Open For Development

Achieving Greater Post-2015 Results through an Open Design Process, Monitoring System and Data Portals

ONE

Executive Summary

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have contributed to unprecedented progress in the fight against global poverty. To further accelerate progress in the run-up to the MDG deadline in 2015, and to ensure sustained progress beyond this date, there is an urgent need for greater transparency about investments made in tackling development challenges and about the specific outcomes achieved. Openness – especially transparency, accountability and public participation – must be at the heart of the post-2015 development framework. ONE – along with Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), Development Initiatives, Fundar (Mexico), Global Witness, Global Movement for Budget Transparency, Accountability and Participation, Integrity Action, International Budget Partnership, Luta Hamutuk Institute (Timor Leste), Publish What You Fund, Publish What You Pay, Revenue Watch Institute, Transparency International, W3C (Brasil) – is calling on the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons (HLP), the UN Secretary-General and UN Member States to put transparency and accountability at the centre of the new framework by establishing an open design process, a clear monitoring framework and open accountability portals. Specifically, we urge the HLP to consider the following concrete recommendations:

- **Recommendation 1:** The HLP should recommend that the UN Secretary-General's report to Member States includes a quantitative overview of survey-based consultations, with concrete proposals for ensuring that input from citizens in developing countries forms the core of the new framework.

- **Recommendation 2:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States (both developing and developed nations) report on investments deployed in pursuit of the development goals and targets to be agreed. This reporting should be done on a regular, methodologically consistent and timely basis.

- **Recommendation 3:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States commit to provide significant investments in developing countries' statistical capacity, and collect and report on achieved outcomes related to the agreed development goals and targets. This reporting should be executed on a regular and timely basis (e.g. an annual or quarterly cycle with minimal time lags).

- **Recommendation 4:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States commit to identifying, creating and publicising opportunities for citizens to engage in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of efforts related to achieving the agreed goals and targets.

- **Recommendation 5:** The HLP should recommend that the UN, the World Bank or other appropriate actors establish, on either a national or a harmonised global basis, user-friendly public platforms that provide relevant data in line with emerging standards for open data.

Openness and information must be at the heart of the post-2015 framework

1. Overview

In 2000, leaders from 189 countries laid out a bold new vision to tackle global poverty and disease by 2015. The Millennium Declaration – and the subsequent Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – rallied the world around a set of global targets aimed at halving extreme poverty, improving health and education outcomes and increasing access to clean water and sanitation systems. Since then, the world has made dramatic progress towards achieving many of these goals, such as:

- Providing 6.2 million Africans with antiretroviral treatment for HIV/AIDS, compared with only 50,000 a decade ago;[1]
- Cutting malaria by 75% in eight African countries;[2]
- Saving over 5.5 million lives through the greater availability and utilisation of vaccines;[3]
- Enrolling an additional 50.8 million children in primary schools across Africa between 1999 and 2010;[4]
- Providing access to improved drinking water for over two billion people worldwide between 1990 and 2010;[5]
- Reducing the number of undernourished people in Latin America by 15 million, from 57 million in 1990 to 42 million in 2012;[6] and
- Lifting 600 million people out of extreme poverty between 1990 and 2008.[7]

Fundamentally, the MDGs helped to launch a new era that finally took advantage of the end of the Cold War by putting poverty reduction at the top of the global development agenda. They provided a guide for designing policies, allocating resources and tracking progress towards poverty reduction. They are widely credited with reversing longstanding trends of under-investment, by both external and domestic actors, in agriculture, health, education and basic infrastructure. This suggests that the post-2015 framework – informed by extensive UN-led consultations, conferences and debates – could define how the world combats development challenges for at least a generation.

In late January 2013, the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons (HLP) meet in Liberia to begin drafting recommendations for the post-2015 framework. The report the HLP submits to the UN Secretary-General is expected to strongly influence the ultimate shape of the new development architecture. To build upon the success of the existing MDGs, while addressing their limitations, especially the scandalous lack of investment in statistics and quality data, ONE – along with Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), Development Initiatives, Fundar (Mexico), Global Witness, Global Movement for Budget Transparency, Accountability and Participation, Integrity Action, International Budget Partnership, Luta Hamutuk Institute (Timor Leste), Publish What You Fund, Publish What You Pay, Revenue Watch Institute, Transparency International, W3C (Brasil) – is calling on the HLP, the UN Secretary-General and UN Member States to put transparency and accountability at the centre of the new framework by ensuring an open design process, a clear monitoring framework and open accountability portals:[8]

- **Open design process:** Utilising traditional and new technologies and inclusive practices to solicit and respond to the most pressing concerns and priorities of ordinary people, especially those living in poverty;

- **Clear monitoring framework:** Collecting reliable, timely and accessible information about investments and outcomes;

- **Open accountability portals:** Investing in open, accessible data platforms that enable citizens and other stakeholders to monitor results.

