Setting the right course –
For a future-orientated post-2015 development and sustainability agenda

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1. Introduction

As the numerous crises during the last years have clearly shown, our current global model of development is neither sustainable nor viable for the future. Climate change, as much as the unsolved economic, financial and food crises have clearly demonstrated the interdependency between the global north and south. More than ever before these developments highlight that if we simply continue on this path, we will very soon reach the limits of planetary resources. These crises are worsening poverty in many countries. Furthermore, overcoming the existing great social and economic imbalances – both between the global north and the global south as much as within many individual countries – remains a challenge. In order to combat poverty and initiate a transition towards a just and sustainable global society in which future generations can enjoy a healthy and decent life in well-being, peace and security, we need a new post-2015 framework for global development and sustainability fit to meet global challenges.

A future agenda for development and sustainability can build on the successes of previous initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Rio process for sustainable development and learn from their shortcomings. The fact that MDGs are clear, easy to understand and quantifiable, led them to have a political impact in numerous countries. Nonetheless, they failed to integrate important issues from the Millennium Declaration from the year 2000 such as inequality, unfair trade practices and the implementation of human rights. For this reason, the MDGs only had limited structural impact. Only some of the MDGs will actually be reached by 2015. Notwithstanding, the goal of halving the number of those living in extreme poverty has already been achieved. Nonetheless, 1.4 billion people continue to live in extreme poverty. Moreover, due to the global social, economic and ecological crises the situation of people who have been lifted out of extreme poverty could worsen again. A new framework agreement must therefore target those areas where the MDGs have so far failed; it would also need to go beyond them and ensure that the entire human race – including future generations – may enjoy a decent life wherever they might live.

The new agenda would not have to reinvent the wheel. Instead, it should build on codified human rights norms, standards and instruments and relevant international agreements such as the United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration. An encompassing social and ecological transformation can only be achieved through universally valid goals, because the challenges they face mean that all countries are developing nations. To fairly account for the different social, economic and ecological conditions in individual countries the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities” must be anchored in the new framework agreement.

Beyond that we believe that a new framework must necessarily be developed collaboratively between all actors and particularly in co-operation with civil society. We therefore welcome the fact that goal development is being led by the United Nations. It is now essential to ensure that all the relevant institutions and actors become part of this process. This will require a coherent development of discussions that have so far been going on in parallel. In particular, the development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and a post-2015 development agenda should be fused within a single framework. This would offer the unique chance to integrate environmental and developmental agendas and to finally combat not only the effects of poverty and environmental degradation, but to actually eradicate their causes.
2. Dimensions of a new global agenda

On the one hand a post-2015 development and sustainability agenda should be comprehensive, that is, it should cover the relevant subject areas for global development and sustainability goals. On the other hand, it should include a reasonable set of concrete goals and quantifiable indicators. A new global development agenda should be built on the following three pillars: 1. poverty reduction and a decent life, 2. global sustainability, resource protection and sustainable lifestyles and 3. clear rules for sustainable development.

2.1 Poverty reduction and a decent life

A new global agenda aimed at eliminating poverty and creating just societies in which a decent life for all is achievable must be built on a multi-dimensional understanding of poverty. Combating poverty in all of its forms requires taking into account the structural causes for poverty and injustice. Among these causes are discrimination against women, children and marginalised groups in societies (such as people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples), precarious employment, the unequal distribution of land and wealth, lacking opportunities for political participation and limited access to productive resources.
Overcoming extreme poverty and hunger

On a global scale, a significant reduction in extreme poverty and hunger rates has been achieved over the last ten years. Nonetheless, 1.4 billion people, the majority of whom are women, continue to live off less than 1.25 USD per day, and at least 850 million people continue to suffer from hunger. The current global trade system, the global economic and financial crisis, the effects of climate change and violent conflicts and wars worsen the living conditions in countries of the global south and mean that more people are again threatened by poverty and hunger. The complete abolition of extreme poverty and hunger must therefore remain a priority within a new global development and sustainability agenda. To achieve this goal a fair global trade system is required as much as a coherent policy to promote social justice as well as a solid financial basis. Therefore the countries of the global north must fulfil their commitment to provide 0.7 per cent of their GNI to finance development.

