

## Sustainable Development Goals – Member Survey 2015

In 2000, the United Nations (UN) came up with 8 goals, known as the Millennium Development Goals, which set out the agreed steps the international community would take to tackle poverty over the next 15 years. As we come to the end of those 15 years, the international community has been looking at the next steps for international development, often referred to as the 'post-2015 development agenda' or 'sustainable development agenda'. Currently being discussed are new 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs), to be achieved by all countries by 2030. These are due to be finalised by the UN in September, and there are currently 17 goals in draft form. These can be viewed in detail on the UN website at: [www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html](http://www.sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html). These goals are to:

Goal 1.	<b>End poverty</b> in all its forms everywhere.
Goal 2.	<b>End hunger</b> , achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
Goal 3.	Ensure <b>healthy lives</b> and promote <b>wellbeing</b> for all at all ages.
Goal 4.	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality <b>education</b> and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
Goal 5.	Achieve <b>gender equality</b> and empower all women and girls.
Goal 6.	Ensure availability and sustainable management of <b>water and sanitation</b> for all.
Goal 7.	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern <b>energy</b> for all.
Goal 8.	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable <b>economic growth</b> , full and productive employment and decent work for all.
Goal 9.	Build resilient <b>infrastructure</b> , promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.
Goal 10.	<b>Reduce inequality</b> within and among countries.
Goal 11.	Make <b>cities and human settlements</b> inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
Goal 12.	Ensure <b>sustainable consumption and production</b> patterns.
Goal 13.	Take urgent action to combat <b>climate change</b> and its impacts.
Goal 14.	Conserve and sustainably use the <b>oceans, seas and marine resources</b> for sustainable development.
Goal 15.	Protect, restore and promote <b>sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems</b> , sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
Goal 16.	Promote <b>peaceful and inclusive societies</b> for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Goal 17.	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the <b>global partnership</b> for sustainable development.
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The sustainable development agenda is a political framework that Mothers' Union, as a global organisation, needs to be aware of. If we are to engage with or comment upon development issues and the SDGs we need to know how the issues above affect Mothers' Union members and their communities across the world. We also want to know what you think about the SDGs. However, we are not consulting on making any of these issues (other than those we are currently working on) an immediate policy or campaign priority - rather, we are trying to gauge opinion on the overall framework.

Therefore, we have designed this questionnaire for Mothers' Union members, CDCs and other workers across the world. As well as informing how we engage with the Sustainable Development Goals, responses to this questionnaire will also be used to inform our statement to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in 2016.

We would be grateful for answers to as many of the following questions as possible including as much detail as you can give, but don't worry if you cannot answer every question. **Please do also send this on to other Mothers' Union members.** If you have any queries about the questionnaire, please contact Rose Wright, Campaigns and Social Policy Assistant at: policy@mothersunion.org or on: +44 (0)20 7222 5533.

**1. Mothers' Union province, diocese and country.**

Oxford diocese, Canterbury province, England
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**2. Are you a post holder within Mothers' Union? If so what is your role?**

Diocesan Chaplain
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**3. Were you already aware of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)/post-2015 development agenda?**

Yes \*                      No

Comments:

I did know about the MDGs
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**4. Please rank the Sustainable Development Goals (see page 1 for full details) in order of how important the issue is to your community, with 1 being the most important and 17 being the least important etc. You do not have to rank them all, but please list as many as you feel are relevant.**

Goal	Rank no.	Comments
1. Poverty		
2. Hunger and food security		

3. Health	1	
4. Education	2	
5. Gender equality		
6. Water and sanitation		
7. Sustainable energy	5	
8. Economic growth		
9. Infrastructure		
10. Global inequalities	4	
11. Personal safety		
12. Sustainable consumption and production	6	
13. Climate change	7	
14. Oceans		
15. Eco systems		
16. Peace and justice	3	
17. Global implementation of goals	8	

**5. Please give details of any projects or campaigns work you have done on the issues listed above.**

Not really an omission but I think care is needed around discussion on inequality as what is viewed by some as negative inequality is not viewed so by others.

**6. How helpful would the SDG framework be to your project or outreach work?**

**7. How might the SDG framework be beneficial to Mothers' Union campaigning?**

I think we would be taken more seriously and to be more relevant to people's lives if our work can be seen to be linked to a UN agenda.

**8. Do you think there is anything missing from the sustainable development agenda? If so, what?**

**9. Please say whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Comments
The SDGs are realistic.					x	There are too many goals and they contain no measures of success. They need to be broken down into smaller steps which are achievable
The SDGs are achievable.					x	Not in there current form

The SDGs will benefit the lives of ordinary individuals and communities.		x				but only if they can be realised
The SDGs are relevant to the needs of my local community.	x					relevant to the whole of humanity
The SDGs support the overall aims of Mothers' Union.		x				
My national government will take the SDGs seriously and will act upon them.				x		I doubt it.
The international community is able to impact my community locally.		x				

**10. What do you think your government locally, nationally and regionally needs to do to address these issues?**

**11. What are the biggest issues affecting family life in your community?**

Mental health issues as a result of work, education pressures. Pace of life now feels too fast. Lack of meaningful support for carers particularly those caring for loved ones with dementia type illnesses.

Access to cheap reliable public transport, especially for the elderly and those who cannot afford to run more than one car.

**12. What project, policy or campaign work around gender equality (e.g. gender based violence, education of women and girls etc.) has been done by your Mothers' Union in recent years?**

**13. Please tick any of the following that are issues in your local community:**

- a) Discrimination against women and girls \*
- b) Gender based violence (violence which disproportionately affects women and girls, or which is aimed at them because of their gender) \*
- c) Human trafficking \*
- d) Sexual exploitation of women and girls x
- e) Female Genital Mutilation \*
- f) Child/early marriage \*
- g) Forced marriage \*
- h) Women and girls take on the majority of unpaid care and work (i.e. household chores, caring for relatives and children etc.)
- i) Discrimination against women and girls in the legal system \*
- j) Lack of women in decision making bodies (such as government or the legal system) \*
- k) Lack of access to economic resources such as land and property \*
- l) Women and girls disadvantaged in education \*
- m) Lack of women in the media \*

Comments:

We have made huge progress in all these areas. There are individual cases but generally none of these issues are a significant problem in my part of the diocese. However there are ongoing cases of sexual exploitation of girls in the cities e.g Oxford

**14. What do you think needs to be done to prevent/stop gender inequality in your country? What do you think local groups and individuals, the church, local government, national government and international bodies and organisations could do that would help?**

More education in schools on 'healthy relationships', recognising an abusive one.  
More flexible working for parents/carers to enable them to better meet their

family's needs

**16. Do you have any further comments on the Sustainable Development Goals?**

There are far too many goals - simplification is key to success.

Remove goal 1 eradicating poverty. That is a stated overarching goal and will be achieved through the other 16 goals. e.g education, health, access to energy etc.

Education and health are crucial to ending world poverty. Ignorance breeds discrimination and vulnerability. Not just academic subjects, but life skills: cooking, budgeting, effective communication, self-esteem.

In this country, poverty is more about lack of family security, love, ambition and an inability to access opportunities, lack of support from within the family, rather than financial poverty.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and for lending your voice to these vital issues.

**Please return this completed questionnaire:**

**By post to: Faith & Policy Unit, Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB, UK.**

**By email to: [policy@mothersunion.org](mailto:policy@mothersunion.org)**

**Or by fax to: +44 (0)20 7227 973**