

# **KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

## **MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**1434 H  
2013 G**



Ministry of Economy and Planning



United Nations Development Program

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**IN THE NAME OF ALLAH,  
THE COMPASSIONATE,  
THE MERCIFUL**



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## INTRODUCTION

Over the nineties of the past century and the post-2000 period, several international summits and conferences were convened, with the aim of formulating a common development vision that would respond to the existing needs and new challenges within a framework of partnership at both the national and international levels. A large number of topics were addressed, including: population, social development, women and gender equality, human settlements, children, old age, education, human rights, information and communications technology, sustainable development and other issues. These forums succeeded in generating a substantial momentum for attaining harmony and integration of efforts and intensifying action at all levels in order to achieve the stated objectives.

International efforts to stress the fundamental links among peace, security and development, as well as to provide a comprehensive vision for development and progress, were crowned by the "Millennium Declaration" made by a summit of 147 heads of state, organized by the United Nations in September 2000. Subsequently, a system was developed to monitor implementation progress to achieve a set of 8 general goals known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
- Achieve universal primary education.
- Promote gender equality and empower women.
- Reduce child mortality rate.
- Improve reproductive health (maternal health).
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
- Ensure environmental sustainability.
- Develop a global partnership for development.

Twenty-one targets, derived from the general goals, are to be achieved by 2015, and 60 indicators, several for each target, have been developed to monitor implementation and measure achieved progress.

Implementation of the MDGs is monitored at both the international and national levels. At the national level, each country is required to prepare national reports that reflect progress towards achievement of the MDGs. At the international level, the UN Secretary General submits to the UN General Assembly a comprehensive progress report covering a comprehensive review of the progress made towards achievement of these goals.

The objective of the national reports, which feature indicators and analysis of progress, is to inform decision-makers on the developments that took place in this area, and gain their support, and ultimately reach the formulation of adequate policies. The reports also aim at mobilizing the participation of all economic, social, and political institutions and the media to achieve the MDGs.

Out of its keenness to adopt global visions in this regard in accord with its fixed norms and values, and its great concern to monitor progress towards meeting the MDGs, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia issued its first national report in 2002, followed by a second report in 2006 and a third one in 2008 and a fourth one in 2009 and a fifth report in 2010, followed by the sixth report in 2011 as well as the seventh report in 2012. The present report is the eighth in the series. All eighth reports were prepared by the Ministry of Economy and Planning, in close collaboration with the relevant government agencies, and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

The present report charts the progress made by the Kingdom towards achieving the MDGs at four levels:

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Development of the IT environment, making it possible to speed up achievement of the MDGs, through considerable expansion of databases.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Integration of the MDGs into sustainable development, as decided by the development plans in general and the Eighth and Ninth Development Plans in particular.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Persistent efforts to achieve, even surpass, the MDGs ahead of the schedule set by the UN.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. The considerable momentum in development assistance extended by the Kingdom to support MDGs implementation in developing countries.

Saudi Arabia's Development Plans constitute the cornerstone of the endeavours to achieve the MDGs. Not only do these plans aim, through formulation of the strategic vision and mobilization of human and financial resources, to realize the MDGs, but also through ensuring harmony and partnership between national and global efforts aimed at supporting international development and peace.

Follow up of implementation of the MDGs in the Kingdom demonstrate that the targets set for a several of goals have already been surpassed, while others are expected to be reached well ahead of schedule, i.e. in 2015, as can be seen from current growth indicators. It is worth noting in this regard that the Kingdom has already achieved good results towards attainment of the following goals:

- Eradicate extreme poverty.
- Ensure that all children, boys and girls alike, have access to primary schooling.
- Eliminate gender disparity in primary, intermediate, secondary and tertiary education.
- Reduce mortality rate of children under five years old.
- Achieve universal access to reproductive health services.
- Reduce maternal mortality.
- Reduce the spread of AIDS.
- Achieve universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS to all those who need it.
- Reduce the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.
- Reduce the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.
- Significantly improve the lives of slum dwellers.

In the context of monitoring progress made towards achievement of MDGs, Saudi Arabia has established comprehensive databases for socio-economic development indicators and developed adequate mechanisms for the process of monitoring them. These databases and mechanisms are subject to regular updating. It is noteworthy that the MDGs constitute part of the general objectives of the Kingdom's socio-economic development plans, and thus they are in line with its long term development directions. This allows follow up of MDGs achievement within the objectives, programs and projects of the development plans.



## MONITORING AND EVALUATION ENVIRONMENT<sup>(\*)</sup>

Target	Ability to Conduct:					Quality of Survey Data
	Data Collection	Statistical Follow-up	Statistical analysis	Incorporating Analysis into Policy	Monitoring / Evaluation	
<b>1. Extreme poverty:</b> By 2015, halve the proportion of people who suffer from extreme poverty.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>2. Employment</b> Achieve full, productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>3. Nutrition and food security:</b> Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger within the period (1990-2015).	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>4. Education:</b> By 2015, ensure that all children have access to primary education.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>5. Gender equality:</b> Eliminate gender disparity in primary, intermediate and secondary education by 2005, and in all levels of education by 2015.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>6. Health and mortality rate:</b> By 2015, reduce to one third the mortality rate of children under five years old.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>7. By 2015, reduce to one quarter the maternal mortality rate during births.</b>	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>8. Reproductive health</b> Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
<b>9. AIDS</b> By 2015, halt and begin to reduce the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor

Target	Ability to Conduct:					Quality of Survey Data
	Data Collection	Statistical Follow-up	Statistical analysis	Incorporating Analysis into Policy	Monitoring / Evaluation	
10. Achieve by 2010, universal access to treatment from HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
11. By 2015, halt and begin to reduce the prevalence rate of malaria and other major diseases.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
12. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into government policies and programs and end the loss of environmental resources.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	Good <u>Medium ✓</u> Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
13. Achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	Good <u>Medium ✓</u> Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
14. <b>Environment and Water:</b> By 2015, halve the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
15. <b>Housing and Overcrowded Quarters:</b> By 2020, achieve tangible improvement in the lives of slum dwellers.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor
16. Cooperate with the Private Sector to make use of technology benefits, particularly ICT.	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor	<u>Good ✓</u> Medium Poor

(\*) MDG8 (Develop a Global Partnership for development) includes 5 targets, which are implemented, monitored and evaluated by the UN. Therefore, they are not included in this list.

## OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED<sup>(\*)</sup>

Target	Will Target be Achieved				Current status of Supporting Environment			
<b>1. Extreme poverty:</b> By 2015, halve the proportion of people who suffer from extreme poverty.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID*	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>2. Employment</b> Achieve full, productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.	Expected	<u>Probable</u> ✓	Not Expected	ID	Good	<u>Moderate</u> ✓	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>3. Nutrition and food security:</b> Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger within the period (1990-2015)	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>4. Education:</b> By 2015, ensure that all children have access to primary education.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor

Target	Will Target be Achieved				Current status of Supporting Environment			
<b>5. Gender equality:</b> Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, by 2005, and in all levels of education by 2015.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>6. Health and mortality rate:</b> By 2015, reduce to one third the mortality rate of children below five years old.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>7.</b> By 2015, reduce to one quarter the maternal mortality ratio during births.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>8. Reproductive health</b> Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor

Target	Will Target be Achieved				Current status of Supporting Environment			
<b>9. AIDS</b> By 2015, halt and begin to reduce the prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>10.</b> Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment from HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>11.</b> By 2015, halt and begin to reduce the prevalence rate of malaria and other major diseases.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
<b>12.</b> Integrate the principles of sustainable development into government policies and programs and end the loss of environmental resources.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor

Target	Will Target be Achieved				Current status of Supporting Environment			
13. Achieve a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
14. <b>Environment and Water:</b> By 2015, halve the number of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
15. <b>Housing and Overcrowded Quarters:</b> By 2020, achieve tangible improvement in the lives of slum dwellers.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor
16. Cooperate with the Private Sector to make use of technology benefits, particularly ICT.	<u>Expected</u> ✓	Probable	Not Expected	ID	<u>Good</u> ✓	Moderate	Poor but improving	Poor

(\*) MDG8 (Develop a Global Partnership for development) includes 5 targets, which are implemented, monitored and evaluated by the UN. Therefore, they are not included in this list.

(\*\*) ID = Insufficient Data.

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK

## CURRENT SITUATION

Since numerous years, Saudi Arabia witnesses tangible economic prosperity and progress in all domains of socio-economic development which produced sustainable improvement in all human development indicators such as standard of living, health and educational services, environmental conditions as well as potentials of comprehensive development.

Socio-economic indicators reflect this progress. Over the period (1999-2012), the national economy (GDP) achieved an average annual real growth rate of 12.7%<sup>(1)</sup>, with per capita income at current prices reaching around SR 91.329 (\$ 24,354) by the end of this period. Moreover, diversification of the economic base increased, with the share of non-oil sectors<sup>(2)</sup> constituting some 77.56% of total real GDP in 2012, despite the remarkable growth of the oil sector in recent years.

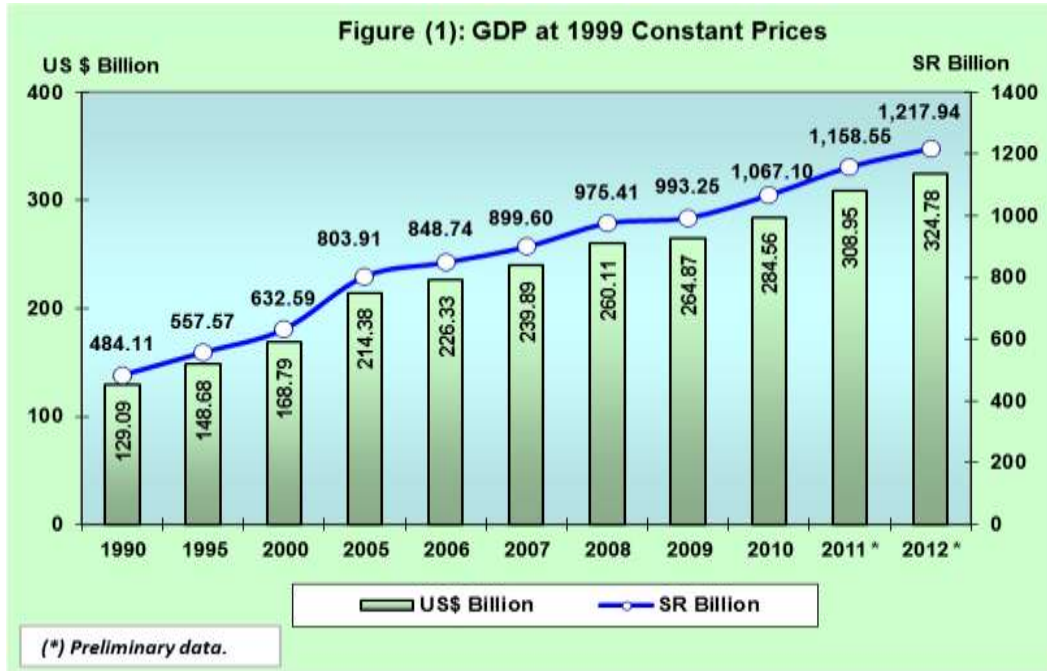
The Saudi economy also realized growing integration into the global economy, with the ratio of merchandise foreign trade<sup>(3)</sup> to GDP reaching some 76.5% by the end of the third year (2012) of the Ninth Plan. Concerning foreign trade structure, the share of non-oil merchandise exports in total exports increased from around 8.5% in 2000 to some 13.1% in 2012. On the other hand, the share of imports of consumer goods in total imports has declined, due to the growth of the share of national products in domestic consumption, which is an indicator of improved competitiveness of these products.

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<sup>1)</sup> GDP data from 2004-2012 has been updated according to the results of the comprehensive economic census.

<sup>2)</sup> At constant prices.

<sup>3)</sup> Merchandise exports and imports.



## DIRECTIONS OF DEVELOPMENT

The Kingdom adopts the development planning approach in mapping out its development process and defining its socio-economic policies and programs within the framework of comprehensive five-year plans that involve two basic complementary roles: directive role concerned about state institutions and the public sector, and an indicative role concerned about the private sector. In this regard, the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014), sets the directions for all aspects of the country's socio-economic development for the plan period. The plan also addresses expected major challenges, along with the policies, programs and resources required to meet these challenges and to achieve development goals and objectives.

The Plan marks a new stage in the process of development planning, which extends over the past four decades, and constitutes the second phase in the strategic path of the national economy up to 2015. The MDGs are part and parcel of the goals of this strategic path.

**Box (1): Selected Ninth Development Plan Objectives (2010–2014)**

- To safeguard Islamic teachings and values, enhance national unity and security, guarantee human rights, ensure social stability and consolidate the Arab and Islamic identity of the Kingdom.
- To enhance human development, expand the range of options open to Saudis to enable them to acquire and use knowledge, skills and expertise, and provide appropriate healthcare services.
- To raise the standard of living and improve the quality of life for all citizens.
- To give special attention to the welfare of low income groups and address their problems, particularly the poor and needy families.
- To give priority to employment of Saudi manpower.
- To increase women's participation in economic activity and provide support services to enable their participation.
- To build a united family, where man and woman collaborate to raise family economic, social and cultural standing, develop knowledge and skills among family members, promote a sense of responsibility and initiative towards their community as well as integration in society within a framework of values that draw inspiration from Arab and Islamic heritage.
- To achieve an integrated educational system that lays a strong foundation for the general education base in the Kingdom, supported by well trained and highly qualified educational resources that are capable of developing and upgrading the capabilities of students as well as helping them acquire cognitive and innovative skills, with knowledge society requirements serving as the underlying principle.
- To achieve a balance between economic and natural resources and population growth rates, and to attain optimum utilization of the current and future age structures of the population.
- To develop, conserve and rationalize consumption of natural resources, particularly water, and protect the environment and develop relevant regulations within the framework of sustainable development requirements.

## KEY ISSUES

The following issues hold a strategic position in the Kingdom's development process:

### ❖ *Raising Standard of Living and Improving Quality of Life:*

As of the beginning of its development planning approach, the Kingdom succeeded in increasing its income many-folds, with per capita income growing at an average annual rate of 5.74% over the period 1990–2012. This income growth was accompanied by a similar improvement in human development indicators, thus ranking the Kingdom on the 11<sup>th</sup> place among "countries with the fastest progress" in human development, and 57 among 186 countries in the global human development index<sup>(4)</sup>.

### ❖ *Diversification of Economic Base:*

Ever since the start of development planning, diversification of the economic base has been a principal objective of economic and social development. The development process placed emphasis on enhancing the role of non-oil sectors in the national economy. Indeed, notable success has been achieved, as reflected in the contribution of these sectors to the real GDP increasing from around 43.62% in 1970 to 77.56% in 2012. Nevertheless, developing the non-oil sectors to raise their share in production activities as well as in exports remains one of the main development challenges. It should be noted that diversification of the economic base is one of the main directions of the Ninth Development Plan. The significance of this direction is due to its being a necessary condition for building a modern and stable economy.

### ❖ *Enhancing Non-Oil Revenues:*

Oil revenues have been the main engine of development. Despite expansion and diversification of the economic base, oil revenues remain the main source of state budget that finance investment and operational expenditures. However, as oil resources are non-renewable, increasing focus has been given, through the development plans, to enhance diversification of the economic base as well as non-oil public resources.

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<sup>4)</sup> Source: Human Development Report, 2012 issued by the UNDP (Development of the South and human progress in a diversified world).

#### ❖ *Balanced Regional Development:*

Efforts made under the country's successive development plans have succeeded, to a great extent, in making tangible progress in reducing regional disparities. Improvement in this area is expected to continue during the Ninth Plan period in light of the approved programs and projects which aim at developing infrastructure, and public services, and other necessary public facilities, along with a drive to build a production base that primarily draws on individual regions' particular development resources and stimulating investment to move to under developed regions.

#### ❖ *The Move to a Knowledge-based Economy:*

The Kingdom has intensified its efforts, particularly during the periods of the Seventh and Eighth Development Plans to develop its technological and knowledge capacities with a view, to lay the foundations of an advanced, internationally competitive and knowledge-based economy that can keep pace with the accelerating global advancements of knowledge and technology. These efforts aspire to domestically generate, spread and utilize the said advances. In this regard, several key developments took place during the recent years. Among these were the initiation of implementation of the "Expanded Five-Year Plan for the National Science and Technology Policy"; approval of the "National ICT Plan", and the "National Industrial Strategy" and setting up its implementation mechanisms, besides starting implementation of the "Strategy for Supporting Talent, Creativity and Innovation". In addition, construction of the Economic Knowledge City in Medina was initiated, and King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) was inaugurated and the first batches have graduated. Furthermore, it has been approved to construct the Damman Technology Zone. Moreover, "the Future University Education Plan of the Kingdom (AFAQ) 1450" was also approved.

#### ❖ *Enhancing Competitiveness:*

Saudi Arabia is endowed with several resources and capabilities that constitute promising input for development of competitive advantages in production of many goods and services. This is backed up by persistent national efforts aimed at institutional and administrative development; creation of a business-friendly environment; improving the investment climate; upgrading of performance efficiency of government agencies, and enhancing the drive towards a knowledge-based economy. These efforts have borne fruit,

leading to improved ranking of Saudi Arabia in international reports. For example, the Kingdom ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> among 185 countries with respect to ease of doing business (2012); and the Global Competitiveness Report (2012-2013) ranked Saudi Arabia 18<sup>th</sup> among 144 countries. Such efforts are adopted and pursued as key directions of the Ninth Development Plan.

❖ *Development and Productive Employment of Human Resources:*

Human resources development realized tangible progress over the past two decades due to the considerable investments targeted to developing the education and training sector, human development indicators have shown notable gains in the past two decades. However, demand for labour surpassed Saudi labour supply in many professions, necessitating recruitment of large numbers of expatriate labour to meet the demand. This has created a situation that poses a key challenge for Saudization of jobs.

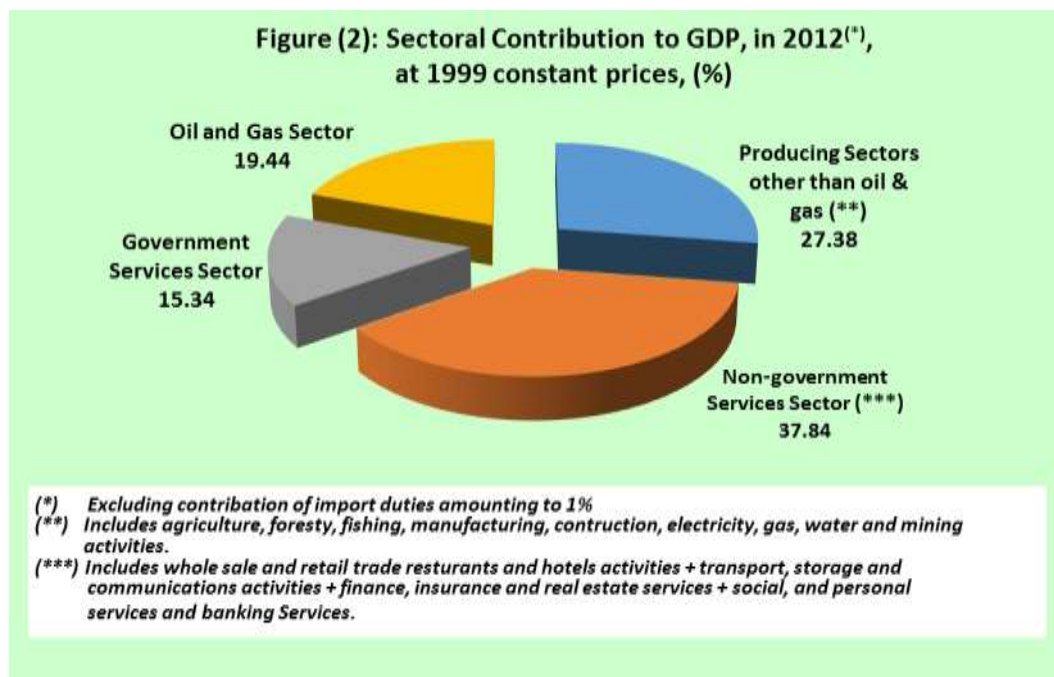
However, the need to match outputs of education and training with the skills and modern specializations required to meet development requirements has gained increasing significance over the past few years, as the mismatch has given rise to structural unemployment among Saudis.

