
GPF Newsletter

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[What's new](#)

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SDGs: Human Progress within Planetary Guard Rails



The German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) published a policy paper that deals with the correlation between human development and environmental change within Earth system boundaries. It indicates that the post-2015 process offers an opportunity to incorporate both dimensions in an integrative strategy for sustainable development. In doing so, WBGU refers to the so-called planetary guard rails, which have to be taken into account in the SDGs, to limit global environmental change and at the same time find a way to achieve human development.

It's time to stop the privatisation of the development agenda



As the Millennium Development Goals come to a close and kick off a post-2015 debate, the role of corporations and their interests in development sector change significantly, Lora Verheecke underlines in a recently published article. While the UN supports new partnerships with the private sector and aid flows to the private sector are increasing, this has impacts on the multilateral systems and states. According to Verheecke, it is time to constrain corporations' influence setting the development agenda and to remind the UN to give priority to people rather than profits.

Chanel, Tupperware to accelerate women's empowerment



UN Women launches a new Private Sector Leadership Advisory Council. The council, which is expected to offer advice to accelerate women's economic empowerment, end violence against women and help to close the funding gap for UN Women, is comprised of ten corporate executives from companies ranging from Tupperware to Chanel to Anglo American. The council is supposed to provide the foundation for further "Golden Triangle" partnerships, as they are being called, between corporations, governments and civil society. The council will meet twice a year to review progress and provide strategic input to guide advocacy and resource mobilization efforts.

World Bank promotes business interests over human rights

rightingfinance The World Bank recently initiated a revision of its annual Doing Business Report by an Independent Panel of experts. Civil society criticizes the Doing Business Report for putting business interests ahead of human rights by one-sidedly promoting deregulatory policies. E.g. the International Trade Union Congress (ITUC) found that countries that fail to respect workers' rights are praised by the report. In fact, the Independent Panel made some recommendations to address the shortcomings of Doing Business. Nevertheless, they seem to be largely neglected, according to Righting Finance.

EC private sector plan putting business before poverty reduction



The European Commission (EC) published an action plan which includes proposals to further private sector engagement in developing countries. The EC's policy paper is an attempt to redraw European development cooperation to encourage policy change. By looking closer to the policy paper, Eurodad states that the EC misses to tackle the fact that main European impacts on private sector in developing countries are driven by European policies in other areas like trade, agriculture or tax. In doing so, the EC risks that business needs are considered before poverty reduction. Moreover, it is difficult to classify how the EC is going to put the announced objectives into practice. By taking all these points into consideration, Eurodad prepared recommendations for the EC and EU member states, which should be noticed to mitigate problematic aspects of the action plan.

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