

# **Working with the grain to change the grain: Moving beyond the Millennium Development Goals**

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Phil Vernon & Deborrah Baksh

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<b>Figure 1. United Nations Millennium Declaration</b>	
<b>I</b>	<b>Values and principles</b> Promote dignity, freedom, equality, equity, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, shared responsibility and the sovereignty of nations.
<b>II</b>	<b>Peace, security and disarmament</b> Be more effective in maintaining peace and security by providing the resources and means necessary for conflict prevention, dispute resolution, peace-keeping, post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding, and disarmament.
<b>III</b>	<b>Development and poverty eradication</b> Promote and create global and national environments conducive to development and to the eradication of poverty, and make sufficient resources available.
<b>IV</b>	<b>Protecting our common environment</b> Promote the principles of sustainable development.
<b>V</b>	<b>Human rights, democracy and good governance</b> Support countries to implement democracy, promote a respect for human rights and fight all forms of discrimination and violence against women.
<b>VI</b>	<b>Protecting the vulnerable</b> Ensure the protection of civilians in emergency situations and strengthen international cooperation and coordination of humanitarian assistance.
<b>VII</b>	<b>Meeting the special needs of Africans</b> Assist Africans to bring about poverty eradication, sustainable development, lasting peace, through debt cancellation, better market access, enhanced aid, and increased foreign direct investment.
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Strengthening the United Nations</b> Increase the effectiveness of the UN in order to fight poverty, disease, injustice, violence, terror and encourage development for all people.

# The Millennium Development Goals

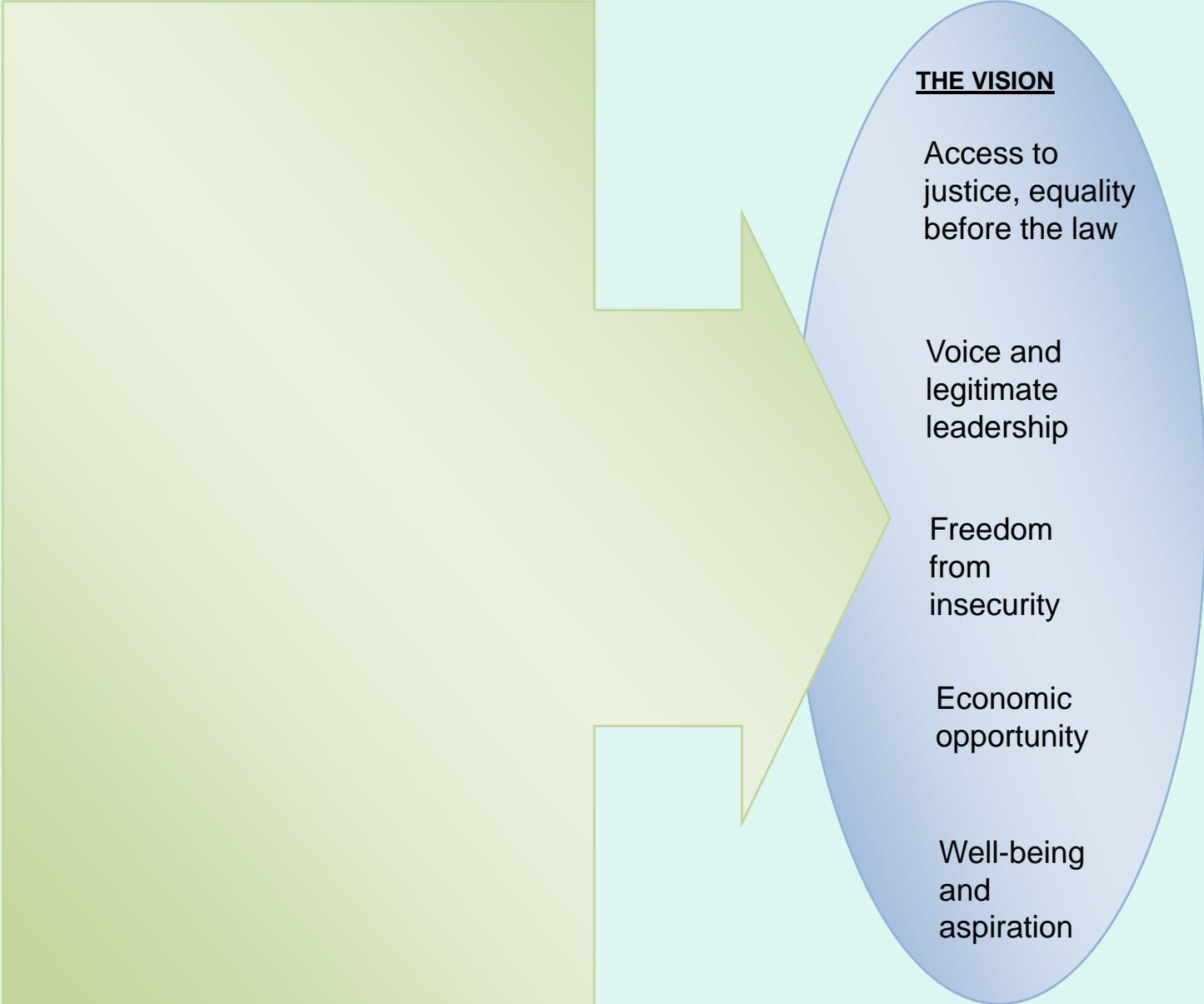
1. Poverty
2. Primary school attendance
3. Gender empowerment
4. Child health
5. Maternal mortality
6. HIV/AIDS, Malaria etc.
7. Environmental sustainability
8. Global partnerships

