



An International Assessment

What will it take to achieve the MDGs by 2015?

May 2010



Overview



- I. MDG Achievements and gaps
- II. MDGs in the face of crises, shocks and vulnerabilities
- III. Strategies in developing countries and MDG acceleration
- IV. Global partnerships
- V. A proposed MDG action agenda for acceleration and sustainability



MDG achievements and gaps

Poverty, Unemployment and Hunger

Where we are

Between 1990 - 2005

- The number of people below the poverty line fell by 400 million
- The proportion of underweight children in developing countries went from 31 to 26 per cent
- The proportion of hungry people increased by 14.6 per cent
- Stunted growth rate among children under 5 is 41 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa and 44 per cent in South Asia
- There are still 1.4 billion poor people in the world. An estimated 64 million have joined them because of the 2008 economic crisis

Proportion of people living on less than US\$1.25 a day

Regions	1990	2005
East Asia and Pacific	54.7	16.8
China	60.2	15.9
Viet Nam	64	21
South Asia	51.7	40.3
India	51.3	41.6
Europe and Central Asia	2.0	3.7
Latin America and Caribbean	11.3	8.2
Brazil	15	5
Middle East and North Africa	4.3	3.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	57.6	50.9

Source: World Development Indicators

MDG achievements and gaps

Poverty, Unemployment and Hunger

Success stories



Malawi's national **fertilizer subsidy programme** has been associated with an increased total cultivation area by 25 per cent. Maize production reached 3.2 million tonnes in 2007, ensuring food self-sufficiency

- Debt relief through Nigeria's **Virtual Poverty Fund** was directed to agriculture and contributed to doubling agricultural production and farmer's income
- Ethiopia's **agricultural development-led industrialisation** benefited more than 30 per cent of rural population and increased cereal and food crop yields between 1993 and 2005

What has worked

1. **Employment-intensive growth** is critical for rapid poverty reduction because labour is often the greatest asset owned by the poor
2. **High per capita growth** expands the resource base for households, firms and governments to invest in the MDGs
3. **Supporting agriculture and rural development** helps to increase food production and reduce poverty and hunger
4. **Productivity can be increased** by improving maternal health, access to education, water and sanitation, and nutrition



MDG achievements and gaps

Primary Education

What has worked

1. **Abolition of school fees at the primary level has been important**

This contributed to surges of enrolment in Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Nepal

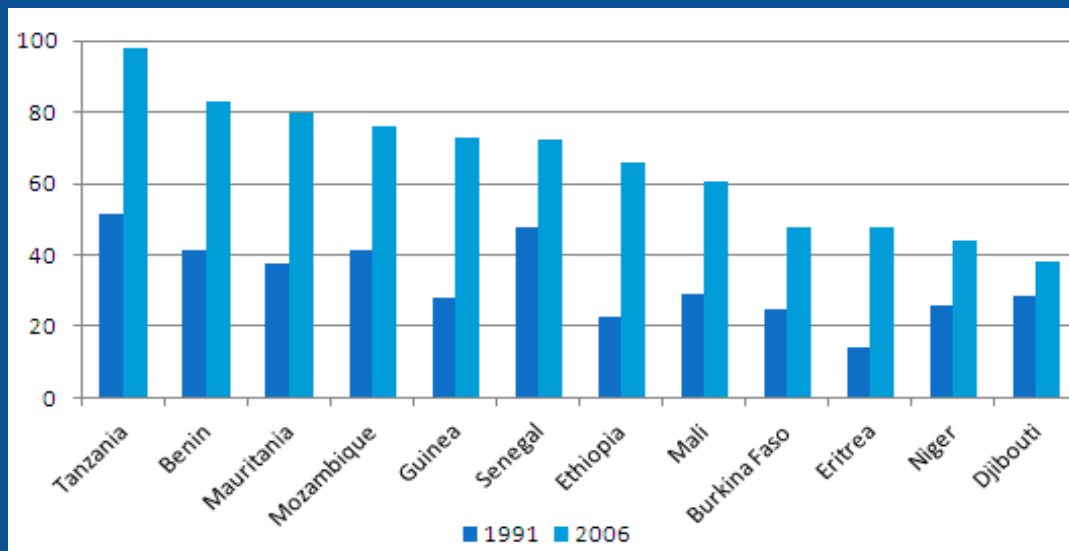
2. **Investment in school infrastructure and human capital also helps**

