

14th session of CEPA: Contribution to the “Call for Inputs”

Contributor: International Eurasia Press Fund (IEPF)

Subject: Building trust in government in the pursuit of sustainable development goals, what will it take?

This is a very important year for the United Nations in determining the Post 2015 – Sustainable Development Goals. The UN has closely worked with member states and held consultations for determining the core of a post-2015 agenda including the suggested sustainable development goals.

In this regard, the Azerbaijani people also were given a chance to make their voices heard for contributing to reach a consensus on what is needed to move towards a common sustainable future. These priority areas included: economic diversification, and inclusive development, better infrastructure in regions and rural areas, improving the quality of health care and access to medical services, improving opportunities for youth, gender equality and improving women’s opportunities, improving self-confidence of IDPs, good governance and effective institutions, environmental sustainability and effective migration management. Towards contributing to these goals, the Azerbaijani Government has prepared “Azerbaijan 2020: vision to the future” development concept and this is planned to be implemented through state programs until the target year of 2020. The above mentioned priorities are relevant to the development concept priorities.

Beside this, the government has improved its electronic public services capacity through the creation of the ASAN service facility which is a new innovative model of public service delivery, where many services from various governmental departments and private companies are brought in a single administrative building. Moreover e-government policy has been improved to give better public services online.

Celebrating its 23 years existence in Azerbaijan, International Eurasia Press Fund (IEPF) has implemented several projects in the highlighted priorities areas. Also IPEF played a role in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and did its best in order to contribute towards the advancement of civil society

At IPEF we think that the Post 2015 Agenda should not just emphasize the economic development issues but it should highlight the importance of strengthening civil society and humanitarian issues. Moreover environmental sustainability issues should be mentioned with bold letters.

Ongoing conflicts and Crises may cause the biggest threat to the post 2015 sustainable development goals. We think that the Global Development Agenda should emphasize this important issue and has to expand efforts in order to achieve peaceful solutions to all conflicts.

So, a special goal on sustained peace and refugee community development should appear in post 2015 global agenda in order to encourage governments to maintain their current commitments.

The IEPF also believes that the new global development agenda should call on governments to improve their cooperation opportunities, should stimulate more investment in human capital, and contribute to peace and justice in the world.

On behalf of the IPEF, I ask all stakeholders to keep their commitments in the shaping the world we want and I wish to see more sustainable development goals achieved after 15 years.