Integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development

Achieving a balanced, ambitious and inclusive framework

Melanie Hutchinson
UNEP

Secretary-General's report to Special MDG Summit (25 Sept):
A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the MDGs and advancing the UN development agenda beyond 2015

One universal post 2015 agenda, with sustainable development at its core:

- enabled by the integration of economic growth, social justice and environmental stewardship, while putting the highest priority on ending poverty and reducing inequality;
- universal in nature yet responsive to the complexities, needs and capacities of individual countries and regions;
- bold in ambition but simple in design;
- protective of the planet, its biodiversity, water and land;
- rights-based, with particular emphasis on women, young people and marginalized groups;
- eager for new and innovative partnerships; and supported by pioneering approaches to data and rigorous accountability mechanisms.
• UNEP’s contributions to the Post-2015/SDGs processes based the ‘Integrated Framework’
  • UNEP’s position welcomed, but paper not widely disseminated
  • Continued promotion of an integrated approach both in NY processes as well as in regions and capitals
  • Continuing to seek convergence between Rio+20 processes (i.e. SDGs and MDG processes, Post 2015 Development Agenda)

• UNEP Experts Meeting convened December 2013:
  ✓ Criteria and methodology for developing interlinked targets and indicators
  ✓ 22 top environmental challenges relevant to the SDGs (i.e. interlinked to top social and economic agendas either as risks or as opportunities)
• The 22 environmental challenges clustered into
  ✓ Atmospheric systems (GHGs, air pollution, extreme weather)
  ✓ Ecosystems and their services (food security, biodiversity)
  ✓ Hydrological systems (freshwater, coasts and oceans, marine pollution)
  ✓ Hazardous chemicals and wastes (business processes, waste management)
  ✓ Consumption and Production and consumer behavior (inefficient resource use)
  ✓ Governance (access and rights, environmental crime, participation in decision-making)

UNEP Post-2015 Note # 1

The Interlinkages Trilogy

• A “filter” approach for goals, targets and indicators (under finalization)
  – Leave no one behind and provide a life of dignity for all
  – Achieve greater prosperity within the capacity of the earth’s life support system in an inclusive manner
  – Investing in new capital should achieve greater resilience and secure future generations’ livelihoods
Further UNEP Post-2015 Notes: 2-pagers on four key themes relevant to NY processes, through the trilogy “filter”:
- Increasing productivity and prosperity linked to SCP (including resource efficiency, safe operating space, and investing in capital)
- Poverty and environment, including contribution of GE in eradicating extreme poverty and enhancing employment
- Equity from an environment perspective (issues of access and affordability to services and stewardship of natural resources; differential impact of degradation on the poor)
- How innovations in access to information are needed in order to help countries achieve SDGs in each of the areas defined by the trilogy.

Integration in the SDGs proposed for the region

The proposed SDGs
- End extreme poverty and hunger
- Create decent jobs
- Provide quality education and lifelong learning for all
- Empower girls and women, achieve gender equality and the full realization of women's human rights
- Ensure healthy lives
- Secure access to water, sanitation and energy and promote the sustainable use and management of natural resources
- Promote sustainable food production
- Ensure quality housing and infrastructure services in rural and urban settlements
- Secure peaceful societies and effective institutions
- Advance global partnerships for sustainable development.
UN Environment Assembly of UNEP
(UNEA, June 2014)

High Level Segment (6 hours of debate on SDGs/Post 2015, including SCP)

UNEP Background Document: “Environmental sustainability for Human Well-being in the Post 2015 Agenda”

1. Stocktaking of ongoing processes (updated)
2. An Integrated Framework for SDGs and Post 2015 Agenda
3. Examples of integrated solutions
   i) Eradicating extreme poverty through inclusive green economy
   ii) Access to basic services for all that is environmentally sustainable
   iii) Green, inclusive and decent employment
   iv) Health, chemicals and environment
   v) Sustainable consumption
   vi) Food security through maintaining life support systems
4. Building the sustainability foundation for the Post 2015 Agenda
5. Suggested questions for Ministerial deliberation during the High Level Segment

19 focus areas of the SGs Open-Working Group on the SDGs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Poverty Eradication</th>
<th>12. Promoting equality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition</td>
<td>13. Sustainable cities and human settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Education</td>
<td>15. Climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Gender equality and women’s empowerment</td>
<td>16. Conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, oceans and seas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Water and sanitation</td>
<td>17. Ecosystems and biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Economic growth</td>
<td>19. Peaceful and non-violent societies with capable institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Industrialization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Employment and decent work for all</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you