

# A 60 Second Guide To: Sustainable Development

## Goal 8

### Decent Work and Economic Growth

#### Introduction

The key role of decent work for all in achieving sustainable development is highlighted by this goal which provides particular attention to vulnerable groups specifically women, the urban poor and unemployed rural labourers.

#### The 12 aims of this goal are to:

- 1 Sustain economic growth in line with national circumstances, but to particularly achieve at least 7% GDP per annum in the least developed countries.
- 2 Achieve greater economic productivity through diversification, technological improvement and innovation.
- 3 Promote policies that encourage productive activities, decent jobs, entrepreneurship and creativity and encourage the growth of micro/small/medium enterprises.
- 4 Improve global resource efficiency in consumption and production.
- 5 Achieve full, productive, decent work with equal pay for work of equal value for all women and men.
- 6 Reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training by 2020.
- 7 Take immediate measures to stop forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and prohibit the worst forms of child labour including the recruitment and use of child soldiers.
- 8 Protect labour rights and to promote safe working environments for all.
- 9 Devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and crafts.
- 10 Strengthen the ability of domestic financial organisations to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all people.
- 11 Increase 'Aid for Trade\*' support for developing countries (particularly the least developed).
- 12 To develop and operate a global strategy for youth employment by 2020.

#### Background information

Governments have been called upon to develop national strategies for sustainable development, whilst recognising a number of ecological limits. The 'Green Economy' has been proposed as a way to move forward, although the international community still continues to clarify the definition and principles of this concept. Tourism is one of the world's fastest growing industries and an important source of foreign currency exchange, trade and employment for the poor. The international community recognizes the need to support sustainable tourism activities, environmental awareness and conservation to protect the environment, respect biodiversity and improve the livelihood of local communities.

#### Further Reading/Linked Resources

- Agenda 21, chapter 3
- ST-EP Programme (Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty)

\* Aid for Trade is a World Trade Organisation led initiative that helps developing countries (and particularly least developed countries) to trade by minimising infrastructure obstacles.



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