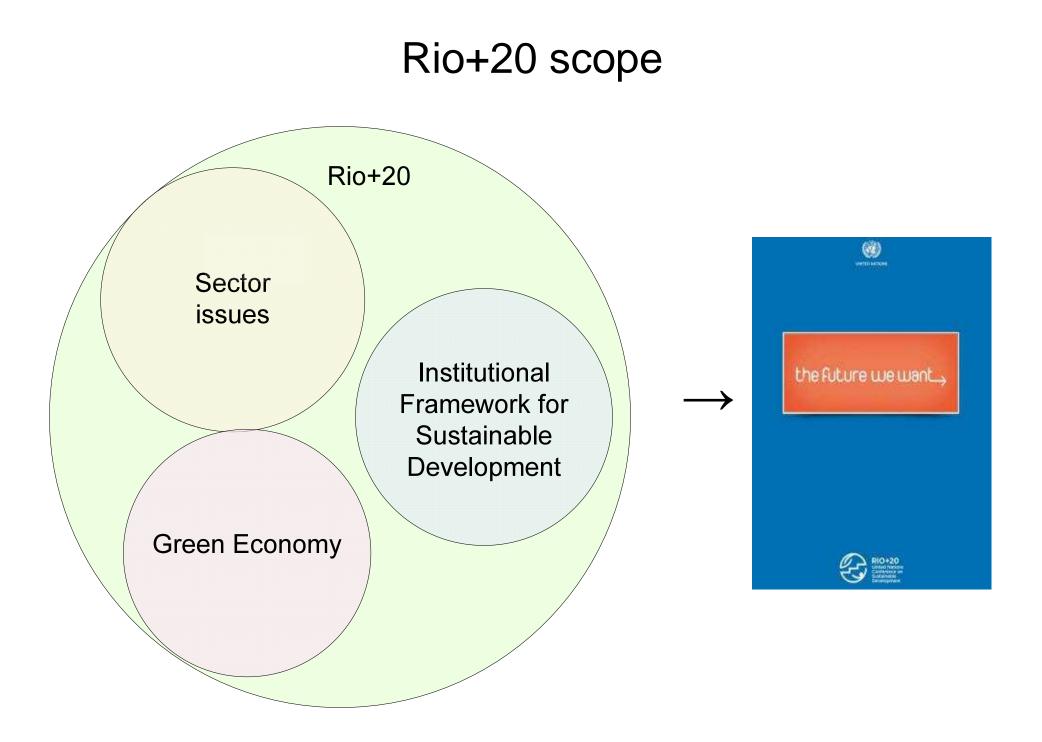# The Global Sustainable Development Report in the context of Rio+20 follow-up
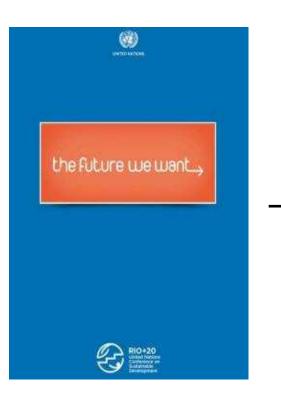
Expert Group Meeting for the Global Sustainable Development Report -
A prototype report, future directions and
network of scientific contributors

Dubrovnik, Croatia, 21-22 October 2013

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Rio+20 scope

Rio+20

Sector issues

Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Green Economy

Rio+20 follow-up

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- Changes in the international institutional framework for SD
  - UNEP
  - High-Level Forum
  - others
- Intergovernmental Processes
  - SDGs
  - Expert Committee on Financing for SD
  - Technology facilitation mechanism
  - others: SIDS conference, intergenerational solidarity, …

Rio+20 and post-2015 development agenda

Intergovernmental Process

September

2014

• SDGs (narrative and set of goals)

• Expert Committee on Financing for SD (report)

• Technology facilitation mechanism

• Other inputs

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Post-2015 Development agenda

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG Open Working Group
- Initial input from UN system (requested in Rio+20)
- Open Working Group on SDGs (since March 2013)
  - Meetings have focused on stock taking, common understanding of key issues
  - Focus on thematic areas, covering broad spectrum of issues
  - From March 2014: discussion on strategic narrative and set of goals

Issues
- One set of global SD goals to support the post-2015 agenda
- Unfinished business of MDGs
- SDGs "universal": all countries taking action
- True global partnership for SD transcending donor-recipient relationship
- How to finance the SDGs?

Intergovernmental expert committee on sustainable development financing

- Committee held first meeting in August 2013
- Rio+20 mandate:
  - prepare a report proposing options by the end of 2014, for GA consideration
  - look at financing needs,
  - consider effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks
  - evaluate additional initiatives
- Stocktaking until March 2013, then report preparation
- Challenges:
  - Support the SDGs, while not knowing exactly what those are going to be
  - Build on Financing for Development intergovernmental discussions (Monterrey-Doha)
  - Convey the shift of paradigm "Beyond ODA"?

High-level Political Forum on SD

- Format and organizational modalities agreed in June 2013
- Hybrid structure:
  - Subsidiary of GA and ECOSOC
  - Meeting of Heads of State/Government every four years under the auspices of UNGA
  - Meeting at Ministerial level every year under the auspices of ECOSOC
- Selected functions of the HLPF (Rio+20 outcome, para. 85):
  - Provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development
  - Follow up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments, including means of implementation
  - Enhance integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development at all levels
  - Promote the sharing of best practices and experiences, enhance evidence-based decision-making at all levels
  - **Strengthen the science-policy interface**
  - Contribute to strengthening ongoing capacity-building for data collection and analysis in developing countries

Science-policy interface and the GSDR

- Rio+20 mandate:

    Strengthen the science-policy interface through review of documentation, bringing together dispersed information and assessments, including in the form of a global sustainable development report, building on existing assessments

- UNGA Resolution 67/290, para. 20:

    …requests the forum to consider, in 2014, the scope and methodology of a global sustainable development report, based on a proposal of the Secretary-General reflecting the views and recommendations of Member States, and relevant United Nations entities…

- Work leading to the GSDR:
    - Request for inputs to all UN agencies
    - Expert consultations (thematic and cross-cutting)
    - Review of national SD reports
    - Review of existing assessments
    - Production of a prototype GSDR

- This, plus regional meetings like this one, will feed into the Secretary-General's report requested by the GA

Thank you!

Global Sustainable Development Report:
http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1621

Sustainable Development in the 21st Century project reports:
http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sd21.html

Intergovernmental processes:
http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/intgovmental.html