

## 5 Key Recommendations for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Ugoku/Ugokasu <sup>1</sup>  
(Global Call to Action against Poverty Japan)

The deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), 2015, is fast-approaching. We, the civil society, call on governments as well as the global community that they must achieve the targets by 2015. At the same, as we head towards the post-2015 era, we must set high quality and ambitious targets that will mobilize the necessary political will, policies and financial resources to tackle current global issues.

In the Post-2015 development framework, we must realize universal human rights and human security, and ensure all human beings can live with dignity in a just world without poverty. We need a strong and visionary leadership that will provide hope to all and bring about global solidarity to tackle global issues. The Post-2015 process provides the best opportunity to show this kind of leadership.

We, the civil society, call on the Japanese Government to disseminate to the world, the following five key recommendations on the Post-2015 development framework, and provide global leadership on the development of the Post 2015 development framework.

<b>Recommendation 1</b>	<b>Achieve “zero absolute poverty and hunger”!</b> <i>Universal targets based on human rights and human security</i>
<b>Recommendation 2</b>	<b>Realize “a world without disparity and inequality”!</b> <i>Targets aiming for an inclusive economy and society that leaves nobody behind</i>
<b>Recommendation 3</b>	<b>Pass on “a better world” to future generations!</b> <i>Targets that, as soon as possible, overturns the current development and economic model to a model which is more sustainable</i>
<b>Recommendation 4</b>	<b>All governments, private sector and civil society fulfill their roles and responsibilities to achieve targets!</b> <i>Targets that creates a transparent and democratic process.</i>
<b>Recommendation 5</b>	<b>Create a system where everyone shares responsibility in contributing financial resources to achieve targets!</b> <i>Achieve 0.7% ODA target, implement international solidarity levies and international tax regulations and reduce military spending to finance development.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Ugoku/Ugokasu (Global Call to Action against Poverty Japan) is a network of Japanese NGOs for advocacy to achieve MDGs by 2015. As of May 2013, it has 72 Japanese NGOs working for international cooperation as its members.  
Contact: c/o Africa Japan Forum, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor West, Maruko Bldg, 1-20-6 Higashi-Ueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0015 JAPAN  
Phone: +81-3-3834-6902, Fax: +81-3-3834-6903, E-mail: [office@ugokuugokasu.jp](mailto:office@ugokuugokasu.jp), Website: <http://www.ugokuugokasu.jp>  
Contact person: Masaki Inaba (Executive Director), Hideki Moro (Campaign Director)

