



UNITED NATIONS

WE CAN END POVERTY

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND BEYOND 2015

FACT SHEET

GOAL 8

Develop a global partnership for development

TARGETS

1. Develop further an open, rules-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system
2. Address the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing states
3. Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt
4. In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable, essential drugs in developing countries
5. In cooperation with the private sector, make available benefits of new technologies, especially ICTs

FAST FACTS

- ✧ Official development assistance stood at \$126 billion in 2012.
- ✧ A total of 83 per cent of least developed country exports enter developed countries duty-free.
- ✧ In 2012, trade of developing countries and transition economies outpaced the world average.
- ✧ In the developing world, 31 per cent of the population use the Internet, compared with 77 per cent of the developed world.

WHERE WE STAND

The trade climate continues to improve for developing and least developed countries. The developing country share of world trade rose to 44.4 per cent in 2012. Average tariffs levied by developed countries continued to decline for developing countries in 2011.

Debt service ratios are one-quarter less from their 2000 level, lessening the financial burden on developing countries. Better debt management, the expansion of trade and, for the poorest countries, substantial debt relief have reduced the burden of debt service.

The global financial crisis and Euro-zone turmoil continue to take a toll on official development assistance (ODA). In 2012 ODA of \$126 billion was 4 per cent less in real terms than in 2011, which was 2 per cent less than in 2010. This is the first time since 1996-1997 that ODA fell in two consecutive years.

Aid is being increasingly concentrated in a small number of countries. The top 20 recipients in 2011 (out of 158 countries and territories) accounted for about 55 per cent of total ODA, up from 38 per cent the year before.

Mobile-cellular subscriptions are moving towards saturation levels. With a projected 6.8 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions by the end of 2013, global penetration will reach 96 per cent.

The growth in the number of individuals using the Internet in developing countries continues to outpace that in developed countries, growing at 12 per cent in 2013 compared to 5 per cent in developed countries. The total number of Internet users in developing countries comprises 65 per cent of the total number of users in the world in 2013, up from 40 per cent in 2005. Broadband Internet is becoming more widely available and affordable, but is still out of reach in many developing countries.

Prices for essential medicines in low and lower-middle-income countries were, on average, 3.3 times higher than international reference prices in public sector facilities and 5.7 times higher in private sector facilities. Essential medicines are available in only 57 per cent of public sector facilities and 65 per cent of private facilities (in selected developing countries).

WHAT'S WORKING?

- ✧ In 2012, members of the **G-20** group of countries reaffirmed their pledge not to impose protectionist measures and have largely resisted creating new trade barriers.
- ✧ Despite mounting unemployment and the high cost of transferring remittances in developed countries, **remittance flows** to developing countries grew to \$401 billion in 2012, a 5.3 per cent increase over 2011. Remittances are expected to keep rising.
- ✧ As of April 2013, 35 countries out of 39 highly-indebted poor countries (HIPCs) eligible through the HIPC Initiative were receiving irrevocable debt relief from the [International Monetary Fund](#), [the World Bank](#) and other creditors after reaching their completion points. According to the MDG Gap Task Force Report 2013, while the link between debt relief and poverty-reducing expenditure is difficult to demonstrate, data show that HIPCs have increased poverty-reducing expenditures as their debt service payments have declined.
- ✧ The [World Bank Group](#) committed \$52.6 billion in loans, grants, equity investments and guarantees to help promote economic growth, increase shared prosperity and fight extreme poverty in developing countries during fiscal year 2013, which ended on 30 June. World Bank Group support for projects in sub-Saharan Africa reached its highest levels in 2013.
- ✧ There are over six billion mobile phone subscriptions worldwide. For every person who accesses the Internet from a computer, two do so from a mobile device. In South Africa, over 25,000 learners have improved their math skills through interactive exercises and quizzes on mobile phones thanks to cooperation between the government, mobile carriers, Nokia and individual schools and teachers. In Mali, teachers can access lesson plans and curricular materials through a simple yet functional Internet portal.
- ✧ Mobile technologies are promoting collaborative learning in science classes in Chile; strengthening

communication between principals and teachers in Kenya; reinforcing newly-acquired literacy skills for women and girls in Pakistan; facilitating adult vocational training in Europe; and improving the efficiency and speed of educational data collection in Argentina. These projects are an essential component of the broader UNESCO Working Paper Series on Mobile Learning, which seeks to better understand how mobile technologies can be used to improve educational access, equity and quality around the world.

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

The MDGs have mobilized action from Governments, civil society and other partners around the world, with significant results obtained through partnerships. Going beyond traditional means of delivering aid for achieving the MDGs, the UN Secretary-General and others have brought on board a range of partners, including Governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and international institutions, to accelerate progress and close gaps. Partnership initiatives for the MDGs include: [Every Woman Every Child](#), [GAVI Alliance](#), [The Global Fund](#), [Global Education First Initiative](#), [Rollback Malaria](#), [Sanitation and Water for All](#), [Scaling Up Nutrition](#), [Sustainable Energy for All](#) and [Zero Hunger Challenge](#).

The [MDG Gap Task Force](#) was created by the UN Secretary-General in May 2007 to improve monitoring of the global commitments contained in MDG 8, the Global Partnership for Development. The main purpose of the Task Force is to systematically track existing international commitments and to identify gaps and obstacles in their fulfilment at the international, regional and country levels in the areas of official development assistance, market access (trade), debt sustainability, access to essential medicines and new technologies. The Task Force integrates more than 30 UN and other international agencies.

The [Integrated Implementation Framework](#) records and monitors financial as well as policy commitments made in support of the MDGs by UN Member States and other international stakeholders.

Sources: [The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013](#), *United Nations*; [MDG Gap Task Force Report 2013](#), *DESA, Good Practices and Innovations in Public Governance*; [UNESCO: International Monetary Fund](#), *World Bank*.



For more information, please contact mediainfo@un.org.

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