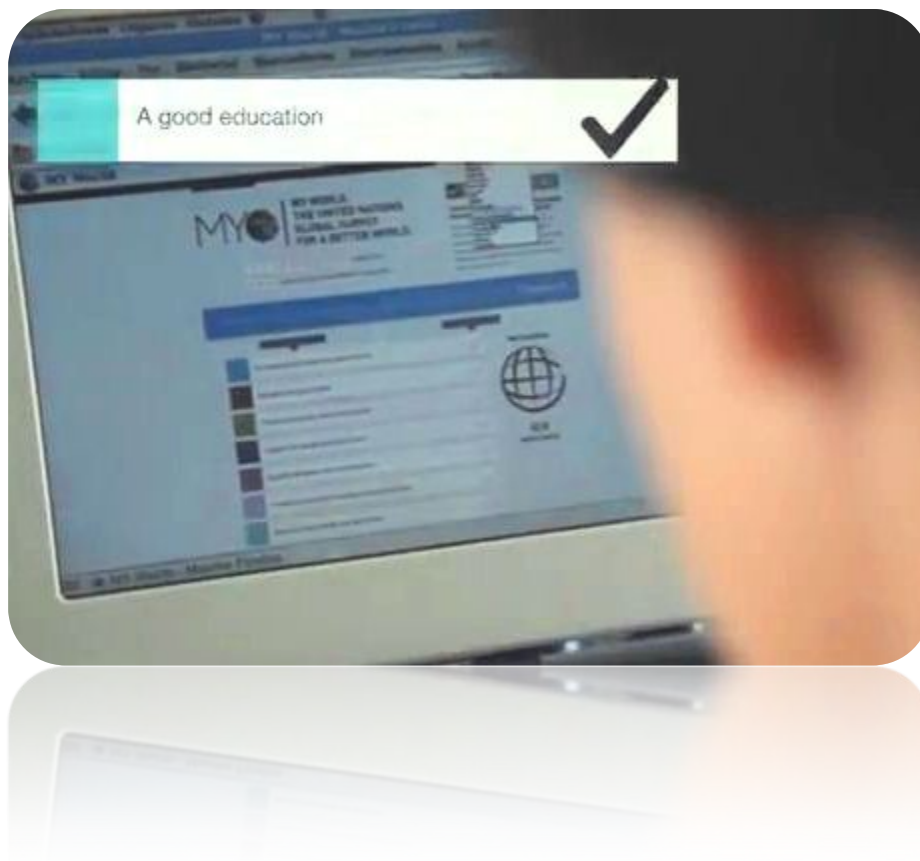




**SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES**
INTERNATIONAL

ENGAGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM CARE IN THE MY WORLD SURVEY

HOW-TO GUIDE



“Youth participation is the active involvement of young people in the decision-making that adults do on topics that affect children and youngsters’ quality of living”

International Youth Council member, SOS Children’s Villages’ / *Matter* campaign



1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This guide provides useful information and materials for the implementation of the *My World Survey* with children and young people*.

Special attention is given to children and young people from alternative care, including children without parental care or at risk of losing parental care, to make sure that they have equal access to the *My World Survey* consultations and their voice is heard in the global debate around the post-2015 agenda.

In the next pages, you will find detailed steps on how to run *My World Survey* consultations with children and young people and, more interestingly, how to organize peer-led consultations. Peer-led consultations represent a great opportunity for young people to gain experience on how to organise participation activities with their peers, acquire presentation and leadership skills... and have some fun!

The child-friendly methodology presented here can be used also for other kinds of consultations with children and young people.

Background documents, exercises and games are provided.

Target group for the activities presented in this guide:

- Children and young people aged 10-18 years and above. Involvement of children below 10 years old is NOT recommended.
- Children and young people from SOS Children's Villages' programmes (especially children without parental care)
- Children and young people from other forms of care (BUT only when relevant and feasible)

Important Disclaimer on Child and Youth Participation

- Participation is a right. We should move beyond considering it a privilege.
- Participation is voluntary. Never force children and youth to do things they do not want to do.
- Respect their private commitments and adjust the level of their involvement accordingly.
- Allow time for the process of development of their participation - at the beginning children and young people might be more passive.
- Identify the kind of knowledge and skills that children and young people need to get involved in the activities and help them acquire such knowledge and skills.
- Be ready to relinquish some adult control and give more power to children and young people.
- Respect their protection and privacy rights
- Participation must be meaningful: set out a clear goal
- Participation is more about developing a culture than a set of tools
- Show the value of child and youth participation with certificates of participation, celebrations, thank you letters and similar incentives / rewards.