These principles are critical to the post-2015 framework, but relevant stakeholders should not wait until 2016 to mainstream them into development practices. Many of these recommended actions can be pursued immediately, which will help to better incorporate citizen participation, transparency, data improvements and accountability into the final push to achieve the existing MDGs.

2. The Millennium Development Goals, 12 Years On

A Game-Changing Legacy

Over the past decade, many developing countries have achieved unparalleled rates of progress in areas such as reducing child mortality, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases, and increasing primary school completion rates.[9] Based upon the latest available data and observed trends, at least 60 developing countries are "on track" to reach the extreme poverty, gender equality, child mortality and water MDGs (Figure 1).

The MDGs have played a central role in this progress, through the mobilisation of unprecedented political, financial and programmatic resources. In many ways, the goals have helped to shift the development discourse away from an exclusive focus on monetary inputs and increasingly towards achieving concrete outcomes. Moreover, their global, universal nature has meant that leaders in every country across the globe can be held accountable for achieving the collective targets.

FIGURE 1: MDG PROGRESS BY TARGET AREA, ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES[10]
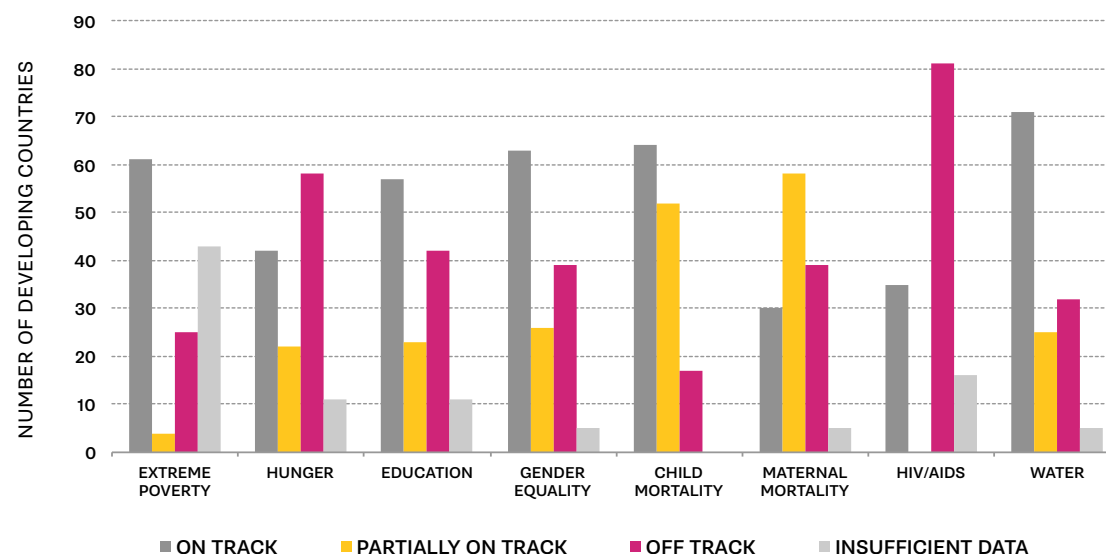
Source: World Bank *World Development Indicators* and author calculations

After two decades of structural adjustment programmes that focused on tackling poverty through macroeconomic reform, often at the expense of social services, the MDGs have also put renewed focus on the needs of the poorest people. Health, education, water and other social issues have been placed at the top of the development agenda. There is evidence that a large number of developing countries have built the MDGs (or locally adapted versions) into their own domestic planning processes and budgetary frameworks.[11] Moreover, many donor nations and organisations have fully internalised this approach, utilising the MDGs as a blueprint for expanding their programmes.

