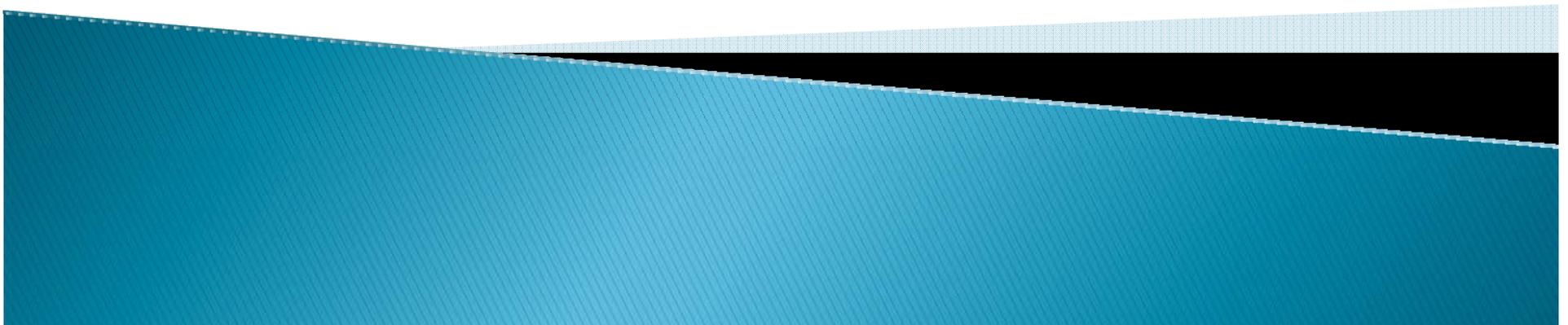


Strengths and weaknesses of the MDG agenda: **Implications for Post-2015**

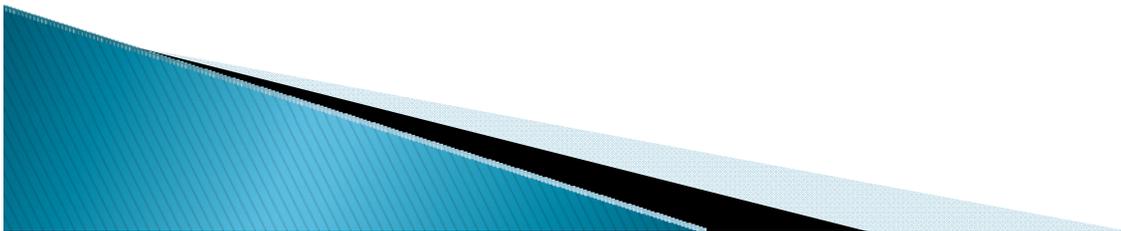
Rob Vos

For **Working Groups A+F**



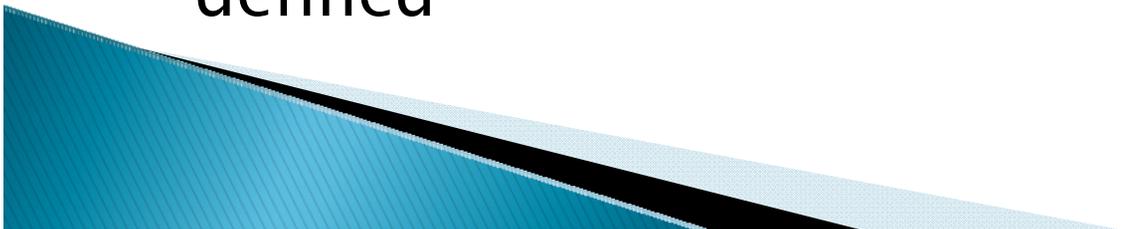
Strengths

- ▶ Based in visionary, human-development centred Millennium Declaration
- ▶ Simple, transparent and easy-to-communicate: basis for advocacy
- ▶ Clear goals, targets and indicators for monitoring and accountability
- ▶ Agenda setting, but not prescriptive
- ▶ Helped strengthen global partnership, recognizing needs of Africa and LDCs



Weaknesses

- ▶ Lack of consultations to underpin ownership
- ▶ Important issues were left out, such as peace and security, governance and human rights
- ▶ Inadequate incorporation of other issues (e.g. sustainability, employment, inequality, etc.)
- ▶ Not a development strategy and not focused on addressing root causes of poverty and other development challenges
- ▶ One-size-fits-all goals and targets may have missed the point
- ▶ Too much focus on ends, too little (or nothing) on processes
- ▶ Global partnership for development poorly defined



Implications for Post-2015: Ten Recommendations

1. The core values contained in the **Millennium Declaration** seem to be as valid as an expression of the development challenges of the world today as they were in 2000
2. The post-2015 UN Development Agenda would need to build on broad consultations with main stakeholders from its inception.
3. The new agenda should reflect need for transformative change and serve multiple purposes: advocacy tool, policy guide for national and global policies, instrument for policy coherence
4. Keep format of concrete goals, targets and indicators
5. Keep long time horizon (say, 25 years) but add intermediate milestones (say, every 5 years)



Implications for Post-2015:

Ten Recommendations (cont.)

6. Leave great flexibility to tailor goals & targets to national and sub-national realities
 - But, no “carte blanche”: comply with global targets and principles relating to sustainability, inclusion and equity, fulfillment of human rights, etc.
7. Retain clear focus on ends
 - But, also need more attention to processes and resources to achieve results through transformative change
8. Give more prominence to reducing inequalities
9. Account better for demographic dynamics
10. Define global partnership for developments better and make sure it's truly “global”



Final reflection.....

- ▶ Can all of the above be done while keeping things simple? Well, why not?
- ▶ Give strong vision (MD)
- ▶ More structured approach could be solution (rather than MDG+ or SDG+):
 - a) End goals for human development
 - b) Defined limits of environmental sustainability
 - c) Recognize conditioning factors and contours of enabling global partnership
 - d) Outline basic principles to guide strategies and policy coherence (without being prescriptive) consistent with equity, securing human rights, democratic governance, peace and security

