

The Millennium Development Goals Report



UNITED NATIONS

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Messages: MDGs and the MDG Report

I. TOPLINE KEY MESSAGES

- ▶ The **Millennium Development Goals Report 2015** data and analysis proves that even the poorest countries can make dramatic and unprecedented progress with targeted interventions, sound strategies, adequate resources and political will.
- ▶ Enormous progress has been made towards achieving the MDGs. Global poverty continues to decline. More children than ever are attending primary school. Child deaths have dropped dramatically. Access to safe drinking water has been greatly expanded. Targeted investments in fighting malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis have saved millions.
- ▶ The MDGs prove that goal setting can lift millions of people out of poverty, empower women and girls, improve health and well-being, and provide vast new opportunities for better lives.
- ▶ But we need to do more to ensure the poorest and most vulnerable people are not left behind.
- ▶ Climate change and environmental degradation undermine progress achieved, and poor people suffer the most.
- ▶ Conflicts remain the biggest threat to human development and the greatest obstacle to progress in achieving the MDGs.
- ▶ World leaders have called for an ambitious long-term sustainability agenda to succeed the MDGs. Building on MDG successes, new global goals will also address pressing sustainable-development challenges.
- ▶ With new global goals that apply to all, we can go much further to end all forms of poverty and ensure no one is left behind.

II. MESSAGES/TALKING POINTS FOR EACH GOAL

GOAL 1—ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

- ▶ With the help and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, the world **has seen the most successful anti-poverty movement in global history**, which has contributed to a reduction in the absolute number of people living in extreme poverty by more than half in 2015 since 1990.
- ▶ Due to the MDGs, the proportion of undernourished people in developing regions fell by almost half since 1990.

GOAL 2—ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

- ▶ In sub-Saharan Africa, the implementation of the MDGs has helped **increase the primary school net enrolment rate by 20 percentage points since 2000**; compared to only 8 percentage points between 1990 and 2000.
- ▶ The MDGs achieved **groundbreaking success in the number of out-of-school children** of primary school age, from 100 million in 2000, to 57 million in 2015.
- ▶ The MDGs notably increased the literacy rate among youth globally.



GOAL 3—PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

- ▶ **Women are now having significantly stronger representation** both in parliaments around the world and as a workforce outside of the agricultural sector.
- ▶ Substantial achievements have been made in gender equality in education; for instance, **in Southern Asia, there are now even more girls than boys enrolled in primary school**, as compared with 74 girls for every 100 boys in 1990.
- ▶ The MDGs achieved a **notable decline in vulnerable employment for both women and men**.

GOAL 4—REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

- ▶ The MDGs were most successful in the **reduction of child mortality**. Between 1990 and 2015, the annual rate of reduction of under-five mortality has more than tripled globally.

GOAL 5—IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

- ▶ With the help of the MDGs, **more mothers can rely on the assistance and treatment they need during pregnancy and after**. The maternal mortality ratio has been reduced by nearly half worldwide. Nowadays three-quarters of births are assisted by skilled health personnel globally.

GOAL 6—COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

- ▶ Lower infection rates of HIV of 40 per cent, an immense increase in antiretroviral therapy, tremendous declines in malaria deaths and incidence rates as well as superior success in tuberculosis treatment **prove that the MDGs work to defeat diseases**.

GOAL 7—ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- ▶ **Water and sanitation are a human right** recognized by the UN. The MDGs have significantly increased **access to improved drinking water for more than 90 per cent of the global population**.
- ▶ Everyone has the right to a safe environment. Since 1990, ozone protection efforts have virtually eliminated ozone-depleting substances. The ozone layer is projected to recover by the middle of this century.

GOAL 8—DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Official development assistance from developed countries increased by **66 per cent** in real terms between 2000 and 2014.