Following the launch of the MDGs, many donor governments made commitments to increase financial support for the efforts of developing countries.[12] G8 donors, for example, committed to double aid to sub-Saharan Africa at their 2005 Gleneagles Summit,[13] while members of the European Union pledged to provide development assistance totalling 0.7% of their gross domestic product (GDP) by 2015. Donors increased official development assistance (ODA) by 70% between 1999 and 2011. The increase was even more dramatic for sub-Saharan Africa, where donors expanded their assistance by 128% (from $17.1 billion to $39.0 billion).[14]

In turn, many developing countries made their own financial commitments, which were broadly aligned with the MDGs. For example, African countries promised to allocate 15% and 10%, respectively, of their annual budgets towards health and agriculture.[15] Due to the consistent growth of regional economies, this has meant a rapid expansion in domestic public expenditures on MDG-related priorities.[16]

Beyond these commitments to increase resources, donors and developing countries launched a number of other critical initiatives in the years following the adoption of the MDGs, including additional debt relief through the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI), trade preference programmes such as the USA's African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).

UN member states agreed to a mechanism to monitor implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which will enable the UN Office on Drugs and Crime to measure and fight corruption

Between 1999 and 2011, donors increased assistance to sub-Saharan Africa by

128%

What the MDGs Missed

Despite their significant achievements, the MDGs have a number of structural shortcomings that have debates among policy-makers, academics and citizens over the past decade.

Many critics contend that the goals omitted important systemic and structural issues, such as the environment (specifically climate change), governance (including human rights), the private sector and employment, and many forms of infrastructure (e.g. power and transport). Because of this, the MDGs may have de-emphasised structural enablers for broad-based development and led to an over-concentration of public investment in the social sectors. Other criticisms focus more centrally on how progress is measured and the failure to incorporate aspects of equity, favouring some regions (and groups) and setting up others for failure.[17]

Through a combination of budget advocacy and litigation, South Africans forced the government to draft and implement a national HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention plan

In Africa, for example, the selection of a 1990 baseline for measuring performance essentially meant locking in a decade of under-performance before the MDGs even formally began in 2000.[18] As a result, the region had to deliver dramatically higher rates of progress to meet a number of the targets.[19] This factor was particularly acute for countries that had experienced destructive civil wars or other types of economic, political or security upheaval during the 1990s (e.g. Liberia, Sierra Leone and Angola).

These types of criticism deserve serious reflection as the HLP, the UN Secretary-General and UN Member States consider the post-2015 framework. Beyond these issues, ONE, Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), Development Initiatives, Fundar (Mexico), Global Witness, Global Movement for Budget Transparency, Accountability and Participation, Integrity Action, International Budget Partnership, Luta Hamutuk Institute (Timor Leste), Publish What You Fund, Publish What You Pay, Revenue Watch Institute, Transparency International, W3C (Brasil) believe that the most notable shortcoming of the existing MDGs is the failure to place citizens, transparency and accountability at the heart of the framework.

1. Top-Down Initial Design

The MDGs are based largely on the International Development Targets, which donor nations developed through the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in the mid-1990s to justify continuing investment in aid programmes.[20] The targets were developed by technical experts in donor capitals, the OECD and the UN, with little input from ordinary citizens in developing countries. This top-down process made it difficult to ensure that the global goals properly responded to citizens' most pressing concerns – even if the ultimate goals mobilised unprecedented global action. Consequently, the sense of ownership by the target beneficiaries of the MDGs – the world's poorest citizens – was unnecessarily constrained, particularly in the early years.

Although the MDGs did address many concerns of the world's poorest people (especially through the first goal, which is focused on poverty and hunger), ONE's analysis of regional barometer surveys[21] finds that some of the issues omitted from the MDGs may actually be amongst citizens' most pressing concerns and priorities.[22] In Africa, for example, citizens prioritise access to infrastructure services (particularly power and transport); in Latin America, security and crime concerns are ominously high and rising; in East Asia, economic management and governance issues are central priorities; and in all regions, access to jobs and economic security is the overarching priority.

2. Lack of Timely Data on Expenditures and Outcomes

Since 2000, the lack of reliable, timely and accessible data on MDG-related expenditures, outputs and outcomes has been a major challenge to both tracking progress and ensuring that policies and interventions are evidence-based and effective. By way of illustration, citizens have very little access to information about what resources their governments are spending on development-related issues – with only 20% of countries publishing sufficient budget information for citizens to make sense of it.[23]

Moreover, data on extreme poverty – arguably the most important MDG target – is extremely limited. Currently, over 40 developing countries lack enough data to track performance.[24] Put differently, insufficient data makes it impossible to know, for nearly a third of developing countries, whether the poverty MDG has been met. Where data is available, it remains subject to constant revisions and retractions – even for observations that are over two decades old. By illustration, roughly 83% of developing countries' MDG baseline data has changed over the past three years, as reported in the World Bank's World Development Indicators database.[25]

Lastly, time lags for reporting MDG-related outcomes remain unsatisfactorily high. On average, data from developing countries on the prevalence of extreme poverty is nearly five years old. Data on hunger (e.g. malnourishment) is four years old, followed by data on gender equality, education and HIV/AIDS, which is at least three years old, on average.

