The Millennium Development Goals Report

2006

UNITED NATIONS

This report is based on a master set of data that has been compiled by an Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators led by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in response to the wishes of the General Assembly for periodic assessment of progress towards the MDGs. The Group comprises representatives of the international organizations whose activities include the preparation of one or more of the series of statistical indicators that were identified as appropriate for monitoring progress towards the MDGs, as reflected in the list below. A number of national statisticians and outside expert advisers also contributed.

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NEW YORK, 2006

Foreword

SIX YEARS AGO, leaders from every country agreed on a vision for the future – a world with less poverty, hunger and disease, greater survival prospects for mothers and their infants, better educated children, equal opportunities for women, and a healthier environment; a world in which developed and developing countries worked in partnership for the betterment of all. This vision took the shape of eight Millennium Development Goals, which are providing countries around the world a framework for development, and time-bound targets by which progress can be measured.

This report shows where we stand in 2006 in achieving these goals. The challenges the Goals represent are staggering. But there *are* clear signs of hope. The data on the following pages and other evidence suggest that providing every child with a primary school education is within our grasp. The handful of countries in sub-Saharan Africa that are successfully lowering HIV infection rates and expanding treatment demonstrate that the war against AIDS can be won. Step by step, we see that women are gaining in political participation that will one day result in their full equal rights. Developed countries have confirmed their commitment to the Goals through increased aid and enhanced debt relief. Collectively, the developed and developing countries mustered the political will to find a solution to the destruction of the ozone layer – a demonstration that we can work together on global environmental challenges.

Yet we also know that disparities in progress, both among and within countries, are vast, and that the poorest among us, mostly those in remote rural areas, are being left behind. Much more can and must be done, both by developed countries in increasing their support and by developing countries in using foreign assistance and their own resources more effectively.

THIS PUBLICATION EMBODIES the collaborative efforts of agencies and organizations within and outside the United Nations system, working through the Inter-agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators. It contains the latest and most comprehensive figures available through improved data collection and monitoring worldwide. Similar data will be collected and presented each year until 2015, the target date for the Millennium Development Goals, in an effort to give further direction and focus to international cooperation and national action.

The present report shows that some progress *has* been made. This should provide the incentive to keep moving forward. But as the following pages also show, there is still a long way to go to keep our promises to current and future generations.

JOSÉ ANTONIO OCAMPO
Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

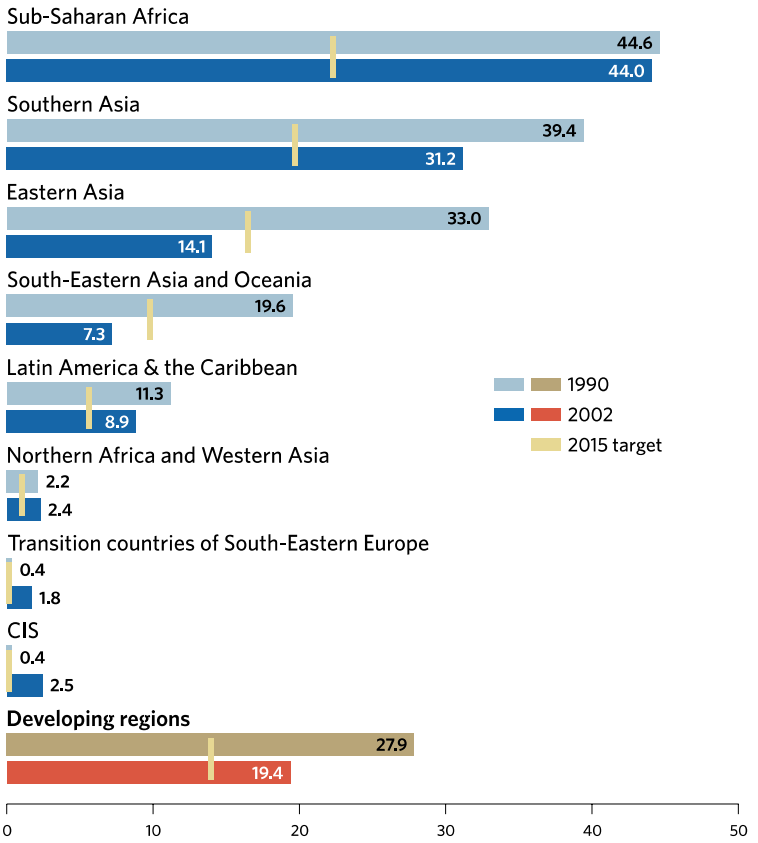
Goal 1 Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger

