How global SDGs can be put into action

This project will examine and suggest essential "means of implementation (MOI)" so that global SDGs can be put into action through active engagement with various stakeholders and partners.

http://www.iges.or.jp/en/sdgs/
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Objectives
Anticipating an upcoming new Post-2015 development agenda, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) is embarking on a new cross-area collaborative project on the future sustainable development goals (SDGs), “Aspiration to Action”. The point of departure for the project is the well-known ‘implementation gap’. Many treaties and agreements exist on environment and development on paper. Unfortunately, most of them have failed to register notable results on the ground. Therefore, this IGES Flagship project on the SDGs focuses on “means of implementation (MOI)”. In so doing, it will examine both the barriers and enablers for the successful implementation of development goals and targets.

Given the fact that the international community has not yet agreed on a package of goals (and is not expected to do so before the end of 2015) the political process to decide on a new development agenda and the SDGs may surprise or even fail to deliver any concrete outputs. Most likely, the negotiation process ahead will deliver a framework containing a number of goals and targets to guide sustainable development. In this regard, IGES aims to work with its partners and networks to contribute to a post-2015 development agenda that is not merely aspirational but also actionable.

Research Focus
The key is a well-conceived and coherent approach to identifying essential MOI, including barriers and potential enablers for implementation. IGES will contribute by examining aspects of MOI for water, energy, forests, cities, sustainable consumption and production, and education. The input will be provided through a series of discussion papers on these specific goal areas, as well as cross-cutting contributions on financing for development, complemented by a synthesis paper on MOI. Findings from this research project will also be grounded in active engagement with stakeholders and partners.

Redefining the notion of “means of implementation (MOI)”, going beyond the conventional understanding of finance, technology and capacity building, and suggesting that more emphasis should be placed on various institutional aspects, such as capacity building and data collection.

Going beyond the positive momentum of the water and sanitation targets of the MDGs, regarding water security as a key enabler of other goals such as health, energy and food, and investments in water security have multiple sustainability dividends.

Examining cases on energy access and renewable energy, and suggesting key elements of MOI in relation to a future energy goal.

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For more information on IGES’s research on SDGs, see: http://www.iges.or.jp/en/sdgs/