FIGURE 2: MDG BASELINE DATA VOLATILITY, 2012 VERSUS 2010[26]
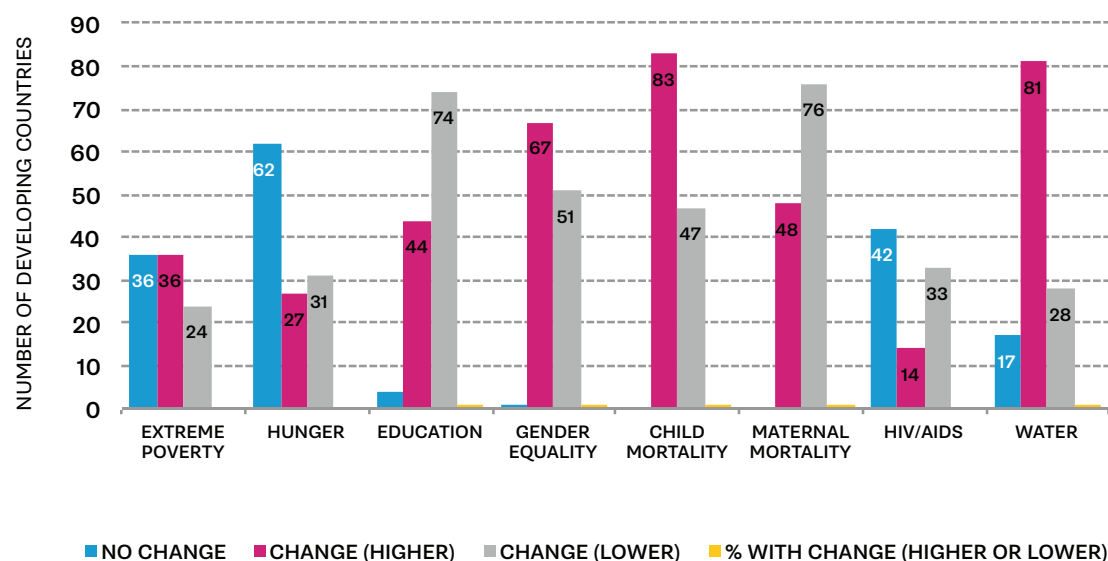
Source: World Bank, *World Development Indicator* database and author calculations

FIGURE 3: AVERAGE REPORTING LAG FOR MDG-RELATED DATA, ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
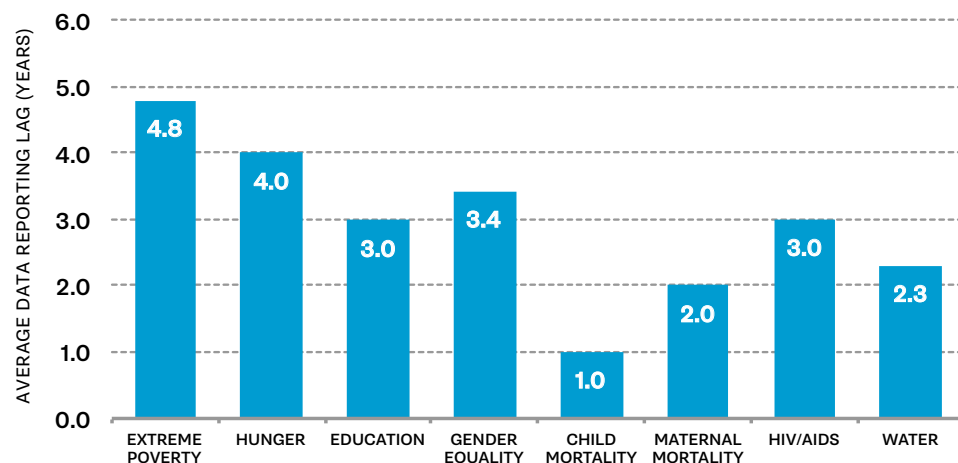
Source: World Bank *World Development Indicators* and author calculations[27]

In the absence of comprehensive, timely and accessible information about spending and outcomes, real accountability and learning are practically impossible. This is a major gap that must be addressed.