TARGET

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than $1 a day

Asia leads the decline in global poverty

Proportion of people living on less than $1 a day, 1990 and 2002 (Percentage)



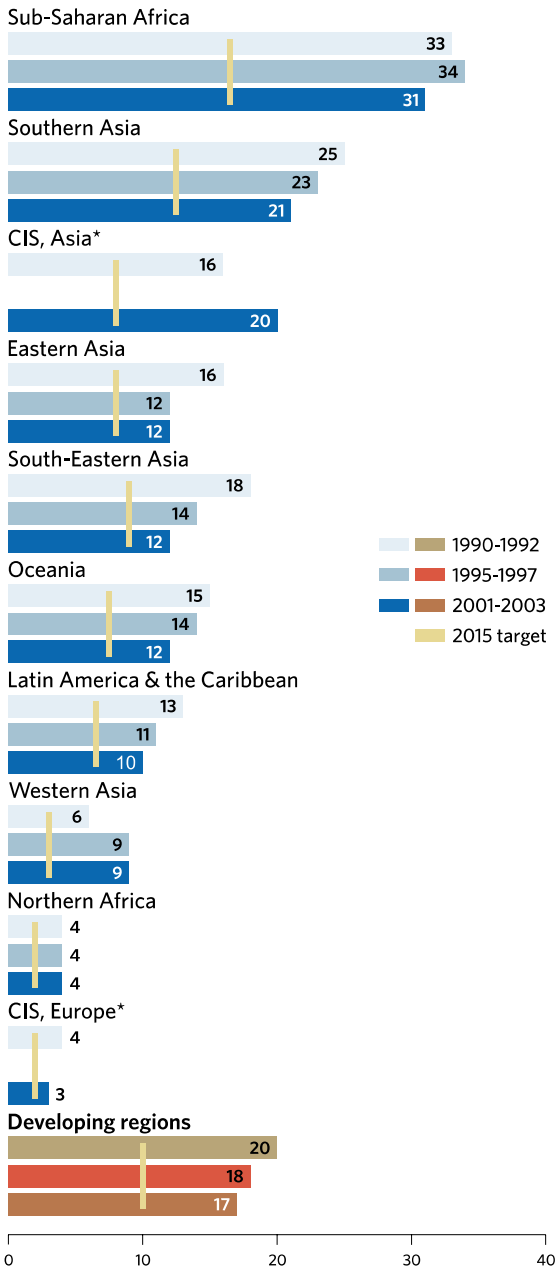
In 1990, more than 1.2 billion people – 28 per cent of the developing world's population – lived in extreme poverty. By 2002, the proportion decreased to 19 per cent. During that period, rates of extreme poverty fell rapidly in much of Asia, where the number of people living on less than $1 a day dropped by nearly a quarter of a billion people. Progress was not so rapid in Latin America and the Caribbean, which now has a larger share of people living in poverty than South-Eastern Asia and Oceania. Poverty rates in Western Asia and Northern Africa remained almost unchanged between 1990 and 2002 and increased in the transition economies of South-Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). These two regions had previously nearly eradicated the worst forms of poverty, and recent survey data suggest that their poverty rates are again dropping. In sub-Saharan Africa, although the poverty rate declined marginally, the number of people living in extreme poverty increased by 140 million. Many sub-Saharan countries are now showing potential for long-term growth that could bring up standards of living.

TARGET

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

More people go hungry, even though worst-hit regions show improvement and rates of hunger decline

Proportion of people living with insufficient food
1990-1992, 1995-1997 and 2001-2003 (Percentage)



* Data refer to 1993-1995 and 2001-2003

Chronic hunger – measured by the proportion of people lacking the food needed to meet their daily needs – has declined in the developing world. But progress overall is not fast enough to reduce the number of people going hungry, which increased between 1995-1997 and 2001-2003. An estimated 824 million people in the developing world were affected by chronic hunger in 2003.