During the negotiations for a post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Ensure that completely overcoming extreme poverty and hunger are central goals of the agenda, and that the right to food is defined as a human right in the new global development agenda.
- Agree on differentiated indicators to monitor that the poorest groups and those who are most discriminated against, such as women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities can rapidly and sustainably improve their living conditions.
- Stipulate that a new framework contains a reinforced commitment by the countries of the global north to commit at least 0.7 per cent of GNI to finance development and that it also contains a clear timeframe for such a commitment.

Social Justice

A global development paradigm to combat not only the effects of poverty but also its causes must focus on human rights and tackle the structures causing inequality, and structural discrimination. Social injustices greatly influence whether a person is poor and whether he or she can participate in society. Only when structural inequalities between different groups in society, between rural and urban populations, between men and women, different ethnic groups and also between the north and the south are tackled can global development goals contribute towards justice and permanent poverty reduction. Three quarters of the global population has no access to broad social security provision, such as healthcare, sufficient food, education, employment opportunities and social inclusion. Nonetheless, social security systems that ensure people’s basic needs are met, and reduce inequalities, are an essential part of the struggle against long-term poverty.

During the negotiations for a post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Include the development of social justice and the implementation of the human right to social security as central goals in the new development and sustainability agenda.
- Anchor the goal of overcoming both national and global structures of inequality and formulating corresponding indicators. The situation of the poorest fifth of humanity should be assessed through indicators and goals that should explicitly aim to considerably improve the lives of this group.
- Secure the right to basic social care, in particular for the poor, women, the elderly and other particularly vulnerable groups such as children and people with disabilities.
Gender justice

Gender justice is essential to overcoming poverty and establishing social justice. Nonetheless, throughout the world conditions that systematically discriminate against girls and women continue to exist: misogynist practices, prejudices and relations of power stand in the way of development, equality and a decent life. Gender equality is a question of justice and democracy. A new global development agenda therefore must include equality between women and men as a separate goal, but this goal must also form a cross-cutting issue.

During the negotiations for a post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

• Anchor the implementation of gender justice within the new global development and sustainability agenda.
• Formulate concrete goals conducive to gender justice, in particular in the areas of social, political and economic inclusion, education and health.
• Recognise the central role played by care work for social development and formulate goals aimed at a gender neutral reform of care and salaried work.
• Establish the prevention of sexualised violence and other forms of violence against women and girls as a goal in the new framework.

Inclusion of people with disabilities

Globally, poverty and social and political exclusion rates are particularly high for people with disabilities. In particular, people in the global south are quickly trapped in a vicious circle of poverty, illness, disability and exclusion. In the countries of the global south people with disabilities as a particularly vulnerable group are over proportionately affected by humanitarian crises, the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. Moreover, only very few countries in the global south follow a policy of the systematic social inclusion of people with disabilities.

During the negotiations for a post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

• Make the new global development agenda inclusive and ensure it implements equality for and non-discrimination against people with disabilities.
• Ensure that all goals and indicators in the new framework explicitly account for the inclusion of people with disabilities and that data is produced on their living conditions.
• Secure people with disabilities equal access to a basic education, training, health care, employment and financing.
Access to education for all

Equal access to quality education for children, youth, women and men is essential for sustainable development. Both schooling and vocational training remain crucial for finding good employment and overcoming poverty in the long-term. Education is a prerequisite for self-determined action and active participation in community life and political processes. Notwithstanding, 61 million primary school age children and 71 million young people, the majority of whom are girls, still cannot attend school. Of those enrolled in education many do not have the means to finish school. 800 million people are still illiterate. Schooling, quality higher education as well as basic and continued vocational training must all be expanded to enable a self-determined decent life for more people. Furthermore, this is necessary to ensure specialised workers are available in the countries of the global south and to promote innovation and development.

Employment and decent work

The creation of employment and income opportunities is an important means of reducing poverty. Work by itself though, by no means ensures survival. Globally, over a quarter of all workers cannot fulfil their most basic needs on the income they earn. Women make up 70% of the so-called working poor. Moreover, many young people are over proportionally affected by unemployment. Many people in the global south work under exploitative conditions where their human rights are abused, many of these people are children.

