




UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
SUMMIT 2015
25-27 SEPTEMBER

INTRODUCTION

- Over 150 Heads of State & Government are confirmed to attend the [UN Sustainable Development Summit](#) in New York from 25-27 September 2015 for the adoption of an ambitious, bold and universal sustainable development agenda that will end poverty and promote prosperity by 2030, while addressing the environment.
- The summit outcome document, entitled "[Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)," was agreed on by the 193 Member States of the United Nations, and includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- This momentous agenda will serve as the launch pad for action by the international community and by national governments to promote shared prosperity and well-being for all over the next 15 years.
- The agenda is unique in that it calls for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income. It recognizes that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with a plan that builds economic growth and addresses a range of social needs.
- The new sustainable development agenda builds on the successful outcome of the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#) that recently concluded in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- It is expected that it will also positively affect the negotiations on a new meaningful and universal climate agreement in Paris this December ([21st Session of the Conference of Parties \(COP\)](#)).



WHY IS THE SUMMIT IMPORTANT?

- With 2015 set as the target year for the [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#), a new agenda is needed to address the three interconnected elements of sustainable development: economic growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.
- The new development agenda builds on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were adopted in 2000 and guided development action for the last 15 years. The MDGs have proven that goal setting can lift millions out of poverty.
- The 17 new Sustainable Development Goals that apply to all, can go further to end all forms of poverty and ensure no one is left behind.
- The new development agenda will officially be adopted by world leaders at the UN Sustainable Development Summit.
- More focus will be placed on the mobilization of resources and the follow-up and review of the implementation of the goals.



WHAT ARE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)?

- The [17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and targets are “global” in nature taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities.
- The SDGs call for building peaceful, inclusive and well-governed societies with responsive institutions as the basis for shared prosperity. Fundamentally, they recognize that we cannot reach our development goals without addressing human rights and complex humanitarian issues at the same time.
- The SDGs are people-centered and planet-sensitive. They are universal, applying to all countries while recognizing different realities and capabilities. The goals are not independent from each other; they need to be implemented in an integrated manner.
- The SDGs are the result of a three year long transparent, participatory process inclusive of all stakeholders and people’s voices. They represent an unprecedented agreement around sustainable development priorities among 193 Member States. They have received worldwide support from civil society, business, parliamentarians and other actors.
- The decision to launch a process to develop a set of SDGs was made by UN Member States at the [United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development \(Rio+20\)](#), held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.
- The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.



WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS UNDERPINNING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)?

The Goals will stimulate action over the next 15 years in 5 areas of critical importance: **People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace & Partnership.**



HOW ARE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS DIFFERENT FROM THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

- The 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 targets are broader in scope and will go further than the MDGs by addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people.
- Building on the success and momentum of the MDGs, the new global goals will cover more ground with ambitions to address inequalities, economic growth, decent jobs, cities and human settlements, industrialization, energy, climate change, sustainable consumption and production, peace and justice.
- The new goals are universal and apply to all countries, whereas the MDGs were intended for action in developing countries only.
- A core feature of the SDGs has been the means of implementation – the mobilization of financial resources – as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.
- The new goals recognize that tackling climate change is essential for sustainable development and poverty eradication. SDG 13 aims to promote urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



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THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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10 KEY FACTS ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) or “GLOBAL GOALS”

1. **The Global Goals need you** - It's not only up to governments, but it's up to all of us to take action. Even little things can make a big impact.
2. **The Global Goals will change the way the world does business** – They want to transform the world economy so it works without violating workers rights and harming the environment.
3. **The Global Goals are one for all and all for one** - No goal is more important than the other and they all complement each other.
4. **The Global Goals will address climate change** - Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time and it affects every country on every continent.
5. **The Global Goals will eradicate extreme poverty** – The predecessors of the Global Goals, the MDGs, have helped cut extreme poverty by half from their establishment in 2000 until today. That is a great achievement but it is not enough! The Global Goals aim to end poverty in all its forms and everywhere by 2030.
6. **The Global Goals will leave no one behind** – They are for young and old people, for small and big countries, for people living in rural areas and people in busy cities. They will leave no one behind.
7. **The Global Goals are hands-on** - They contain concrete plans on how to change the world, how to pay for it and how to make sure that everybody is on board.
8. **The Global Goals are “Global”** – They tackle challenges for all countries across the globe.
9. **The Global Goals are the people's goals** – The goals have been developed by all the 193 UN Member States, NGOs and people like you, all working together.
10. **The Global Goals are the world's ultimate to-do list for the next 15 years** - The 17 goals are for making this planet a better place by 2030 which includes ending extreme poverty, fighting inequality and fixing climate change.



DOCUMENTATION

All documentation related to the Summit including the **Draft Outcome Document for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda**, Reports of the Secretary General, Background papers/Special Studies etc are available for viewing and download on:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/summit>

OTHER KEY DOCUMENTS ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA:

- Millennium Development Goals Report 2015 ([English/Arabic](#))
- Outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development ([English](#))
- Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General on the Post-2015 Development Agenda ([English/Arabic](#))
- Final Report of the Second Session of the Arab High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development ([English](#))
- Final Outcome Document (Bahrain Document) of the Arab High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development ([English](#))
- Arab Sustainable Development Report 2015 ([English](#))