The Ninth Plan has placed considerable attention to human resources development, through improved enrolment ratios in various educational stages; development of the education system to ensure quantitative and qualitative response to development requirements and new challenges, and through expansion, development and wide-scale set up of vocational training programs in all regions of the Kingdom.

❖ *Sustainability of Natural Resources:*

Scarcity of water resources constitute a vital issue for the Kingdom, due to the fact that the largest share of water consumed for agricultural, municipal and industrial purposes comes from non-renewable resources. Accordingly, requirements of sustainable development urge for rationalization of water consumption, and more reliance on conventional renewable water resources ... etc.

On the other hand, conservation of agricultural land and protection against degradation or desertification is a major challenge facing sustainable development. The same applies to conservation, development and protection of the environment.



## SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENT

A set of integrated factors support the Kingdom's development process. Key among these are:

- ***A Successful Development Experience:*** Despite recency of the development planning approach, the Kingdom has made significant achievements that are reflected in all sustainable development indicators. These achievements have been enhanced by proper setting of development priorities throughout the successive development plans, with each plan bearing adequate relevance to prevailing conditions, while ensuring continuity of the development effort.

- ***Advanced Infrastructure and Services:*** All regions of the Kingdom are covered by modern infrastructure for transportation, telecommunications, electricity, water, sanitation, and a distribution network for petroleum products, as well as by health, education, training, social and other services.
- ***A Unique Experience in Developing Comprehensive Development Corridors:*** The Kingdom has built two industrial cities in Jubail and Yanbu in record time. The two cities have attained a distinguished status both regionally and internationally in the petrochemicals industry. As part of the drive to enhance and consolidate spatial diversification in the national economy, work has started during the Eighth Plan in implementing four new economic cities to serve as new development corridors: King Abdullah Economic City in Rabigh, Prince Abdulaziz Bin Musa'ed Economic City in Hail Region, Economic Knowledge City in Medina, and Jazan Economic City in Jazan Region.
- ***An Active, Entrepreneurial Private Sector:*** The private sector enjoys a high degree of dynamism, contributing some 57.6% of real GDP in 2012. The sector's activities cover all existing fields. The sector possesses adequate financial and management capabilities and is a major partner in the development process.
- ***A Conducive Institutional and Organizational Environment:*** Over the Eighth Development Plan period, efforts were focused on institutional and administrative development. Several measures and decisions were taken to enhance performance efficiency of the public sector, and promote a regulatory environment in a way that ensures a motivating business and investment environment and enhances the economic and social efficiency of the development process.
- ***Advantageous Geographical Characteristics:*** The Kingdom occupies a strategic geographic position, with its sea ports and airports linking the three continents of Asia, Africa and Europe. This unique geographical position provides the Kingdom with great potential in air, sea and land transit services and re-export of goods.

### General Indicators (2012)

Indicator	Values
* Population (million)	29.20 <sup>(*)</sup>
* Population growth rate (%)	2.21 <sup>(**)</sup>
* Real GDP (billion US dollars)	324.78
* Per capita GDP, at current prices (thousand US dollars/year)	24.35
* Life expectancy at birth (years)	73.8
* Literacy rate (% of 15-24 age group)	98.3
* Fertility rate (average births per woman)	2.90
* Ratio of foreign debt to GDP (%)	0.0
* Ratio of investment to GDP <sup>(***)</sup> , at current prices (%)	22.17

<sup>(\*)</sup> *Preliminary estimates.*

<sup>(\*\*)</sup> *Saudis only.*

<sup>(\*\*\*)</sup> *Percentage of Fixed Capital Formation.*



## GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

### TARGET 1:

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.

Target Indicators	2004	2006	2009	2010	2011	2012
• Proportion of families whose income is below two dollars a day per person (Purchasing Power Parity). (%) <sup>(*)</sup> <sup>(**)</sup>	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.0	-
• Extreme poverty gap (%)	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.0	-

(\*) Extreme poverty line has been estimated at about \$2 a day per person.

(\*\*) On average, a Saudi family consists of 6 members.

### TARGET 2:

Achieve full, productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.

Target Indicators	2000	2005	2006	2010	2011	2012
• GDP growth rate per working individual	14.6	19.7	8.5	13.2	13.0	1.6 <sup>(*)</sup>
• Employment to population ratio	27.9	30.5	31.9	32.6	34.8	35.6

(\*) Preliminary data.

Source: CDSI

### TARGET 3:

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

Target Indicators	2006	2007	2010	2011	2012
• Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age (%)	6.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	4.3

## CURRENT SITUATION

Poverty reduction is a main objective of economic and social development. However, poverty is not limited to material deprivation, but has many other dimensions such as hunger, lack of adequate shelter, inability to secure medical treatment, lack of access to or drop out of education and schooling, illiteracy, and unemployment. In a strict sense, however, poverty refers to inability to satisfy basic living needs for food, clothing, shelter and healthcare, due to low and limited income. Thus, combating poverty and its ramifications takes many forms that cut across sectors and approaches.

Wide availability of educational, health, and social security services in all parts of the Kingdom to all targeted and needy groups (as we will see later, the matter is related to education and health services) has confined poverty to small pockets. However, citing the fact that poverty is limited does not mean to detract from the importance of combating it; but merely to put it in right perspective, in order to provide the necessary remedies for it.

As a result of the major steps and effective measures taken to accelerate all aspects of socio-economic development, the Kingdom has made considerable progress in its efforts to contain and to restrict poverty to limited pockets. Within the framework of eradicating all levels of poverty, Saudi Arabia prepared the National Social Development Strategy (Box 1.1). Led by the Ministry of Social affairs, the strategy adopts a comprehensive perspective with respect to the poverty and the mechanisms to be pursued in addressing the problem. Under this strategy, poverty rates will be reduced through improvement of living conditions of the poor. Efforts in this regard will seek to increase income levels of the poor, provide them with basic services, upgrade their education and health levels, develop their capabilities and skills and, enable their effective participation in the development process. However, the focus of the strategy is not confined to addressing the poverty issue, as it also stresses maintaining the living standard of other citizens, particularly middle income groups, with efforts seeking to help them avoid falling into the poverty trap.

The Kingdom's efforts to contain poverty have borne fruit. Available Data under the National Social Development Strategy indicate that the proportion of Saudi households living under the extreme poverty line declined to a lower level in 2011. Thus, the Kingdom has achieved the MDG goal of eradication of extreme poverty well ahead of the target year

of 2015. It is noteworthy that the Kingdom has set the extreme poverty level at near two US Dollars per person per day, which exceeds the MDG level.

**Box (1.1): Features of the National Social Development Strategy**

**A. Fundamentals of the Strategy:**

- To provide the poor with opportunities to build and enhance their financial and human assets, by providing job opportunities, credit, education, training and health services and through improving market access to their products.
- To enhance the capability of the poor to participate effectively in economic activities.
- To improve living standards of the poor by enhancing their ability to face risks such as bad health, economic shocks related to market fluctuations, natural disasters, and providing them with assistance in case of disasters or emergencies.

**B. Strategy Themes:**

1. Balanced economic development.
2. Economic empowerment and employment of the poor.
3. Human resources and capital development.
4. Expansion of the social safety net.
5. Improving institutional structure and achieving good governance.

The following section reviews the Kingdom's efforts in addressing the poverty pockets within two themes. First, progress made in the social safety net. Second, Saudization initiatives.

■ ***Social Safety Nets:***

In order to achieve MDG1, the government has taken a set of decisions and measures to develop and support social safety nets, as shown below:

1. The government provides social security services in all provinces and governorates of the Kingdom. The maximum of social security benefit per family has been increased from SR 16.2 thousand to more than SR 58 thousand per year. Total spending in 2012 stood at about SR 15.3 billion (excluding support programs).
2. In addition, there are many complementary and support programs to help social security beneficiaries meet their diversified needs. These programs include:

- Programs of security assistance to critical cases. They target low-income groups to enable them improve their living conditions. The total spending on this program reached about SR 9.3 billion in 2012.
  - Program of productive projects which aim at qualifying social security beneficiaries through upgrading skills or providing tools. Total amount of SR 20 billion was spent on this program in 2012.
  - Program of "school uniform and bag" which provides school bags and uniforms to kids of social security beneficiaries, who are enrolled in general education and still below 18 years of age. Total amounts spent on this program reached about SR 92.1 million in 2012.
  - Program of partial payment of electricity bills. The social security pays part of the bill according to the number of family members covered by the benefits. Total spending on this program reached SR 576.1 million in 2012.
  - Furniture program which aims at creating an appropriate environment for a better life by improving the accommodation conditions of the beneficiaries, in collaboration with related public and private institutions, to establish a social partnership. Total spending on this program reached about SR 111.9 million in 2012.
  - Program of cash transfers to support households budgets to enable them meet their needs of foodstuffs. Total spending on the program amounted to about SR 1.76 billion in 2012.
3. Introduction of a "complementary support" program which aims at closing the gap between actual income of the extremely poor families and individuals and the poverty line. Allocations for this program reached about SR 274.3 million in 2012.
  4. A financial support of SR 400 million per year is allocated to the Social Charity Fund, to help reduce poverty through the following steps:
    - To offer interest-free loans to the needy people who are capable to work, thus help them set up small-scale investment projects.
    - To contribute to capacity development of the needy persons through orientation and training.
    - To contribute to creating adequate job opportunities for job seekers.
    - To develop and support "producing families" programs that target needy segments of the population.
    - To contribute to creation of business incubators for small enterprises.

- To raise awareness of the needy people regarding available training and job opportunities that match their capabilities.
  - To enhance social involvement in combating poverty
  - To help relevant organizations identify the requirements of needy people for health, education, housing, social and other services.
  - To strengthen the role of charities in helping the needy people themselves.
  - To coordinate with relevant agencies to facilitate procedures related to interests of the needy people.
5. Program for support of poor students in the Ministry of Education, including the program of summer and winter clothes and school bags and to support Takaful Charity Organization has allocated SR 476 million for this purpose.
  6. Support sons/daughters of the poor families to join higher education institutions by assigning a percent of seats for them as well as facilitating the admission terms and exempting them from payment of Giass and Tahseel test fees and from study fees at applied colleges and giving them priority in university housing programs as well as temporary jobs of the university.
  7. Services provided to persons with special needs, the total number of beneficiaries reached 396,987 persons. Such disabilities include compound physical and mental disability and sickness. Total allocations for these services reached SR 3.8 billion in 2012.
  8. Support of foster care services (support provided to families which provide nursery care to orphans). Total amount of SR 264 million was spent on 7570 cases during 2012.
  9. Medical assistance for the disabled the allocation of which amounted to SR 30 million in 2012.
  10. Providing cars designed for persons with special needs the allocations of which amounted to SR 500,000 for the first phase and SR 100 million for the second phase.
  11. Juveniles care and observation services. The number of beneficiaries at social observation homes reached 11,532 persons, at social orientation homes reached 93 persons and at girls care institutions reached 1,418 in 2012.
  12. The number of beneficiaries from social nursing homes reached 455 children, from social education homes for girls reached 293 orphans, social education homes for boys reached 428 orphans, from paralyzed children care institutions reached 170 and

elderly social care homes reached 678 in 2012.

13. Adding the cost of living allowance (15%) to the basic salaries of employees of the government sector.
14. Providing a temporary monthly allowance of SR 2000 for young job-seekers through Hafiz Program as well as providing training and retraining programs to enable them obtain appropriate jobs.
15. Identifying a minimum wage of SR 3000 per month for workers of the government sector.
16. Approving construction of 500,000 housing units spread in all regions of the Kingdom with total costs of SR 250 billion to be added to SR 25 billion already approved for this sector, thereby increasing its total allocations to SR 275 billion.
17. Raising the ceiling of housing loans provided by REDF from SR 300 thousand to SR 500 thousand (long-term, interest free loans to be repaid on 25 years). The REDF capital has been supported with an extra amount of SR 40 billion, thereby increasing its total capital to SR 97 billion.
18. Raising the capital of the Saudi Credit and Saving Bank to SR 30 billion. The number of beneficiaries from the bank's loans reached 145,229 in 2012 with loans value amounting to SR 6687 million. The bank provides the following services:
  - Interest-free loans are provided to small and emerging enterprises and to the citizens with handicrafts and professional skills.
  - Providing social, interest-free loans to low-income citizens (in cases of marriage, house renovation, buying a taxi, establishing a small business).
  - Playing a complementary coordinator role for providing care to small and emerging enterprises.
19. The government provides free education and health services through its institutions.
20. Continuing to subsidize foodstuffs so as to mitigate the effects of sharp price increases.
21. Adopting utility consumption tariffs (electricity and water), which vary according to level of consumption, thus relieve the burden of the poor people.

## **Role of Civil Society Institutions in Social Safety Nets:**

Civil society institutions play an important developmental role within the activities of the social safety nets in the Kingdom. Private charity institutions play a major role in providing care and social support to the poor and the needy. The total number of these societies reached 628 in 2012 of which 40 are female societies. Programs of charity societies, which are spread throughout the Kingdom's regions, cover wide and varied areas such as: maternal and child care, care for the elderly and the disabled as well as care for orphans and people with special needs, besides combating illiteracy, training of women in selected occupations and activities, and offering health services. Recently, the government raised its support provided to charity societies by 50% to reach SR 450 million per year. In areas not served by government social development centres, local committees are formed to achieve social objectives of the local community. Available data indicate that a total of 381 local committees were in operation in 2012.

With the increased attention given to civil society institutions and enhancing their developmental role, the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014) called for strengthening the vital role of these institutions. At the strategic level, the Eleventh Objective stressed the significant role of the non-governmental organizations in the development process. This objective states "Support civil society institutions in advancing their developmental activities". The Plan also comprised a wide range of policies and mechanisms for implementation of the strategic vision related with supporting non-governmental organizations in advancing their activities, including, inter alia,: supporting, regulating and improving the performance of charitable and voluntary work so as to enhance their contribution to social development; increasing the participation of woman and civil society in the efforts of boosting the developmental role of the Saudi women; enhancing participation of the civil society institutions in activating the developmental role of the youth;... etc.

### **■ *Saudization Initiatives:***

The Kingdom has been keen to address the challenges associated with unemployment and the need to create more job opportunities for citizens. Over the past two decades, the concept of Saudization of jobs has emerged and has come to represent an unrelenting direction in the Saudi development endeavours.

A significant development in the field of providing jobs to citizens has been the finalization of the Saudi Employment Strategy (Box 1.2)<sup>5</sup>. The strategy is designed to serve as reference for addressing manpower and employment issues in the Kingdom. It sets out a vision to "provide quantitatively sufficient and adequately paying job opportunities that lead to full employment of Saudi human resources, and achieve a competitive advantage to the national economy". The strategy was approved by the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 260 of 5/8/1430 (2009). During 2011, the ministry started to implement the incentive program of Saudization (Nitagat) to encourage the firms to Saudize jobs.

#### Box.1.2: Objectives of the Saudi Employment Strategy

Long-term (6-25 years)	Medium-term 3-5 years	Short-term 2 years	
Achieve competitive advantage based on national human resources	Reduce unemployment rate	Control unemployment	Interim objectives / General objectives
Achieve full employment	Increase employment growth rates	Increase employment rates	Achieve full employment
Achieve highest possible participation rates	Increase participation growth rates	Increase participation rates	Sustainable increase in participation of Saudi human resources
Achieve highest possible labor productivity level	Increase labor productivity growth	Increase labor productivity	Raise labor productivity to standards of developed economies

<sup>5)</sup> Ministry of Labour, "Saudi Employment Strategy", Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 2009. pp. 24-25.

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

As a result of its above mentioned developmental efforts, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has achieved the major elements of the first Millennium Development Goal ahead of 2015, the year set by the United Nations. As growth is a precondition for sustainable progress in achieving the first MDG along with related targets, it is planned to raise Saudi per capita income by an average annual rate of 2.9% during the Ninth Plan. In order to ensure that growth benefits and fruits will be equally shared by the poor and economically and socially vulnerable groups, further and deeper utilization will be made of social care and social safety net services along with provision of rewarding jobs to all who are capable and willing to work.

Accordingly, social care systems and social safety nets will be applied intensively. This will include assistance in cash and in kind, support for prices of basic goods and services including housing, social care homes, and enabling needy families to do rewarding work. Continued support will also be provided to efforts that are aimed at development of capabilities of the national work force, providing sufficient and rewarding jobs, developing the competitive capabilities of the national manpower, and expansion and upgrading of labour market services, in order to achieve full employment of the Saudi workforce (Box 1.3).

## **CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

The principal challenge to eradicating poverty stems from its multi-dimensionality, as it intersects with most aspects of economic and social development, with progress towards that goal requiring parallel progress towards other development goals at both the macroeconomic and the sectoral levels. Therefore, increasing income in general, and of low-income groups in particular; attaining balanced development; creating job opportunities for all Saudis, particularly women and young people, with the requisite education and training of manpower; eradication of illiteracy and raising the level of education; and provision of health and social care and other public services; all constitute inputs for a lasting, radical resolution of the issue of poverty. The policies and programs of the Ninth Development Plan provide these inputs.

**Box (1.3): Selected Targets, from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014),  
Relevant to MDG 1**

- To continue to pay subsidies for needy cases, namely families of special needs members, paralyzed children, foster families, marriage of residents of social care homes, individual projects for handicapped persons as well as social security payments and assistance.
- To provide assistance to social welfare beneficiaries in the following areas: payment of medical treatment costs, subsidy to meet cost of purchase of basic consumer needs, payment of electricity and water bills, renovation and furnishing of houses, provision of school bags and uniforms for school children of social security recipients in each academic year.
- To provide personal care to residents of institutional care homes who are incapable of serving themselves, as well as to disabled persons and paralyzed children, elderly people, and children in social care homes.
- To expand services of social care institutions in the regions where these services are needed: create 14 social guidance homes, 12 social care homes for girls, 6 social observation homes, 8 orphan children's villages, 4 social education homes for boys, 7 guest houses for girls, 5 elderly care homes, 21 social protection centres (for victims of domestic violence), 10 rehabilitation centres, 15 social security offices, and 6 new development centres.
- To continue to pay local development subsidy and provide support to allow continued offering of local development activities and programs.
- To encourage creation of and provide support to new private charitable societies.
- To support studies and research in social development and social care.
- To enable needy families to undertake rewarding work, through:
  - Providing adequate, rewarding job opportunities to individual members of needy families
  - Turning an increasing share of needy families into productive families.
  - Enabling the largest possible number of needy families to have small projects of their own.