Tanzania ensured the construction of 54,000 classrooms between 2002 and 2006 and hired 18,000 additional teachers

Where we are Between 1990 – 2007

- Global primary school enrolment is at 88 per cent
- Gross intake rate in sub-Saharan Africa increased by 25 per cent
- 72 million children are still out of school

**Net enrolment ratios in primary education
in sub-Saharan Africa**



Source: UN Statistics Division

MDG achievements and gaps

Gender equality and women's empowerment

Poverty has a woman's face



Investing in girls' education and empowering women – through labour participation and self-employment – has **strong multiplier effects** across all the MDGs

Where we are

- The gender gap in school has narrowed significantly. By 2007, 95 girls per 100 boys were enrolled in schools. In 1999, it was 91 girls to 100 boys
- Women held 18 per cent of seats in parliament in 2009

What has worked

1. **Legal and constitutional reforms can help countries to achieve the MDGs.** Botswana abolished its Marital Power Act in 2004, giving equal right to both partners in a common law marriage. This is allowing women to gain financial independence. In Bahrain, 98 per cent of women participated in a referendum in 2001, paving way for legislative reforms that gave Bahraini women full rights as citizens .
2. **Public-private partnerships advance women's empowerment in the work place.** Mexico's federal programme *Generosidad* gives certificates to private firms for achieving gender equity in recruitment, career advancement, training and sexual harassment. By 2006, more than 117 firms received the certificate.

MDG achievements and gaps

Child mortality, maternal health, diseases

Where we are

Between 1990 – 2007

- Under-five mortality decreased from 93 deaths per 1,000 live births to 67
- Measles-related deaths in sub-Saharan Africa decreased by 91 per cent
- Under 5 mortality in sub-Saharan Africa went from 4.6 to 4.2 million
- Maternal Mortality Ratio fell from 320 to 251 per 100,000 live births between 1990 to 2008
- The number of people newly infected with HIV fell from 3.5 in 1996 to 2.7 million in 2005
- AIDS-related deaths declined from 2 to 1.7 million

What has worked

International and public-private partnerships Global Campaign to End Fistula, Viet Nam's tetanus eradication campaign, Egypt's maternal health care Initiative, etc

Health in a box Afghanistan's Basic Package of Health Services and Pakistan's mobile health care service units

Targeted interventions, including distribution of condoms Cambodia's 100 per cent Condom Use Programme

contributed to twice as much as condom use among sex workers. HIV prevalence declined from 1.2 to 0.7 per cent between 2003 and 2008



Afghanistan's Basic Package of Health Services focused on construction of health centres and hospitals, training of health workers, and large-scale vaccinations. Amidst conflicts, Afghanistan saw a significant decline in under-five mortality between 2002 and 2004



MDG achievements and gaps

Environmental Sustainability

Where we are

- CO2 emissions reached 21 billion metric tons in 2006. This is a 31 per cent increase from 1990
- Deforestation continues at 13 million hectares every year
- 800 million people still rely on unimproved water sources. 75 per cent of the 884 million people who face water scarcity live in rural areas
- Small-Island Developing States face reversal of their MDG progress due to threats from natural disasters

What we learnt

1. **Community –based projects** create employment opportunities and alternative energy sources
2. **There is a gender-poverty-energy nexus.** Women's burden of domestic activities is exacerbated by lack of infrastructure and alternative energy sources