**Please note: this guide has been designed for activities organized within SOS Children's Villages, but its content can be useful for other child-focused organisations and youth groups. It is open to continued revision and improvement. Comments are welcome, contact: lao@sos-kd.org*



2 ABOUT THE POST-2015 PROCESS

2015 is the deadline for the achievement of the *Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*.

The United Nations (UN) and the international community are currently engaging in a political process **to define the new set of global development goals** which will follow the MDGs, the so-called *Post-2015 Agenda*.

This historic moment offers a unique **opportunity** to children and young people to participate in the global debate, voice their concerns, explain their priorities and talk about their dreams for a better world to be built together in the next 20 years.

In this regard, the *My World Survey* is a key tool for children and youth's participation in the definition of the Post-2015 Agenda.

The results of the survey, which consist in a set of 6 main priority areas for policy intervention to enhance sustainable development, will be provided to UN and governments' high level representatives until 2015. This is why the survey also represents a good occasion to raise awareness on the issues and needs of children and young people – especially the most vulnerable ones – and make sure that they are reflected in the Post-2015 Agenda in terms of policies, programmes and funding.

Why do we help children and youth participate in the definition of the Post-2015 Agenda?

Today, the **United Nations** is encouraging child and youth participation as a new form of democratic participation of citizens in the definition of policies that will have a direct impact on their lives.

For **SOS Children's Villages**, the involvement of children and young people in the formulation of demands and proposals for the post-2015 process is very important too.

In particular, we believe it is important:

- For children and young people, to exercise their right to participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives;
- For the Post-2015 process itself, that can largely benefit from children and young people's input not only for information gathering, but also in terms of greater legitimacy of the things we say when we speak on behalf of children and young people in institutional as well as civil society venues.

Moreover, the added value of participation in Post-2015 activities is that they can serve as a basis for further discussion on sustainable child and youth participation.



3 ABOUT THE MY WORLD SURVEY

The *My World Survey* is a global survey set up by the United Nations to **ask people** to choose their priorities for a better world.

Children and young people can vote for the changes that would make the most difference to their world, selecting 6 priorities from the list provided by the survey.

The **objectives** of the *My World Survey* activities are the following:

- Collect the demands and concerns of children and young people by asking them what they want to have tackled in the Post-2015 Agenda.

- Use the results of the survey at the national level in advocacy and programme activities as well as with relevant stakeholders.
- Use child-friendly reports and professional video footages from these activities for further engagement in Post-2015 process.
- Empower children and young people through experience as peer leaders and through skills and knowledge development

Link to access the My World Survey

The survey is available at: <http://www.myworld2015.org/>

Organisations can register as an outreach partner of *My World* for access to information guides, communications material and other useful resources to help people fill in the survey. Registrations can be submitted at: <http://partner.myworld2015.org/>

For example, SOS Children's Villages is registered as a partner. SOS Children's Villages' co-workers should use an SOS-specific link to fill out the survey, because the votes sent from such link are counted for SOS Children's Villages as a contributor: <http://www.myworld2015.org/?partner=SOSp2015>

MYO Partner System

Welcome to the MyWorld Partners Site

This site has been designed to facilitate your organization's engagement in the MY World survey by giving you access to information guides, communications material and the option to register as an outreach partner of MY World.

Your support is critical in reaching out directly into communities and drawing the digitally disconnected, illiterate and poorest communities into the global debate.

Register your organization as an outreach partner of MY World for access to:

- A unique partner identification code which will allow you to track the MY World survey votes delivered by your organization/network
- Printable MY World offline ballot cards and other communications material
- A central database to directly submit the MY World results collected offline
- A formatted spreadsheet to collect MY World offline survey results

We look forward to joining forces with you to engage citizens around the world in the post-2015 debate!

[Submit Registration Request](#) [HOW TO GUIDES](#)

MYO | MY WORLD. THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL SURVEY FOR A BETTER WORLD.

people from countries have voted. Now it's your turn...

