

Proposing Indicators on Four Climate-related Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals

Consultation of Climate Groups in India: Key Recommendations

Background

While there is a need to mainstream climate change in all the Proposed Indicators across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this meeting was convened to review and input into the Proposed Indicators of the following four SDGs as these relate directly to climate resilience. The 4 Goals discussed at the meeting were:

- Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern **Energy for All** (Goal 7)
- Ensure **Sustainable Consumption and Production** Patterns (Goal 12)
- Take Urgent Action to **Combat Climate Change** and its Impacts (Goal 13)
- Protect, Restore and Promote **Sustainable use of Terrestrial Ecosystems**, Sustainably Manage **Forests**, Combat **Desertification** and Halt and Reverse **Land Degradation** and Halt **Biodiversity Loss** (Goal 15)

The Draft of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Developmental was finalized on August 1, 2015 and is ready to be adopted by the world leaders at the forthcoming UN Sustainable Development Summit scheduled from September 25-27, 2015 in New York. The UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) is in the process of developing an Indicator Framework on the Goals and Targets of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and has proposed an initial set of Provisional Indicators. A draft of Provisional Indicators for all the goals will be made available in December 2015 for a formal review process and will then be finalized in March 2016. Countries are in the process of preparing indicators. Multilateral organizations like the World Bank and the United Nations agencies have submitted suggestions on the Provisional Indicators. Some civil society groups have done likewise, including Climate Action Network (CAN) International. There are very few inputs from the South, especially from civil society groups working in climate-related areas.

This meeting reviewed the Proposed Indicators in the context of the forthcoming Paris COP 21- the 21st meeting of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Paris agreement will be implemented from 2020 and the SDGs agreement is slated to be adopted in March 2016. The Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction was agreed upon in March 2015. Discussions are on for financing for development and the means of implementation for these agreements. So the regime for climate-proof development addressing all the 17 SDG goals will be set once the SDG agreement comes into effect.

This meeting was convened by Alternative Futures, in collaboration with Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA), Women 2030 Network and Action/2015, to suggest modifications and additions to the UNSC Provisional Indicators based on the work of the non-governmental climate community working on low-carbon resilient development with some of the poorest and most marginalised men and women across India. The meeting was attended by 30 people representing 20 organisations and networks variously engaged in policy research, policy engagement and grassroots intervention.

Specific Suggestions on Provisional Indicators for Goals 7, 12, 13, 15

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

Target: 7.1-By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

Provisional Indicators:

- 7.1.1- Percentage of population with electricity access (%) (AAA)
- 7.1.2- Percentage of population with primary reliance on non-solid fuels (%) (BAA)

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 7.1.1- Percentage of population with **reliable** electricity access (%) (AAA)
- 7.1.2- Percentage of population with primary reliance on non-solid fuels **disaggregated by fossil and non-fossil fuels** (%) (BAA)

Suggested Added Indicators

- 7.1.3– Percentage of income spent by population on reliable electricity access. (%)
- 7.1.4- Per capita annual consumption of reliable electricity by sex.

Discussion

Indicators should reflect affordability, reliability, gender, decentralized control by user, disaggregation between non-solid and non-fossil fuel and not include nuclear as clean fuel.

Target- 7.2: By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

Provisional Indicators:

- 7.2.1- Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption (%) (AAA).
- 7.2.2- Enabling legislation and framework for renewable energy production established by 2020 (BBA)

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 7.2.1- **Percentage annual increase in renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption** (%) (AAA).

Suggested Added Indicators

- 7.2.3 – Annual percentage increase in the proportion of population consuming renewable energy as a proportion of total demand for energy (%).
- 7.2.4 – Proportion of renewable energy produced locally/domestically with respect to both hardware and software.

Discussion

Indicators should be added on percentage increase in renewable energy share in consumption with respect to the energy demands and the policy adopted for local/domestic production of renewable energy through creation of an enabling environment.

Target- 7.3: By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

Provisional Indicators:

- 7.3.1- Rate of improvement in energy intensity (%) measured in terms of primary energy and GDP (AAA)
- 7.3.2- Composite Energy Efficiency Improvement Index built up of sub-indicators measuring transport energy efficiency, industrial energy efficiency, power generation energy efficiency, buildings energy efficiency and agricultural energy efficiency (CBA)

Discussion

Both indicators accepted.

Target 7.a: By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology

- 7.a.1- Improvement in the net carbon intensity of the energy sector (GHG/TFC in CO2 equivalents) (BBA)
- 7.a.2- Amount of Foreign Direct Investment and Financial transfer for these purposes (BBB)

Suggested Added Indicator

- 7.a.3 – Proportion of joint ventures on clean energy research and technology between the giving and the recipient countries for domestic clean energy production.

Target 7.b: By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and Small Island developing States.

Provisional Indicators:

- 7.b.1-Rate of improvement in energy productivity (the amount of economic output achieved for a given amount of energy consumption) (BBA)
- 7.b.2- Percentage of international cooperation projects being implemented to facilitate access to clean energy (BBB)

Suggested Added Indicators

- 7.b.3- **Percentage annual increase in new and additional funding for international cooperation projects being implemented to facilitate domestic production of clean energy**

Goal 12-Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target-12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

Provisional Indicators:

- 12.4.1- Number of Parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous and other chemicals and waste that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement. (BBB)

- 12.4.2- *Annual average levels of selected contaminants in air, water and soil from industrial sources, energy generation, agriculture, transport and wastewater and waste treatment plants (BBA).*

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 12.4.1- **Annual increase in the number of Parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous and other chemicals and waste that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement. (BBB)**
- 12.4.2- **Percentage change in annual average levels of selected contaminants in air, water and soil from industrial sources, energy generation, agriculture, transport and wastewater and waste treatment plants (BBA).**

Target- 12.7: Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

- 12.7.1- *Number of countries implementing Sustainable Public Procurement policies and action plans (CBB).*
- 12.7.2- *% of Sustainable Public Procurement in total public procurement for a set of prioritized product groups (CBB)*

Discussion

No suggestions.

