Southern Voice

2015 On Post-MDG International Development Goals

Occasional Paper Series

16

Post-2015 International Development Agenda

Exploring Issues Related to Means of Implementation

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POST-2015 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

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Publisher

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First Published August 2014

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ISSN 2307-9827 (Online)
ISSN 2307-681X (Print)

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Preface

The *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals* was born in the spirit of collaboration, participation and broad academic inquiry. It is a network of 48 think tanks from Africa, Latin America and South Asia which has identified a unique space to contribute to the post-2015 dialogue. By providing quality data, evidence and analyses derived from research in the countries of the global South, these think tanks seek to inform the discussion on the post-2015 framework, goals and targets, and to help to shape the debate itself.

In connection with the ongoing debates on post-2015 international development goals, **Post-2015 International Development Agenda: Exploring Issues Related to Means of Implementation** by myself and *Mohammad Afshar Ali*, Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka focuses on the lessons learnt from the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); points out specific implementation issues reflected in various post-2015 reports; analyses the financial and non-financial means of implementation as well as highlights different institutional arrangements of delivery.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of *Ms Andrea Ordóñez*, Research Coordinator of the initiative and *Ms Mahenaw Ummul Wara*, Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Focal Point at the *Southern Voice* Secretariat in managing and organising the smooth implementation of the research programme. I would also like to thank *Dr Oliver Turner* for copy editing the paper.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the support of Think Tank Initiative (TTI) towards *Southern Voice*, particularly that of *Dr Peter Taylor*, Programme Leader, TTI.

I hope the engaged readership will find the paper stimulating.

Dhaka, Bangladesh
August 2014

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Abstract

The implementation phase of the post-2015 development agenda will include decoding the conceptual core of the agenda into practice through various plans, methods and actions. This paper outlines the lessons learnt from the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); points out specific implementation issues reflected in various post-2015 related reports; reviews the financial and non-financial means of implementation and highlights different institutional arrangements of delivery. Shortfalls in accountability mechanism, limits of market determined process, lack of prioritisation to public expenditure and fiscal policies, inadequate resource flow and lack of necessary data are the five major lessons learnt which can be used to aid the delivery of the post-2015 agenda. Financial means of implementation include official development assistance, debt relief, domestic revenue, trade in goods and services, foreign direct investment, remittance and public-private partnership. Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and South-South cooperation are two institutional arrangements for delivering on means of implementation. The paper concludes by highlighting the importance of having a well-defined mechanism for monitoring the delivery of post-2015 agenda's promises.

Contents

Table & Figure

Acronyms

BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Fund
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gas
GNI	Gross National Income
GPEDC	Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation
HLP	High-Level Panel
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPR	Intellectual Property Right
LDC	Least Developed Country
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OWG	Open Working Group
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
SWF	Sovereign Wealth Fund
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WTO	World Trade Organization

Post-2015
International Development Agenda
Exploring Issues Related to Means of Implementation

Debapriya Bhattacharya

Mohammad Afshar Ali

1. Introduction

Following a protracted open and multi-track consultation and input receiving phase, the inter-governmental process of the United Nations (UN) is gradually moving into the negotiation phase of setting the post-2015 international development agenda. Indeed, discussions and debates on issues related to the means of implementation of this development framework are gathering momentum across different platforms.

The implementation phase for the post-2015 framework will involve translating the conceptual core of the agenda into practice through various plans, methods and actions. This will operationally entail, inter alia, the following:

- Engineering necessary institutional structures for realising the conceptual design;
- Putting into operation the stream of activities and inputs envisaged in the design;
- Managing the delivery of the inputs for realising intentions;
- Measuring the intended outcomes;
- Operationalising feedback loops using transparent and accountable mechanisms for mid-course correction.

This paper outlines the lessons learnt from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); describes the approach used to design the means of implementation for MDGs; points out specific implementation issues reflected in various post-2015 reports; and classifies means of implementation in terms of finance and non-finance instruments as well as different institutional arrangements of delivery. It concludes by highlighting the importance of having a well-defined mechanism for monitoring the delivery of post-2015 promises.

