
GPF Newsletter

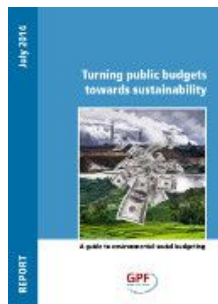
July 18, 2014



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Latest from GPF

No Sustainable Development Goals without Sustainable Development Budgets



International development policy is at a crossroads. By September 2015, governments plan to adopt a Post-2015 Development Agenda – an agenda that is supposed to shape the fundamental priorities, goals and strategies for development policy beyond 2015. In parallel, governments have agreed to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals integrating all dimensions (social, economic and environmental) of sustainable development and being applicable to all countries in the world. Forming one coherent Post-2015 Agenda, including the SDGs, affects all policy areas beyond development policy in a narrow sense, in particular social, economic and environmental policy – and above all fiscal policy.

A new GPF publication describes possible entry points for shaping fiscal policy in accordance with sustainability criteria and shows how to use them in order to achieve environmental-social budgets. It uses the budget cycle as a tool in identifying such entry points, from the drafting of the budget to policy implementation and monitoring of the results.

[Download the guide here.](#)

[Download the Executive Summary here.](#)

GPF Briefing 2: Beyond the “Partnerships” Approach: Corporate Accountability Post-2015



Global Policy Forum has undertaken significant research to track and chart the increasing power and influence of corporations in global governance settings, particularly the UN. We are pleased to share with you our new Briefing on Corporate Influence, which includes main messages and recommendations.

[Download the Briefing here.](#)

Now in Spanish: La influencia empresarial en el proceso post-2015



CUADERNOS 2015 Y MÁS N°4

En el último cuarto de siglo la globalización de la economía mundial y las oleadas de desregulaciones y privatizaciones han favorecido la aparición y el aumento del poder de las grandes empresas transnacionales. Al calor de este impulso el sector de las grandes empresas ha alcanzado una enorme influencia tanto en el ámbito político como en el

sistema económico global.

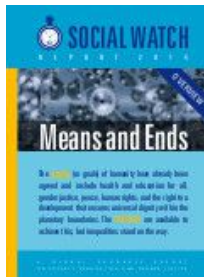
El presente documento aborda el papel de las grandes empresas transnacionales en la construcción de la nueva agenda internacional de desarrollo, la agenda post-2015, a través de su participación en los diferentes espacios y procesos abiertos para la construcción de esta agenda. ¿Es este un papel antagónico –por esa diferencia de intereses y miradas sobre el desarrollo y la gobernanza– respecto al de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil?, ¿es, por el contrario, complementario, o al menos compatible, en la búsqueda de conciliación entre el desarrollo humano y sostenible y el mantenimiento del crecimiento económico sin transformar en profundidad los modelos de producción y consumo?

[Descárguelo aquí.](#)

Editores: [Plataforma 2015 y más](#), MISEREOR, GPF, Brot für die Welt

What's new

Social Watch publishes 2014 report: "Means and Ends"



Global civil society coalition Social Watch publishes its annual report "Means and Ends" tracking progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The report collects evidence from its 420 member organizations all around the world. Whereas some progress has been made in key areas like access to education and poverty eradication, inequalities still persist. Also, structural causes of social and economic injustice are not tackled by the current development agenda – the MDGs.

Instead, means like regulating core actors in the financial market, fighting tax evasion and formulating binding human rights standards for corporations have to be implemented in a Post-2015 Agenda to truly tackle global inequalities, according to the report.

Development aid to Africa negligible in comparison to illicit outflows



And yet another report on how development aid to Africa serves as a mere smokescreen to cover up illicit financial flows, unfair trade policies and costs of adapting to climate change that drain the continent of its resources. The report "Honest Accounts? The true story of Africa's billion dollar losses", published by Health Poverty Action and co-authored by a range of other civil society organizations, contrasts both inflows to and outflows from Africa and comes to an

enlightening result. The continent records an annual net loss of US\$ 58.2 billion mostly flowing into the pockets of Western governments or transnational corporations, according to the report.

TISA: on the way to unlimited deregulation



While everybody on both sides of the Atlantic seems to be talking about TTIP when it comes to discussing free trade theses days, another currently negotiated agreement looms in the shadows: Like a steamroller, the Trade in Services Agreement (TISA) could flatten almost every sphere of services. Under the pretext of circumventing the stalemated Doha Round of the WTO, Switzerland and 50 other mostly industrialized countries are negotiating a broad-based agreement for financial services, telecommunications, internet trade, transport by water, land and air, professional services (lawyers, architects, doctors, etc.), and energy and postal services. TISA aims to embed deregulation in national legal systems such that – once introduced – there is no going back. In short, public services are in danger, as are in general all regulations in the public interest.

Human rights are not a gift, but a duty



In an article on a Swiss Federal Council Report, Peter Niggli, Director of Alliance Sud, emphasizes the need for binding rules for business and human rights: "Attempts have [...] been made in the United Nations to create a globally binding set of rules for all transnational enterprises; it was successfully torpedoed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in place since 2011 [...] call on individual States to take action and force their transnational corporations to respect human rights. [...] the Swiss «Corporate Justice» alliance followed up with a petition to the Federal Council and Parliament, demanding, amongst other things, that a duty of care for corporate management bodies and corresponding management systems be prescribed by law."

Shadowy institutions take over development agenda through private company support



Eurodad publishes a new report dealing with the relationship between development finance institutions (DFIs) and the private sector. Government-controlled DFIs are important players in the development arena through investing in the private sector in development countries. As the report points out, these institutions are organized as private, profit-oriented corporations facilitating an imbalance in power structures. This means that rich country governments are able to influence DFIs through shareholding, while not including recipient countries in their investment decisions. This, according to Eurodad, could be circumvented by, inter alia compliance with finance standards and a greater development focus of DFIs.

SDGs: Means of implementation below expectations



Third World Network



Means of implementation (MOI) once again trigger difficult discussions between governments at the second last session (16-20 June) of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN in New York. Countries in the Global South insist to include MOI as a central topic within the draft of the OWG in order to be able to achieve the SDGs. Although the currently released Zero-Draft by the OWG on 30 June includes MOI for each goal and as a goal for itself, it was, unfortunately, integrated in a weak and insufficient way, according to Third World Network (TWN). TWN emphasises: "[u]nless Goal 17 targets and goal specific MOI are made more accountable it is likely that the SDGs will follow the example of the MDGs and end up being a car without fuel and sustainable development will remain as elusive as ever."

Global Policy Forum
PO Box 3283
New York, NY 10163
USA

E-Mail: gpf@globalpolicy.org

Global Policy Forum Europe
Königstr. 37a
D-53115 Bonn
Germany

E-Mail: europe@globalpolicy.org

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