

**PROPOSALS FOR A**

**CORE COMMON PRINCIPLES IN THE  
FRAMEWORK OF POST-2015  
REFLECTIONS**

**Global Call to Action against Poverty  
- CGAP -**



Any policy against poverty which does not include the need to reduce inequalities, which does not adopt a human rights-based approach, which persists in failing to consider poverty as the result of a broader socio-political and environmental context and of a choice of global growth model inherently unequal, is doomed to failure.

Progressing in the definition of a new common development goals, which would follow the current MDGs, requires to agree on the principles that create a political environment suitable for the fight against poverty and inequality.

**For the AMCP, these principles go beyond the post-Millennium Development Goals / Objectives of Sustainable Development (ODD), and should be considered in all international negotiations to set the future international development framework.**

# 1

## **Key elements in the review of the MDGs process**

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### **1. Some areas of progress characterized by...**

- The international community's definition of the objectives shared by all the Member States, from an ambitious declaration which aimed at the eradication of poverty and stated : "We will spare no effort to free our fellow men – men, women, children – from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want " ;
- A drop in the gross figures of people living in extreme poverty– though this is mainly due to the development of few emerging countries ;
- Significant improvement in some areas : health, education and fight against the pandemic HIV/AIDS ;
- Concrete and measurable objectives which enable to exert a pressure on the Member States ;
- The impact of the MDGs in the definition of national policies on poverty, social exclusion and the access to care;
- The mobilization of national and international funding for development;
- The significant impact of this international agenda on the media and on the mobilization of the civil society.

### **2. The Limitations of a structurally inadequate conception of objectives :**

- A disconnection between the phenomenon of poverty and the global socio-political context that remains nonetheless characterized by the choice of a model of globalized economical growth which tends, on the contrary, to increase inequalities ;
- A too exclusively quantitative and monetary approach of the phenomenon of poverty, impeding a multidimensional approach of the same phenomenon; this flaw has, from the beginning, prevented actors from considering the aspects of poverty in its complexity and from identifying the right assessment tools to address effectively the issue of poverty reduction ;
- Truncated goals set from a fragmented vision of development, assessed from inadequate indicators, by their nature and their mode of calculation (based on averages which don't capture the reality of the still excluded populations, nor inequalities within the same country) ;
- Objectives set out exclusively by the donors.

# 2

## **The key elements and features of the post-2015 development framework**

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- To consider the impact of **the depth of the current crisis**, in all its dimensions, and the lessons learned from it, regarding the short and long-term changes to be achieved ;
- To consider **the structural causes of poverty** structural causes of poverty, exacerbated by a system which has promoted the development of :
  - > A financialised and completely deregulated economy, so that the same economy is setting today the conditions of a commercialization and financialisation of all living beings,
  - > A model of globalized development which

jeopardizes the planet, overexploits and wastes the resources, dictates the movement of people to satisfy the needs of the licit or illicit markets, and is viable only through the existence, the maintenance and the rise of inequalities between people within the same country,

- > A concentration of wealth in the hands of a limited number of economic and financial actors.
- To consider the **failure of multilateralism**, the latest statements of which are characterized by strategies non-binding, stacked-up national and international commitments.

# 3 *Proposals for a common set of "post-2015" principles*

These principles include :

- The need to **address the main structural causes of poverty**, by focusing on the poverty-generating mechanisms in order to eradicate it ;

- The assertion of a shared vision of development, **ingrained with the respect for human rights** and the related European and international texts , the need to make these human rights enforceable across the world, especially through the set up of monitoring and enforcing mechanisms, so they become a reality for all ;

- The recognition of interdependence between the needs of the populations (water and sewerage facilities, food, health, education) and the need to ensure **the universal and simultaneous access to basic social services** ;

- It is imperative to recognize **that sustainable human development goes together with the development for decent jobs**, as defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO). Therefore, it is also imperative to implement social and employment policies supported by effective tax policies ;

- The need for **a renewed and strengthened global governance**, based on one hand, on the defence of common goods and international regulation (economic, financial, environmental, etc.), and on the other hand, on the responsibility (individual and common) and accountability of the States.  
> It is crucial to move on towards an implementation of legally binding international frameworks, to rationalize the architecture of global governance in the face of the multiplication of parallel initiatives, and to recognize the predominance of the United Nations system, the only inclusive and representative political system of all countries, unlike the processes limited to the most powerful countries such as G8, G20, and BRICs (Brazil, Russia, India, China).

