement be connected to the implementation plan?
- How LDCs' concerns will be protected in the discussions of the Open Working Group (OWG) and subsequent drafting of the post-MDG document?
- How will outcomes of other initiatives such as IPoA be taken into consideration?



THANK YOU