

The MDGs, Rio+20
The SDGs, Post-2015
Barbados+20
&
Caribbean SIDS



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The Development Divide



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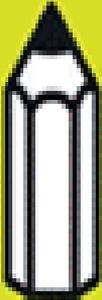
The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

1



ERADICATE
EXTREME POVERTY
AND HUNGER

2



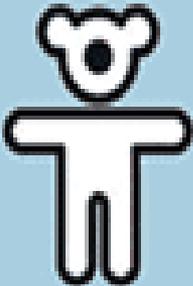
ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL
PRIMARY EDUCATION

3



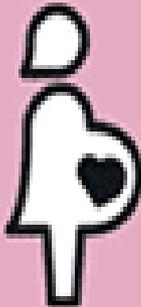
PROMOTE GENDER
EQUALITY AND
EMPOWER WOMEN

4



REDUCE
CHILD MORTALITY

5



IMPROVE
MATERNAL HEALTH

6



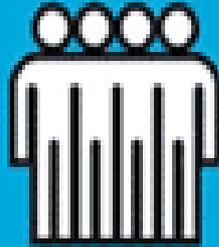
COMBAT HIV / AIDS,
MALARIA AND OTHER
DISEASES

7



ENSURE
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY

8



GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP FOR
DEVELOPMENT

Caribbean Progress toward MDGs

- Proportion of people without access to safe drinking water halved
- Absolute poverty has not diminished – 1990 25% of region living on \$1.25 a day or less, 2009 – 29% living on less than \$1.25 per day
- Gender parity in education - highest in developing world
- Universal primary education at 95% 2009
- 43% of women working in non agricultural activities in the economy - 2nd highest in developing world
- HIV & AIDS – Caribbean records a death every 2/3 days
- New infections 2nd highest in world (Haiti)
- Significant progress in reducing mother to child transmission (with increased use of treatment protocols numbers grew from 20 to 55%)
- Persons living with HIV-AIDS as a result of antiretrovirals increased 25 to 38%

Caribbean Progress toward MDGs

c'td

- Maternal deaths per 100,000 = 170 but 69% of births unattended by trained professionals
- Decline in malnourished and underweight children under 5 years old 10% to 4%
- Reduction in infant mortality 52 to 23 per 100,000
- Caribbean struggles with climate change and its impacts including increased, more intense weather events, coastal erosion, warmer seas, amongst top water stressed and water scarce countries in world ranking with sub-Saharan Africa, land degradation, solid waste management.

Rio+20

The Summit was the 20 year follow-up to the Earth Summit and took place **in June 2012**

- It was the largest conference ever held by the UN
- Over 100 Governments were represented at the Head of State level
- participants included 57 Heads of State, 8 Vice-Presidents, 31 Heads of Government, 9 Deputy Prime Ministers and 487 Ministers
- Estimates for full attendance have been put at 50,000 people, inclusive of 3000 youth and another 3000 business people
- Some 500 side events were held

Rio+20 c'td

The objective of the Conference was:

- to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development
- assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development
- address new and emerging challenges

Rio+20 c'td

The Conference had two broad themes

- a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
- the institutional framework for sustainable development

Rio+20 Outputs – General

- Rio+20 was the first UN conference to introduce social media into multilateralism.
- A “People’s Summit” which allowed for open discussion also took place and attracted tens of thousands of people.
- The Government of Brazil hosted four days of NGO discussion known as the “Dialogue Days” on urgent development issues such as:
 - decent work
 - social protection floors
 - sustainable economies

The level of participation of civil society and the creation of a large role and space for them was another new feature of this Conference

Rio+20 Outputs – General c'td

- The fourteen Peoples' Sustainability Treaties evolved through a consultative process with hundreds of civil society organizations and they launches a Manifesto on the final day.
- **The World Bank has already implemented the promotion of a green accounting pilot projects in 50 countries.**
- The Bank has also announced the formation of “a global partnership to enable developing countries to quantify the value of their natural resources through green ‘national accounting systems’ and reverse the ‘invisibility’ of nature’s contribution to the economy.”

Rio+20 Outputs – General c'td

Another initiative to which Rio gave witness and impetus was the launch of the Secretary General's Zero Hunger Challenge with the aim of:

- ensuring better access to nutritious food for all
- ending childhood malnutrition
- promoting sustainable food systems
- increasing smallholder productivity
- stopping the loss and waste of food

Some 3000 business people were in attendance discussing sustainability in the context of society, environment, the economy and profitability.

This was unprecedented!

Rio+20 Outputs – The Outcome Document Promoted or Agreed To:

(The issues of greatest relevance to SIDS are identified first)

- Protection for small island developing states (SIDS), least developed countries (LDCs), land locked least developed countries (LLDCs) and Africa
- Agreement to host a SIDS+20 Conference in 2014
- Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Committed to at Bridgetown pre-Rio+20
- The development of a list of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and a process for the full elaboration of the list.

- **Support for the transition to a global green economy as a tool for sustainable development, economic growth, poverty eradication, natural resource protection and enhancing business opportunities. (This is the first multilateral agreement on the green economy). (Re Caribbean – Enabling Environment, Trade, Private Sector, Women, Development Funding? Effecting the Transition?)**
- Contributed to changing the global debate on green economies and moved conceptions of the green economy to national levels where plans, targets, and indicators are more easily formulated
- Recognized the right to food and nutrition security for all and was the launch of the Zero Hunger Challenge, including food security, and ending hunger
- Support for sustainable agriculture and achieving a “land degradation neutral world” (this was the first UN document to contain this language and commitment)
- Recognition of the Strong section on health which covered the critical elements of health and wellness and the disease which constitute a threat to global well being **Re CNCDs – Implications**

- **Acknowledged the limits of GDP as the principal measure of growth and development and agreed to work with the UN on the development of a mechanism beyond GDP (GDP+) as a measurement which includes social and natural capital, or what some people call a social development index (SDI) and natural capital accounting (this was another first in the multilateral process)**
- Some kind of mechanism for finance and technology needed by developing countries in order to transition to the green economy
- **The adoption of a 10 year framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) (the establishment of such a framework was also a first in the multilateral system)**
- Cross-sectoral approaches to oceans, water, energy, and food security, none of which was tackled in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

- **Further thematic areas covered at Rio+20 “poverty eradication, water and sanitation, energy, sustainable transport, sustainable tourism, sustainable cities and human settlements, health and population, culture, promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all and social protection, oceans and seas, disaster risk reduction, climate change, biodiversity, forests, desertification, land degradation and drought, mountains, chemicals and waste, mining, education, finance, technology, capacity building and trade.”**
- Support for a mechanism within the UN system to follow up and implement the Rio outcome
- New forum and structures within the UN system to address sustainable development issues in a more meaningful way
- The strengthening and universal membership of UNEP
- Enhanced engagement with the private sector on issues of sustainability
- Reviving the multilateral process and handing success and agreement where previous conferences such as UNFCCC COP15 and CSD 2011 were thought to have fallen short of consensus and success

- Strengthening of governance through increased involvement of NGO and civil society stakeholders
- **Support for the equality, empowerment, social and economic enfranchisement of women and the production of gender sensitive data as the basis for understanding women's status as well as policy formulation to advance their cause and concerns. (Emphasized the importance of gender equality. This agreement and provision was wider than previous international agreements, although some still say not enough)**
- Formal recognition of the role of science to underpin policy making at the national and international level
- Sharing of best practices by corporations which relates to both corporate social reporting and corporate accountability and standards.
- Launching the High Level Political Forum to replace the Commission on Sustainable Development

Rio+20 also introduced the new concept of a Registry or Compendium of Commitments as an Addendum to the text

- A Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) attracted hundreds of endorsements as well as commitments from approximately 300 universities in roughly 50 countries.
- More than 150 commitments for the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative
- 64 million individual actions captured by the “Volunteer Action Counts
- **Substantial financial commitments were also registered at Rio+20 by both countries and the private sector, particularly in relation to energy**
- **Endorsement of a Green Industry Platform by 70 business leaders**
- **A Natural Capital Declaration aimed at integrating natural capital considerations into products and services**

Weaknesses of Rio+20 Outcome Re The Caribbean

- **Mobilisation of Financial Resources** – financing for development.
How is it to be found, or mobilized?
- North South Divide over financial resources.
- Shrinking ODA in the Caribbean.
- The Financial crisis and the impact on Caribbean economies.
- Vos et al speak to tax reforms to mobilize resources for development and social spending but these authors caution against macroeconomic tradeoffs pointing to the erosion of export competitiveness
- reduced tax revenues
- increased user fees
- Maurice Strong (Earth Bonds)
- Jeffrey Sachs and others promote countries utilising 1% of GDP globally for development purposes.
- Increased private sector involvement and the use of PPPs BOLTs to attract financing.

Weaknesses of Rio+20 Outcome Re The Caribbean c'td

- **Seas and Oceans** - The area of oceans and seas received much attention and was for the first time at the multilateral level framed in the context of the “Blue Economy,” an important and underpinning theme for Rio. Dodds opines that “the processes set up by Rio+20 will allow the UN General Assembly in 2014 to take a decision on the development of an international instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. **This puts off the decision to set up negotiations for a new convention on the high seas, for another two years, without a firm commitment.**” (Emphasis his). Dodds argues that this approach to oceans was “one of the big disappointments from Rio+20 which did however move forward many other issues dealing with the oceans including: ocean fertilization, acidification, marine debris, illegal fishing and reaffirming the World Summit for Sustainable Development [WSSD] target for restoring fish stocks.” In the Rio Outcome Document the paragraphs on oceans are those where the words “commit” and “commitment” are most frequently used

Weaknesses of Rio+20 Outcome

Re The Caribbean c'td

- **Lack of clarity on technology transfer** - another area of great contention, not yet fully resolved.
- **Women's Reproductive Rights** - Some argued that at Rio there was a reversal of gains on women's reproductive rights, contending that the outcome document was "an assault on gender and reproductive rights" and that in omitting the nexus between reproductive rights and sustainability, the quality of the Text was diminished, the cause of women harmed and the effort at sustainability suffered serious setback. Yet, overall the Text is very strong on women's empowerment, involving them in economic activity and the use of gender sensitive data for policy making.

