GOALS FOR A BETTER IRELAND IN A JUST WORLD



Irish civil society's priorities for the post-2015 global development agenda

Right now, a conversation is happening across the global South and North about creating a just and sustainable world.

People in developing and developed countries have been making their voices heard in shaping the world we want.

In Ireland, Dóchas, The Wheel and Claiming Our Future collaborated in a unique project that brought together individuals and organisations from across the spectrum of civil society to set our country's vision for a better Ireland in a just and sustainable world.

A unique opportunity for Ireland

In September, world leaders will meet at the UN to set a new global development framework to succeed the Millennium Development Goals beyond 2015.

The Irish Presidency of the EU gave Ireland the unique opportunity to influence this 'post-2015' agenda.

By prioritising the post-2015 agenda, the Irish Government could influence the creation of a strong EU vision for a better world.

And, as a powerful international voice negotiating the post-2015 framework on behalf of all Europeans, the EU can influence the shape of this framework when leaders meet at the UN next September.

The World We Want campaign

As part of this unique moment, The World We Want campaign has been leading the post-2015 civil society conversation in Ireland.

We've been working to ensure the interests and voices of those who experience poverty and inequality are represented in the EU's vision that it takes to the UN. Acting as a focus for the post-2015 agenda in Ireland, we have driven discussion by:

- Presenting our 'manifesto' on the world we want to the Irish Government and European Commission;
- Engaging in discussion at a variety of events held around Ireland during the Irish EU Presidency;
- Supporting activists from the global South to come to Ireland and share their stories and ideas for a better world.

Ireland's national consultation on the World We Want

Our work culminated on 20th April with a major deliberative event in Dublin organised by Dóchas, Claiming Our Future and The Wheel.

Individuals and representatives from across the full spectrum of civil society came together to discuss and agree new goals for a better Ireland in a just and sustainable world.

In groups of ten, participants deliberated on and discussed the relevance of the Millennium Development Goals to Ireland, the key issues facing Ireland and the wider world, and the global goals that now need to be prioritised. A group of consensors took feedback from all the groups and reported back on any consensus apparent.

This consensus concluded that new global goals should be universal for all nations, be structural and meaningful in their ambition, establish equality as the precondition for progress, and enable popular engagement in their implementation. Participants identified a list of nineteen goals they felt should be prioritised.

Participants then voted on these nineteen goals using consensus voting, the 'De Borda' method. This produced agreement on Ireland's top five priority goals for a better future.

Ireland's five goals for the world we want



Equality

Achieve equality between women and men and for the diversity of groups in society including older and younger people, people with disabilities, minority and ethnic people, lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender/intersex people, and people of disadvantaged socioeconomic status.



2. Responsive, inclusive and accountable governance

Enable governance that is participative, accountable and responsive to the needs of all in society and particularly those living in poverty.



3. Environmental and social sustainability

Reduce global consumption to an ecological footprint equal to or smaller than one planet.



Government policy and civil society initiative to be directed towards a human rightsbased approach to development.



5. Non-exploitative economy

Government policy and civil society initiative to be directed towards devising and implementing an economy that does not exploit the planet or people, and that delivers equality and sustainability.

Global post-2015 consensus

There is a remarkable similarity between our Irish goals and priorities set by European and Southern civil societies.

In April, European NGOs proposed 21 post-2015 goals prioritised into four categories: inclusive social development, just governance, environmental

sustainability and economic transformation. As part of the global Beyond 2015 movement, grassroots consultations in the global South involving people directly affected by extreme poverty and climate change have taken place in most developing countries. They are saying they want a post-2015 framework centrally based on human rights, economic and social equality, environmental sustainability and poverty eradication.

The conversation continues

We need to bring strength of our shared vision to bear on the decisions leaders will make at the UN this September. It's our world and we deserve to be heard.

Alongside European and global civil society organisations, we will continue to lobby for a framework that truly addresses the root causes of poverty, inequality and climate change and brings about the world we all want.







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