During the negotiations for a post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Highlight the need to enforce the human right to education in a new development and sustainability agenda and commit itself to providing high quality education for all.
- Anchor the creation of free, obligatory and high quality primary school education for all as goals within a new global agenda. This education must be made available to girls, children living under precarious conditions, children with disabilities and children from ethnic minorities in particular.
- Make higher education, vocational training and the promotion of employment in particular for women a central aspect within the new framework.
Global health

Good health is essential if people are to live in dignity and develop their capacities. If health is affected then participation in society is either limited or becomes impossible. Furthermore, it also reduces people’s ability to productively contribute to society. In many countries of the global south health continues to be a dramatic problem. A lack of access to medicine as well as preventative and curative healthcare services leads millions of people to die from preventable diseases, limits their development and leads to permanent disabilities. Due to the ageing of many societies this is now often also true for non-communicable illnesses. A lacking of access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services leads 800 women and girls to die every day during pregnancy or whilst in labour. What is more, bad living conditions and social discrimination mean that people run higher risks of contracting diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Anchor the creation of efficient and high quality healthcare systems for all in the new development and sustainability agenda.
- Establish the right to access efficient, safe and high quality health care products and services for all within a new global agenda, in particular for women and girls, with the aim of further reducing the mortality rates of mothers and infants, and the poorest and most marginalised groups in society.
- Develop indicators that enable an assessment of whether sufficient funds are being made available during the implementation and expansion phases of healthcare systems to treat all diseases, whether contagious or not.
2.2 Global sustainability, resource protection and sustainable lifestyles

Increasingly climate change threatens the living conditions of millions of people, and particularly of those most vulnerable. Therefore, the planetary limits need to be respected in terms of developing a sustainable economy, protecting ecosystems and creating sustainable patterns of production and consumption; this must be anchored within a new global agenda. The growth-based model of development and current patterns of production and consumption add to the destruction of the ecological basis for life and therefore represent a cost to future generations.

Sustainable production and consumption within the limits of the planet

Our current growth-oriented economic model has no future. Within only a few decades, copying the north’s developmental path, or maintaining or expanding current patterns of consumption in the global north, will lead the global ecosystem to collapse and rob humanity of its very means of existence. Global poverty has its structural roots in a global economic system that systematically ignores the negative effects of economic, trade and investment policies on human rights in the global south. We need to develop an economic system that recognises the rights of countries in the south to develop whilst simultaneously limiting the north’s excessive use of resources. In this sense all countries are developing nations.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Make it a central goal of a new development and sustainability agenda to orient climate and resource protection based on a planetary safeguard of for example a 2°C limit to global warming as the basis of climate policies.
- Introduce into the new framework alternative instruments to measure wealth and development that factor in ecological and social costs.
- Anchor within the new agenda the UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon’s Sustainable Energy for All initiative.
- Anchor the recognition of externalised costs, and increases in resource efficiency as goals; as well as goals to cut fossil fuel subsidies, while supporting investments into green technologies.
- Align the agenda towards a full transition towards an economy built on sustainability, foresight and sufficiency.
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Sustainable agriculture and food security

Worldwide at least 850 million people still suffer from hunger, whereby two thirds of those affected live in rural areas. They have no access to land, productive resources and markets that would enable them to live in dignity. At the same time it has become ever more apparent during the last few years that certain economic practices are having devastating effects on food security in the global south. Among such practices are the speculation with food, land grabbing, the use of bio-fuels as a strategy against the oil crisis, but also pro-business EU and US agricultural policies directed at industrial mass production.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Formulate goals that strengthen the establishment and expansion of a socially and ecologically sustainable agriculture that explicitly promotes small producers and globally strengthens regional structures of distribution.
- Ensure the agenda protects producers in the global south from dumping products.
- Establish the goal of legislating against financial speculation that leads to higher food prices.
- Introduce instruments to secure land rights and stop land grabbing. Ensure binding accountability duties are put in place for companies. The Voluntary Guidelines of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization on responsible land and land usage rights, fishing grounds and forests management should serve as a framework.

