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Elements of a Framework for Social Development beyond 2015

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Rethinking and Strengthening Social Development in the Contemporary
World: Progress in Advancing Social Development and Lessons Learned.

UNDESA, New York, 17-18 July 2014

Contemporary Challenges

A changing geo-political and social landscape

- Rapid growth of some large emerging countries such as China, India and Brazil.
- Three quarters of the poor now live in middle-income countries
- One quarter of the poor in fragile and conflict countries
- Regress in social conditions and increase poor households in developed countries since 2008 crises

Beyond 2015

- Twenty years after WSSD in Copenhagen
- Target Year MDGs
- Introduction SDGs

Draft SDG

- 5 Social Goals
- 5 Sustainability Goals
- 3 Economic Goals
- 4 General Goals

Draft SDG

1. End poverty everywhere
2. End hunger, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Attain healthy lives for all
4. Provide quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all
5. Attain gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere
6. Ensure availability and sustainable use of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure sustainable energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Promote sustainable infrastructure and industrialization and foster Innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and between countries

11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and sustainable
12. Promote sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Tackle climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and promote sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources
15. Protect and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, halt desertification, land degradation and biodiversity loss
16. Achieve peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and effective and capable institutions
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and the global partnership for sustainable development

SDGs and Social Development

- Better Balance between economic and social goals than MDGs
- Especially Important: Centrality of Employment

However

- Timid acceptance of inequality
- Absence of a global social floor
- Global governance remains weak

And

- Policies for implementation not always spelt out

SDGs as Framework for Social Development ?

SDGs provide a good basis for Global Framework for Social Development, as the social economic and ecological elements are better integrated.

However more needs to be done for implementation at national and global level.

SDGs could lead to Global Social Contract which could be elaborated at the Commission for Social development in the years to come.

Elements of the global social contract could be the following:

Towards a global social contract

Human Rights

- Right to Development
- Non-Discrimination, Participation and Accountability
- Statistics reflecting Inequality

Towards a global social contract

Global Social Floor

- Feasible in many countries: Political Will
- Avoids supply side sectoral approach of MDG
- ODA partly to become direct transfer payments to global citizens (social transfer payments)

Towards a global social contract

Global Governance and National Socio-Economic policies

- Global Economic Coordination Council
- Acknowledgement National Policy Space
- Official recognition role of civil society
- ODA more geared towards Global Public Goods

Towards a global social contract

Measurement Sustainable and Social Development

- Not only GDP
- Quality of life
- Greening economic progress
- Special attention to the bottom 40%