Success stories

- Provision of bio-fuel technologies in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Senegal created income-generating opportunities for women
- South Asia's *Women Well-being, Work, Waste and Sanitation* project trained women as sanitation facilities installers. It also allowed them to earn additional income

MDGs in the face of crises, shocks and vulnerabilities

Economic Crisis

- Direct impacts in export, earnings, remittances and tourism in developing countries **affect the MDGs indirectly**. As a result, up to 19 million more people will fall into poverty in 2010
- Reduced household consumption **negatively affects child growth** and learning abilities
- **Women are more likely to lose employment** than men, as women dominate export sectors for garments and agriculture

Climate Change

- **Extra costs for rapid interventions and adaptive capacity building**. In sub-Saharan Africa, climate change might cause a fall in agricultural yields by 50 per cent by 2020
- **More frequent and severe natural disasters** – cyclones, hurricanes, desertification – threaten health, income and ecosystems
- **Rural-urban migration** will have major implications for social service provision

High Food Prices

- **Negatively impact on the well-being of children**. Malnutrition losses incurred during inception and 18 months cannot be retrieved, representing losses the child will carry throughout life
- **Disproportionately affects the poor** who spend 60 – 80 per cent of their income on food. 35 per cent price increase implies 64 million more malnourished people



MDGs in the face of crises, shocks and vulnerabilities

Urbanisation and Slums

- **Malnutrition.** A third of urban residents live in slums where serious malnutrition is widespread. Children in slums are twice as malnourished
- **Pollution of air and water sources.** Cities will continue to discharge waste into air and freshwater bodies
- **A well-managed urbanisation is beneficial to the MDGs.** Cities create jobs and productive use of technology

Conflicts, Violence and Insecurity

- **Conflict and political violence destroy a country's economic, governance and administrative institutions.** Consequently, making progress on the MDGs becomes incredibly challenging
- **Violence can rapidly erode previous progress and spread across border.** A third of the world's poor live in 43 fragile states, accounting for half of all under-five mortality and a third of maternal mortality



Ethiopia's urban population doubled between 1990 and 2008, with a 60 per cent rise in slum dwellers. To address the issue the government promoted small- and medium-scale enterprises, community-based urban works programmes, and constructed over 80,000 public housing units

Strategies in developing countries and MDG acceleration

Country-led development


- Capacities for sound policies and successful implementation
- Responsive and accountable institutions
- Integration of the MDGs into national plans and local context


The equity agenda


Reducing inequality can accelerate poverty reduction. Ethiopia's poverty reduction would have been much higher between 1995 and 2005 if urban inequality had not increased


Public investment and domestic resource mobilisation are a must


Without permanent increases in public expenditure and domestic resource mobilisation, investments in the MDGs cannot be scaled up

 Albania adopted MDG9 to strengthen good governance

 Philippines launched an initiative to ensure transparent and local level MDG progress

 3. The Gambia adopted a community-based mechanism to monitor service delivery

 4. Uganda made public the government's transfer of capitation grants to each school districts

 5. India enabled its citizens to hold accountable policy makers for service delivery using social audit mechanisms

Strategies in developing countries and MDG acceleration

Social protection programmes

- Social assistance and public employment programmes contribute to the reduction of poverty and inequality
- The ultimate goal must be universal coverage

Access to Energy and Low-Carbon Development

- Climate change and poverty reduction policies must be integrated
- The integration of the two could be an opportunity for low-carbon development



Panama's conditional cash transfer programme *Red de Oportunidades* provided free primary care services, vaccinations and reproductive health care to 70,599 households, which is 95 per cent of people living under the poverty line, between 2007 – 2008



Small-scale micro projects such as provision of low-cost electricity in the form of bio-fuel multi-functional platforms in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali and Senegal have created income-generating opportunities for women, while reducing time poverty by up to 6 hours a day

The Global Partnership for Development (GPD)