**In the field of employment of national manpower:**

- To raise educational and practical qualification level of the Saudi workforce in order to meet the requirements of moving into the knowledge society.
- To improve productivity of the Saudi workforce to boost their competitiveness in the labour market.
- To achieve relative balance in the wage structure and employment in the labour market.
- To increase labour market participation rates and support economic empowerment opportunities for Saudi women.
- To control and rationalize expatriate recruitment in a way that will reduce unemployment rate.
- To improve and expand labour market services in order to meet the requirements of globalization and to enhance GCC integration prospects.

On the other hand, international experience demonstrates that poverty remains a serious threat to vulnerable groups no matter how advanced a society may be. It is thus imperative to create an effective social protection net, supported with an effective system of monitoring and evaluation, capable of not only curbing and combating poverty when it emerges, but also of preventing it from happening. The creation of a successful safety net is a continuing challenge for control of poverty and its adverse impacts.

## **SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

The development planning process adopted by the Kingdom provides a framework for studying, analysing and evaluating all factors affecting the living conditions of the population. Furthermore, the Ninth Development Plan serves as a comprehensive, integrated program for economic and social development, giving high priority to issues related to poverty reduction, such as improving living standards and quality of life, balanced regional development, human resources development, diversification of the economic base, ... etc. The plan would, therefore, enhance effectiveness of policies and improve the chances of attaining the stated objectives related to improvement of the standard of living in general and addressing the issue of poverty in particular.

It is noteworthy that the Kingdom's available resources represent one of the key factors in improving probability of achieving this goal. These resources ensure direct and rapid response to this phenomenon, particularly preventing its occurrence and alleviating its consequences. This will be realized through social security and safety mechanisms until permanent solutions are reached which may require longer time for maturity.

The Kingdom also enjoys advanced institutional and organizational capabilities represented in the civil societies spread throughout the Kingdom. These societies play a pivotal role in the provision of support and care to the needy segments of the society, and hence, their work integrates with that of the government-run specialized centers and institutions.

**Box (1.4): Overview of Current Situation****Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?**

✓Expected                  Probable                  Not possible                  No Answer due to  
Insufficient Data

**Supportive environment**

✓Good                  Moderate                  Poor but  
Improving                  Poor

**Box (1.5): Elements of Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Relevant Factors	Evaluation		
Data collection capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate results of analysis into policies and resource planning	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor

## **GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION**

### **TARGET 4:**

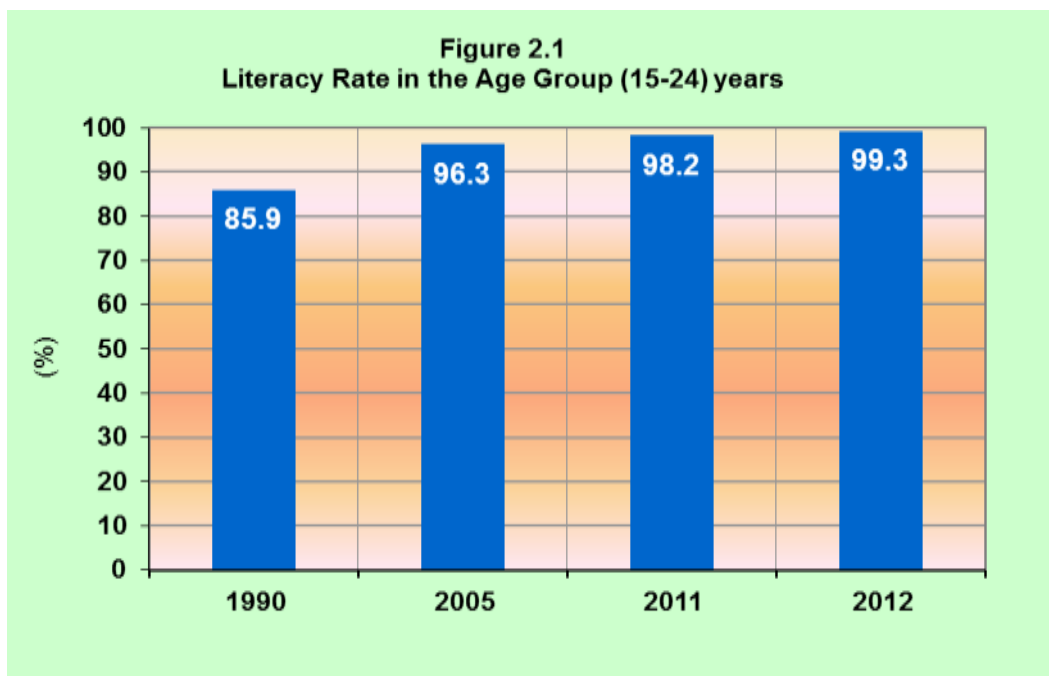
Ensure that, by 2015, all children, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary education.

<b>Target Indicators</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
• Gross enrolment ratio in primary education (%)	82.0	96.5	97.3	98.3	98.8	106.0	106.1
• Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%)	76.8	93.9	94.0	94.2	94.4	96.6	96.6
• Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 (%)	74.5	88.6	91.0	93.4	95.9	98.4	98.4
• Literacy rate in the age group (15–24) years old (%)	85.9	96.3	96.5	96.7	96.8	98.2	99.3

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Education is a main pillar of economic and social development and the most important factor for its sustainability. If the ultimate goal of development in a developed society is to improve human welfare, then this goal cannot be attained without educated, productive citizens and individuals commitment to human values and ideals. Providing access to educational services and enabling citizens to derive full benefits from them, is therefore, one of the landmarks on the road to human development, since education expands the scope of options and skills necessary for creating a productive citizen.

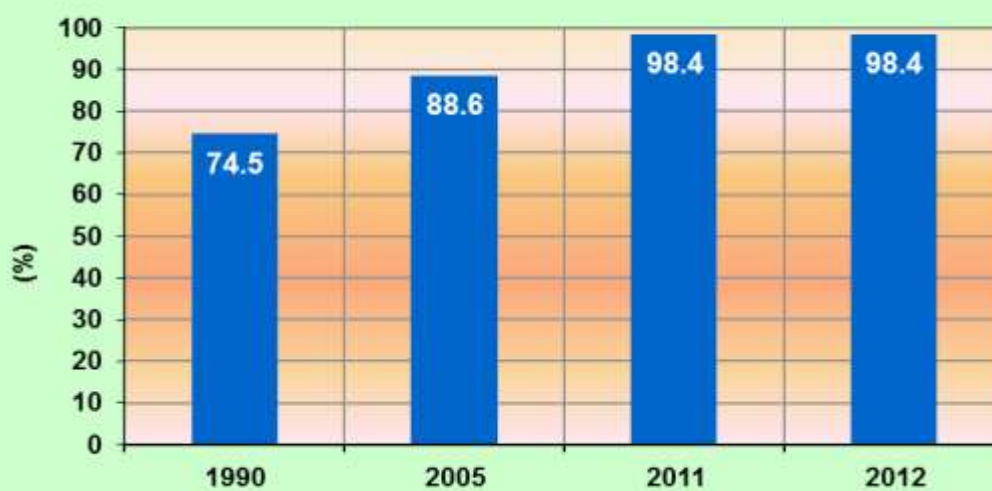
Based on this concept, the Kingdom paid special attention to the education sector and endeavoured to provide education to all citizens, the share of the expenditure on general education amounting to 6.3% of the GDP in 2012. As a result, adult literacy (15 years old and above) reached 92.6% while youth literacy (15-24 years old) reached 99.3% in 2012 (Figure 2.1); a development that benefited both sexes, with the ratio of literate females to literate males among the youth reaching 99.5:100 during the same year.



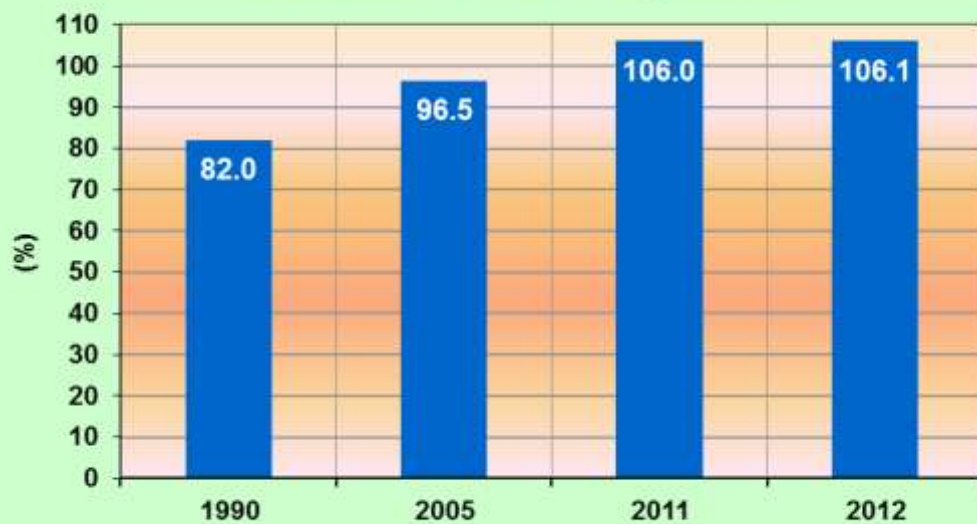
Primary stage education is the most crucial since it determines, to a great extent, the future educational course of pupils. Total primary school enrollment, in 2012, amounted to about 3.44 million pupils in 13,845 schools spread all over the Kingdom. In the same year, the number of new pupils in primary education amounted to about 423.5 thousand pupils. The average annual growth rate of enrolment over the period 2007-2012 amounted to 0.66%. It is worth noting that the public sector remains the main provider of educational services, with a share of 89.9% of total enrolment in primary schooling and 88.5% of total enrolment in all stages of public education in 2010.

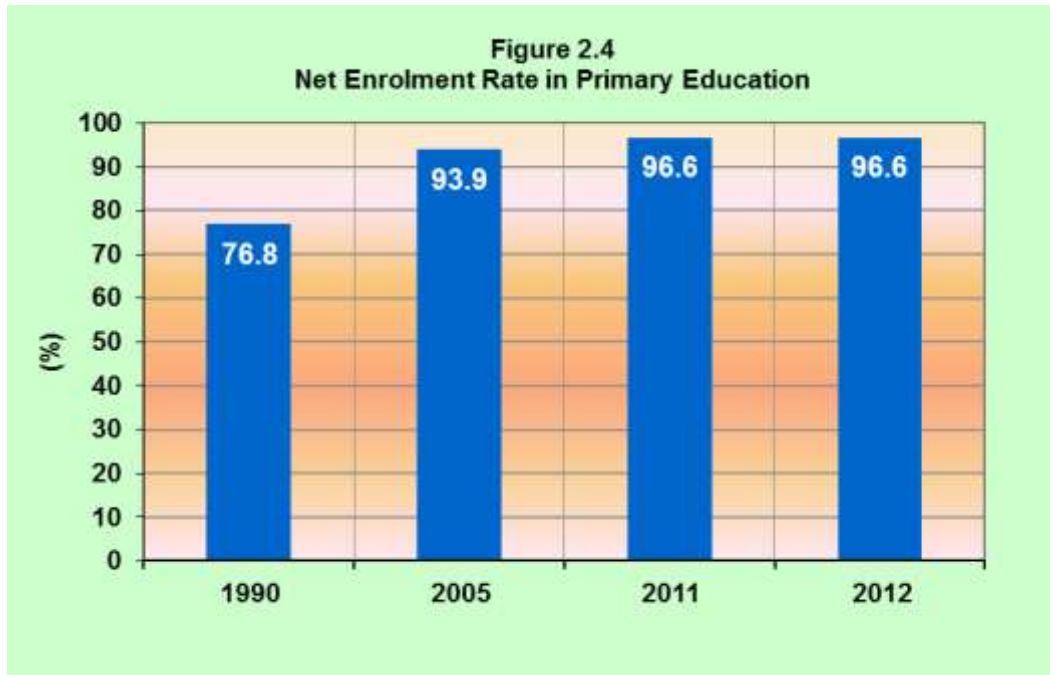
The proportion of first graders who reach grade 5 was 98.4% in 2012 (Figure 2.2), which indicates the marked progress made over the preceding decade. Primary education gross enrolment rate rose from 82% in 1990 to 106.1% in 2012 (Figure 2.3), while net enrolment rate in primary education stood at 96.6% in 2012. This testifies to the considerable achievement made and points to the fact that the Kingdom will be able to ensure that all children, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling ahead of the target year of 2015, (Figure 2.4).

**Figure 2.2**  
**Proportion of First Graders Who Reach Fifth Grade**



**Figure 2.3**  
**Gross Enrolment Rate in Primary Education**





In order to attain universal primary education and increase enrolment rates in all other levels of education, a number of measures and policies have been adopted, not only to guarantee education for all throughout the Kingdom, but also to improve and maintain the quality of education in the Kingdom. Among such measures and policies, are the following:

- Enforcing mandatory primary education, as per the decision taken in 2004.
- Establishing more kindergarten schools throughout the country and intensifying family awareness and guidance programs regarding the importance of pre-school education.
- Developing mechanisms for involvement of parents in monitoring children's activities, as well as school management and teaching staff performance.
- Early identification of children with special needs and provision of appropriate education and rehabilitation for them.
- Addressing the economic and social constraints that impede enrolment of children from low-income groups at different educational stages. It is worth noting, however, that education is provided free of charge at all stages.
- Intensifying programs, in educational curricula and the family and the society at large, aimed at raising awareness of the importance of educational attainment.

- Issuance of the Council of Ministers' Resolution No. 340 dated 23.10.1433 for the establishment of the General Education Evaluation Authority reporting to the Chairman of the Higher Education Council.
- Approval of the Council of Ministers on 22.2.1433 for recommendations related with encouraging the private sector's participation in the general education activity.

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

The Ninth Development Plan underscores the central role of education in achieving and strengthening human resources development, since education expands the scope of options available to citizens to gain knowledge and acquire skills, thus enabling citizens to benefit from the capabilities thus acquired. The Plan envisages the creation of an integrated, comprehensive educational system that will strive to lay out solid pillars for the general education, with the help of well trained, highly qualified education professionals who can develop students' capabilities and help them acquire different types of skills. Universal primary schooling is a key step in this process, since it is the foundation for the whole education system. The Plan adopts a number of targets to achieve this goal (Box 2.1).

## **CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

Full enforcement of mandatory primary education requires substantial enhancement of resources and capacities such as schools, classrooms, qualified teachers, and other inputs of the educational process. This, in turn, calls for broader participation of the private sector in the provision of educational services at all stages, while government agencies and community organizations devoting concerted efforts within an effective, and integrated framework.

Pre-school education plays a vital role in enhancing primary-school enrolment and lowering repetition and dropout rates. Provision of kindergarten schools, as an independent stage with its own facilities throughout the Kingdom, constitutes a significant challenge, since enrolment is expected to double over the coming years.

**Box (2.1): Selected Targets from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014) Relevant to MDG 2**

- To reduce dropout rates to 1% for all stages
- To activate the national tests designed to measure academic achievement level and conduct diagnostic tests to monitor difficulties faced by students in different subjects.
- To create a talent research unit and to support the gifted students centres so that programs focusing on gifted students can be designed, developed and implemented.
- To continue to support the project on development of teaching strategies, as well as the comprehensive project for curriculum development.
- To achieve full enrolment rate (100%) in primary education (mandatory education).
- To achieve an enrolment rate of 98% in intermediate education for primary education graduates, and an enrolment rate of 95% in secondary education for intermediate education graduates.
- To apply a system of comprehensive evaluation of schools to 20% of schools every year.
- To apply the educational accreditation system to all private schools.
- To encourage the private sector to open more schools to accommodate general education students, bringing the sector's share to 15% by the end of the Ninth Plan period.
- To develop and implement a plan for eradication of adult illiteracy, with the involvement of all stakeholders and according to specific time schedule.
- To increase the share of those who hold higher educational qualifications required for the education system.
- To provide more support to educational research to serve the objectives of quality improvement.
- To continue to implement a comprehensive healthcare program in coordination with the Ministry of Health (medical examination, vaccination campaigns, and medical treatment of sick students).
- To activate cooperative school transport services, and expand schoolgirls transport services outsourced to the private sector.

## SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL

In recent years, several measures have been taken by the Kingdom to promote general education and increase its efficiency, which, in turn, enhance chances of increasing enrolment rates at all stages, particularly in primary schooling (Figure 2.3 and Figure 2.4). Foremost among these measures, besides the decision to enforce mandatory primary education, taken in 2004 and the decision to establish kindergarten schools as a separate stage, taken in 2002, is the decision related with entrusting all supervision of general education to the Ministry of Education which contributes to implementation of the education strategy and policies by the government.

Furthermore, the steady support provided by the government to the private sector, to enhance its role in the provision of educational services at all stages, will contribute to providing more educational services and making the private sector more responsive to the needs of society, through participation in the development and implementation of educational programs and policies.

### Box (2.2): Overview of Current Situation

#### Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?

<u>✓Expected</u>	Probable	Not possible	No Answer due to Insufficient Data
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#### Supportive environment

<u>✓Good</u>	Moderate	Poor but Improving	Poor
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**Box (2.3): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Relevant Factors	Evaluation		
Data collection capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate results of analysis into policies and resource planning	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor

## GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

### TARGET 5:

Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, by 2005, and in all levels of education by 2015.

Target Indicators	1990	1995	2001	2005	2009	2011	2012
● Ratio of girls to boys in primary, intermediate, secondary and higher education	85.1	89.4	94.6	97.7	99.0	97.3	98.8
● Ratio of literate women to literate men in the age group 15-24 year	73.7	83.8	85.2	94.8	98.1	98.7	99.5
● Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector	–	–	14.2	–	14.2	13.5	13.9

### CURRENT SITUATION

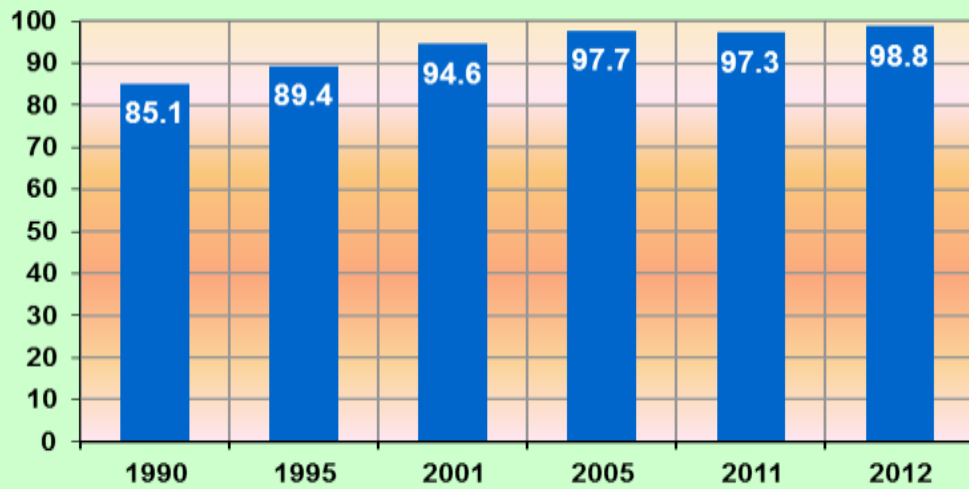
The Kingdom has achieved remarkable progress in the status of women particularly in the fields of education, employment, and health<sup>(6)</sup>. Despite the relatively late start in education of girls, rates of enrolment of girls at all educational levels have increased sharply. The gross female enrolment rate at all general education increased from 90.5% in 2005 to 105.8% in 2012. Consequently, it was possible to bridge the gap in indicators of male/female enrolment at the primary, secondary and university stages in 2012, (Figure 3.1). However, development in the net enrolment rate for male/female students at educational stages is the more appropriate measure for enrolment conditions in the education system.

