

# IRF2015

Independent Research Forum on a  
Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda

## **Towards a Post-2015 Development Agenda: Comparative Analysis of Proposed Goal Frameworks**

---

Draft Discussion Paper  
September 2013

### **PART 2: GOAL AREA ANALYSIS**

The *Independent Research Forum on a Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda* (IRF2015)—a collaboration of twelve leading sustainable development institutes from across the globe—responds to the need for independent, rigorous and timely analysis to inform the evolution of the post-2015 development agenda and the concurrent intergovernmental process on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed to at Rio+20. IRF2015 partners envision a post-2015 development agenda that is universal in scope, takes an integrated approach to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of global development challenges, and can lead to more sustainable and equitable development outcomes for all.

[www.irf2015.org](http://www.irf2015.org)

## GOAL AREA: EDUCATION

**SUMMARY:** All proposals address education at the goal level. There is a continued focus on access for all, alongside new objectives of educational quality (learning), early childhood development, post-primary education, and skills for employment.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Provide quality education and lifelong learning.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Ensure effective learning for all children and youth for life and livelihood.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Quality education for all.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Appropriate education and skills for full participation in society.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal frameworks make connections between education and gender, inclusive economic growth, environmental sustainability, and inequalities.

**THE MDGs:** Include a goal to “achieve universal primary education.”

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

All proposals:

- Seek to ensure **education access for all** children.
- Highlight the need to measure **learning outcomes**, with an emphasis on basic or functional literacy and numeracy
- Address post-primary education, with targets to better **link education with employment opportunities** – e.g. through technical and vocational skills (HLP; UNGC), or lifelong and adult learning (SDSN; CIGI)

Three proposals:

- Suggest specific targets for **early childhood care or development** (pre-primary education)
- Address **gender inequality** in education
- Mention that school curricula should incorporate **sustainable development concepts**.

---

### Differences across proposals:

---

- Proposals differ on the level of **post-primary education** targeted, with some calling for lower-secondary education for all and SDSN for full secondary education.
- Two proposals address the problem of educational attainment and completion levels: e.g. only SDSN and CIGI suggest monitoring and reducing **drop-out rates**.
- SDSN and CIGI propose building over-arching sustainable development objectives into school curricula.
- Only UNGC proposes a target on facilities for, and the introduction of, **technology** in schools.

---

### ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

---

#### Global Thematic Consultation on Education: Summary Report

- Proposes a goal for ‘**Equitable, Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for All.**’
- Calls for a **human rights approach** to education that eliminates inequalities.
- Calls for an expanded focus beyond just primary education and for an increased emphasis on quality instruction.
- Emphasizes the importance of education for environmental awareness.

#### UNESCO and the Brookings Institute’s Learning Metrics Task Force: Towards Universal learning: Reports 1 and 2.

- Two phases of a three-phase study have been completed:
- Report 1 identifies domains of learning beyond numeracy and literacy, such as physical well-being, culture and the arts, and science and technology.
- Report 2 identifies six areas of measurement, including equity measures.

**Basic Education Coalition: “Every Child Learning, Every Student a Graduate: A Bold vision for Lifelong Learning Beyond 2015”**

- **Goal:** By 2030, all children and youth should complete primary and lower secondary education which enables them to meet measurable learning standards and acquire relevant skills so they may become responsible, productive members of society
- **Targets:** increase the proportion of students attending early childhood programs, completion of secondary education, adult literacy rates, and the number of states with robust national education plans.

**Global Campaign for Education – US Chapter: “Total Reach, Total Learning: Education Beyond 2015”**

- **Goal:** By 2030, all children and youth are receiving a quality pre-primary, primary, and lower secondary education.
- **Indicators:** percentage of children and youth enrolled in pre-primary, primary, and lower-secondary school, and their attendance rates; teacher-pupil and textbook-pupil ratios; proportion of youth demonstrating adequate learning.

**EFA Global Monitoring Report (2013)**

- **Goal:** Ensure that by 2030, everyone has an equal opportunity to learn the basics, whatever their circumstance.
- **Targets:** 1. early childhood education, primary and lower secondary education; 2. Quality of education at all levels; 3. Acquisition of youth and adult skills; 4. Elimination of inequalities; 5. Financing of education

---

### Key Questions

---

- There is agreement on the need to measure learning outcomes, but **how can we develop measurable indicators of learning** that are context specific and at the same time scalable enough to inform global assessments?
- What would be required to put in place an **education system that is transformative**, reduces poverty and inequality and is responsive to the developmental needs of LDCs and developing countries? What is the role of the state and other actors?
- Given that **sustainable finance for education** is critical in the context of the post 2015 goals related to education, how can domestic resources be mobilized to finance education? What governance systems would be required to ensure that innovative mechanisms of finance for education benefits marginalized communities?
- Access to education for all children is a priority in all proposals. What **indicators** would help to effectively **target the poorest** and most marginalized groups, including girls and women?
- Most proposals mention that building **sustainable development concepts** into education would support the transformation necessary for a more sustainable future. Should there be a target to build sustainable development into school curricula?

## GOAL AREA: ENERGY

**SUMMARY:** All proposals target access to energy services and regard environmental sustainability as integral to an energy goal, or energy as integral to an environmental sustainability goal. Energy is unavoidably linked to climate change mitigation objectives.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Secure sustainable energy.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Multiple Goals:</u> 1) Curb human-induced climate change and ensure sustainable energy for all; 2) Improve agriculture systems and raise rural prosperity; and 3) Empower inclusive, productive, and resilient cities.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Sustainable energy for all.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Multiple Goals:</u> 1) Universal access to energy, transportation and communication achieved through quality infrastructure; 2) Sustainable management of the biosphere for people and planet to thrive together.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal frameworks make connections between energy and environmental sustainability, cities, and infrastructure.

**THE MDGs:** Do not include a goal or target specific to energy issues.

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

All proposals:

- Have been influenced by the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative. HLP and UNGC include a version of the three SE4All targets on access, efficiency and renewable energy. The CIGI proposal does not mention energy efficiency, but refers to SE4All.
- Include a goal or target on universal access to quality energy services (but under separate rural and urban-related goals in SDSN's). All note the omission of energy from the MDGs.
- Include environmental sustainability as integral to energy. Climate change is the main environmental concern. Targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency are included in three of the four proposals.
- Recognize that energy is linked to other sectors and economic development, and that the three objectives of SE4All are inter-linked.

