

Africa-Region Perspectives on the Post 2015 Agenda

**United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Development and NEPAD Division**

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**United Nations Economic Commission
for Africa**

Three Processes

1. Position papers on the post-2015 agenda
 - Discussions informed by 4 position papers that outlined the case for: retaining, reformulating and replacing the MDGs as well as a paper on NEPAD and the post-2015 Development Agenda
2. Multistakeholder consultations
3. Continent-wide surveys

Multi-stakeholder Consultations

- Organized in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), and UNDP (Regional Bureau for Africa) in Accra Nov 15-16, 2011
- 47 participants from 18 African countries
 - Burkina Faso, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, S. Africa, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe
- Representation from government, civil society and academia

Key findings: Gaps in the MDGs

- limited focus on economic growth and transformation;
- limited emphasis on the role of domestic resource mobilization in Africa's development agenda;
- tendency to neglect issues relating to the quality of service delivery;
- silent on inequality including spatial and horizontal inequality; and
- disproportionate focus on outcomes with limited consideration of the enablers of development: excludes factors such as infrastructure and peace and security

Critical Enablers of Development

- *Institutional capacity development.*
- *Domestic resource mobilization:*
- *Participation and ownership at the community, national, regional and global levels*
- *Social inclusiveness and equality*
- *Leadership and governance*
- *Peace and Security*
- *Regional integration and trade*
- *Infrastructure development*
- *Global cooperation and partnerships*

Proposed Areas of Focus

Goals	Measures
Promote transformation and sustainable growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritize employment creation• Promote rural development• Promote value addition of primary commodities and resources• Ensure food security• Promote and expand trade, markets and regional integration and investment• Prioritize sustainability and support green economy initiatives
Promote education and technological innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen quality and access to basic and tertiary education• Invest in secondary, tertiary and vocational education• Promote technology transfer• Invest in research and development

Proposed Areas of Focus

Goals	Measures
Promote human and social development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote gender parity/empowerment of women in all spheres of endeavor• Protect human rights and assure justice and equality• Promote access to social protection• Promote maternal and child health• Support and empower the elderly and disabled• Prioritize disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation initiatives

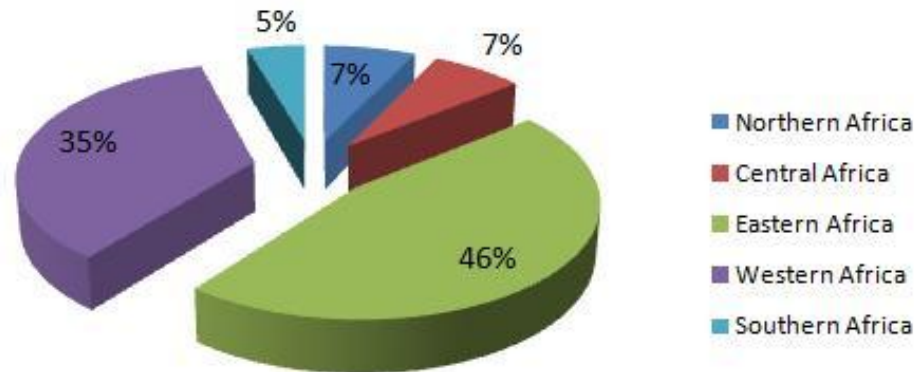
Findings of the Continent-wide Survey

Profile of respondents

As of 24 January, 2012:

- 204 survey responses - 112 complete, 92 incomplete
- Displayed results are based on complete survey responses