The worst-affected regions – sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia – have made progress in recent years. But their advances have not kept pace with those of the early 1990s, and the number of people going hungry is increasing. Of particular concern is Eastern Asia: in the early 1990s, the number of hungry people declined; but again it is on the rise.

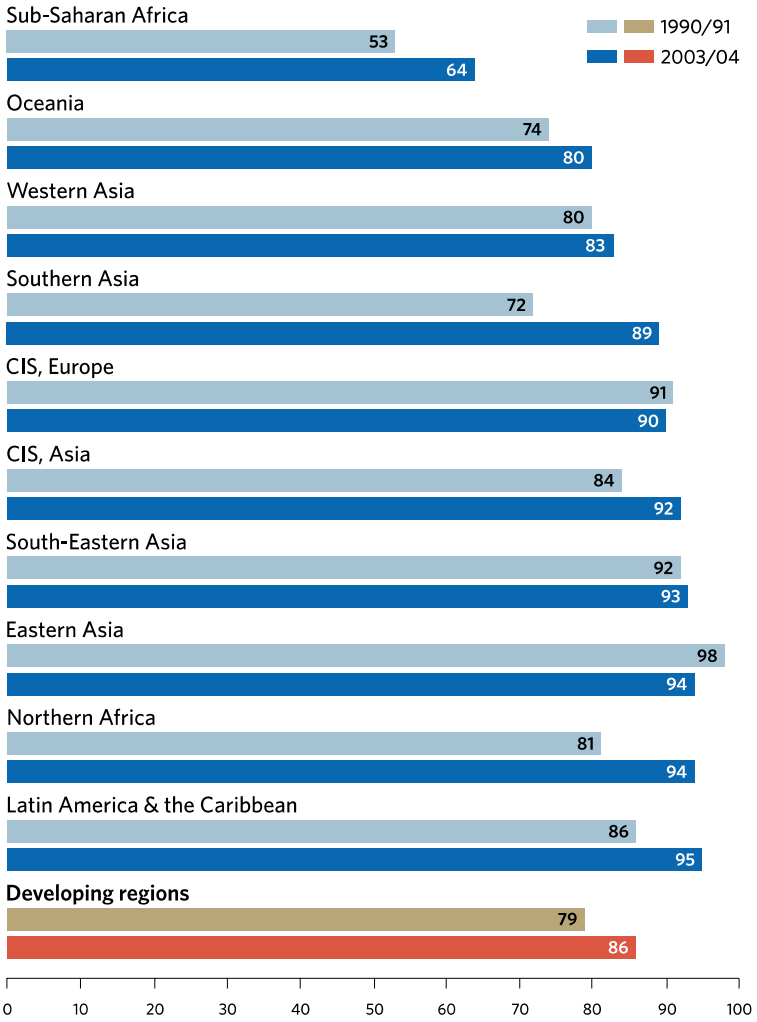
Goal 2 Achieve universal primary education

TARGET

Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

Universal primary education is in sight, though sub-Saharan Africa lags behind

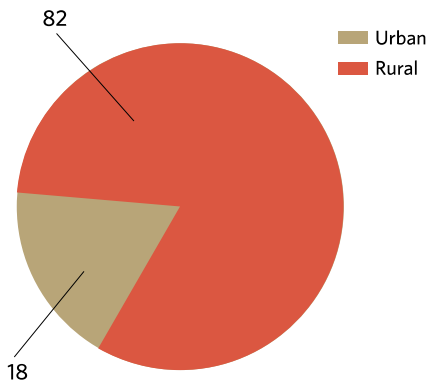
Net enrolment ratio in primary education, 1990 / 91 and 2003 / 04
(Percentage)



Net enrolment ratios in primary education have increased to 86 per cent in the developing world, ranging from 95 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean to 64 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. Although the sub-Saharan region has made significant progress since 1990/1991, in Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger, fewer than half the children of primary-school age are enrolled in school. Faster progress will also be needed if Oceania and Western Asia are to achieve universal education. Southern Asia, in contrast, has made great strides, especially over the period 1999-2004, when enrolment rose from 72 to 89 per cent— largely as a result of progress in India.