---

### Differences across proposals

---

- SDSN emphasizes environmental sustainability over access. SDSN includes renewable energy and energy efficiency in a goal that explicitly addresses climate change.
- CIGI include energy in a broader infrastructure goal (originally conceived in terms of 'connectivity') and a goal on global environmental sustainability. Energy is seen as central to the latter.
- CIGI suggest indicators rather than (global) targets. For the infrastructure goal these are about electricity supply; for environmental sustainability they include access to commercial energy.
- HLP include a target to eliminate fossil fuel consumption subsidies.
- UNGC includes a target to reduce particulate urban air pollution.
- SDSN includes access to energy under broader goals on rural and urban development.

---

### ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

---

#### Sustainable Energy for All: A Global Action Agenda

The Global Action Agenda identifies 11 Action Areas to achieve the three objectives of SE4All. They include seven **“sectoral” areas:** 1) modern cooking appliances and fuels; 2) distributed electricity solutions; 3) grid infrastructure and supply efficiency; 4) large-scale renewable power; 5) industrial and agricultural processes; 6) transportation; and 7) buildings and appliances. There are also four **“enabling” Action Areas:** 1) energy planning and policies; 2) business model and technology innovation; 3) finance and risk management; and 4) capacity building and knowledge sharing.

## Sustainable Energy for All: Global Tracking Framework

The SE4ALL objectives are global objectives, applying to both developed and developing countries, with individual nations setting their own domestic targets in a way that is consistent with the overall spirit of the initiative. ... The three SE4ALL objectives, though distinct, form an integrated whole. Because they are related and complementary, it is more feasible to achieve all three jointly than it would be to pursue any one of them individually.

### Stockholm Environment Institute: Energy for a Shared Development Agenda: Global Scenarios and Governance Implications, Policy Brief.

Energy needs to be a major constituent of any globally agreed sustainable development goals. This means they need to include:

- Energy services for productive purposes for all countries, and provision of energy services in poor economies as an explicit goal.
- Goals for efficiency, social and industrial practice, and
- Low carbon energy expansion.

A structural transformation of the global framework is needed to coordinate, share and steer the transformation across nation states. Such a global framework should include putting clean energy development efforts more centrally in the global climate change negotiations.

### IBON International: Campaign for People's Goals for Sustainable Development

IBON places energy in a broader sustainable consumption and production objective. As well as access, efficiency and renewables, IBON include a target eliminate fossil fuel subsidies, including subsidies for investment in fossil fuel capacity.

### Beyond2015/Concord: Putting People and Planet First

Proposed goal: Universal access to safe, renewable and reliable energy. Beyond2015 also link energy to sustainable consumption and production and call for Sustainable Energy Action Planning with the aim of optimal energy efficiency and conservation, low- or no-carbon energy supply and accessible, equitable and good energy service provision to all.

### Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement Durable: Argumentaire d'aide à la formulation d'Objectifs de Développement Durable (ODD) relatifs à la transition énergétique et à l'énergie durable

Goal proposal for universal and sustainable access in a healthy environment, with targets on access (70% minimum, not universal), 40% renewables in global mix, reduction of greenhouse gases, tripling in energy efficiency rate, and transition to low-carbon energy.

---

## Key Questions

- Though all proposals aim for universal access to energy, they variously describe this as access to modern, reliable, safe, or affordable energy. There is **no consensus on what access means** and whether it is more than access to a minimum of electricity and non-solid fuels for cooking. How should a target for universal access be defined?
- A main rationale for renewable energy and energy efficiency targets is the need to mitigate climate change (energy consumption accounting for around two-thirds of global greenhouse gas emissions). An energy goal with energy efficiency and renewable energy targets unavoidably raises the question: how the **post-2015 goal framework support climate change goals, and particularly climate change mitigation?**
- Removal of fossil fuel subsidies, an HLP target supported by civil society proposals (Beyond2015 and IBON), is the only means to achieve sustainable energy specifically proposed. Should the post-2015 agenda **prescribe measures to achieve desired outcomes?**
- Given that it will likely include goals or targets related to food, water, and energy, how can post-2015 help to address trade-offs and synergies from the **food-water-energy** nexus?

## GOAL AREA: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

**SUMMARY:** Three proposals address environmental sustainability at the goal level while one does so only at the target level. All proposals include targets that could apply to both developed and developing countries.

### PROPOSALS

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Manage natural resource assets sustainably.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Multiple goals:</u> 1) Secure ecosystem services and biodiversity, ensure good management of water and other natural resources; and 2) Achieve development within planetary boundaries.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Targets across multiple goals:</u> 1) Good nutrition for all through sustainable food and agricultural systems; 2) Water and sanitation for all; 3) Modernize infrastructure and technology; 4) Quality education for all.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Sustainable management of the biosphere for people and the planet to thrive together.

**LINKAGES:** Goal frameworks link environmental sustainability with food security, water, health, education, and governance.

**THE MDGs:** Include a goal to “ensure environmental sustainability,” which has targets for sustainable development, biodiversity, water, and slums.

### Similarities across proposals

All four proposals:

- Address forest loss (in general or due to agricultural conversion specifically) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at the target level.
- Call for action to remedy existing environmental damage (in addition to preventing future harm).

Three proposals

- Propose an increased emphasis on measuring, monitoring, and valuing environmental assets (HLP, SDSN, UNGC). SDSN and UNGC call for a price on carbon.
- Include targets under goals on food security/agriculture and water that address environmental challenges related most directly to human health and well-being (HLP, SDSN, UNGC).
- Three proposals (HLP, SDSN, CIGI) include targets for biodiversity and ecosystem preservation. Both SDSN and CIGI align with the Aichi biodiversity targets.

Each proposal addresses between 3 and 7 of the environmental aspects in the table below. However, each proposal organizes these issues differently and includes a slightly different subset. For example, although HLP and SDSN address the same topics, they present them differently.

Proposal	Forests	GHG emissions	Biodiversity & ecosystems	Freshwater use	Environmental accounting and pricing	Fish stocks	Soil quality/ erosion	Air Quality
HLP	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
SDSN	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
UNGC	√	√		√	√	√		√
CIGI	√	√	√					

### Differences across proposals:

- Two proposals (HLP and SDSN) use a **combined approach** of a dedicated goal for ecosystems and natural resources in addition to mainstreaming other aspects of environmental sustainability.
- UNGC approaches environmental sustainability through **mainstreaming**, with references to “green” or environment-related targets appearing under six of ten goals.
- CIGI concentrates environment-related indicators under **one goal**.

*Unique suggestions* include:

- SDSN: target for each country to report its contribution to planetary boundaries.

- UNGC: target to reduce particulate concentration in urban air.
- UNGC: target to reduce emissions from construction and operation of buildings.

### ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

#### UN Environment Program: Embedding the Environment in Sustainable Development Goals

Suggests a set of **six criteria for selecting appropriate goals and targets**: 1) strong linkage of environment and socio-economic development, 2) a decoupling of socio-economic development from natural resource use and depletion, 3) coverage of critical environmental issues, 4) consideration of existing global environmental goals and targets, 5) scientific credibility, and 6) the ability to measure progress.

#### Final Report of the Global thematic Consultation on Environmental Sustainability

Suggests four principles for linking environmental sustainability with human development: **integration, equality, human rights, and resilience**. Identifies four **drivers of change**:

- Governance and accountability,
- Local action and empowerment,
- Education, and
- Economic transformation.

#### IBON International Submission to the online consultation on sustainability and growth

- Suggests that “it is necessary to shift from a profit-and growth oriented system, to a sustainable economic model situated in social development and environmental sustainability.”
- Calls for orientation away from using market-based solutions to address environmental challenges.

#### Global Call for Action Against Poverty: Civil Society Demands for the Post-2015 Agenda from 39 Countries

Calls for post-2015 to:

- Be explicit about planetary boundaries,
- Hold business and industry accountable for degradation caused, and
- Help the vulnerable to cope with climate change.

#### WWF Contribution to the Consultation on Environmental Sustainability,

Key characteristics for a post-2015 agenda include:

- Both a goal dedicated to environmental sustainability and mainstreaming.
- A universal framework that encourages collaboration between developed and developing countries.
- Building on existing environmental agreements and frameworks rather than building fresh.

### Key Questions

- What is the appropriate role for a post-2015 development agenda in addressing GHG emissions and climate change impacts? How can this role strengthen and not duplicate efforts underway through the UNFCCC?
- Several proposals reference existing environmental treaties or call for new ones. How should the post-2015 development agenda work with or incorporate existing international environmental commitments?
- Outcomes from the environmental sustainability consultation call for a human rights approach, including environmental justice and the need for transparency and respect for procedural rights. Should the post-2015 agenda specifically address governance and rights in an environmental context in addition to more broadly?
- How might the agenda consider the rights of indigenous people over ecosystems?
- None of the proposals above directly address chemical pollution. Should this be considered as part of post-2015?
- With multiple proposals suggesting the need to properly value nature, monitor natural resource stocks and flows, and monitor planetary boundaries, how can both the measurement and valuation be mainstreamed in support of a green economy?
- How should post-2015 address diverse contexts and lifestyles and their environmental impacts: income level, rural vs. urban, economic drivers (e.g. manufacturing, resource extraction, or service sector)?

## GOAL AREA: FOOD SECURITY<sup>1</sup>

**SUMMARY:** All frameworks provide an increased emphasis on hunger and the food system relative to the MDGs. Three frameworks address nutrition and the need to sustainably increase agricultural yields. One (CIGI) addresses hunger exclusively. All goals for food security are tightly aligned with health goals.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Ensure food security and good nutrition.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Multiple Goals:</u> (1) End extreme poverty including hunger; (2) Improve agriculture systems and raise rural prosperity; and (3) Achieve health and wellbeing at all ages.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Good nutrition for all through sustainable food and agricultural systems.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Sufficient food and water for active living.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal proposals recognize links between food security and health, environmental sustainability, income poverty, economic growth, water, and resilience.

**The MDGs:** Include a target to “halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.”

### Similarities across proposals

---

- The MDGs combine hunger and income poverty into one goal. Only one proposal (SDSN) does so here, though it also includes a separate goal covering agriculture systems and rural prosperity.
- All proposals include:
  - o Targets for **ending hunger**, reflecting broad consensus to give food security more prominence than it received in the MDGs
  - o Targets for **nutrition and health**, reflecting an increasing agreement to emphasize quality of food consumed and not only caloric quantity. Nutrition targets include both **stunting** and **obesity**.
  - o At least one target or indicator intended to **apply to developed and developing countries alike**. For example, targets to reduce or stop forest and wetland conversion to agriculture, reduce obesity, or protect fish stocks can apply globally.
- Three proposals:
  - o Call for a **sustainable food production system** such as through targets for reducing **overfishing** and reducing **food loss and waste**.
  - o Call for **sustainably improving agricultural yields**. UNGC specifies a target of doubled productivity for LDCs.

### Differences across proposals:

---

- **Organization.** While all proposals **integrate hunger with closely related concerns**, their approach varies.
  - o CIGI **combines food, water, and sanitation** into one goal. Proposed indicators focus on an adequate supply of nutritious food and adequate access to clean water.
  - o SDSN addresses hunger, sustainable agricultural practices, and healthy diets under **three separate goals**. Its goal for agriculture also includes targets related to the rural economies that depend on agriculture for livelihoods.
  - o HLP and UNGC both propose **dedicated goals on food security** that incorporate health and sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Land conversion and climate impacts.** SDSN and UNGC include targets relating agriculture to deforestation and climate impacts. CIGI and HLP do not directly connect emissions reduction and food security.
- **Agricultural subsidies and trade.** HLP and CIGI specifically mention the challenge of agricultural subsidies under goals related to the global partnership for development.

---

<sup>1</sup> “Food Security” was defined in the 1996 World Food Summit Plan of Action as existing when “all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”



## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### UN High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis: Comprehensive Framework for Action

In order to build resilience, critical outcomes are defined:

- **Social protection systems** to be expanded
- **Smallholder** farmer-led food availability growth to be sustained
- International food markets to be improved
- International **biofuel** consensus to be developed

### Summary of The Madrid High Level Consultation on Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition

The consultation identified eight building blocks for food security and nutrition. These include an emphasis on **rights and gender equity**, the role of **agriculture in economic development** especially in rural communities, **climate sensitive and resilient agricultural practices**, and **governance** for efficient, equitable, and stable food systems.

### Bread for the World Institute, A Global Development Agenda: Toward 2015 and Beyond.

This briefing paper recommends that post-2015 include:

- A standalone goal on food security and good nutrition for all,
- An emphasis on good governance and enabling participation, and
- Investment in smallholder farmers (particularly women and goals) in such a way that encourages economic empowerment.

### HLP Background paper: Opportunities and solutions for sustainable food production

Proposes key goals and targets as well as potential solutions in order to:

- Increase productivity by 70 percent on existing crop and pasture lands;
- Make farming an attractive economic development opportunity for people living in rural areas, particularly smallholder farmers and small to medium entrepreneurs;
- Preserve the environment through ultimately stopping the expansion of agriculture into sensitive ecosystems, lowering resource intensity, and sound use of inputs; and
- Reduce food waste and loss

### HLP Background paper: Food security, inclusive growth, sustainability, and the post-2015 development agenda

Proposes targets for food security that would directly address environmental impacts from food production:

- Reduce the rate of food loss and waste by 50 percent
- Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from food production by 25 percent.
- Reduce the water-intensity of agricultural production by 25 percent.

