



Migration and SDG implementation

The real challenge starts now

At the Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of [17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) to end poverty and fight inequality and injustice by 2030.

This document has been compiled using the various sources referred to in the hyperlinks. It summarizes the agreements, where they pertain to migration and development, and is designed as a Briefing Paper as part of a MADE Advocacy Toolbox.

**International Migrants Day
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MADE
Migration and Development
Civil Society Network

What is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) is the global framework for development in the coming 15 years. The agenda was developed by a UN-led group of country representatives and sector specialists, who deliberated on the existing challenges and opportunities in realising balanced and sustainable global development and eradicating extreme poverty, inequality and injustice. The agenda was adopted in New York at the Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015 by UN Member States and will become effective on 1 January 2016. It succeeds the [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#) which were a set of eight global targets particularly aimed at poverty reduction. The MDGs became effective in 2000 and will expire on 31 December 2015.

The need for a new development framework

The MDGs were set to combat extreme poverty and exclusion by 2015. A lot of progress has been made with regard to these goals. However, the progress is not yet sufficient. Many people are still living in extreme poverty and gross injustice, inequality and exclusion continue to prevail. There are still many unmet commitments due to lack of resources, and lack of focus, accountability and dedication to sustainable development. In addition, the global economic crisis which lasted for at least half of the MDG period, has set back progress and implementation of intentions with regard to eradication of poverty and lack of access to development enablers. There was, therefore, a need to set new goals for the next 15 years to continue the vision for global development as started by the MDGs.

[The MDGs completely left out migrants and migration, refugees and internally displaced persons.](#) Seen from this perspective and also in the context of the current “migration crisis”, it was especially urgent to establish a new set of goals and targets that would have the poorest, most disadvantaged and most vulnerable at their heart.

The universality principle and the five transformative shifts

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a [universal agenda](#). Universality means that all signatories are jointly and fully responsible and accountable for achieving the world which the 2030 agenda is striving for. There is a recognition that factors for global inequality and poverty in the Global South are also to be found in the Global North and as such changes also the need to be effected in the Global North in order to realise just and equitable global development. One of the fundamental differences between the MDGs and SDGs is that where MDGs almost exclusively focussed on interventions in the Global South, the SDGs will focus on interventions in [both](#) the Global South [and](#) -North. The implications for member states is that initiatives, and yes, even domestic and international policy changes, may need to be effected in order for the country to rectify areas in its policies and practices which are not beneficial to achieving the [5 transformative shifts](#). Specific priorities and actions will need to be set and implemented in order for all states to truly contribute to the sustainable global development it has promised to support.

The five transformative shifts are changes in the behaviour, practices, mindset, dealings, culture and policies which need to take place in the global society in order to attain the inclusive world which the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is striving for. [They encompass the overall vision of the 2030 Agenda.](#)

The purpose of the 17 sustainable development goals is to bring this vision into action. These goals are specific priorities and actions which provide a framework for realising the transformative changes in precise and measurable terms.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), targets and indicators

Coupled to the 5 transformative shifts are 17 [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), aimed at realising balanced growth across the globe by 2030. The goals focus on ending poverty, fighting inequality and injustice, and tackling climate change and other human practices that endanger life on the planet we live on. Like the MDGs the SDGs are not binding, but signatories have a responsibility to monitor and report on the progress of their contributions. Each country will also have to monitor and regularly report on own progress, usually delegated to the National Statistical Office (NSO).

Each SDG has specific targets attached to it. In total [there are 169 targets of which 7 are specifically related to migration](#). In addition, each target has indicators attached to it, in order to make progress monitoring and reporting possible. In total [there are 224 indicators, of which 12 are specifically related to migrants and migration](#).

The overall vision: Five Transformative Shifts

- **Leave No One Behind.** After 2015 we should move from reducing to ending extreme poverty, in all its forms. We should ensure that no person – regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status – is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights.
- **Put Sustainable Development at the Core.** We have to integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability. We must act now to slow the alarming pace of climate change and environmental degradation, which pose unprecedented threats to humanity.
- **Transform Economies for Decent Jobs and Inclusive Growth.** A profound economic transformation can end extreme poverty and improve livelihoods, by harnessing innovation, technology, and the potential of business. More diversified economies, with equal opportunities for all, can drive social inclusion, especially for young people, and foster sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- **Build Peace and Effective, Open and Accountable Institutions for All.** Freedom from conflict and violence is the most fundamental human entitlement, and the essential foundation for building peaceful and prosperous societies. At the same time, people the world over expect their governments to be honest, accountable, and responsive to their needs. We are calling for a fundamental shift – to recognize peace and good governance as a core element of wellbeing, not an optional extra.
- **Forge a New Global Partnership.** A new spirit of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual accountability must underpin the post-2015 agenda. This new partnership should be based on a common understanding of our shared humanity, based on mutual respect and mutual benefit. It should be centered around people, including those affected by poverty and exclusion, women, youth, the aged, disabled persons, and indigenous peoples. It should include civil society organizations, multilateral institutions, local and national governments, the scientific and academic community, businesses, and private philanthropy.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all.
- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.
- Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.
- Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies.
- Goal 17: Revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.

