

# Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

## Call for Papers

The MDG framework, with its readily understandable objectives and focus on quantitative monitoring, has helped focus attention on key development issues and generated new country and development partner resources. Health-related issues are prominent, with three out of the eight goals directly referring to health conditions. However, as the 2015 target date for the MDGs approaches, there is lively debate on the contents and form of the post-2015 agenda<sup>2</sup>. This debate raises important questions about how progress in improving human health should be reflected in any future set of goals, targets and indicators.

At the start of the 2013 UN General Assembly there will be a high level summit to review progress and map out a forward looking agenda. In preparation, the UN Development Group (chaired by UNDP) is leading a series of national and global thematic discussion on key issues: inequalities; population; health; education; economic growth and employment; conflict and fragility; governance; environmental sustainability; and food security and nutrition. The aim is to involve a broad range of stakeholders to discuss the options for a post-2015 framework. For health, WHO and UNICEF are co-leading the facilitation of the health thematic consultation<sup>2</sup>

Health is well suited to measure overall progress across the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development: it is a precondition for, an indicator of and an outcome of progress across multiple sectors. However, with the increasing complexity of development, the challenge is to safeguard achievements and investments in the current health-related MDGs while also reflecting new priorities and securing the rightful position of health in the post-2015 agenda. The health community must agree on very few goals, feasible targets and measurable indicators that put health at the heart of people's understanding of the purpose of development.

In order to broaden the range and variety of inputs to this process, we are inviting interested individuals and groups to submit "think pieces" on the positioning and role of health in the post-2015 agenda. One aim is to garner experiences and lessons learnt from the health-related MDGs and consider how these can be harnessed to ensure that health remains intrinsic to the new development agenda. Papers may also address disease-specific policy and programming challenges, health systems issues, measurement, monitoring and evaluation, or cross-sectoral action for health. Lessons learnt from the past should be used to highlight how new global goals, targets and indicators could be used to strengthen country action and tackle emerging challenges, such as enhancing health equity; building intersectoral linkages; using health action to achieve human rights, justice, peace and security; and involving communities, business and industry in successful, sustainable health action.

Papers can be summaries of existing research and development activities or secondary analyses and discussion around key topics.

Previous published work will be acceptable if reformulated to be relevant to one or more of the key themes described below.

1. Lessons learnt from the health MDGs: What are the lessons learnt from the health related MDGs?
2. Health priorities post 2015: What is the priority health agenda for the 15 years after 2015?
3. Framing the future health goal: How does health fit in the post 2015 development agenda?
4. Measurement of progress towards the health goals: What are the best indicators and targets for health?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/beyond2015.shtml>

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to [http://www.who.int/topics/millennium\\_development\\_goals/post2015/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/topics/millennium_development_goals/post2015/en/index.html) for more information about the global health thematic consultation

5. Ensuring a process and outcome that is relevant to the key stakeholders: How can country ownership, commitment, capacity and accountability for the goals, targets and indicators be enhanced? How can we ensure effective working relations between countries and global partners in terms of alignment and harmonisation with a focus on development results?

Manuscripts (maximum 3000 words, excluding annexes) should be submitted by email to [post2015health@who.int](mailto:post2015health@who.int)

Please state in the subject line that the submission is in response to this call for papers.

Deadline extended  
to 30 December 2012!

Manuscripts will be accepted starting from 5 October 2012. The final date for submissions is ~~15 December 2012~~.  
Manuscripts will be accepted in English or French.

Papers will be reviewed by a task team of experts. All accepted papers will be published on The World We Want web platform, a joint initiative between the United Nations and Civil Society <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/>.

Authors should follow the WHO guide for authors available at <http://www.who.int/bulletin/contributors/en/>