## Key Questions

- Given clear interdependencies with other likely goal areas, how **broadly or narrowly** should a goal on food security be defined? Conversely, how should goals on health, income poverty and jobs, environmental sustainability, energy, water, gender and others incorporate food security? Specifically, how might the **food-water-energy** nexus be built into the goal framework given particularly close interdependencies between these sectors?
- How can food security challenges specific to **urban areas** be overcome? What is the role of “urban agriculture” and its contribution towards achievement of food security?
- Should the goals enhance **smallholder** or family farming as a strategy that contributes to improving food security and nutrition and reducing hunger? What are the **trade-offs** between this and reducing hunger through importing food or emphasizing **larger, corporate farms**?
- How should a goal on food security address nutritional quality and **overconsumption** – both in absolute quantity as well as in resource-intensive products such as meat and dairy – in countries along the development continuum? For example, two proposals (CIGI and UNGC) directly address obesity in their proposed indicators and targets.
- With an increasingly global food system, how can a goal on food security address **food price volatility** and other trade-related issues, including agricultural dumping?

## GOAL AREA: GENDER

**SUMMARY:** All proposals address gender equality at the goal level and as an objective to be mainstreamed across other goal areas. All address gender-based violence and women and girls' empowerment through a variety of proposed targets.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Empower girls and women and achieve gender equality.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Achieve gender equality, social inclusion, and human rights for all.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Achieve women and girl's empowerment.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Gender equality enabling men and women to participate and benefit equally in society.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal proposals make connections between gender and health, environmental sustainability, income poverty, economic growth, water, and resilience.

**The MDGs:** Include a goal to “promote gender equality and empower women.”

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

All proposals:

- Call for a target on the prevention and elimination of **violence against women and girls**.
- Suggest targets for women and girls' economic **empowerment** and **social /economic inclusion**, though priorities differ.
  - o **Rights to property** and economic assets (land or inheritance), **and business ownership** are key empowerment targets (featuring in the HLP, CIGI and UNGC proposals).
- Seek to reduce or eliminate gendered **educational disparities** (included in education goals), and to improve access to **reproductive health** services (as part of a gender goal or a health goal).
- Suggest that monitoring **data should be disaggregated by gender** to detect disparities across other goal areas.

---

### Differences across Proposals:

---

- Framing of gender priorities: some frame the goal as **empowerment** of women and girls (HLP, UNGC) and others as **gender equality** (SDSN, CIGI).
- While most propose a **stand-alone goal on gender**, one proposal (SDSN) combines gender equality within a goal addressing social inclusion and human rights, resulting in less specific gender targets.
- All proposals seek to reduce or eliminate **gender discrimination** through improved economic, public and /or political participation, however specific targets differ:
  - o UNGC and CIGI set targets on **women's role in leadership** positions and **gendered income inequalities** (amongst others).
  - o The HLP sets specific targets on **property and business ownership** and **ending child marriage** (amongst others).
- The CIGI proposal addresses **reproductive rights** as opposed to access to reproductive health services. It also addresses daily **hours spent on household tasks**.
- Proposals vary in their approach to reducing or eliminating violence against women: UNGC calls for a 50 percent reduction, while the HLP and SDSN call for its elimination, and CIGI does not provide specific targets.

---

### ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

---

**UNICEF: “A Transformative Standalone Goal on Achieving Gender Equality, Women's Rights, and Women's Empowerment: Imperatives and Key components”**

- Calls for both a “robust goal” and mainstreaming of gender throughout the agenda.
- Proposes three target areas: 1) freedom from violence; 2) gender equality in capabilities and resources – e.g. education, reproductive health, and equal pay; and 3) equality in decision-making power in public and private institutions. Provides sample specific targets and indicators for each.

<b>IBON International: People's Goals for Sustainable Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Goal:</b> Gender Justice</li> <li>- <b>Implementation of international commitments</b> on gender equality (CEDAW, 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security).</li> <li>- Ensure <b>equal opportunities</b> in employment, land tenure, education, health, governance, and access to sexual, and reproductive health services.</li> <li>- Systematic application of effective <b>affirmative action</b> to prevent discrimination, and eliminate all forms of violence against women.</li> </ul>
<b>UN Women: A Stand-Alone Goal on Achieving Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Women's Empowerment: Imperatives and Key Components</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Goal:</b> Achieve Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Women's Empowerment</li> <li>- <b>Targets:</b> 1) Freedom from violence; 2) Capabilities and resources (including the need to take into account unpaid care and reproductive roles); and 3) Voice, Participation and Leadership.</li> </ul>
<b>Proposals from the European Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights community: Towards a Post 2015 Development Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Seeks to develop a common position for the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) community on the post-2015 development framework and how SRHR could feature in it.</li> <li>- Lays out three key principles for post-2015: human development, gender equality and empowerment, and sustainable development.</li> </ul>
<b>OECD DAC: Unfinished Business – Women and Girls Front and Centre Beyond 2015</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Retain a strong and standalone goal on gender equality and women's rights;</li> <li>- Include gender-specific targets and indicators in all other relevant development goals.</li> </ul>
<b>World Bank: World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Outlines instrumental and intrinsic arguments for gender equality. Highlights unequal division of unpaid domestic and care work, labour markets &amp; employment issues and other persistent gender-based inequalities.</li> </ul>

---

### Key Questions

- Although all proposals suggest targets for women and girls' empowerment, and social, political / economic inclusion, a range of different priorities are selected and some only offer limited suggestions on targets. What would an adequate set of targets to address women and girls' empowerment consist of?
- Aspects of gender inequality, including equal pay, violence against women, and representation in leadership positions, are relevant to all countries. Could the same targets in these areas apply to all countries in a universal agenda?
- Should gender equality be defined as a cross-cutting issue appearing within targets in other goals areas such as education, health and employment? Which should be included in the stand-alone goal, and which should be included in other goals?
- Should additional issues also identified as priorities for gender equality, including unpaid care work, domestic labor (hours spent on household tasks), reproductive and child nurturing functions, and unpaid family work, be addressed? If so, what efforts would be needed to produce data to monitor progress in these new areas?
- There are different approaches to gender as a stand-alone goal: 1) including a broad range of areas e.g. rights and social inclusion; and 2) a narrower approach to 'level the playing field' (empowerment through affirmative action, leadership position quotas etc.). Which approach is most useful for a stand-alone goal? Are aspects of both approaches necessary?

