

## ACCESS TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES

**Indicators 8.14, 8.15 and 8.16** under **Target 8.F** provide a measure of penetration of new technology in developing countries, but they do not allow monitoring of global efforts to improve availability of information and communications technology (ICT), including the contribution of the private sector. While Target 8.F makes explicit reference to information and communications technology, it contains a more general reference to the availability of “new technology”. It has been recognized that it is also imperative that the international community come together to better provide other key technologies to developing countries, such as those for coping with the adverse effects of climate change and with the potential impact of the rising incidence of disasters.

While MDG 8 did not attach any numerical targets to the commitment on technology, a number of targets have been identified to track progress that countries are making towards advancing their information societies. These targets will help understand if countries are on track to meet the target of improving access to technology.

Name of Event / Initiative	Targets, indicators and commitments	Gap
<a href="#">Millennium Summit</a> , New York, 6-8 September 2000 – MDG-8	<p><b>Target 8.F:</b> In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>8.14. Fixed telephone lines per 100 inhabitants</p> <p>8.15. Mobile cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants</p> <p>8.16. Internet users per 100 inhabitants</p>	<p>Lack of numerical targets and indicators to monitor global commitments to increase access to new technologies and the contribution of the private sector.</p> <p>Despite rapid diffusion of ICT in the developing world, developing countries, and LDCs especially, still lag behind developed countries in fixed telephony, mobile cellular telephony and Internet access and use. In developing regions, fixed telephone and mobile cellular penetration reached 12 and 70 per cent of inhabitants by the end of 2010, respectively, while 21 per cent of the population used the Internet.</p>

MDG Gap Task Force – Matrix of Global Commitments – August 2011

Name of Event / Initiative	Targets, indicators and commitments	Gap
<a href="#">World Summit on the Information Society</a> , 10-12 December 2003	<p><b>WSIS targets, to be achieved by 2015:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. to connect all villages with ICTs and establish community access points</li> <li>b. to connect all secondary schools and primary schools with ICTs</li> <li>c. to connect all scientific and research centres with ICTs</li> <li>d. to connect all public libraries, museums, post offices and archives with ICTs</li> <li>e. to connect all health centres and hospitals with ICTs</li> <li>f. to connect all central government departments and establish websites</li> <li>g. to adapt all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the Information Society, taking into account national circumstances</li> <li>h. to ensure that all of the world's population have access to television and radio services</li> <li>i. to encourage the development of content and to put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet</li> <li>j. to ensure that more than half the world's inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach and make use of them</li> </ul>	<p>Lack of numerical targets and ambiguity in wording prevent proper monitoring.</p> <p>While the WSIS Plan of Action does not attach precise quantitative indicators to the targets, the <i>Partnership on ICT for Development's</i> <a href="#">Measuring the WSIS Targets. A statistical framework</a> report provides a concrete list of indicators to monitor the 10 WSIS targets.</p> <p>The <a href="#">World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report 2010 - Monitoring the WSIS Targets</a> report provides a mid-term review of the WSIS targets.</p>
<a href="#">Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development</a> , launched in June 2004, indicators adopted in 2005 and latest revision published in 2010	<p><a href="#">A core list of indicators</a> was identified to track ICT developments.</p>	<p>Indicators do not include specific targets. Cost of ICT services, especially Internet access in low-income countries and Africa remains unaffordable. Access to Internet services is further hampered by lack of electricity in many poor (mainly rural) areas.</p> <p>Access to fixed broadband Internet services in developing countries is often geographically limited and very expensive.</p>

# MDG Gap Task Force – Matrix of Global Commitments – August 2011

Name of Event / Initiative	Targets, indicators and commitments	Gap
<a href="#">Copenhagen Accord</a> , Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), 7-19 December 2009	<b>Target:</b> Developed countries agreed to scaled-up, new and additional, predictable and adequate funding and to the provision of improved access to developing countries to enable and support enhanced action on mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer; and committed to approximately \$30 billion in new and additional resources for the period 2010-2012 and to mobilizing \$100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries.	Current information on financing needs for mitigation and adaptation to climate change in developing countries is limited. UNFCCC estimates that an additional \$105-\$402 billion per year will be needed in developing countries for mitigation technologies.
<a href="#">Broadband Commission for Digital Development</a> , created in 2010	<b>Target:</b> Broadband inclusion for all. A number of concrete targets have been proposed and are currently under discussion, including the target that by 2015 at least half the world's population should have access to broadband Internet.  The Commission was created to promote the adoption of broadband-friendly practices and policies to spread the benefits broadband Internet can offer and to ensure that broadband Internet technologies accelerate progress towards meeting the MDGs.	Deep divide in broadband Internet access between developed and developing countries remains. Mobile and fixed broadband Internet subscriptions reached 46 per cent and 23 per cent in the developed countries in 2010, respectively. In developing regions, however, the penetration rates were only 5 per cent and 4 per cent. In most of the poorest regions of the world, broadband access is still negligible.
<a href="#">UN High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs</a> (MDG summit), New York, 20-22 September 2010	Committed to strengthening public-private partnerships in order to close the large gaps that remain in access to and affordability of ICT across countries and income groups and to promote the strategic role of science and technology, including information technology and innovation in areas relevant for the achievement of the MDGs, in particular, agricultural productivity, water management and sanitation, energy security and public health.	No numerical targets were set. For access to ICT, see above.
<a href="#">G-20 Seoul Summit</a> , 11-12 November 2010	Reaffirmed support for and implementation of the Copenhagen Accord.	For Copenhagen Accord, see above.

MDG Gap Task Force – Matrix of Global Commitments – August 2011

Name of Event / Initiative	Targets, indicators and commitments	Gap
<a href="#">Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</a> , Cancun, 29 November-10 December 2010	<p>Reaffirmed previous commitment in Copenhagen of \$30 billion in fast start finance until 2012 and \$100 billion per year by 2020 in long-term funds to support climate change action in the developing world. Industrialized countries also pledged to increase transparency by making information available on these funds.</p> <p>A process to design a Green Climate Fund under the Conference of the Parties is established, to be completed in 2011.</p>	<p>For Copenhagen Accord, see above.</p>
<p>Fourth UN Conference on the LDCs, <a href="#">Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020</a>, 9-13 May 2011 (Istanbul Programme of Action)</p>	<p><b>Target:</b> Significantly increase access to telecommunication services and strive to provide 100 per cent access to the Internet by 2020.</p> <p>Actions by the development partners include the provision of concessional start-up finance for LDC firms which invest in new technologies, and the provision of adequate financial and technical assistance and support to LDCs to access appropriate, affordable and sustainable technologies needed for the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs).</p> <p>Joint actions include undertaking by 2013 a joint gap and capacity analysis with the aim of establishing a Technology Bank and Science, Technology and Information supporting mechanism dedicated to LDCs.</p>	<p>Lack of quantifiable targets and concrete commitments.</p>