Between 2001 and 2012, the net enrolment rate of boys at the primary education level increased from 84% to 96.6%, compared to an increase from 82% to 96.7% for girls. These rates demonstrate success of the Kingdom's policy to achieve gender equality in education and the increased absorption capacity of all stages of education for males and females (Figure 3.2).

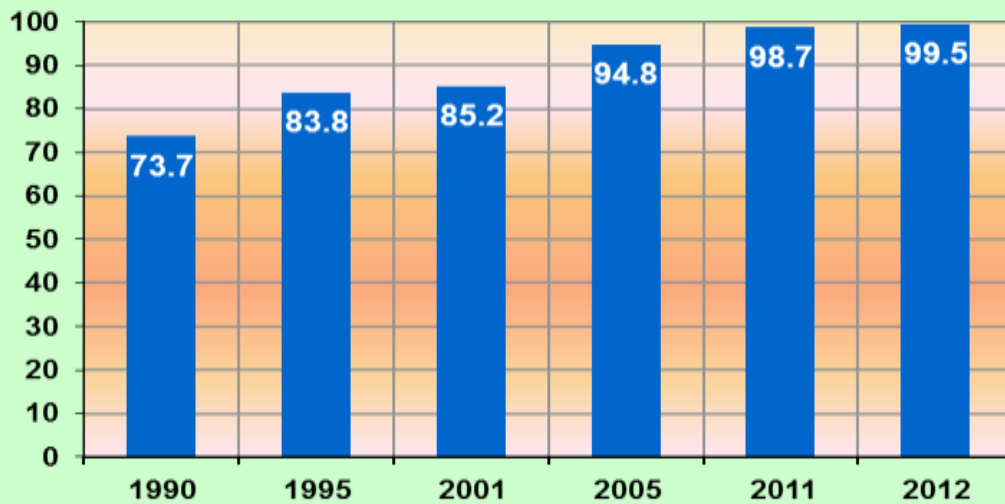
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6) For details, see: the Eighth Development Plan (2005-2009), Chapter 17, and the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014), Chapter 19.

**Figure 3.1**  
**Ratio of Girls to 100 Boys in All Educational Stages**



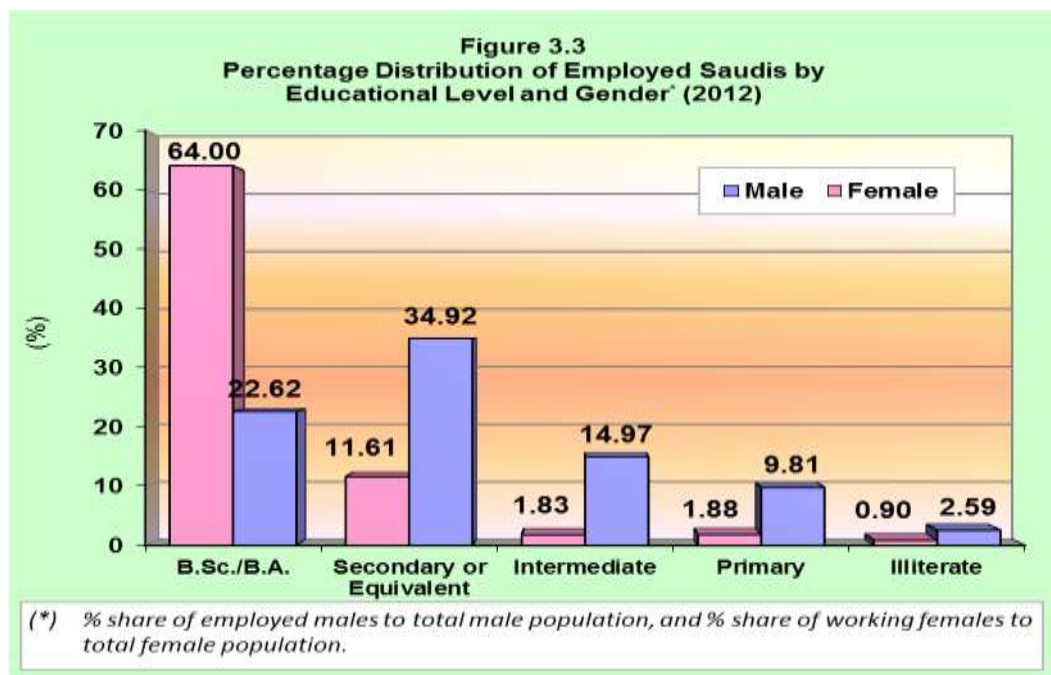
**Figure 3.2**  
**Ratio of Literate Girls to 100 Literate Boys in the Age Group (15-24) years**



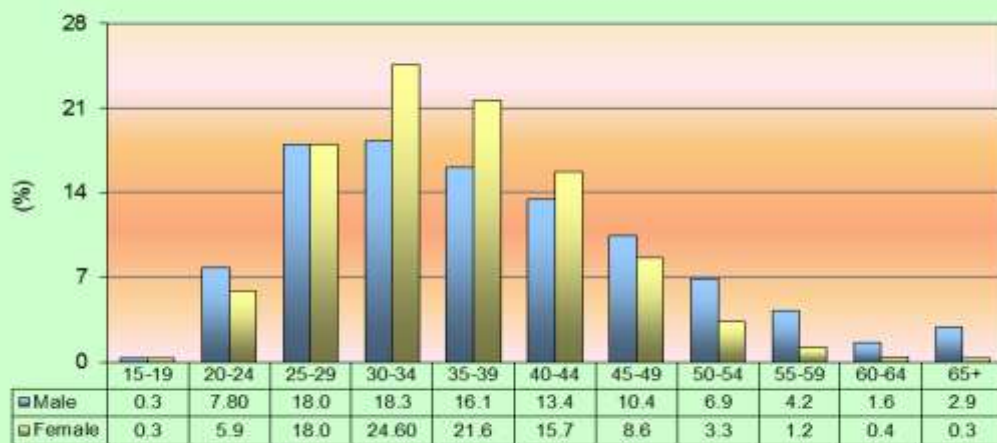
Moreover, empowering women educationally has been accompanied by progress in enabling them to benefit from available health services, leading to tangible improvement in general health, with a declining incidence of certain diseases. As a result, life expectancy in 2012 increased to 75.2 years for females and 72.7 years for males.

Entry of women into the labour market was slow in the early stages of development. The rate of their participation in the labour force was as low as 5.4% until the end of 1992. However, continued development, particularly in education, had a positive impact. As a consequence, the women's labour force participation rate increased to 13.3% in 2012. This low rate is typical of Arab societies, where participation of women is low compared to other parts of the world. Therefore, intensive efforts are required to create diversified job opportunities for women. It is worth noting in this regard that job opportunities for women are concentrated mainly in the education sector.

Women's participation in the labour force is influenced by the level of educational attainment. In 2012, most working women (94.2%) held secondary school certificates or higher (Figure 3.3). About 42.6% of working women belong to the young age group (25-34 years) due to the lately begun entry of women into the labour market (Figure 3.4).



**Figure 3.4**  
**Employed Saudis (15 years+) by Age Group and Gender<sup>(\*)</sup>**  
**(2012)**



(\*) % share of employed males to total male population, and % share of working females to total female population.

Saudi women play an important role in investment and business administration in various economic activities. The number of women-owned registered commercial enterprises by the end of 2012 was about 85,197, most of them small and medium-size enterprises, with around 59% engaged in wholesale and retail trade and construction, and the rest in industry, mining, petroleum, power generation, water extraction, agriculture, finance and business services, and miscellaneous services (Table 3.1).

It is noteworthy to refer to the appointment of 30 women as members of the Shura Council (one-fifth of members) as well as their participation in municipal elections as voters and nominees.

**Table (3.1)**  
**Women-owned Commercially Registered Enterprises**  
**by Type of Activity**  
**up to 2012**

Activity	Number	(%)
Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry	803	0.94
Mining, and Petroleum	185	0.22
Industry	1363	1.60
Power Generation and Water Extraction	3044	3.57
Construction and Contracting	21040	24.70
Wholesale and Retail Trade and Commercial Services	29261	34.35
Business and Finance Services	25	0.03
Transport, Refrigeration and Storage	1594	1.87
Community and Personal services	5097	5.98
Other Activities	22785	26.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>85197</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: MOCI.*

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL

Clearly, the directions of Ninth Development Plan reflect the attention given by the Kingdom and the resources its utilities to promote the status of women and in enhance their participation in economic and social development. The Plan includes objectives and policies that address issues relevant to development of women's status in various areas, such as education, health, social care and employment. In addition, the Plan included an entire chapter on women and the family, which sets specific targets to build on the progress made with respect to empowerment of women, leading to further strengthening of women's role in family and society, as well as their contribution to economic activities (Box 3.1).

**Box 3-1: Selected Policies and Targets from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014) Relevant to MDG3**

- To achieve 100% enrolment rate in primary education
- To increase Saudi women's participation rate in the labour force to 13.9% by the end of the plan period.
- To continue to vigorously enforce the Council of Ministers' Resolution No.120 of 2004 on employment of women
- To eradicate female illiteracy
- To strengthen quantitative and qualitative progress in education of Saudi girls in all educational stages.
- To upgrade women's contribution to economic activities and ensure that support services are provided to enable their participation.
- To encourage girls in higher education to study specializations that match labour market needs.
- To take specific arrangements to address women unemployment, particularly educated women.

In an effort to increase and diversify work opportunities for women, in 2004 the Council of Ministers endorsed a package of policies and measures designed to enhance women's participation in economic activity. Box 3.2 summarizes these measures.

## **CHALLENGES FACING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOAL**

■ ***Female Illiteracy:*** In 2012, the Saudi female illiteracy rate (15 years-old and above) was 11.35%, compared to 3.5% for males. As indicated earlier, literacy and education are crucial to increase women's participation in society and improve their quality of life.

Along with various adult literacy programs aimed at addressing adult illiteracy and the issue of those beyond school age, enforcement of mandatory primary schooling is expected to contribute radically to solving this problem.

**Box (3.2): Summary of Policies and Measures Adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2004 to Enhance the Economic Activity of Women**

**a) Development of Plans and Mechanisms:**

- The Ministry of Labour, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Planning and the Ministry of Civil Service, shall set up an integrated national plan for the Saudi female workforce. The plan shall determine the actual demand for female labour in various fields.
- The Human Resource Development Fund shall pay particular attention to training and employment of Saudi women. This task shall be included in the plans and programs of the Fund.
- The Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, together with the Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry, shall conduct a study on the possibility of prolonging maternity leave, as an incentive and an additional privilege, without negatively impacting the desirability of hiring women.

**b) Development of Coordination Mechanisms:**

- The Council of Saudi Chambers of Commerce and Industry shall form a committee of experienced, qualified women to coordinate with relevant agencies' efforts to encourage the private sector to provide work opportunities for Saudi women. The initiative should provide training to qualify Saudi women for the required jobs. Material and moral support shall be extended to help establish the committee and all government agencies shall contribute to the effort.

**c) Promotion of Women's Participation in the Private Sector:**

- Government agencies responsible for issuing licences for engaging in economic activities shall facilitate granting such licences to women, in accordance with regulations and legal controls.
- The relevant agencies shall allot and fit land within city boundaries for establishing industrial projects for women.
- The Ministry of Labour shall coordinate with the Ministry of Civil Service and the Ministry of Social Affairs to take the necessary measures for providing women with tele-work opportunities. The Ministry shall also follow up and implement these measures.

**d) Promotion of Women's Participation in Government:**

- All government agencies that provide services related to women shall establish women-only work units and sections in accordance with the needs and nature of work.

■ ***Female Educational Specialisation:*** Specialisation starts at the secondary school level, with choice they often determine future direction in higher education. The challenge in this respect is that most of the female students of the secondary stage join literary section which allows their enrolment in education and humanities specializations only at college and university, while the labour market demand for arts and humanities graduates has already become saturated.

The share of female graduates in these specialization is higher compared to scientific specialization, a matter which entails matching between the labour market needs in a modern economy and the specialization preferences of higher-education female students.

## SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Development of women conditions and enabling them to participate in the process of development receive full support of the government. Socio-economic development programs focus on this development dimension and gives it priority. Moreover, the comprehensive approach adopted currently to expand participation of women at all levels including education, health, employment and family dimensions enhances success chances of relevant policies and mechanisms adopted to achieve this goal.

### Box (3.3): An Overview of the Current Situation

#### Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?

<u>✓Expected</u>	Probable	Not possible	No Answer due to Insufficient Data
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#### Supportive environment

<u>✓Good</u>	Moderate	Poor but Improving	Poor
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**Box (3.4): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Factor	Evaluation		
Data collection capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capabilities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate results of analysis into policies and resource planning	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor



## GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

### TARGET 6:

Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

Target Indicators	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012
1. Under-five mortality rate (per thousand live births)	44.0	34.0	22.6	22.3	19.5	19.1	18.7
2. Infant mortality rate (per thousand live births)	34.0	27.0	20.2	19.0	16.9	16.5	16.2
3. Proportion of one-year-old children immunized against measles (%)	88.0	94.4	92.1	96.5	98.2	98.2	97.8

Source: MOH.

### CURRENT SITUATION

Over the past two decades, health services in the Kingdom made remarkable progress, particularly in the field of primary health care which spread in all population centers and witnessed significant improvement in terms of efficiency and level of integration. These services are provided through several programs including:

- Child care program which contributed to achieving remarkable decrease in under-five mortality rate.
- Healthy child program which follows up the psychological and physical growth of the child until the age of five.
- Increased rate of registration, follow up and visits for under-five children, attention given to vulnerable children and reduction of complications resulting from delayed growth at the early childhood stage.
- Program of comprehensive vaccination against the targeted child diseases.
- Infant and child feeding program.
- Maternal and child health record:  
This program aims at ensuring maternal and child health and providing the best health services by follow-up of the mother health during and after pregnancy period. It also aims to follow-up the health of the child during natal and post-natal stages.

This takes place by recording all related procedures, including follow up of health condition, periodical health visits, follow up of child growth. The health follow up activities include control of diarrhoea and malnutrition and immunization against communicable diseases.

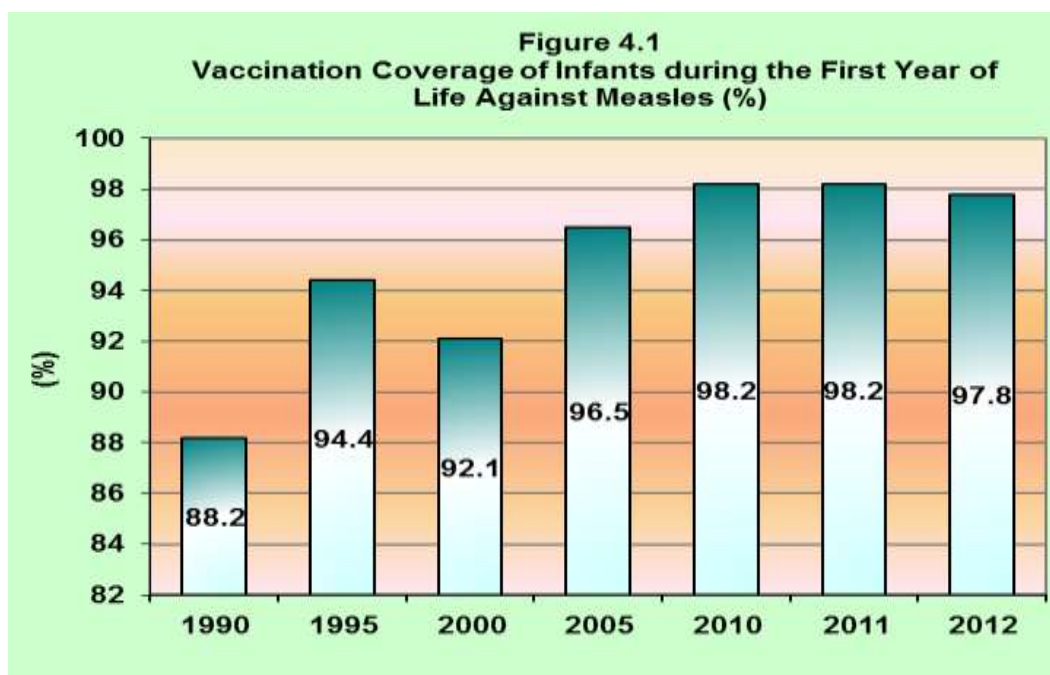
- **Child Oral and Dental Health Program:**  
The program aims to enhance the level of awareness of mother and child under six years of age. The national joint program of oral and dental health has been applied to school boys and school girls, in cooperation with the MOE. Furthermore, the program of mobile clinics has been applied to pupils of early primary stage. The program includes preventive and awareness activities.

The vaccination program has achieved remarkable success, with the proportion of babies vaccinated against measles, rubella and mumps during their first year of life increasing to 97.8% in 2012. Likewise, the proportion of children vaccinated against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, hepatitis B and tuberculosis, amounted to 97.7% (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.1).