MARK A DIFFERENCE

Vote for the changes that would make the most difference to your world

The United Nations and partners want to hear from YOU! MY World is a global survey asking people to choose their priorities for a better world. Results will be shared with world leaders in setting the next global development agenda. To make a difference, you must choose your priorities.

Which of these are most important for you and your family? Choose 6

Reliable energy at home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Action taken on climate change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Phone and internet access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Political freedoms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
An honest and responsive government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Affordable and nutritious food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A good education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support for people who can't work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

My Priorities

0/6 Select 6 more



4 SETTING UP CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

What kind of consultations do you want to organise?

There are two possible forms of consultations:

1. **Peer consultations:** consultations are led by children and young people
2. **Consultations with appointed person(s):** consultations are led by adults

The choice of the most suitable form of consultation rests on context-related resources and feasibility, although peer consultations are highly recommendable.

1. Peer consultations

Peer consultations are run by previously recruited and trained children and young people. Benefits:

- Children and young people are empowered with new skills (presentation, leadership and similar skills) and are more self-confident.

2. Consultations with appointed person(s)

The appointed person(s) must have the knowledge and information on Post-2015 and on how to run the *My World* consultations. Knowledge and skills on working with children and young people are required.

Benefits:

- Peer consultations help participating children and young people to better open up and share their concerns and issues.
- Youth participation is ensured from the planning stage.
- The group can build confidence and serve as a stable group to involve in other activities.
- Staff learns about children and youth's priorities and can use this knowledge for other activities, planning or information sharing.
- Time-efficient: the adult(s) takes full responsibility of coordination and implementation.

Size of the groups

The total number of people participating in the consultations depends on what is feasible in any given context. For example, in Albania 80 children were involved (some from SOS Children's Villages and some from public residential

institutions), while in Uruguay participants were 30 in total.

The **recommended size for each group** engaging in consultations is:

- 12-14 children (for those aged 14-18)
- 10 children (for those aged 10-13)



4a TRAINING PEER LEADERS

Preparation for peer consultations

Before running consultations with children and young people, you need to identify, select, inform, and prepare children and young people as peer leaders.

Informative and preparatory sessions with them should be provided in advance.

Please consider that participants are volunteers. Check their availability and also their existing commitments (e.g. school, part-time work, etc.) before making plans for their involvement in any activity.

Important: **Participation is not just about the most active and talented.** The opportunity to participate should be given to all children and young people, meaning that everyone should be encouraged to participate.

Important: The atmosphere and the relations with you and among children and the young people should be **relaxed, child-friendly and trustful**.

Identification and orientation

You need to identify children and young people (max. 6, aged 13+) that are willing to be involved in this process.

Suggested to do list:

- Share information about this opportunity with colleagues (a short informative letter can be prepared)
- Share information with children and young people who were already involved in some other activities previously, but don't limit

the selection to the most active children and young people, as the goal is to give opportunities and chances to everyone.

- Organize a child-friendly session with all the interested children and young people to provide them with general information about the *My World Survey*.
- The session should be no longer than 1.5 hours.
- Plan an orientation session with interested and selected children and young people.

Agenda of sessions with children and young people as peer leaders

Before running consultations with children and young people as peer leaders, you need to plan the activities together with them. Their involvement will be beneficial not only in terms of ownership, but also because it gives participants a preliminary idea on how to properly run the consultations with them.

Here follows our suggestion for the agenda of sessions with children and young people as peer leaders