Box 1: Service Delivery Indicators, Tracking Investments, Effort and Outputs

In recent years, development organisations – such as the World Bank – have launched pilot initiatives to address the lack of concrete, timely and accurate information on budgetary expenditures (both domestic and external), outputs and outcome measures. The Service Delivery Indicators (SDI) project is one of the most promising approaches. Launched in 2010 by the World Bank, African Development Bank and African Economic Research Consortium, SDI surveys track performance and quality of service delivery in primary schools and at frontline health facilities.[28] The methodology is designed to enable comparisons across countries and over time. This approach, if scaled up appropriately, could help to provide better evidence around both progress and outcome constraints. With additional capacity to administer annual surveys as well as supplementary activities to track localised trends (perhaps using new technology or building on existing government and grassroots networks), these datasets could bring us closer to real-time results monitoring.

3. To 2015 And Beyond:
Achieving Greater Results through an Open Design Process, Clear Monitoring Framework and Open Accountability Portals

The process for designing the post-2015 development framework remains largely in its early stages. Important decisions have not yet been made about the guiding principles, goals, targets or indicators. Regardless of the shape and scope of the final framework, greater transparency about related investments (both domestic and external) and outcomes must be embraced in these final years to 2015 and built into the heart of the post-2015 framework. This information will be critical to maximising the effectiveness of scarce resources, improving development outcomes through timely learning and feedback loops, ensuring citizen buy-in and helping to reduce corruption and mismanagement. This will ensure that monitoring and evaluation best practices are fully integrated into the world's evolving development architecture. When the HLP meets in Liberia in late January, it should begin to incorporate these critical components to support an appropriate, effective and accountable post-2015 framework.

Members of Transparency International in Sri Lanka show their support by signing a poster committing to building a corruption free country

1. Open Design Process: Soliciting and Responding to the Priorities of Ordinary People

Twelve years ago, the ability to solicit input from ordinary citizens at scale was both prohibitively expensive and logistically unfeasible.[29] However, the technological revolution that has taken place since then, particularly through widespread penetration of the Internet and mobile telephony, now makes it possible to solicit ideas and feedback from large numbers of people, including the poorest and most marginalised. Recognising this opportunity, the UN is leading a robust consultation process for the post-2015 framework, which is a notable improvement on the process used to produce the existing MDGs. These consultations will include citizen surveys

in a number of developing countries, along with more traditional stakeholder discussion forums. Building on information that is available through regional barometer, Gallup and World Poll surveys, several processes are currently under way to supplement the UN's formal consultation efforts. For example, the Participatory Research Group spearheaded by Beyond 2015 and the Institute for Development Studies aims to bring perspectives from the most marginalised communities into the process.[30] In addition, a consortium of non-governmental actors – such as the UN Millennium Campaign, the Overseas Development Institute and the World Wide Web Foundation – launched the "My World" initiative to solicit citizens' views in a dozen or so countries. ONE has also launched an SMS-based campaign in a number of southern African countries to solicit ground-level views

on the desired composition of the post-2015 framework. These results will be shared with the HLP and posted on the "World We Want 2015" web platform. In contrast to previous exercises, the HLP has the opportunity to fully reflect upon an unprecedented amount of ground-level input. Moreover, it has a responsibility to meaningfully incorporate these views into its recommendations to the UN Secretary-General.

- **Recommendation 1:** The HLP should recommend that the UN Secretary-General's report to Member States includes a quantitative overview of survey-based results, with concrete proposals for ensuring that input from citizens in developing countries forms the core of the new framework.

Box 2: Expanding Brazil's Municipal Revenues Through Participatory Budgeting

Porto Alegre, one of the first places in the world to pioneer participatory budgeting, provides an example of how citizen engagement can lead to more effective policies and improved outcomes. In 1989, the Brazilian city was highly indebted and had limited revenue for service delivery. The new budgeting model brought together citizens and government officials in popular assemblies to determine budget priorities and spending allocations. This increased transparency and civic involvement motivated city residents to pay taxes, with revenues increasing by nearly 50% over time. Moreover, Porto Alegre's health and education increased from 13% of the total budget in 1985 to almost 40% in 1996. Together, the increased resources and targeting of citizen priorities led to dramatic improvements in development outcomes. Between 1989 and 1996, the number of households with access to water services rose from 80% to 98%; the percentage of the population served by the municipal sewerage system rose from 46% to 85%; the number of children enrolled in public schools doubled; and 30km of roads were paved annually in the poorer neighbourhoods.

