

# SDGs and post-2015 in the European Union – the CSO perspective

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# Questions

- What is needed in Europe/Italy to implement SDGs?
- What can the CSO community contribute to finalizing and implementing SDGs?
- How important is CSO/stakeholder participation in SD policy in Europe in general?

# Who are we?

- Italian Civil Society networks, coordinated by CONCORD Italia, and GCAP Italy
- In relation with: CONCORD Europe -> European Task Force/Beyond 2015 Europe
- In relation with: Global Beyond 2015 Campaign; GCAP

# What are we doing?

- Following up the different processes, identifying policy dialogue spaces in order to influence the outcomes at national, European and global level
- In Europe: following up the different processes where a European position is discussed and adopted
- In Italy:
  - Regular participation to the thematic table on post-2015
  - Organisation of GCAP thematic workshops (2013/2014), involving CSOs, institutions, universities, other stakeholders
  - Various workshops and activities 'Italian Semester Project' (Concord Italia + various other partners)
  - Position papers: Post-2015, Food, Private sector
  - Discussion papers
  - Beyond 2015 national consultations (09/09/2014)

# Implementing SD? Our main concerns

- Fragmented and difficult to follow process
- Difficulties in reaching a courageous consensus; more 'defensive' debate
- Silo effect
- Concerns for policy coherence (different and somehow unconnected policy dialogue spaces)
- Need for a leap forward and for a transformative agenda!
- SDGs: limits but opportunities

# I. A transformative agenda

- Ensuring public opinion support to SDG process: need for a courageous and synthetic agenda
- Converging sustainabilities : economic, social, environmental. Beyond 2015, beyond the rhetoric!
- Equity/equality within and among generations: inclusion but also a reflection on vertical inequalities
- Key elements: human rights; multidimensional understanding of poverty; environmental degradation and climate change; interlinkages and policy coherence; means of implementation

## 2. Enabling the change

- A fuller understanding of what makes things to happen
- Financial means of implementation: a renewed commitment
- Non financial means: attention to the different enabling factors! (policy coherence, technology and knowledge management, capacity development)
- Participation as major enabling factor

# 3. Who sets the agenda?

Participation: can we be serious about that?

- Overcomplex processes: do not favour participation.
- Looking at the ‘intermediary bodies’, or ‘jumping the queue’?
- What do indicators indicate? Technical solutions or new ways for a more just world?
- Hypertechnicization of targets: does not favour participation
- “What” objectives and “how” objectives
- Trade-off between global and local: far from being successfully addressed
- The way forward: locally set robust, independent and appropriate accountability mechanisms, and open policy dialogue spaces at local level.



# THANKS!



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