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TOOLS ¹
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE RECEIVE INFORMATION ON POST-2015 AND MY WORLD SURVEY Duration: 90 minutes Leave time for energizers, interruptions or different dynamics which develop during the course of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start the session with welcoming participants and doing an energizer with them (10 min) Present the goal of the meeting clearly Do the imaginary exercise (see tools) and give short explanation Short power point presentation After the presentation: small quiz with children or young people to “test” what they have learnt. Divide them in groups and pose different questions. You can create and adapt some questions for fun. Generally, young people really enjoy this kind of activities, especially if a symbolic gift is given to the ‘winners’ at the end. Typical questions can be: How many are the MDGs in total? Why MDGs are important? Why to contribute to the post-2015 debate? Provide a short information on the <i>My World Survey</i> and show how it looks like opening the webpage Give short information to children and young people on what they are supposed to do in the consultation Give children and young people confirmation that they can be involved to run the consultation 	<p>Imaginary exercise:</p>  <p>Imaginary exercise.JPG</p> <p>Printed MDGs or in a flipchart to show them visually too.</p> <p>Suggested power point presentation (it can be adapted).</p>  <p>Millennium Development Goals -F</p> <p>Other documents that can be shared with children:</p>  <p>Development Agenda Publication. L</p>
SESSION 1 Duration: 2 hours Leave time for energizers, interruptions or different dynamics which develop during the course of the activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show the <i>My World Survey</i> to peer leaders. Explain that it is an online adult platform and that a child-friendly version providing more information is available. Share the child-friendly questionnaires (in your own language) and also the questions to be asked during the consultation. 	

¹ All tools can be found in the Annex to this document as well as at the hyperlink embedded in the icons.

Consider how peer leaders might feel about leading sessions with children they already know.

Consider and ask them about the support they might need.

- Present to participants the experience of consultations in Uruguay combining the video with a small presentation.

Link to the video of consultations in Uruguay:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1CgeRfcZG4>

- Clarify with participants that the consultation process is about: having participating children and young people filling in the MY world survey by choosing their 6 most important priorities.
- Before they fill in the survey, small group discussion should take place on the most important topics.
- Copies of the child-friendly questionnaires need to be filled in and also online. In case not feasible during the consultation session, peer leaders take the printed and filled copies and enter the data online themselves.
- After that, have planning discussions with the peer leaders, to make them reflect in group. This is a very interesting exercise for them. You can show them how the planning is done.
- Try to give some tasks to children and young people – they like when they are given responsibility. Ask them for example:
 - Where can we run the consultations? In which care settings?
 - What exercises / games can we use with children? Do you know any good ones?
 - What should we be pay special attention to?
 - What materials do we need for the consultation?
 - What are the skills that you will need?
 - Would you like to have a peer leader role?
 - What can you prepare before the consultations start? (e.g. some can translate the questions; some other can prepare the room or ask other children to participate)
- Prepare the agenda of the consultation with peer leaders and a trial session among them.
- Appoint two/three peer leaders for each consultation and agree on the steps to do

Child-friendly version of the questionnaire of the *My World Survey*.



Child friendly version of My World SOS.doc





Questions.docx



5 RUNNING THE MY WORLD CONSULTATIONS

1. CONSULTATIONS LED BY PEER LEADERS

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TOOLS
SESSION 1		
<p>Duration: 3 hours</p> <p>Plan a break and free time for a snack or a drink.</p> <p>Please note: you can always adapt the games and the exercises in the way that is most suitable to your context.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation game: Human Bingo (see tools) or any other interesting exercise • Presentation of the peer leaders and their role (i.e. what they will do) • All the participants and the peer leaders set the ground rules of the session (rights and duties) - write them on a flipchart • Small introduction on the post-2015 process: peer leaders conduct the imaginary exercise and use photo illustration to help visualize the story. • Presentation of goals. Peer leaders explain that they want their peers to fill in a survey about what matters the most to children and young people for the future: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “In 2000, world’s governments established the MDGs to have a common plan to eradicate poverty and make a better world.” ○ “There is a lot to do still, and that is why governments have to decide what to do in the next years to solve the remaining problems and improve the life of people and children like you. We all can help them decide” ○ “SOS Children’s Villages is involved, together with many other organizations and people, to make sure that these efforts are done and all the voices are heard.” 	<p>Human bingo game: internet link</p> <p>Imaginary exercise:</p>  <p>Imaginery exercise.JPG</p> <p>Power point with photos for the imaginary story:</p>  <p>Photo illustration of the imagery exercis</p>

- “We believe that we have the power to change things and make it a better world to live and grow up. We want to listen to you and bring all the issues to the attention of governments, including our government. For this, we need to record our activities to have a video that shows our key messages.”
- “This activity is about thinking on the kind of world children and young people want to live in and about letting governments know their priorities for the next 15 years.”