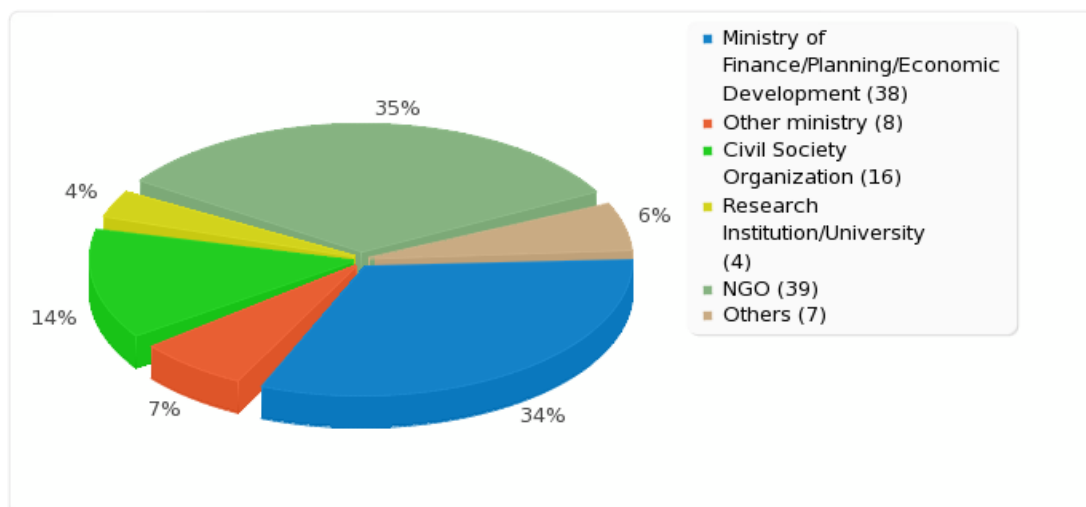
Distribution of responses by sub-regions in Africa



Profile of respondents

- The majority of respondents are from government ministries and NGOs

Responses categorized based on Institution		
Answer	Count	Percentage
Ministry of Finance/Planning/Economic Development	38	33.93%
Other ministry	8	7.14%
Civil Society Organization	16	14.29%
Private Sector Organization	0	0.00%
Research Institution/University	4	3.57%
NGO	39	34.82%
Others	7	6.25%



Assessment of the MDGs – Key

MDG areas examined in survey:

Goal 1a – Poverty and Inequality

Goal 1b – Employment and Decent Work

Goal 2 – Education and Skills Training

Goal 3 – Population and Gender

Goals 4,5,6 – Health and Nutrition

Goal 7a – Urbanization and Migration

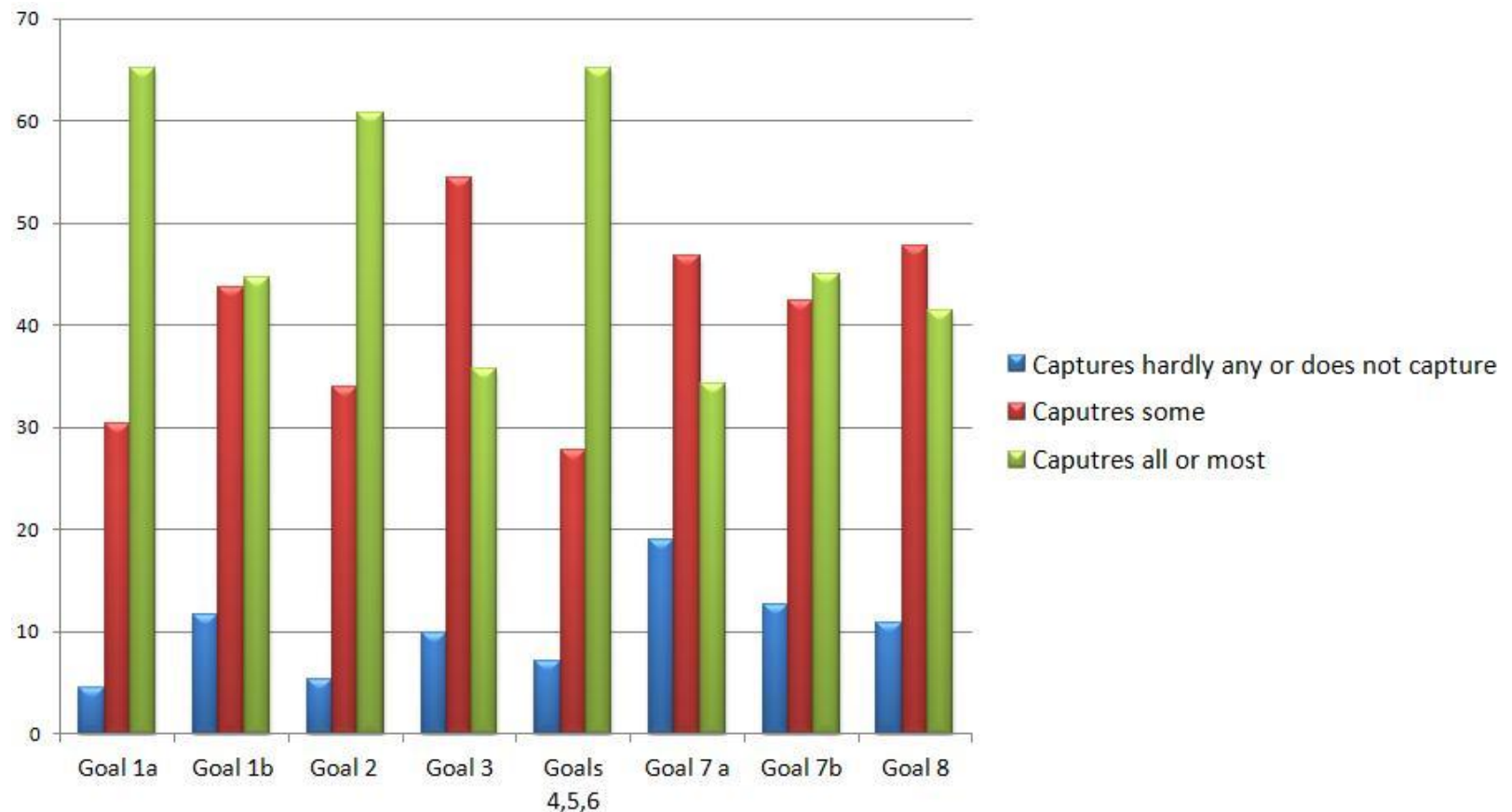
Goal 7b – Environment and Climate Change