Further strengthen the GPD

- Focus on policy coherence
- Accountability for pledges

Aid quantity and allocation

- Increased ODA has supported MDG progress
- Allocate efficiently across countries and priorities
- Invest in capacities to manage ODA

Aid effectiveness

- Tackle fragmentation
- Increase predictable budget support
- Divisions of labour
- Transparency for accountability

Innovative finance

- Explore schemes for development and climate finance

Debt sustainability

- Post-crisis, consider extending debt relief to vulnerable countries, including through a moratorium and/or debt swaps
- Orderly debt work-out mechanism

Trade

- Agree on development-friendly Doha Round by end-2011
- Support South-South trade and regional integration

Other areas

- Access to technologies
- International migration
- Foreign investment
- Illicit flows and tax cooperation

South-South cooperation

- New opportunities for resource and knowledge transfers

MDG action agenda for acceleration and sustainability

1. Support country-led development

- Domestic strategies, policies and interventions, with national ownership and capacities
- Issues of governance must be addressed
- Institutional capacity building must strengthen transparency and accountability
- Capable, resourced and accountable civil services
- MDG localization

2. Foster inclusive economic growth

- Employment intensive growth drives poverty reduction
- Address rural-urban inequalities by supporting agriculture – can contribute to production increases and food security
- Private sector can be the engine of growth: access to credit, international market access, infrastructure

3. Expand opportunities for women and girls

- Ensuring girls have access to health and education helps progress in all of the MDGs
- Constitutional and legal reforms directly enhance women's political participation
- Property rights underpin women's economic opportunities
- Providing infrastructure to households frees women to engage in income generating activities and girls to attend school

MDG action agenda for acceleration and sustainability

4. Scale up targeted interventions

- Partnerships with domestic and international civil society can support quick impact interventions
- Social assistance programmes reduce vulnerabilities during crises and shocks. Public employment programmes are especially effective in rapid poverty reduction
- Programmes targeting women can have a multiplier effect on the other MDGs

5. Strengthen systems for education, health, water and sanitation, and infrastructure

- Rapid improvements are made when investments are supported by demand-side policies, including the elimination of user fees in education and health
- Attention should be paid to upgrading slum dwellings

6. Enhance access to alternative energy and promote low-carbon development

- A global agreement on climate change is essential to support people with fewer resources to adapt to climate change
- Alternative energy and low-carbon initiative benefit households through supply of energy and job creation in non-agricultural activities
- Small Island Developing States need support to develop resilience against climate change in order sustain MDG progress

MDG action agenda for acceleration and sustainability

7. Accelerate domestic resource mobilisation to finance the MDGs

- Establishing progressive taxes can ensure that heavy burdens do not fall on the poor
- Options for innovative resource mobilization, e.g. taxing carbon-based industries
- Supplemented by improvements in efficiency of allocation; and
- Expanding access to financial services, to increase pool of savings available to governments and the private sector

8. Deliver on ODA commitments. Improve its predictability, effectiveness, division of labour and disbursement modality

- Maintaining an upward trajectory on ODA, notwithstanding the crisis, is central to continued progress on the MDGs
- Improve the allocation of ODA across countries to target poverty needs, and balancing the social and productive sectors
- Faster progress on aid effectiveness: untying, predictable budget support, division of labour, transparency
- Explore innovative financing, but don't fragment architecture further
- Where appropriate, post-crisis debt relief and/or a moratorium for vulnerable countries

Summary of MDG action agenda

1. Support **country-led development**
2. Foster **inclusive economic growth**
3. Increase **public investments** in education, health, water and sanitation, and infrastructure
4. Scale up **targeted interventions**
5. Invest in **women and girls**
6. Enhance access to **alternative energy** and promote **low-carbon development**
7. Accelerate **domestic resource mobilisation** to finance the MDGs
8. Deliver on **ODA commitments**, and improve its predictability, effectiveness, division of labour and disbursement modality