# Problems with the MDGs

- Confusion between political & technical
- Too narrow
- Confuse ends with means
- Unrealistic
- Globally conceived measures of local change
- Perverse incentives

# An alternative conceptual approach to development?

- Vision-based
- Pathways to progress
- Focused on societal progress
- Subsidiarity: broadly conceived at global level...
- ... while strategies set and monitored at national, local, household, individual levels
- Pays attention to history
- Humble



**THE VISION**

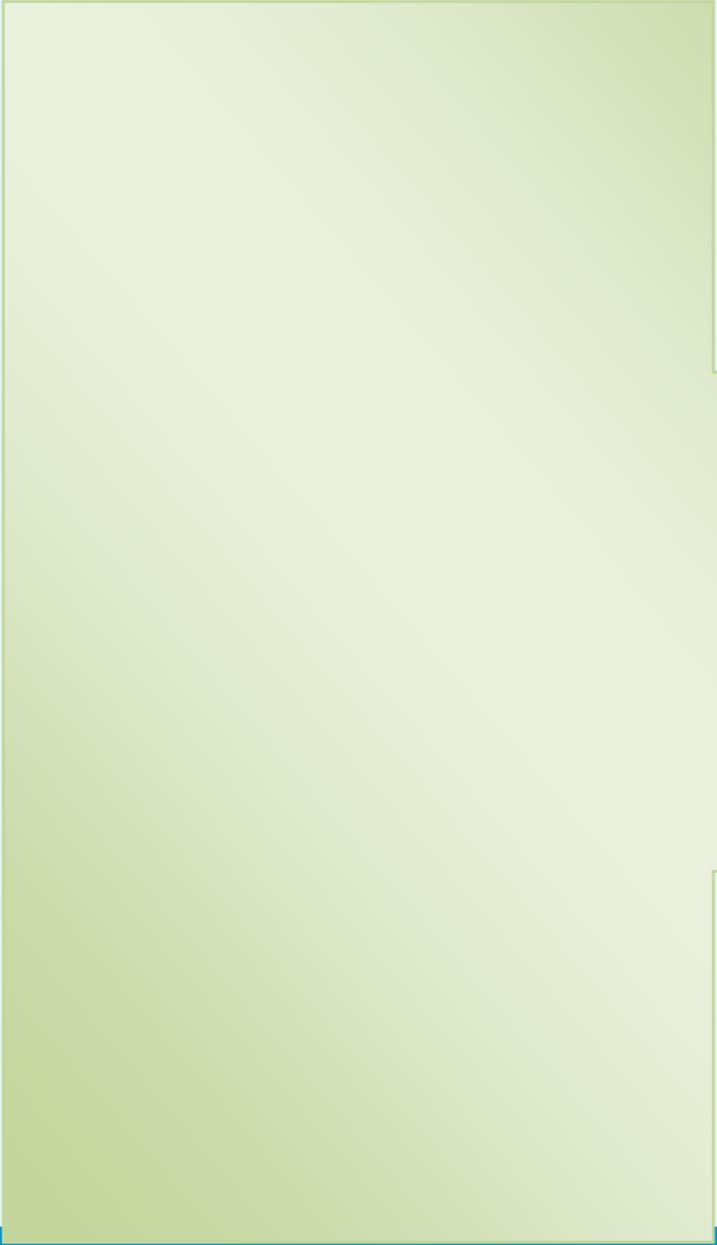
Access to  
justice, equality  
before the law

