

Introduction

In July 2015, world leaders came together in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to adopt the Addis Ababa Action

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(MDG 8).⁴ The MDG Gap Task Force drafted analytical reports that incorporated the official indicators, while also monitoring complementary data and information to address emerging concerns. It regularly gave updates on international cooperation commitments and recommended policy measures that could be considered by the international community to further the global partnership. It is a model that the present Task Force will seek to emulate.

The Task Force further appreciates that a different international exercise will monitor progress on achieving the SDGs. That effort will focus on a global indicator framework agreed by the United Nations Statistical Commission for measuring the targets specified under each SDG, including those pertaining to the MoI. These indicators, particularly those for the MoI targets, will be important inputs to the Task Force's work. The Addis Agenda also includes numerous additional commitments and action items that are not contained in the SDG targets. In addition, the Task Force has found that many items are difficult to fully capture with just one indicator. The Task Force Report will thus complement the statistical report on the SDG indicators by providing: (i) a review of the additional commitments and action items in the Addis Agenda and other FfD outcomes; (ii) an assessment of progress in implementing agenda items that may not be easily captured by quantitative indicators, such as qualitative measurements in areas where data is lacking; and (iii) an analytical discussion of the issues to give a fuller picture of implementation, assess the impact of financing flows and policies on achieving goals, and promote knowledge sharing and mutual learning. Monitoring of commitments made on the sidelines of the Addis Conference is included as Appendix B in this year's Report, and published as a separate appendix in future years.

The first report of the Task Force, completed in the early months of 2016, does not seek to assess progress in implementation of the Addis Agenda or the MoI of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, which were agreed to less than six months prior to the drafting of this report. Indeed, much of the data for 2015, which is the base year against which to measure progress in implementation, had

not yet been published when this year's report was being prepared. Instead, the focus of this year's report is on how the Task Force proposes to monitor the implementation of commitments in future years.

The Report also seeks to situate that discussion in the context of relevant recent developments.

1. The evolving global situation

There have been several important developments since Member States came together in Addis Ababa in July, including the successful adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the adoption of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. There has also been progress in other action areas of the Addis Agenda. For example, IMF quota and governance reforms, which had been agreed to in 2010, became effective in January 2016. In response to the call in the Addis Agenda, the new Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks, will be launched in Washington, DC on 16 April 2016 during the IMF/World Bank Group Spring Meetings.

Nonetheless, these global efforts are taking place in an increasingly difficult environment. Growing global risks threaten to make implementation of the agenda even more challenging than just six months ago. As the finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of 20 observed in their communiqué at their 27 February 2016 meeting, "The global recovery continues, but it remains uneven and falls short of our ambition for strong, sustainable and balanced growth. Downside risks and vulnerabilities have risen against the backdrop of volatile capital flows, a large drop of commodity prices, escalated geopolitical tensions, the shock

he commitments and action items in the Addis Agenda are organized in seven main action areas (see Table 1) and a concluding section on data, monitoring and follow-up. Member States also identified a number of cross-cutting thematic areas where policy actions harness the synergies that exist between many of the specific action items elaborated in the action areas of the Agenda.

In consideration of this, the Task Force draws on a nuanced understanding in the Addis Agenda of the benefits and risks associated with different types of finance and other MoI, as depicted by the seven

The relationship between the Addis Agenda and the SDGs

All of the MoI of the SDGs are included in the Addis Agenda. The indicators for the MoI targets will be important inputs to the Task Force's work, as will relevant indicators for other SDG targets (which are particularly relevant to cross-cutting issues). Nonetheless, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Agenda have different structures, which can make it difficult to track similar targets across the two agendas. The 2030 Agenda is organized around the SDGs, or around goals and outcomes, while the Addis Agenda follows the Monterrey Consensus, and is structured around different financial and non-financial MoI.

As emphasized in the Addis Agenda, the 17 SDGs have enormous synergies across goals, with implementation of one contributing to progress in the others. Similarly, there are synergies across the Addis chapters, as well as between the Addis Agenda and the SDGs (see Appendix C). Each of the SDGs thus draws on inputs from across the Addis Agenda chapters for implementation, while each of the Addis chapters speaks to different SDGs. Whether the issues are presented in terms of flows and MoI (the Addis Agenda) or by outcomes (the SDGs), the agendas need to be understood in a holistic manner.

report notes where the indicators for the SDGs will provide additional data and information.

While the Task Force will be flexible and incorporate new data sources in the future, the inaugural 2016 report will serve as a reference guide for the FfD follow-up process. Future reports will also include the monitoring of the broader FfD outcomes, building on the annual monitoring done since the Monterrey Consensus by the FfD Office of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the five major institutional stakeholders of the FfD process.

3. Task Force assistance to the Financing for Development Follow-up

In fulfilling its mandate to advise this intergovern-

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agreements.⁷ The norms and principles contained in international agreements confer legitimacy and can reinforce the positions of political actors. At the same time, it can contribute to the diffusion of policy approaches and peer learning when it serves to bring together a community of practitioners that can exchange experiences and learn from each other.

Combined with the intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder discussion in the FfD Forum, it may be hoped that the knowledge created through this monitoring and review exercise can in turn support greater political traction for implementation of the Addis Agenda and the MoI of the 2030 Agenda at national and global levels.

⁷ Miller-Dawkins, May (2014). Global Goals and International Agreements. Lessons for the Design of the SDGs. ODI Working Paper 402.