Goal 8 – Trade and Aid

Assessment of the MDGs

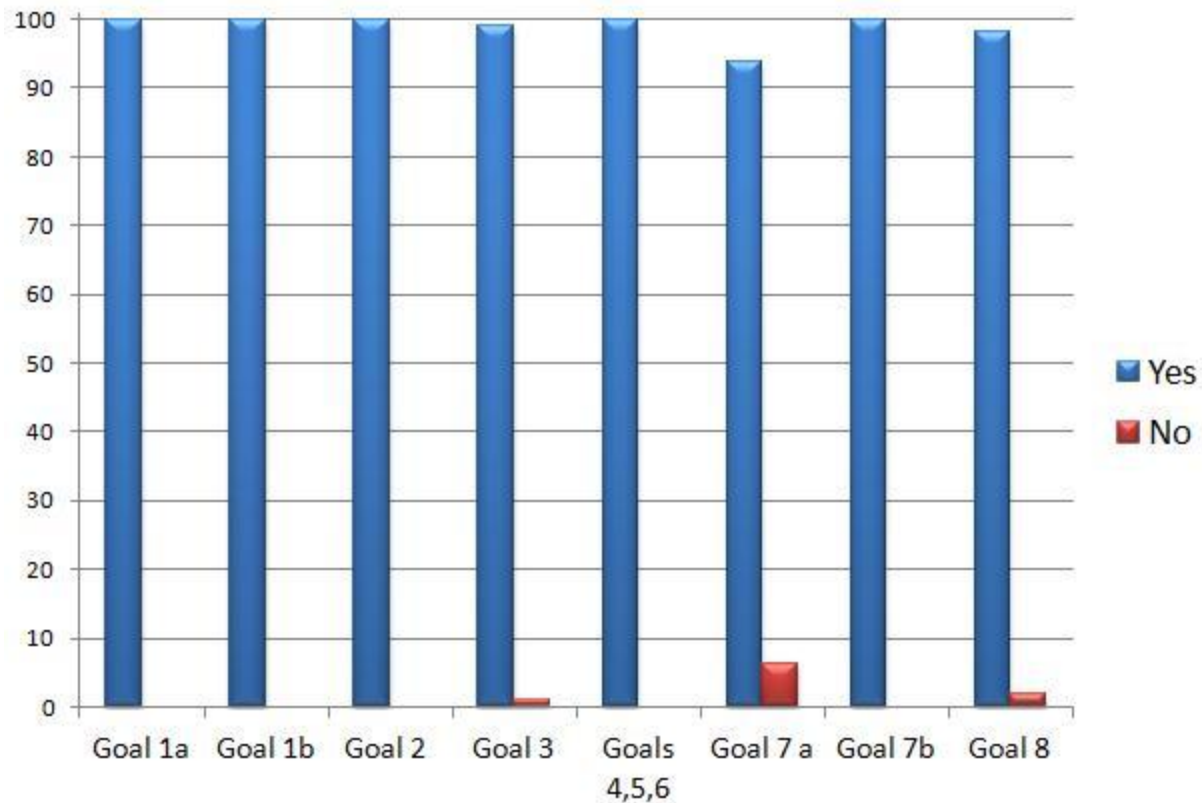
- MDGs generally capture countries' priorities and concerns for the policy areas - MDGs 3 and 7a (urbanization and migration) were the least representative of countries' priorities and concerns
 - MDG 7 do not adequately capture urbanization and migration concerns
 - MDG 3 neglects issues such as early marriage, population policy, early marriage, gender-based violence etc.,
- Overwhelming support for the inclusion of the current MDG policy areas in the post-2015 agenda
- Commonly raised critiques of the MDGs relate to the lack of specificity, implementation and oversight
- Problems with monitoring and evaluation, linked to inadequate statistical capacity

