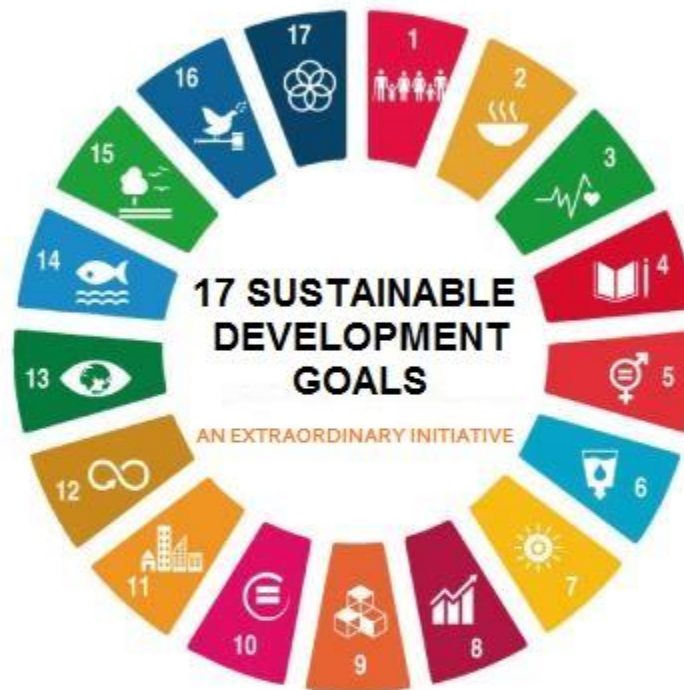




THINK SDGs



**"ADDING SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS"
SANTIAGO, 25 TO 27 JULY 2017**



Declaration of Santiago on the Sustainable Development Goals: "Adding support to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals"

Preamble

We, experts, professionals and defenders of equitable and sustainable Public Health have gathered together on 25, 26 and 27 July 2017, in Santiago, Chile, to identify how political, social, commercial and environmental determinants of Health should be articulated in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Representatives of governments, think tanks and civil society shared experiences on achievements in overcoming complex and systemic barriers of a political and commercial nature in Health.

The conference addressed not only successful experiences but also lessons learned in relation to sectoral coordination and work with stakeholders. The Government of Chile, as host of this meeting, provided a detailed report, being fed with the different reflections and perspectives previously discussed at the High-Level Political Forum held in New York during July, where Health was one of the main issues.

At the meeting we launched the equitable implementation of the SDG under five key principles

1. To get the support of the highest levels of Government.
2. To establish the creation of political processes that ensure implementation and accountability.
3. To get sustainable financing.
4. To convene the largest number and variety of stakeholders and interest groups.
5. To get support from local governments, especially in highly decentralized countries.

In consideration of the foregoing:

- Health is a political choice and a public asset. Its scope, many of its determinants, and its role in Human Rights, are fundamentally linked with political decisions.
- SDGs cover a wide range of environmental, social and economic issues, as well as policy decisions and actions that need to be informed through available best practices, the evidence of which is relevant and has quality analysis.
- The SDGs have designated Health and the well-being of people as a priority for the signatory States. In order to respond to this dynamic and complex political challenge, it is crucial to achieve an effective implementation of SDGs, especially SDG 3.
- The implementation of SDGs should focus on equitable achievements, marking a break with an earlier approach based on the mere attainment of figures, towards an approach that includes the Right to Health as a fundamental axis.



We commit to:

1. Attract and use political support for the sake of Public Health

In order to get greater Public Health benefits, it is essential to adopt a cohesive support that promotes commitment and resources from the highest levels of government, building capacities and achieving commitments at local and regional levels, particularly in decentralized areas, integrating sectoral responses and directed to overcoming inequities.

2. Promote political processes that support implementation and accountability

We recognize the importance of designing policy processes that ensure implementation and accountability. Processes should be structured in terms of three central elements: inclusion, transparency and accountability. Health interventions of SDGs must build clear and sustainable linkages with unprotected health sectors and populations in more vulnerable conditions. Rigorous and standardized measures will be required using indicators that were created under ethical and inclusive standards.

Progress in SDG implementation will require a comprehensive framework and metrics that inform these indicators validly and reliably. Universities, think tanks, observatories, networks and knowledge platforms can provide independent technical assistance and research for SDG implementation, monitoring, assessing, and building capabilities. Multisectoral coordination will be a key opportunity and a challenge. The ability to show results will ensure sustainability, long-term interest, support from policymakers and from public opinion. Interventions to be made under SDG should be transparent for professionals and defenders from all sectors to establish and maintain information on funding, activities and results.

3. Promote sustainable health financing in the SDG.

SDGs promote an inclusive and universal agenda in which no one should be left behind. In considering how to provide social protection and essential public services on an equitable basis, as part of a new form of social cohesion, we call upon all stakeholders to work together towards new financing mechanisms to reflect these priorities.

These may include mobilizing local resources through strategies such as improving incomes through progressive fiscal policy and a more efficient tax collection, as well as access to hardly used support sources such as the adoption of reasonable loan regulations by banks, together with appropriate measures in areas of social and environmental protection.

4. Involve a wide range of stakeholders

For genuinely sustainable changes to exist in health systems, it is important that different stakeholders from all sectors as well as the civil society carry out activities that influence health and wellness issues, and critically evaluate and analyze, along with providing feedback on, the different sustainable development initiatives with the assistance of those implementing the Agenda 2030. We recognize that citizen participation and inclusion must be based on trust; therefore we believe in the importance of co-designing and co-creating policies. This includes providing knowledge, data and evidence in an understandable and timely manner, also taking into account the political context of the processes. We support the use of new technologies to



facilitate the visualization and access to data and evidence as part of a vital process of public policy.

5. Add support from local governments

While support at the highest political level is necessary for the long-term implementation of SDGs, support from local governments is crucial as they have great potential to address health and equity determinants more directly and comprehensively. As such, we support innovative strategies to involve local governments, particularly in highly decentralized locations, from workshops to local networking, through the use of virtual platforms that link defenders, professionals, policymakers and influencers at the central levels of government.



Our commitment to these actions is based on 5 key principles:

- To support all stakeholders to accelerate, focus and maintain political support for the implementation of SDG in health.
- To recognize the complex network of interactions between determinants, promoters and risks, as well as their potential implications in achieving the SDGs.
- To promote a sustainable commitment from all levels of civil society and equip those who implement actions with appropriate capacities.
- To integrate sectoral responses, ensuring inclusion, transparency and accountability.
- To attract and maintain sustainable financing.

SDGs provide us with a unique framework and opportunity for action. It is our responsibility to innovate and supply the necessary resources to make them real.

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