



Measuring Progress, Sustainable Development and Well-being in a Post-2015 environment.

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While a broad and people-centred notion of ‘development’ was at the heart of both the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs, the ongoing discussions on the post-2015 agenda represent a crucial step towards a vision that is more universal and more genuinely multi-dimensional. This move provides a unique opportunity to bring together two streams of work, i.e. the discussion on ‘measuring performance beyond GDP’ and on ‘development’, that have often been perceived as distinct and responding to the concerns of different parts of the world (i.e. the rich OECD countries, on one side, and the less developed countries, on the other). The paper argues that the concepts of well-being, progress and sustainable development are universal concerns whose measurement and assessed needs to reflect the specific circumstances of different countries and regions. It also argues that official statistics have a critical role in monitoring the SDGs after these have been agreed, and that this will require both investment to upgrade statistical capacities in countries and the development of statistical standards, implementation guidelines and measurement tools at the international level for those aspects of people’s life that are not measured by official statistics.

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