

Name of the Partnership/Initiative: Capacity 2015: Building capacity to benefit from globalization and realize the Millennium Development Goals while achieving sustainable development

Expected date of initiation: January 2003
Expected date of completion: January 2015

Partners Involved

Capacity 2015 will be a broad-based partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels. The partnership will include local groups and their informal representatives, local and national authorities, entrepreneurs, media, community-based organizations and other civil society groups and academia.

Regional and global actors will include bilateral and multilateral development agencies and banks, regional and global organizations and institutions, information networks and global foundations. Each partner in the global Capacity 2015 platform, and in the national platforms it supports, will have clearly defined roles, objectives and responsibilities in implementing and monitoring shared activities and will be accountable to the others for achieving their agreed results.

Discussions are currently proceeding with various partners, and after WSSD, UNDP will organize physical and virtual meetings with partners to firmly establish the partnership.

A small unit in UNDP will provide secretariat and a technical support.

Main objectives of the Partnership / Initiative:

Capacity 2015 is a new and important initiative. It will build upon experience gained during the ten years since UNCED to help countries to move from strategic planning for sustainable development to effective implementation.

Capacity 2015 is timely and necessary, as it will:

- Help countries to reap the benefits of globalization;
- Ensure that processes of sustainable development put in place during the 1990s are utilized to face the challenges of the 21st century;
- Strengthen the capacities needed to achieve or exceed the Millennium Development Goals.

The MDGs are a set of integrated and inter-related goals that contribute to sustainable development. Capacity 2015 will provide the enabling capacities to help countries progress towards the MDGs.

Expected results:

- Communities, local government and the private sector will have strengthened capacities to sustain vibrant local economies, to improve livelihoods and to eliminate poverty. Legislation will have been reviewed and reformed, governance processes improved and institutional bottlenecks to achieving local sustainable development eliminated.
- There will be increased participation in the global market and increased inward investment. This will be based upon strengthened capacities at both national and local levels to benefit from the opportunities presented by processes of globalization and to pursue those opportunities through sustainable local action.
- National and local development strategies will be under implementation and oriented towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Learning networks will be in place supporting civic engagement and responsible leadership.
- Networks will be in place and engaging communities and authorities in the monitoring of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- New national and local strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, will have been developed, reviewed and revised utilizing the principles of sustainable development put in place during the 1990s, ensuring full convergence between Agenda 21 and later developments.
- The principles of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements will have been combined and integrated into activities at the local level and funding mobilized from global sources.
- Programmes will be in place to meet the specific challenges of sustainability and global market access of the Small Island Developing States.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

- All developing countries and countries in transition set clear national targets for achieving the Millennium Development Goals incorporated in sustainable development strategies by 2005.
- 75% of developing countries and countries in transition meet or surpass their national targets for contributing to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.
- Full reviews of national and local policies and legislation carried out in 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2005, and in all by 2007.
- Measures identified in national and local policy reviews to eliminate bottlenecks and ensure strong and consistent incentives for local sustainable development are in place and being implemented in 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2007, and in all by 2012.
- 50% of developing countries and countries in transition adopt and implement policies to stimulate strong local economies based on improved local markets.
- 50% of developing countries and countries in transition increase their share of the global market and experience increased inward investment.
- Learning networks formed and supporting civic engagement and responsible local leadership in 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2007, and in all by 2012.
- Efficient, demand-driven information and communications systems in place, helping local groups and communities participate effectively in decisions governing their involvement in the global economy in 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2007, and in all by 2012.
- Broad participatory platforms for designing, implementing and monitoring local and national strategies, plans and other planning instruments in place in all participating countries.
- Resource mobilization campaigns put in place that assist local groups and communities to overcome marginalisation and other barriers to competing successfully in a globalizing world, in 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2007, and in all by 2012.
- Partnerships and networks linking local groups and communities with national, regional and international partners and supporting local capacity development for sustainable development that

includes poverty reduction, functioning effectively throughout 50% of developing countries and countries in transition by 2007, and all by 2012.

Co-ordination and Implementation mechanism:

Capacity 2015 will be co-coordinated by a small unit in UNDP combining the functions of a secretariat and a technical support unit – in partnership with key agencies and organizations.

The secretariat will:

- Establish partnerships with agencies and organizations (both Northern and Southern) that wish to be part of *Capacity 2015*.
- Establish and coordinate an advisory group, or similar mechanism able to ensure that all partners play a full role in all activities.
- Manage the trust fund established for *Capacity 2015*.

The support unit will:

- Assist countries to put in place their own capacity building programmes.
- Provide funding for national capacity building programmes.
- Manage a system of networking and learning.

Arrangements for funding

Capacity 2015 will be a broad-based platform that will bring together a range of funding sources. UNDP is currently funding the preparatory phase, and expects to spend about \$5 million in doing so. Different elements of the programme are likely to be funded by different partners. *Capacity 2015* will be owned and managed by the countries where it operates, and each country will make its own contribution according to its ability.

