



Commonwealth Association of Planners

CHOGM 2015

CIVIL SOCIETY STATEMENT ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN THE PERIOD 2015 – 2030

QUESTIONNAIRE TO COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION OF PLANNERS (CAP) MEMBERS AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS

NAME (Optional) _____

COUNTRY _____

ORGANISATION _____

PLEASE REPLY BY 2 SEPTEMBER 2015

Please use the spaces provided but if you wish to submit longer comments then feel free to attach additional pages

INTRODUCTION

We apologise for the short time allowed for responding to this questionnaire but CAP has been asked at short notice to co-ordinate the drafting of a Civil Society Statement on the SDG's for CHOGM in Malta this year. It is important that we obtain grassroots input for this statement even if the time available only allows for an indicative response rather than a fully representative view.

What we are asking you to do in this short questionnaire is to imagine that you have just 5 minutes with your Head of State and the issue of the SDGs is raised. What messages do you / your organisation want to give to your Head of State in order to help you / your organisation play a positive and full role in delivering on the SDGs over the next 15 years?

Please give as full an answer to each set of issues as you can and please feel free to be as provocative as you choose. The responses will be distilled into a set of non – specific issues with no mention of individual names or places.

Question 1: Awareness

How familiar are you / your organisation with the SDGs and targets? Did you /your organisation play any role in the debates which occurred in 2013 and 2014 prior to the adoption of the draft SDG’s at the UN General Assembly in September last year?

(See CAP website www.commonwealth-planners.org for the full list of SDG goals and targets)

Question 2 : Context

What will the SDGs and targets mean to you / your organisation in your work in your country over the next 15 years? Which SDG’s are of particular importance or relevance in your context both now and over the next 15 years and why?

Question 3 : Delivery

Next month, your Government will sign its commitment to delivering on the SDGs and the targets by 2030. We have 15 years to deliver on a comprehensive set of goals and targets. What role do you / your organisation expect to play in the delivery process? What strategies do you / your organisation have in place to play a role? What support do you / your organisation need in order to play a role in delivering the SDGs over the next 15 years? Do you think that you / your organisation will have access to the resources, including funding, necessary to play a role in delivering the SDGs within the next 15 years? How important are partnerships in this process, including those between government and civil society, between

civil society groups, within regions through regional associations or through other forms of partnership?

Question 4 : Implementation

Over the past 10 years, many documents have been produced which set out key guiding principles which aim to assist the UN member states, Commonwealth countries and civil society in delivering a sustainable future. These include the Reinventing Planning paper which set out the principles for New Urban Planning in 2006, the commencement of the State of the Commonwealth Cities programme in 2009, the Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Development from CHOGM in 2013, the UN-Habitat : International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning approved at Governing Council April 2015 and the CLGF Gaborone Declaration from earlier this year. Whilst these documents were not necessarily prepared to address the SDGs, they do offer guidance as to how a sustainable future can be planned for. (These documents can be accessed on the CAP website www.commonwealth-planners.org should you wish to read them)

In your opinion how well placed are you / your organisation, government and civil society generally in your country to implement programmes to deliver the SDGs by 2030? What implementation strategies are in place to start addressing this challenge after September? Are you familiar with the principles which the documents highlighted above set out and if so, do you think they offer assistance to government and civil society in implementing the SDGs? Are there any impediments to the implementation of the SDGs in your context and if so, what are they? What needs to be done if we are to be successful in reaching the targets by 2030?

Question 5 : Call to Heads of State

What three or four key messages would you / your organisation like to see civil society delivering to Heads of State at CHOGM later this year regarding the post – 2015 development agenda? Maybe something along the lines of

This is what we think we need to do

This is what we can do

This is how we can do it

This is what we need from you if we are to play a role

PLEASE REPLY BY 2 SEPTEMBER TO Annette O'Donnell

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME