Role of Business Groups in Policy Coherence Action Agenda
Lessons from Public-Private Dialogue in Developing Countries

Policy Coherence for Development in a Post-2015 Era

Agenda

• Organizing the voice of business sector in international contexts
• Zoom on Post-2015 and SDGs: Global Business Alliance
• Public-Private Dialogue
• Lessons learned and recommendations
Organizing the business voice and influencing public policy

- Shift in perception of role of private sector in the context of development and sustainability
- Recognition in official UN language (RIO+20, post-2015)
- First official seat at intergovernmental process: UN Committee on World Food Security
- Organized processes/official representation: B20, HLPE
- Ongoing challenges: having an official seat, educating business, funding advocacy

Organizing the business voice

UN Major Groups
Organizing the business voice - Yara

World Economic Forum

WBCSD

UN Major Groups

UN Global Compact: Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda

Report submitted to High Level Panel
Klaus Leisinger also serves as special advisor

Business in post-2015 and SDGs (to date)

High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons: 2 business representatives
- Betty Maina, Kenya Manufacturers’ Association
- Paul Polman, Unilever

Sustainable Development Solutions Network
Thematic Group on Redefining the Role of Business for Sustainable Development and cross cutting through 11 groups
- Klaus M. Leisinger, Chairman Novartis Foundation
- Peter Bakker, WBCSD
Global Business Alliance

“Business of all sizes around the world grow and flourish in a responsible and sustainable manner. It is these businesses, working with society, that will create the jobs and livelihoods, provide necessary technical resources to create and deploy new solutions to the sustainable development challenges the international community is facing today.”

Position papers:
- Food Security and Nutrition / Sustainable Agriculture
- Transport
- Water – An Imperative for Development

Economic development
Good governance
Smart regulation
Rule of law
Good national institutions
Environmental sustainability
Entrepreneurship
Job creation
New enterprises
Investment for innovation and research
Corporate principles
Investment in education
Basic infrastructure, energy, ICT
Food and nutrition security
Women’s empowerment
New models for inclusive business

Global Business Alliance

We are a diverse group across sectors and nations, which offers a broad range of approaches, expertise and perspectives to strengthen and inform the United Nations deliberations at every step of the way.
Post-2015 and SDGs process

How will business and which business group will be most successful at influencing each of these processes?

- High Level Political Forum
- Open Working group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG)
- Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing Strategy

**UN Business & Industry Major Group:** International Chamber of Commerce Focal Point

Example from IFA

Why are the SDGs important for the fertilizer industry?

- Universal goals (all countries) all our membership (84 countries)
- Poverty eradication through sustainable development
  - Opportunity to demonstrate the role of fertilizers in food security
  - Risk to demonstrate how industry mitigates environmental impact
- Focus on accountability
  - Nutrient indicators recommended by many reports
How the fertilizer industry works through the process

- 2013 position paper
  - Promotion of Zero Hunger Challenge
  - Call for 2 goals: eradicating hunger and malnutrition, promoting sustainable agricultural practices
  - Focus on outreach to farmers and extension services
- 2014 advocacy efforts
  - On our own: Focus on nutrient targets
  - Through Global Business Alliance: Inclusive growth, transformative partnerships

Public – Private Dialogue

- **Egypt**: Federation of Economic Development Associations worked on law to help the 5 million street vendors get licenses
- **Jordan**: more than 1800 SMEs registered after an amendment to companies low to reduce capital requirements for LLCs.
- **Afghanistan**: new banking laws, improved electricity supply and infrastructure to strengthen the competitiveness of the carpet industry
Policy Coherence for Food Security

- No distinction developing/developed
- Agricultural policies can only be done nationally
- Impact of trade cannot be overlooked
- Why deprive Africa of technology and knowledge because of OECD world and activist ideologies
- Agricultural public spending has to increase
- Smart subsidies can kickstart food security
- Massive investment will not take place in unstable countries

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

1. Define legitimate and broad representation
   - All sizes, geographies, vetting processes
2. Establish an official coordination mechanism with legitimate and broad representation
   - Private Sector Mechanism at CFS
   - Business & Industry Major group
3. Reduce number of parallel processes and centralize thematic responsibilities
4. Allowing business voice in intergovernmental processes (business reps in government delegations)