



Regional Perspectives on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Towards More Inclusive, Sustainable and Prosperous Societies in the UNECE Region

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Unique perspective of UNECE region

- Region includes highly diverse countries in Europe, North America and Central Asia
- UNECE region is a microcosm of global challenges
- UN System in the region about to formulate regional post-2015 vision
- Regional Consultation on Post-2015 Agenda on 5 and 6 September 2013
- Lessons from our region point to four overarching principles for the new agenda:

Universality

**Based on
sustainable
development**

**Reducing
inequalities**

**Effective
implementation**





A post-2015 framework for all countries

Universality

- MDGs were only partly relevant for our region
- Reconciling economic development, social progress and the environment is a challenge for every country
- The new framework should go beyond “MDG plus”
- Truly global framework with sufficient flexibility





Putting people and planet first

- Conventional growth-centred development approaches do not solve today's challenges
- The integration of the pillars of sustainable development has not taken place
- What needs to happen?
 - Design a new development agenda based on sustainable development
 - Make the transformation to a green economy
 - Work towards behavioural changes

**Based on
sustainable
development**





Looking through the lens of equality and inclusion

Reducing inequalities

- Rising inequalities in income and wealth across the region
- Social exclusion experienced by marginalized groups
- Rising inequalities also with regard to unemployment, health and education
- What needs to happen?
 - Renewed emphasis on full employment and decent jobs
 - Greater investment in quality health and education services
 - Stronger social protection
 - Commit to end gender inequalities





Making the new agenda work

- New approaches of policy-making will be needed to implement the new agenda
- What needs to happen?

Effective implementation

- Design and implement whole-of-government strategies
- Involve civil society and the private sector
- Further develop sub-regional, regional and global cooperation
- Promote good governance
- Put in place data collection and accountability and monitoring mechanisms





Water

- There are proposals for a future Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on water that would go beyond 'water and sanitation'
- SDGs should address water management more broadly
- UNECE facilitated the sub-consultation on Water Resources Management
- Transboundary water cooperation is crucial for peace, security, poverty eradication and the protection of ecosystems
- The UNECE Water Convention represents a unique global intergovernmental framework to ensure sustainable water management and prevent conflicts





Sustainable Transport

- Transport is central to sustainable development and green economy
- Also key sector for growth, trade and social inclusion
- Significant polluter and contributor to GHG emissions
- Inclusion of an SDG on transport warranted
- UNECE works with UNESCAP to develop Euro-Asian inland transport links
- Practical results through UNECE international transport agreements





Measurement of sustainable development

- Recommendations for framework to measure sustainable development
- Developed by a Task Force set up jointly by UNECE, Eurostat and OECD
- Key step towards harmonising the various approaches used by countries and international organizations
- Expected to contribute to the UN processes on formulating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the post-2015 development agenda
- Early involvement of statistical experts crucial





Sustainable Cities

- Rio+20 outcome document emphasized sustainable urban development
- Proposals for SDG on sustainable cities
- UNECE work in housing and land management pivotal, including through key tools like the Action Plan for Energy Efficiency in the UNECE Region
- October 2013 – UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management Ministerial Meeting to agree on new strategy





Thank you for your attention!

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