

## RESOLUTION

adopted at the Climate Alliance General Assembly  
held in Dresden, Germany on 23 April 2015



# THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA – FROM VISIONS TO MEASURES AND SOLUTIONS

Submitted by Climate Alliance, Climate Alliance Austria, Climate Alliance  
Luxembourg / ASTM and Reflex Environmental Association / Climate  
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## BACKGROUND

In the year 2000, the heads of state and government of 189 countries agreed the UN Millennium Declaration, which outlines the challenges of the new millennium. The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) derived from this subsequently became the most important tool for combating global poverty – and countless municipalities also agreed to these within the scope of the Declaration of the World Assembly of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). Global challenges such as climate change and the ever-greater exploitation of natural resources and associated destruction of the livelihoods of millions of people exacerbate social inequality and at the same time hinder attainment of the MDGs. At the Rio+20 conference in 2012, the development of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) meeting the challenges of combating poverty, environmental protection, and sustainable consumption and production was agreed.

Climate Alliance's work is based on the acknowledgement that the global overuse of natural resources is having a dramatic impact on the environment and leading to social problems. Only if the consumption of resources is reduced will we succeed in creating the conditions required for effective climate protection. In 2012, the members of Climate Alliance agreed a resolution on "The Millennium Consumption Goals as a key contribution to the Millennium Development Goals". This resolution emphasises how global targets aiming purely at a reduction in poverty in the south will neither be sufficient nor yield global sustainable development. Internationally, this awareness is reflected in the discussion on the agreement of SDGs. Based on the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities", the SDGs will be agreed in September 2015. Human rights, governance issues, environment, and economic and social development are to be recognised as interrelated on a global level through these aims. Municipalities and indigenous peoples

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are two of the nine “Major Groups” who contribute to attainment of the SDGs as key stakeholders in society.

The European Union has also declared 2015 the “European Year for Development” (EYD2015). Citizens will be informed of the EU’s activities and current development policy according to the motto of “Our world, our dignity, our future”.

## RESOLUTION TEXT

### **Climate Alliance’s members assert:**

Within the scope of our Climate Alliance membership, we remain committed to ambitious global climate protection goals in addition to the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the global sustainability goals contained therein. As the interface between the international, European and national levels as well as the local population, municipalities make an important concrete contribution to attainment of the sustainability goals. Integrative and participative cooperation with our partners in the southern hemisphere is an important requirement for us.

Climate Alliance’s member municipalities call upon the EU and the international community for:

- Local concerns and potential to be taken into account in determination of the global goals and municipal representatives to be included in the discussion.
- The European Union to reinforce the role of municipalities in the international development work. This requires further development of the existing tools together as well as the associated commitment of financial means.
- The EU funding (“Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development Raising public awareness of development issues and promoting development education in the European Union (DEAR)”) to take the political and administrative realities in the municipalities into account. The current criteria with a growing number of pan-European projects jeopardise effective implementation and attainment of the goals.
- The EU to strengthen the Green Climate Fund and to develop a transparent step-by-step plan by 2020.
- Environmental and human rights, and particularly indigenous rights, to be safeguarded in development and climate policy measures. Even if there

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are not any indigenous peoples dwelling in their country, the EU Member States should follow the lead of Spain and the resolution of the German Bundesrat of 27 March 2015 and ratify the International Labour Organization's Convention No. 169; issue of an according recommendation by the EU would be conducive to this.

- European companies and financial institutions must respect environmental and human rights in overseas projects they implement or are involved in, and impose sanctions accordingly in the event of breaches. The EU and its Member States should take steps to develop a legally-binding instrument to impose sanctions for such breaches (comparable to the International Court of Justice in The Hague).

### Self-commitment of the Climate Alliance municipalities

Direct partnerships with indigenous peoples, the exchange of experiences between municipalities, fair products in local administration, municipal awareness-raising weeks and the support of selected projects in Amazonia – countless member municipalities are already active in the field of global climate justice today. Climate Alliance's members commit to existing local initiatives and activities, pledge political support, create the framework conditions for new projects, and encourage commitment on the municipal level.

For the global goals to have an impact, they must be lived on the local level. Political will and civil society commitment are required to this end – and Climate Alliance's municipalities commit to just this goal.

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### ABOUT CLIMATE ALLIANCE

The "Climate Alliance of European Cities with Indigenous Rainforest Peoples" is a European network of cities, municipalities and districts committed to protecting the global climate. The member municipalities strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions locally. The indigenous peoples of the Amazon rainforest are their alliance partner. [www.climatealliance.org](http://www.climatealliance.org)