



THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Four Calls to Action for the
National Implementation of
the SDGs in New Zealand

INTRODUCTION

The last 15 years, the era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has seen unprecedented human progress: reductions in household poverty, more children in school than ever before, lower child death rates and rising access to clean water. However, this is coming at a high cost: increasing gaps between rich and poor; widespread toxic pollution; far-reaching impacts of violence and conflict; and stress on vital ecosystems. Among those affected, children are likely to be the most vulnerable and at risk.

As the MDGs end this year, a new framework for global development, which includes 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs) will be announced at the UN General Assembly 25-27th September 2015. The [finalised text for adoption, the '2030 Agenda'](#), outlines the commitment that UN Member States will make in order to build on the progress of the MDGs while addressing gaps like climate change and inequality.

THE SDGS ARE UNIVERSAL

While the MDGs were about raising development indicators in developing countries, the SDGs will be universal. This means all countries – including NZ – will be responsible for working towards achieving them and measuring their progress as they go.

NZ'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE 2030 AGENDA

MFAT have led the NZ contribution to the SDG process over the last two years. NZ's contribution to negotiations has primarily been to ensure a standalone goal on oceans (Goal 14). Renewable energy, and the voice and interests of Small Island Developing States have also been key to NZ's contribution. NZ is a member of the UN Statistical Commission and NZ's Chief Statistician, attended the [UN Statistical Commission's 46th Session](#). A delegation led by MFAT attended the [Conference on Financing for Development](#) in Addis Ababa in July.

FOUR CALLS TO ACTION

The 2030 Agenda starts on the 1st January 2016. We call on the NZ Government to:

- 1 Translate the Global Goals into nationally relevant ones.** New Zealand needs to set its own national targets, guided by the global level of ambition, but taking into account national circumstances.
- 2 Leadership.** The universal nature of the Goals means a multi-stakeholder approach is required to implement them. Ministries and services will be required to contribute. The Government needs to determine who leads this process.
- 3 Participation.** The NZ Government has a responsibility to share with New Zealanders its plans to implement and report against the SDGs – including who will be responsible for incorporating them into existing and new workplans. Civil society, academia and the private sector can all play a role in implementing and reporting against the 2030 Agenda.
- 4 Information, communication and education.** Public awareness of the 2030 Agenda, starting with children and young people is key to transparency, accountability and good governance.

CHILDREN MUST REMAIN AT THE CENTRE OF NZ'S APPROACH TO THE 2030 AGENDA

UNICEF believes that an equity-based approach is essential to ensure that the most disadvantaged children and families are fully included in the 2030 Agenda. [Sustainable Development Starts With Safe, Healthy and Well-Educated Children.](#)

THE GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