## GOAL AREA: GOVERNANCE<sup>2</sup>

**SUMMARY:** All four proposals address governance and include a stand-alone governance goal. All proposals also integrate governance across multiple goals as enabler and/or as relating to institutions, partnerships and means of implementation.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Ensure good governance and effective institutions.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Transform Governance for Sustainable Development.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Good governance and realization of human rights.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Multiple goals:</u> 1) Good governance and rule of law for citizen participation and personal and community security; 2) Equitable rules for the governance of global institutions and co-operative partnerships.

---

**LINKAGES:** Proposals link governance with gender, environmental sustainability, extreme poverty, inclusive growth, food security, water, energy, and resilience.

**The MDGs:** include a goal for a “global partnership on development” with six targets focused primarily on aid and trade to developing countries.

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

- There is broad consensus to give governance **more prominence than it received in the MDGs** by enhancing two dimensions of governance:
  - o more inclusive and transparent processes of decision-making and
  - o better institutions to strengthen coherent development.
- All reviewed proposals highlight **access to information, accountability, and participation**.
- Three out of four:
  - o Emphasize corruption, coherence between and among institutions, financing, and international trade.
  - o Include sub-goals and/or quantifiable targets on **financing** and the role of **ODA**, (SDSN), ethical aspects of governance (HLP), as well as **human rights, enabling environment** and **government procurement** (UNGC).
  - o Recognize the importance of **institutionalized coordination for implementation** (CIGI, SDSN and UNGC), and see governance as a key enabler of sustainable development. The HLP also proposes an overarching role for good governance, including elements thereof in two of its five transformative shifts.
- There seems to be a clear distinction in several proposals between governance as a **normative standard**, focusing on how decisions are made and then on **institutional capacity** to deliver, on the other. Both interpretations of governance are emphasized as important part of a future development agenda.

---

### Differences across Proposals:

---

- **Organization.** While all proposals address connections of governance to other sectors, some also propose it as a cross-cutting element or as an **enabling factor for implementation**.
  - o CIGI focuses on the global dimension of governance and its institutions and proposes a number of quantifiable criteria that could function as governance indicators.
  - o SDSN addresses governance in two ways: as a stand-alone goal and as the *fourth* dimension of sustainable development. It shows the enabling role of good governance for implementation of other development goals.

---

<sup>2</sup> “Governance” has many definitions. Inherently the focus of a goal would be on that of “good” governance. An inclusive definition (IGES 2012) states that: “...Governance refers to how societies share power, through structures and processes that govern individual and collective decisions and actions. Governance is not the sole domain of governments, but involves multiple actors, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and academia. Governance includes laws, regulations, policies, institutions, partnerships, public debates, political parties, public participation and consultation processes, demonstrations and protests, strikes and other union actions, the judiciary, and other influences on decision-making.”

[http://pub.iges.or.jp/modules/envirolib/upload/4010/attach/Chapter\\_1\\_E.pdf](http://pub.iges.or.jp/modules/envirolib/upload/4010/attach/Chapter_1_E.pdf)>

- HLP emphasizes institutional aspects of governance, while UNGC focuses on human rights. They both propose targets. However, the extent to which these targets are measurable is not clear.

## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### The Aarhus Convention

While signatories are largely OECD countries and its focus is limited to environmental governance, the principles underlying the Aarhus Convention are generally understood as being elements of good governance and human rights. Focus areas are:

- Access to environmental information;
- Public participation in environmental decision making; and
- Access to justice.

### The High Level Fora on Aid-Effectiveness

- The **First High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Rome** (2002) determined focus of aid to depend on recipient countries' priorities; cooperation among donors, the importance of leadership within recipient countries themselves to determine their development path.
- The **Paris Declaration** (2005) based aid effectiveness on five principles: 1) ownership at the level of implementation; 2) alignment of donor and recipient countries' objectives; 3) harmonization of respective donor country (and organizations') efforts; 4) results focused; and 5) mutual accountability of development results.
- **Accra** (2008) opened the aid-effectiveness debate to more than just governments, and added emphasis on capacity development.
- **The Busan High Level Forum** (2011) further elaborated on the variety of roles played by private sector, non-state actors in delivering aid and development; also renewed focus on achieving the MDGs.

### Report from the Global Thematic Consultation on Governance

The final report of the thematic consultation on governance includes 14 key messages concerning the importance of governance, rule of law, transparency, and policy coherence to development. Some of these messages include:

- Governance is both an enabler and outcome of development;
- Governance requires both stronger institutions and better policy coherence.
- Combatting corruption is essential, as is a human rights approach paired with enhanced transparency and accountability.

### The New Deal for Peace

The New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States emphasizes **capacity to deliver**. It calls for:

- Use of peacebuilding and statebuilding goals to enable development progress;
- Engagement to support country-owned and -led pathways out of fragility
- Providing aid and managing resources more effectively and aligning these resources for results.

## Key Questions

- Would a **dedicated goal for governance** provide the needed impetus to pursue governance improvements across levels and sectors, or would governance be better emphasized as elements within all the goals (i.e. through mainstreaming) like other cross-cutting issues?
- Governance can be seen as **both enabler of development and as means of implementation**. How would this dual nature of governance be addressed in 1) a goal framework and 2) as means of implementation?
- How will in particular the international and **global levels of governance** exemplified in for instance trade and/or global commons? How to encourage compliance among voluntary arrangements?
- What is a possible role for post-2015 in helping improve the rule of law in fragile and conflict-affected states?

## GOAL AREA: HEALTH

**SUMMARY:** All frameworks have a positively-framed goal to improve health (not just eliminate disease). While all make reference to universal health coverage, the approach and emphasis varies.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Ensure healthy lives.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Achieve health and wellbeing at all ages.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Universal health coverage.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Good health for the physical, mental and social well-being.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal frameworks link health to food security, gender, environmental sustainability, income poverty, and resilience.

**THE MDGs:** Include three health-related goals: 1) Reduce child mortality, 2) Improve maternal health, 3) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

All proposals:

- **Positively framed** (toward health) and not negatively (away from sickness).
- Include and expand on the **MDG health targets**.
- Include targets addressing:
  - o Access to **reproductive health services and family planning**. One of the proposals (CIGI) puts this target under the gender equality goal.
  - o **Mortality rates for women and children**, either calling for a specific reduction in the rate or for an end to all preventable maternal and child deaths.
- Aim to reduce the spread and burden of **communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs)**. Two of the proposals specifically emphasize HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases.
  - o Two proposals combine targets on NCDs and infectious diseases together, which may allow for easier tailoring that accounts for different challenges in developed and developing countries.
- Include health targets under goals on food security/agriculture and water that address challenges **from inadequate nutrition, caloric intake, and sanitation**.