MDGs Capture national priorities and concerns



Assessment of support for the MDGs

Should the MDG areas be part of the post-2015 agenda



Critiques of the MDGs

Based on your country's experience, what are the main flaws of the MDGs as they are currently designed? (choose all that apply)

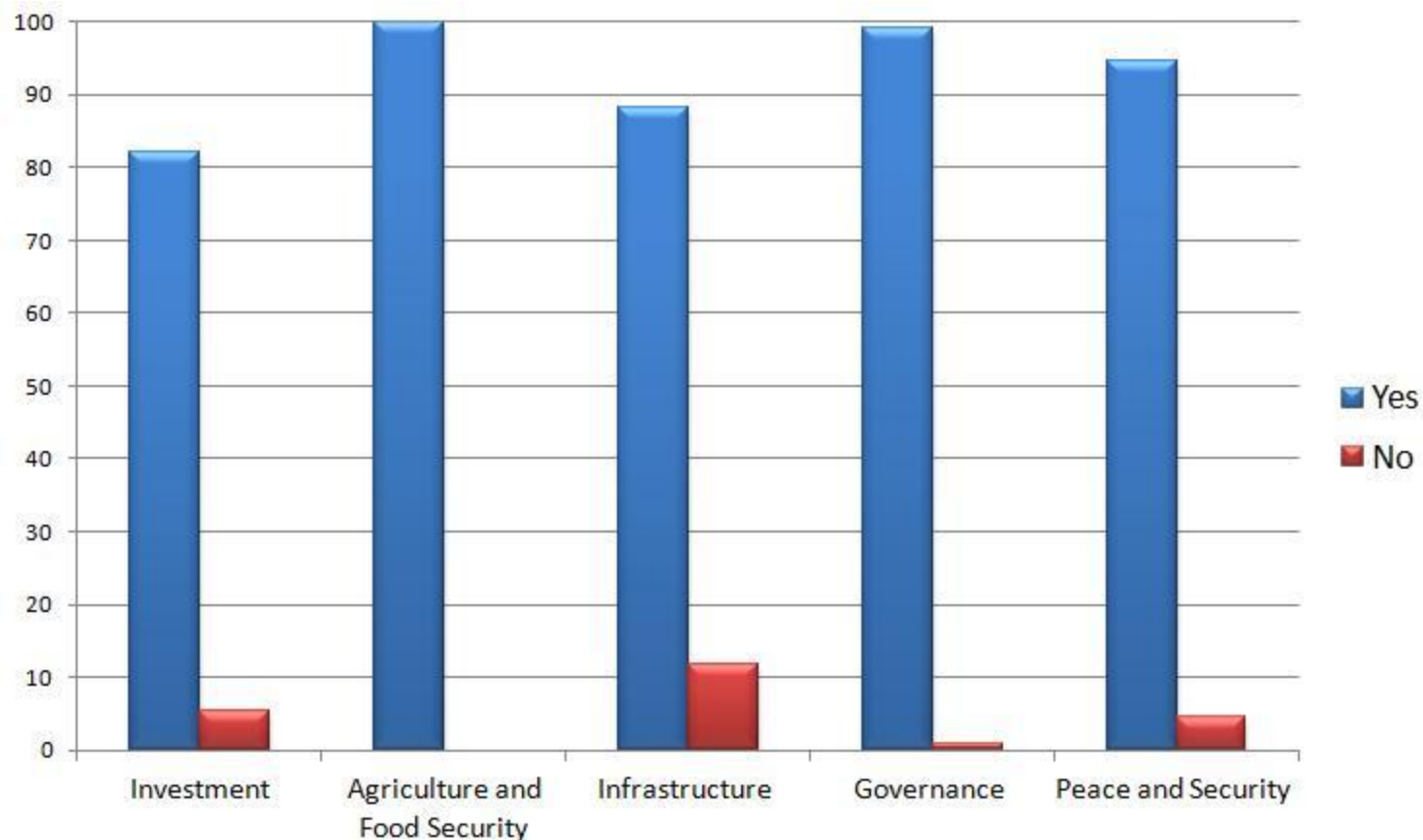
Answer	Count	Percentage
Provides little/no advisory support	34	30.36%
Provides no guide for funding to implement programmes and projects	46	41.07%
Pose difficulties in monitoring and evaluation (data collection, measuring targets, etc.)	50	44.64%
Global targets are not region or country-specific	61	54.46%
Pose insufficient number of measurable targets	28	25.00%
Do not reflect developing country perspective	36	32.14%
Overlooks capacity to implement programmes and projects	52	46.43%
Overlooks inequality	39	34.82%
Overlooks issue of sustainability	49	43.75%
Overlooks responsibilities of developed countries	49	43.75%
Overlooks accountability aspects	50	44.64%
Pose arbitrary baselines	32	28.57%
The MDGs design were not at all/insufficiently participatory	44	39.29%
Lack of measurable targets in some of the MDGs	39	34.82%
Others	10	8.93%

