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POST-2015 INDICATORS WWF'S RECOMMENDATIONS

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WWF welcomes the “Technical report by the Bureau of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) on the process of the development of an indicator framework for the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda” and appreciates the challenging task ahead to develop a robust monitoring mechanism for the Post-2015 agenda that allows progress to be assessed at global and national level. We look to the guidance of the Friends of Chair group on broader measures of progress to ensure that the Post-2015 indicator architecture matches the ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

While the preliminary proposal of indicators for the Post-2015 agenda is a good starting point, significant additional work is needed. We support the drive for a limited set of indicators, however this must support, not undermine, the interdependency between Sustainable Development Goal areas. WWF offers a few preliminary suggestions:

- ▶ Increase the number of indicators that link outcomes in different goal areas, to actively drive interdisciplinary, inter-ministerial collaboration for systems-based approaches to national development planning, implementation and monitoring. For example, *Proposed Indicator 2* for Target 1.4 is important and should be reformulated to “**measure the percentage of women, men, indigenous peoples, and local communities (IPLCs) with secure rights to land, property, and natural resources**”. This reformulation more clearly recognizes the direct link between multi-dimensional poverty and access to natural resources for many vulnerable populations.
- ▶ **Enhance creative clustering across traditional sectors within the Inter-Agency and Expert Group-SDG to foster systems-based perspectives and approaches.** The Post-2015 monitoring framework must break new ground with some new and strategically placed indicators that make explicit the interlinkages between environmental, social and economic outcomes. For instance, **twenty-five of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP) indicators measuring progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets (adopted by 194 CBD Parties), are crosscutting and could be used as indicators of progress across the SDGs framework.**
- ▶ **Balance measures of efficiency with sustainable ecological burden:** Numerous indicators are proposed to measure the efficiency of resource use (e.g. water). However, experience has shown that a focus on efficiency is not enough to ensure that resource use stays within ecologically sustainable boundaries. Indicators for the Post-2015 agenda must **strike a balance between combining efficiency with sustainable ecological burden at relevant levels** (e.g. watershed, river basin, resource stock, total pollutant load).
- ▶ **Make some space for innovation:** Recognising the significant data challenges SDG monitoring will pose, the Post-2015 agenda indicator architecture has real potential to take a long stride forward towards a new way of measuring development progress. **More investment is needed in designing indicators for measuring progress beyond GDP to include equally important measures of progress such as wellbeing and healthy ecosystems.** Indicators that incorporate natural capital accounting and biodiversity data into national strategies and assessments of national economic performances would help in this regard.