Three proposals:

- Include targets aimed at specific policy interventions, for example:
  - o **Affordable and universal health coverage** (SDSN, UNGC, CIGI). The HLP notes that universal health coverage is implicit within its targets as it will be required in order to achieve them.
  - o **Immunization rates** to ensure that all children are fully vaccinated (HLP, SDSN, CIGI).

---

### Differences across Proposals:

---

- Whether targets are **framed as outputs** (e.g. health coverage and immunizations) or **outcomes** (e.g. maternal mortality, non-communicable disease rates, and life expectancy).
- Two proposals (SDSN and CIGI) target **health behaviors**, with SDSN recommending a target to “promote healthy diets and physical activity, discourage unhealthy behaviors, such as smoking and excessive alcohol intake, and track subjective wellbeing and social capital.”

## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### Report of the global thematic consultation on health

- In addition to continuation of the MDG health goals, emphasis on a “**holistic, life-course approach**” to health that includes not only disease prevention but also an emphasis on well-being at all stages of life.
- Principles: human rights, equity, and gender equality.
- Calls for post-2015 to include **priority non-communicable diseases** (heart disease, cancer, respiratory diseases, and diabetes) mental illness, and disability.
- Calls for **universal health coverage** that would emphasize service access, appropriateness, coverage, and quality, health promotion and disease prevention

### Social Determinants of Health Approach (UN) and the Rio Political Declaration

The declaration from the 2011 World Conference on Social Determinants of Health emphasizes the need to “Maintain and develop effective public health policies which address the **social, economic, environmental and behavioral determinants of health** with a particular focus on reducing health **inequities**”

### ODI and Results for Development Institute: Post-2015 Health MDGs

Provides three possible indicators for health:

- A global goal with local targets (such as for years of reduced mortality)
- Use stunting as an indicator of vulnerability
- Use a health systems indicator.

### World Health Organization: Positioning Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Proposes **universal health coverage** as a means to approach the wide range of health concerns that post-2015 must tackle. Assessment would incorporate both a **financial measure** (affordable care) and measure of **access to needed services**.

### People’s Health Movement – Health in the Post-2015 Agenda

- Goes beyond health-specific recommendations to emphasize that “the right to health will not be achieved without commensurate social, cultural, institutional as well as economic development.” Calls for **reforms to the global political and economic architecture** to address underlying causes of health disparities.
- Expresses **concern about a universal health coverage goal**, arguing that it might be poorly defined and would lead to focus on process rather than outcomes or underlying causes of poor health.

## Key Questions

- How should a health goal be tailored to large **differences and shifts in the health challenges** across the globe? For example, how to maintain focus on infectious diseases while also combatting heart disease or circulatory ailments that increasingly plague rich and poor countries alike?
- Given calls for targets to both reduce disease impact and to increase health at all stages of life (not just infant mortality), what should be the role of the post-2015 development agenda in promoting **health in later years of life**?
- Does a focus on **universal health coverage** complement or take away from a focus on health outcomes? Should universal health coverage be adopted in phases by poor countries with limited fiscal capacity?
- How can a goal on health:
  - Address health impacts due to **environmental pollutants** from industry and urbanization?
  - Build **resilience** to impacts from climate change?
  - Address concerns specific to **minorities or indigenous** populations and historic inequalities?
- How should the roles of **private sector** be encouraged in supporting the supply of medicine for the poor as well as in promoting healthy behavior?



## GOAL AREA: INCOME POVERTY AND INCOME INEQUALITY

**SUMMARY:** Two frameworks have a dedicated goal for income poverty, while two knit the concerns together to encompass income poverty, jobs, and total economic growth. None of the proposals include a goal specifically for inequality, but all recognize it as a growing challenge.

---

### PROPOSALS

---

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> End Poverty.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Multiple Goals:</u> 1) End extreme poverty including hunger; 2) achieve gender equality, social inclusion, and human rights for all.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> End poverty and increase prosperity via inclusive economic growth.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Inclusive economic growth for dignified livelihoods and adequate standards of living.

---

**LINKAGES:** Goal frameworks link income poverty and inequalities to economic growth, gender, food security, and the global partnership for development.

**The MDGs:** include a target to “halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day.”

---

### Similarities across proposals

---

All proposals:

- Call for an end to extreme poverty and a reduction in inequalities, recognizing that poverty is multidimensional and includes more than just income.
- Aim to eliminate extreme poverty by 2030 using the **\$1.25 per person** per day definition in addition to other metrics.
- Suggest that monitoring and data collection should be **disaggregated to detect disparities** and inequalities.
- Include **“zero-based” targets** in multiple areas as part of an approach to inequality more broadly.

Three proposals:

- Include a target to also reduce **relative poverty**, based on each country’s national poverty line (HLP, SDSN, CIGI). Those proposals including a measure of relative poverty or relative inequality would allow for **applicability across developed and developing countries**.

---

### Differences across Proposals:

---

- *Links between income and economic growth:* Each proposal approaches income poverty and inequality differently.
  - o The HLP and SDSN reports each suggest two goals – one to eliminate extreme poverty (both use \$1.25 per person per day as a threshold) and one for inclusive growth.
  - o UNGC and CIGI combine income poverty objectives with economic growth.
  - o SDSN includes a goal for social inclusion, which includes targets for multiple types of inequalities, including income as well as inequalities based on race, gender, ethnicity or other attributes.
- *Approach to inequality:* Each proposal mentions worsening inequalities and a desire for progress across all goal areas to be more equally shared. Proposals include:
  - o Beyond income, HLP has a target to increase the share of women, men, businesses and communities with **rights to land, property and other assets**.
  - o UNGC includes a target for increased (and fair) access to **private finance** including savings and loan products. It also includes a target to reduce each country’s **Gini coefficient** (a measure of income inequality) by 30 percent.
  - o CIGI suggests an indicator of the **ratio of income/consumption** of the top 20 percent to the bottom 20 percent.



## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

<b>ODI: Eradicating Global Poverty, a Noble Goal, but How do we Measure it?</b>	<p>Presents multiple proposals for <b>how to measure poverty eradication</b>, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Continuing to use an absolute \$1.25/day measure paired with weekly relative poverty measure.</li><li>- Instituting an international \$12.50/day measure in addition to \$1.25/day and national poverty lines</li><li>- Proposal for internationally coordinated <i>national</i> poverty measurement</li><li>- A complementary poverty measure of multidimensional poverty.</li></ul>
<b>University of Oxford: Multidimensional Poverty and the Post-2015 MDGs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Suggests a <b>multidimensional poverty index 2.0</b> that would complement a \$1.25/day measure by showing <i>how</i> people are poor.</li><li>- Notes that people who experience poverty and deprivations are not necessarily income poor, and vice versa.</li><li>- Defines three overarching dimensions of poverty: <b>health, education, and standard of living</b>.</li></ul>
<b>Unnayan Onneshan: Growing Together Sustainably: A Zero-Poverty Post-2015 Development Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Calls for <b>fundamental values</b> of post-2015 to include rights, equality, justice, sustainability and partnership for development through historic responsibility</li><li>- Asserts that the next framework must better link the <b>rights of the poor</b> and the <b>duty of the state</b>.</li></ul>
<b>IBON International: People's Goals</b>	<p>Includes a goal on poverty and inequality, which calls for policymakers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Implement asset redistribution and reform;</li><li>- Implement income redistribution through progressive fiscal policy;</li><li>- Rectify bias against peoples from poor communities, minorities, migrant groups, disabled persons or based on their gender, race, sexual orientation or for other reasons; and</li><li>- Implement reforms to redress inequality between countries.</li></ul>
<b>Final Report form the Thematic Consultations on Inequalities</b>	<p>The final report emphasizes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Inequalities harm all people</b>, not just those at the bottom. They are a universal problem that persists between and across all societies.</li><li>- The global economy is not at present a <b>level playing field</b>, but rather reinforces certain advantages for those who control key assets.</li><li>- Calls for a <b>stand-alone goal</b> on inequalities.</li></ul>

## Key Questions

- How can or should post-2015 address possible economic transformations or policy reforms needed to achieve this goal?
- How might a goal for income poverty or income equality be well-integrated with one on inclusive growth? While deeply entwined conceptually, should these be considered together or separately for the purposes of a goal framework? What might be lost or gained in either approach?
- How should income poverty be measured? Three proposals combine both the \$1.25/day threshold with measures of relative poverty. CIGI also includes the multidimensional poverty index.
- Given the fact that inequality is increasing both in developed and developing countries, should we seek to have one universal goal and targets (e.g., the UNGC includes a target to reduce each country's **Gini coefficient** by 30 percent)?
- Given income inequality's links to inequalities based on race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, place (subnational regions), or other aspects, how can an approach to income inequality help to address these underlying biases?
- What is the relative merit of various poverty lines that post-2015 could employ? Only one proposal (CIGI) mentions a \$2 per day threshold, although approximately 1 billion people subsist on between \$1.25 and \$2 per day.

## GOAL AREA: SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

**SUMMARY:** Two frameworks separate economic growth as a separate goal from income poverty, while two knit the concerns together to encompass income poverty, jobs, and total economic growth.

---

### PROPOSALS

<b>HLP</b>	Goal: Create jobs, sustainable livelihoods, and economic growth.
<b>SDSN</b>	Goal: Achieve development within planetary boundaries.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	Goal: End poverty and increase prosperity via inclusive economic growth.
<b>CIGI</b>	Goal: Inclusive economic growth for dignified livelihoods and adequate standards of living.

---

**Linkages:** Goal frameworks include links between inclusive economic growth and income poverty, the global partnership for development, gender, education, environmental sustainability, and governance.

**The MDGs:** include a target to “achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.”

---

### Similarities across proposals

- All proposals:
  - o Call for growth that is **inclusive**, recognizing that growth alone may not automatically deliver gains on poverty eradication.
  - o Include targets for **employment** levels and specify a need for **good and decent jobs** – those that offer productive, full-time employment in a safe working environment.
  - o Specifically target **youth unemployment** (SDSN and UNGC specify that this should be below 10 percent), referencing the need for education, technical training, and jobs.
  - o Call for increased fairness in the rules governing global trade.
  - o Include growth-related targets across multiple goals.
- Targets related to unemployment, equal pay for equal work could apply universally across countries.

---

### Differences across proposals:

- *Approach to Economic growth:* Proposals differ in whether they approach growth from the perspective of **aggregate growth or jobs**. SDSN includes a growth target for each country to reach the next income level as defined by the World Bank, whereas HLP’s goal for economic growth targets the number of jobs, number of start-ups, and value added from new products.
- *Social Protection systems:* Two proposals (HLP and CIGI) include targets and indicators respectively that explicitly include social protection systems. CIGI directly mentions **pensions** for the elderly and **unemployment benefits**. HLP does not specify the type of system, but references examples of cash transfer, school lunch, and similar programs.
- *Unique suggestions* include:
  - o HLP’s target for increase in start-ups and value added from new products.
  - o SDSN’s target for each country to reach the next income level as defined by the World Bank.
  - o SDSN’s call for alternate measurement of GDP that incorporates planetary boundaries and other environmental and social indicators.
  - o UNGC’s targets to eliminate child labor and for equal pay for equal work for women.
  - o CIGI’s indicators for social protection: share of elderly receiving pensions and percentage of unemployed receiving benefits.

## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### Growth and Employment in the Post-2015 Agenda: Key Messages from the Thematic Consultations

Results from the global thematic consultation include:

- **Local context** is critical in selecting development strategies.
- The role of the state must go beyond the “basic minimum” to include **correction of market failures**, effective legal structures, and adequate infrastructure.
- The need for improved global role in promoting public goods and reducing public bads.
- The need for structural transformation in some economies toward higher value-added industries.

### World Bank: World Development Report 2013 - Jobs

- Notes that “**jobs drive development**” and that some jobs support development better than others. It suggests that growth strategies may not be sufficient and additional job strategies may be needed.

### International Labor Organization: Concept Note: Jobs and livelihoods: Meaningful ways to set targets and monitor progress

Suggests targets for jobs and livelihoods that include:

- Improved livelihoods for the most **vulnerable workers** and households,
- Increase in the proportion of **good jobs**,
- Increased participation of **women and youth** in employment, and
- Coverage and level of **social protection** floors.

### IBON International: People’s Goals

- Includes three goals on this topic; one on poverty and inequality, one on full employment and decent work; and a third for universal social protection. The proposal for full employment and decent work calls for:
  - o Full employment and decent work for all,
  - o Uphold workers’ rights
- The proposal for universal social protection calls for:
  - o Achieve universal social protection in line with but not limited to the recommendations set in the Bachelet Report and ILO Recommendation 202; and
  - o Protect and assist workers by pursuing labor market interventions.

### International Trade Union Confederation: Briefing Paper on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Proposes two goals for post-2015:
  - o Full employment and decent work for all
  - o Universal social protection.

