



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

National Consultation on Sustainable Development Goal 1

14 March 2018

Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi



AGENDA NOTE

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as detailed in the UN resolution, ‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’ have emerged as the new development goals for the whole humanity. The SDGs comprehensively cover social, economic and environmental dimensions and build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which spanned the earlier fifteen-year period from 2000 to 2015. Significantly, the SDGs constitute a universal agreement to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty. The SDG 1 enunciates this core agenda and specifically focus on completely eliminating poverty in all its manifestations from everywhere.

India’s National Development Agenda is mirrored in the SDGs. An unsparing attack on poverty enjoys top priority in the Indian development agenda, which targets at all-round prosperity and well-being in the country. The SDG 1 and associated targets fully resonate with Indian development strategy and action since they aim to ‘eradicate extreme poverty’, reduce multi-dimensional deprivations, implement inclusive social protection systems, ensure access to economic resources as well as basic services for all, and build resilient communities.

The interconnected and integrated strategic perspective of the SDGs is reflected in the complementarity and interlinkage of SDG 1 with several other SDGs: SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), etc. This interconnectedness derives particular salience in the case of SDG 1 because of its centrality to addressing the cross-sectoral and multi-dimensional impact of poverty.

National Consultation on SDG 1

As a part of its role of overseeing implementation of SDGs in the country, NITI Aayog has been conducting a series of National Consultations on SDGs involving Central Ministries, State Governments, experts, academia, CSOs, international organisations and other

stakeholders. The proposed National Consultation on the SDG 1 is being organized by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi and the United Nations in India.

Objectives of the Consultation:

- Facilitate deliberation on key thematic areas and issues around ending poverty in the Indian context;
- Generate clarity about various targets of SDG 1 and associated national indicators;
- Analyse critical gaps and important strategies to achieve the targets, and highlight best practices from the States/UTs in those contexts; and
- Strengthen partnership among various stakeholders around anti-poverty interventions.

Sessions and Themes

The Consultation will have four technical sessions covering key aspects of poverty and poverty eradication as covered under SDG 1 and as relevant to the Indian context. The sessions are briefly outlined below.

Session 1: Analyzing strategies for poverty eradication at national and State levels

The session will provide a quick historical perspective and also a longitudinal overview of evolving poverty reduction strategies employed in the country and experiences gathered around them. While offering the national perspective, it will illustratively discuss various trajectories traversed by different States/UTs in varying historical and strategic contexts. It will bring in examples to instructively dissect important nuances and departures in the long struggles against poverty in India and other countries. By way of sizing up the modern arsenal in the fight against poverty, the session will also indicate new tools and technology that have considerable potentials to multiply positive results. The session will conclude by projecting suggestive broad contours of policies and strategies for ending poverty in the country within the ambit of the 2030 Agenda.

Session 2: Enhancing social protection for all

Complementing the livelihood and income generation interventions, India has several programmes and schemes to protect the poor and vulnerable sections of society from destitution and distress. The overarching objective is to achieve universal coverage and accord special priority to vulnerable groups like women, informal workers, transgender persons, disaster-affected families, etc. However, there is a need to examine the gains from such interventions in terms of comprehensive coverage and inclusion, which the session will seek to address. Implementability of the idea of social protection floor, which could ensure integration of the host of benefits and improve targeting efficiency, will be examined. Universalizing effective access to an essential basket of basic services (i.e. food, shelter, health, education, etc.) will also be a major concern to be discussed in the session. Plugging the risks and sources of exclusion and improving the efficiency of last-mile delivery will constitute another bunch of issues to be dealt with. Further, how social protection entitlements influence the growth of employment and entrepreneurship will also be examined. In addition, National Indicators on SDG 1, which are proposed by MoSPI, will be deliberated upon. The

session will analyse the interconnectedness of issues and interventions with targets of other SDGs: SDG 2 (targets 2.1 and 2.2), SDG 3 (target 3.7), SDG 5 (target 5.4), SDG 6 (target 6.1 and 6.2), and SDG 10 (target 10.4).

Session 3: Creating sustainable livelihoods and decent jobs to overcome poverty

This session will deal with promotion of sustainable livelihoods and creation of decent and good jobs for the rural as well as urban poor. The focus will be on effecting a transition from subsistence to sufficiency in a sustainable and market-oriented manner. On the one hand, effective strategies and options will be explored for enhancing access to productive assets, economic resources and financial services for various categories of workers in a number of sectors in an entitlement frame of reference. This will involve charting out different opportune economic sectors for rapid employment generation from the point of view of economic growth and wealth creation. Strategic options for labour market reforms and increasing engagement of private sector will be explored. On the other hand, the session will also examine transformative pathways for education and skill development systems to create dynamic employability among the educated and trained youth, entrepreneurs and other workers. Substantially improving female labour force participation in all social groups and creating gender-equal conditions of work will be an abiding thread in all strategic options considered. The session will also link with relevant targets of SDG 4 (targets 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5), SDG 8 (targets 8.3, 8.5 and 8.6), SDG 9 (targets 9.2 & 9.3) and SDG 10 (target 10.1).

Session 4: Building resilience to economic, social and environmental shocks and impact of climate change

Impacts of climate change and natural disasters hit the poor and vulnerable the hardest and push even more people into poverty and misery. Therefore, it is important to have robust interventions in place to prevent and mitigate the impacts of such events and to build resilient communities in risk-prone and hazard-fraught areas. India has adopted climate change adaptation strategies at the national levels and several States/UTs have their own strategies and programmes in place. A vast range of sectoral issues need to be addressed for improving disaster resilience, e.g. disaster-resistant housing, appropriate water and sanitation infrastructure, waste management measures, etc. There is a need to explore the implementation framework and examine the adequacy of disaster management measures in terms of their potential protective coverage of the poor and vulnerable communities. There is also a need to understand how far the Sendai Framework has been integrated into the disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster management (DM) strategies across the country. Besides addressing above-mentioned issues, the session will identify areas of convergence between the DRR and DM strategies/interventions and those for poverty eradication. Finally, the session will discuss the scope of interconnectedness with other SDGs, e.g. SDG 11 (target 11.5), SDG 13 (target 13.2) and SDG 15 (target 15.3 & 15.9).

SDG 1: NO POVERTY – ‘End Poverty in all its form everywhere’**

Targets

- 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day.
- 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national dimensions.
- 1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor.
- 1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure to vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.
 - 1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.
 - 1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.

*** Strategy on SDG1 should involve holistic approach beyond the targets listed here, practically encompassing every other SDG.*