2. Lessons Learnt from Implementation of MDGs

Weak implementation mechanisms were one of the fault lines in the design of the MDGs. The MDGs have been criticised for not giving adequate attention to the details ensuring their full and faithful delivery, targets and indicators. As a result, the UN system, international development networks, research institutions, academia and civil society organisations are now analysing the many lessons to be learned from their attempted delivery. At least five lessons in this regard can be used to aid the delivery of the the post-2015 agenda.

The first relates to the criticality of an adequate implementation mechanism for the global development agenda; an absence of well defined and effective accountability structures – at both the global and national levels – have affected the delivery of the MDGs.

Second, market forces alone have been insufficient to allow the MDGs to deliver their desired results. This indicates the need to pay special attention to the role of institutions and complementary policies, including issues related to the reform of global economic governance.

Third, national public expenditure portfolios remained constrained by low fiscal space, suggesting that the new framework should afford priority to ensuring necessary financial resource flows from traditional, as well as new and innovative sources.

Fourth, given that Goal 8 (Develop a Global Partnership for Development) was the 'weakest link' of the MDGs, elements related to 'Global Partnership' (including disbursement of committed official development assistance (ODA)) underpinning the delivery mechanism of the post-2015 framework are attracting additional attention.

Fifth, an absence of necessary data and information concerning many indicators of the MDGs affected the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of their delivery. Data-related issues have acquired a new dimension as a 'universal' agenda is being devised, which will be embedded in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[1]

3. Post-2015 Processes and Designing of Means of Implementation

In order to prepare the post-2015 international development agenda, member states have been given clear mandates which emanate from the following sources: i) the outcome document of the 2010 MDG Summit; ii) the outcome document of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Conference (Rio+20 Conference); and iii) the outcome document of the September 2013 Special Event of the President of the General Assembly.

The 2010 MDG Summit

The 2010 MDG Summit requested that the UN Secretary-General reports and makes recommendations annually on the progress made towards implementation of the MDGs, until 2015. To fulfill the 2010 mandate, the Secretary-General established a multi-layered process which includes: i) establishment of the United Nations Task Team on Post-2015; ii) appointment of High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda; iii) national and global thematic consultations led by United Nations Development Groups including *My World* Global Options Survey; iv) regional consultations led by the Regional Commissions; v) the observations of the business sector through the UN Global Compact; and vi) the academic and scientific community through the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). Each of the work streams in the process was assigned to prepare a report as an input into the report of the Secretary-General.

The 2012 Rio+20 Conference

The 2012 Rio+20 Conference mandated the member states to form an inclusive and transparent *Open Working Group* (OWG) on SDGs no later than at the opening of the sixty-seventh session (2012) of the General Assembly. Moreover, it has been instructed to submit a report on SDGs to the sixty-eighth session (2013) of the Assembly. The Rio+20 Conference also agreed to form an *Intergovernmental Committee on Sustainable Development Financing* and a *High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.*

The Open Working Group on SDGs. This includes a total of 70 member states in 30 multi-constituency slots. The OWG was formed in January 2013. Its first meeting was held on 14-15 March 2013. So far, the OWG has convened all 13 sessions. The OWG has an outcome document designating 17 goals on

[1]Accompanying the Open Working Group (OWG), the Intergovernmental Committee on Sustainable Development Financing assessed financing and other resource needs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The High-Level Panel (HLP) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) put forward controversial multi-level and multi-dimensional proposals (see UN (2013b) and SDSN (2013)).

sustainable development for the post-2015 development agenda. One of these 17 goals relates to implementation issues and global partnership (for details see later).

The Intergovernmental Committee on Sustainable Development Financing. The Rio outcome document also agreed to form an intergovernmental process which aims to assess financing needs and facilitate the mobilisation of resources to achieve sustainable development objectives. The committee was established in July 2013. Until now three sessions of the committee have taken place. The first session of the committee was held from 28-30 August 2013. So far four sessions had been held. The last session took place on 12-16 May 2014.

The High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Member states also agreed at the Rio+20 Conference to establish a universal intergovernmental high-level political forum built on modalities of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The mandates of the forum were: i) provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development; ii) follow-up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments; iii) enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; and iv) have a focused, dynamic and action-centred agenda to ensure the appropriate consideration of sustainable development challenges. Two annual meetings of the forum had been held and the second annual meeting of the forum took place during 30 June to 9 July, 2014.

The Technology Facilitation Mechanism. The members states also requested that UN agencies identify options to promote the development, dissemination and transfer of clean and environmentally sound technologies in Rio.

The September 2013 Special Event

Member states agreed to initiate an intergovernmental negotiation process at the beginning of the sixty-ninth session (2014) of the General Assembly, which will lead to the adoption of the post-2015 agenda. They have agreed the convergence of MDGs and Rio follow-up processes by tasking the Secretary-General with the preparation of a synthesis report of all inputs including the work of the OWG and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing.

As suggested by the above, the outcomes of each of the processes contain guidance on various modalities and instruments on the implementation of the post-2015 agenda. One of the critical questions in this regard relates to the sequence of meetings on agenda and financial provisioning, i.e. whether a conference on financing the SDGs would take place before or after the adoption of the agenda.

International Conference on Financing for Development

The Monterrey Conference on Financing for Development was held on 22 March 2002, in Monterrey, Mexico. The Monterrey Consensus was the outcome of the conference. It encompassed several issues like domestic resource mobilisation for development, mobilising FDI and other private flows, international trade as an engine for development, increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, external debt and systematic issues like enhancing the coherence and consistency for international monetary, and financial and trading systems in support of development. To review the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development was held in Doha, Qatar in 2008. Here, developed countries committed to maintain their ODA targets irrespective of the ongoing financial crisis. The third follow-up meeting, the International Conference on Financing Development, will be held in July 2015 in Ethiopia. This conference will gauge the implementation progress of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, strengthen and bolster the financing for development follow-up process, and detect impediments encountered in the achievement of goals as well as remedial measures.

In September 2015, a UN summit is scheduled to approve a global post- 2015 international development agenda. An intergovernmental negotiation will be launched in September 2014 to prepare for the summit and its outcome at the beginning of the sixty-ninth session of the UN General Assembly.

4. Implementation Issues as Reflected in Various Post-2015 Reports

Important reports on the post-2015 agenda have identified distinct implementation issues at varying level of precision. The High-Level Panel, UN Regional Commissions, the United Nations Global Compact and the SDSN have highlighted key implementation issues in their inputs. The OWG has also identified means of implementation as one of its focus area (focus area 15) to achieve the SDGs. In some instances, these reports refer to principles to be adhered to while designing the means of implementation of the post-2015 framework.

A survey of the proposals contained in the above sources results in the following list of specific measures:

- Raising stable, long-term finance for development through financial reform (HLP)
- Identifying innovative sources of additional financing for development, such as taxes on financial transactions and dismantling tax havens (UN Regional Commissions)
- Financing of development through ODA, which should be reoriented towards a genuine, transparent bottom-up approach (UN Regional Commissions)
- Financing sustainable development through public-private partnerships (SDSN)
- Incorporating remittances as an innovative source of finance (UN Regional Commissions)
- Comprehensive and participatory debt audits for immediate debt cancellation and repudiation of illegitimately owed debts (HLP)
- Focusing on creating more equitable societies (UN Regional Commissions)
- Utilising digital technology and map-based analytics to realise goals (UN Global Compact)
- Including South-South cooperation (UN Global Compact)
- Establishing robust trans-boundary management and coordination mechanisms by 2020 (SDSN)
- Catalysing a "data revolution" for sustainable development, with a new international initiative to improve the quality of statistics and information available to citizens (HLP)
- Utilising the Technology Bank for LDCs fully (OWG)
- Ensuring debt sustainability and debt relief (OWG)
- Providing greater duty-free quota-free market access to least developed countries (LDCs) to keep pace with the World Trade Organization (WTO) decisions (OWG)

5. A Taxonomy of the Means of Implementation

The means of implementation of the post-2015 agenda may be categorised in multi-level and multi-dimensional ways. For the sake of simplicity, they may be presented as two broad sets of modalities and instruments.

