

# **Africa-Region Perspectives on the Post 2015 Agenda**

**United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
Economic Development and NEPAD Division**

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**United Nations Economic Commission  
for Africa**

# Three Processes

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1. Position papers on the post-2015 agenda
  - Discussions informed by 4 position papers that outlined the case for: retaining, reformulating and replacing the MDGs as well as a paper on NEPAD and the post-2015 Development Agenda
2. Multistakeholder consultations
3. Continent-wide surveys

# Multi-stakeholder Consultations

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- Organized in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), and UNDP (Regional Bureau for Africa) in Accra Nov 15-16, 2011
- 47 participants from 18 African countries
  - Burkina Faso, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, S. Africa, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe
- Representation from government, civil society and academia

# Key findings: Gaps in the MDGs

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- limited focus on economic growth and transformation;
- limited emphasis on the role of domestic resource mobilization in Africa's development agenda;
- tendency to neglect issues relating to the quality of service delivery;
- silent on inequality including spatial and horizontal inequality; and
- disproportionate focus on outcomes with limited consideration of the enablers of development: excludes factors such as infrastructure and peace and security

# Critical Enablers of Development

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- *Institutional capacity development.*
- *Domestic resource mobilization:*
- *Participation and ownership at the community, national, regional and global levels*
- *Social inclusiveness and equality*
- *Leadership and governance*
- *Peace and Security*
- *Regional integration and trade*
- *Infrastructure development*
- *Global cooperation and partnerships*

# Proposed Areas of Focus

Goals	Measures
<b>Promote transformation and sustainable growth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prioritize employment creation</li><li>• Promote rural development</li><li>• Promote value addition of primary commodities and resources</li><li>• Ensure food security</li><li>• Promote and expand trade, markets and regional integration and investment</li><li>• Prioritize sustainability and support green economy initiatives</li></ul>
<b>Promote education and technological innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strengthen quality and access to basic and tertiary education</li><li>• Invest in secondary, tertiary and vocational education</li><li>• Promote technology transfer</li><li>• Invest in research and development</li></ul>

# Proposed Areas of Focus

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Goals	Measures
<b>Promote human and social development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote gender parity/empowerment of women in all spheres of endeavor</li><li>• <b>Protect human rights and assure justice and equality</b></li><li>• Promote access to social protection</li><li>• Promote maternal and child health</li><li>• Support and empower the elderly and disabled</li><li>• Prioritize disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation initiatives</li></ul>

# Findings of the Continent-wide Survey

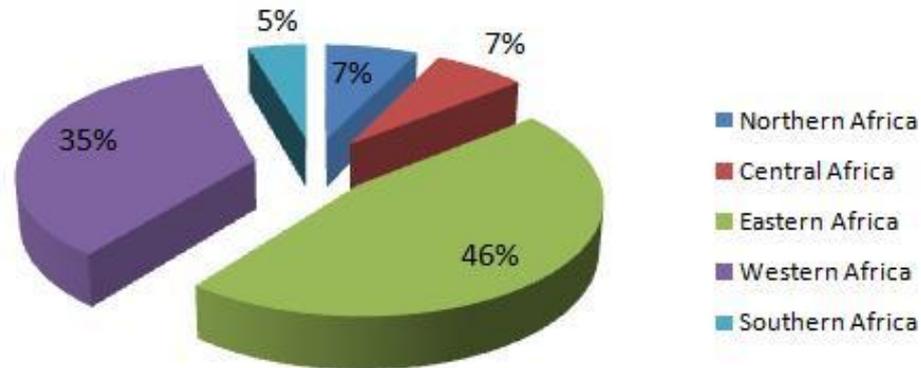
# Profile of respondents

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As of 24 January, 2012:

- 204 survey responses - 112 complete, 92 incomplete
- Displayed results are based on complete survey responses

