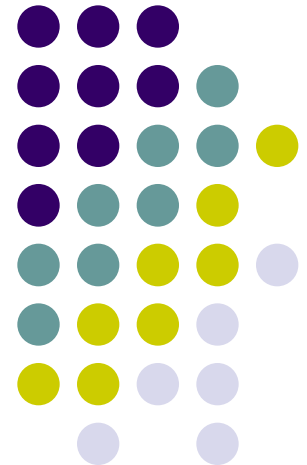


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: INDICATORS OF SOCIAL PROGRESS OR AID MODALITIES?

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Structure

- ✓ From MDGs to SDGs. Overview
- ✓ Criticism of SDGs
- ✓ Position of Russian Federation on SDGs
- ✓ SDG's Elaboration Process
- ✓ Analysis of Country's Statements

FROM MDGs TO SDGs. Overview

MDGs (preoccupations of aid recipients)		SDGs (preoccupations of both aid recipients and donors, RIO + 20)
✓ 3 healthcare goals (MDGs 4-6) ✓ 1 ecological goal (MDG 7)	➔	✓ 1 healthcare goal (SDG 3) ✓ 3 ecological goals (SDGs 12-15)
✓ only socio-economic goals		✓ politicization of process (SDG 16)
✓ Goals only (except MDG8)		✓ Goals + means of implementation (especially <i>paragraphs a, b, c... for each goal</i>)



Criticism of SDGs

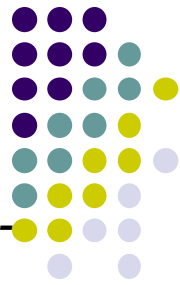
✓ An attempt to elaborate **universal goals** =>
conflict of interests between *developed* and
developing countries

SDG 7.1 Access to cheap energy
SDG 9.1 & SDG 9.2 More infrastructure and industrialization
SDG 2.1 & SDG 2.3 More fish food

VS

SDG 12.c No subsidies to energy market
SDG 9.4 Priority to green technology industries
SDG 14.4 & SDG 14.6 No overfishing

✓ «Business interest» (i.e. **SDG 8.9, SDG 12.b** –
«*sustainable tourism*» (?), no specification about
developing countries)



Position of Russian Federation on SDGs (1)

Remarks by MFA S. Lavrov at the UN Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, New York, 27 September 2015

✓ «Russia welcomes the adoption of the new 2030 Agenda for Development. We stand ready to support the successful implementation of this programme at all levels»

✓ «Poverty eradication is the key objective of Russian IDA policy» (**SDG1**)

✓ «Russian development assistance is invariably aimed at solving the most pressing challenges faced by the countries in need. In these efforts, we are **neither trying to lecture our partners on how they should build their lives, nor impose political models and values**»

✓ «Debt relief is an effective tool of poverty eradication. Under the HIPC Initiative, Russia has written off over 20 bln USD of the debt owed by African countries alone. Russia also contributes to reducing the debt burden of the poorest countries beyond the HIPC through debt-for-aid swaps» (**SDG17**)

✓ «Russia has been funding and implementing aid projects on education (**SDG4**), healthcare (**SDG3**), energy (**SDG7**), food security (**SDG2**) and infrastructure (**SDG9**). We actively use the capacities offered by the UN Development System organisations and humanitarian agencies **that provide assistance without conditions and in a politically unbiased manner**»



Position of Russian Federation on SDGs (2)

- ✓ «Despite the challenging economic environment Russia remains a responsible and reliable partner to developing countries in addressing the most pressing challenges confronting their people such as the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, maternal, infant and child mortality issues or the Ebola outbreak» (**SDG3**)
- ✓ «Our international development assistance is increasing. Last year it increased by over 20 percent... the overall ODA in accordance with OECD methodology surpassed **875 m US dollars**» (**SDG17**)
- ✓ «A new socioeconomic agenda should ensure the indivisibility of sustainable development»
- ✓ «Russia stands for creating a more equitable global economic order and ensuring better governance for global development... It is especially important to ensure fair trade (**SDG10, SDG17**) and enhanced access to cutting-edge technologies (**SDG17**)»
- ✓ «We call for more consistent efforts to reform the governance structures, in particular the IMF and the World Bank, by strengthening the developing countries' positions (**SDG10, SDG16**). We stand for a more efficient interaction between the UN General Assembly and ECOSOC and the Bretton Woods institutions and the WTO»



Position of Russian Federation on SDGs (3)

✓ Russia remains committed to consolidating regional cooperation, including integration in the Eurasian space... While developing this Union, we always stand **for the harmonisation of the various integration mechanisms both in the East and in the West**»

✓ «Unilateral coercive measures that are imposed in violation of the UN Charter are in direct contradiction with the achievement of sustainable development goals... This fully applies to lifting the embargo against Cuba, as well as to other sanctions which have bypassed the UN Security Council».

✓ «In our view, finding a solution to the climate change problem is one of the key preconditions for achieving sustainable development. Our country is the global leader in the cumulative reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and compensates for the increases of the emissions in other countries and regions of the world. We have gone beyond our commitments under the Kyoto Protocol by reducing emissions 31 percent below 1990 levels» – **SDG13**

✓ «We would like to highlight the role of the Russian boreal forests that absorb around 600 m tons of carbon dioxide per year. We will push for including the forest factor in the framework of a new climate agreement and also consider complementing the efforts under the aegis of the UN Forum on Forests with practical actions within some form of a UN centre for planning, protection and the rehabilitation of forests» - **SDG15**

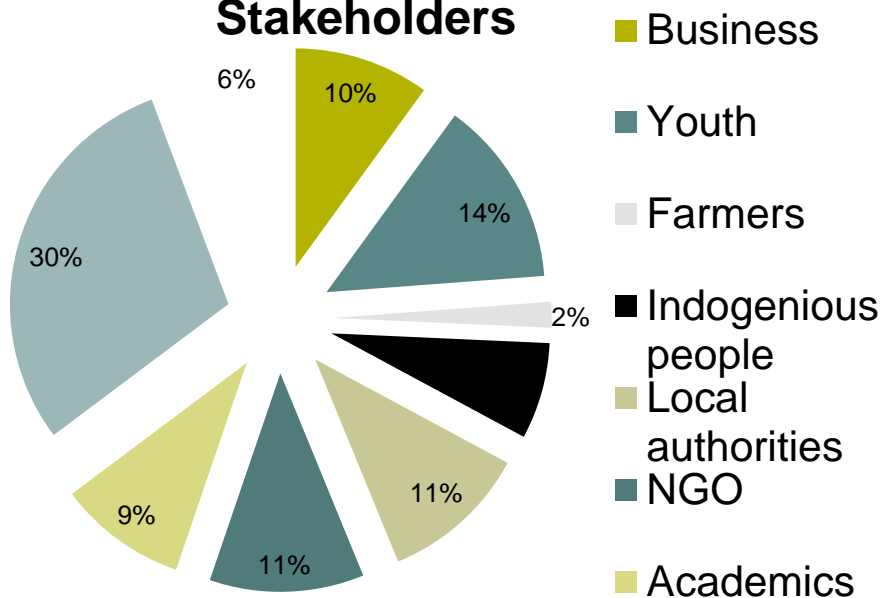


SDG's Elaboration Process (1)

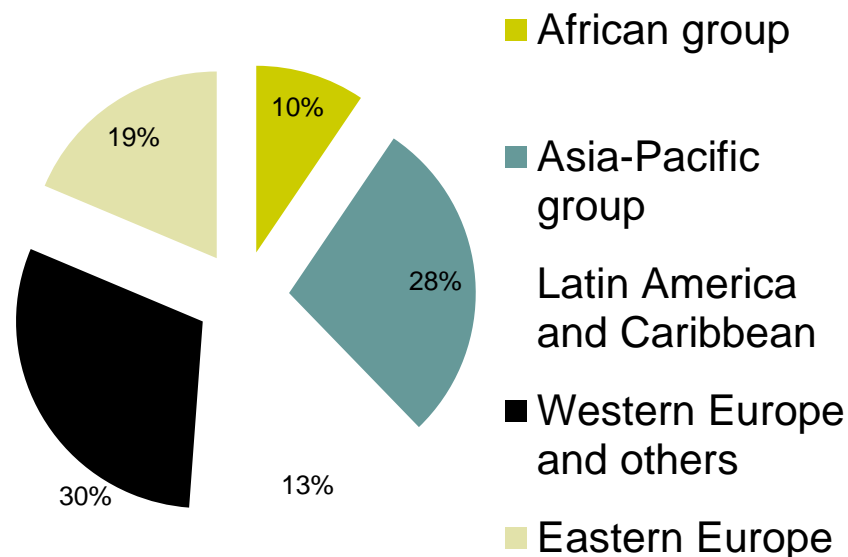
Unprecedented transparency of SDG' elaboration process – a good chance for formal analysis of regional differences of development

- ✓ Consultations with 9 stakeholders
- ✓ Open Working Group on SDG – 5 regional groups comprising 30 country representatives from 70 countries