First, the means of implementation could be distinguished from the perspective of key instruments, i.e. between (i) financial and (ii) other (non-financial) means of implementation.

Second, they may be considered from the perspective of jurisdiction or the level of operation, i.e. between (i) global and (ii) national policies and institutions (some of the instruments of delivery may be considered at the regional level).

Of course, neither of these two sets of issues operates in isolation from the other. Table 1 shows how these varying sets of means of implementation interact with one another.

Table 1: Classification of Means of Implementation of the Post-2015 Agenda

Sources		**Global Level**	**National Level**
Financial	Traditional Sources	• ODA • Debt relief • Foreign direct investment (FDI)	• Domestic revenues • Public-private partnership
	Innovative Sources	• Combating illicit financial flows and tax evasion • Foreign exchange transaction fees • Global carbon tax • Tobacco levy	• Blended finance involving international sources
Non-Financial or Others	Systematic	• Trade in goods – export access and capacity (including Aid for Trade) • Trade in services – overseas remittances • Climate negotiations and outcome • International tax agenda and illicit financial flows • Global financial architecture and economic stability • Transfer of technology and intellectual property right regime • Regional partnerships	
	Others	• Global dialogue frameworks and agreements • Global data compiling and monitoring • South-South cooperation	• Internal dialogue with civil society organisations, private sector and other stakeholders • National governance (including crime and corruption), capabilities and institutions, land titles, business climate

Source: Authors' elaboration.

To develop a set of SDGs, the General Assembly established the OWG in January 2013. The final outcome document of the OWG has proposed a total of 17 SDGs, including the Goal 17, "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development." Comprised of 19 targets to measure the means of implementation, there are another 24 targets related to means of implementation that appear earlier for Goals 1 to 16.[2]

6. Financial Means of Implementation

A review of the literature reveals a gradual emergence of three major consensuses regarding the scope of the financial means of implementation. First, ODA will continue to remain important for provisioning the delivery of the post-2015 international development agenda. Second, financing of the agenda needs to be complemented by the generation of higher domestic resource mobilisation by developing countries. Third, countries – individually or collectively – have to tap into the new and innovative sources of finance. The components of the financial flows are found in Figure 1.