## Key Questions

- How can or should post-2015 address possible economic transformations or policy reforms needed to achieve this goal? What is post-2015’s role in specifying these?
- How might a goal for inclusive growth be well-integrated with a goal on income poverty and income inequality? While deeply entwined conceptually, should these be considered together or separately for the purposes of a goal framework? What might be lost or gained in either approach?
- Given the macroeconomic policy implications of inclusive growth, what are some plausible ways for the post-2015 agenda to spur meaningful changes in this policy arena?
- What measures are best used to ensure that growth yields quality employment (i.e. is truly sustainable and inclusive)? How might alternatives to GDP be included?
- How should economic empowerment be approached and assessed? UNGC calls for equal pay for equal work, and UN Women includes a target on time spent on domestic labor.
- How does should the framework take into account the nature of jobs created (or already existing) in the informal sector?

## GOAL AREA: WATER

**SUMMARY:** All four proposals address water and include sanitation. Two proposals (HLP and UN Global Compact) suggest a dedicated goal for water and sanitation, CIGI combines water and sanitation with food, and SDSN addresses water and sanitation at target level across multiple goals. All proposals broaden the scope of water compared to the MDGs.

---

### PROPOSALS

<b>HLP</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Achieve universal access to water and sanitation.
<b>SDSN</b>	<u>Targets over multiple goals:</u> 1) Improve agriculture systems and raise rural prosperity; 2) Empower inclusive, productive and resilient cities; and 3) Secure ecosystem services and biodiversity, and ensure good management of water and other natural resources.
<b>UN Global Compact</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Water and sanitation for all.
<b>CIGI</b>	<u>Goal:</u> Sufficient food and water for active living.

---

**LINKAGES:** Proposals link water and sanitation with food, health, environmental sustainability, and infrastructure.

**THE MDGs:** Include a target to “halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.”

---

### Similarities across proposals

- There is **broad consensus to give water more prominence** than it received in the MDG framework.
- All proposals:
  - o acknowledge **linkages between water and economic growth as well as linkages between sectors and goal areas (primarily food, energy and health)**. HLP, SDSN and UNGC make reference to the importance of water for economic development in text, and SDSN and CIGI clearly acknowledge water’s cross-cutting nature by **embedding water under several related policy objectives**.
  - o **Cover access to drinking water and sanitation**, either directly as goals or indirectly through targets or indicators. While the MDG for drinking water was met in 2010, sanitation is significantly off-track and hygiene was not included.
  - o address **water use**, either in respect of balancing availability and usage or through e.g. efficiency in agriculture. Proposals are **inconclusive on which other aspects of water to include**.<sup>3</sup>
- **None include hygiene** (although the HLP and SDSN mention it in text) and **water resources management** (including IWRM) is given little consideration.

---

### Differences across Proposals:

- **The scope differs:**
  - o CIGI stands out by proposing a goal that combines water and sanitation with **food**. While restricting the definition of water in this goal to **access to safe and reliable sources**, CIGI covers the aspects of quality, quantity, distribution and affordability across its goal framework.
  - o The HLP, UNGC and SDSN include **wastewater** in targets, and CIGI mentions it in text. Recycling prior to discharge and full implementation of water effluent standards have been brought out by HLP and UNGC respectively. **Water pollution control and trans-boundary harm** is only addressed by SDSN.
  - o SDSN and CIGI emphasize **water access and distribution to rural and urban areas**, and thus water stress in the context of urbanization and industrialization.
  - o SDSN and CIGI include targets for **water-related risks**. Only CIGI addresses the need for sustainable access to safe water sources in the face of natural disasters.
  - o HLP and SDSN include targets for **water-use efficiency**.
  - o UNGC brings out the need for **investment in green infrastructure for water**.
  - o SDSN (at the target level) and CIGI (at the indicator level) address the need for **monitoring, inventory and transparency in water management and usage**.

---

<sup>3</sup> Issues include drinking water, sanitation, hygiene, water resources management, IWRM, water quality, pollution control, wastewater, water-use efficiency, water-related risks, irrigation, water for energy, water for industry, water for food, water as a human right, transboundary water

## ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES

### The World We Want: Water Thematic Consultation Report

Gathers stakeholder responses to questions regarding access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and linked to a wider water development agenda that embraces water resources and wastewater management, and water quality improvements.

### National Stakeholder Consultations on Water: Supporting the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Summary of consultations in 22 countries with a range of stakeholders involved in water and water related sectors. Demonstrates an overall **emerging consensus on the considerable importance of water to national development**. Finds that many regions and countries are better prepared to consider water development and management in a more integrated manner than they were in 2000.

### United Nations Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation

Recommends objectives for water goals:

- Achieve universal access to sustainable sanitation and to drinking water that is really safe;
- Increase wastewater management and pollution prevention;
- Improve integrated water resources management and water-use efficiency.

Advocates for a “dedicated and comprehensive goal,” but suggests that water resources management and water-use efficiency be included in other goals to handle trade-offs and synergies.

### WHO/UNICEF: Proposal for consolidated drinking water, sanitation and hygiene targets, indicators and definitions

Proposes a **consolidated WaSH goal**: “Safe and sustainable sanitation, hygiene and drinking water used by all”

### African Ministers' Council on Water: Outcomes of the Tunis Post-2015 Water Consultations

Proposes a unified goal of of WaSH, water resources management, wastewater management and water quality: “**Ensure a Water Secure World for All**”

### World Economic Forum: Getting to Zero: Finishing the job the MDGs started

Proposes an SDG framework that addresses water at target level under two goals: 1) Zero goal for infrastructure, 2) Goal of clean and sustainable environment for all.

## Key Questions

- **How broadly or narrowly should a goal on water be defined?** Should a goal on water include measures related to e.g. water-use efficiency, hygiene, wastewater, water-related disasters and/or irrigation, or should these aspects be covered by other goals?
- Should a goal on water be delimited by **water as a medium** (connected through the hydrological cycle), or by **water-related policy objectives** (e.g. food, energy, health)?
- What **role of water in development** should be reflected? Should it be limited to an MDG-approach focusing on ensuring access, or framed as an enabler of inclusive growth and development?
- **How can water's cross-cutting nature be reflected in a dedicated goal?** How to handle **interdependencies, synergies and trade-offs** with other likely goal areas such as food, agriculture, energy, health, income poverty and jobs, and environmental sustainability? If not a dedicated goal, how can water's prominence be ensured?
- How can we bring about **consensus on the definition of adequate and improved access to water and sanitation, and define better indicators?** How do we eliminate the use of dubious statistics and proxy indicators that are currently used to define ‘improved’ sources of water? Is improved (as mentioned in SDSN) really adequate (clearly defined in CIGI)?