Today, more than 80 Brazilian cities are following the Porto Alegre model. Some regions and cities have also introduced digital budgeting. In 2012, Rio Grande do Sul's "Digital Cabinet" engaged over one million residents in its online and offline participatory budgeting process. The government has also established a web-based policy crowdsourcing initiative, "Governador Pergunta" ("The Governor Asks"), which invites citizens to co-design solutions to service delivery challenges. The process has generated over 1,300 proposals, with more than 120,000 votes cast on the prioritisation of different proposals.

Sources: Tiago Piexoto and Boris Weber, "#10 from 2012: Technology Drives Citizen Participation and Feedback in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil," People, Spaces, Deliberation Blog, World Bank, December 2012, http://blogs.worldbank.org/publicsphere/technology-drives-citizen-participation-and-feedback-rio-grande-do-sul-brazil

World Bank, "Social Development Notes," Note No. 71, March 2003
Case Study 2 - Porto Alegre, Brazil: Participatory Approaches in Budgeting and Public Expenditure Management

2. Clear Monitoring Framework: Timely Information About Investments and Outcomes

Regardless of the ultimate goals and targets, the post-2015 framework must incorporate a number of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) best practices. This entails ensuring that all stakeholders – including citizens – have ready access to reliable, timely and comprehensive information about what efforts are being made to deliver progress and what results are actually being achieved. Without such information, learning will be limited, accountability will be absent, investments could potentially be ill informed and opportunities to accelerate progress against poverty could be missed.

In many ways, the logic of making information available about investments and outcomes in relation to agreed goals and targets is not controversial. It is simply a matter of how best to: (1) structure the monitoring framework; (2) improve statistical capacity in developing countries (building on initiatives such as Paris21);[31] and (3) provide the information for public consumption.

Beyond this approach, there also is a case for a separate post-2015 framework goal on availability of and accessibility to information, including budget information. This could enable citizens and societies to use information to create locally owned solutions to daily and long-term challenges as they emerge – rather than waiting for official findings two or three years after the fact.

- **Recommendation 2:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States (both developing and developed nations) report on investments deployed in pursuit of the agreed development goals and targets. This reporting should be done on a regular, methodologically consistent and timely basis.[32]

- **Recommendation 3:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States commit to invest significantly in developing countries' statistical capacity, and collect and report on outputs and outcomes related to the agreed development goals and targets. This reporting should be executed on a regular and timely basis (e.g. an annual or quarterly cycle with minimal time lags).

Anti-corruption advocates rally in Bogra, Bangladesh on Anti-Corruption Day in 2011

Making information available about investments and outcomes is critical. However, the impact of this information will depend on how it is used and incorporated into stakeholders' decision-making processes. While there is no single blueprint for how governments and citizens should engage in the process of developing and implementing policy, there is little doubt that such engagement can play an important role in enhancing the effectiveness of service delivery. In line with the Open Government Partnership (a multilateral initiative to secure commitments to improve governance) and the Global Initiative on Fiscal Transparency (a multi-stakeholder network to advance and institutionalise global transparency and accountability norms), the HLP should promote a principle of citizen participation and engagement in budget and policy processes, while recognising countries' diverse circumstances.

- **Recommendation 4:** The HLP should recommend that UN Member States commit to identifying, creating and publicising opportunities for citizens to engage in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of efforts to deliver the agreed goals and targets.[33]

Box 3: Budget Monitoring Strengthens Sanitation Delivery in Nepal

In Nepal, public budget monitoring has improved access to water and sanitation for school students and marginalised villagers in remote rural areas. In 2007, the Federation of Water and Sanitation Users in Nepal established its grassroots "Citizens Action" programme. Federation members in Dhading District provided user networks with basic information about budgets and expenditure decisions so that they could track how money was being spent and how this translated into improvements in water and sanitation programmes. Shortly after they started monitoring government expenditure, user groups discovered that three villages in the district had not received a government budget allocation for water and sanitation. More than a quarter of schools in Dhading had no allocation for sanitation facilities for their students. Moreover, one settlement above the water source point had no water or pumping infrastructure.