Access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene are basic human needs and indispensable for any sustainable form of development. Nonetheless, over 780 million people still have no access to safe drinking water and 2.5 billion people have no sanitation. A lack of access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) promotes diarrhoeal diseases, Hepatitis A, typhus and other preventable diseases and can contribute to disabilities. Furthermore, it leads infant mortality rates to increase and endangers food security. Due to lacking WASH access opportunities offered by education are curtailed and days spent sick and not working further reduce family income, which is often already too low as it is. In particular for women and girls access to WASH is of central importance. In many regions marginalised groups in society do not receive the same rights to access safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. Often the privatisation of the water sector leads to higher prices that then mainly hits the poorer strata of society.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Introduce a human right to safe drinking water and sanitation as part of the new framework.
- Take into account the goals and indicators of a barrier free access to WASH in households as well as in schools, health care centres and workplaces and reflect on the necessary connections between WASH and other issues (health, education, gender, economic development and the protection of the environment).
- Educate against the taboo surrounding sanitation and make this part of the new agenda so that people everywhere understand the importance of hygiene.
Protection of the global commons

The lifestyles of the global north but also the economic catch-up of the larger emerging nations and the increased resource usage this entails threaten global common goods such as the climate, oceans, water, land and forests. Climate change, the overuse of these resources and the natural disasters linked to this threaten the existence of millions of people throughout the world, but particularly in the global south. In the sense of common but differentiated responsibilities, all countries are called on to take sustainable, low carbon development paths, effectively control the use of resources and implement financial measures that have become necessary mainly due to the unavoidable consequences of the dominant model of production and consumption in the global north.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Establish the protection of the global commons within a new development and sustainability agenda.
- As part of the post-2015 agenda, develop indicators capable of ensuring the protection of global commons, promoting new forms of consumption and steering consumption through market-based incentives.
- Establish a global tax on the emission of pollutants as a goal within the new framework.

The rights of children and young people

In many countries of the global south children and youth form the majority. Structural poverty, violence and armed conflicts, weak economies and government structures but also discrimination prevent children and young people from affirming their rights, breaking the circle of poverty and growing up in a safe environment. Climate change and environmental degradation also threaten the livelihood of future generations.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Protect children and young people from all forms of violence and abuse and develop indicators that measure the implementation of the goals that are set.
- Incorporate provisions for supportive, protective and participative rights for children in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child within the agenda. In particular this should include ensuring an active, age-dependant participation by children in the implementation and monitoring of those goals directly affecting them.
- Use state and international statistic bodies to record and evaluate the violence and abuse committed against children, but also the implementation of children’s rights.
The elderly and demographic change

In many societies of the global south a process of ageing can be observed that will fundamentally change the age structure of these countries in a matter of a few decades. Frequently, structural poverty, violence and armed conflicts, as well as discrimination bar the elderly from enjoying a life in dignity.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Include as a goal in a new global development and sustainability agenda the rights and needs of the elderly.
- Take into account the demographic challenges in all areas of the new development and sustainability agenda.
- Establish the best possible level of health and life expectancy as a goal for all generations alike.

2.3 Clear rules for a global sustainable development

The current system of global government contradicts the idea of sustainability: On the one hand different, to a certain degree competing, institutions work on the interdependent aspects of development and sustainability; on the other hand institutions such as the United Nations, the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund show clear democratic deficits. A new global agenda must therefore include reforms to establish a new coherent, democratic and inclusive system of global governance. But even at the national level there is need for reform: In many countries democracy and the rule of law need to be strengthened and corruption and mismanagement checked. In the global north supra-national concepts need to be implemented to strengthen the coherence of sustainability and just development policies.
Reform the UN for sustainable development

Global power structures have changed since the founding of the United Nations and its specialised agencies. Institutions such as the UN Security Council, the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund must become more democratic and provide affected states with an equal say. Reforms must also take place with regard to the coherency of sustainable development policies. One option could be to strengthen the UN General Assembly and the ECOSOC (UN Economic and Social Council).

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Ensure a new institution for sustainable development is installed at the highest level possible within the UN; that this institution accompanies the implementation of future development goals; and organises a review of their implementation. This body should be directly accountable to the UN General Assembly.
- Reform the international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to enable greater participation by developing and emerging nations.
- Align the policies and programmes of the international financial institutions towards achieving the global goals for development and sustainability.

