

Table of Recommendations

This table of recommendations provides a series of suggestions to help close the implementation gaps identified by the **MDG Gap Task Force Report 2013: The Global Partnership for Development: The Challenge We Face**. It provides a quick reference to the gaps identified in the areas of official development assistance (ODA), market access (trade), external debt, access to essential medicines and access to new technologies; as well as a series of policy responses at the national and international levels. Recommendations are suggestions for actions to be undertaken by the international community and were derived from the analytical work undertaken by the Task Force. They are meant to stimulate the debate on ways to accelerate progress towards the MDGs.

	Gap	Recommended national policies	Required global response
Official development assistance			
<i>Total ODA</i>	Aid commitments from 1970, reaffirmed by donors at numerous summits and conferences since then, are not being met. Official development assistance (ODA) suffered a second consecutive year of contraction in 2012 for the first time since 1997, falling 4 per cent, down to \$125.9 billion, from \$134 billion in 2011, reaching 0.29 per cent of the gross national income (GNI) of Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members, well short of the UN target of 0.7 per cent of GNI		Reverse the two-year contraction of ODA and make greater efforts to reach the United Nations target Increase annual aid disbursements by approximately \$175 billion, in order to reach the United Nations target, of \$300.6 billion in 2012 dollars
<i>ODA to the Least Developed Countries</i>	ODA commitments under the 2001 Brussels Programme of Action to the LDCs, reaffirmed at the Fourth UN Conference on the LDC's in May 2011 in Istanbul, are not being met. Only ten DAC member countries allocated at		Restore and give priority to aid flows to LDCs so as to reach United Nations targets Increase donor coordination in order to provide more aid to potentially under-aided countries

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	least 0.15 per cent of their GNI to LDCs in 2011. Overall DAC aid to LDCs was 0.1 per cent of GNI		
<i>ODA to Africa</i>	Bilateral aid from DAC donors to sub-Saharan Africa was \$26.2 billion in 2012, a decline of 7.9 per cent in real terms from 2011. Bilateral aid to the African continent as a whole fell 9.9 per cent, to \$28.9 billion in 2012, albeit following a 44 per cent increase in 2011 owing to exceptional support to some countries in North Africa, propelled by support for the Arab Spring. This has been the first fall in ODA to Africa since 2007		Deliver on all existing ODA commitments to Africa
<i>Aid effectiveness</i>	As a follow-up to the Fourth High level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, Republic of Korea, in 2011, a Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation was established in June 2012 as an ad hoc platform for political dialogue, accountability and mutual learning on effective development cooperation in support of efforts to eradicate global poverty, achieve all the MDGs, and help implement a post-2015 development agenda	Increase transparency in the delivery and use of development cooperation and participate in international initiatives in order to increase development effectiveness	Formulate concrete steps to increase mutual accountability and effectiveness in development cooperation Increase efforts to meet Busan commitments to accelerating aid untying, increasing medium-term predictability and addressing legal and procedural constraints.

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Trade			
<i>Trade negotiations</i>	Twelve years of talks under the WTO Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations have left considerable gaps separating the interests of its members, especially in regard to agricultural support measures and industrial tariffs. Talks at an impasse since December 2011	Prioritize trade and its links to development and poverty reduction in national development strategies	<p>Intensify efforts to conclude the Doha Round in all of its aspects and under its original mandate</p> <p>Remove trade restrictive measures adopted during the crisis and refrain from introducing new ones</p> <p>Contribute to the global debate on the post-2015 framework by clarifying the conceptual linkages between trade and sustainable development and by assessing options for national and global targets related to productive capacities and economic diversification</p>
<i>Market access</i>	The 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration committed countries to provide duty-free and quota-free (DFQF) access to at least 97 per cent of LDCs export products. In 2011, 83 per cent of LDC exports and 80 per cent of the exports of developing countries as a whole entered DFQF. However, this commitment refers to individual tariff lines, not total export values. This difference is important considering the high concentration of LDCs exports on a few products.		Fully implement the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration commitment to provide duty-free, quota-free market access to LDC products, along with simplified rules of origin and coherent implementation of preferential schemes

