Overall impressions

The Open Working Group has made strong progress in tackling the complex and challenging task set to them. The distance travelled since the first discussions is impressive and the Co-Chairs’ Zero Draft is on a good track to meet the ambition defined by Heads of State and Government in the Rio+20 outcome document “The Future We Want”.

WWF however believes **a last push is needed to produce a transformative agenda and balanced set of goals and targets** that will be effective in promoting an “economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for our planet and for present and future generations”. A solid set of core environmental challenges are addressed in the revised draft through both dedicated goals and targets mainstreamed under other goal areas. **These elements must be retained in the final draft, and several need to be more ambitious**.

In particular, while WWF strongly welcomes the environmental dimensions added to the proposed goals on economic growth and on infrastructure and industrialization, **biodiversity conservation and equitable access to natural resources should be included under the proposed goal on poverty eradication**. **The role of ecosystems in guaranteeing food and water security is also missing** while some targets under the different Proposed Goals on Ecosystems and Biodiversity, Oceans, Climate Change, Energy and Cities need some further refinement and in some case more ambition.

Recommendations are made below to strengthen important environmental links and ambitions and to ensure key economic and social dimensions are included in the goals on climate, oceans, and ecosystems and biodiversity.

Introduction

The introduction **should be further strengthened** with the following modifications:

(P1) Poverty eradication is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable and inclusive development. We are therefore committed to freeing humanity from poverty and hunger as a matter of urgency.

(P2) We recognize that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable and fair patterns of consumption and production and protecting and sustainably and equitably managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.

(P3) We reaffirm that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, and we express profound alarm that emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally. We recognize that, without intervention, climate change will lead to even greater challenges to humanity, ultimately increasing incidences of poverty and hunger. We underscore that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions by tackling unsustainable consumption and production.

(P5) We reaffirm that we continue to be guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, with full respect for international law and its principles. We further reaffirm the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, good governance, gender equality, women’s empowerment, the customary rights of indigenous peoples and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development. We reaffirm the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as other international instruments relating to human rights and international law.

(P7) We call for holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth’s ecosystem. We acknowledge the natural and cultural diversity of the world, and recognize that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to and benefit from sustainable development.

Proposed goal 1 - End Poverty Everywhere

The new iteration of goal 1 has lost reference to the multidimensional aspects of poverty including **decision making and access to natural resources** -- a critical dimension of poverty for many people. It is imperative to maintain this link explicitly in this proposed goal.

**Suggested modifications:**

1.4 by 2030 secure equal access for all men and women, particularly those most in need, to basic services, ~~the right to own~~ secure tenure of land, ~~and~~ property, natural and other productive resources and financial services, including microfinance

Comment: Secure tenure was dropped from Zero Draft v1 and should be reinserted with an explicit reference to natural resources because of the direct reliance of the poorest on natural resources for livelihoods, food, shelter, and medicine, even where ownership is not an option. “Productive resources” are also generally understood to include only capital, labour and land.

1.5 by 2030 reduce disaster risks and build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations to disasters, shocks and climate-related extreme events

REINSTATE: 1.6 immediately integrate biodiversity and ecosystem conservation measures into national and local development strategies, inclusive planning processes and poverty reduction strategies.

Proposed goal 2 - End hunger, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture and sustainable food security

This goal is a good example now of an integrated goal that contributes to social, economic and environmental dimensions. The broader title would better capture all food systems. WWF strongly welcomes the introduction of targets on soil quality and the phasing out of agricultural and export subsidies but the **absence** **of a reference to ecosystem services supporting food production is an important gap** in the current text.

**Suggested modifications:**

2.3 by 2030 substantially increase small-scale food producers’ productivity and incomes, particularly of women, family farmers, ~~and~~ pastoralists and small scale fishers through secure access for all to productive and environmentally sustainable resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services and markets

2.4 by 2030 implement sustainable and resilient agricultural and aquacultural practices including for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought and disasters, and progressively enhance soil quality and ecosystem services.

Comment: The indicators for this target must unpack the terms “sustainable” and “resilience” to ensure critical issues are covered: i) water, energy and land use efficiency and impact, ii) reduced synthetic inputs, iii) GHG emissions and carbon sinks, and iv) status of ecosystem services supporting food production.

2.b. phase out all forms of agricultural export subsidies and fisheries subsidies which contribute to overfishing and overcapacity

Proposed goal 3 - Attain healthy lives for all

Target 3.7 makes a direct link to environmental issues so it is critical to retain this target in the final list. We also suggest the following modification to 3.3 to highlight challenges from climatic and environmental change for controlling diseases such as malaria.