A just and solidarity-based economic and financial system

The economic and financial crisis clearly showed that our current economic and financial system is neither fair nor sustainable. The deregulated market economy based on constant, consumption-fuelled growth, paired with the belief in limitlessly increasing profit maximisation as well as ever more complex financial transactions, will – in the long run – destroy the ecological basis for life. This system leads to growing social inequalities within and between countries and can only be upheld at the cost of the global commons. Prices for most goods and services do not reflect the actual social and ecological costs of their production. Moreover, tax evasion by corporations and the wealthy weaken the possibilities of many states in the global south to finance development and sustainability policies on their own accord. The consequences of private financial speculation within a net of hardly transparent and ever new financial products, such as for example food price speculation also endangers the stability of financial markets on the global scale and can lead to increased hunger and poverty. Clear rules for the international financial system are therefore required to guarantee monitoring and transparency.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Establish as a goal for a new global agenda the introduction of legal regulations to account for the externalised costs of environmental resources and global commons.
- Establish regulations within the new framework agreement to ensure transparency on the international financial markets, invert the trend towards financialisation and limit harmful speculation.
- Anchor measures within the new agenda to prevent capital flight and tax evasion, create a just and transparent tax system and close down tax havens.
- Adopt a tax within the new framework on global financial transactions as part of an innovative financial strategy for a new global agenda.
- Anchor the asymmetrical opening of developing nations’ markets as an option that takes into account the needs of the poorest and least developed nations and is bound to human rights and environmental criteria.
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Democracy, the rule of law, tackling corruption and strengthening fragile states

To achieve sustainable development in the future, democracy and the rule of law must be strengthened at the global level and action must be taken against corruption. Achieving this will mean ensuring general participation in decision-making processes. In particular in fragile states ridden with violent conflict, efforts to create stable, democratic and reliable political institutions must be strengthened. Initiatives such as the g7+ group, which unites fragile and war torn countries to jointly overcome their problems, must receive strong support, because it is within these countries that particularly large groups of people are affected by extreme poverty and hunger. Only democracy and the rule of law can guarantee the implementation of human rights and participation by all social strata and groups.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

• Anchor within a new global development and sustainability agenda the goal of implementing democracy and the rule of law as well as the goal of reaching universal social inclusion in all states.
• Establish the state and peace building goals of the g7+ group within the new framework.
• Establish the elimination of corruption at all levels within the new agenda.

Peace, non-violence and human security

Peace and security for all is an indispensable prerequisite for development. Ending war and guarding against violent conflict must therefore become a top priority. Establishing security for people everywhere, however, not only means overcoming violent conflict in society but also reducing everyday violence. Both mainly affect women and children. Consequently, the prevention of violence must become a basic principle for global, sustainable development.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

• Implement UN resolution 1325 on women, peace and security as part of the new agenda and the goal of ending sexual violence and other forms of violence against women and girls.
• Commit to limiting and gradually reducing the export of armaments, in particular to states with a history of systematic human rights abuses within a new framework agreement.
• Introduce into the agenda the reduction of risks related to natural catastrophes to particularly vulnerable groups in society such as the poor, children and people with disabilities and adopt the strengthening of their resilience as a goal.
Participation and the responsibility for democratic accountability

Sustainable global development can only be achieved by ensuring the participation of parliaments, civil society and social groups including children and young people. A new, globally valid system must establish clear mechanisms of accountability that ensure individual actors are not released from their responsibility. It must enable people to broadly participate in all decision-making processes and enable them to hold governments accountable for all decisions affecting their lives. Fundamental prerequisites for this are open and transparent decision-making processes, precisely and properly publicised consultation processes as well as systematic mechanisms of accountability.

During the negotiations on the post-2015 agenda, VENRO therefore calls on the German government to commit itself to:

- Establish clear mechanisms of accountability that are regularly reviewed within a new global development and sustainability agenda.
- Place accountability under democratic control within the new agenda.
- Ensure the participation of civil society and all groups in society in the implementation of the new framework agreement everywhere and at all times.
A post-2015 development and sustainability agenda must open the road to a fundamental global socio-ecological transformation. Sustainable development and a dignified life within the limits provided by the planet will only be achievable through fundamental changes to current patterns of production, consumption and thinking. A new framework must therefore envisage a new model of social well-being and bring about a new understanding of development. Based on human rights and the goal to ensure well-being for all, this concept must intertwine the struggle against poverty with social, economical and ecological sustainability. Focusing on such a new model of well-being opens up new opportunities for development and should create substantial potential for innovation.