210 Statements by Stakeholders

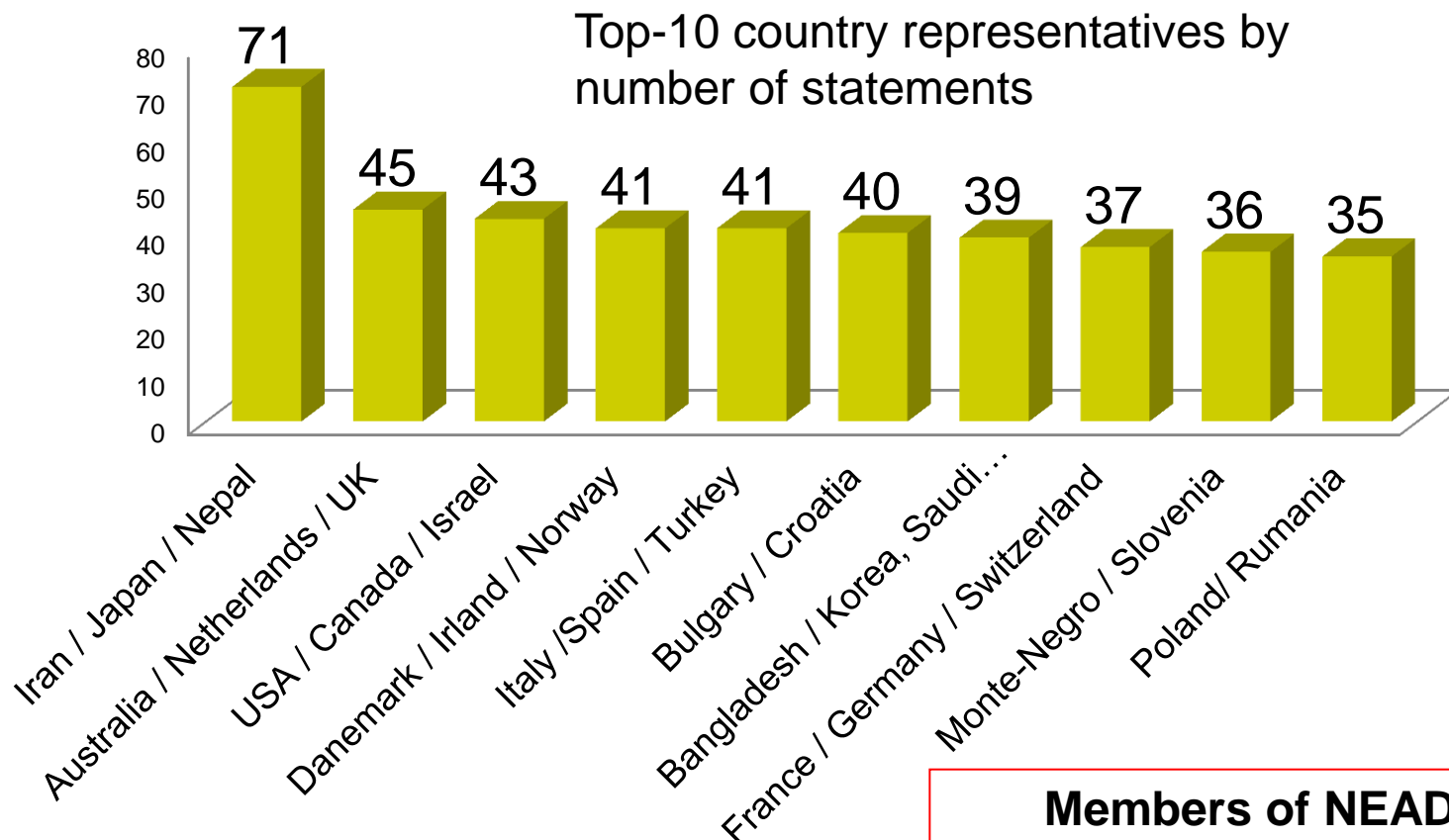


686 Statements by Country Representatives





SDG's Elaboration Process (2)



Members of NEADC Forum

Iran/**Japan**/Nepal – 71

Bangladesh/**Korea**/Saudi Arabia – 39

China/Indonesia/Kazakstan – 25

Russia – no participation



Analysis of Country's Statements (1)

Idea – by A.Maximova

More than 300 statements analyzed

Methodology:

1) Regrouping

Donor countries			Recipient countries	
Traditional (Western)	New (BRICS)	Arabic	African Group	Asia and Latin America

2) Position differences by each of 17 SDGs

3) Consolidation of results



Analysis of Country's Statements (2)

Donor countries:

✓ 2 groups – Traditional (Western) donors and New donors (BRICS + arabic). Position of New donors closer to position of recipient countries (Solidarity within G77 +)

Traditional donors:

- ✓ Focus on rule of law, good governance, gender equity, conflict management, global governance and global partnership
- ✓ Special focus on sustainable development and ecological agenda, green technologies
- ✓ Partnership with private sector

New + Arabic donors:

- ✓ Primary focus on food, water, education, healthcare issues
- ✓ Delicate approach to human rights agenda
- ✓ SDGs and especially means of implication – recommendations, not obligations
- ✓ No politicization of development agenda

Arabic donors:

- ✓ Special position on gender issues



Analysis of Country's Statements (2)

Recipient countries:

- ✓ Special focus on technology transfer (on all the SDGs)
- ✓ Attention not only to extreme poverty
- ✓ Inclusive economic growth and no corruption
- ✓ Rights of migrants-employees

Small island states:

- ✓ Special concerns about maritime ecology

African states:

- ✓ Ban on early marriages

The general idea, passed through almost all the statements of the Group of 77 countries was made by the representative of Bangladesh on the first meeting of the Open Working Group - developing countries simply lack the means to achieve the SDGs, thus an integral part of every SDG should be investing, financial assistance and technology transfer to developing countries

THANK YOU!



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