

WHAT ARE THE BEST TARGETS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY?

TARGET 1: *Expand open international circulation of skilled workers by 5-20% of current skilled migrants, which will return 15 dollars for every dollar spent.*

TARGET 2: *Increase developing country R&D spending of GDP to 0.5%, and emerging countries to raise their ratios to 1.5% – returns 3 dollars back on the dollar.*

“Recent and emerging evidence points to the importance of labor mobility in transferring technical information across borders and adapting it to local uses.”

A Novel Idea: Innovation Zones to Promote Technology Transfer

Keith E. Maskus, Professor of Economics at University of Colorado, Boulder has compared social and economic benefits and costs to identify the best targets.

This work was then peer-reviewed in alternative perspective papers by Kamal Saggi, Professor of Economics at Vanderbilt University, and by Pamela J. Smith, Associate Professor of Applied Economics at University of Minnesota. Additionally, NGOs and stakeholders such as The South Centre and UNCTAD also submitted viewpoint papers concerning Maskus' analysis.

Ultimately, an expert panel consisting of Nobel Laureate economists will weigh up the economic, social and environmental benefits and costs of all targets discussed for the post-2015 development agenda to form recommendations.

ABOUT POST-2015 CONSENSUS: In a world of limited resources, we can't do everything, but how should we prioritize? The Copenhagen Consensus Center provides information on which targets will do the most social good relative to their costs. The final decision on choosing goals will definitely rest on a number of factors, not just economics – but knowing the costs and benefits provides an import piece of information. Together, with the input of renowned experts from the UN, NGO and private sectors, our 62 teams of economists produce research papers to establish the most effective targets within the 19 core issue areas.