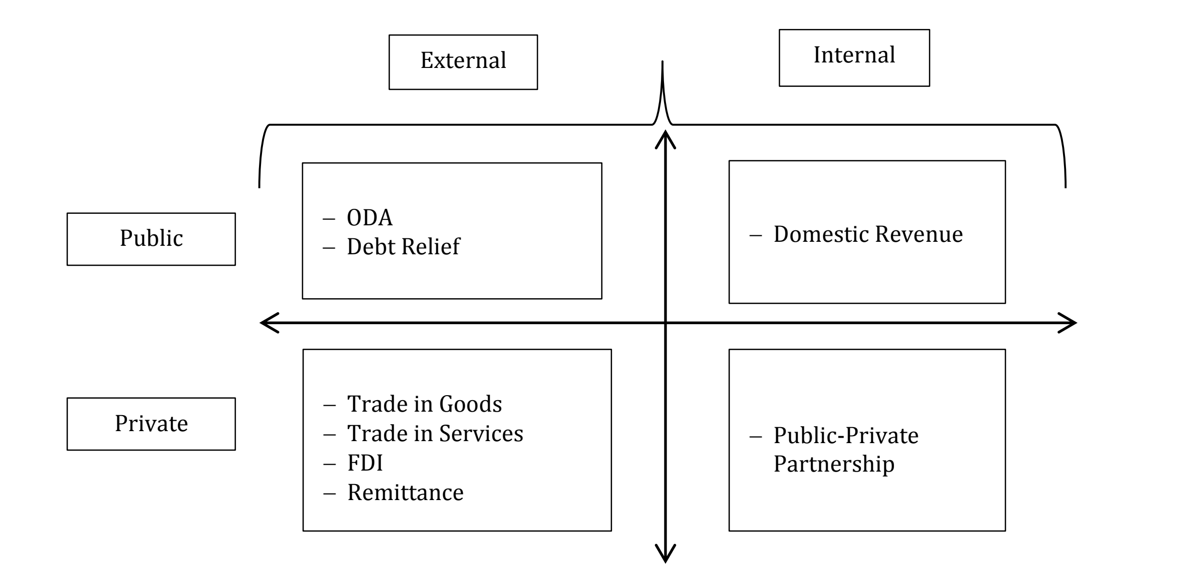
6.1 Finance from External Sources

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Official development assistance is one of the major sources of financing development. Until such time as that ODA is no longer required, every high-income country should fulfill its promise to provide 0.7

[2]Outcome Document by the Open Working Group.

Figure 1: Financial Flows to Implement the Post-2015 Agenda



Source: Authors' elaboration.

per cent of its gross national income (GNI) as ODA, of which 0.15-0.2 per cent should go to LDCs. Currently, only a handful of countries – including Belgium, Denmark, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom[3] – have met this important global commitment. Indeed, in recent years ODA flow has decreased in real term. Given the protracted recovery from the recent global economic and financial crisis, it is often noted that high-income countries are in no position to increase their ODA. Exceptions do exist however, as a small number of countries did increase their ODA allocations.

Along with the increase in ODA flow, it is also important to improve the distribution of aid across countries as the concentration ratio in this regard remains quite skewed. Similarly, distribution across sectors favouring allocations to the creation of productive capacity also demands attention. Fuller implementation of 'Paris Principles'[4] is needed to improve the quality of the foreign aid. In the same vein, technical assistance has to be untied.

Debt Relief

Enhanced ODA flow needs to be coupled with provisions of debt relief. To facilitate debt cancellation and repudiation of unsustainable debts, comprehensive and participatory debt audits are badly required. It has been proposed that debt conversion swaps can serve as a tool of debt relief.

6.2 Finance from Internal Sources

Domestic Revenue

Improving taxation capacity and harnessing natural resource revenues will certainly boost the development finance flow in developing economies. While enhancing the tax-GDP (gross domestic product) ratio, it would be pertinent to ensure that the incremental revenue came from direct tax on income flow and accumulated assets and less from external trade-related taxes. In addition,

[3]UNDP (2011).

[4]The Paris Declaration was named after the meeting taken place where more than 100 developed and developing countries gathered in Paris in 2005 to alter the way they do business. It is based on five principles: country ownership, alignment, harmonisation, managing for development results, and mutual accountability.

improving expenditure efficiency through subsidy reform, especially by carefully phasing out fossil fuel subsidies can release the pressure on the fiscal front.

In order to augment domestic efforts to broaden the tax base and revenues, it is important to implement an international programme to deal with illicit financial flows, transfer pricing and money laundering.

Public-Private Partnership

In financing the post-2015 development agenda, public-private partnerships could play an important role. Public investment in infrastructure and urban development projects may be leveraged with private capital so as to accelerate the delivery of SDGs. This will also provide an avenue for the private sector to play the role envisaged by the post-2015 agenda.