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<i>Agricultural subsidies</i>	Total agricultural support in OECD countries increased to \$415 billion, equivalent to 0.94 per cent. Direct support to agricultural producers has a strong adverse impact on production and trade of developing countries	Eliminate trade-distorting domestic support for the agricultural sector	Accelerate the elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies in developed countries
<i>Aid for Trade</i>	Insufficient support to the Aid for Trade and Enhanced Integrated Framework initiatives. "Aid for Trade" declined significantly in 2011. Commitments amounted to \$41.5 billion, down almost 14 per cent from 2010, measured in 2011 prices and exchange rates. Africa was the region most affected by the decline in 2011 funding, where commitments fell 29 per cent to \$13.1 billion		Increase support for strengthening productive sectors in developing countries, including through sustainable and predictable Aid for Trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework for LDCs
Debt sustainability			
<i>Sovereign debt</i>	Lack of a comprehensive international mechanism within which to adequately treat sovereign debt crises, as called for in the Monterrey Consensus, Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and the 2010 MDG summit Outcome Document Middle and low-income countries	Strengthen debt management systems Improve the timeliness and coverage of publicly available country debt data based on both creditor and debtor reporting systems so as to strengthen capacities for assessing debt sustainability and encourage greater transparency	Devise principles for the path of adjustment to reduce excessive debt that strike a social and developmental balance between financing, debt restructuring and the pace of policy reform Convoke an international working group, supported by a balanced international group of experts, to

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	suffering from debt distress, but not eligible for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, have no access to debt relief or to orderly sovereign debt workouts	Consolidate national debt data to take account of the fiscal risks associated with subnational debt, government guarantees and contingent liabilities Adopt and implement proposed principles and guidelines for responsible sovereign borrowing and lending	examine options for enhancing the international architecture for debt restructuring
<i>Debt relief</i>	17 low income countries, including 6 that have completed the HIPC process, are classified as being at high risk or in debt distress 1 country has yet to reach its HIPC completion point, thus has not benefited from the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) 3 countries have yet to reach their HIPC decision point, thus have not received any debt relief		
Access to essential medicines			
<i>Access to essential medicines</i>	No specific numerical targets for the global partnership on essential medicines have been defined. Availability of essential medicines in developing countries is low and prices remain high. Median prices	Increase availability, affordability and use of generic medicines in the public sector Abolish tariffs on medicines, control taxes and markups, contain prices, create a competitive and enabling environment for innovation and	Encourage pharmaceutical companies to reduce prices of essential medicines in developing countries Work towards regional harmonization and simplification of regulatory requirements so as to increase access

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	<p>of essential medicines in developing countries are, on average, 3.3 times and 5.7 times higher than international reference prices, in the public and private sectors, respectively.</p> <p>Essential medicines are unaffordable to large segments of population in developing countries, particularly when originator brand medicines are used.</p>	<p>facilitate the use of trade policy flexibilities</p> <p>Make use of the TRIPS flexibilities in order to increase access to more affordable essential medicines whenever conditions justify, through local production and importation, including parallel imports</p>	<p>to good quality, safe and effective medicines</p> <p>Further develop and implement new R&D initiatives that help delink the high cost of R&D from the price of the product</p>
Access to new technologies			
<i>Access to new technologies</i>	<p>No specific numerical targets for the global partnership on new technologies have been defined.</p> <p>Despite rapid growth in the developing world in penetration and use of ICT services, developing countries, and LDCs especially, still lag behind developed countries in fixed telephony, mobile cellular telephony and Internet access and use.</p> <p>Mobile cellular subscriptions reached 84.3 per 100 inhabitants in developing countries in 2012, while in developed countries the</p>	<p>Strengthen competition and regulatory frameworks to promote spread of new technologies and reduce prices</p> <p>Increase the use of ICT applications to improve the provision of services, especially those with a direct impact on the MDGs</p>	<p>Continue supporting the efforts of the Technology Mechanism, including the Climate Technology Centre and Network, to increase the transfer of climate change–related technologies to developing countries</p> <p>Urge the public and private sectors to increase cooperation in expanding access to new technologies to enhance preparedness for and resilience to the effects of natural disasters</p> <p>Re-examine and bring to the international agenda the importance and role of science, technology and innovation and the transfer of all</p>

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	penetration rate was over 100 per cent. Similarly, there were 27.5 Internet users per 100 inhabitants in developing countries, as opposed to 73.4 users per 100 inhabitants in developed countries.		relevant technologies in the achievement of development goals in all areas