**Suggested modifications:**

3.3 by 2030 end the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases and develop prevention plans to address projected climate- and environment-related vector borne diseases.

Proposed goal 4 - Provide everyone quality education and life-long learning opportunities

Comment: Only 4.6 makes a link to environmental sustainability so it is critical to retain this target in the final list.

Proposed goal 5 - Attain gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere

There is no visible link to environmental sustainability in this goal area although women are often directly reliant on access to natural resources for their and their family’s well-being. Target 1.4 becomes even more important in this context and MOI target 5.a should be maintained and modified as below:

**Suggested modifications:**

5.a ensure women’s equal right to own and control assets and natural and productive resources

Proposed goal 6 - Ensure water and sanitation for all for a sustainable world

All 6 targets should be retained, with some modifications below. The target on integrated water resources management (IWRM) is transformational given the increasing stress on water resources across the globe and **should explicitly include safeguarding and restoring ecosystems**.

**Suggested modifications:**

6.1 by 2030, achieve universal and sustainable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

6. 4 by 2030, improve water-use efficiency by x% across all sectors and bring freshwater withdrawals and diversions in line with ~~sustainable supply~~ adequate availability for people and nature

6.5 by 2030 implement integrated water resources management at all levels, ~~and~~ through transboundary cooperation as appropriate, that safeguards and restores ecosystems in all major watersheds.

Proposed goal 7 - Ensure sustainable energy for all

These targets should be more ambitious to make more space for clean renewables and demand reduction through efficiency. We welcome the removal of “modern” energy from 7.1 but the qualifiers should also include “safe”, which we would argue eliminates nuclear energy technology and risky upstream fossil fuel exploration. 7b should also be revised this way. WWF welcomes target 7.4 with the suggested modification below.

**Suggested modifications:**

7.1 by 2030 ensure universal access to affordable, safe, sustainable and reliable energy services

7.2 ~~double~~ triple the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix by 2030

7.3 ~~double~~ triple the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030

7.4 by ~~2030~~ 2020 phase out fossil fuel production and consumption subsidies ~~that encourage wasteful use~~, while ensuring secure affordable energy for the poor

7.a enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean renewable and energy efficient technologies~~, including advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies,~~ and promote public and private investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies with due consideration of environmental and social safeguards

7.b by 2030 expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying ~~modern~~ affordable, safe, ~~and~~ sustainable and reliable energy services for all, particularly in LDCs

Proposed goal 8 - Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth development, full and productive employment and decent work for all

WWF suggests a change in the goal title from economic *growth* to economic *development*. We **strongly welcome the addition of target 8.3 in this goal as a transformative target**, with the modifications below to better specify target ambition. Overall, however, this goal area is still missing a transformative spirit and ambitious environmental and social dimensions: the suggested modifications that would reinforce these elements. **MOI 17.17. on “beyond GDP” should also be reinserted here**: there has been adequate progress on social and environmental accounting to make this goal achievable and it is critical to better natural resource management for sustainability.

**Suggested modifications:**

8.2 create a sound macroeconomic environment that incorporates the value of nature in decision making with employment, ~~and~~ policies and an enabling environment at ~~national, regional and international~~ all levels for productive and sustainable investment, creativity and innovation, and formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises

8.3 through 2030 significantly improve global resource efficiency and ~~endeavour to~~ ensure economic development is decoupled from environmental degradation and unsustainable resource use.

MOVE 17.17 here: by 2030 develop and progressively introduce an internationally agreed broader system of national accounting including natural, social and human capital and measures of progress beyond GDP, with supportive statistical capacity building in developing countries.

Proposed goal 9 - Promote sustainable infrastructure and industrialization and foster innovation

WWF strongly welcomes the inclusion of target 9.5. This goal area, however, could be more transformational

**Suggested modifications:**

9.2 improve regional and trans-border infrastructure to promote regional connectivity and integration and to facilitate sustainable and fair trade.

9.3 create decent industrial jobs, including green jobs, and significantly raise industry’s share of employment and GDP in line with national circumstances, including doubling manufacturing’s share in LDCs by 2030.

