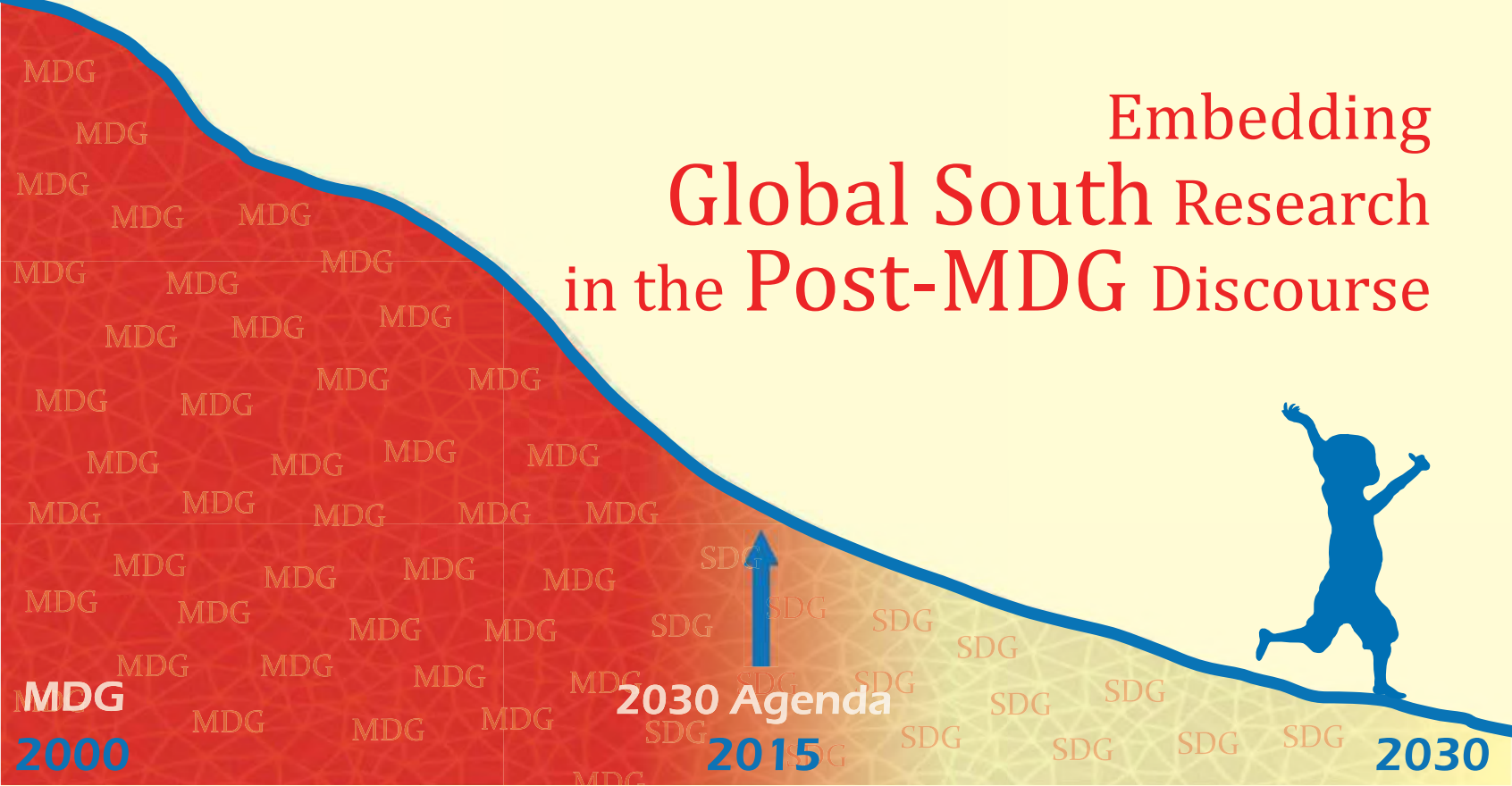


Embedding Global South Research in the Post-MDG Discourse



Southern Voice
on post-2015

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2015 On Post-MDG International Development Goals

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THE EMERGENCE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals (SV) serves as an open platform that contributes to the global dialogue on what should follow the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are set to expire in 2015. It addresses the existing “knowledge asymmetry” and “participation deficit” in the dialogue by disseminating evidence-based policy analyses by researchers from the countries of the Global South. Since its inception in June 2012 at a meeting in Cape Town of Think Tank Initiative awardees, SV has evolved into a vibrant network of 49 think tanks from Africa, Latin America and Asia dedicated to leveraging quality local data and research to enhance the debate on the post-2015 development agenda and increase the agenda’s impact on the South.



OBJECTIVES

- Provide a platform for formulating and exchanging novel ideas on post-2015 issues that are grounded in the realities of the developing world.
- Strengthen the participation of Southern researchers in the post-2015 debate by improving their analytical contributions and strategic engagements.
- Create opportunities for Southern think tanks to explore global development debates in respective national contexts.
- Build research and outreach capacities of Southern think tanks to facilitate their emergence as key players in the global dialogue on the post-2015 agenda.



