

ACRONYMS

CSO: Civil society organisation

HLP: High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post-2015 Development Agenda

HLPF: High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

ICESDF: Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing

MDGs: Millennium Development Goals

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation

OWG: Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals

SD2015: Sustainable Development 2015 Programme

SDSN: Sustainable Development Solutions Network

SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound

TST: UN System Technical Support Team

UN: United Nations

UNDESA: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNDG: United Nations Development Group

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNGA: United Nations General Assembly

UNGC: United Nations Global Compact

UN-NGLS: United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service

UN PGA: United Nations President of the General Assembly

UN SG: United Nations Secretary General

UNTT: United Nations System Task Team on the post-2015 Development Agenda

KEY TERMS

Advocacy: Advocacy is the strategic and deliberate process to bring about change in policies and practice. It can happen at local, national, regional and international levels.

Capacity building: The process by which stakeholders develop, enhance and organise their systems, resources and abilities to perform and pursue a given function.

Civil society: Citizens and organisations outside of the government and private sector.

Focus areas: The priority themes and content which the OWG will discuss and refine in order to make recommendations on goals and targets by the end of its consensus building phase.

Human rights: Human rights are moral principles that set out certain standards of human behaviour, and are protected as legal rights in national and international law. They are commonly understood as equal and inalienable fundamental rights to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being.

The Major Groups: The Major Groups represent nine sectors of society that act as the main channels through which citizens and organisations can participate in UN activities to achieve sustainable development.

Millennium Development Goals: Eight international goals that aim to accelerate development in the world's poorest countries. The Goals have the target date of 2015 and are accompanied by

21 time bound, quantitative targets and 48 indicators for measuring and monitoring progress.

Participation: The act of taking part or sharing in something. Participation by all parts of society on important issues is essential to make sure that views are represented and taken into account and is an important way to ensure equality.

Post-2015 development agenda: The global framework and set of goals on sustainable development and poverty eradication which will replace the Millennium Development Goals when they expire in 2015.

Planetary boundaries: Identified in 2009 by a group of internationally renowned scientists, the nine planetary boundaries define a safe operating space for humanity, within which humanity can continue to develop and thrive for generations to come. Crossing these boundaries could generate abrupt or irreversible environmental changes. Respecting the boundaries reduces the risks to human society of crossing these thresholds.

Rio+20: Alternative name for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), which took place in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in June 2012 and resulted in the outcome document 'The Future We Want'. The name 'Rio+20' is a reference to the original Earth Summit that took place in Rio in 1992.

Stakeholder/multistakeholder: Anyone who has an interest or 'stake' in something because it affects them directly or indirectly. Stakeholders include civil society, the private sector, the public sector, local authorities and trade unions and others that come together for a common purpose. Stakeholders should have the right to participate in decisions that will affect them - we are all stakeholders in the decisions made about our society and the global community

Sustainable development: Often described as development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development involves balancing human development with natural resources and the limits of the earth and environment and encompasses intergenerational responsibility. It is commonly acknowledged to consider economic, environmental and social issues as its three 'dimensions'.

Sustainable Development Goals: One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by member States to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post-2015 development agenda.

United Nations: International organisation of 193 countries or 'Member States' aiming to help with cooperation in international law, international security, economic development, human rights, and working towards world peace. There are many different agencies within the UN, which each have specific responsibilities.

United Nations General Assembly: Main decision-making body of the UN that considers how the UN is run and looks at new policies. All 193 member states participate in the General Assembly. Each country has one vote. It has a session every year and also meets at times of emergency.

United Nations Member States: There are 193 UN Member States. Each one is a member of, and has an equal role in, the UN General Assembly.