The Framework is the Key: Local Governance and Political and legal challenges.

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MDGs : Where are we now?

- Consultation process leading to UN Vote on MDGs in 2014/2015
- Two key documents
  - UN led World we Want 2012
  - High level Panel report 2013
- Now all locked into intergovernmental negotiations at the UN
- Unclear on the outcomes but MDG2 are likely and it is clear that there must be a collective agreement
- Tension between vision and political compromise
MDGs and Local Government

- Changes in terms of urbanization, climate change, diversity and democracy all are making LG more important

- UN World we Want largely ignores or sees LG as invisible
  - Hardly mentioned in many task force papers

- HLP is much more positive
  - Recognised importance of LG in delivering the MDGs
  - Desire to disaggregate targets (12 illustrative replace original 8 in the MDGs) of these nearly 60% of the indicators will be disaggregated
MDGs and the framework

- LG matter but do we need a higher role than just implementation
  - Tendency to ignore LG autonomy and assume it is just a junior partner of National government
- LG mandated to provide a lot of the MDGs but is the problem the legal and administrative framework or the capacity and LG finance*
  - In a lot of systems it is that the resources capital and human do not match the mandate
  - Is the problem a technical one or is it really about political support
MDGs and the framework (2)

☐ Do we need a MDG target for Support to LG
   – Strengthen the framework in which LG operates
   – But can we find an appropriate indicator
   – May run up against Sovereignty Question

☐ Within this framework there are some new opportunities
   – Remember the importance of LG doing what it is supposed/mandated to do
   – Context of North-South collaboration
   – Share experience of CLGF*
Potential ways forward/promising approaches for LG

- If we want to work with Civil society groups then LG is the key interlocutor
  - Idea that Civil Society organizations best at addressing urban poverty
  - Key intermediate agency between donor and poor groups

- If we want to make govt responsive and address the issue of voice and participation then LG should be the starting place
  - LG nearest to the people
Potential ways forward/promising approaches for LG (2)

- If we want to address climate change then LG then LG is the key regulatory agency
  - Energy efficiency in transport and housing

- If we want to rebuild fragile and post conflict states LG is potentially a key agent
  - Sometimes easier to rebuild from base

- In Disasters LG crucial for disasters can
  - building the prevention measures
  - Picking up the pieces