<b>Recommendation 1 Achieve “zero absolute poverty and hunger”!</b> <b><i>Universal targets based on human rights and human security</i></b>	
In Detail	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Human rights and human security are the foundation of the Post-2015 development agenda.</li> <li>● “Eliminate”, instead of “reduce” poverty and hunger. Create “zero” targets.</li> <li>● Establish and strengthen national and international mechanism to ensure all human beings, regardless of gender, age, disability, ethnic group, class, etc., can enjoy their full range of human rights. Invest in people’s empowerment.</li> <li>● Universal targets for all countries to create a framework in which “everyone is involved in tackling issues that affects everyone”.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Under a common global target, create country targets based on equity and appropriate to the different situation/needs of the country.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Aim to eliminate structural causes, not just symptoms, of poverty.</li> <li>● Aim to improve and expand social protection, which will help bring people out of poverty.</li> </ul>	<p><b>&lt;Human rights and human security&gt;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Alignment with international human rights standards and agreements. Particular focus on individual welfare and hold governments accountable in protecting it.</li> <li>● “All participatory approach”, including affected communities. Civil society engagement through policy monitoring will ensure policies have developmental impact and benefit.</li> </ul> <p><b>&lt;Universal targets&gt;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Under a globalized economy, a country by country response will only shift problems onto vulnerable countries. There is a need for international coordination and cooperation on national policies for each country.</li> <li>● Poverty and inequality are not only issues of developing countries. Developed countries also face poverty and inequality. “For developing countries only” overlooks reality and will not garner the support of public opinion.</li> </ul> <p><b>&lt;Structural causes&gt;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Current approaches on MDGs are stalled at treating the symptoms of specific issues. We need to take cross cutting approaches to respond to structural causes.</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 2</b> <b>Realize “a world without disparity and inequality “!</b> <i>Targets that aim for an inclusive economy and society that leaves nobody behind</i>	
In Detail	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tackle issues faced by people placed in the most vulnerable social, economic and/or political situations, such as discrimination and exclusion.</li> <li>● Mainstream gender perspective in all targets and create a specific target on women’s empowerment.</li> <li>● Indicators in reducing the disparity between the richest and the poorest in all sectors.</li> <li>● Redistribution of wealth and equal access to opportunity including progressive taxation and universal access to basic social services (especially education and health). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Overcome the limits of policies “for the poorest”. Establish an all inclusive and high quality public system.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Create opportunities for productive, safe and environmentally-friendly employment, and ensure equal access to employment opportunities.</li> <li>● Protect people placed in the most vulnerable situations (women, children, people with disabilities, migrants and ethnic minorities, sexual minorities, etc.) and work to overcome societal vulnerabilities.</li> <li>● Strengthen community resilience to respond to shock of disasters, conflicts, economic crisis , environmental impacts, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Mitigate the negative impacts of shock, disasters and environmental issues, and prevent disparities in recovery. Negative impacts could be mitigated through social protection, peace building, food reserves, and government spending policies to lessen the ramifications of the economic crisis/problems.</li> <li>➢ Promote cooperation beyond regions and sectors during times of peace, and creation of defense system based on the needs and involvement of the community.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recognize that those left behind by economic growth are not only due to issues of resources and/or skills, but due to the social and political nature of exclusion, discrimination, and exploitation.</li> <li>● Developmental policies without gender perspective will not only hinder efforts to reducing gender disparities but in tackling structural discrimination in development sector as well. Overcoming gender inequality requires political, social and economic empowerment of women, and changing the attitudes and behaviors of men.</li> <li>● By tackling extremely uneven distribution of wealth and stagnation in the flow of money, and ensuring everyone in society can benefit from financial resources, we can realize putting in place of political stability, social cohesion, economic revitalization and functional government.</li> <li>● Measures/policies that are considered "preferential treatment of certain populations" tend to face political criticism and lead to long term financial difficulties. Especially in the area of basic social services, shift to system financed by equitable financial burden, that ensures universal access to high quality services, is needed.</li> <li>● Times of shock exacerbate the inequality and disparities that has existed in times of peace.</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 3</b> <b>Pass on “a better world” to future generations!</b> <i>Targets that, as soon as possible, overturns the current development and economic model to a model that is more sustainable</i>	
In Detail	Rationale
<p>&lt;Principle&gt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equitable and fair resource sharing at national and international levels within the planetary boundaries, and alignment with scientific evidence and principle of prevention.</li> </ul> <p>&lt;Issues&gt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By shifting to sustainable production and consumption, developed countries can realize an economic model that does not rely on overuse of resources, and emerging economies can realize creating an economy that saves resources.</li> <li>• Universal access to safe and affordable energy, gradual withdrawal from unsustainable large scale and centralized energy sources, increase small scale and decentralized renewable energy, and improve energy conservation.</li> <li>• Immediately bring the rate of loss of biodiversity to zero.</li> <li>• Ensure rights to food, land and water of people placed in the most vulnerable situation and deprived of their rights (such as indigenous peoples, the poor and women).</li> <li>• Under a new international framework, accelerate implementation of measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Contain rise in temperature to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius and peak out greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current development and growth model is linked to environmental destruction and poverty.</li> <li>• Excessive development, usage and consumption of natural resources and wildlife are accelerating the depletion of biodiversity. Furthermore, environmental pollution and degradation, and climate change are creating scarcity in land, water and energy. This in turn, has led to violation of people’s rights and created conflicts, and impede on sustainable development.</li> <li>• Societies that depend on large scale centralized energy sources such as fossil fuel, nuclear power and large scale hydroelectric power generation, face environmental destruction and serious economic and social challenges. There is no sustainability.</li> <li>• As we aim to increase access to resources and provide energy to the poorest, there is also a need to delegate responsibilities and aim to reduce energy and resource utilization by the wealthiest sectors and countries.</li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 4</b> All governments, private sector and civil society fulfill their roles and responsibilities to achieve targets! <i>Targets that creates a transparent and democratic process.</i>	
In Detail	Rationale
<p>&lt;Governance&gt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Guarantee freedom of speech, assembly, press and political choice, and access to information.</li> <li>● Establish rule of law and prevent corruption.</li> <li>● Create an enabling environment where civil societies' inputs can be brought forth, and increase participation in decision making process.</li> </ul> <p>&lt;Accountability&gt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Transparency of and participation in the formulation and implementation of policies and budget.</li> <li>● Private sector must put measures in place to improve transparency, respect human rights, curb negative effects to the environment and society and contribute to sustainable development.</li> <li>● (Nationally) Accountability to representative bodies of government, civil society and communities.</li> <li>● (Internationally) Strengthen monitoring and evaluation, and invest in data collection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Current MDGs lack mechanisms for accountability in meeting commitments and for reflecting the needs of the people.</li> <li>● Civil society ensures a more positive impact on development by raising awareness and bringing forth the voices and needs of the people, supporting people's demand for rights, and managing, monitoring and cooperating with public and private sectors.</li> <li>● As non-ODA financial resources are increasing its influence on development, there is an urgent need to ensure sector wide transparency and positive developmental impact.</li> <li>● Examples of related international efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)</li> <li>➢ Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative/ Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (US)</li> <li>➢ Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guideline</li> <li>➢ OECD Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters</li> <li>➢ ISO2600 and OECD Guideline for Multinational Enterprises etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Recommendation 5</b> Create a system where everyone shares responsibility in contributing financial resources to achieve targets! <i>Achieve 0.7% ODA target, implement international solidarity levies and international tax regulations and reduce military spending to finance development.</i>	
In Detail	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintain the commitment to contribute 0.7% of GNI to ODA for development.</li> <li>● Implement innovative financing mechanisms such as financial transaction tax.</li> <li>● Increase domestic resources for development through international cooperation and coordination to tackle tax avoidance, such as the strengthening of tax regulations and dismantling tax havens.</li> <li>● Ensure transparent and quality use of financial resources by aligning with aid and development effectiveness principles.</li> <li>● Reduce military spending by promoting and nurturing trust among countries through diplomatic dialogue and international cooperation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Securing financial resources will make the attainment of the targets realistic.</li> <li>● Reinvigorate multilateral cooperation and diplomacy and revitalize trust.</li> <li>● Realization of new principles, such as equity in the new framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Transfer resources from global north to south.</li> <li>➢ Necessary to recreate mechanisms in which the wealthiest population contributes to decreasing disparities and tackling global issues (linked to <b>Recommendation 2</b>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Resources gained from reduced military spending can be used for health, education and social welfare.</li> </ul>