9.5 by 2030 upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with greater adoption of clean technologies, renewable energy and environmentally sound industrial processes, with developed countries taking the lead and all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

9.a facilitate sustainable infrastructure development, including environmental and social due diligence, with emphasis on enhanced financial and technical support to LDCs

9.b. ensure a conducive policy environment at all levels for sustainable, low carbon industrial development, promoting entrepreneurship, ~~and~~ innovation, with special attention to national circumstances in developing countries

Proposed goal 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and sustainable

WWF believes this goal has lost some integration across environment, social and economic sustainability issues. Environmental considerations in particular need to be strengthened.

**Suggested modifications:**

11.2 by 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport for all, and expand low carbon public transport including wide-scale infrastructure for walking and cycling

11.5 by 2030, ensure universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces, particularly for women and children and people with disabilities and significantly increase urban green spaces.

11.a integrate economic, environmental and social links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas into national and regional development planning

Comment: “Environmental” should be added here bearing in mind that urban areas are reliant on ecosystems services from rural and peri-urban areas for clean water supply, protection from flooding, natural resources supply, etc and the impact of urban growth on peri-urban and rural areas. This is another good way to address sprawl and sustainable waste management.

11.b by 2020, increase by x% the number of cities and human settlements ~~adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resilience, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and natural disasters~~ integrating inclusive environmental planning and management for sustainability, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and DRR into urban decision-making, land use planning and investment.

Comment: The modifications reflect experience that cities must have environmental planning and management at the heart of what they do to meet the challenges of climate change, DRR, inclusion and better land use planning. Land use planning is completely missing in the text.

11.c support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, for the development of sustainable urban infrastructure, utilizing local content and materials.

Comment: This target should go beyond sustainable buildings alone as many LDC cities look to expand their urban infrastructure.

Proposed goal 12 - Promote fair and sustainable consumption and production patterns

The notion of **ecosystem carrying capacities has been lost in this goal** but is a critical consideration for reducing footprint even as production and consumption processes become more resource efficient.

**Suggested modifications:**

12.5 increase the share of private sector actors incorporating sustainable development principles in their business practices and by 2030 increase the number of companies, especially large companies, that report on corporate social and environmental responsibility, including through integrated and transparent reporting.

12.6 by 2030 ~~substantially~~ increase to 65% the share of public procurement that is sustainable and based on best available resource efficient technologies.

REINSTATE: 12.7 By 2030, achieve sustainable management of natural resources to enhance human welfare within carrying capacity of ecosystems.

12.b assist developing countries to strengthen their scientific ~~and~~, technological, governance and enforcement capacities to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production

Comment: For natural resources and commodities law enforcement is often the problem for sustainable production and consumption.

12.c by 2030 ensure that people everywhere have information, ~~and~~ understanding and an enabling environment needed to live sustainable lifestyles

Proposed goal 13 - Urgently tackle climate change and its impacts

WWF welcomes the fact that climate is strongly reflected in the framework and proposes to re-insert targets on limits – temperature and/or carbon budget – with the following as options for text:

**Suggested modifications:**

13.1 by 2020, strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate induced hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.2 by 2020, develop plans that ensure a just transition to climate resilient development and which integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation into national strategies and plans

13.3 by 2020, improve education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, impact reduction, and early warning

13.4 introduce instruments and incentives for investments in low carbon solutions infrastructure, industry and other sectors

13.5 Hold the increase in global average temperature below 1.5°(2°)C in accordance with international agreements

13.6 Reduce global annual emissions to less than 40 GtCO2e/yr by 2020 and less than 24 GtCO2e per year by 2030

13.a ensure the fulfilment of the commitment undertaken by developed country Parties to a goal of mobilizing jointly USD100 billion annually by 2020, and rapidly increasing to at least USD200 billion annually by 2030, from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation. At least 50% of these funds should be allocated to the Green Climate Fund ensuring the equal funding of adaptation and mitigation needs.

Proposed goal 14 - Conserve and promote sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources

WWF strongly welcomes the dedicated goal on oceans, with the suggested modifications below:

**Suggested modifications:**

14.1 by 2030, prevent and control, and reduce by 50% globally, marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities

14.2 by 2020, sustainably and equitably manage, restore and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from ~~destruction~~ adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience and climate and disaster reduction roles, and address ocean acidification and its impacts.

14.3 Take immediate action to restore ~~by 2030~~ and maintain fish stocks ~~at least~~ to levels above those that can produce maximum sustainable yield and by 2020, effectively implement an ecosystem approach to fisheries, regulate harvesting, and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and destructive fishing practices.

