Post-2015 Process status

The process to design the post-2015 development agenda is intergovernmental in nature, although the multilateral system has maintained outreach and consultations to other stakeholders. On the 25th of September 2013 UN Member States recognized that the future agenda should address poverty eradication and sustainable development and agreed on the calendar:

- In September 2014, following the report of the Open Working Group and the Expert Committee on financing, intergovernmental negotiations will be launched;
- Before the end of 2014, the SG will submit a synthesis report on Post-2015;
- In September 2015, a summit will conclude the final phase of Post-2015.

The Open Working Group released its report on July 18th, 2014. It contains 17 goals and 169 targets. Many welcome its comprehensiveness; other are concerned that the high number of goals and targets might make such a framework difficult or impossible to implement in its entirety, especially in developing countries with limited capacities.

An Expert Committee on Sustainable Development Financing, comprising 30 experts, released its report on August 8th, 2014 focused on (1) financial needs, (2) financial resources and (3) institutional framework and policy coherence. Many believe a key challenge is finding the resources to achieve the successor goals.

UN structures to support the Post-2015 agenda

UNDP plays a leadership role across the key UN substantive and coordination strands on Post-2015. UNDP and UN Women co-chair the UNDG MDG Taskforce, which oversees the consultation process. UNDP and UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (DESA) co-chair the UN Task Team, comprising over 60 UN entities. UNDP and UN DESA also co-chair a subset of the UN Task Team, called the Technical Support Team (TST), which has supported the Open Working Group on the SDGs.

In 2013, UNDP implemented the project “Building the Post-2015 development agenda: open and inclusive global consultations” under a UN Development Group umbrella. The project entailed supporting (1) 88 national dialogues on Post-2015; (2) 11 thematic meetings on issues selected by the UNDG; and (3) an ambitious social media platform for outreach to all citizens and concerned stakeholders. The 88 national-level dialogues on Post-2015 started July 2012. Consultations were led by the country-level UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams with support from regional and HQ staff.

What will happen next?

1. UNDP will be engaged in the strategic direction of the SG’s synthesis report, under the guidance of the SG’s special adviser on post-2015, and the policy ASGs of UNDP, DESA and UN Women.

2. The formal UN General Assembly negotiations may commence after the release of the SG’s synthesis report, or earlier in September 2014.
3. The third financing for development conference will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on July 13-16 2015. This discussion is also connected to the Global Partnership for Development discussion, an effort involving stakeholders beyond the UN and Member States.
4. The UN High Level Political Forum will conduct regular voluntary, state-led reviews, starting in 2016, on the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the means of implementation, within the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

The areas for further consultations in 2014 are:
- Localizing the post-2015 development agenda
- Helping to strengthen capacities and institutions
- Participatory monitoring, and existing and new forms of accountability
- Partnerships with civil society and other actors
- Partnerships with the private sector
- Culture and development

Many UN agencies are co-leading these new consultations on which more than 50 countries are involved. http://www.worldwewant2015.org/sitemap.

Work has started in several countries to implement pilot illustrative goals and targets. Different ministries are currently discussing with UNDP country teams how to design these goal-oriented processes, notably in Mexico on social inclusion, in Turkey on inclusive growth, in Albania and Tunisia on governance, and in Paraguay on disaster risk reduction.

For reference, the 17 goals called for in the proposal for Post-2015 as of now are:
1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all.
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries.
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for development.