Voice and  
legitimate  
leadership

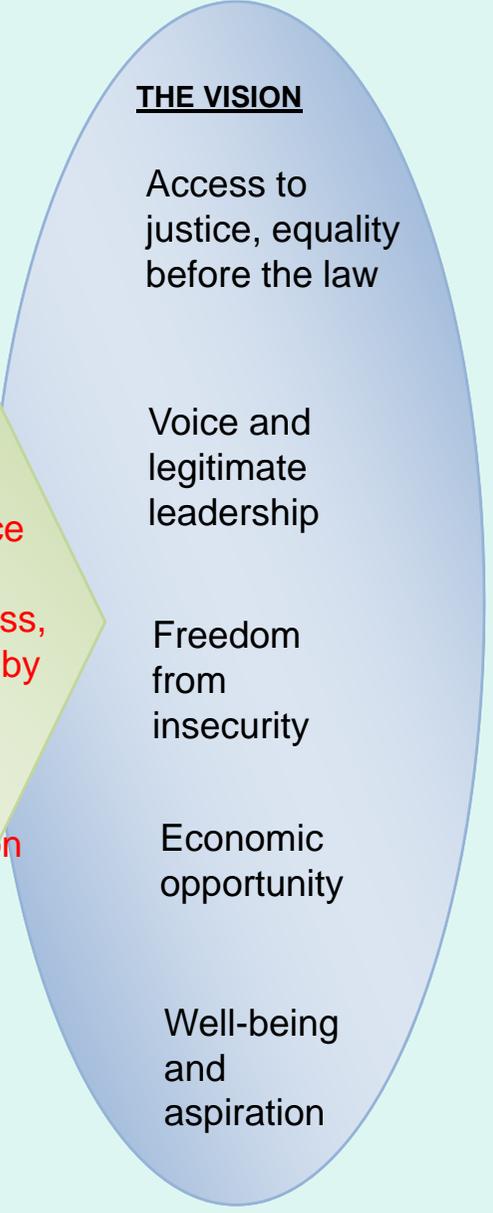
Freedom  
from  
insecurity

Economic  
opportunity

Well-being  
and  
aspiration



Strengthened institutions & values which underpin peace and enable human progress, characterised by effective leadership, relationships and negotiation



### DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

Opening access to political & economic opportunity; an increasingly dynamic civil society

The establishment of states with a strong sense of membership by & accountable to the people, and whose governments adopt “developmental” goals and policies

Establishing, gradually extending & eventually universalising the rule of law

Evolving from personal to impersonal forms of participation in the economy, politics and civil society

Sustained, shared economic growth

Developing a culture that encourages initiative and supports creativity

The transfer of control of organised violence from powerful factions to the accountable state

Adopting increasingly democratic, or representative & accountable forms of government

Strengthened institutions & values which underpin peace and enable human progress, characterised by effective leadership, relationships and negotiation