14.4 By 2030, conserve at least ~~10~~20% of coastal and marine areas, ~~including~~ through establishing ecologically representative and effectively and equitably managed systems of marine protected areas ~~and other effective area-based conservation measures~~, within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information

14.a by 2020, increase scientific knowledge, and transfer of marine technology, protect traditional knowledge and develop research infrastructure and capacities to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the sustainable development of developing countries, in particular SIDS and LDCs

14.b by 2030 increase the economic benefits, including food security, to SIDS and LDCs from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through integrated coastal and oceans management, sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture, and tourism, in accordance with the ecosystem and precautionary approaches, and provide equitable access of small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

14.c by 2030, enforce international law on national and international ~~territorial~~ waters to stop illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and over-exploitation of marine resources ~~in territorial waters~~, particularly in marine areas within the jurisdiction of developing countries.

Proposed goal 15 - Protect ~~and promote sustainable use of~~ terrestrial ecosystems, halt deforestation, desertification, land degradation and biodiversity loss and promote sustainable and equitable use of ecosystem goods and services

WWF strongly welcomes the dedicated goal on Ecosystems and biodiversity and the targets under this goal with the suggestions below. Further work can likely be undertaken to determine suitable targets to 2030 and the goal should be closely linked to poverty eradication and human rights since healthy ecosystems are the basis for the livelihoods and well being of most people living in poverty.

**Suggested modifications:**

15.1 by 2020 ensure conservation and sustainable use of all ecosystems, in particular wetlands, mountains, forests and drylands, in line with international agreements

15.2 by 2030, ~~ensure implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, and increase reforestation by x% globally~~ halt the loss of all natural habitats, including all types of natural forests, to maintain their local and global ecosystem services.

15.3 by 2030, achieve ~~a~~ zero net land degradation ~~neutral world~~, and restore degraded land including land affected by desertification, deforestation and drought

Comment: “zero net land degradation” is the UNCCD strategy terminology.

15.4 by 2020 take urgent and significant action to halt the loss of biodiversity, and protect and prevent the extinction of known threatened species, maintaining an equitable sharing of the costs and benefits of conservation action.

15.5 Take immediate measures to end poaching, illegal harvesting and trafficking ~~of protected species~~ of flora and fauna, and end demand and supply of illegal wildlife products

Comment: Immediate measures are required to prevent the extinction of several species currently under dramatic pressure from poaching.

15.6 ~~By 2020~~ Immediately introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems by 2020.

15.a by 2020, mobilize and significantly increase from all sources financial resources at all levels to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and by 2030 step up to provide adequate financial resources.

15.b. mobilize resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management in all countries, and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance sustainable forest management, including for reduced deforestation and degradation, and for conservation and reforestation

15.c enhance support to developing countries efforts to combat poaching and illegal trafficking of endangered species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities and by reducing demand for these species

Proposed goal 16 - Achieve peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and effective and capable institutions

WWF strongly suggests the re-instatement of the specifications of organized crimes under target 16.3 to include illicit wildlife trafficking and natural resources alongside other major crimes. WWF strongly welcomes the inclusion of 16.4 on inclusive natural resources management under this goal given its important impact on global peace and on societies.

**Suggested modifications:**

16.3 by 2030 reduce illicit financial flows by x% globally, increase stolen asset recovery and return by y% globally, fight all forms of organized crime, including human trafficking and illicit trade in arms, drugs, natural resources and wildlife, and reduce corruption and bribery in all its forms and at all levels and ensure accountability and transparency

16.4 by 2030 increase inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels and ensure free prior informed consent of indigenous and local communities in decision-making and natural resources management, and promote the use of their traditional knowledge and culture

16.b strengthen national institutions and international cooperation to combat crimes, including illicit flows, including illegal commodities and derived products, and organized crime

Proposed goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and the global partnership for sustainable development

A **new target 17.13** should be included under Policy and institutional coherence **to integrate** the value of healthy biodiversity and ecosystem services in national planning and GDP and local development planning. We also suggest **moving 17.17 to goal 8**.

**Suggested modifications:**

NEW 17.13 by 2030, integrate the value of healthy biodiversity and ecosystem services in national planning and GDP and local development planning.

17.15 by 2020, increase significantly the availability of high-quality, ~~and~~ timely and publicly accessible data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, with capacity building support to developing countries, especially LDCs

17.16 undertake regular ~~voluntary~~ transparent monitoring and reporting of progress on SDGs, led by governments, within a shared accountability framework, including means of implementation, the global partnership among Member States and multi-stakeholder initiatives and partnerships