

**FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPEN WORKING GROUP ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17-19 MAY 2013 – Trusteeship Council (Conference Building)**

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Employment and decent work

1. Which aspects of employment and decent work deserve greater attention in the SDG framework - lack of jobs for the youth; weak and unstable environment for business; informality and poor quality of jobs; lack of social protection; gender and other discriminations in accessing opportunities; disregard of fundamental rights and principles at work; the promotion of new job opportunities from making economies more sustainable, skills shortages, others?
2. In which areas could interventions have stronger positive spillovers for inclusive and sustainable development? Could a stand-alone goal help better promote coherent economic and social measures and synergies across economic, social and environmental dimensions?
3. What are the main constraints to the growth strategies needed to stimulate more and better jobs and set a path to sustainable and inclusive development? How could a global framework be of help - e.g. by means of redirecting ODA, encouraging exchange of good practice, supporting data collection, strengthening international cooperation, opening trade and investment opportunities, supporting infrastructure investment?
4. What is needed in order to implement a possible goal and/or target(s) relating to employment and decent work?

Social protection

1. How can social protection issues be incorporated into the SDGs? Should there be a stand-alone goal? Or should it be a cross-cutting issue with targets/indicators included across poverty and inequality, employment and decent work, health, and food security and nutrition? Relatedly, how can the potential of social protection to address multidimensional vulnerabilities in an integrated and interconnected way be maximized, across the goals?
2. What investments and partnerships are needed at national and international levels to strengthen national social protection systems in order to increase the breadth, adequacy, and effectiveness of social protection coverage?
3. What are countries' experiences and views in regard to the strategies to increase social protection coverage, particularly in reaching vulnerable and disadvantaged populations such as people with disabilities, people living in poverty, women, children and adolescents, indigenous people and migrants?

4. What is needed in order to implement a possible goal and/or target(s) relating to social protection?

Education and culture

1. Although we have seen substantial progress in education since 2000, many countries are far from reaching the 2015 education goals. How can we make sure that this unfinished agenda is taken forward and completed in the post-2015 agenda? How can the quality of education be addressed in the SDGs?
2. Education can play an important role in shaping individuals' norms and values. In what way can the content of education contribute to building more sustainable and resilient societies?
3. There has been an increasing demand, at country level and also at the global level with two UN General Assembly Resolutions, to build on the role of culture for development in all its dimensions – economic, social and environmental – including through cultural and creative industries, heritage, cultural tourism. How can the international community respond to this need in the post-2015 agenda?
4. What is needed in order to implement a possible goal and/or target(s) relating to education and culture?

Youth

1. How should the specific concerns of youth be addressed in SDGs, specifically with respect to employment and decent work, education and culture, but possibly also in other relevant goals?

Health

1. What further efforts are needed to continue working on the unfinished health MDGs and what approaches are most likely to yield positive and significant health outcomes, especially for the poor, in the post 2015 period?
2. What are countries' experiences and views in regard to the best strategies to reduce inequality and inequity in health coverage and access, particularly regarding the need to reach disadvantaged groups such as women, adolescents, indigenous people, migrants, and other vulnerable populations?
3. How to balance policy priorities and investments to deal with the unfinished health agenda and at the same time to address the shifting epidemiological profiles such as the emergence of non-communicable diseases globally?
4. What is needed in order to implement a possible goal and/or target(s) relating to health?

Population dynamics

1. What investment in human capital is required to ensure that people can live a healthy and productive life until old age, and that countries can realize the dividends that can come with demographic transitions?
2. How could the future development goals and targets be informed by the changes in the number, age structure and location of populations to ensure that the development strategies and policies meet the changing needs of people?
3. What are essential global partnerships to seize the sustainable development benefits of urbanization and migration; strengthen the collection, analysis and use of population data and projections; and support adequate investment in human capital throughout the life course?
4. What is needed in order to implement a possible goal and/or target(s) relating to population dynamics?