### THE VISION

Access to justice, equality before the law

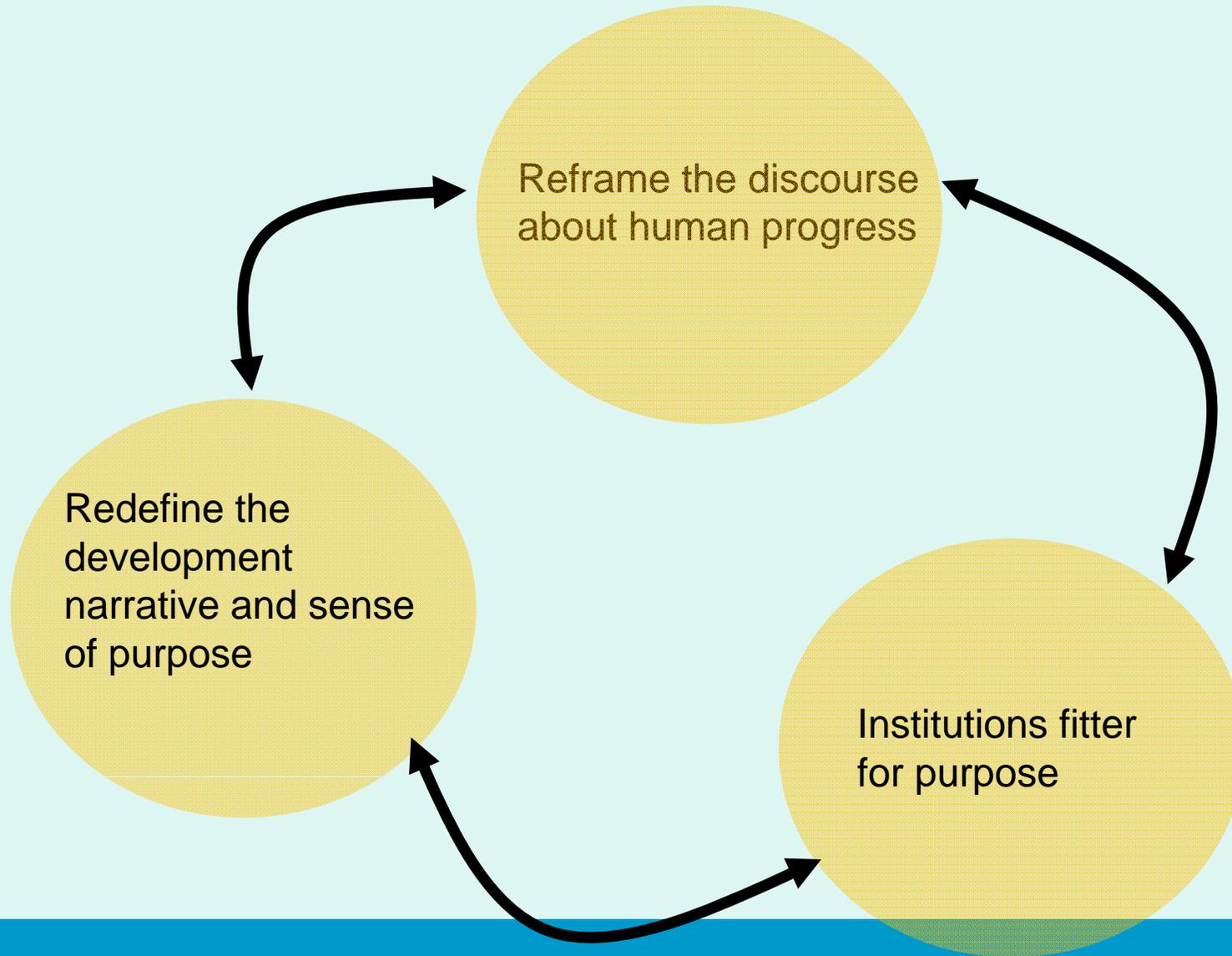
Voice and legitimate leadership

Freedom from insecurity

Economic opportunity

Well-being and aspiration

# Conclusions



# Busan: six measures of success

- Recognition of a paradigm change
- Acceptance of uncertainty, impotence and lack of known methods/tools
- Disagreement
- Replace “aid effectiveness” with “effective development”
- Commit to improved collaboration at national level
- Commit to operationalise new thinking on peacebuilding/statebuilding

# Report available at...

- <http://www.international-alert.org/sites/default/files/publications/MDG.pdf>