## Distribution of responses by sub-regions in Africa

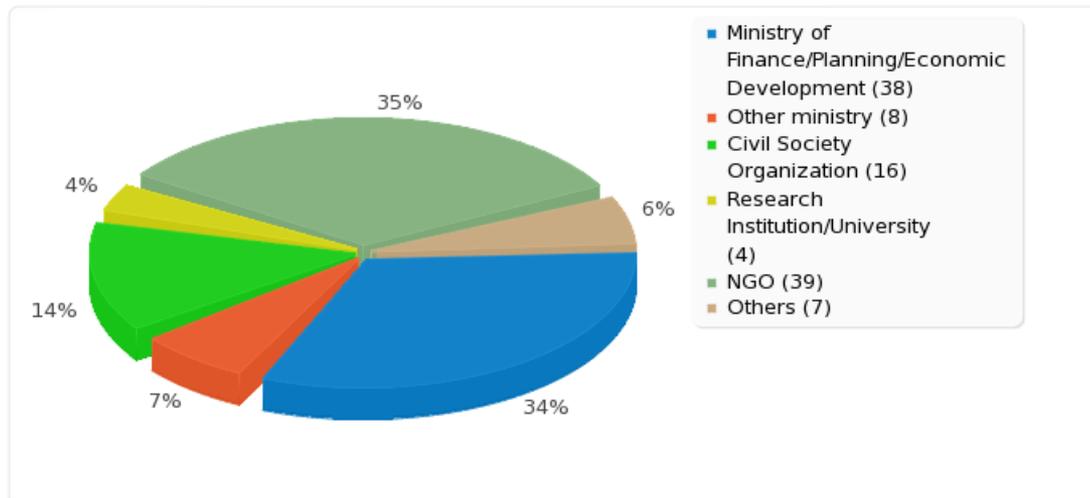


# Profile of respondents

- The majority of respondents are from government ministries and NGOs

## Responses categorized based on Institution

Answer	Count	Percentage
Ministry of Finance/Planning/Economic Development	38	33.93%
Other ministry	8	7.14%
Civil Society Organization	16	14.29%
Private Sector Organization	0	0.00%
Research Institution/University	4	3.57%
NGO	39	34.82%
Others	7	6.25%



# Assessment of the MDGs – Key

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## MDG areas examined in survey:

Goal 1a – Poverty and Inequality

Goal 1b – Employment and Decent Work

Goal 2 – Education and Skills Training

Goal 3 – Population and Gender

Goals 4,5,6 – Health and Nutrition

Goal 7a – Urbanization and Migration

Goal 7b – Environment and Climate Change

Goal 8 – Trade and Aid

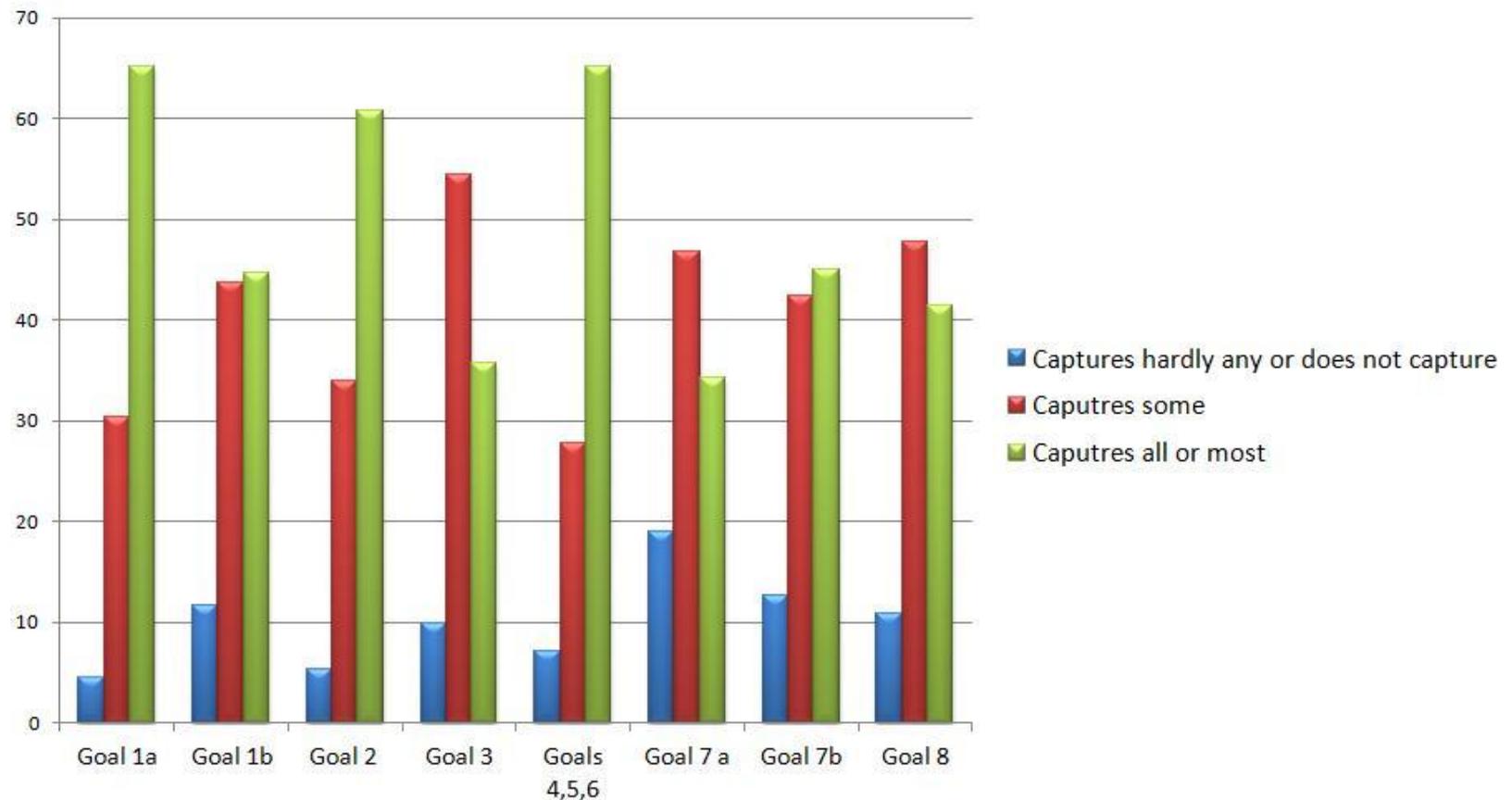
# Assessment of the MDGs

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- MDGs generally capture countries' priorities and concerns for the policy areas - MDGs 3 and 7a (urbanization and migration) were the least representative of countries' priorities and concerns