> It means to rethink the articulation between the different stakeholders (public authorities, private sector, financial actors, civil society, local authorities) based on a strong vision of the role of the State and its public authorities. The achievement of the development goals can't be delegated to the sole private sector and it is necessary to re-legitimize the public action at all levels; in this context, the ability of the States to mobilize the domestic resources and to regulate/control the private sector, is a crucial issue.

- The need to **promote the participation of the civil society at all stages and levels of the processes of elaboration, implementation, follow-up and assessment** of the development frameworks and of the public policies fighting against poverty; it is imperative to :

> Implement the necessary conditions to allow the effective and direct participation of people who live in poverty, until now excluded from the democratic debate ;  
> Collect the invaluable input from the populations

who implement every day strategies to struggle against extreme poverty, and make use of their knowledge and their life experience. These people, as experts of poverty, must have their capacity-building strengthened, and must be heard through organizations in which they can express their views freely.

- It is imperative to **take into consideration the ecological balance and the finiteness of natural resources** in order to develop, in concrete terms, ecological and social transitional phases of our societies and our economies. The aim is to seek socially-fair and ecologically sustainable methods of development, which put the general interest first, rather than the specific interests of a very few.

We should shift towards a new model of social, political and economic organization, based on other ways of satisfaction different from overconsumption, on an efficient management of non-renewable resources, on the development of shorter production and supply chain, a strong social and territorial inclusion. In this regard, the numerous local initiatives already developed by the civil societies must be taken into account.

- The relevance of working towards future goals, in a flexible way, in terms of time (short/long term) and space, adapted to the national, regional and local contexts. If the objectives must be based on the universal principles, it doesn't mean that they should all be built on the same "one-size fits all" model; some can be cross-cutting, used to put an end to harmful practices, others pursued in a longer term perspective of transition.

- The need to identify the indicators:

> **participative** : designed and monitored with the input of the populations involved, especially the most excluded ones

> **measurable** : indicators on which the governments should commit and be accountable for

> **qualitative** : because such averages mask inequalities

> **multidisciplinary** : reflecting the impact on all the indivisible aspects of poverty

> **consistency** : guaranteeing that a policy doesn't turn against the populations involved (for instance environment vs. labour)

> **effectiveness** : measuring, beyond its implementation, the real impact of the project

> **exhaustive** : not only to reach the most dynamic populations and/or the most accessible ones, condemning the others to exclusion. The "severe deprivation rate" defined by the EU is an example of multidisciplinary and exhaustive indicator.

## CORE COMMON PRINCIPLES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF " POST-2015 " REFLECTIONS

The AMCP or Global Action against Poverty, French coalition of the international campaign Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), gathers today about forty actors from the civil society and French local authorities representatives; founded in 2005, it aimed at following-up the implementation of the commitments made within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals –MDGs.

As such, AMCP has acquired an expertise on MDGs issues and the follow-up of their implementation, making it today a legitimate contributor to the "post-2015" debates and reflections. The resulting proposals emerged from a work seminar organized by the GCAP/AMCP this last October 26th, and from a complementary session on the 11th, December 2012.

Committing to this process of reflection should by no means absolve the Signatories Member States of the Declaration of the Millennium to comply with commitments made in 2000 and up to 2015.



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Since 2005, the AMCP leads yearly information campaigns addressed to the public and media, and is involved in discussing with governments and civil society.

The AMCP bring together 36 organizations: **Action for Global Health**, Artisans du Monde, **ATD Quart Monde**, Attac (Association pour la taxation des transactions financières et l'action citoyenne), **CCFD-Terre Solidaire** (Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement), CFSI (Comité français pour la solidarité internationale), **CFDT** (Confédération française et démocratique du travail), CGT (Confédération générale du travail), **Cités Unies France**, Coalition eau, **Coordination SUD**, CRID (Centre de recherche et d'information pour le développement), **Défi Michée**, Étudiants et développement, **Fondation Abbé Pierre**, FSU (Fédération Syndicale Unitaire), **IPAM** (Initiatives pour un autre monde), JOC (Jeunesse ouvrière chrétienne), **les Amis de la Terre**, Max Havelaar, **Médecins du Monde**, Mouvement de la paix, **MRJC** (Mouvement rural de jeunesse chrétienne), Oxfam France, **Peuples solidaires**, Réseau Foi et Justice Afrique-Europe, **RIP** (Résister, Insister, Persister), Ritimo (Réseau d'information et de documentation pour le développement durable et la solidarité internationale), **Secours Catholique/Caritas France**, Secours Islamique France, **SEL** (Service d'entraide et de liaison), Solidarité Laïque, **Survie**, Terre des Hommes, **Union Syndicale Solidaire** and Vision du Monde.