SUPPORTERS



PARTNER





SOUTHERN VOICE TIMELINE

2015

13 July 2015

SV-UN Millennium Campaign Side Event at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Addis Ababa

30 June 2015

UN High Level Political Forum, New York

23-25 June 2015

Commonwealth Trade Symposium and LDC IV Monitor EGM, Johannesburg

16-17 May 2015

Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs, organised by SV and CPD in partnership with the UN Millennium Campaign, Dhaka

19 March 2015

Meeting on Inequalities in the Post-2015 Agenda in UN Headquarters, New York

16-17 February 2015

SV-Think Tank Initiative Research Conference, Istanbul

23 January 2015

LDC Retreat on Finance for Development in New York

22 January 2015

Meeting on financing key priorities of the data revolution in New York

20 January 2015

First session of UN inter-governmental negotiations on SDGs in New York

27-28 March 2014

Regional dialogue on South-South Cooperation with CPD and NCAER in New Delhi

January-May 2014

Post-2015 Data Test: Inception Workshops – Bangladesh, Canada, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Turkey

January 2013

Steering Committee formed with SV Secretariat at CPD in Dhaka

11-13 January 2013

Conceptualisation of SV at Dhaka Expert Group Meeting

10-11 July 2014

"The Data Revolution: Long-term objectives, challenges and opportunities" in London

May-June 2014

Post-2015 Data Test: Validation Workshops – Bangladesh, Senegal, Tanzania and Turkey

30 June 2014

Opening plenary of the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York

20 and 22 May 2014

Technical briefings for the UNITAR in New York and Geneva

28-30 April 2014

Post-2015 Data Test: Midterm Stock-taking Workshop in Nairobi

15 April 2014

First HLM of the GPEDC in Mexico City

15 December 2014

ERD-2014 country findings on finance presented at HLM of the OECD-DAC in Paris

9 December 2014

Post-2015 Data Test: Findings presented at the UN ESCAP Committee on Statistics in Bangkok

17 October 2014

"Challenges of Implementing SDGs at Country Level: Data Issues and Beyond" in Washington DC

15 October 2014

"View from the Field: How will the Post-2015 Agenda be delivered and implemented?" in New York

14 October 2014

Presentation of the initial results of the Post-2015 Data Test in New York and Washington DC

12-13 July 2014

Delegates briefed prior to 12th session of the UN OWG on SDGs in New York

2014

9-13 December 2013

UN OWG on the SDGs: Session on countries with special needs

5 December 2013

Dialogue on "Integrating Trade Issues in Post-2015 International Development Framework: Ongoing Debates and Potential Opportunities" as a side event at Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali

26-28 November 2013

International Parliamentary Conference on Post-2015 Development Agenda, London

21 November 2013

Post-2015 Data Test: Methodology and Planning Workshop in New York

6-7 November 2013

CEPA Symposium in Colombo

November 2013

Eleven grants awarded under second call

7 October 2013

Seoul Post-2015 Conference

22 September 2013

HLMs during UNGA sessions, New York

13 September 2013

"African Perspectives on the Post-2015 Development Agenda", Cape Town

July-August 2013

SV joins the consortium of partners to draft the Fifth ERD - 2014

24-25 June 2013

"MDGs in LDCs" with IIED, LDC IV Monitor and UNF in New York

8-10 May 2013

23rd World Economic Forum on Africa, Cape Town

April 2013

Ten grants awarded under first call

March 2013

SV website launched

19-20 February 2013

Outreach meetings in London, New York and Washington DC

February 2013

SV's first publication: "First Approximations on Post-MDG International Development Goals"

2013

National Implementation Challenges of SDGs

Final outcome documents of SV studies on national implementation challenges of SDGs to be published in December 2015

Data Action Plans for SDGs

Final outcome documents of the Data Action Plans for Bangladesh, Senegal and Tanzania will be available by November 2015

Post-2015 Data Test Initiative

Fifteen inception and validation workshops were held during 2014 in Bangladesh, Canada, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Turkey

2012

18-20 June 2012

Inception of SV in Cape Town





RESEARCH

Southern Voice Research Conference, Istanbul

Southern Voice in association with Think Tank Initiative (TTI) held the first research conference captioned *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets* on 16-17 February 2015, Istanbul. More than 70 experts from international development and research communities from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America joined the conference.

