Statement delivered on the topic of ‘Building synergies between FFD and post-2015’: January 30 2015

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Beyond 2015 is a global coalition with over 1200 members in more than 140 countries and we believe that people’s participation, in all its diversity, is central to the new global development agenda.

The success of the Addis Ababa Conference in July 2015 will be critical for the post-2015 process and will pave the way for an ambitious and aspirational Post-2015 Summit in September. Strong synergies between the post-2015 and the FfD processes are crucial to achieve the vision of leaving no one behind.

The agreement on the high level technical and systemic matters of the FFD agenda will have a direct impact on countries’ ability to achieve the sustainable development goals. For this reason, the FFD agenda should be strengthened and deepened, taking into account the broader definition of sustainable development and its three pillars: social, environmental and economic. We, therefore, welcome the co-facilitators’ approach in bringing in new and essential items into the elements paper, in particular on monitoring, data and follow up and we also recognize that all critical issues of Monterrey and Doha should be maintained in the process.

We would like to give two specific pieces of feedback on the elements paper.

1. We propose that the Addis Ababa outcome document builds an understanding of ‘sustainable’ development finance. We, therefore suggest six principles of sustainability that could be integrated into a financing approach. This may enable us to start talking about ‘Financing for Sustainable Development’.

In this sense, Financing for sustainable development should aim to:

1. Balance different policy dimensions;
2. Have long timeframes and intergenerational equity;
3. Prioritise environment sustainability and climate change; recognising limits to growth, and planetary boundaries;
4. Enable equal opportunities and access, especially for the poorest and most marginalized.
5. Ensure inclusion and people’s participation;

To leave no one behind, we consider that the FFD outcome document should make explicit references to the different dimensions of vulnerability and marginalization. Additionally, it is important that a commitment is made to remove obstacles to full participation by persons with disabilities, older persons, adolescents, women, girls, youth and the poorest recognizing that people are more than recipients of change: they must also be considered active agents and drivers of change.
2. To achieve a framework that ensures ‘financing for sustainable development’, we need effective governance. Good governance requires that transparency, participation and accountability are recognized in all aspects of the FfD which were not strongly reflected in the elements paper. It is also essential that sub-nationally detailed, disaggregated data is available to decision makers: to inform an understanding of needs, to ensure that the impacts of financing interventions are understood and ‘do no harm’, and to support the goal of ‘leaving no-one behind’. For this reason, we would like to kindly invite Member States to review the joint CSO response that brings suggestions for specific language relating to transparency, accountability, and participation; and data, monitoring and follow-up.

Thank you.

About this intervention

This short statement is issued on behalf of the Beyond 2015 FfD Advisory Task Force. The original draft was produced by Development Initiatives, based largely on existing Beyond 2015 material. This draft was then considered and discussed by the Beyond 2015 FfD Advisory Task Force and consultation was undertaken with the FFD CSO group. Redrafting was coordinated by Light for the World, Development Initiatives and the Beyond 2015 staff. In accordance with the Beyond 2015 protocol on forming policy positions, the final version was signed off by a two-thirds majority of the Beyond 2015 FfD Advisory Task Force.

Diversity of opinion within civil society

Whilst Beyond 2015 participating organisations have a range of views regarding the content of a post-2015 framework, the campaign is united in working to bring about the following outcome:
- A global overarching cross-thematic framework succeeds the Millennium Development Goals, reflecting Beyond 2015’s policy positions.
- The process of developing this framework is participatory, inclusive and responsive to voices of those directly affected by poverty and injustice.

During the process of writing this statement, no major different opinions emerged within the Beyond 2015 FfD Task Force.