The UN Post-2015 Development Agenda: The global process and regional perspectives

UNESCO High-Level Expert Meeting
18 October 2013, Bangkok
Alessandra Casazza
UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Center
Source: One UN Secretariat on Post-2015
Processes and inputs

Reports
- UNTT, First Synthesis UNDG
- Consultations, HLP, SDSN, Regional Commissions, Global Compact, SG

Important conceptual inputs

Processes
- National, regional, global consultations
- Initial work of the OWG

Key inter-governmental processes at the UN...

- **Open Working Group** on SDGs
- Expert Committee **on a Sustainable Development Financing Strategy**
- High Level **Political Forum**
- **Special event on the MDGs** September 25

*Source: One UN Secretariat on Post-2015*
The 5 UN commissioned reports

High degree of convergence on key issues:

1) **MDGs** an unfinished job
2) **Universality** – one framework, one set of goals
3) **Ending poverty** in the context of SD
4) **Institutions**, good governance, peace and security
5) **Addressing** inequalities
6) **Positioning** of women’s empowerment and gender issues
7) **Environmental** sustainability with CC as a priority

*Source: One UN Secretariat on Post-2015*
Open Working Group

• The OWG is co-chaired by Hungary and Kenya
• OWG has convened 4 sessions and has 4 sessions before releasing its report

Members from Asia-Pacific
• Nauru / Palau / Papua New Guinea
• Bhutan / Thailand / Viet Nam
• India / Pakistan / Sri Lanka
• China / Indonesia / Kazakhstan
• Cyprus / Singapore / United Arab Emirates
• Bangladesh / Republic of Korea / Saudi Arabia
• Iran (Islamic Republic of) / Japan / Nepal
Open Working Group

Key messages from the OWG interim report:

• Single agenda and set of goals
• Universal commitment
• Limited set of goals
Timeline

- **HLP Report**
- **SDSN Report**
- **UNSG report**
- **Full inter-governmental process starts**
- **HOSG summit to adopt new framework**

- **Open Working Group on SDG established**
- **OWG and SD Finance reports submitted to UNGA**
- **4th session**
- **Post-2015 Framework MDG Summit 2010**
- **Mandate by Rio+20**

**Timeline**

- **Mar 2013**
- **Sep 2013**
- **Sep 2014**
- **Dec 2014**
- **Sep 2015**

Source: Staff own adaptation of timeline prepared by One UN Secretariat on Post-2015
4th Session of the OWG

• [...] not all our priorities are “goalable”.

• Poverty eradication remains our overriding goal that is manifestly linked to decent and productive work, social protection, and access to quality basic education and health care.
4th Session of the OWG

• Repeated emphasis on the need for disaggregated data to address inequality [...] 

• The human rights dimension, equity of access, quality, and relevance were emphasized with respect to education. At the elementary level it should be free.
4th Session of the OWG

- Complete the unfinished work of the MDGs to ensure universal primary school enrollment - but also learning outcomes, relevance to job needs, lifelong learning, adult literacy, and non-formal education.

- Culture was highlighted as a source of resilience, strengthen and adaptability of societies. Youth concerns need to be reflected across goals, especially in relation to education, health and employment.
What do experts say?
Thematic consultation

• Calls for a more ambitious agenda which goes beyond ensuring universal access to primary education

• Focus on equality of access to all levels of education and on quality
MY World Survey Results

821,823 votes for All Countries & Country Groups / All Genders / All Education Levels / Age Group (All Age Groups)

- A good education: 561,804 votes
- Better healthcare: 472,300 votes
- An honest and responsive government: 415,446 votes
- Better job opportunities: 410,950 votes
- Access to clean water and sanitation: 352,005 votes
- Affordable and nutritious food: 350,265 votes
- Protection against crime and violence: 339,501 votes
- Protecting forests, rivers and oceans: 259,723 votes
- Freedom from discrimination and persecution: 253,440 votes
- Equality between men and women: 241,214 votes
- Better transport and roads: 239,809 votes
- Support for people who can't work: 235,047 votes
- Political freedoms: 210,503 votes
- Reliable energy at home: 195,400 votes
- Phone and internet access: 172,771 votes
- Action taken on climate change: 153,346 votes

Source: A Million Voices: The World We Want
MY World Survey
Asia and the Pacific Results

- A good education: 214,753
- Better healthcare: 167,925
- Better job opportunities: 162,615
- An honest and responsive government: 128,768
- Affordable and nutritious food: 120,138
- Protection against crime and violence: 114,755
- Access to clean water and sanitation: 112,408
- Protection forests rivers and oceans: 98,607
- Equality between men and women: 96,746
- Support for people who can’t work: 92,729
- Freedom from discrimination: 83,198
- Better transports and roads: 76,487
- Phone and Internet access: 61,749
- Reliable energy at home: 61,382
- Action taken on climate change: 53,689
- Political freedoms: 53,430

Source: A Million Voices: The World We Want
The MDGs are unfinished in Asia-Pacific

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<th>Goal</th>
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Asia-Pacific
Excluding China and India
South-East Asia
South Asia
Excluding India
Pacific Islands
Excluding Papua New Guinea
North and Central Asia
Excluding Russia
Asia-Pacific LDCs
Asia-Pacific Low Income
Asia-Pacific Middle Income

Key findings of the report

• Across the region, **18 million children** remain out of primary school, particularly in Pakistan, India and the Philippines.

• But an even greater concern now is the quality of education
What we heard from sub-regions

<table>
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Priorities...

**EXPERTS**

Sub-regional Consultations

**EXPERT SURVEY**

- Quality education for all
- Eradicate income poverty
- Accountable and responsive governance
- Universal health care
- Universal access to safe water and sanitation

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**PEOPLE**

My World Survey

**Asia**

- Better health care
- A good education
- Better job opportunities
- An honest and responsive governance
- Affordable and nutritious food

**Oceania**

- Protecting forests, rivers and oceans
- Access to clean water and sanitation
- Affordable and nutritious food
- A good education
- Action on climate change

These findings are a contribution from AP to the global dialogue to better align

- National action
- Regional and global cooperation
- Finance
- Data, data, data

The Member States will finally determine the scope of a forward-looking agenda and explore the means to achieve it.
Thank You