Post-2015 Data Test Initiative

The recently completed multi-country project, *Post-2015 Data Test: Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country Level*, co-led by Southern Voice, the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) at Carleton University and the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), assessed the manner in which the post-2015 agenda may be implemented and measured across a range of country contexts. Country studies were conducted by think tanks in Bangladesh, Canada, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Turkey. The launch of the Global Report of the initiative is expected by early 2016. For details, please visit www.post2015datatest.com

Preparation of Data Action Plans for SDGs

Southern Voice has launched follow-up studies on the recently completed multi-country project the Post-2015 Data Test initiative to follow-up the conclusions and recommendations of the project by developing country level action plans for addressing the capacity gaps and data deficits as regards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Data Action Plans will be developed for Bangladesh, Tanzania and Senegal by the Southern Voice partner institutions Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), REPOA-Policy Research for Development, and Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR).

Studies on National Level Implementation Challenges of SDGs

With a view to raising the awareness on implications of the SDGs, and enhance preparedness to tackle the implementation challenges at national and global levels, Southern Voice, through a peer reviewed process, has recently awarded research grants for 12 studies to 14 partner institutes within the network, deliberating upon four main areas: integrating the global post-2015 agenda in national planning framework; coordination and leadership in the implementation process; resources for implementation; and participation and accountability.

Southern Voice – ODI Joint Call for Regional Papers on SDGs

Southern Voice and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) are currently collaborating on a set of regional research papers and events focused on identifying early priority actions on the SDGs, to address the unfinished business of the MDGs alongside how to reach those who are furthest behind in attaining the SDGs.

A joint call for regional papers has recently been launched; these will serve as background for three regional dialogues taking place in Africa, Asia and Latin America between January and April 2016, followed by a global flagship event on SDG implementation later in 2016. For details, please visit

<http://post2015.org/2015/08/17/strongstart/>

Fifth European Report on Development (ERD 2015)

Southern Voice was a member of the consortium which produced the Fifth European Report on Development 2015 (ERD 2015) captioned *Combining Finance and Policies to Implement a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda*, which addresses financing for sustainable development and other means of implementation in the post-2015 context. The ERD 2015 was launched in Brussels on 4 May 2015. To view the report, please visit <http://erd-report.com/erd-reports/erd5-2015/report/>



OUTREACH

SV owes a large part of its success to its emphasis on outreach activities, including publications and a variety of dissemination exercises. Alongside leveraging traditional media, it capitalises on digital communication tools and social media networks as well as strategic engagements at global, regional and national levels.

Publications

The *Southern Voice Occasional Paper Series* showcases many of the research outputs generated from various SV activities. A total of 30 papers are available under the series, wherein 20 papers have come from SV Research Grants. SV members have also published analyses and studies on post-2015 issues in reputable peer-reviewed journals.

Southern Voice is finalising an edited volume titled *Southern Perspectives on the Post-2015 International Development Agenda* with leading international academic publisher Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, comprising selected policy papers from the 20 studies it commissioned earlier either drawing on authors' existing works or highlighting key focus areas of the post-2015 agenda.

Digital Outreach

The *Southern Voice Quarterly Alerts* inform key stakeholders on the activities of SV members via e-mail, and are cross-posted on SV's website along with websites of partner organisations. SV has partnered with post2015.org to create a hub for blog posts and other contributions from SV members. Blog posts are also featured on the SV, CPD and Post-2015 Data Test websites. To date, a total of 34 blog posts have been published at the initiative of SV.

Strategic Engagements

SV has been featured in the following platforms, among others:

- UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (UN HLPF), New York
- UN inter-governmental negotiations on SDGs, New York
- UN Open Working Group on SDGs (OWG), New York
- High Level Panel (HLP) of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Agenda appointed by UN Secretary-General, New York
- UN General Assembly High Level Thematic Debates, New York
- UN Economic Commission for Africa
- European Commission, Brussels
- Third International Conference on Financing for Development, Addis Ababa
- 2014 High Level Meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC), Paris
- Paris21 hosted by OECD, Paris
- First High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), Mexico City
- UN Foundation, New York and Washington DC
- The Government of the Republic of Korea and UNDP's Seoul Post-2015 Conference, Seoul
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Geneva
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok
- Twenty-third World Economic Forum on Africa, Cape Town
- International Food and Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC), Washington DC
- Commonwealth Secretariat, London
- Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London
- OECD Development Centre, Paris
- Center for Global Development (CGD), Washington DC
- Brookings Center for Universal Education, Washington DC
- UK's Department for International Development (DFID), London
- US Department of State, Washington DC
- Seventh South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VII), New Delhi
- South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

30 Southern
Voice Occasional
Papers

Combined 45
reports, policy
briefs and blogs

10 articles in
peer-reviewed
journals and
book chapters

SV website visited
233,813 times
by 73,587
unique visitors

Contents from
the SV website
downloaded

More than 50
strategic engagements
at global, regional and
national levels

53,702 times

Edited research
volume in the
pipeline with
Routledge, Taylor
& Francis Group



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Launch of the Global Report of the *Post-2015 Data Test: Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country Level*
- Conceptualisation of research methodology of and commissioning studies on South-South and Triangular Cooperation
- Designing of a monitoring and accountability initiative driven by the Southern think tanks
- Preparation of a strategy document for a more effective Southern Voice network



Southern Voice

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