6.3 New and Innovative Sources of Finance

Broad and intensive discussions are underway to identify possible sources of new and innovative sources of finance. Taxes on financial transactions and dismantling tax havens could generate additional finance for development. A certain portion of the Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWF) could be dedicated to the implementation of the post-2015 agenda. Resources could be raised from capital markets by floating various medium and long-term instruments. Global solidarity levies, such as a tobacco levy and a global carbon tax have also been considered in connection with financing of the upcoming global development agenda. Further, private philanthropic funds could emerge as one of the discernible sources of development finance in the coming years.[5]

7. Others Means of Implementation

Experience has shown that effectiveness of financial means of implementation reduces significantly in the absence of complementary policy and institutional measures, particularly at the global level.

7.1 Trade in Goods – Export Access and Capacity (including Aid for Trade)

Trade in goods is an important development enabler of the post-2015 agenda. The question is how international trade can support the framework. Critical is the need to promote the open and rule-based multilateral trading system supported by the WTO. While the stalled Doha Round of negotiations was boosted by the recently adopted Bali Package, a number of other initiatives are gathering momentum (e.g. the Trans-Pacific Partnership), which may undercut the WTO process. Moreover, attempts are being made to prelaunch plurilateral agreements in trade negotiations which carry the threat of marginalisation of the low-income economies. Indeed, the LDCs are yet to receive full quota-free duty-free market access of their products in all developed countries (and in all countries in a position to do so).

Trade promotion is not only about market access; it is more about making effective use them. From this perspective, it is important to improve the supply-side capacities of the low-income economies where the Aid for Trade initiative may play a decisive role. Thus, to convert trade opportunities to trade flows in the post-2015 period, both fund commitment and disbursement under the Aid for Trade has to increase significantly. At the same time, the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) programme for the LDCs has to be properly endowed.

7.2 Trade in Services – Overseas Remittances

In the recent period overseas remittance income has emerged as an important source of finance for many developing countries. Signifiacntly, by 2010 overseas remittance had become more than three times larger than ODA. Therefore, the post-2015 development agenda demands that this flow

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[5]ODI (2013).

remains and even expands in the coming period. For that to happen, it would be useful to design and implement a globally managed system of temporary movements of natural person.[6]

7.3 Labour Mobility

The opportunity for greater labour mobility should be acknowledged in the post-2015 development agenda. To facilitate labour mobility, the framework should incorporate Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), i.e. temporary movement of natural persons across borders for the purpose of supplying services. In addition, the waiver on providing preferential market access to export of services by the LDCs needs to be operationalised at the earliest opportunity. The post-2015 development framework should also incorporate ILO Convention No.143 to protect the basic human rights of migrant workers. It should also be designed to help reduce transaction costs for going abroad and for the transfer of remittance incomes.

7.4 Climate Negotiations and Outcome

Arguably, the failure in achieving the MDGs is correlated with areas where high climate vulnerabilities are experienced. Costs are associated with both the mitigation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and adaptation to climate change. Both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol have developed mechanisms to mobilise financial assistance to developing countries. The Global Environmental Facility, assigned by UNFCCC serves as the operating entity of its financial mechanism on an ongoing basis. The Kyoto Protocol has two financial arrangements: i) operation of market mechanisms which provide economic incentives for the reduction of emissions of six major GHGs; ii) assist the developing countries in order to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change an Adaptation Fund has been also created. However, it is often argued that these anticipated financial flows should not be included while measuring the traditional ODA flow.

Regrettably, commitment and disbursement of funds under these initiatives remain inadequate, even absent, at times. This is partly due to the inconclusive state of the UNFCC negotiations. Now that the environmental dimensions of development are set to gain prominence in the post-2015 agenda, it is particularly imperative to reach closure in this regard. It will be a matter of great interest to observe how ambitious the SDGs could be, pending the outcome of international climate negotiations.