Rural children are less likely to attend school

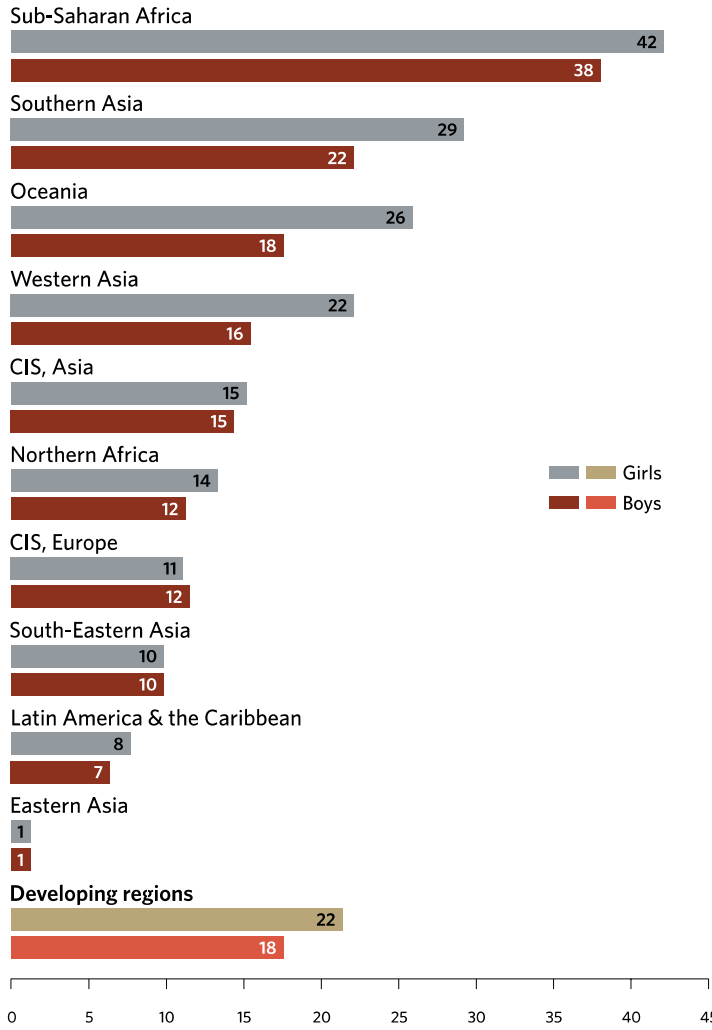
Distribution of primary-school age children out of school by place of residence, 1996/2003 (Percentage)



Educating all children presents a significant challenge due to the large number of children who live in remote, rural areas of developing countries. High rates of poverty in rural areas limit educational opportunities because of demands for children's labour, low levels of parental education and lack of access to good quality schooling. Based on household surveys in 80 developing countries, 30 per cent of rural children of primary-school age do not attend school, compared to 18 per cent in urban areas. And because rural areas have larger populations of children, they account for 82 per cent of children who are not in school in developing countries.

An educational gender gap persists

Proportion of children of primary school age out of school by sex, 1996/2004 (Percentage)



Globally, more than one in five girls of primary-school age are not in school, compared to about one in six boys. Oceania, Western Asia and Southern Asia are the regions where the gender gap is most evident. Of particular concern is the wide gender gap in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia, where almost 80 per cent of the world's out-of-school children live.

