

PROMOTING RIGHTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Ibon International

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Outline

- Comments on the zero draft
- Significance of a right-based framework for SD
- Rights themes that need to be strengthened in the zero draft and SD reform agenda
- The Rights for Sustainability Initiative

Overall comments on the Zero Draft

1. **Does not respond to the gravity and urgency of the economic, social and ecological crises gripping the world today**
 - ▣ On GE
 - GE undefined
 - Relies on self-defined strategies and voluntary commitments
 - implementation of mechanisms for supporting GE would have to wait until after 2015
 - ▣ On key priority issues and areas
 - Does not go beyond IADGs or other standing international agreements
 - SDGs would also have to wait until 2015
 - ▣ IFSD
 - ▣ unclear how new institutional arrangements will actually help address the failures of SD governance over the last 20 years

Overall comments on the Zero Draft

2. Fails to identify the underlying causes of these multiple convergent crises
3. Repeats many prescriptions that have caused or contributed to unsustainable development
4. Challenges civil society to continue engagement

Significance of rights-based framework in promoting sustainable development?

- define the goals of SD
- address power imbalances
- address gaps in implementation and accountability
- enhance policy integration and coherence

A Rights Agenda for SD

1. Rights to essentials of life
2. Right to development
3. Rights of future generations
4. Democratic rights

With clear proposals for targets, timelines and means of implementation

The Rights for Sustainability Initiative

- Reaching out to more groups and the general public, especially in the South
- Feeding into major groups processes
- Lobbying at the various levels
- We need champions

But no rights without a fight!

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