  - MDG 7 do not adequately capture urbanization and migration concerns
  - MDG 3 neglects issues such as early marriage, population policy, early marriage, gender-based violence etc.,
- Overwhelming support for the inclusion of the current MDG policy areas in the post-2015 agenda
- Commonly raised critiques of the MDGs relate to the lack of specificity, implementation and oversight
- Problems with monitoring and evaluation, linked to inadequate statistical capacity

# MDGs Capture national priorities and concerns

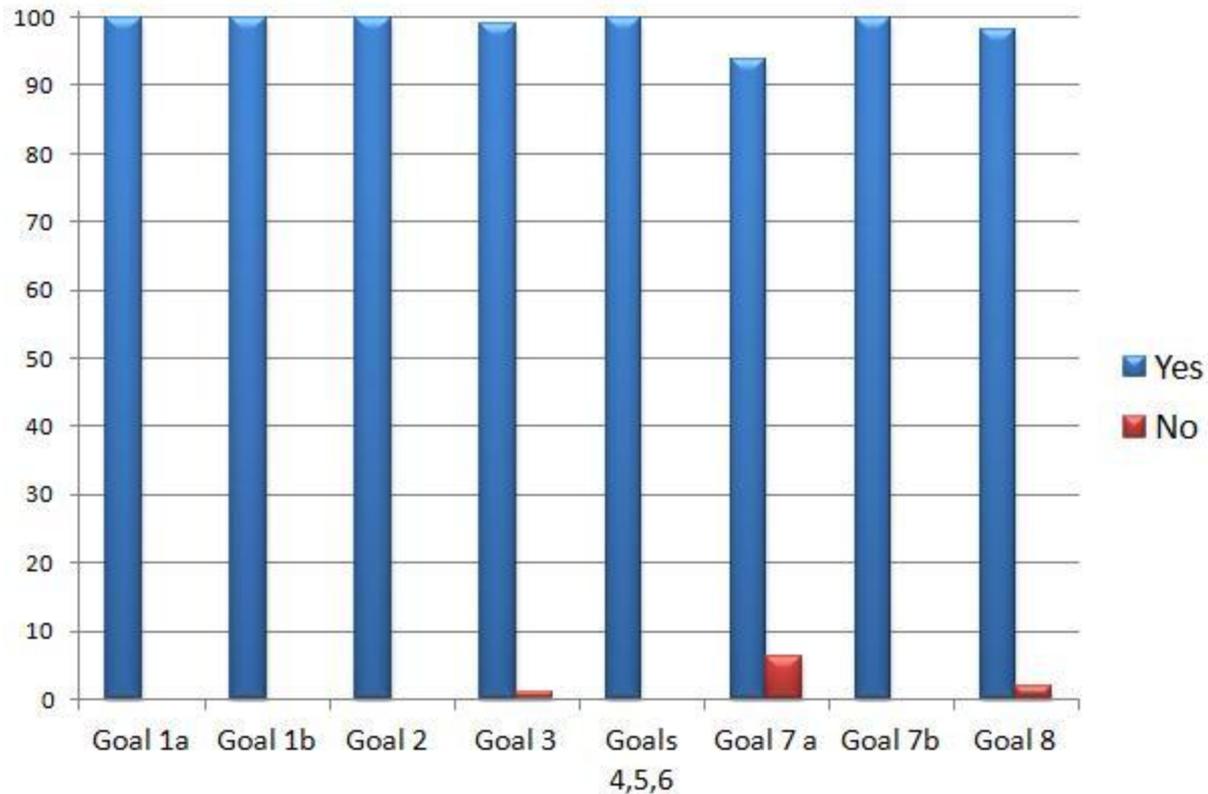
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# Assessment of support for the MDGs