Social and ecological transformation must be tackled at various levels. It is therefore important that the new global agenda is both comprehensive as well as palpable, meaning, it must formulate a number of binding goals. These goals must be verifiable, which is why quantitative and qualitative indicators have to be developed and established within the new framework. Implementing these goals according to the indicators must be ensured via an effective implementation strategy that is regularly assessed by independent monitors.

An approach that could guard against establishing a confusingly large number of goals and the danger of randomness could be adopting the known MDG structure where specific targets are subordinated to broader goals and both are bound to significant indicators. To honour the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities for the implementation of a new global agenda, the new agenda could differentiate between universally applicable ‘absolute global goals and limits’ and relative development goals defined in regional, national and local democratic decision-making processes and that could be derived from the global goals. Goals as much as indicators must always be based on human rights and gender principles as well as separated according to different target groups. They must set clear parameters resulting in clearly defined rights and duties at all levels. Regular monitoring procedures at all levels are required to ensure goals are gradually achieved.
and that the necessary resources are provided. A system of regular national progress reports would enable civil society to judge government progress in the fulfilment of their commitments by producing shadow reports.

VENRO expects the German government to gain support from the German parliament and German civil society and all other relevant actors in German society to work on this new catalogue of goals through regular and institutionalised consultations. We call on the German government to put pressure on the European Union to ensure that these demands and goals are visible in EU policy on the post-2015 agenda. We expect the German government to be an active and constructive partner in the international process of negotiation and that it will actively integrate the large emerging countries such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) as well as the poorest countries with the goal of achieving a comprehensive post-2015 development and sustainability agenda.

Finally, we expect the German government to increase its efforts to fully achieve the MDGs by 2015. With regard to the post-2015 period, we call on the German government to provide all the necessary political and economical resources required to fulfil the goals of the new development and sustainability agenda here in Germany and in the rest of the world.
VENRO member organisations

- Action medeor
- ADRA Deutschland
- Ärzte der Welt
- Aktion Canchanabury
- AMICA e.V.*
- Andheri-Hilfe Bonn
- Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund Deutschland
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Eine-Welt-Landesnetzwerke in Deutschland (agl)
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Evangelischen Jugend in Deutschland (ajd)
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Entwicklungsethik (AEH)
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Entwicklungshilfe (AGEH)
- arche noVa
- ASW – Aktionsgemeinschaft Solidarische Welt
- ATV-Verbund
- AWO International
- Behinderung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit (bezv)
- BONO-Direkt Hilfe
- Brot für die Welt – Evangelischer Entwicklungsdiensst
- Bündnis Eine Welt Schleswig-Holstein (BEI)
- Bund der Deutschen Katholischen Jugend (BDKJ)
- Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe
- CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg
- Caritas International
- Casa Alianza Kinderhilfe Guatemala
- ChildFund Deutschland
- Christliche Initiative Romero
- Christoffel-Blindenmission Deutschland
- Das Hunger Projekt
- Dachverband Entwicklungspolitik Baden-Württemberg (DEAB)
- Deutsche Entwicklungshilfe für soziales Wohnungs- und Siedlungswesen (DESWS)
- Deutsche Kommission Justitia et Pax
- Deutsche Lepra- und Tuberkulosehilfe (DAHW)
- Deutsche Stiftung Wohlfahrt
- Düsseldorfer Bündnis
- DGB-Bildungswerk – Nord-Süd-Netz
- DfVfam
- Don Bosco Mondo
- dvv international – Institut für Internationale Zusammenarbeit des deutschen Volkshochschul-Verbandes*
- Eine Welt Netz NRW
- Eine Welt Netzwerk Hamburg
- EIRENE – Internationaler Christlicher Friedensdienst
- EMA – Euro-Mediterranean Association for Cooperation and Development
- Evangelische Akademien in Deutschland (EAD)
- Fairventures Worldwide
- FIAN Deutschland
- FUTURO S1
- Gemeinschaft Sant’Egidio
- German Doctors e.V.
- German Toilet Organisation (GTO)
- Germanwatch
- Habitat for Humanity Deutschland
- Handicap International
- Help – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe*
- HelpAge Deutschland
- Hilfswerk der Deutschen Lions
- Hoffnungszeichen / Sign of Hope
- humedica
- Indienhilfe
- INKOTA-netzwerk
- Internationaler Hilfsfonds
- Internationaler Ländlicher Entwicklungsdiensst (ILD)
- Internationaler Verband Westfälischer Kinderdörfer
- Islamic Relief Deutschland
- Johanniter-Auslandshilfe
- Kairos Europa
- Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie
- KATE – Kontaktstelle für Umwelt und Entwicklung
- Kindernothilfe
- Kinderrechte Afrika
- Lateinamerika-Zentrum
- Lichtbrücke
- Malteser International
- Marie-Schlei-Verein
- materra – Stiftung Frau und Gesundheit
- medica mondiale
- medico international
- Miseresor
- NETZ Bangladesh
- Okumenische Initiative Eine Welt
- OIKOS EINE WELT
- Opportunity International Deutschland
- Ora International Deutschland
- Oxfam Deutschland
- Plan International Deutschland
- Rhein-Donau-Stiftung
- Salem International
- Samháthi – Hilfe für Indien
- Save the Children Deutschland
- Senegalhilfe-Verein
- Senior Experten Service (SES)
- Society for International Development (SID)
- SODI – Solidaritätsdienst-international
- Sozial- und Entwicklungshilfe des Kolpingwerkes (SEK)
- Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden (SEF)
- Stiftung Nord-Süd-Brücken
- SÜDWIND – Institut für Ökonomie und Okumene
- Susila Dharma – Soziale Dienste
- Terra Tech Förderprojekte
- TERRE DES FEMMES
- terre des hommes Deutschland
- Tierärzte ohne Grenzen
- TransFair
- Verband Entwicklungspolitik Niedersachsen (VEN)
- Verband Entwicklungspolitischer Nichtregierungsorganisationen Brandenburgs (VENROB)
- WEED – Weltwirtschaft, Ökologie & Entwicklung e.V.
- Weltfrierdendienst
- Weltgutbeistag der Frauen – Deutsches Komitee*
- Welthaus Bielefeld
- Welthungerhilfe
- Weltlädten-Dachverband
- Weltmarktwirtschaft der KAB Deutschlands
- Werkhof
- Werkstatt Ökonomie
- World University Service
- World Vision Deutschland
- W. P. Schmitz-Stiftung
- Zukunftsförderung Entwicklungshilfe bei der GLS Treuhand