The coalition helped to eliminate these budget planning and execution challenges through a combination of direct lobbying and public hearings – in which community members were able to articulate their findings. In the subsequent budget, local government authorities allocated adequate resources to the three relevant Village Development Committees; the district education office committed to provide toilets and sanitation facilities for all schools; and the district service provider agreed to contribute its budget for water-pumping to the community located above the source point.

Source: WaterAid, "Budget advocacy for the water and sanitation sector in Nepal," March 2010, p.6 http://www.wateraid.org/documents/plugin_documents/budget_primer_for_cso_aug2010_1.pdf

3. Open Data Platforms: Making Data More Accessible and Useful

As noted previously, widespread access to up-to-date and accurate data is the foundation for effective policy implementation. It equips governments with the evidence required to properly design programmes. In addition, it provides citizens with information to track progress and hold policy-makers accountable for delivering results. Datasets should be more accessible and user-friendly – so that citizens, policy-makers, parliaments and the media can transparently track investments and outcomes on a regular basis. This will require the establishment of open data platforms. It will also require that data is provided in line with emerging common collection and reporting standards, which prioritise end-user requirements.

- **Recommendation 5:** The HLP should recommend that the UN, the World Bank and other appropriate actors establish, on either a national or a harmonised global basis, user-friendly platforms that provide relevant data in line with emerging standards.

Box 4: New Tool to BOOST Public Expenditure Quality and Efficiency

To date, the utility of public expenditure databases has been severely constrained by several factors, including: (1) lack of sub-national information; (2) lengthy time lags; and (3) lack of information about both initial and revised budgets along with actual spending levels. A new World Bank tool called BOOST seeks to address these problems. BOOST collates detailed public spending data, including for sub-national units, through an open, user-friendly platform. Ultimately, it supports efforts to improve resource allocation decisions and expenditure efficiency.

BOOST gathers detailed government expenditure data directly from each country's treasury system. The data on expenditures, organised using all of the country's budget classification codes, is compiled into a single database that covers all sectors, spending units and types of expenditure. When mapped against development output and outcome data, the BOOST tool can enable policy-makers and other stakeholders to identify inefficiencies and misaligned programming priorities. Moreover, it allows users to examine deviations between planned and actual budget expenditures, thus providing another indicator of budget implementation efficiency. In this manner, governments and other stakeholders can pinpoint patterns across budget units – including those that are consistently under-spending or over-spending their approved resource allocations. Currently, the World Bank has collected and analysed data for over 30 developing countries; however, BOOST data is publicly available for only a handful of nations.[34]

4. Conclusion

Looking beyond 2015, it is clear that there is a monumental task at hand. The MDGs have defined the development landscape for a generation and have catalysed unprecedented progress towards fighting extreme poverty and disease across the globe. In the next three years, the world must consolidate and build on these achievements with a final sprint to the 2015 finish line. To ensure that the post-2015 framework has an even greater impact on the lives of the poorest people, the world must also apply lessons learned over the past 12 years.

The HLP should seize its historic opportunity to pioneer a high-impact agenda through a series of concrete recommendations to the UN Secretary-General. While their ultimate composition could vary, the recommendations should be guided by the promotion of: (1) an open process for soliciting and responding to the priorities and concerns of the world's poorest people; (2) open, comprehensive and timely reporting on investments and outcomes in pursuit of the agreed development goals and targets, along with enhanced opportunities for citizen participation; and (3) the establishment of open data platforms to ensure that progress can be transparently tracked, lessons can be learned on a real-time basis and all stakeholders can be held accountable. Through the pursuit and execution of these monitoring and evaluation best practices, the post-2015 framework could help to bring about the longstanding collective vision of a world free of extreme poverty by 2030.

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Participants of Revenue Watch Institute's 2012 Summer School tour AngloGold Ashanti's gold mine in Ghana

© Revenue Watch Institute

In Ghana, a young woman climbs stairs to view AngloGold's water purification system, created to provide clean water to surrounding villages affected by mining

Endnotes

1 UNAIDS Sub-Saharan Africa - AIDS epidemic facts and figures, 2011. http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/epidemiology/2012/201207_RegionalFactSheet_en.pdf

2 WHO, "World Malaria Report 2012". http://www.who.int/malaria/publications/world_malaria_report_2012/wmr2012_full_report.pdf

3 GAVI Alliance, 2011. http://www.gavialliance.org/advocacy statistics/

4 UNESCO, 2012, "Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2012," Table 5, p.354.

5 WHO and UNICEF, 2012 . "Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation," p.4, http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2012/9789280646320_eng.pdf

6 FAO, 2012. 1990 is the baseline used for measuring progress on most of the MDG targets.

7 World Bank, 2012. According to preliminary data, the world met the MDG target of halving extreme poverty in 2010, roughly five years ahead of the deadline.