Questions.docx

- A child-friendly version of the questionnaire is distributed, to let children have a look (not to fill it in yet)
- Division of children in groups (max 5 per group) to discuss their **issues**. Each peer leader facilitates one group using the questions (during this activity, children and young people can refer to the issues mentioned in the survey)
- Presentation of the results by participating children and young people (important: not by peer leaders)
- Participants choose their 6 priorities on the printed child-friendly version of the questionnaire
- Participants fill in the questionnaires online (if not possible, then peer leaders collect all the questionnaires and fill in the data on their behalf)
- Finger-painting exercise. At the end, hang white paper sheets on the wall and let children colour their hands with **finger-painting colours**. Children will draw on paper with their hands the change they want in the world. This has proved to be good exercise for children.

During this activity, children and young people can refer to the **issues mentioned in the My World survey**

2. CONSULTATIONS LED BY STAFF / APPOINTED PERSON

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TOOLS
SESSION 1		
Duration: 2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation activity. Let children and young people write their name on a badge. Let them also draw something on it that represents them. 	Printed cards of the survey – color print
Plan a break and free time for a snack or a drink.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction about the post-2015 process: see description of the activity as explained in the previous table for consultations led by peer leaders. 	
Please note: you can always adapt the games and the exercises in the way that is most suitable to your context.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division of children in groups and group discussion using the key questions as described in the previous table for consultations led by peer leaders. • Distribute the printed cards of the child-friendly version of the <i>My World</i> questionnaire with a square next to each issue of the same colour of the one that appears in the survey. • While showing the cards with the different issues and the related colour, explain that the UN developed a survey to gather all the possible votes and opinions to see what is most important to people. Six options should be selected. The cards are to familiarize the children with the survey, so that they can start thinking about what issues they will vote. • Once this activity is done for 10-15 minutes in groups, they can vote in the computer (if not possible, they can vote on print-outs and a person in charge will copy their vote online). • Give certificates of participation to all children and young people with their names and thank them. 	



6 RULES FOR VIDEO AND PRIVACY PROTECTION

ABOUT THE VIDEO

A short edited video summarising activities, discussions and results related to the *My World Survey* can be prepared.


- The video must be recorded by a professional cameraman while consultations are run. The cameraman must be aware that he is filming children and be discrete: they should not get distracted by the camera, nor put in artificial settings (e.g. stages or under special lights).
- The required video format is 30 frames per minute. The video must be short (3 to 5 minutes max).

- We recommend English subtitles, to support international dissemination at large scale.
- Images must never harm the privacy and dignity of children. SOS manual at [this link](#).
- Make sure that children and young people know about the video in advance. Make also sure that they dress adequately (for example, discourage T-shirts with ambiguous slogans).

PRIVACY PROTECTION

Before starting shooting the video, children, young people and their guardians must sign a consent form for the use of image, voice and

name of the participants to the consultations. Here follows an example of such kind of form:



SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES
INTERNATIONAL

Subject: Consent for use of image, voice and name

I, the undersigned, herewith grant SOS Children's Villages International the right to use my image, voice and name featured in and depicted on articles, photographs and audio material produced during the consultations on the My World Survey, in all forms and media for all purposes (particularly promotion and reporting) throughout the world.

This consent covers the entire rights of utilisation to said articles, photographs and audio material by SOS Children's Villages International and all affiliated associations. I hereby waive the right to any financial claims.

I have read and understood this consent. I have the legal right to agree to the terms and conditions of this consent.

Place, Date

[please write your name in printed letters]

[please sign]

■ **What I would recommend for the participation of children and young people in SOS?**

- Plan it and do it as it is very important for us!
- We are willing to learn and getting involved!
- Orient us and make it easy for us!

7 FOLLOW-UP

AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

- Present the results of the consultations to internal (e.g. co-workers) and external stakeholders (e.g. ministers, etc.).
- If possible, share results on SOS website, Facebook and Twitter pages. Do not forget to respect the privacy of children while doing that.
- Use the video to show the results in events at your NA-level
- Plan an event with the participating children to show them the video and also to explain how the results are used.
- Have a consultative session with peer leaders and/or children involved in the *My World Survey* activities, in order to reflect on the consultations and to assess how interesting and well-organised they were.
- Plan follow-up according to participants' feedback
- Thank the peer leaders. Organise a small event to celebrate their success and give them a certificate with their name and the role they carried out.

AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL:

- The video and a short report will be shared with the International Office (where applicable), as they will be used in events related to the post-2015 process taking place at the international-level.



Migena, a young person from SOS Children's Villages Albania, participating in the side-event to the Open Working Group on Post 2015 Development Goals "A World without Violence against Children" (New York UN Headquarters, February 2014)

ANNEX

IMAGINERY EXERCISE

Suggested Visioning Script

Welcome to the year 2000. I want you to imagine that we are now in the year 2000, at the start of the new millennium. Listen to the clock striking midnight.

How old were you in the year 2000? What do you remember about your life?

The world probably looked quite different back then - there were no smart phones and Facebook was yet to be invented! The twin towers in New York were still standing. It was the international year for the culture of peace. In the year 2000 there was no 'global financial crisis'. In Sydney they hosted the Olympics, whilst in India the country's one billionth person was born.

But there were also growing concerns about some big challenges facing the world, including the number of people living in poverty.

Now just for a minute I want you to imagine that you are someone else entirely. You are your country's Head of State. It's a new millennium and the responsibility to carry your country and the world into a new era is sitting on your shoulders.

You are on your way to a meeting with other world leaders in New York - think about getting on the plane. What was the journey like? What did you think about?

Imagine landing at an airport in New York, as you land you can see the statue of liberty and the skyscrapers of the city.

And now imagine you are at the front gates of the United Nations. Look at that huge front gate and the flags of countries from across the globe. Step through that gate. Maybe you are meeting other heads of state, shaking hands with them and walking into the building to begin negotiations.

Think about what it is that you want to talk about in that meeting. What kind of decisions might you need to make?

POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Part I

Development Agenda

Child and youth participation

MDG-s story

- In September of 2000, 189 head of states/governments from around the world met together in New York to agree in a vision of the development of the world
- They formulated the UN Millennium Declaration and the 8 Millennium Development Goals (valid until 2015)
- Millennium Development Goals were signed and accepted by 189 Member States of United Nations for implementation
- Each goal has targets and dates for achieving them

The 8 Millennium Development Goals

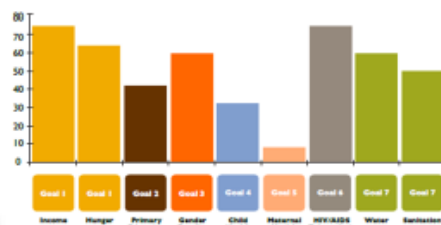
-  **Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than \$1 a day.
-  **Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education**
By 2015, ensure a full course of primary schooling for all boys and girls everywhere
-  **Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women**
By 2015 ensure a full course of primary schooling for all boys and girls everywhere
-  **Goal 4: Reduce child mortality**
By 2015, reduce by two-thirds the number of children dying under the age of five.
-  **Goal 5: Improve maternal health**
By 2015, reduce by 3/4 the number of women dying from complications of pregnancy and childbirth.
-  **Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases**
By 2015, halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.
-  **Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**
Reverse the loss of environmental resources.
-  **Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development**
Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.

Why MDG-s are important?

- They bring a vision for development of the whole world
- They unite the world around a common goal
- They are few and specific
- They made the world think about human being and not only economic growth

Were the MDG-s achieved?

- Only three of them



Weaknesses?

- When they were created, they didn't consult much with NGO-s
- They did not cover inequality, violence and other important issues
- Children and young people were not much contributing

Part II

Millennium Development Goals/MDG-s

Every few years, the members states of United Nations/governments assess the progress in the countries and share with UN

Now the discussion is:

- What will happen after 2015?
- Will we have new goals?
- What should be changed?

What happens now?

THE DEBATE IS NOW....

- There is a big discussion happening for the development agenda (what happens after 2015) by the UN, NGO-s. etc
- Organizations are interested to share their issues, problems etc

More concretely....

- MDG-s talk about development and the main topics that are discussed now by all are about:

- EDUCATION
- HEALTH
- EMPLOYMENT
- INEQUALITY
- PROTECTION

These are all the topics that affect children and young people and are important to us

Structure

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK



The General Assembly is the main body of the United Nations. Comprising all 193 Member States of the UN

There is a group to advise and prepare reports on Post 2015 called the High level panel Group

- Secretary General – Ban Ki Moon
- 27 members

How SOS Cv is involved in all this?