Arrangements for capacity development and technology transfer:

The programme will focus on developing a wide range of individual, institutional and societal capacities at local and national levels, as well as the capacities of regional institutions. A central feature of *Capacity 2015* will be countries, institutions and individuals learning together and sharing knowledge through a dedicated learning network. This will ensure that lessons learned in one place will rapidly be shared and used, and that any partners will have the support needed to develop strategies and plans, drawing on a world of experience. The learning network will build on and extend UNDP's knowledge network and its global network of policy advisors.

Capacity 2015 will be based on principles and lessons derived from a decade of successful innovation in capacity development for sustainable development by Capacity 21, GEF Small Grants Programme and others. Key guiding principles will include:

- Capacity development is an ongoing process of transformation owned by local and national actors who define their own needs and implementing their own solutions.
- Careful integration of urgent short-term poverty concerns and longer-term sustainability issues.
- Sound participatory processes in the design, implementation and monitoring of social, economic, and environmental policies and practices.
- A universal but flexible approach, with different emphases in response to varying sustainable development priorities among different communities, countries and regions.
- Work through partnerships and alliances, emphasizing networking for knowledge acquisition.
- Capacity development includes developing necessary enabling environments at all levels.
- Develop existing capacities instead of replacing them, respecting cultural identities and values.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any):

The partnership will build on and extend successes, lessons learned and network already established in implementation of the global Capacity 21 initiative, the GEF Small Grants Programme, and many others.

Monitoring Arrangements:

The overall global partnership and participating states and communities will be expected to take part in designing and implementing a rigorous programme of participatory monitoring and evaluation, following methodologies jointly defined by Capacity 21 and UNDP-GEF, including regular scheduled case studies, surveys / interviews and monitoring of indicators. This will generate information on results and lessons to be shared regularly with the global community via the Knowledge Network and other forums.

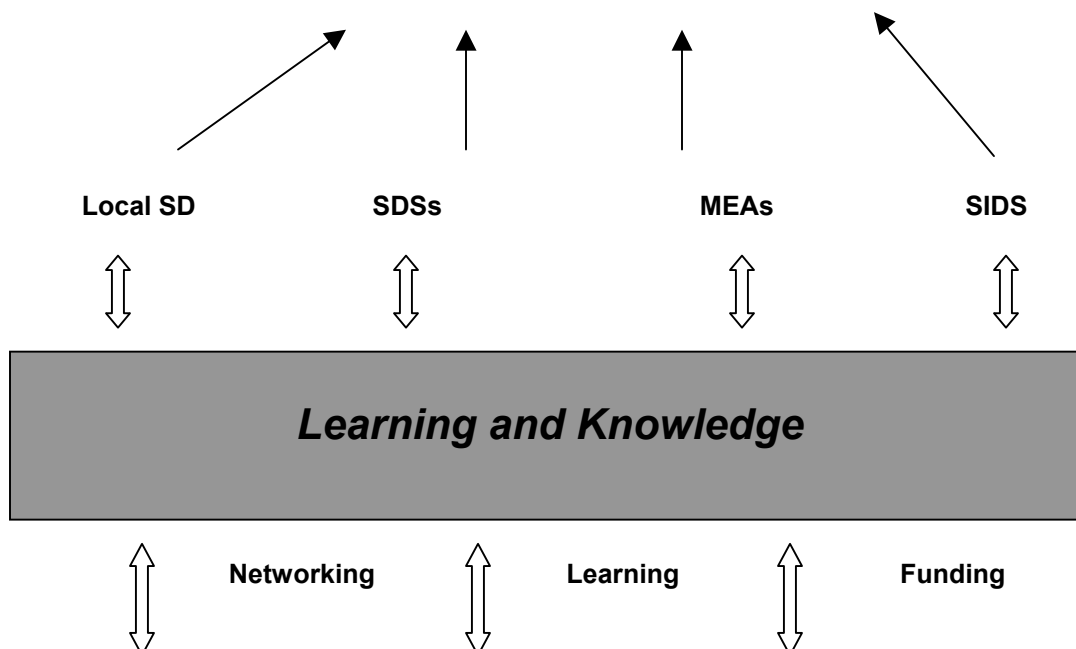
Other relevant information:

Capacity 21 network built up over past decade is already in place in 75 developing and transition countries and offers a strong initial network to support the development of the Capacity 2015 platform.

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Capacity Development Platform

Built on:

- Capacity Development Principles
- Lessons of Capacity 21, GEF/SGP and other innovative approaches to capacity development for SD

MDGs: Millennium Development Goals

SD: Sustainable Development

SDS: Sustainable Development Strategies

MEAs: Multilateral Environmental Agreements

SIDS: Small Island Developing States

GEF/SGP: Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme