



Institutional framework for Sustainable Development – Global, regional and national interlinkages

CSD 20 Western Asia Regional Implementation Meeting
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David Le Blanc & Irena Zubcevic,
Division for Sustainable Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNHQ New York

Status of Rio+20 follow-up processes

High-level Political Forum – to be part of the post-2015 institutional framework

- Format and organizational modalities resolution now under discussion – no agreement yet
- three tier structure proposed:
 - HS/HG;
 - Ministers;
 - Senior Officials Meetings
- Lessons learned from CSD:
 - need for clear home for SD
 - strongly linked to the follow-up of Rio+20 and other related conferences
 - helping mainstream sustainable development in UN work (GA and ECOSOC) including RCs
 - strong focus on implementation at all levels, sharing of experiences, reviewing and monitoring and strong link from national to regional to global
 - furthering integration of three dimensions of SD, engaging more strongly economic and social policy making communities
 - Enhanced engagement of MGs
 - focused and flexible agenda including SDGs once adopted
 - robust preparatory process
 - encouraging and strengthening partnerships and voluntary commitments

Status of Rio+20 follow-up processes (cont'd)

SDGs

- Initial input from UN system (requested in Rio+20)
- Open Working Group on SDGs held 3 meetings so far
 - one procedural
 - two substantive meetings on conceptualizing SDGs and poverty, food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation, drought; water and sanitation
- Programme of work for the OWG decided until Feb 2014
 - Focus on thematic areas, covering broad spectrum of issues

Issues

- Renewed political commitment of MS to SD
- One set of global SD goals vs. two set of goals?
- SDGs “universal”: all countries taking action
- True global partnership for SD transcending donor-recipient relationship

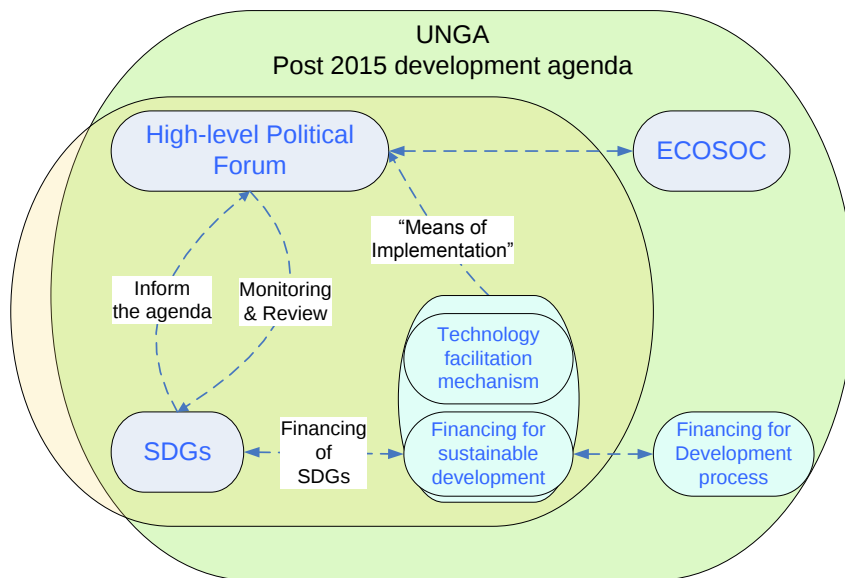
Status of Rio+20 follow-up processes (cont'd)

- ***Expert committee on sustainable development financing strategy***
 - Committee not constituted yet, negotiations about composition under way (Kazakhstan and Norway)
 - Rio+20 mandate:
 - look at financing needs,
 - consider effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks
 - evaluating additional initiatives
 - prepare a report proposing options by the end of 2014, for GA consideration
 - Support from UN system: working group established under the post-2015 TT
 - Includes entire UN system including RCs
 - chaired by DESA and UNDP
 - currently preparing think pieces on the above topics

Status of Rio+20 follow-up processes (cont'd)

- **Technology facilitation mechanism**
 - Rio+20 mandated report, presented to GA in September 2012
 - GA asked for 4 workshops and subsequent report to GA
 - First 2 workshops held on 29, 30 April 2013 on national level TT
 - Next 2 workshops held on 30, 31 May 2013 on international level TT
- **Small Island Developing States**
 - MS called for Third International Conference on SIDS in 2014
 - to be held in September 2014 in Samoa after a series of regional and interregional meetings
 - global process will be launched in Dec 2013
- **Intergenerational solidarity**
 - Upcoming SG's report (DESA/DSD)

Links between the Rio+20 follow-up processes



National level: Lessons learned from CSD

- National reporting not sufficiently taken into consideration at CSD
 - Loose guidelines for reporting, reports were not comparable
 - Little support to build capacity for reporting in developing countries
 - National reports mostly used for illustrative purposes in SG reports
 - Overall, little impact on discussions at global level
- Challenges at national level and lack of implementation of global commitments were discussed, but no clear improvement as a result
- National sustainable development strategies (NSDS)
 - Many countries developed NSDS including with technical support from Secretariat
 - No systematic review of NSDS by the Commission
 - NSDS often not “mainstreamed” or “preferred” national development blueprint
- SD indicators
 - called for in Agenda 21
 - In 1995, Work Programme of Indicators of Sustainable Development: initial indicator set in 1996, further revised in 2001, 2006.
 - Lack of systematic monitoring and interaction between national and international levels

Regional level: Lessons learned from CSD

- From Rio in 1992 to Rio in 2012, all international agreements called for strong regional component and increasing the role of regional commissions
- CSD 11 mandated Regional Implementation Meetings - RIMs in review years
 - found to be to be useful for the regions, but small impact at the global level
- Subsequent CSD sessions held regional discussions during review years and regional perspectives session during policy years
 - little influence on discussions in general, because held in parallel with official plenary meetings
- CSD18: inter-regional dialogue useful
- Overall, regional preparatory meetings not sufficiently used and taken into consideration

National and regional levels: High-stake areas

- **National level:** HLPF could provide platform for sharing experiences and lessons learned
 - among governmental, non-governmental stakeholders and the UN system
 - national voluntary presentations at each session of the forum (both developed and developing countries) with clear recommendations to be followed upon in subsequent years
 - database for sharing practices and lessons learned
 - Capacity building for preparations at national level
- **Regional level:** strengthen SD as overarching framework of the RCs' work
 - discuss issues specific to each region, engage with relevant regional actors
 - review progress against commitments, gaps and challenges
 - develop recommendations for the Forum
- **Critical role of regional level to:**
 - foster mainstreaming of sustainable development at national level,
 - ensure that policy decisions are relevant to regional and national levels
 - engage all relevant actors (state and non-state)
 - support implementation at national and regional levels
 - enhance inter-regional cooperation
- **Global level:** inputs from regional and national levels need to have appropriate space in policy decisions
 - engage regional commissions more systematically in HLPF sessions
 - enhanced reporting and accountability mechanism for implementation
 - Interregional dialogues