7.5 International Tax Agenda and Illicit Financial Flows

Reform of international tax system could be an important component in underwriting the post-2015 agenda. Combating illicit financial flows, tax evasion, tax havens and transfer mispricing could be an effective means of enhancing domestic resource mobilisation. Significant amounts of additional resources can be raised by strengthening tax efforts through institutional and operational changes at the international level. Related to this are concerns linked to capital flight from developing economies. Estimates show that the amount of annual capital flight from a low-income country surpasses the ODA it receives annually. This shows the importance of adopting a substantive international work programme which can effectively contribute towards delivery of the post-2015 goals and targets.

7.6 Global Financial Architecture and Economic Stability

The existing global financial architecture at times and has again exposed its inadequacies. A lack of appropriate international regulations of banks and other financial institutions (e.g. investment companies) has aggravated the risks and vulnerabilities of the system, although the cost of that had been usually borne by those who have the least ability. Thus, a reformed international

[6]A natural person is a real human being, as opposed to a legal person, which may be a private (i.e. business entity) or public (i.e. government) organisation (Webster's New World Law Dictionary 2010).

financial architecture could contribute towards a more even flow of resources. Efficiency gains from reforming global financial architecture would provide additional resources that could underwrite the post-2015 framework. It may also strengthen global economic stability and provide safeguards against external economic shocks which may be considered as a public good under the post-2015 dispensation.

7.7 Transfer of Technology and Intellectual Property Right Regime

Bridging the technology divide would one of the main challenges in implementing the post-2015 agenda. A key aspect in this regard would be the facilitation of international technology transfers. With this in mind, it will be advisable to proceed with establishing a technology bank and supporting mechanism for the LDCs, as promised under the Istanbul Programme of Actions for the LDCs (2011).

Further, measures like providing access to information and communications technologies and other life-saving technologies could be also critical in strengthening transformative processes in developing countries. The constraints in giving effect to the development dimensions of the intellectual property right (IPR) regime is one of the major ways of enriching the post-2015 implementation process. Providing a larger number of scholarships to students from the low-income countries could also positively influence the delivery of the post-2015 commitments.

7.8 Means of Implementation at the Regional Level

There can be several means of implementation available at the regional level. Regional integration can act as a critical means to achieve sustainable development. Regional development banks can play a substantial role among others, as a source of regional shock financing and financing for large infrastructure projects. Moreover, regional partnerships on knowledge, innovation and capacity development can be treated as major non-financial means of implementation.

8. Institutional Arrangements for Delivering on Means of Implementation

Implementation of the post-2015 framework is traditionally considered within the institutional framework of a 'global partnership'. With the rise of the Global South, the role of South-South cooperation is increasingly finding place in discussions related to the delivery of the post-2015 agenda.

8.1 Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)

It needs to be underscored that while the process of global partnership largely overlaps with the concept and means of implementation of the post-2015 agenda, the latter is much broader in scope and scale. The global partnership is largely concentrated on gathering resources to assist financially or promote the capacity building required to achieve the global goals and targets of development. Conversely, the concept of the means of implementation is very much broader than just gathering resources. It also encompasses the institutional framework and governance-related issues required to achieve the global development goals.[7]

It may be further pointed out that the global partnership for development is principally between governments of developed and developing countries, where the developed countries often play the dominant role. This is manifested through aid, trade and investment relationship. On the other hand, the means of implementation can be either global or national. For example, domestic resource mobilisation in developing countries depends exclusively on their respective governments.

The current elements of the global partnership may be traced back to the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development (2002) which broadened the list of potential sources of finance. The

[7]For a set of essays on these issues, see a forthcoming publication from the FUNDS project edited by Thomas G Weiss and Adriana E Abdenur, "Emerging Powers and the UN: What Kind of Development Partnership?" (a special issue of *Third World Quarterly*, 36 (1) (January 2015), as cited in Browne and Weiss (2014).

post-Monterrey process witnessed a number of high level meetings which culminated in the Busan Meeting (2011) on 'aid effectiveness'. Pursuant to this process, most recently, the first high level meeting on the Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) took place in Mexico in April 2014. Traditional donors are changing their emphasis from "aid effectiveness" to "effective development cooperation" with a view to include "new" actors in the process (e.g. private sector and new donors from South) as well as to expand the tool box of cooperation (e.g. public-private partnership, corporate social responsibility funds). It remains to be seen how useful the GPEDC turns out to be from the perspectives of low-income countries, e.g. whether it will become a platform for discussing the transfer of technology and knowledge.