Suggested New Areas for the Post-2015 Agenda

- **Investment:** Value addition; technology transfer
- **Infrastructure:** water, electricity, communications, and a rural focus
- **Agriculture and food security:** Market access; productivity; water management
- **Peace and Security:** Decrease crime, strengthen the power of public prosecutors and ensure access to the judiciary
- **Governance:** free speech, democracy and gender equality in decision making

Potential Post-2015 Goals – Summary

Should the policy areas be part of the post-2015 agenda



Moving Forward: Concerns

- **Over-crowding the Agenda:**
- **The complexity of including certain issues** such as **governance and peace and security** may make it difficult to develop:
 - consensus and
 - widely accepted and measurable indicators

Process matters for sustainability

Goals	Outcomes
To create an enabling environment for the realization of the Post 2015 Development Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhanced Peace and Security• Good governance• Human rights for all• Strengthened access to justice and equality• A credible participatory process• Enhanced capacity to measure progress and ensure accountability

A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
Promote transformation and sustainable growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employment creation• Rural development• Value addition of primary commodities and resources• Food security• Fair trade and regional integration• Vibrant and sustainable green economy initiatives• Robust and reliable infrastructure*

A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
Promote capacity development and technological innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal access to basic (primary secondary) and tertiary education that meet minimum standards• Effective Technology transfer• Robust research and development

A focus on results

Goals	Outcomes
Promote human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender parity and empowerment of women and youth• Access to social protection• Improved maternal and child health• The elderly and disabled empowered• Strengthened disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation initiatives

Conclusions

- The MDGs must be reformulated to reflect emerging priorities and aspirations
- The post-2015 agenda must take into account **development enablers** to focus global attention on the binding constraints to the realization of the post 2015 agenda and to promote sustainability
- However, to avoid overload we need to be strategic in the choice of enablers to include in the framework
- **Transformation** and **capacity development** are critical to Africa's development and must underpin the post-2015 agenda
- The Agenda must reflect regional initiatives and priorities such as NEPAD and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

THANK YOU

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