Where is migration in the SDGs?

Migration is inherently part of all of the goals and targets that are 'migration or displacement relevant' – after all, no goal should be met unless it is met for everyone. Building on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development principle to “leave no-one behind”, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons are among the vulnerable people that are prominently acknowledged and are thus inherently part of all the 17 goals and 169 targets. Furthermore, the 2030 Agenda embraces migration and migrants explicitly in the accompanying Declaration, stating “*We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons.*”

Most importantly, the 2030 Agenda explicitly refers to migration and migrants in the following 7 targets.

Targets Specific to Migrants and Migration

Goal 5 (Gender equality). Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Goal 8 (Decent work & economic growth). Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) Reduce inequality within and among countries

10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.

Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

Goal 17 (Partnerships) Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

How will we know if we achieve the goals?

Measuring the attainment of the SDGs can only be accomplished with strong and robust indicators. The Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDGs) has been tasked with the development of global indicators. The overview below shows the global indicators specific to migrants and migration that are now on the table. The coming months will be crucial when deciding on the final set by March 2016. These global indicators will subsequently need to be translated into national indicators.

Indicators Specific to Migrants and Migration

Goal 5 (Gender equality). Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls (aged 15-49) subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the last 12 months

5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls (aged 15-49) subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner, since age 15.

Goal 8 (Decent work & economic growth). Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8.7.1 Percentage and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, per sex and age group (disaggregated by the worst forms of child labour)

8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries and time lost due to occupational injuries by gender and migrant status

8.8.2 Number of ILO conventions ratified by type of convention

Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) Reduce inequality within and among countries

10.7.1 Recruitment cost born by employee as percentage of yearly income earned in country of destination.

10.7.2 Based on "International Migration Policy Index"

10.c.1 Remittance costs as a percentage of the amount remitted.

Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16.2.1 Percentage of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and violent disciplinary measures, in the past 12 months

16.2.2 Number of detected and non-detected victims of human trafficking per 100,000; by sex, age and form of exploitation

16.2.3 Percentage of young women and men aged 18-24 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18

Goal 17 (Partnerships for the goals). Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

17.18 Proportion of sustainable development indicators with full disaggregation produced at the national level.

Source: [Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators \(IAEG-SDGs\)](#), review of proposed indicators 2 November 2015

The IAEG-SDGs has so far developed 224 indicators for 169 targets. At its recent meeting in Bangkok last October, 159 indicators labeled as 'green' were agreed upon. The remaining 65 indicators labeled 'grey' require further discussion. This will happen between 1 December and 15 February, with a third slot for online consultation between 9-15 December. Most of the indicators specific to migration have already been agreed upon (**green** in above text). Yet others still need more in-depth discussion or need methodological development (**grey** in above text).

What is next? Implementation at national level!

Now that the 2030 Agenda has been adopted, it is up to governments to the agenda and translate and implement it into ambitious national policies by January 2016. Civil society has a key role to play, ensuring an inclusive and transparent policy formulation that includes participation of civil society, migrants and diaspora, and to ensure the adoption of effective global and national indicators. Please note that the Agenda 2030 is global compromise and that it is not legally binding. We should see it as a commonly agreed “floor”, and not a “ceiling” or “menu” that our governments can pick from! At national level we should at the minimum insist for full implementation of what has been agreed, but go beyond that where it is possible.

What can you do?

1. Your government is responsible for national SDG implementation. Ask your government how it will do this and what changes to national domestic and foreign policies will be necessary. Also ask how your government will ensure that national policies will be made coherent in their positive impact on human development abroad, ensuring human rights and policy coherence for development.
2. Your government is responsible for measuring and reporting progress in attaining the goals and targets. Ask your government how they are planning on adopting the global indicator framework, and whether they will move away from the global indicator framework. Propose alternative indicators.
3. Ask your government for access to migration data, and develop a shadow report of your country's performance with regard to policies and practices of migration and development. Include your own data in that. Use that shadow report to influence the governments SDG implementation at national level and review. MADE is developing a template Shadow Report as part of the Advocacy Toolkit.
4. Join the MADE working group on Global Governance of Migration & Development, which is coordinating lobbying efforts and sharing updates from governments positions and CSO lobbying efforts from around the world. For more information, see our contacts below.

This Briefing Paper is part of the MADE Advocacy Toolkit for civil society advocating for SDG implementation and indicator development. In the coming months, we will be reaching out to share concrete and practical advocacy tools, including:

- **Talking Points** for 10-30 minute advocacy conversations with governments and parliamentarians. This tool will be developed for both SDG implementation and indicator development.
- **Template Advocacy Letter (SDG implementation)** to be sent to national governments and/or heads of state, urging them to translate the SDGs into national policies.
- **Template Advocacy Letter (indicator development)**, including indicator suggestions on migration-specific targets, to be sent to national statistical offices (NSOs)
- **Template Shadow Reports**, to present new, complementary or alternative information to government reports and to be used for advocacy purposes.
- **Webinars**, the first one taking place on 19-1-2016, to strengthen and update advocacy strategies.



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More information

For more detailed information, please visit the MADE network at www.madenetwork.org, or write to bvd@cordaid.nl.

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