



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Division for Social Policy and Development

## Capacity-building Workshop

on

# Revisiting socio-economic policies to address poverty in all its dimensions in middle income countries

8 – 10 May 2018  
ESCWA, Beirut, Lebanon

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- Historical overview of poverty at UN
- Conceptual evolution of poverty
- Policy implications
- Evidence-based policy making
- Potential approaches and tools
  - To address multiple dimensions of poverty at the national and regional levels

# From WSSD to MDGs

1995

## World Summit for Social Development (WSSD)

(Copenhagen, March 1995)  
The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action

Social Commission  
established in 1946

## Commission for Social Development

ECOSOC

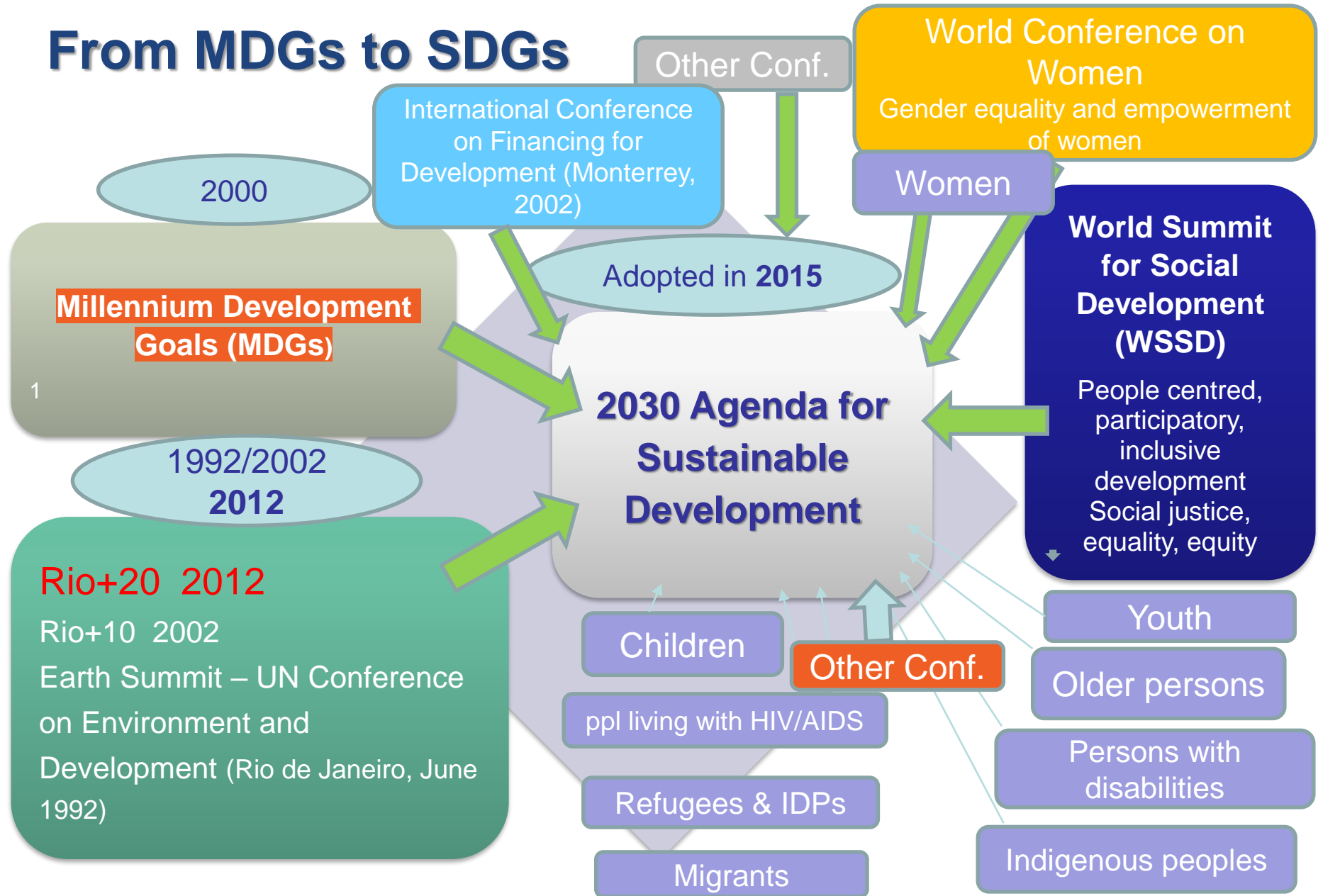
GA

2000

## Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

- \* Eradication of Poverty
- \* Productive employment and decent work for all
- \* Social integration (social inclusion)

# From MDGs to SDGs



# The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- **Universality** (all countries in partnership with relevant stakeholders)
- **Policy Coherence** (vertical and horizontal)
- **Integrated** (economic, social and environmental dimensions)
- **Inclusion/Inclusiveness** (leave no one behind)
- **People-centered** (an economy and society that works for people)
- **Participatory & Empowering** (everyone has a stake and responsibility)



# Conceptual Evolution

- Powerless → Empowerment, active engagement
  - » Involve in decision-making processes
- Discrimination → Rights-based
  - » Dignity, respect, justice, a decent life
- Inequality → Equity, equal opportunity & access
- Beneficiaries → but also active agents for change
  - » Invest in human capacities

# Policy Implications

- **Inclusive growth: growth is necessary but not sufficient**
  - » Equality-enhanced, redistributive economic & fiscal policies
  - » Reduce income and non-income inequalities
- **Understanding the multiple causes of poverty**
  - » Addressing the inter-linkages between economic, social and environmental dimensions of SDGs.
  - » Evidence-based policy making-what worked and what did not work
- **Investing in people (as agents of change)**
  - » To improve access to quality education, skills training, healthcare, safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition, affordable food, affordable energy,
  - » To extend coverage of social protection systems and measures