**Table 4.1**  
**Vaccination Coverage of Infants During the First Year of Life**  
**Against Targeted Communicable Diseases (%)**

<b>Disease</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Diphtheria	93.5	96.3	98.0	98.0	97.7
Whooping cough	93.5	96.3	98.0	98.0	97.7
Neonatal Tetanus	93.5	96.3	98.0	98.0	97.7
Polio	93.5	96.3	98.0	98.0	97.7
Mumps	—	96.7	98.2	98.2	97.8
Measles	88.2	96.7	98.2	98.2	97.8
Rubella - German measles	—	96.7	98.2	98.2	97.8
Tuberculosis	99.4	94.7	97.7	98.0	98.6
Hepatitis B	—	96.1	98.0	98.0	97.7

*Source: Ministry of Health.*

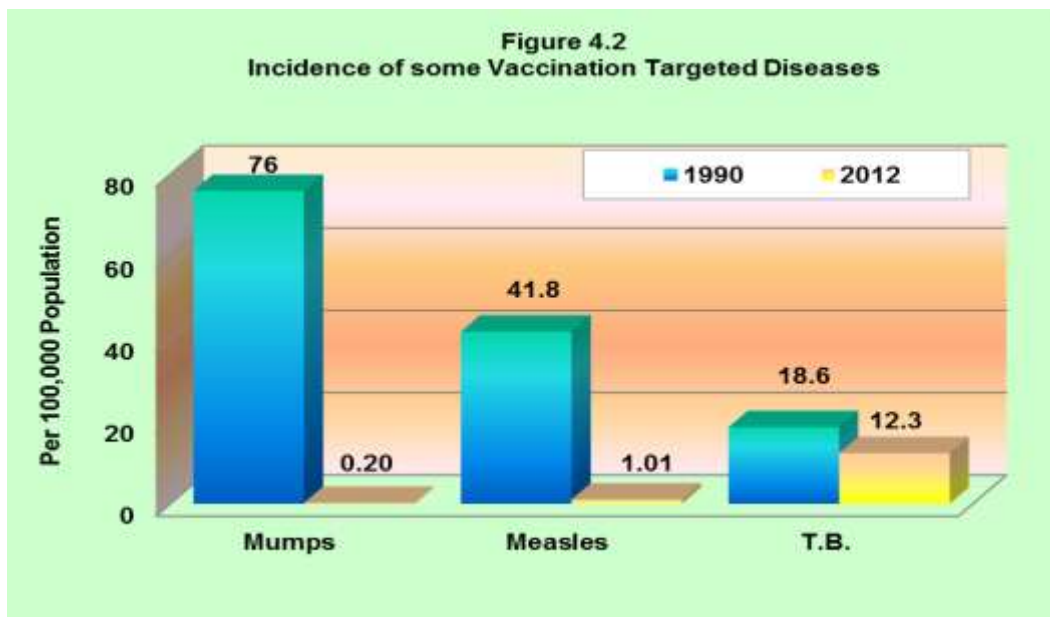


The child health care programs achieved marked success, as reflected in the results made during the last decade regarding incidence of targeted communicable diseases. The incidence per 100,000 population declined from 0.04 in 1990 to zero in 2012 for polio, from 0.86 to 0.02 for whooping cough, to 1.01 for measles, from 60.3 to 15.79 for hepatitis B, and from 0.25 to 0.03 for neonatal tetanus, from 76 to 0.2 for mumps, to zero for rubella and from 18.6 to 12.3 for TB over the same period (Table 4.2 and Figure 4.2).

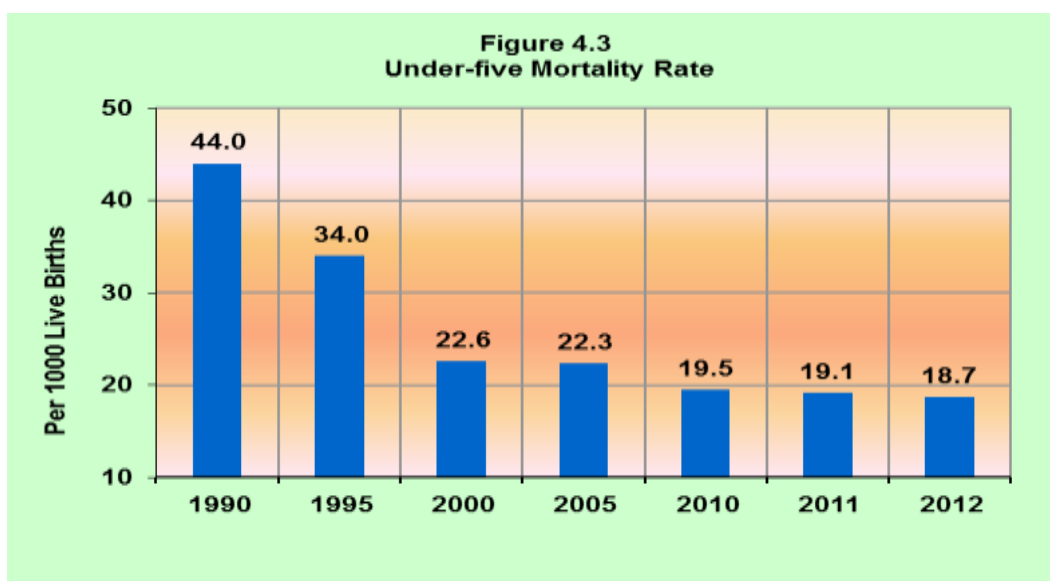
**Table 4.2**  
**Incidence of Vaccination Targeted Diseases per 100,000 Population**

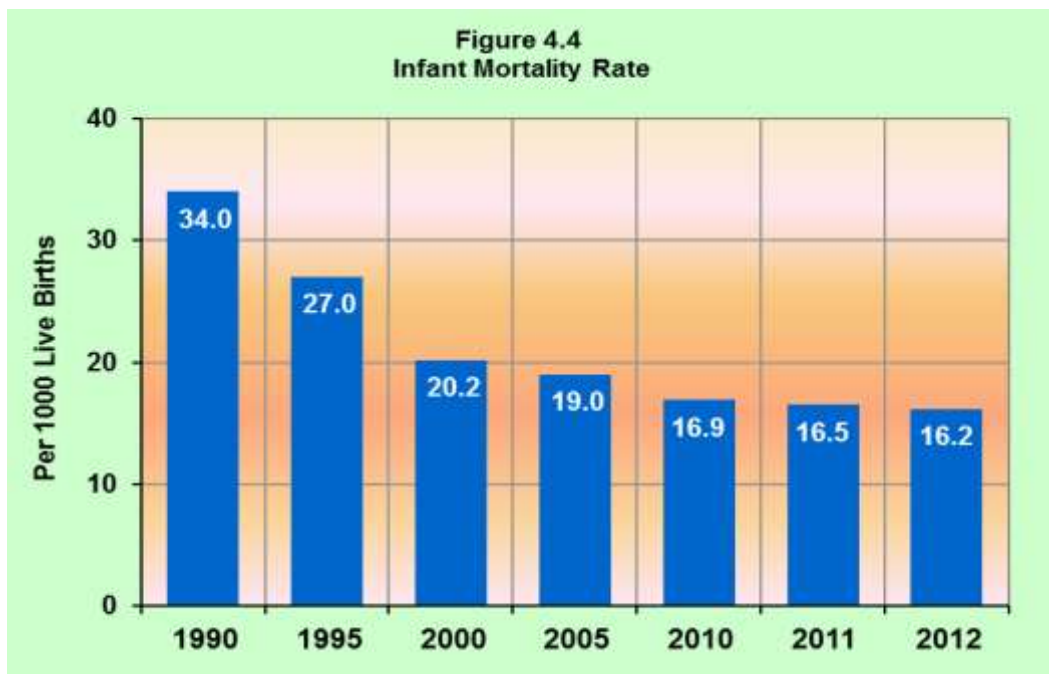
Disease	1990	2004	2010	2011	2012
Diphtheria	0.01	0	0	0.01	0
Whooping cough	0.86	0.28	0	0.04	0.02
Neonatal Tetanus per 1000 live births	0.25	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.03
Polio	0.04	0.01	0	0	0
Mumps	76	1.55	0.17	0.12	0.2
Measles	41.8	7.86	1.29	1.28	1.01
Rubella - German measles	17	0.08	0.13	0	0
Tuberculosis	18.6	10.10	16.60	14.3	12.3
Hepatitis B	60.3	20.43	18.72	16.56	15.79

*Source: Ministry of Health.*



These positive developments have led to the decline of the under-five mortality rate to 18.7 deaths per thousand live births in 2012, which amounts to an improvement of 57.5% over its 1990 level (Figure 4.3). Similarly, infant mortality rate declined to 16.2 deaths per thousand live births in 2012; an improvement of 52.3% over the 1990 level (Figure 4.4). These rates indicate that the Kingdom is proceeding confidently towards achieving the MDG4 by 2015.





## **CHALLENGES FACING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOAL**

Demand for health care services is steadily rising due to several factors, most significant among which are the relatively high rate of population growth and the society's increased awareness of the importance of healthcare in general and preventive care in particular.

The vast area of the Kingdom and the wide differences in population density constitute a challenge to efforts aimed at narrowing disparities in the quality and efficiency of health services and ensuring comprehensive coverage. Provision of basic health services entails support to primary health centres, in urban and rural areas, including those providing maternal and child care, health education, and preventive health services. Since rural areas are not as attractive to the private sector as urban centres, it is envisaged that the former will remain dependent, to a large extent, on government health services.

## **SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE GOAL**

Health services are provided through a wide network of healthcare facilities. In 2012, these facilities included 435 hospitals, with a total about 61 thousand beds. In the same year, the

number of doctors rose to about 71.5 thousand, and the number of nursing staff to about 139.7 thousand. The number of MOH centres providing primary healthcare stood at 2,259, in addition to 2,168 private-sector medical complexes, besides 198 clinics.

The Ministry of Health is the principal healthcare agency, providing preventive, curative and rehabilitative healthcare. In 2012, its share of hospital beds was 59% and of doctors 50.1%. Universities also provide health services through university hospitals, in addition to contributions by the Saudi Red Crescent Authority, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, and the healthcare services of the military, security and other government agencies. The share of government agencies (other than the Ministry of Health) was 18.6% of hospital beds and 20% of doctors, while the share of the private sector amounted to 22.6% and 32% respectively.

Over recent years, the Kingdom took important steps to promote health services. Notable among these are instituting in 2002, the Kingdom's health system to provide comprehensive healthcare to all citizens. The Health Services Board was established as part of this system and the Cooperative Health Insurance Board was also established; the latter is mandated to applying the health insurance system to all foreign residents in the first phase, and to the whole population subsequently. In 1426, approved was issued for the establishment of the Central Council for Accreditation of health institutions to improve, approve and control performance quality in health facilities. In 1430, the Health Care Strategy was approved.

In another development related to health and nutritional care, the Saudi Food and Drug Authority was established in 2003, with responsibility for maintaining safety of foodstuffs and biological and chemical substances, in addition to formulating a clear food-and-drug policy.

Regarding the future directions in the field of improving the efficiency of health services and achieving full coverage, the organizational and administrative structures will be updated to give the local authorities and institutions the powers that enable them to perform their tasks more efficiently. Moreover, the government health facilities will be transformed into independent cost centers which will be subject to accountability according to appropriate performance criteria.

A factor enhancing the chance of achieving MDG4 in the Kingdom is its coincidence with the objectives of the health sector in the Ninth Development Plan, represented in providing integrated high quality healthcare services in a balanced manner among regions and all population groups in the Kingdom. The Plan has already adopted some objectives which are closely related with MDG4 (box 4.1).

**Box (4.1): Selected Targets, from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014), Relevant to MDG 4**

- To continue to maintain vaccination coverage of children against communicable diseases at a minimum of 97% for diphtheria, whooping cough, neonatal tetanus, polio, measles, rubella, mumps, tuberculosis and hepatitis B.
- To reduce the incidence of hepatitis B to 10 cases per 100,000 population.
- To reduce infant mortality rate to 12 per 1,000 live births.
- To reduce mortality rate of under-five-year children to less than 15 per 1,000 live births.
- To reduce proportion of underweight babies to less than 5% per 1000 live births.

**Box (4.2): Overview of Current Situation**

**Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?**

<u>✓Expected</u>	Probable	Not possible	No Answer due to Insufficient Data
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**Supportive environment**

<u>✓Good</u>	Moderate	Poor but Improving	Poor
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**Box (4.3): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Factors		Evaluation	
Data collection capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate results of analysis into policies and resource planning	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor

## **GOAL 5: IMPROVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (MATERNAL HEALTH)**

### **TARGET 7:**

Reduce the maternal mortality rate by three quarters between 1990 and 2015.

<b>Target Indicators</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	48	48	16.4	14.9	14	14	14
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	88	91.4	91	96	97	97	98
Immunization of mothers against neonatal tetanus	-	-	93	96	96.1	96.6	98
Pregnants provided with health care by skilled health personnel.	88	90	-	-	97	98	98

### **TARGET 8:**

Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health services.

<b>Target Indicators</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Proportion of women using contraceptives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth rate among teen-agers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Access to primary healthcare during pregnancy (at least 1- 4 visits) (%)	96	-	-	97	97	98	98

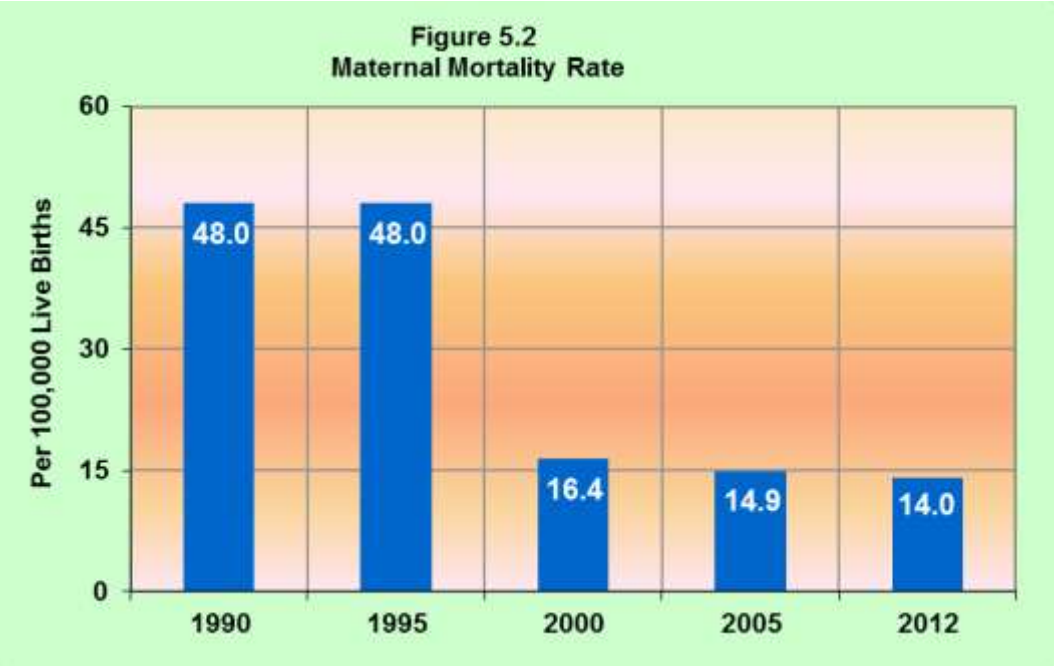
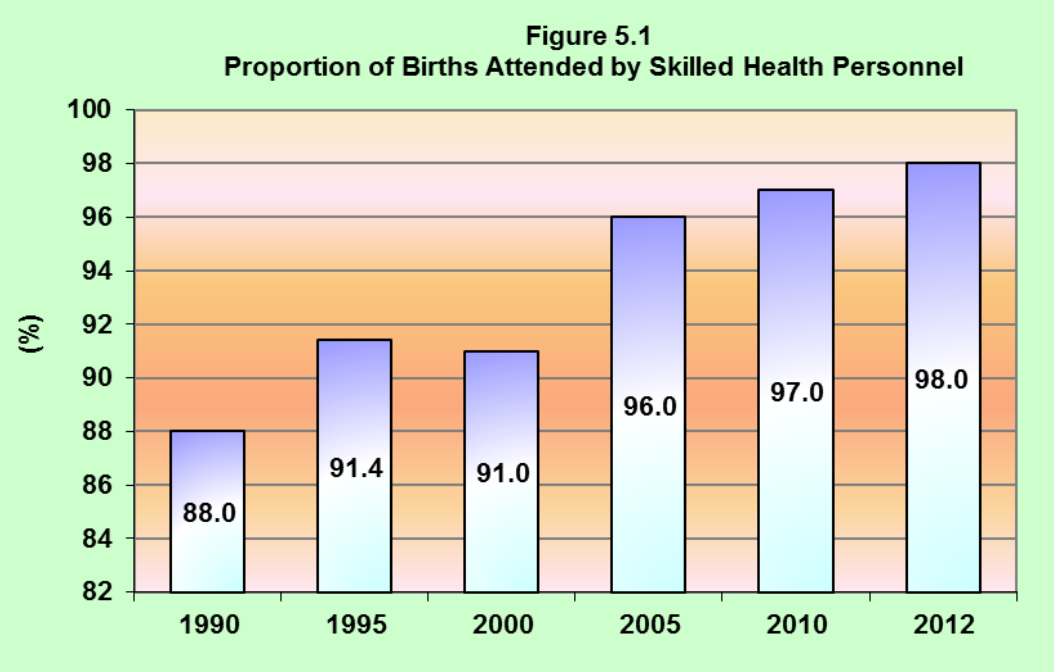
## **CURRENT SITUATION**

Reproductive health services constitute a basic pillar of the health policy in the Kingdom. The concerned health agencies provide integrated maternal healthcare services to mothers, covering the periods before, during and after pregnancy. Quantitative and qualitative development of health services has led to improvement of maternal healthcare indicators.

### **Maternal Care and Reproductive Health Program**

- A significant progress has been achieved in reducing maternal mortality rate which stands at 14 cases per 100,000 live births.
- Full coverage of immunization of pregnant women at reproductive age against tetanus.
- Upgrading health condition of mothers through strategies designed to support and develop pregnant care services.
- Improving health care before, during pregnancy as well as upon and after delivery.
- Encouraging delivery at hospitals and supporting effective referral systems for birth cases between primary health care centers and hospitals, thus resulting in increased delivery cases at hospitals to reach 98%.
- Proper follow-up of pregnancy cases and early detection of threatening risks, particularly reducing high risk pregnancy ratios by detection of pregnant at risk during follow-up visits and referring them to hospitals or specialist consulting medical sections.
- The Kingdom adopts and implements pregnancy follow-up program at all primary health care centers following study with WHO, World Bank and some other relevant organizations with the participation of a selected group of countries at the global level, including Saudi Arabia.
- Integrating men in the reproductive health program being participants in this process, along with introduction of the concept of birth spacing to maintain mothers health and ensure health problems free generations.
- Including reproductive health strategy within primary health care strategy.

The aforesaid steps lead to increasing the proportion of pregnant women provided with healthcare by health professionals from 90% in 2000 to 98% in 2012. Moreover, the proportion of mothers immunized against tetanus went up from 93% to 98% while the proportion of births under health professionals increased from 88% to 98% over the same period. Maternal mortality rate during delivery per 100,000 live births declined from 48 to 14 cases in 2012 (figure 5.1 and 5.2).



## CHALLENGES FACING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOAL

Demand for health care services is steadily rising due to several factors, foremost among which are the relatively high rate of population growth and the society's increased awareness of the importance of health care in general and the preventive health care in particular.

On the other hand, the vast geographical area of the Kingdom and the wide difference in population density of the widely scattered settlements, represent a challenge to efforts of narrowing the disparities in the quality and efficiency of the health services and ensuring full coverage in all regions.

## SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL

The Ninth Development Plan adopted a number of objectives to improve maternal health. These objectives include, inter-alia, the following: continuing to enhance health care programs and provide high-quality health care to the pregnant during and after the period of pregnancy, achieving universal access to reproductive health care, ensuring that all births are attended by health professional, immunizing all mothers against neonatal tetanus, and promoting health awareness programs (box 5.1). in light of these directions of the Ninth Plan and the health programs under way, the MDG5 is expected to be achieved ahead of the target year.

