



UNDG Sustainable Development Working Group meeting

Friday, 6 March 2015, 10:30am - 12pm (NYT)

Final meeting summary and action points

Participants

Co-Chairs	
Co-Chair	Magdy Martínez-Solimán
Co-Chair	Geeta Rao Gupta
Co-Chair	Amir Abdulla
Agency	Representatives
ILO	Vinicius Pinheiro
Regional Commissions	Paola Bettelli
UN Habitat	Yamina Djacta
UN Women	Moez Doraid
UNAIDS	Simon Bland
UNDESA	Thomas Gass
UNDP	Paul Ladd
UNEP	Corli Pretorius
UNFPA	Harold Robinson
UNICEF	Nicholas Alipui
WFP	Karin Manente
WMO	Paul Egerton
UNCTAD	Chantal Line Carpentier
OSAA	Beatrice Pacunega Manano
Invitees	
SSC TT Chair (UNOSSC)	Yiping Zhou
UNDPI	Florencia Soto Nino
UNV	Jordi Llopart
PBSO	Henk-Jan Brinkman
UNDG Senior Coordinator on "fit for purpose"	John Hendra
UN Millennium Campaign	Mitchell Toomey
SDG-F	Raul de Mora Jimenez
Secretariat	
DOCO	Jose Dallo

Meeting summary and action points

Welcome and Introduction (Geeta Rao Gupta, Co-Chair)

1. Geeta Rao Gupta (UNICEF), co-chairing the group together with Magdy Martínez-Solimán (UNDP) and Amir Abdulla (WFP), opened the meeting by highlighting the need to focus on the primary purpose of the SDWG, which is to help UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Governments translate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for their country level planning. In this

respect, the rolling out of UNDAFs by UNCTs this year presents a key opportunity to integrate the SDGs into their work.

Update on the SS-TrC Task Team (UNOSSC)

2. Yiping Zhou of UNOSSC, Chair of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team (SS-TrC TT), reported on ongoing work of the task team and emphasized the importance to establish this inter-agency SS-TrC TT as a major step for the UN system in its support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation. He noted that the SSC TT has been established, had its first meeting the previous week and is currently working on its work plan. The work plan will be shared in due time with the SDWG for approval. Finally, he emphasized the importance for every agency to formally designate a senior-level focal point.
3. The Co-Chairs noted that agencies are building on a solid foundation of supporting SS-TrC and should focus on what is needed at the country-level from the UN. They put special emphasis on the need for good data and evidence, baselines, and discussion with the governments on what they are already working on and what is needed in light of the SDG agenda.
4. Interventions by colleagues highlighted the need for inventories of innovation and sharing systems for UNCTs to access good practices in supporting South-South and Triangular Cooperation, the potential of regional and sub-regional cooperation, and the importance of tracking resources and allocation of funds for South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Deliverables and Timelines (Amir Abdulla, Co-Chair)

5. Amir Abdulla, Co-Chair of the SDWG, introduced the agenda item on the work of the small task groups formed after the last meeting of the SDWG.
6. Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS)
 - i. A preliminary note was circulated which is intended to note some questions that should be considered by the UNDG before starting in-depth work. The members of the UNDG SDWG are requested to provide feedback to the MAPS task group on the questions formulated in the concept note and also to express interest in joining the task group.
 - ii. The Co-Chairs emphasized the importance of making the MAPS a product-oriented initiative that would be of concrete use to the UNCTs. They also stressed the need to ensure that it is a two-way discussion to incorporate UNCTs' voices and ideas and making sure that guidelines for the field are well integrated and coherent. Thomas Gass of DESA pointed out that DESA has a number of similar activities that should be captured and done in alignment with the MAPS concept.
7. Tools to facilitate policy support
 - i. Vinicius Pinheiro of ILO reported on a template circulated this week that attempts to collect solutions, instruments and tools of policy packages that are associated with individual SDGs and targets. It could be a very practical way to map what the system has available for providing upstream policy support to Member States. It could be a useful tool to help UNCTs to deliver policy support to Governments in the localization process of the SDGs.
8. Financing for Development

- i. Simon Bland of UNAIDS shared a concept note on some preliminary thoughts on financing for development. He emphasized coordination with other groups to avoid duplication of efforts.
- ii. During the discussion that followed, a number of inputs were provided by members of the SDWG including 1) the recommendation to use existing UN mechanisms for coordination in preparation for the Financing for Development (FfD) conference in Addis Ababa in July, 2) the need for the SDWG to focus on the country level and issues such as tapping into domestic resources, 3) UNCTs' support of national dialogues on financing for development, and 4) taking into consideration the special financing situation in post-conflict countries.

SD WG 2015 Work Plan

9. Magdy Martínez-Solimán, Co-Chair of the SDWG, pointed to the three main results areas in the draft work plan. At the first meeting, the group successfully started on most of the activities around conceptualizing post-2015 implementation strategies for the UNDG through MAPS, and with specific work on policy support, FfD and a concept for the aspect of "Universality" being under way.
10. The next meeting will focus more on preparation of UNDG inputs to FfD and "Universality" as well as on the monitoring and reporting issues, particularly a possible review of guidance on national MDG reporting. He emphasized also that in time for the next meeting, the Gender and SS-TrC Task Teams are expected to submit their draft work plans. He also encouraged members of WG to join any of the smaller task groups or Task Teams.
11. Geeta Rao Gupta stressed the need to put concrete results and activities into the work plan. The accountability framework needs to be fleshed out more. In addition, she noted that the SDWG should not overburden UNCTs with guidance; keep the guidance pieces strategic and coherent; and explore the option of integrated guidance to UNCTs.
12. Amir Abdulla emphasized the role of the SDWG to establish a UNDG framework, and not duplicate efforts in the context of the post-2015 development agenda done by other groups.
13. Thomas Gass expressed that DESA is very interested in the work on partnerships for data and accountability. DESA and nine other Secretariat entities receive funds from the Fifth Committee and will start work on data, accountability and building capacity next year. DESA would like to be part of the discussion within the broader context on how UNCTs want to strengthen national statistics and data.

Conclusion and Next Steps

14. After review and consultation, the Co-Chairs of the SDWG will approve the TORs of South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Gender Task Teams.
15. The concept note on "Universality" and the work of the Gender Task Team will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the UNDG SDWG.
16. All task groups are requested to refine the draft SDWG work plan with detailed deliverables/products, activities, timelines and indicators related to their work.
17. UNDOCO will circulate the template for the mapping of upstream policy support tools available across the system and request SDWG members to start populating the template.

18. UNDG SDWG members are encourage to react in writing to the background documents circulated prior to the meeting, and express their interest to join any of the groups as active members to the lead agencies.
19. UNDG SDWG are requested to nominate senior focal points to join the South-South and Triangular Cooperation and Gender Task Teams as soon as possible.
20. The next meeting of the SDWG is tentatively scheduled for 10 April 2015 – 9:30-10:30am.