- We want that the issues of children and young people are known and presented in this debate about MDG-s
- There is an office in New York that actively participates in the post 2015 process/development agenda
- There is a project on development agenda with a focus also on child and youth participation

Why and How can children participate?

- We know better than anybody else what are the most important issues in your life
- In the future we will be adults and our life will be influenced by the agenda that is being set up now
- We also have good ideas of how to make those things better, particularly about the issues concerning yourself

How can we participate?

Represent the voices of children and youth in the global conversation and activities

Get information and support peers to know more about this process

Part III

What do you benefit in case you participate?

- You certainly can benefit experience, information, skills...
- It is an opportunity to be heard and raise our topics
- Cooperating with others (peers, other organizations, other countries)
- We discover and learn more more...when we implement the activities!!

Opportunities for children and young people

- The world we want platform: There is a section for children and young people
- www.worldwewant2015.org/youth
- My World Survey
- Major Child and Youth Group www.childrenyouth.org
- High level panel youth
- Participation in online consultation and provision of input in other activities that will come up

Let's start with my World Survey....

- <http://www.myworld2015.org/?partner=SOSp2015&lang=es>
- It is an online survey when everybody is asked to give his opinion and select 6 priorities
- It is an opportunity also for young people and children to participate
- It is easy to do and fill it in

DEVELOPMENT AGENDA PUBLICATION

1)



SOS CHILDREN'S
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HAVE YOUR SAY ON DEVELOPMENT!

IT IS YOUR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE!!

Updates—Number 1



ARE YOU A CHILD OR A YOUNG PERSON THAT WANTS TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE?

This paper will give you the information on how to participate in the Development Debate

This is the first number of updates and you will get more information further on

If you are interested to take part, contact us at: Almandina.Guma@sos-kd.org

What is the development debate about?

Back in the year 2000, countries around the world became concerned with the poverty and its consequences. With these concerns in mind, the Member States of the United Nations (governments of all nations) agreed on eight goals that are known as the Millennium Development Goals to take action and work together to provide access to education, economic opportunities, food and health care to children, women and men.

Member States/Governments promised to work together to eliminate hunger and reduce poverty. The targets set out in the Millennium Development Goals have a deadline in 2015, Meaning less than two years away!!

There are 8 goals at the moment:

1. *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger*
2. *Achieve universal primary education*
3. *Promote gender equality and empower women*
4. *Reduce child mortality*
5. *Improve maternal health*
6. *Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases*
7. *Ensure environmental sustainability*
8. *Develop a global partnership for development*

Every few years, the member states of the United Nations meet to assess the progress made to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. It was in one of these meetings, in 2010 that the discussion about what would happen after 2015!!!

! Remember that the Millennium Development Goals are for everyone and everybody!!

A loving home for every child



WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

Member States have made important progress to achieve the millennium development goals, but unfortunately they will not be achieved by 2015. There are still many things to do.

The United Nations and its member states have started a debate process to identify how to go ahead for a better world.

The topics that are discussed now are: **Education, Inequality, Health, Employment, Protection.**

WHY SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES IS INVOLVED?

As you know SOS Children's Villages provides support to children and young people at without parental care or at risk of losing parental care. In many cases it becomes their home.

SOS Children's Villages would like that children and young people in this situation are reflected in this debate, that their issues are known and presented to high level stakeholders. There is an office of SOS Children's Villages in New York that actively participates in the process. We attend meetings, contact with relevant dutybearers and make sure that when important decisions are made children's and young people voices are taken into account.

Children and youth should be at the center of the process leading to the post 2015 development agenda....

Why can you participate?

- ⇒ You know better than anybody else what are the most important issues that affect your life.
- ⇒ In the future you will be an adult and your life will be affected by the agenda that is being set up now. You have a chance to build your future by taken part in this process.
- ⇒ You also have good ideas of how to make those things better, particularly about the issues concerning yourself

How can you participate?

- ⇒ Represent the voices of other children and youth in the global conversation and any interaction
- ⇒ Put pressures on stakeholders with your vision of the future .
- ⇒ Get information and support your peers to know more about this process.



How can you take part at international level?