VENRO currently has 118 members
* Guest member

(Last updated: January 2014)
VENRO is the umbrella organisation of development non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Germany. The organisation was founded in 1995 and consists of around 120 organisations. Their backgrounds lie in independent and church-related development cooperation, humanitarian aid as well as development education, public relations and advocacy. 16 one-world networks are part of VENRO. These represent about 2000 local development initiatives and NGOs.

VENRO's central goal is to promote fair globalisation, with a special emphasis on eradicating global poverty. The organisation is committed to implementing human rights and conserving natural resources.

VENRO
- represents the interests of development NGOs vis-à-vis the government
- strengthens the role of NGOs and civil society in development co-operation
- engages in advocacy for the interests of developing countries and the poorer segments of society
- sharpens public awareness of development co-operation issues

VENRO – Association of German development NGOs www.venro.org

VENRO’s Project “Deine Stimme gegen Armut – Entwicklung braucht Beteiligung” (Your voice against poverty – development needs participation)

As the umbrella organisation of development NGOs in Germany VENRO’s goal is to actively develop a debate on questions of sustainable development. Together with other actors in society, we wish to develop what we view as a future-orientated understanding of development and anchor it in political and public debate. The project “Your voice against poverty – development needs participation” therefore organises discussion among the association’s members and ensures it forms part of public debate.

Our work is aimed at creating an incentive for the broader population – and in particular for young people under 29 – to actively and publicly promote the achievement of development goals. One of the project’s further building blocks is its work on information and dialogue. Its aim is to develop a civil society understanding of sustainable development and anchor it within society. Regular background papers, public discussions and fora for dialogue offer opportunities to exchange experiences and deepen the information base. The perspectives that these opportunities develop then form the basis of discussions with political decision-makers.

The project has been conducted since July 2012 by the Berlin office of the Association of German Development NGOs (VENRO).

Your voice against poverty is the German platform of “Global Call to Action Against Poverty” (GCAP), an international alliance of organisations, associations, religious communities, unions, celebrities and millions of people in over a hundred countries campaigning for an end to poverty.

www.deine-stimme-gegen-armut.de