

Swedish Steering Group for Beyond 2015 – Input to PGA thematic high-level event of the General Assembly “The Contributions of Women, the Young and Civil Society to the Post-2015 Development Agenda”

In order to ensure the full participation of women, the young and civil society, we would like to highlight a few principles, that we as members of the Beyond 2015-campaign have identified as key in ensuring this; equality, participation, accountability, effectiveness and transparency.

Equality

High levels of inequality, whether based on income, gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability and/or geography, undermine prospects for poverty eradication, economic growth and peaceful societies. They threaten the collective fabric of our societies and our individual potential as women, men and children to contribute to and drive development.

- The post-2015 framework must promote reductions in inequality within and between nations
- The post-2015 framework must promote non-discrimination and human rights for all people.
- Progress must be aimed at entire populations, not percentage improvements, ensuring that ALL are included and not only those most “easy to reach”. Consequently, the post-2015 framework must deliver action which specifically targets those who are most marginalized and vulnerable (as a result of intersecting factors including age, gender, disability, ethnicity, geographic location and others), ensuring that they are equally included in the implementation and outcomes of the post-2015 framework.
- The post-2015 framework must promote non-discrimination by addressing the barriers which currently exclude certain groups from participating, and from accessing services.
- The post-2015 framework must require the disaggregation of data across all goals, targets and indicators and other mechanisms to track the inclusion of those who are marginalized, and to measure improvements in equity and equality.
- Reporting on progress will require reporting against each goal and target in both absolute and relative terms and success will only be reported for goals which show improvement in equity as well as absolute terms.
- Targets to reduce the gaps between advantaged and disadvantaged groups, including a target on income inequality, with a commitment that no target will be considered met until it is met by all social and income groups.
- Targets to encourage policies that reduce inequalities such as universal coverage of social protection and measures to tackle the underlying drivers of gender inequality.

Participation

- The post-2015 framework must reflect and support the active participation of ALL people in their individual and collective development process.
- The development, monitoring, re-planning and implementation of the post-2015 framework must be based on meaningful participation involving all stakeholders especially people living in extreme poverty and marginalization.
- The post-2015 framework must be clearly defined and based upon the experiences of people living in poverty and marginalization through their direct input into the process and outcomes, recognizing these individual experiences are more than “anecdotal evidence”.
- The post-2015 framework itself, during the implementation period, should be open to monitoring feedback loops which suggest changes of emphasis or a refocusing on specific aspects at the global or national level.

Accountability

The post-2015 framework must set out enforceable accountability and transparency mechanisms and processes. This must include national oversight and independent review mechanisms at the international level, with multi-stakeholder participation.

- The post-2015 framework must include monitoring mechanisms with reliable, comparable and disaggregated data (both quantitative and qualitative) and baselines. These mechanisms must also operate with maximum transparency of source and use.
- The responsibilities of different actors, including, civil society, governments, multilaterals and private sector actors, must be clearly reflected at all levels of the post-2015 framework so that actors are able to hold one another to account
- Monitoring processes must promote a deep, holistic view of development, sustainability and justice, and must avoid reducing the post-2015 framework to simplistic measures.
- Implementation and monitoring of the post-2015 framework should promote good governance and tackle corruption

Effectiveness

- The post-2015 framework must represent a coherent set of goals, targets and indicators which will be effective in ensuring that the structural causes, not just the symptoms, of poverty, inequity and environmental degradation are tackled holistically.
- The post-2015 framework must be ambitious and achievable, with the potential to deliver demonstrable and sustainable progress within the agreed timeframe, dependent on collective international, regional and national effort.
- The post-2015 framework must be clearly communicated so that it can be understood in the same way by all actors.
- The post-2015 framework must clearly indicate the mechanisms, processes and resources required for its effective implementation by different actors at all levels.
- The future post-2015 framework must include robust mechanisms to ensure that disparities in progress are addressed through targeting of aid and sector budgets as well as the establishment of credible plans at the national level.
- The post-2015 framework must ensure that no policy in any area negatively impacts on the achievement of the international development goals.

*Swedish Steering Group for Beyond 2015, co-ordinated by CONCORD Sweden.
The following organizations support this statement:*

Diakonia
 Forum Syd
 LSU -The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations
 LO-TCO Secretariat of International Trade Union Development Co-operation
 MyRight
 Plan Sweden
 PMU - Swedish Pentecostal churches
 RFSU - the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education
 United Nations Association of Sweden
 Church of Sweden
 Swedish Mission Council
 WaterAid, Sweden
 WWF - World Wildlife Fund, Sweden