

The Millennium Development Goals Report



UNITED NATIONS

2015

EMBARGOED UNTIL 6 JULY, 10:15 AM EDT (GMT-4)

Fact Sheet

MDG 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

- ▶ **Extreme poverty:** In 1990, nearly half of the population in the developing regions lived on less than \$1.25 a day. This rate dropped to 14 per cent in 2015. Globally, the number of people living in extreme poverty has declined by more than half, falling from 1.9 billion in 1990 to 836 million in 2015, with most progress occurring since 2000.
- ▶ **Hunger:** The proportion of undernourished people in the developing regions has fallen by almost half since 1990, from 23.3 per cent in 1990–1992 to 12.9 per cent in 2014–2016.

MDG 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

- ▶ **Primary school enrolment:** In the developing regions, the primary school net enrolment rate has reached 91 per cent in 2015, up from 83 per cent in 2000.
- ▶ **Sub-Saharan Africa** recorded the best progress in primary education, with a 20 percentage-point increase in the net enrolment ratio from 2000 to 2015, compared to an 8 percentage-point gain between 1990 and 2000.
- ▶ **Out-of-school children:** Globally, the number of out-of-school children of primary school age has fallen to an estimated 57 million in 2015, down from 100 million in 2000.
- ▶ **Literacy rate:** Among youth aged 15 to 24, the literacy rate has improved globally from 83 per cent to 91 per cent between 1990 and 2015, and the gap between women and men has narrowed.

MDG 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

- ▶ **Gender equality in education:** Many more girls are now in school compared with 15 years ago. In Southern Asia, only 74 girls were enrolled in primary school for every 100 boys in 1990, but today, there are 103 girls for every 100 boys.
- ▶ **Women's employment:** In 2015, women make up 41 per cent of paid employments outside the agriculture sector, an increase from 35 per cent in 1990.
- ▶ **Women in parliament:** Women have gained ground in parliamentary representation in nearly 90 per cent of the 174 countries with data over the past 20 years. The average proportion of women in parliament has nearly doubled during the same period, although only one in five members is a woman.

MDG 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

- ▶ **Child mortality rate:** Globally, the under-five mortality rate dropped from 90 to 43 deaths per 1,000 live births between 1990 and 2015. Despite population growth in the developing regions, the number of deaths of children under five declined from 12.7 million in 1990 to almost 6 million in 2015 globally.
- ▶ **Infectious diseases:** Measles vaccination helped prevent nearly 15.6 million deaths between 2000 and 2013. The number of globally reported measles cases declined by 67 per cent. About 84 per cent of children worldwide received at least one dose of measles-containing vaccine in 2013, up from 73 per cent in 2000.



MDG 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

- ▶ **Maternal mortality ratio (worldwide):** Since 1990, it declined by almost half worldwide, and most of the reduction has occurred since 2000.
- ▶ **Maternal mortality ratio (Southern Asia, sub-Saharan Africa):** In Southern Asia, the maternal mortality ratio declined by 64 per cent between 1990 and 2013, and in sub-Saharan Africa it fell by almost half.
- ▶ **Birth assistance:** Close to three-quarters of births were assisted by skilled health personnel globally in 2014, an increase from 59 per cent in 1990.

MDG 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

- ▶ **New infection rate of HIV:** New infections fell approximately by 40 per cent between 2000 and 2013, from an estimated 3.5 million cases to 2.1 million.
- ▶ **Antiretroviral therapy:** By June 2014, 13.6 million people living with HIV were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) globally, an immense increase from just 800,000 in 2003. ART averted 7.6 million deaths from AIDS between 1995 and 2013.
- ▶ **Malaria deaths and malaria incidence rate:** Over 6.2 million malaria deaths have been averted between 2000 and 2015, primarily of children under five years of age in sub-Saharan Africa. The global malaria incidence rate has fallen by an estimated 37 per cent, and the mortality rate has fallen by more than half.
- ▶ **Tuberculosis:** Between 2000 and 2013, tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis and treatment interventions saved an estimated 37 million lives. The tuberculosis mortality rate fell by 45 per cent and the prevalence rate fell by 41 per cent between 1990 and 2013.

MDG 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- ▶ **Drinking water:** In 2015, more than 90 per cent of the global population is using an improved drinking water source, compared to around three-quarters in 1990. About 2.6 billion people have gained access to improved drinking water since 1990.
- ▶ **Sanitation:** Worldwide 2.1 billion people have gained access to improved sanitation. The proportion of people practicing open defecation has fallen almost by half since 1990.
- ▶ **Ozone depletion:** Ozone-depleting substances have been virtually eliminated since 1990, and the ozone layer is expected to recover by the middle of this century.
- ▶ **Slums:** The proportion of urban population living in slums in the developing regions fell from approximately 39.4 per cent in 2000 to 29.7 per cent in 2014.

MDG 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ **Official development assistance (ODA):** ODA from developed countries increased by 66 per cent in real terms between 2000 and 2014, reaching \$135.2 billion from 81 billion in 1990, a record high. In 2014, Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom continued to exceed the United Nations ODA target of 0.7 per cent of GNI.
- ▶ **Trade:** In 2014, almost four-fifths of imports from developing to developed countries were admitted duty free, up from 65 per cent in 2000.
- ▶ **Internet penetration:** Internet penetration has grown from just over 6 per cent of the world's population in 2000 to 43 per cent in 2015. As a result, 3.2 billion people are linked to a global network of content and applications.
- ▶ **MDG Gap Task Force Report:** According to the MDG Gap Task Force Report of 2014, which was created by the UN Secretary-General to improve the monitoring of the achievements of the goals set under MDG 8, much progress was found. In addition to a notable increase in official development assistance and a breakthrough in trade negotiations, an extension of duty-free and quota-free access to developed country markets for least developed countries, and greater availability and falling costs of telecommunications in developing countries were identified.

CROSS-CUTTING

- ▶ **Inequalities persist:** Progress has been uneven across regions and countries and significant gaps persist. The poorest and most vulnerable need to be further targeted to improve their lives and progress overall.
- ▶ **Conflict:** By the end of 2014, conflicts had forced almost 60 million individuals to evacuate their homes. In countries affected by conflict, the proportion of out-of-school children increased from 30 per cent in 1999 to 36 per cent in 2012. Fragile and conflict-affected countries typically have the highest poverty rates and performed worse in terms of achieving the goals.
- ▶ **Gender inequality:** Women continue to experience significant gaps in terms of poverty, labour market and wages, as well as participation in private and public decision-making. Globally, about three-quarters of working-age men participate in the labour force, compared to only half of working-age women.
- ▶ **Economic gaps between the poorest and richest households, and rural and urban areas:** In the development regions, children from the poorest 20 per cent of households are more than twice as likely to be stunted as those from the wealthiest quintile. Only 56 per cent of births in rural areas are attended by skilled health personnel, compared to 87 per cent in urban areas. Access to improved water and sanitation facilities remains limited to many people in rural areas. Improved sanitation facilities are only covering half of those people living in rural areas, as opposed to 82 per cent in urban areas.
- ▶ **Climate change:** An estimated 5.2 million hectares of forest were lost in 2010. Overexploitation of marine fish stocks led to declines in the percentage of stocks within safe biological limits, down from 90 per cent in 1974 to 71 per cent in 2011. Poor people's livelihoods are more directly tied to natural resources, and as they often live in the most vulnerable areas, they suffer the most.
- ▶ **Poverty and hunger:** Despite enormous progress achieved with the help of the MDGs, today, about 800 million people still live in extreme poverty with links to health disadvantages, child and maternal mortality, elevated school dropout rates, and inadequate sanitation among others. Each day, about 16,000 children die before celebrating their fifth birthday.