8 ONE and its partners understand that the process for designing the post-2015 development framework is in its early stages. Important decisions have yet to be made regarding the framework, goals, targets and indicators and, moreover, how UN Member States will bring together priorities on poverty reduction and sustainable development. However, openness, transparency and accountability will need to have a central place in the final framework, regardless of its shape and scope.

9 Although the world has made significant progress towards the MDGs, success remains uneven both across and within countries, regions and sectors. By illustration, progress towards targets on gender equality, maternal health, and sanitation has been particularly slow.

10 ONE Campaign, 2013. "2012 MDG Progress Update", forthcoming.

11 Richard Manning, 2010. "The Impact and Design of the MDGs: Some Reflections". IDS Bulletin, 1 January 2010, p.10.

12 The Millennium Declaration did not include a specific target for donor or developing country investments. However, the MDGs later included a target for donors to provide development assistance equalling 0.7% of their GDP.

13 ONE's 2011 "DATA Report" found that the G8 had delivered 61% of their promised aid increases to sub-Saharan Africa by the end of 2010, increasing aid from $25 billion to $43 billion between 2004 and 2010.

14 OECD DAC.

15 UNECA-OECD, 2012. "The Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa: Promise & Performance", p.10 and p.24. http://www.oecd.org/site/africapartnershipforum/mrde/50362685.pdf

16 According to the IMF World Economic Outlook database (October 2012), African governments increased their domestic resources from $84 billion in 2000 to an estimated $377 billion in 2012.

17 William Easterly, 2007. "How the Millennium Development Goals are Unfair to Africa", November 2007. http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2007/11/poverty-easterly; Michael A. Clemens, Charles J. Kenny and Todd J. Moss, 2004. "The Trouble with the MDGs: Confronting Expectations of Aid and Development Success". Working Paper 40, September 2004. http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/2749

18 Most of the goals and targets were set on the basis of the global situation during the 1990s. A number of global conferences took place during this time, which defined the central thrust of the development agenda. At the time, the baseline for assessing progress was 1990, and that year remained the baseline for the eventual MDG targets. United Nations, 2006. "The Millennium Development Goals Report," p.26.

19 Ibid.

20 R. Manning, op. cit., p.9.

21 ONE's analysis utilised results from the Afrobarometer, East Asian Barometer and Latin Barometer surveys, which cover a total of 47 countries.

22 Ben Leo, ONE Campaign, 2012. "What Does the World Really Want From The Next Development Goals?".

23 International Budget Partnership, 2010. "Open Budget Survey 2010". http://internationalbudget.org/what-we-do/open-budget-survey/

24 ONE Campaign, 2013. "2012 MDG Progress Update", forthcoming.

25 Ibid.

26 Ibid.

27 UNAIDS data is updated yearly. By comparison, the World Bank's World Development Indicators data is updated less frequently (typically every three years).

28 For additional details, see World Bank, 2011 "Service Delivery Indicators: Pilot in Education and Health Care in Africa".

29 Although the World Bank's "Voices of the Poor" was a good exercise to learn from.

30 http://www.beyond2015.org/participatory-research-group

31 Several initiatives to improve statistical capacity in developing countries are currently under way. For example, Paris21, which is hosted by the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate, is working with low-income and lower-middle-income countries to design, implement and monitor a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). The UN and the World Bank are also engaging in a number of capacity-building activities.

32 In line with emerging international norms and practices, developing country governments should publish a set of budget reports to allow citizens and other stakeholders to follow what their leaders are doing with public resources. These should include budget execution reports that should be published at least quarterly, and year-end financial statements and audit reports that should be published within reasonable timeframes. Budget information included in these reports should be detailed and disaggregated enough to track, for example, spending at service delivery points and by different government agencies. For donors, this means reporting their annual development assistance data to the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), and implementing aid transparency measures through standards identified by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).

33 The nature of these opportunities will vary on a country-by-country basis. Potential approaches could include multi-stakeholder sectoral forums, addressing service delivery in health and education, public hearings by the legislature, and other formal and informal means of citizen engagement.

34 Kenya and Moldova are the most frequently cited examples. For additional details, see http://kenya.wb-boost.org/ and http://data.gov.md/en.