



RIO+20 POLICY AREAS OF SUCCESS

30 May 2012

Rio+20 is an opportunity for all governments to help achieve sustainable development and address the interrelated environmental, economic and social crises and ensure food, water and energy security for all.

At Rio+20, world leaders must deliver on the following priorities:

- ▶ **Sustainable Development Goals:** Rio+20 should agree on a clear political mandate to mainstream sustainable development across the post-2015 development framework. At Rio+20, world leaders should launch an expert-led process to develop fully-funded Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with clear targets, timelines and indicators, and which must be integrated with the existing post-MDG review process. SDGs should integrate the three dimension of sustainable development, and be universally applicable and equitable. In Rio, governments should also agree on key thematic areas for the SDGs, including food and energy security for all.
- ▶ **Valuing natural wealth:** The sustainable management of natural wealth requires that the value of ecosystem services is properly recognised and accounted for. At Rio+20, world leaders should: 1) agree to set up clear and comparable methodologies for indicators to measure the quality of the environment, nature, biodiversity and ecosystem alongside existing economic (GDP) and social (IHDI) indicators; 2) pledge to take fiscal, legal and regulatory measure to better embed the value of nature, biodiversity and ecosystem services in national accounts and corporate balance sheets. This would come in addition to the indicators used in measuring progress on SDGs.
- ▶ **Subsidy reform:** At Rio+20, governments should agree to transparent annual reporting and review on subsidy reform leading to the elimination, by 2020, of all subsidies that negatively impact the environment. This should include: 1) all subsidies to fossil fuel industry; 2) all subsidies that encourage unsustainable farming, deforestation and damaging ranching practices; 3) all forms of subsidies that encourage destructive fishing practices, growth in fishing fleet size and fishing effort, including fossil fuels subsidies for fishing vessels. Governments should also agree on appropriate measures to offset and regressive impact, and issue a declaration calling for the resumption of WTO Doha round of negotiation, including the reform of agriculture and fisheries subsidies.
- ▶ **Ocean governance:** Healthy oceans are critical to support the wellbeing of humanity. At Rio+20, world leaders should initiate, as soon as possible, the negotiation of an implementing agreement to UNCLOS that would address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- ▶ **Food, water and energy goals:** World leaders need to acknowledge the interlinkages between food, water and energy and the need to sustainably manage the ecosystems, their functions and

services, which underpin the achievement of progress in those areas to deliver poverty eradication and wellbeing. At Rio+20, world leaders must agree to ambitious goals to deliver universal access to food, water and energy by 2030, with social, economic and environmental consideration embedded as objectives under each goal. These goals could be framed as follows:

❖ **Universal access to food for all by 2030. This includes:**

- (1) Affordable and equitable access to a safe food supply, from terrestrial, marine and freshwater resources, sheltered from excessive volatility of food prices.
- (2) Redirected public support, regulations and trade policies to drive investment in sustainable agriculture and food production to reduce waste in the food chain and ensure the long-term productivity and resilience of natural resources and ecosystem services.
- (3) Increased access for local and smallholder farmers to agricultural credits, land tenure security, information and technology, and markets to support sustainable agriculture and rural development.

❖ **Universal access to water and sanitation for all by 2030. This includes:**

- (1) Well-managed freshwater and related ecosystems so that environmental flows are maintained and/or restored for the benefit of people, nature and economies.
- (2) Affordable and equitable access to safe water, and to improved sanitation, supported by healthy ecosystems, their functions and services.
- (3) Increased consistency and coherence in decision- and policy-making for water, energy and food security, development and climate change.

❖ **Universal access to energy for all by 2030. This includes:**

- (1) Sustainable renewable, affordable and reliable energy to improve livelihoods, health and well-being for populations who suffer from energy poverty.
- (2) Capacity building, finance and creation of reliable national frameworks for development of economically viable domestic industries and services in order to make access to clean energy affordable to all.
- (3) Policy measures aimed to deliver a significant percentage of sustainable renewable energy in the global energy mix to combat climate change and reduce fossil fuel price volatility.



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To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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