### **Box (5.1): Selected Targets and Policies, from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014), Relevant to MDG 5**

- Bring the rate of births attended by skilled health professionals to at least 98%.
- Bring the rate of pregnant receiving healthcare by skilled health professionals to at least 98%.
- Bring the rate of pregnant receiving vaccination against tetanus to at least 98%.
- Bring the rate of deliveries attended by skilled health professionals to at least 98%.
- Reduce maternal mortality rate to less than 13 deaths per 100,000 live births.
- Bring the number of MOH primary healthcare centres to 2,958 centers, thus achieving a rate of one healthcare centre per 7000 people.

**Box (5.2): Overview of Current Situation****Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?**

✓Expected                  Probable                  Not possible                  No Answer Due to  
Insufficient Data

**Supportive environment**

✓Good                  Moderate                  Poor but  
Improving                  Poor

**Box (5.3): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Relevant Factors	Evaluation		
Data collection capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capabilities	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate results of analysis into policies and resource planning	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓Good</u>	Medium	Poor



## GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

### TARGET 9:

Halt, by 2015, the spread of HIV/AIDS and begin to lower its incidence.

Indicators	2004	2005	2010	2011	2012
Number of HIV cases (cumulative)	8,919	10,120	16,334	17,529	18,762
HIV prevalence among the age group (15–24) years (%)	-	-	-	-	-
AIDS cases among pregnant in the age group (15–24) years	-	-	-	-	-

### TARGET 10:

Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment from HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

Indicators	2006	2010	2011	2012
Proportion of patients, in an advanced stage of HIV, who have access to antiretroviral drugs (%)	100	100	100	100

### TARGET 11:

Bring to an end, by 2015, the spread of malaria and other major diseases and start to lower their incidence.

Indicators	1990	2005	2010	2011	2012
Incidence of malaria and the associated death rates (per 100,000 people) :					
• Incidence	125	4.6	0.20	0.44	0.5
• Deaths	0	0	0	0	0
Proportion of population in malaria-vulnerable areas who use effective malaria prevention and treatment measures (%)	-	94	95	100	100
Incidence of tuberculosis and the associated death rates (per 100,000 people):					
• Incidence	18.6	10.3	11.8	9.7	8.9
• Deaths	-	-	5.4	6.5	6.5
Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and treated under DOTS (%)	-	85	100	100	100

## CURRENT SITUATION

■ **Combating HIV/AIDS:** Taking into account the large number of expatriates in the country, the Kingdom pays substantial efforts to combat and halt the spread of HIV/AIDS. By the end of 2012, the cumulative number of the reported cases reached 18,762 cases, of which 1,233 were reported during 2012.

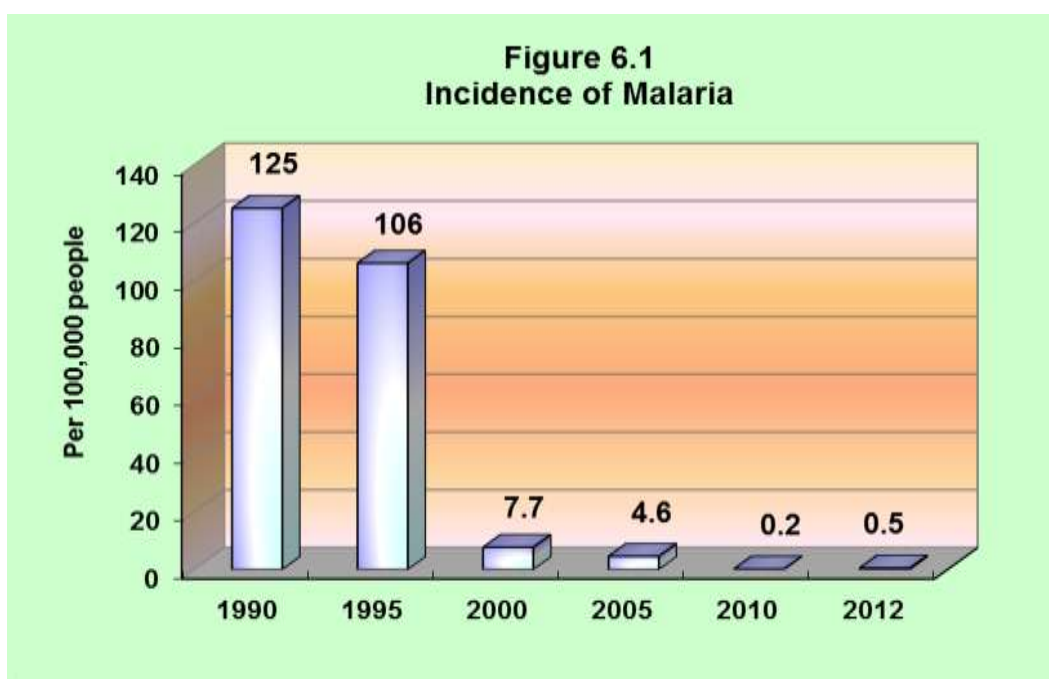
It is noteworthy that the Saudi government provides treatment to all who are affected by this disease. Seeking to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, the government diligently applies preventive measures. "The National Program for Combating HIV/AIDS", which is the focus of national efforts aiming at combating this disease, comprises the following:

- Health education and awareness, about how it spreads, and how it can be prevented, through a multiple media programs.
- A preventive control system that includes regular surveying of groups at risk, ensuring safety of transfused blood and performing medical tests for expatriate workers.
- A national record of reported cases, with the aim of providing follow up and taking appropriate preventive and curative measures.
- Several awareness and education activities are conducted, through all information media, to combat the causes of the disease.
- Lectures and symposia are organized in all regions of the Kingdom, as part of the activities to mark World AIDS Day.
- Establishing a system for reporting, evaluation and follow up of cases.
- Establishing clinics for optional check-up and advice in 20 governorates and providing training to relevant personnel.
- Conducting new surveys of the disease such as pre-marital check-ups.
- Cooperating with experts in the "Syndromes Treatment Program" and the optional check-up and counselling clinics.
- Adopting the Syndromes Treatment System for sexually-transmitted diseases within the primary health care system.
- Opening 8 specialized treatment centres in: Jeddah, Riyadh, Dammam, Jazan, Jouf, Medina, Hassa, and Aseer, and recruitment of experts for continuous development of the Modern-Medicines Treatment System (Box 6.1).

**Box 6.1: Selected Targets, from the Ninth Development Plan (2010-2014), Relevant to MDG 6**

- Reduce AIDS incidence through the following measures:
  - Promote awareness about AIDS; target high-risk groups; reduce risk through intensive deployment of counselling and check-up clinics; ensure safety of transfused blood; and prevent infection through adoption of healthy practices.
  - Establish 20 clinics for optional check-up and counselling; establish 8 specialized treatment centres; and conduct relevant surveys.
- Reduce incidence of tuberculosis to 8 cases per 100,000 people.

■ **Combating Malaria:** The incidence of malaria decreased substantially from 125 cases per 100,000 people in 1990 to 0.5 in 2012, (Figure 6.1).

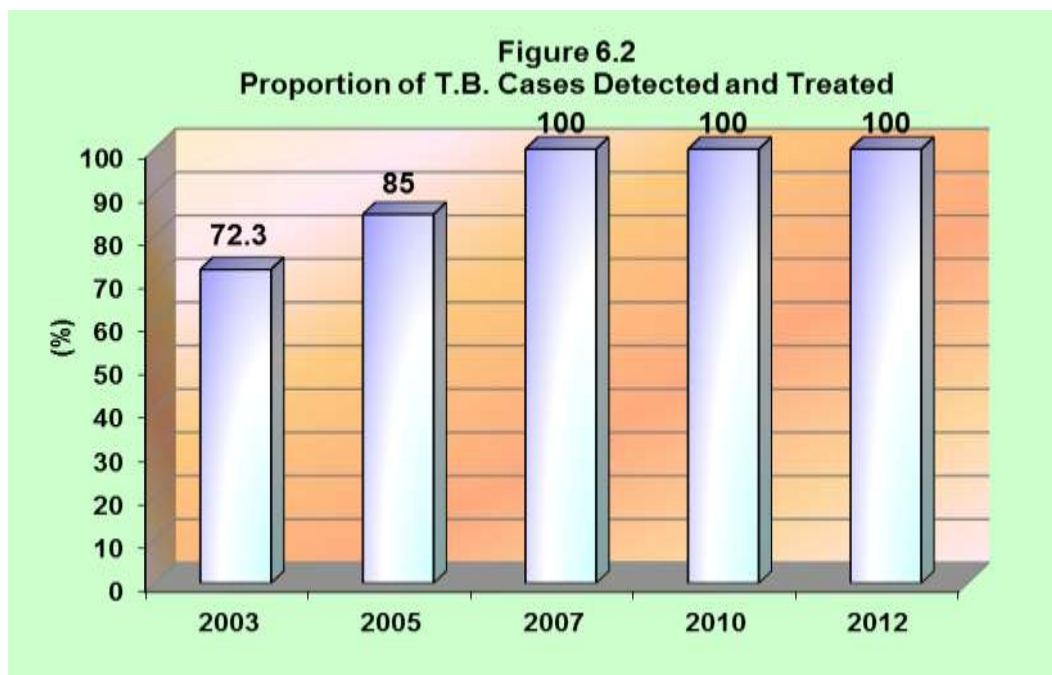


The Kingdom's strategy for combating malaria is based on the following basic pillars:

- Prompt diagnosis and early treatment of cases that display symptoms of malaria, as well as taking effective preventive measures to stop the spread of the disease.
- Continuous and comprehensive control of malaria-carrying mosquitoes, through spraying houses and lands, and drying out wetlands and swamps where mosquitoes can breed.
- Launching awareness campaigns to ensure community participation in the control and prevention measures.
- Establishing an efficient monitoring network, particularly in susceptible areas.

■ **Combating Tuberculosis:** The Kingdom is currently implementing a national program for combating tuberculosis aimed at eradicating the disease through adoption of Directly Observed Treatment System of TB (DOTS) commenced in 1998 and was extended to all regions in 2000.

The program has already achieved remarkable success, with incidence falling from 18.6 cases per 100,000 people in 1990 to about 8.9 in 2012 and the rate of cases detected and cured, in line with DOTS, reaching 100% in 2010 (Figure 6.2).



## CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL

In addition to the substantial number of foreign workers it hosts, the Kingdom receives more than 1.5 million Hajj performers during the Hajj season, and about three and a half million Umrah performers. Social and religious values, as well as some other factors reviewed earlier, limit the spread of HIV/AIDS. Yet, spread of other communicable diseases remains possible, which calls for constant vigilance and persistent preparedness.

## SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL

The Ninth Development Plan aims at linking widespread health centres to public hospitals, in order to enhance the technical capabilities of the centres and improve early detection as well as adoption of effective preventive and curative measures.

Moreover, work is under way to develop a comprehensive health information network, linking all health facilities and centres as well as related public and private agencies, to improve the health database in general and the communicable diseases database in particular.

<b>Box (6.2): Overview of Current Situation</b>			
<b>Will the goal have been achieved by 2015?</b>			
<u>✓Expected</u>	Probable	Not possible	No Answer Due to Insufficient Data
<b>Supportive environment</b>			
<u>✓Good</u>	Moderate	Poor but Improving	Poor

**Box (6.3): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Relevant Factors	Evaluation		
Data collection capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate the results of analysis into the policies and resource planning	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor

## GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### TARGET 12:

Integrate principles of sustainable development into the country's policies and programmes and limit loss of environmental resources.

Goal Indicators	1431 (2010)	1432 (2011)	1433 (2012)
Total Water resources used (MCM)	17,430	19,193	-

### TARGET 13:

Achieve a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity by 1431 (2010).

Goal Indicators	1410 (1990)	1416 (1995)	1421 (2000)	1426 (2005)	1432 (2011)	1433 (2012)
Proportion of land area covered by forests (%)	-	-	-	-	1.35	1.35
Consumption of ozone depleting substances (ODSs) (ton)	833	1828	1593	882	-	-
Ratio of sea and land areas protected to maintain biological diversity, compared to surface area (%)	3.3	3.9	3.7	4.26	4.15	4.15

### TARGET 14:

Halve, by 1436 (2015), the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation services.

Goal Indicators	1410 (1990)	1416 (1995)	1421 (2000)	1426 (2005)	1431 (2010)	1432 (2011)	1433 (2012)
Proportion of population, urban and rural, with sustainable access to safe drinking water, through water distribution networks and water tanker services (%)	75	78	80	87	96	97	98
Proportion of population with access to sanitation services, through wastewater networks and home drainage system.(%)*	96	96	97	98	100	100	100

\*) Rates based on number of urban population.

## TARGET 15:

Achieve, by 1441 (2020), a significant improvement in the lives of people living in informal housing areas.

Goal Indicators	1410 (1990)	1416 (1995)	1421 (2000)	1432 (2011)	1433 (2012)
Proportion of households with access to secure tenure <sup>(7)</sup>	88	90	92	97	97

## CURRENT SITUATION

Protection of the environment and upgrading of its systems and regulations is one of the main objectives of the successive economic and social development plans in the Kingdom. The Ninth Development Plan 1431-1435 (2010–2014) emphasizes conservation and protection of the environment from pollution, and conservation and development of wildlife, as well as conservation and rationalization of utilization of natural resources. This comes in line with the endeavour to achieve the objective of sustainable development.

Developmental activity the Kingdom has witnessed tangible developments in the two main themes of sustainable development, namely environmental protection and improvement of the quality of life.

### ■ *Environmental Protection:*

By virtue of Article 32 of the Basic Law of Governance, which states that “the state shall endeavour to conserve, protect, develop and prevent pollution of the environment”. Several decisions, strategies and procedures were issued in the past years with an aim to integrate sustainable development principles, related to the environment, into the government’s development policies and programs, in such a way that would conserve natural resources and ensure their rational utilization. An evident progress was accomplished to realize this objective through the application of the required policies and procedures along with the implementation of many programs and projects related to this objective (Box 7.1).

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<sup>7)</sup> *‘Households with secure tenure’ refers to families who already own, their houses, or are in the process of buying, them; or who privately lease them; or who live in social housing units or lease them from a third party.*

**Box 7.1: Key decisions, strategies and measures aimed at integrating sustainable development principles into the government's policies and programs:**

- Article 32 of the Basic Law of Governance, states that "the state shall endeavour to conserve, protect, develop and prevent pollution of the environment".
- Enactment, in 1420 (1999), of the law on regulations governing hunting wild animals and birds.
- Issuance of the Wildlife Protected Areas Regulation in 1415 (1995).
- Approval of the National Strategy for Environmental Pollution Control, as per the Council of Ministers' Resolution No. 157 dated 20/11/1411 (1990).
- Approval of the National Plan for Combating Environment Pollution by Oil and Other unexpected Harmful Substances, as per the Council of Ministers' Resolution No. 157 dated 20/11/1411 (1990).
- Issuance of Law on Trading in Endangered Species in 2000.
- Approval of the Agreement on Conservation of Wildlife and their Natural Habitat for GCC countries in 2003.
- Accession to the convention on migrating wild animals.
- Issuance of the General Environmental Law, as per the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 193 dated 7/7/1422 (2001).
- Creation of the Presidency of Meteorology and Environment Protection in concurrence with the issuance of the General Environmental Law.
- Endorsement of the Kyoto Protocol in 1426 (2005).
- Accession to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in 1422 (2001).
- Accession to the Agreement on International Trading in Endangered Wildlife in 1995.
- Accession to the UN Convention on Desertification Control in 1418 (1997).
- Approval of the National Forestry Strategy and Action Plan, as per the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 306 dated 23/12/1426 (2006).
- Approval of the Kingdom's accession to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and Biodiversity, as per Royal Decree No. M/5 dated 25/1/1428 (2007).
- The Cartagena Protocol went into effect in the Kingdom in 1428 (2007).
- Approval of the National Biodiversity Strategy, under the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 197 dated 11/7/1429 (2008).
- Approval of the National Health and Environment Strategy, under the Council of Ministers' Resolution No. 292 dated 22/9/1429 (2008).
- Formation of the National Committee for biodiversity (2008).

## ■ *Natural Environment:*

The issuance of the General Environmental Law, under the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 193 dated 7/7/1422 (2001), was a turning point in the course of environmental activity in the Kingdom. The Presidency of Meteorology and Environmental (PME), which is responsible for coordination and follow up of the enforcement of the law, developed the executive regulations of the General Environmental Law. In cooperation with several government agencies and committees, including a number of scientific research centres in the Kingdom, PME initiated implementation of a set of measures in industrial and urban areas. These included identification of types of pollutants and the level of their concentration in the ambient air in polluted areas as well as in populated areas. In this regard, studies were conducted to make an inventory of the emissions and to link them with their relevant sources. The studies included assessment of health and economic costs of air pollution; identification of the best possible pollution control policies; implementation of a plan to update environmental standards and guidelines relevant to air and water quality in the regions and to upgrade them in addition to implementation of a scheme for environmental inspection of the various establishments.

PME also cooperates with relevant government agencies in implementing a set of measures for conservation of coastal areas and control of environmental degradation of the Kingdom's coasts. Among these activities is the work to issue a coastal areas administration plan and its executive regulations, in addition to activating the "National Plan to Combat Pollution with Oil" and developing aerial and marine monitoring activities along the Kingdom's coasts. During the Eighth Plan period 1425-1430 (2005-2009) a program was launched to conduct periodic inspections of gas, car washing and lubrication stations. The program involved setting up units equipped with state-of-the-art equipment to carry out inspections all over the Kingdom.

Promotion of public awareness of environmental issues received considerable attention from the government. Among the measures taken in this regard, Saudi Arabia launched its first satellite Arabic T.V station "Bee'aty" ("my environment"), besides setting up the national centre for promotion of environmental awareness. Several workshops were also conducted on environment and development, in addition to expansion of media campaigns designed to promote awareness on environmental issues.

The Kingdom's industrial sector takes into account the environmental considerations as from the planning phase of its projects, selection of technologies and up to the production phase. As a first step, industrial enterprises submit the relevant environmental studies, based on the recognized classification categories of the enterprise (first, second and third) where manufacturing disposables whether gaseous, liquids or solids are identified in order to determine means of dealing with them in terms of the potential of meeting environmental requirements, as stated in the General Environmental Law adopted in 1422 (2001). The adopted environmental considerations may be briefed as follows:

### **Environmental Management System**

Industrial firms have demonstrated commitment to environmental protection through endeavors to apply internationally recognized standards in fulfillment of ISO 14001 requirements. The firms worked according to a strategic plan to conduct a comprehensive performance evaluation so as to match these standards. For example, the Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) has adopted SABIC Environmental Manual since 1423 (2002) and recently applied an environmental management system at headquarters and in subsidiary companies. In doing so, SABIC has joined the ranks of world class industrial corporations committed in its performance to environmental protection against effects of pollution.