Key Sectors for Green Economy Transition - UNEP

- Agriculture
- Buildings
- Energy
- Fisheries
- Forests
- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Transport
- Water
- Waste Management

**Cautions re: Women in GE, Unintended
Consequences, Access to Development
Financing, Preparing Business Sector**

SIDS and the SDGs – The Caribbean

The Rio+20 Conference agreed on the development and elaboration of a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- action-oriented
- concise and easy-to-communicate

An Open Working Group comprising 30 members from 69 countries on a rotational basis was established last month to carry out this work and “prepare a report proposing sustainable development goals “for consideration and appropriate action” by the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly.”

SIDS membership

- Nauru/Palau/Papa New Guinea
- Bahamas/Barbados
- Guyana/Haiti/Trinidad and Tobago

The theme, type and targets of the goals are important

NGOs Suggest SDG Thematic Areas

- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- Sustainable Livelihoods, Youth and Education
- Climate Sustainability
- Clean Energy
- Biodiversity
- Water
- Healthy Seas and Oceans (Blue Economy)
- Healthy Forests
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Green Cities
- Subsidies and Investment
- New Indicators of Progress
- Access to Information
- Public Participation
- Access to Redress and Remedy
- Environmental Justice for the Poor and Marginalized
- Basic Health

There are a number of issues to be determined generally and by the Caribbean specifically in relation to its strategic interests

- Should the MDGs complement the SDGs?
- Should the SDGs replace the MDGs?
- Should the SDGs just add to or work in tandem with the MDGs?
- What list of areas is best suited to making up the SDGS?
- What thematic areas would best represent Caribbean interests and development needs?

SIDS Conference 1994

In 1994 the UN hosted a major international conference in the small island developing state of Barbados. This led to a development agenda focussed on SIDS which came to be known as the Barbados Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States (BPOA). The Summit reaffirmed the Rio Principles and acknowledged that **SIDS have the right of sovereignty, self governance and the setting of their own development agenda. It noted that SIDS have peculiar development challenges which are exacerbated by their small size, isolation, distance from the centres of production, high population density relative to small size, inability to create economies of scale, vulnerability to environmental and exogenous economic shocks. The BPOA treated to some 14 strategic priorities for the SIDS including marine and natural resources, climate change, sovereignty, human resource development, energy and land degradation.**

Mauritius Summit 2005

This Conference reviewed challenges in implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including the limited availability of financial resources to effect implementation of the agenda and the large degree of self reliance which the SIDS had used to date, coupled with the limited international support and declining Official Development Assistance (ODA). It produced two negotiated documents which added more priority areas to those originally enunciated in the BPOA, including **graduation from LDC status, trade, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), health, HIV AIDS, education, knowledge management and culture.**

The key outcomes of MSI+5 which took place in 2010 have been identified as:

- Strengthening data management capacity of SIDS for monitoring and evaluation
- Enhancing strategic partnerships, including strengthening South-South and SIDS cooperation
- Assessing the effectiveness of UN system support to SIDS
- Need for results-oriented approach and improved measures to effectively address SIDS vulnerabilities
- Exploring the formal recognition of SIDS as a special category in the UN

Reviewing the Past Looking to the Future

The SIDS Conference, Barbados+20 takes place in the Pacific next year

- How best do SIDS maximize that opportunity?
- What do SIDS want out of the Conference?
- What are the strategic imperatives with which the SIDS should approach the conference?
- On What list of thematic issues would SIDS want to focus ?
- What about financing and technology? How will resources for SIDS be mobilized in the context of other commitments by the developed world and current financial difficulties?

Reviewing the Past Looking to the Future c'td

How can the SIDS+20 Conference be used to leverage:

- social and economic development
- funding and/or technology
- indigenous technologies, companies, businesses
- business opportunities including in the cultural industries
- new partnerships, PPPs, BOLTs, private capital
- a new development thrust to advance the green economy
- the Caribbean Sea as a place deserving of environmental and economic protection and potential
- the Caribbean Sea as a sink or for use in the Carbon markets

(This list is illustrative not exhaustive)

What SIDS+20 Could Look Like

- Plenary
- Roundtables
- Interaction between the private sector and governments
- A sort of trade and business fair or marketplace – Marketing and showcasing of indigenous SIDS, technologies, companies and businesses
- An attempt to present islands' investment climate so as to attract capital, business, investors – possible areas for consideration = energy, water, infrastructure, health, education
- Exploration of PPPs, BOLTs, other partnerships for development projects
- Food and Culture showcased with a view to finding markets, opportunities for artists, artisanal and indigenous products etc
- Presentation of projects and programmes for South – South cooperation, partnership, learning, investment
- Building on the initial foray into education (post Mauritius)
- Strengthening SIDSNET, SIDSDOCK, other SIDS mechanisms for knowledge platforms, cooperation, partnership and investment
- Identifying and maximising areas in which SIDS have a competitive advantage
- A forum and platform to transition SIDS regions, especially Caribbean to a Renewable Energy Platform and a Green Economy



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsgUa4EZaBI>

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