

Post-2015 Tracking Tool

September 2013



[The North-South Institute's Post-2015 Tracking Tool](#) is an interactive aggregator of proposals on the post-2015 development agenda.

Organized thematically, the tool is a unique resource for tracking the goals, targets and indicators that are being proposed to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and support and monitor development progress beyond 2015.

As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) end date approaches, the world has turned its attention to what its successor framework should be. While much remains to be debated, negotiated and agreed in the lead up to the 2015 deadline, there is broad consensus that the clear, quantifiable and time-bound nature of the MDGs, with goals, targets and indicators by which progress can be measured, remains one of their greatest strengths. It seems likely that the post-2015 agenda will be framed in a similar way, albeit with a new set of priorities that better reflect the opportunities and challenges that the world is likely to face in 2015 and the decades beyond.

Given that the issues prioritised in the MDGs received a greater degree of financial resources and policy attention, much effort is being directed to identifying the priorities, and corresponding goals, targets and indicators that, should make up the post-2015 agenda.

About NSI's Post-2015 Tracking Tool

To make sense of this proliferation of proposals, in January 2013, The North-South Institute (NSI) launched its [Post-2015 Tracking Tool](#), available through NSI's [Canadian International Development Platform](#). This tool is an interactive aggregator of proposals on the post-2015 development agenda. Organized thematically, it is a unique resource for tracking the goals, targets and indicators that are being proposed to replace the MDGs and support and monitor development progress beyond 2015.

Methodology

NSI's Post-2015 Tracking Tool covers proposals where specific goals, targets and indicators for the post-2015 framework are identified. As with the MDGs, proposals typically include goals (high level objectives and priorities), targets (progress benchmarks for a goal, typically in a specific time frame) and indicators (data by which progress towards targets will be measured).

The September 2013 update of the Post-2015 Tracking Tool includes 77 proposals, an increase from 22 proposals when the tool was launched in January 2013. A total of 1344 "sets" of goals, targets and indicators are coded in the September 2013 update. Of these, in 235 or 18 per cent of cases, only a goal was proposed (no target or indicator was included). In 748 or 56 per cent of cases, only a goal and target was proposed (no indicator was included).

Goals, targets and indicators across the 77 proposals consulted are coded into 16 themes. The size of the circle in the online visualization represents the frequency of appearance of the theme across proposals. To further "drill-down" on each of the themes, key issues are identified for each theme. The frequency of appearance of these key issues is reflected in the bar graph. Each "set" of goals, targets and indicators are coded with one theme and one issue. Table 1 illustrates how this works in practice.

For the September 2013 update, the themes were revised to more accurately and usefully reflect the issues that are gaining traction in the post-2015 discussions.

Table 1: Coding goals, targets and indicators in NSI's post-2015 dataset

Proposer	United Nations Global Compact
Proposal	Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda
Goal	Good governance and the realization of human rights
Target	Achieve competitive and transparent procurement processes through public advertising of all government procurement cases
Indicator	No indicator
Theme	Governance
Issue	Transparency

Many of the proposals included have been accessed through the Overseas Development Institute's [Future Goals Tracker](#). NSI's Post-2015 Tracking Tool is building on this initiative to thematically organize, analyze and visualize these proposals in an accessible and user-friendly way.

What do we find?

There are two types of proposals that make up NSI's Post-2015 Tracking Tool dataset: comprehensive proposals and sector or theme-specific proposals. Comprehensive proposals – which account for 17 of the 77 proposals – cover a number of themes. An example of a "comprehensive" proposal is the Centre for International Governance Innovation's proposal, [The Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015: Squaring the Circle](#), which includes ten goals and corresponding indicators as input into discussions surrounding the post-2015 framework. The remaining 60 proposals focus on one or more specific themes or sectors. For example, the Basic Education Coalition and Global Campaign for Education's proposal [All Children Learning: Quality Education Beyond 2015](#) proposes goals, targets and indicators that reflect a strong commitment to quality education in the post-2015 agenda.



According to the September 2013 update, the most prominent themes across the post-2015 proposals are: environment, health and education. There are some notable differences between the thematic priorities of the MDGs and the issues that are attracting attention in the post-2015 discussions. While health and education are key priorities of the MDGs and remain prominent in post-2015 proposals, the environment, employment and inclusive growth, and governance are receiving much greater attention in the post-2015 discussions than in the MDGs.

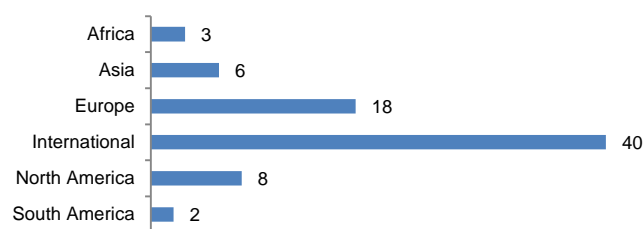
Table 2: Frequency of themes across proposals

Theme	Frequency across proposals
Environment	154
Health	145
Education	139
Employment and inclusive growth	133
Governance	120
Gender equality	94
Economic rules	81
Water and sanitation	75
Peace and security	70
Infrastructure	67
Energy	58
Poverty	52
Disaster resilience	54
Food security	48
Equality	30
Human rights	24

Source: Post-2015 Tracking Tool, The North-South Institute

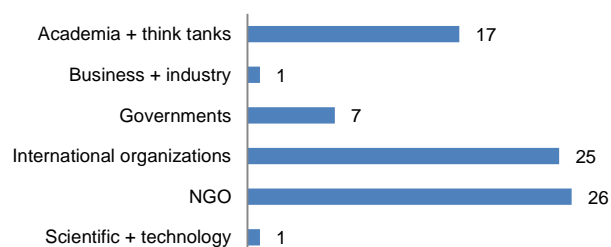
Most of the proposals are global or international in nature, emanating from international organizations or global coalitions. Following this, most came from Europe or North America. Comparatively few proposals come from developing regions of the world (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: Proposals by geography



The largest number of proposals are made by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), followed closely by international organizations, often as joint working groups or coalitions of multiple multilateral bodies (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Proposals by institutional category



Using the data

All data featured in the Post-2015 Tracking Tool is freely available. Data can be downloaded in a range of formats either directly from the visualization or as a [MS Excel spreadsheet](#) available on the site.

Get involved

This note was compiled by by Kate Higgins, Aniket Bhushan and Rebekka Bond. For more information please contact Kate Higgins at khiggins@nsi-ins.ca or on Twitter [@katedhiggins](https://twitter.com/katedhiggins).

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