

COMMON GOODS

The common goods are basic human rights: clean water and sanitation, health and healthcare and education. They are interdependent: lack of clean water causes 30% of child deaths, poor health keeps children and teachers out of schools, education of mothers brings a 50% decrease in under-5 mortality and education reduces poverty and child labour and improves peace and security. These services need to be delivered by publicly-controlled and accountable government systems. They should be guaranteed available to all including those in poor and rural communities and delivered to ensure gender equity. The G8's commitments in these areas are especially important as the economic crisis will increase poverty in developing countries and increase reliance on the public systems.

Water and sanitation

- Ensuring access to drinking water and sanitation and the sustainable management of water resources are more urgent than ever as climatic, demographic and economic change threaten our water security.
- The G8 must take advantage of the mandate given at last year's G8 to overcome the historic neglect of the sector and prioritise it alongside health and education.
- A new partnership between North and South is now needed, with Southern governments developing national plans for water and sanitation to meet the MDG targets and donor governments agreeing support for the development and implementation of those plans
- To achieve this, the G8 should not create something entirely new but take advantage of a process already underway to create a *Global Framework for Action* on water and sanitation – a process that is supported by African Governments, the key UN agencies, civil society organisations and a number of important donor governments
- We appeal to the G8 to add its collective weight and strengthen and shape this process in partnership with others, to ensure sanitation and water for all and address water security. The G8 should endorse the first High Level Meeting being held by UNICEF in April 2010.

Health

- In order to meet MDGs 4, 5 and 6 by 2015 and the G8 HIV Universal Access commitment by 2010, we ask that the G8 set out how the \$60 billion by 2011 for major infectious diseases and health system strengthening and the \$1.5 billion for maternal and child health care and voluntary family planning will be delivered. This needs annual commitments by country.
- The G8 should commit to support full funding for the Global Fund especially this year's Round 9 which needs emergency commitments from the G8.
- The G8 must acknowledge the \$10.2 billion annual shortfall for maternal, newborn and child health, including sexual and reproductive health and to reverse the lack of progress on maternal mortality, and set out plans to ensure it is fully funded.
- ODA for health and additional funds raised through innovative mechanisms, in accordance with the Paris Declaration, must be delivered by funding national health plans which are needs-based, comprehensive, budgeted and fully involve civil society. These plans need to ensure quality, public primary health care for all, free at the point of delivery with special regard to women of reproductive age and children.
- The G8 must protect human resources for health by signing a binding international code of conduct on ethical recruitment of health workers and by supporting the development

of self-sustainable health workforces in G8 countries themselves. In addition, investments should target recruitment, training and retention of health workers to achieve the targets of 4.1 health care workers including community health workers /1000 population (building on the 2.3/1000 target).

- Finally, the G8 must ensure policy coherence: the G8 countries must instruct the IMF to cease obstructing public spending on healthcare and the G8 must ensure that the agreement on intellectual property rights protects access to affordable medicines.

Education

G8 countries have the responsibility to ensure that education is free, public, high quality and available to all for at least 9 years. In a world where over 70 million children do not have access to primary education, and where 250 million either drop out or have poor quality education, the G8 should:

- take concrete action to achieve the gender equity target in primary education (missed in 2005);
- take concrete action to reach hard-to-reach children, including increasing the education element of humanitarian aid and to Conflict-Affected Fragile States;
- reaffirm the pledge that “no country seriously committed to the achievement of Education for All agenda should be thwarted in this ambition for lack of resources”;
- commit to fully finance the \$1 billion gap for the EFA Fast-Track Initiative, highlighted in the 2008 G8 Communiqué;
- meet their “fair share” of the \$9 billion annual external financing requirement for primary education for all by 2015. Aid must be predictable and finance recurrent costs, in order that 18 million teachers can be trained, hired and paid decent wages.

Beyond primary education, the G8 has also the responsibility to support the full Education for All goals, including adult literacy, early childhood care and education, lifelong learning, gender equity and expansion of lower secondary education. To this end, the G8 should:

- contribute funding to achieve the minimum of \$15-16 billion per annum in aid to ensure EFA;
- deliver for the G8 Summit, a robust, frank, detailed progress review on support to FTI that includes a review of funds mobilised through in-country resource mobilisation and from the FTI Catalytic Fund;
- on the basis of this report and on the preliminary findings of the External Evaluation of FTI, the G8 should mandate reforms to the international financing architecture for education, to ensure that it is fit for purpose of timely mobilisation of adequate resources for the achievement of EFA.

Questions for the G8 Sherpas

- Given that African governments, UN agencies, the World Bank and civil society from south and north are united in calling for a Global Framework for Water and Sanitation to coordinate and drive the sector, how will the G8 process strengthen and shape this initiative?
- On the \$60 billion commitment made in 2007 on infectious diseases and health system strengthening, what will be each G8 country's contribution, when and how will this be delivered? This needs to be set out in the 2009 Communiqué.
- After having repeatedly acknowledged, for instance in the Final Hokkaido Communiqué last year, how will the G8 fill the EFA-FTI \$1 billion gap in 2009?