8.2 South-South Cooperation

Although the emerging South was invited to the Mexico meeting of the GPEDC, these countries, at best, took an ambivalent position towards the event without associating themselves with the outcome. The major contention of the Southern countries was that South-South cooperation cannot be framed in terms of traditional donor-recipient relationship as it is more a relationship of 'partnership' driven by the national priorities of the service-receiving country. Moreover, South-South cooperation is no less about the exchange of information and technology than about the delivery of aid.

South-South relations in the recent past have strengthened the global arenas of trade, investment and remittance flow. Share of the large Southern countries are gradually increasing their role as non-traditional donors. In the next fifteen years South-South cooperation is increasingly likely to define the global economic landscape.

With the above in mind, and whether a part of the GPEDC process or not, the emerging South is going to play a greater role in ensuring the delivery of the post-2015 agenda. The SSC will thus be both about financial resources and other means of implementation. Given that many of these countries enjoy economic surpluses and reservoirs of knowledge, expertise and technology, they would naturally become providers of resources to poor Southern countries.

The leaders of the BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) agreed to create a development bank and a Reserve Fund on July 2014 which are seen as counterbalances to Northern-led financial institutions. Funded equally by each nation, the new development bank will have an initial capital of USD 50 billion of which of USD 10 billion would be paid-in. The bank aims to assist developing nations in mobilising resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects. In addition, the Contingent Reserve Agreement will have USD 100 billion at its disposal. The lion's share of the reserve, amounting to USD 41 billon, is expected to be contributed by China, while Brazil, India and Russia each will contribute USD 18 billion, and the remaining USD 5 billion will come from South Africa. The new development bank will provide BRICS with countries a platform to pool more funds and collect more resources for South-South cooperation.[8]

The leaders of the Global South are not inclined to fill up the void in resource flow on the part of the developed countries, e.g. not to be a substitute of the traditional donors. This position does not mean that they would not provide additional resources for implementation of the post-2015 international development agenda, however.

9. Concluding Remarks

The adequacy of the identified means of implementation of the post-2015 agenda can be best assessed once the agenda itself is adopted.

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[8]Griffith-Jones (2014).

It is highly desirable that a task/responsibility matrix be prepared for each of the goals and targets (if not indicators). This implies that each target will be agreed upon along with a clear idea about its delivery mechanism.

It may be recalled that the MDGs were adopted without a resource framework. Hopefully, this time around, it will be different.

The upcoming post-2015 framework must have a Monitoring and Evaluation component with necessary feedback loops.

Finally, the most important means of implementation of the post-2015 agenda will be the political will of the global leaders which will possibly find its expression in the “Declaration” part of the document. Vigilance on the part of the citizens may help the leaders to be on track by constantly reminding them regarding their commitment to remove global poverty and “leave no one behind.”

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Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals (*Southern Voice*) is a network of 48 think tanks from Africa, Latin America and South Asia, that has identified a unique space and scope for itself to contribute to the post-MDG dialogue. By providing quality data, evidence and analyses that derive from research in the countries of the South, these institutions seek to inform the discussion on the post-2015 framework, goals and targets, and to help give shape to the debate itself. In the process, *Southern Voice* aims to enhance the quality of international development policy analysis, strengthen the global outreach capacity of Southern think tanks, and facilitate professional linkages between these institutions and their respective governments. *Southern Voice* operates as an open platform where concerned institutions and individuals from both South and North interact with the network members. *Southern Voice Occasional Papers* are based on research undertaken by the members of the network as well as inputs received at various platforms of the initiative. *Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)*, Dhaka works as the Secretariat of the *Southern Voice*.

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