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Should the MDG areas be part of the post-2015 agenda



# Critiques of the MDGs

**Based on your country's experience, what are the main flaws of the MDGs as they are currently designed? (choose all that apply)**

Answer	Count	Percentage
Provides little/no advisory support	34	30.36%
Provides no guide for funding to implement programmes and projects	46	41.07%
Pose difficulties in monitoring and evaluation (data collection, measuring targets, etc.)	50	44.64%
Global targets are not region or country-specific	61	54.46%
Pose insufficient number of measurable targets	28	25.00%
Do not reflect developing country perspective	36	32.14%
Overlooks capacity to implement programmes and projects	52	46.43%
Overlooks inequality	39	34.82%
Overlooks issue of sustainability	49	43.75%
Overlooks responsibilities of developed countries	49	43.75%
Overlooks accountability aspects	50	44.64%
Pose arbitrary baselines	32	28.57%
The MDGs design were not at all/insufficiently participatory	44	39.29%
Lack of measurable targets in some of the MDGs	39	34.82%
Others	10	8.93%

# Suggested New Areas for the Post-2015 Agenda

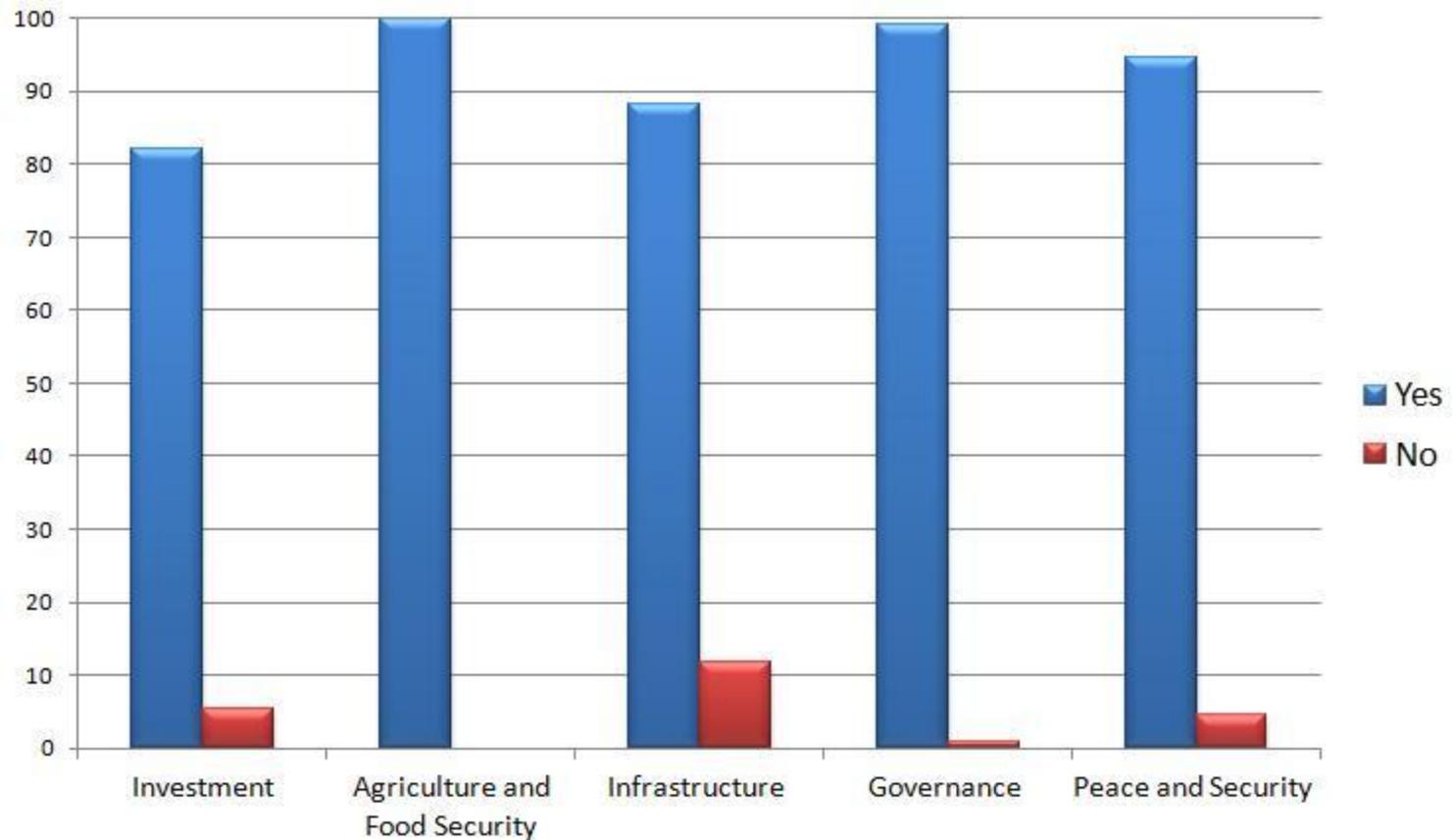
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- **Investment:** Value addition; technology transfer
- **Infrastructure:** water, electricity, communications, and a rural focus
- **Agriculture and food security:** Market access; productivity; water management
- **Peace and Security:** Decrease crime, strengthen the power of public prosecutors and ensure access to the judiciary
- **Governance:** free speech, democracy and gender equality in decision making

# Potential Post-2015 Goals – Summary

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Should the policy areas be part of the post-2015 agenda



# Moving Forward: Concerns

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- **Over-crowding the Agenda:**
- **The complexity of including certain issues** such as **governance and peace and security** may make it difficult to develop:
  - consensus and
  - widely accepted and measurable indicators

# Process matters for sustainability

Goals	Outcomes
<b>To create an enabling environment for the realization of the Post 2015 Development Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhanced Peace and Security</li><li>• Good governance</li><li>• Human rights for all</li><li>• Strengthened access to justice and equality</li><li>• A credible participatory process</li><li>• Enhanced capacity to measure progress and ensure accountability</li></ul>

# A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
<b>Promote transformation and sustainable growth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employment creation</li><li>• Rural development</li><li>• Value addition of primary commodities and resources</li><li>• Food security</li><li>• Fair trade and regional integration</li><li>• Vibrant and sustainable green economy initiatives</li><li>• <b>Robust and reliable infrastructure*</b></li></ul>

# A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
<b>Promote capacity development and technological innovation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Universal access to basic (primary secondary) and tertiary education that meet minimum standards</li><li>• Effective Technology transfer</li><li>• Robust research and development</li></ul>

# A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
<b>Promote human development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gender parity and empowerment of women and <b>youth</b></li><li>• Access to social protection</li><li>• Improved maternal and child health</li><li>• The elderly and disabled empowered</li><li>• Strengthened disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation initiatives</li></ul>

# Conclusions

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- The MDGs must be reformulated to reflect emerging priorities and aspirations
- The post-2015 agenda must take into account **development enablers** to focus global attention on the binding constraints to the realization of the post 2015 agenda and to promote sustainability
- However, to avoid overload we need to be strategic in the choice of enablers to include in the framework
- **Transformation** and **capacity development** are critical to Africa's development and must underpin the post-2015 agenda
- The Agenda must reflect regional initiatives and priorities such as NEPAD and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

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# THANK YOU

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