



International:
Achieving the Sustainable
Development Goals

Thank you for taking part in the Labour Party's 2018 National Policy Forum Consultation, the Party's process for getting input from our members, supporters and stakeholders on how we shape our policies.

This booklet is one of eight policy documents published by the Labour Party as part of our consultation this year.

Each document contains sets of questions for you to answer. You do not need to answer every question, nor is there any specific way to answer them. We suggest picking the questions most important to you and using them as a guide to write a few lines or paragraphs on what you think about the issues in this area.

At the end of the document you can find a guide on how to send in your ideas to us and other ways to get involved in the consultation.

There are seven other documents that might interest you covering different areas of the Party's policies, you can find them in the consultation pack or online. If you have an idea or issue you would like to talk about that is not covered in this year's consultation, you can submit these to us too via www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

Whether you're a Labour Party member or not, we want to hear your ideas on how the next Labour government should tackle the challenges our country faces, and build a more equal Britain for the many, not the few.

Want to know more about how Labour makes policy?

You can learn more about how Labour makes policy, further details about the 2018 Consultation and find policy events in your area on our website www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

ACCESSIBLE MATERIALS

The Labour Party is an inclusive member-based organisation that prides itself on being accessible to all who share its values. If you would like an accessible version of these documents please email us at policydevelopment@labour.org.uk to discuss how we can best accommodate your requirements.

International Policy Commission: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Labour's vision

In 2015, world leaders signed up to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), setting a new, broad ambition for the world to deliver a range of development priorities, including eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, and building peace. Unlike the previous Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015), the SDGs recognise protection of the planet and climate as a central pillar of development and, for the first time, apply universally.

Labour is proud of our record on international development. Twenty years ago, it was a Labour government that set up an independent Department for International Development (DFID) with a goal of poverty reduction, explicitly separated out from foreign policy. In government, Labour used the aid budget to save millions of lives, put millions of children in school, combat disease and poverty, and cancel debts for countries around the world. However, in the past seven years, the Government has failed to set out an ambitious plan for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals which would build on Labour's legacy. Ministers have sought to repurpose, reallocate and redefine Official Development Assistance (ODA) - the UK's aid budget - weakening the spirit of the 0.7 per cent pledge. We must now consider what strategies the next Labour Government will pursue to achieve the SDGs at home and overseas.

Issues

Labour and the Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs have promised to end extreme poverty by 2030. They are a set of internationally agreed goals but for them to be successful everyone needs to play their part. However, three years in the UK has much still to do to adopt and engage with the Goals. While many other countries have already reported voluntarily to the UN's annual High Level Political Forum on how they are progressing on the SDGs at home, the UK looks likely to only do so in 2019. As a global leader in international development, the UK should be doing much more, and has an opportunity to play a particular leadership role. Labour committed in its 2017 election manifesto to fully supporting the SDGs, to developing a cross-government strategy for their implementation, and to reporting annually to Parliament on performance.

Have your say – give us your thoughts on the questions below:

- How can Labour help build a movement for sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs?
- In which SDG goals is the UK best placed to lead the way? [Please see Annex for full list of SDGs]
- How can the SDGs galvanise action at home, in schools, in communities, and in workplaces across the UK?
- How can Labour monitor progress on the SDGs and ensure governments, including the UK, deliver on them?

Making the argument for international development

The Labour Party laid the groundwork for the consensus on 0.7 per cent, which endures today. It is time for Labour, when we enter government, to not only maintain the UK's pledge to spend 0.7 per cent of national income on international development, but to revolutionise the UK's approach to international development.

Have your say – give us your thoughts on the questions below:

- How can Labour best make the argument for international development? What specific pledges should Labour commit to achieving in government for the world's poorest?

A new vision for international development

Official Development Assistance (the UK's aid budget) will not by itself bring about the world we want or achieve the Sustainable Development Goals: there is an estimated \$2.5 trillion financing gap. Trade, taxes, investment, remittances, the private sector, domestic policy choices and national civil society movements all contribute to development outcomes. Labour has committed to looking beyond aid and to tackling the root causes of global inequality, poverty and climate change. In government, we will task the Department for International Development not only with reducing poverty, but also inequality explicitly for the first time. That may require changes in how the UK delivers international development, including the adoption of ambitious development objectives across different areas of UK domestic and international policy. Labour has also committed to back civil society and empower NGOs, unions and activists as part of a powerful movement driving international development.

Have your say – give us your thoughts on the questions below:

- What would a world for the many, not the few, look like in 2030, and how could Labour's international development policy contribute to achieving it?
- How can Labour spend the aid budget in the most effective way to help achieve the SDGs?
- What would a feminist international development policy look like if it is to effectively challenge gender inequality?

Annex

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals to transform our world:

- 1: No Poverty
- 2: Zero Hunger
- 3: Good Health and Well-being
- 4: Quality Education
- 5: Gender Equality
- 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 10: Reduced Inequality
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13: Climate Action
- 14: Life Below Water
- 15: Life on Land
- 16: Peace and Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

Thank you for taking the time to read our consultation document. We want to harness the views, experience and expertise of our members, stakeholders and the wider public. If you would like to respond to any of the issues in this document, there are a number of ways you can get involved:

- 1. Online:** The best and easiest way to send in your ideas and join the discussion is via our online home of policy making:
www.policyforum.labour.org.uk/consultation2018
- 2. By post:** If you have written down your ideas, you can post these to us at:
The Labour Party,
Policy Unit,
Southside,
105 Victoria Street,
London, SW1E 6QT
- 3. At your local party:** You may want to discuss your ideas with other members of your CLP or local branch. You can suggest to your CLP Secretary that a policy discussion is held at a future meeting.
- 4. Regional Policy Forums:** Look out for events hosted by your regional office, local parties and National Policy Forum Representatives.

You can find out more about the 2018 consultation, upcoming events and more details on how Labour makes its policy at
www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter for regular updates during the consultation
[@Labpolicyforum](https://twitter.com/Labpolicyforum)
[#NPFConsultation2018](https://twitter.com/NPFConsultation2018)

Please send your ideas before the consultation period ends, it runs until Sunday 24 June 2018.