Goal 13- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Target-13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Provisional Indicators

- 13.1.1- *% of countries that report having progressed from a perceived low to an intermediate or from an intermediate to a high level of adaptive capacity in relation to a two-degree world (CBB).*
- 13.1.2- *% of casualties and amount of economic losses (BBB).*

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 13.1.1- *% of countries that report having progressed from a perceived low to an intermediate or from an intermediate to a high level of adaptive capacity in relation to a **less than** two-degree world (CBB).*
- 13.1.2 - **% decrease in casualties and amount of economic (including livestock) losses in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.**

Target-13.2: Integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation in to national strategies & plans

Provisional Indicator:

- 13.2.1- *% of countries which have formally communicated the establishment of integrated low-carbon, climate-resilient, disaster risk reduction development strategies (e.g. a national adaptation plan process) (BAA).*

Suggested Added Indicators

- 13.2.2 – Proportion of ‘bottom-of-the-pyramid’ people by sex and age able to access multi-hazard early warning systems, disaster risk information, resilient infrastructure and basic services in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Target-13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Provisional Indicators

- 13.3.1 - % of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula (CBB).
- 13.3.2 - % of population with increased knowledge on climate change, disaggregated by sex and age (BBB).

Suggested Added Indicators

- 13.3.3 – Proportion of governance institutions having integrated gender-responsive mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into their functioning.

Goal 15-Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Target-15.1: By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and dry lands, in line with obligations under international agreements.

Provisional Indicators

- 15.1.1- Coverage of protected areas broken down by ecosystem type, including total area of forests in protected areas (thousands of hectares) (BAA).
- 15.1.2- Forest area as a percentage of total land area (AAA).

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 15.1.2- Forest area as a percentage of total land area **disaggregated by density and type of forest** (AAA).

Target-15.3: By 2020, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land-degradation-neutral world

- 15.3.1- Trends in land degradation (BBA).
- 15.3.2- Area of land/soils under sustainable management (BBA).

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 15.3.1 - Trends in land degradation **and its restoration, including annual percent change in land use, if any.**

Target-15.4: By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

- 15.4.1- Coverage of protected areas (AAA).
- 15.4.2- Mountain Green Cover Index (CBB).

Suggested Modified Indicators

- 15.4.2 – Mountain Green Cover Index *also reflecting a trend line.*

Climate Change and Other SDGs: Linking with the UNFCCC Process

Goal 2 - End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Critical to the SDGs are the discussions and plans under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage and country-specific National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs). In India, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and the State-level Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) are critical to the discussions on SDGs. Adaptation particularly covers agriculture-related sectors and disaster management. In India, much of the agriculture is rainfed, or dependent on timely and adequate monsoons, and practiced in disaster-prone areas. Also, SDGs are currently not factoring in loss and damage and how this will affect development itself, not just resilient development.

Goal 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Managing and dealing with water problems is very important in the wake of climate change because climate change impacts both the quantity and quality of water on the one hand and worsens floods and droughts on the other hand. The UNFCCC process has not addressed issues of regional cooperation on sharing water resources. This aspect needs to be factored into SDG 17 that envisages achieving SDGs through global partnerships.

Goal 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

This goal is the crux of the climate change debate as the UNFCCC discussions began with reducing emissions from use of fossil fuels. There are now several campaigns mooted under the UNFCCC in the run up to the Paris COP21. These include phasing out coal, a call by G7 on divestment by 2100 and a call to have 100% renewable energy by 2050. Mitigation is also a key component of member countries' Intended Nationally Driven Contributions (INDCs) that they are now in the process of submitting for the Paris COP. These INDCs are nation-specific plans for dealing with climate change on all aspects. Access to sustainable energy must be ensured for the energy poor development countries with a clear need for de-carbonization with proper means of implementation. Mitigation commitments in the post-2020 Paris agreement are going to be critical to achieving SDG 7.

Goal 10 - Reduce inequality within and among countries.

The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) on reduction of fossil fuel emissions is central to the UNFCCC process and is all about reducing inequality among countries.

Achieving this Goal is going to be linked to the manner in which the CBDR principle is applied by countries in the post-2020 Paris agreement.

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (Goal 12):

This goal is directly linked with a country's potential for carbon mitigation – an outcome of the CBDR principle where emissions may be required to support an extravagant lifestyle or to support a subsistence lifestyle. India had put on the UNFCCC table the need to distinguish between 'survival' emissions required in developing countries like India from 'luxury' emissions that need to be reduced in developed countries.

Goal 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

This goal needs to be achieved first in order to achieve the other goals to ensure resilient development for all.

Goal 15 - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

From climate change perspective forests need to be protected as they act as carbon sinks for mitigation and help communities most vulnerable to climate change adapt through afforestation which supports their livelihoods and basic needs, including energy requirements. The REDD plus, or Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, negotiations are deliberating deforestation and the need to protect both forests and survival and livelihoods of people depending on them.

Goal 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

This goal can only be achieved if climate change is addressed through sustainable development per se has not been within the ambit of UNFCCC negotiations. However, with the recent addition of the INDCs, countries are now addressing sustainable development as the INDCs factor in both mitigation and adaptation as well as means of implementation and the need to have domestic institutions to deliver on these, with a special focus on those most affected by climate impacts.



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