

KENYA AND TANZANIA BEYOND 2015: EXPLORING DOMESTIC DEBATES AND ENVISIONING DEVELOPMENT FUTURES (BEYOND 2015) 2013–2014 Finland Futures Research Centre

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As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are expiring, the international debate is weighing the options on what will follow the MDGs as the global "development agenda". There have been drastic changes and new realities in the economic and political landscapes compared to the situation when MDGs were initiated. In the post-2015 discussions to date most of the talk has taken place at the international level, dominated primarily by United Nations officials and well-resourced international development and environmental organizations. In contrast, there have only been some country-specific reflections and analyses on the issue. The BEYOND 2015 project aimed to narrow this gap through analysing the current domestic debates in Kenya and Tanzania in relation to the MDG experience and the expectations about the post-2015 framework. A special focus was on environment and energy sector taking into account the current dynamics in the extractive industries that arise from the boom on explorations, discoveries and extraction of minerals and fossil fuels.



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How should the MDGs be changed to better meet the new global and East African realities and development challenges post-2015? How do the national development aspirations resonate with the new emerging international development agenda? These questions become all the more important as Kenya and Tanzania are undergoing rapid economic, political and social changes.

The project examined the roles of Millennium Development Goals in Kenyan and Tanzanian development policies, and the local debates regarding MDGs, post-2015 debates, financing for development and the extractives and energy sectors. Also Finnish development policy and cooperation experts were consulted. The recommendations of this project and its report are based on the desk study, over fifty interviews in Kenya, Tanzania and Finland, and ten workshops carried out by the first half of 2013.

Some key recommendations for policy makers are underlined:

- give more ownership of the development agenda and process from the locals
- more from quantitative targets to comprehensive goals and measures
- keep the improvement of social services as a high priority
- remember the importance of higher education
- work towards fairer global economic order
- ensure ecological sustainability in the local drive for economic transformation
- support the pathway to low carbon future and access to energy for all
- promote a rights based post-2015 development agenda

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