

Reimagining Development and issues raised in relation to MDGs

Karin Fernando
Centre for Poverty Analysis

Session 5: Ongoing consultation process on Post-MDGs and interface
with *Southern Voice* initiative
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Re-imagining development – the concept and event

- Changing contexts
 - greater propensity to crisis,
 - persistent imbalances – trade and inequalities
 - debates on material vs human wellbeing
 - > Hence looking beyond an economic model of development
- Several smaller discussions led to CEPA's symposium
 - 11 – 12 December, 2012
- Themes:
 - Wellbeing, ethics, art, environment, inequality, cities, knowledge hierarchies
- Objective: to stimulate discussion and share ideas to challenge the current development model



MDGs and Rio+20/environment

- Sustainable development remains rhetoric
- To make it pragmatic some requirements:
- Physical Limits to growth to be acted upon (planetary boundaries, steady state economy)
- Benchmarks at two levels
- Political will
- change in social norms



MDGs and Rio+20/environment (contd)

Issues:

- ecological solutions tends to have specific/localized conditions that don't easily translate to global/national indicators
- Practical, win-win solutions (i.e renewable energy), are not widespread (scale up value)
- Aligning development goals to ecological time (extraction vs regeneration)
- Bound by global systems and other agendas



MDGs and Inequality

- Move from material/income measures to human wellbeing measures
- Questioning the frameworks within which we work and promote development
- Access to land – land as an asset
- Setting specific goals for women –not subsumed into other goals/indicators



Other issues

- Can it lead to global transformation and changing the course of development structures
- Tiered benchmarks – is this needed/possible?
- National agendas – are they serious about the MDGs?
- New alliances and their agenda



Thank you

More details:

<http://www.cepa.lk/symposium2012/>

