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## INFORMATION NOTE FOR THE LEADING GROUP ON POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

### THE UN AND THE CONSULTATIONS AROUND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – which include ambitious targets to reduce extreme poverty, hunger and improve access to health and education – will expire in 2015. What should replace the MDGs post-2015 has emerged a central question for the international community over the next few years.

In November 2011, under the umbrella of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), UNDP launched the project: **“Building the post 2015 development agenda: open and inclusive global consultations”**. The initiative aims to inform international policy discussions around a post-2015 development framework through a broad based consultative process designed to collect the perspectives of people from all parts of the world.

This consultative process includes:

1. The creation of a High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda by the UN Secretary-General which has been tasked with preparing a ‘bold yet practical development vision to present to Member States’ in March 2013;
2. Over 66 national consultations in developing countries which are intended to foster an inclusive multi-stakeholder process and advocate for a Post-2015 development agenda informed by national and local priorities;
3. 11 thematic consultations on issues such as inequalities, governance, growth and employment, food security and nutrition, health and education, conflict and fragility, environmental sustainability and energy;
4. A Global Online Conversation on post 2015 via a specially established an on-line platform: <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/>

It is expected that this inclusive approach will contribute to a shared vision for ‘The World We Want’ beyond 2015 and will add legitimacy to the process by providing a space for people’s voices in the discussion. Currently, work on the post-2015 framework is being carried out on a separate track to work on developing the so-called ‘Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDGs) which were an outcome of the 2012 Rio+20 Conference. Nevertheless, discussions on the post 2015 development framework are taking into account the deliberations and the outcome of the Rio+20 Conference and there is some expectation that at some later stage, the two tracks may merge.

## **THE CHALLENGE OF ESTABLISHING THE IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM**

One challenge is to set the norms and values by which we ought to live. Another challenge lies in **how** to implement that vision. A critical component of any implementation strategy for the post 2015 development framework will be finance; the MDG experience has shown that development financing is a central element of countries' abilities to make progress against the goals, especially the poorest.

While the MDGs focused on outcomes, there was an absence of guidance on the means of implementation in the MDG framework. As the deliberations on the post-2015 UN development agenda advance, preparatory work is envisaged for a second round of consultations on the question of **'how'** the post 2015 framework will be implemented. These would cover issues such as development financing, monitoring and evaluation systems and accountability mechanisms. The UN system may also initiate work on developing a coherent UN system approach to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework by governments and other stakeholders.

In this context, a series of focused discussions on how to design the key building blocks of the post 2015 framework is envisaged. These consultations will start after the UN General Assembly (GA) of September 2013, since the GA is expected to provide guidance around the broad contours of the post 2015 framework (i.e. that question of 'what' the world wants to see). A second phase of consultations on implementation strategies – to be carried out in 2014 by UNDG – would aim to provide space for a diverse range of stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental) to voice their expert opinions, proposals, analysis and aspirations on the implementation of the post 2015 development agenda (the 'how' questions).

The themes might include the following: data availability, monitoring and accountability systems, means of implementation, sources of finance, and technology exchange among others. The Terms of Reference for the UNDG phase two consultations around how to implement the post 2015 development agenda are expected to be developed in December 2013/January 2014.

## **POST 2015 AND THE LEADING GROUP**

The inclusive and participatory nature of the consultative process on a post 2015 development agenda provides an important opportunity for the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development - which is at the forefront of international efforts to promote innovations in development financing instruments - to make a substantive and influential contribution to these discussions, especially during phase two of the consultations on 'implementation'.

The consultations on questions related to 'how' the post 2015 vision will be implemented, based on the guidance of the UN General Assembly in September 2013, are scheduled to take place in 2014. In this timeline, the 12<sup>th</sup> Leading Group Plenary Session scheduled in 2013 provides an excellent opportunity to make more specific plans in terms of the LG's engagement in this process. While the consultations on 'what' are ongoing and first steps towards the structures for discussions on implementation are taken, UNDP/UNDG and the LG-secretariat would like to welcome the LG-members to express their views on the potential of the innovative financing in general, and on the contributions the Leading Group could make, in the context of post 2015-agenda for development.

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Useful resources: <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/>