On the other hand SABIC, in its capacity as a member of the Gulf petrochemicals and chemicals association, led the way to adopt the initiative of Responsible Care which is considered an international initiative adopted by the international council of chemical associations. This initiative aims at the continuous improvement of environmental performance side by side with contact with the sector of the general public to directly evaluate companies performance as regards health, safety, and the environment. In 2012 SABIC won (RCISO14001) certificate for all its facilities inside the Kingdom. winning this certificate is regarded as a significant achievement at the level of petrochemical companies both regionally and internationally. Moreover, SABIC participates, on account of its expertise, in the international technical committees that address the issues of management of chemical materials, climate change, and responsible care with its international counterparts so as to achieve sustainable development.

### **SABIC Prize for Environment, Health, Security and Safety**

For the ninth year consecutively the Environment, Health, Security and Safety Administration granted its annual prize to the superior companies in these fields. The administration, moreover, did not exempt contractors in the area of safety. It set up a prize which is now in its third year along with a prize for reliability where three factories won recognition prizes due to their distinguished performance.

### **SABIC's Report on Sustainability**

SABIC has issued its first report on sustainability reflecting its efforts in boosting the concept of sustainability. The report also indicated that SABIC is on its first steps of a long term sustainability process. It also highlighted the achievements made by SABIC in this domain, foremost among which are:

- Developing environmental performance objectives in the Global Warming Gases Division, and use of energy, water and waste density in all process.
- Assuming the leading role to implement responsible care in the Middle East region.
- Achieving rigorous growth in the fields of health, safety and security policies in the company's works.
- Accession to the Global Sustainable Development Activity Council.
- Including the main performance indicators in projects management system.

### **Prizes won by SABIC**

SABIC has won several awards over the past two years in the fields of sustainability such as:

- Top Employers Award in Holland for the sixth consecutive year.
- King Khalid Responsible Competitiveness Prize awarded to SABIC for the best performance based on the Saudi Responsible competitiveness indicator. SABIC demonstrated outstanding performance regarding practice of responsible activities in addition to its effective control structure for social and environmental issues.
- The title of the top employer in China. This prize is awarded by a distinguished institute specialized in human resources policies.
- Responsible Care Award from the Dutch Chemical Industries Union for its unique efforts in the transportation of hazardous materials at the utmost possible safety standards.

- Responsible Care and Energy Efficiency Award from the American Chemistry Council for the unique industrial improvements it introduced following redesigning of facilities to streamline and improve resin sterilization processes.
- Steive Annual Award which is offered by leading personalities in business fields as the best petrochemical company.
- Best project for prevention of pollution of early designing regarding work procedures related with derivation of sodium nitrate from steam exhaust at Indiana State, USA.

### **Royal Commission's Prize**

As of its inception the Royal Commission of Jubail and Yanbu endeavored to bring about full accord and integrated harmony between industrial development and conservation of the environment since manufacturing and conservation of environment are intertwined and it is not possible to realize industrial development without affecting the natural environment. In the context of commission's keenness to encourage factories conservation for environment, it awards the best environmental performance award annually in the international environment, day festival since 1427. The Commission's efforts were crowned by awarding of prestigious international prizes (Box 7.2).

#### **Box 7.2: Environmental Prizes Won by Saudi Arabia**

##### **1. Wadi Hanifa Prizes:**

Saudi Arabia has won three international prizes for Wadi Hanifa environmental rehabilitation project in Riyadh city within the context of the development programs adopted by Arriyadh Development Authority. This 80 km project extends from north to south of Arriyadh city. The first prize is Aga International Prize for 2010 while the second one is awarded by the international institution "the prize" in London specialized in bio-communities 1428 (2007). The third prize was awarded by the Water Center in Washington for the best water resources development plan at the international level for 1424 (2003).

These prizes are awarded to large projects which aim at upgrading the urban value of quarters and the comprehensive application of the concept of sustainability.

##### **2. Environmental Management Prizes:**

This is one of the most important environmental prizes in the Arab World which is supervised by the Presidency of Meteorology and Environment (PME) in Saudi Arabia in cooperation with the Arab Administrative Development Organization. The goal of this prize is to encourage Arab countries to devote attention to sustainable development concept and elucidate the significant role of environment management in Arab economies, give

attention to the concept of sustainable development and defining the successful models in the field of environmental management.

The secretariat of Al Madinah Al Munawarah won the top rank in the fourth season of the prize in 1431 (2010), for solid waste management project. The project involves separating different waste materials and making use of the separated waste materials in the production of glass, metals, cardboard and wood. The project aims at conservation of environment against pollution, and keeps abreast with the developments in waste collection and disposed.

### **3. Prizes won by the Commission:**

1. UNDP SASAKAWA Prize for Conservation of Environment given by the UN in 1988.
2. Prize of Regional Organization for Protection of Environment in 1998.
3. Prize of Environmental Education and Information by the Arab Council of Ministers responsible for environment in 1988.
4. Prize of "States in the Stage of Prosperity": International Environment, Germany in 2002.
5. Prize of Environmental Safety, Arab Cities Organization, 2003.
6. Kingdom's Prize for Environmental Management, Arab Organization for Administrative Development, 2006.
7. Environmental Awareness Prize, Arab Cities Organization, 2007.

### **Regulation of Royal Commission of Jubail and Yanbu on Environmental Criteria**

The Commission environmental guidelines were issued in (1986). In 1999, the Commission's Environmental Regulation was issued and updated in 2004. It was also updated in 2010 which was more rigorous in applying the environmental criteria and regulations that match international criteria. The regulation consists of (8) chapters and some appendixes which were formulated carefully containing environmental criteria of PME and adopting international environmental criteria in the field of industry.

The most important programs achieved by the Royal Commission in Jubail is the environmental Monitoring, they include:

- Monitoring for quality including computer software for monitoring spread of environmental pollutants.
- Industrial waste program.
- Marine environment monitoring program.
- Flora reserves monitoring program.
- Water quality monitoring program.
- Environmental awareness program.

- Top factory prize program.
- Environmental fine program.

### **Saudi ARAMCO**

Since 1963 the company has applied an environmental policy. Great efforts are being made to conduct researches related to highly efficient and clean fuel to internal combustion engines, carbon extraction technologies, and conservation of natural resources.

Recently ARAMCO made massive investments to bolster its plans aimed at the conservation of the natural environment where \$ 5 billion are being invested to support the main programs and help to preserve biodiversity in seas and land.

- **Oil Spillage Accidents Response Team:** This team defines prevention techniques and response procedures, although the company has not faced a major oil spillage accidents.
- **Mangrove Rescue Campaign:** ARAMCO volunteers grew 50 thousand mangroves in order to return the natural environment of this particular tree which had disappeared due to spatial development. These trees play an important role in enriching fish resources and maintaining stability of shores in Tarot gulf and Ras Tanura area.
- **Permanent Anchoring Buoys:** The Company installed buoys tied to the bottom of the gulf so as to allow anchoring of both fishing and entertainment boats and thus leading to protecting coral reef.
- **Awareness initiative of domestic industry,** that seeks to raise awareness of best environmental practices.
- **Marine Environment Program:** Marine Science Center has been established at King Abdullah University for Science and Technology on the Red Sea to take care of the Red Sea environment, its bio-diversify and means of its protection and conservation. The company has also established the first center for fish breeding in the Kingdom. In 2006, the company was awarded the national oil companies prize in the field of environment conservation.
- **Environment Awareness:** The Company adopts a strategy aimed at enhancing environmental awareness among its staff, their families and society members as

well as national industries. A strategy has been designed in this respect to enhance environmental knowledge and laying the foundation of a responsible environmental culture including the following:

1. Environmental awareness of staff: Covering environmental campaigns at work facilities as well as activities contributing in environmental awareness fields.
  2. Environment Awareness of Community: Covering environmental education programs, environmental companies for the community, trees plantation campaigns and partnership with municipalities in fields of environmental health and environmental awareness in national industries.
- **Prize of the President for Environment Excellence:** which is an annual prize aimed at creating competition among the company's departments with a view to enhance environment protection. Points are granted to individual departments based on their efforts exerted during the year in environmental commitment, raising environmental awareness of related facilities and environment awareness of their staff in addition to the environmental initiatives adopted by relevant departments.
  - **Occupational Health Program:** The occupational Health Unit at the Company's Environment Protection Department places significant emphasis on the provision of a healthy work environment for workers through the following steps:
    - Preventing occurrence of occupational health risks.
    - Acquainting with the various occupational risks.
    - Evaluating the impacts of those risks on the workers' health using state-of-the art technologies and adoption of international principles and criteria.
    - Eliminating risks of equipment and machinery on workers and facilities and controlling sources of occupational health risks through adoption of effective control means.
    - Awareness of workers on health risks and optimal prevention means.
  - **Environments Health Program:** Since its establishment, the Company adopts a comprehensive program for the environmental health in order to protect the health of its workers and their families. This program has contributed in the development of local industries and protection of the public health of staff and their families and the Saudi citizens in general. This is accomplished through application of

international standards and criteria in this domain.

- **Protection against Radiation:** Through development of specialized strategies in the area of protection against radiation and natural radioactive materials, the Company has succeeded in enhancing a unique program for protection against radiation. This has enabled it strictly control all sources of radiation, ensure abidance by protection regulations, issue laws and methods of measurement in order to regulate developments in this respect as well as awareness of citizens on the applications of radiation and means of protection.
- **Environmental Technologies:** In 2001 the Company designed the program of "concentrations on environmental control and treatment technologies" in order to support such technologies and adopt new technologies.
- **Control of Emissions in Air:** The Company uses a number of technologies such as:
  - Removal of sulphate from chimney alkaline gas.
  - Chimney gas treatment technology through electronic means.
  - Predictive monitoring of emissions.
- **Manifah Bridge:** The Company built a bridge project composed of 14 flyovers built in a manner that allows the flow of water under them and also facilitates the natural movement of marine organisms in Manifah gulf.

#### **Air Quality:**

Recognizing the importance of maintaining good air quality, industrial cities have been equipped with air quality monitoring stations to measure and identify levels of emissions of plants. These stations record sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide concentration levels plus other standards specified by the executive regulation of the General Environmental Law. The program is part of several mechanisms designed to maintain good air quality. For example, SABIC has carried out several programs for the same purpose, including a mobile monitoring station to measure emissions in ambient air and to measure industrial emission sources. SABIC has also installed sensors to measure emissions on an ongoing basis.

On the other hand The Royal Commission at Jubail built and operated (7) immobile stations and (2) mobile ones (one of which is operated by infrared rays). These stations monitor, on round-the-clock basis, air quality and emission of gases from functional plants in Jubail industrial city to ensure that such emissions do not exceed the environmental criteria of the Royal Commission. The said stations have been distributed in a studied manner around the city so as to cover all industrial areas of Jubail. Other aspects include main monitoring information such as temperature and humidity levels, air pressure, speed and directions of wind. These information are transmitted through the internet for daily analysis purposes.

Aramco gives special attention to reducing gas emissions and monitoring air quality to ensure commitment to the environmental criteria of air quality. The Company owns an integrated network which uses state-of-the art technologies to monitor air quality and emissions from its facilities. As a result of these efforts, the Company was recently awarded the World Bank Prize for its efforts and excellence in the reduction of natural gas burning.

There are other programs in the Kingdom such as: Riyadh air quality strategy along with other programs and studies aimed at preserving air quality.

### **Waste Management:**

Considerable efforts are made by the industrial sector within the context of waste management and recycling of a considerable proportion of waste, with such proportion reaching 50% of waste generated in some plants. This has yielded many opportunities in terms of economic, social and environmental benefits, such as recycling of oil and paper.. etc.

The Royal Commission in Jubail has set up strict procedures for management of hazardous and unhazardous industrial wastes produced by factories and companies. The aim is to reduce environmental risks and to achieve a safe and conclusive solution to disposal of wastes. There are two companies in the city which are specialized in treatment or disposal of industrial wastes. The companies facilities include high efficiency incinerators to burn wastes plus other facilities to treat toxicity of wastes prior to disposal. As regards medical wastes, legislations conforming with WHO standards have been applied. The Company has also developed criteria for management of solid industrial waste in line with government regulations and international standards.

### **Conservation of Marine Life as a Natural Resource:**

Industrial plants conduct a number of environmental protection programs that seek to maintain quality of water intended for discharge into the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea. Periodic monitoring of water quality is carried out through application of more than 30 standards that cover several aspects (physical, chemical and organic), and these standards are measured either automatically or through samples collecting and laboratory analysis. The monitoring program aims at assuring the safety of marine environment. In this regard, Royal Commission conducts ongoing monitoring of these standards in the two industrial cities of Jubail and Yanbu, with strict commitment to environmental legislations on marine life. Other programs are also conducted by several sectors to monitor quality of groundwater used for drinking and agricultural purposes.

### **Scientific Activities:**

A number of conferences, scientific symposia and work shops were organized to shed light on the optimal utilization of natural resources in light of sustainable development and to present environmental technologies. SABIC participated in these events through scientific papers as shown below:

#### **First: (Economies of Environment and Natural Resources)**

During the period 6-8 March 2012 the Saudi life Sciences Society organized a meeting in collaboration with (PME) and the Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA) and Prince Sultan Chair for Environment and Wildlife along with other related government agencies. The meeting focused on veterinary, animal wealth, animal production, botany, microbiology, plants protection, horticulture, pasture land, water and soil sciences, environmental pollution, food sciences, food industries, biotechnologies, pharmaceutical sciences, biochemistry and veterinary sciences.

Aramco also cooperated with King Abdul Aziz City for Science (KACST) and Warsaw Institute for Chemistry and Nuclear Technology, to conduct researches on a new technology, known as the technology of chimneys treatment by electron rays. This new technology won the prize for environment conservation, which is awarded by the National Petroleum Companies Forum.

### **Second: Bio-fuel (positive and negative aspects)**

KACST organized a scientific meeting titled (Bio-fuel: Positive and Negative Aspects). The aim was to explain bio-fuel technology and means of manufacturing it as well as to make its environmental, economic and social impacts known to others. The meeting also reviewed the current condition as well as sources and means of producing bio-fuel and the relation of this issue with climate change in addition to reviewing the experiences of countries that had used bio-fuel and its effect on food security.

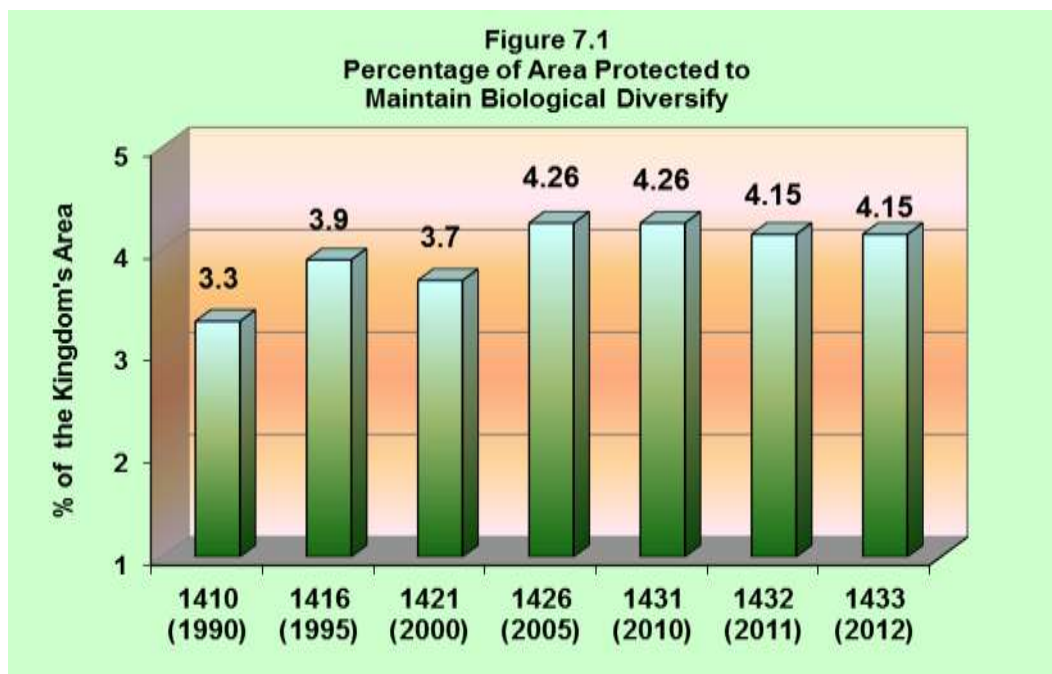
### **Third: Environmental Technology**

KACST organized a symposium on transfer and indigenization of environmental technologies aimed at conserving the environment and securing advanced technologies capable of competing internationally and achieving the concept of sustainable development which revolves around the economies of the Kingdom. During the symposium issues about soil pollution, air quality, effects of climate change were discussed. SABIC presented two scientific papers the first of which dealt with emissions of nitrogen oxides while the other focused on carbon dioxide technology.

## **■ Wildlife Conservation:**

In the area of conservation and development of biodiversity, the Kingdom has given significant attention to biodiversity and has developed a set of measures and policies that focus on conservation of land and marine wildlife. In this regard, the Saudi Wildlife Authority (SWA) resettled endangered species into their habitats. It administers 16 protected zones constituting about 4.15% of the Kingdom's area (Figure 7.1). In addition, SWA research centres breed certain endangered species and resettle them in some protected areas. On the other hand, SWA continues its efforts to monitor changes in ecosystems in protected areas.

Over the past five years, two of the largest protected zones, Harrah Alharrah in Jouf region and Khunfa in Tabouk region, have been demarcated. Moreover, establishing a new protected area at upper Jabal Shada in Baha region has been approved.



## ■ Desertification Control:

The Kingdom exerts tremendous efforts to control desertification and sand encroachment in order to conserve the natural environment and its biodiversity. Promotion of public awareness as to the importance of collective work in implementing national desertification control programs is also part of these efforts. In this context, the Ministry of Agriculture extended protection to 40 sites in various regions of the Kingdom with an aim to protect them from overgrazing. The Ministry also set up three stations for breeding of grazing plant seeds, plus 27 nurseries for grazing and forestry plants, in addition to a bank for genetic origins of plants. A centre has also been set up to receive satellite pictures to monitor sand encroachment which threaten human habitable and agricultural production areas. In addition, a specialized centre has been established for desert studies and control of desertification, with an objective to encourage research and studies in this field.

Furthermore, wide-scale efforts are being made to conserve forests and to enforce the relevant regulations. The country also seeks to compensate for wasting this important natural resource through implementation of trees planting projects, halting the building-up of sand dunes by growing trees, and establishing of national parks. Work is under way on a

project for counting forests in the South-western Region of the country. This is being done by the Space Research Institute of KACST using remote sensing technology.

### ■ **Quality of Life:**

The proportion of population with sustainable access to safe drinking water stood at about 98% in 1433 (2012), while the proportion of population with access to sanitation networks and domestic septic tanks reached 100% in 2012. Also, per capita water consumption in the Kingdom is estimated at about 240 litres per day during 1433 (2012).

The proportion of households having secure tenure i.e. families who own their housing units or lease them or reside in social housing facilities or live in houses provided by their employers and have access to safe drinking water and enjoy sanitary drainage facilities, reached about 97% in 1433 (2012).