1. The world we want platform:

It is a platform created by the United Nations and civil society to collect people's voices in the process of building a global agenda for sustainable development. This is the major online platform that gives you the opportunity to express your opinion and your ideas. You can contribute by sharing your opinions, ideas in the youth and child section. The information gathered is collected and thematic papers are issued and used as inputs to the final development agenda.

How can you participate?

- ⇒ If you are 8-18 years old, go to <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/children>
- ⇒ If you are older than 18 -30 go to <http://www.worldwewant2015.org/youth>
- ⇒ Respond honestly to the questions and give your opinion
- ⇒ You need to respond to all the questions in ENGLISH, but you can ask the support of some adults around you!

2. Major Child and Youth Group:

is a group of hundreds of young people that participate in the group in an individual basis but also representing their organizations. All its members are 30 years old or younger.

The mission of this group is to advocate for the inclusion of children and young people in the decision making processes, especially at the UN. They develop common messages and statements on different topics:

employment, education, health, sustainable development and coordinate through a Google group to advocate all around the world in different events and processes.

Also, there is different working groups, so you can participate only as much as you want and in the topics you want. Their webpage is: <http://www.childrenyouth.org/>

How can you participate?

- ⇒ You can join at <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?menu=98>
- ⇒ The group works only online so you can take part in the conversations from whenever you are!
- ⇒ If you are interested on these groups, contact us and we will provide more information to you through a virtual training!!



**SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
INTERNATIONAL**

2. My world survey: This is a United Nations online survey for all the people, including children and young people. You can vote for the changes that would make the most difference to your world. It is very simple you can either fill it online or in a printed version. You can participate yourself but also support other children and young people from care to participate.

How can you participate?

To fill the survey online yourself click at:

<http://www.myworld2013.org/?partner=SOSsp2013&lang=es>

But, you can fill this in with children and young people aged from different forms of care (SOS Children's Villages and not only)

- ⇒ Organize informative session with children to inform them on *why* and *how* to participate
- ⇒ Explain to them the survey by translating the child friendly version
- ⇒ Seat with children and young people and explain them how to fill in the online survey. This will also support them to get more skills on how to use the computer

How?

You would need 1-2 laptop with connection available, pens, paper, copies of the child friendly survey:

You can always ask the support of National Staff to support you on this!

If you are interested to support this, contact us!!

MY WORLD SURVEY – CHILD FRIENDLY VERSION

1. Everyone should have power at their home (for example, for lights and cooking).
2. People who can't have a job – for example because they might be too old or sick or can't find a job – should get some help from the government or their community
3. Everyone who is old enough should be able to vote, and people should be allowed to say what they think without worrying about something bad happening to them
4. Everyone should be safe from crimes and also from violence.
5. Everyone should have food that is good and not too expensive.
6. The forests, rivers and oceans should be safe from harm.
7. Women and girls should be treated the same as men and boys. There should be roads and transportation so everyone can travel (for example, buses).
8. We should do more to protect the earth from climate change which is where the environment changes because of the things people do it (for example, pollution)
9. Everyone should be able to use phones and the internet.
10. Healthcare should be better (for example, health centers, doctors and nurses)
11. Everyone should be treated the same and nobody should be treated badly.
12. Everyone should be able to go to school and university to get a good education
13. Governments should be honest and meet the needs of the people
14. Everyone should have clean water and a safe place to go to the bathroom (for example, a toilet or latrine)

A loving home for every child

CHILD-FRIENDLY VERSION OF MY WORLD

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We should do more to protect the earth from climate change which is where the environment changes because of the things people do it (for example, pollution)
There should be roads and transportation so everyone can travel (for example, buses).
There should be better jobs for people.
Everyone should have power at their home (for example, for lights and cooking).

QUESTIONS.DOC

What are the good things in your life? What makes you happy?
What makes your life difficult?
What is good about the society you live (not only about the village etc)? In general
What is like the World You Want?
What are the most important things for you?
What should change about:
Education
Inequality
Health
Protection from violence
Others
What would you like to say to the prime minister or president (use name) about youth issues or the issues of children like you?
!!Children can also paint and use drawings accordingly

HUMAN BINGO GAMES

Link: <http://www.wikihow.com/Play-Human-Bingo>