# Policy Implications

- Integrate environmental dimensions into poverty reduction strategies
  - » Reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience to negative effects of climate change – floods, droughts, storms, etc.
- Partnerships
  - » Governments (national and local), civil society organizations, academic and scientific communities, the private sector, social groups (women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, etc.)

# Evidence-based policy-making

Evidence-based policy-making



To analyze what worked and what did not, and why ?

Bench-mark



To assess progress made

Assess the impacts of policy/measures



Better outcomes/ impact

Better informed



Enhance accountability

Enable comparison



Joint monitoring to achieve common objectives – 2030 Agenda

# Evidence-based policy-making

## Identify people living in poverty

- What are their characteristics?
- Where they live?
- Why they are poor? What are their circumstances?



# SDG 1 and targets

- **SDG 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere**
  - Global level (global comparability of extreme poverty)
    - Target 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day (updated in 2015 to \$1.90 a day in 2011 prices)
  - National level (rate and number)
    - Target 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
  - Regional level (?)

# Elements may be considered

Income  
SDG 1

Access to productive resources, including financial services

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies  
SDG 16

Food intake/  
Nutrition  
SDG 2

That can be disaggregated, for example, by

Reduce inequality  
SDG 10

Gender (SDG5)  
Age  
Disability  
Location (urban/rural)  
etc.

Well-being  
Access to healthcare  
SDG 3

Access to jobs/decent work  
SDG 8

Access to Education  
SDG 4

Access to affordable energy  
SDG 7

Access to literacy, skills, civic training

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation  
SDG 6

Access to information, knowledge, ICTs  
Cross-cutting SDG 2,4, 9, 16

# Potential approaches and tools

To analyze and monitor the multiple dimensions of poverty

- This workshop aims to:
  - Examine national experience in developing poverty reduction policies oriented towards achieving the SDGs, with a focus on the examination of macro-fiscal and economic policies, as well as social policy, including social protection.
  - To discuss challenges, lessons learned and good practices, with an aim to improve evidence-based policy-making, including analysis, policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.



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