## **CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL**

The various national environment strategies, both those already in place and those under preparation, with their clear vision and specific targets, provide an integrated and objective base for ensuring environmental sustainability. However, sectoral, spatial and time factors relevant to these strategies represent a challenge that impedes their implementation and requires additional administrative and technical capacities, as well as adequate coordination among various government and private agencies.

The major challenge facing supply of water and sanitation services is represented in water scarcity. Therefore, it is deemed imperative to intensify the efforts of consumption rationalization and to ensure optimal utilization of renewable water resources and treated waste water. The other major challenge is to raise the quality of water and sanitation services and to enhance their economic and social efficiency.

## **SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

The Ninth Development Plan stresses the vital role of environmental protection and improvement of the quality of life where the MDGs constitute an important part of its

objectives. This important aspect of the development process is expected to gain increased support to improve the Kingdom's environmental indicators. Emphasis will also be laid on ensuring environment conservation and protection against pollution and degradation and limiting pollutants resulting from emissions of industrial plants and transport means (Box 7.3).

**Box (7.3): Policies and targets, selected from the Ninth Development Plan 31/1432-35/1436 (2010-2014), Relevant to MDG 7**

- To develop a national plan to respond to environmental disasters.
- To install 4 weather monitoring radars, 10 stationary marine monitoring stations, 40 air quality monitoring stations, 8 climate monitoring stations in the protected areas, supply and installation of 100 agricultural climate monitoring stations, 21 automatic monitoring stations, and 3 mobile stations to measure noise level.
- To enhance private sector involvement in environmental development programs.
- To strengthen IT structure and studies that address various issues of the environment and its protection.
- To implement 600,000 new domestic water connections and 15,000 km of water networks, to bring coverage rate to 88%.
- To implement 700,000 new wastewater connections and 12,000 wastewater networks, to bring coverage rate to 60%.
- To increase waste recycling rate to 75%.
- To give priority, in government housing support, to segments that cannot obtain adequate housing through market mechanisms.
- To finance around 109000 housing units by REDEF.

**Box (7.4): Overview of Current Situation**

**Will the goal be achieved by 1436 (2015)?**

<u>✓Expected</u>	Probable	Not possible	No Answer Due to Insufficient Data
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**Supportive environment status**

<u>✓Good</u>	Moderate	Poor but Improving	Poor
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**Box (7.5): Monitoring and Evaluation Environment**

Relevant Factors	Evaluation		
Data collection capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Quality of survey data	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical follow-up capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Statistical analysis capacities	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Ability to incorporate the results of analysis into the policies and resources planning	<u>✓ Good</u>	Medium	Poor
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	Good	<u>✓ Medium</u>	Poor

## **GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a major donor and a key partner in international development. The total aid provided by it to developing countries estimated by about \$110.61 billion between 1973 and 2012.

The aid provided by the Kingdom to the developing countries, as a share of GDP, exceeded the 0.7% share of donor countries GDP targeted by the UN for support of development through this period. More than 95 developing countries in Asia, Africa and other regions of the world have benefited from this aid. It covers unrepayable and unconditioned assistance provided by the Saudi Fund for Development.

### **SAUDI ARABIA'S FOREIGN AID CHANNELS**

The Kingdom provides aid through different channels, mainly the Saudi Fund for Development, which acts as the major channel for economic and social development aid. In addition, the Kingdom contributes to multilateral, regional and international development funds such as the World Bank, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Islamic Development Bank, and the OPEC Fund for International Development ... etc.

Foreign aid offered by the Kingdom are disbursed through different mechanisms, including soft loans, grants, relief aid, and debt relief where more than \$6 billion of poor-countries' debts have been forgiven.

The Kingdom provides aid to developing countries through the following channels:

■ ***Saudi Fund for Development (SFD):*** The Fund was established in 1974 to participate in financing development projects by granting loans to developing countries, and to promote national exports through export finance and guarantees. SFD is a legal entity with an autonomous financial status. It commenced its activity with a capital of SR10 billion (\$2.7 billion), which has since been increased to its current level of SR 31 billion (\$8.3 billion). SFD provides soft loans, without discrimination between countries in need of assistance, and concentrates on financing priority development projects, particularly in poor countries.

■ ***Regional and International Development Institutions:*** The Kingdom contributes to a large number of Arab, regional and international development institutions (Table 8.1). It is a founding member of the World Bank and the IMF, and enjoys voting power in both institutions, and is represented by an executive director in each. It is also a member of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) which is a member of the World Bank Group. MIGA is entrusted with channelling foreign direct investment to developing countries through offering risk guarantee to investors and lenders and providing technical assistance to enable such countries to attract and retain foreign investment. The Kingdom is also among the major countries in supporting IDA, pertained to WB which provides soft loans to low income countries.

Saudi Arabia is the largest contributor to the capital of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB). Cumulative finance operations, approved during the period 1976-2012, amounted to about \$87.22 billion. The Kingdom is also a major contributor to the OPEC Fund for International Development, which was established in 1976 by OPEC member countries as a development finance institution.

It is also noteworthy that the Kingdom's private sector took the initiative in founding the Arab Gulf Program for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), which provides technical assistance to several developing countries. It provides about 72.8% of the total financial assistance.

**Table (8.1)**  
**Saudi Arabia's Contributions to Arab, Regional and**  
**International Development Institutions up to the end of 2012**

(US \$)			
Institutions	Capital	Kingdom's Contribution	Kingdom's Contribution as a share of the capital (%)
Arab Monetary Fund	2,826,000,000	418,954,500	14.80
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	373,586,838,000	10,967,235,000	2.90
African Development Fund *	.....*	336,318,163	1.28
OPEC Fund for International Development	3,435,008,438	1,033,279,607	30.00
Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development	10,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	10.00
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	3,652,000,000	439,778,000	12.04
Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	7,260,036,300	1,741,747,406	24.00
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa	2,800,000,000	684,952,424	24.50
Islamic Development Bank	28,260,000,000	6,671,872,000	23.60
World Bank	193,732,000,000	5,403,800,000	2.79
African Development Bank	103,561,813,800	193,912,200	0.20
International Development Association (IDA)	204,332,360,000	2,424,650,000	1.20
Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development	544,500,000	81,675,000	15.00
International Finance Corporation	2,369,369,000	30,062,000	1.26
The Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation	1,912,825,000	59,803,000	3.12
Islamic Corporation for Insurance of Investment and Export Credit	628,000,000	94,200,000	15.000
Islamic Corporation for Development of the Private Sector	1,000,000,000	150,000,000	15.00
International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation	750,000,000	120,000,000	16.00
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency	94,749,051	13,612,500	14.40
Special Account for Support of SMEs in the Arab Countries	2,000,000,000	500,000,000	25.00

\*) The African Development Fund has no capital; it depends on grants by donor countries.

Source: Saudi Fund for Development, Annual Report 2012.

■ ***Sectoral Government Agencies:*** The Kingdom also provides aid through specialized government agencies, such as medical aid by the Ministry of Health, food aid by the Ministry of Agriculture, and university fellowships by the Ministry of Higher Education.

■ ***Saudi Arabia Red Crescent Authority:*** This Authority, together with related government agencies, provides emergency and humanitarian aid to countries affected by disasters and crises.

■ ***Organized Charity Activities:*** These include aid raised and offered under government supervision, through ad hoc committees, in response to specific events, such as natural disasters and humanitarian crises due to armed conflicts and famines. These kinds of assistance are emergency aid tied to specific events.

## FORMS OF SAUDI FOREIGN AID

Saudi foreign aid is provided in the following forms:

■ ***Soft loans:*** The Kingdom gives soft loans to developing countries for periods that may last up to 30 years, with a grace period of ten years. These loans are granted within the framework of bilateral agreements between the Kingdom and the borrowing country, or through multilateral agreements, where the Kingdom shares aid provision with other donor countries.

■ ***Grants:*** These could be in cash or in kind, with eligibility criteria determined on a case-by-case basis.

■ ***Humanitarian Relief and Assistance:*** This kind of aid is provided in response to emergencies resulting from natural disasters, famines or armed conflicts.

■ ***Educational Fellowships:*** Within the framework of the Educational Fellowships Program, the Kingdom provides scholarships to students in developing countries to study in Saudi universities.

## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

The Kingdom is one of the foremost donor countries regarding relief and humanitarian assistance. Assistance provided by the Kingdom in 2012 included the following:

- SR 12,187,500,000 grant to Yemen which was announced during Yemen Friends Conference in Riyadh on 2/7/1433
- SR 81,456,000 grant to Yemen for rehabilitation of Adan General Hospital, establishment of the Cardiac Center, Maarub Dual Gas Electricity Plant, public works, rural roads program and the special energy project.
- SR 2,632,810 value and cost of shipping 200 tons of food items to Yemen.
- SR 160,000 value of 500 blood bags from MOH to the Palestinian Blood Bank.
- SR 10,000,000 for drugs and medical supplies to Ghazah hospitals.
- SR 10,476,553 for relief assistance to Tunisia.
- SR 5,602,376 to Comoro Islands for value and cost of shipping 200 tons of food items.
- SR 73,741 for provision of drugs and medical supplies to Djibouti.
- SR 187,500,000 to Myanmar which is struck by human rights infringement, ethnic cleansing, killings, rape and forced repatriation.
- SR 3,750,000 to finance some UNCHR projects in Myanmar – health and education sectors.
- SR 3,134,653 to Ethiopia for value and cost of shipping food items.
- SR 562,500 assistance for IFP in Niger to help the needy people.
- SR 4,696,918 assistance to Burkina Faso for 200 tons of food items.
- SR 20,000,000 for value of 4000 tons of dates to IFP for distribution in a number of countries.
- SR 15,000,000 value of 3000 tons of dates as government assistance to a number of countries.

- SR 7,207,000 grant for construction and equipment of 7 health centers in Niger.
- SR 25,644,000 grant to Morocco for reconstruction of homes struck by the earthquakes and support of national human development program.
- SR 12,275,000 for reconstruction of Taintan City which was struck by floods in Mauritania.
- SR 16,643,000 grant to Sudan to support humanitarian conditions in Darfur and construction of the two vocational training centers in Kadogly and Damazin.
- SR 7,956,000 to Lebanon to support several projects.
- SR 148,024,000 grant to Pakistan for reconstruction of areas affected by earthquakes and contribution to the humanitarian initiative related with those displaced and effected by crisis and floods.
- SR 1,011,619,000 grant to Palestine for AlAqsa and Quds Fund, reconstruction of Ghaza and other projects to support the Palestinian Authority and the emergency assistance program for the support of health care system in Ghazah.
- SR 63,278,000 grant to Jordan for construction and equipment of government hospitals as well as water and sanitation networks.
- SR 26,862,000 grant to the African Coast States (for fourth phase of the Saud wells drilling program).
- SR 4,687,000 for the activities of Carter Humanitarian Center.
- SR 93,750,000 contribution to the Arabian Gulf Development Program.
- SR 1,500,000 Kingdom's contribution to the control of onchocerciasis (River Blindness).
- SR 28,125,000 Kingdom's contribution to eradication of child polio- UNICEF.
- SR 14,062,000 Kingdom's contribution to eradication of child polio WITO.
- SR 2,812,000 to support the structural integration program for trade in developing countries.

- SR 7,500,000 Kingdom's contribution to support emergency assistance for victims of disasters.
- SR 7,500,000 Kingdom's contribution to support agricultural and rural communities in the context of the emergency relief program in Somalia-IAP.

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AID

This section reviews bilateral and multilateral economic and social aid provided by the Kingdom in 2012 and the cumulative volume of aid over the 1975-2012 period, along with the sectoral distribution of aid.

■ ***Bilateral Aid in 2012:*** During 2012, the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) signed 24 bilateral loan agreements to finance the implementation of 24 projects in 17 developing countries. Of these projects 19 are in 13 African countries, 4 are in 3 Asian countries and one project in another regions. The total value of such aid amounted to SR4111.75 million. It is noteworthy that SFD contributes in financing projects in 80 countries.

Following is the sectoral distribution of the Fund's total finance during 2012:

- Energy Sector: 4 projects have been financed with a total amount of SR 1062.50 million, i.e. 25.84 % of the total fund.
- Social Infrastructure: finance of 9 projects with total amount of SR 698.25 million, or 16.98% of the total finance.
- Agriculture Sector: Finance of 3 projects with a total amount of SR 1012.50 million, or 24.63% of total finance.
- Transport and Communications Sector: finance of 8 projects with a total amount of SR 1338.50 million, or 32.55% of total finance.

■ ***Joint Finance with Arab, Regional and International Institutions:*** Through the SFD, the Kingdom participated, during 2012, in financing 19 development projects in 15 developing countries, at a total value of SR 3403.25 million, (Table 8.2).

**Table 8.2**  
**Loan Agreements Signed in 2012 (joint finance of some projects)**  
**(SR. Billion)**

Country	Project Title	Total Cost	Fund's Contribution (loan amount)	Other Financing Partners and Amount of Finance
Morocco	Ultra speed train (Tanja-Casablanka)	9375	750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (KD 40 million)*.</li> <li>- Abdu Dhabi Development Fund (UAAD 367.3 million).</li> <li>- Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (KD 30 million).</li> <li>- French Government (URO 625 million).</li> <li>- French Government (URO 75 million).</li> <li>- French Development Agency (URO 220 million).</li> </ul>
Benin	Candi-Sigyaba-Nigeria Borders Road	286.5	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 14.4 million).</li> <li>- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 10 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 11 million)</li> <li>- Islamic Development Fund (\$ 20 million).</li> </ul>
Zambia	Kalabo-Sikonjo-Angola Border Road	202.5	45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 14 million).</li> <li>- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 10 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 10 million).</li> </ul>
Malawi	Construction and preparation of (3) teacher training colleges	127.5	45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 7 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 11 million).</li> </ul>

Country	Project Title	Total Cost	Fund's Contribution (loan amount)	Other Financing Partners and Amount of Finance
Mozambique	Construction and equipment of (2) secondary schools and (2) technical institutes in Cubod Lagado and Tyasa	90	45	- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 10 million).
Lesotho	Construction of Mitalonge Dam (additional loan)	975	56.25	- Abdu Dhabi Development Fund (\$ 15 million). - Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 10 million). - Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 5 million). - OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 3 million).
	Water supply for five cities	121.5	42	- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 10 million). - OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 9 million).
Mauritania	Electricity line between Nouachott and Nouandhibo	375	93.75	- Saudi Export Program at the Saudi Fund for Development (\$ 75 million).
	New University Campus in Nouachott	472.5	112.5	- World Bank (\$ 8 million). - Islamic Bank for Development (\$ 21.7 million). - Republic of China (\$ 6.6 million). - Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 38.12 million).
Tunisia	Susah Electricity Plant	1717	450	- Islamic Bank for Development (\$ 200 million).
	Natural Gas Network	2881	318.75	- French Development Agency (\$ 75 million).
	Development of Vocational Training System	350	60	- Islamic Bank for Development (\$ 27 million).

Country	Project Title	Total Cost	Fund's Contribution (loan amount)	Other Financing Partners and Amount of Finance
Sudan	Atbara and Sitait Dam	3769	375	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (\$ 284 million).</li> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 178 million).</li> <li>- Algeria (\$ 83 million).</li> <li>- Islamic Bank for Development (\$ 150 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 30 million).</li> </ul>
Ruwanda	Ruhengeri-jaisema Road	197.63	48.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 13 million).</li> <li>- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 11 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 10 million).</li> </ul>
Ghana	Construction of emergency center in Korli Bo educational hospital in Akra (phase 1)	191.25	45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (\$ 8 million).</li> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 15 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 10 million).</li> </ul>
Egypt	Horizontal silos for storage of grain	1022	337.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 18 million).</li> <li>- Danish Danida Agency (\$ 20 million).</li> </ul>
Djibouti	Tajorua Port	256.13	93.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (KD 10 million).</li> </ul>
Sri Lanka	Development of road network	650.55	225	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 40 million).</li> </ul>

Country	Project Title	Total Cost	Fund's Contribution (loan amount)	Other Financing Partners and Amount of Finance
Bangladesh	Establishment of Sheikalbaha Electricity Generator Plant	1080	200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kuwait fund for Arab Economic Development (\$ 53 million).</li> <li>- Abdu Dhabi Development Fund (\$ 31.4 million).</li> <li>- OPEC Fund for International Development (\$ 30 million).</li> </ul>

#### ■ ***Cumulative Volume of Aid (1975–2012):***

The number of soft loan agreements concluded by the Saudi Fund for Development since its creation in 1975 and up to the end of 2012 totalled 535 agreements for funding of 578 development projects and economic programs, with a value of SR 39.76 billion. 80 developing countries benefited from this aid of which 44 are in Africa, 29 in Asia and 7 in other regions.

■ ***Sectoral Distribution of Aid:*** Saudi foreign aid offered through the Saudi Fund for Development to implement priority projects in developing countries, aimed at development of the infrastructure, has helped those countries to promote their economies. The largest shares of such aid were received by the transport and communications sector (30.59%), the social infrastructure sector (23.5%), the energy sector (21.36%), the agriculture sector (15.97%), the industry and mining sector (4.88%) and the other sectors (3.68%).

Table (8.3) shows the sectoral and geographical distribution of Saudi foreign aid (in the form of soft loans by the Saudi Fund for Development).

**Table 8.3**  
**Sectoral and Geographical Distribution of Cumulative Loans by the Saudi Fund for Development**  
(SR. Million)\*

Sector	Africa		Asia		Other Regions		Total		% of Total
	Number of Projects and Programs	Amount	Number of Projects and Programs	Amount	Number of Projects and Programs	Amount	Number of Projects and Programs	Amount	
<b>1. Transport and Communications</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5660.93</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>6232.24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>268.75</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>12161.92</b>	<b>30.59</b>
a) Transport	96	5518.24	67	6098.31	5	268.75	168	11885.30	29.90
• Roads	67	3140.73	44	4116.52	3	156.15	114	7413.40	18.64
• Railways	8	1291.08	8	1094.88	-	-	16	2385.96	6.00
• Sea Ports	11	836.28	9	745.32	2	112.60	22	1694.20	4.26
• Airports	10	250.15	6	141.59	-	-	16	391.74	1.00
b) Communications	4	142.69	2	133.93	-	-	6	276.62	0.69
<b>2. Agriculture</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>4885.48</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1465.31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>6350.79</b>	<b>15.97</b>
<b>3. Energy</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2829.73</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>5550.81</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>111.06</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>8491.60</b>	<b>21.36</b>
<b>4. Social infrastructure</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>4789.09</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>4269.14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>293.25</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>9351.48</b>	<b>23.52</b>
a) Water and Sanitation	23	1792.08	14	921.68	2	57.00	39	2770.76	6.96
b) Education	32	1649.13	27	1564.29	-	-	59	3213.42	8.10
c) Health	17	702.76	18	1369.55	2	168.75	37	2241.06	5.63
d) Housing and Urban Development	11	645.12	8	413.62	1	67.50	20	1126.24	2.83
<b>5. Industry and Mining</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1277.21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>665.93</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1942.60</b>	<b>4.88</b>
<b>6. Other Sectors</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>609.09</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>743.26</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>112.50</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1464.85</b>	<b>3.68</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>20051.53</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>18926.15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>785.56</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>39763.24</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Saudi Fund for Development, 2012 Report.

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