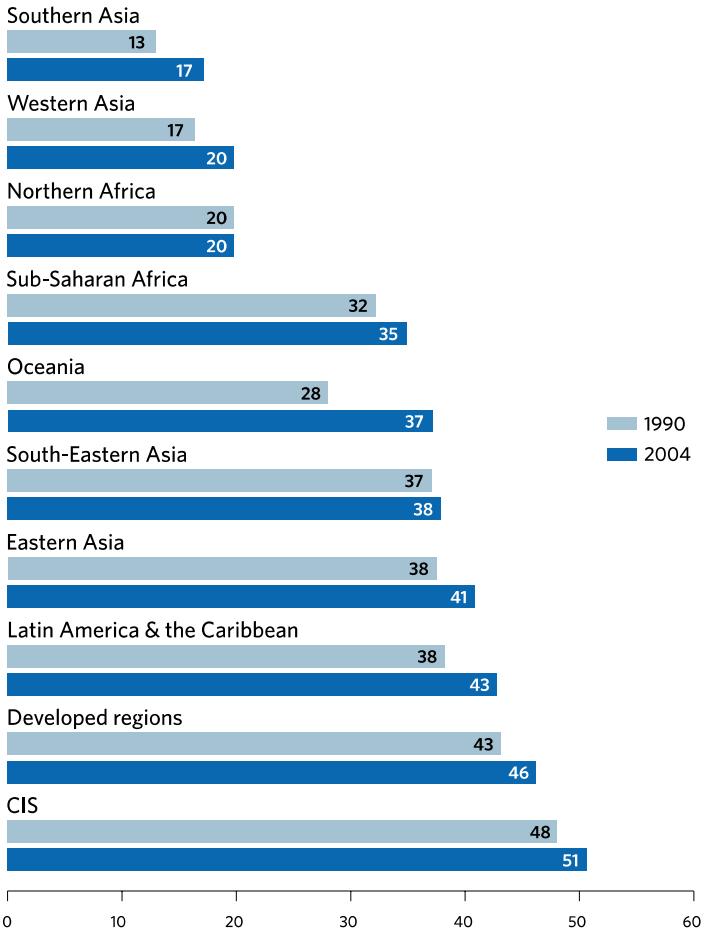
Goal 3
Promote gender equality and empower women

TARGET

Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

Women inch forward in labour markets of all regions, though deep inequalities remain

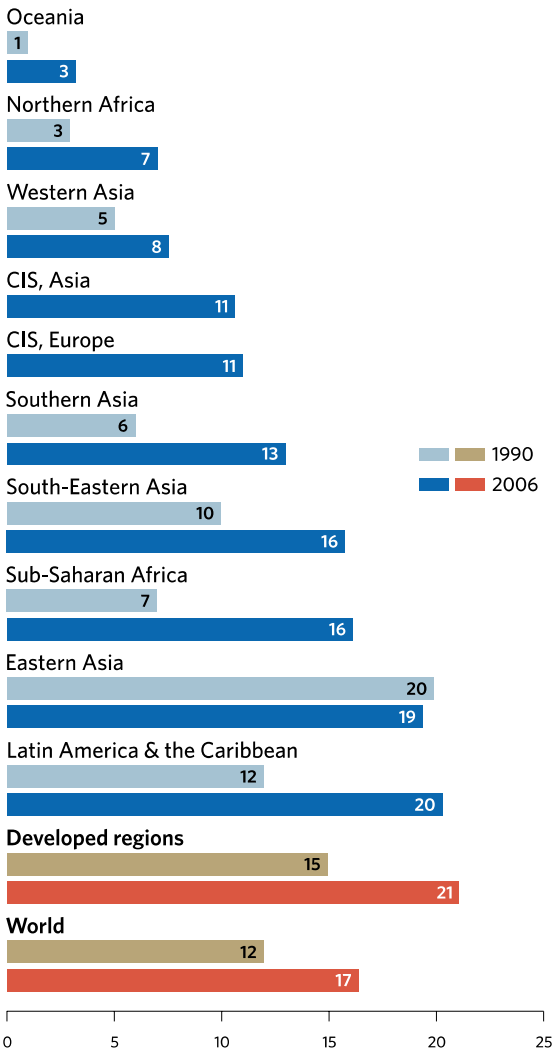
Share of women in non-agricultural wage employment, 1990 and 2004 (Percentage)



Women represent an increasing share of the world's labour force – over a third in all regions except Southern and Western Asia and Northern Africa. However women remain at a disadvantage in securing paid jobs. Wage differentials, occupational segregation, higher unemployment rates and their disproportionate representation in the informal and subsistence sectors limit women's economic advancement. Sociocultural attitudes, employment policies and a lack of options for balancing work and family responsibilities or for controlling the timing and spacing of births contribute further to inequality in the labour market.

Women's political power is growing, though men still dominate

Share of women in single or lower houses of parliament, 1990 and 2006 (Percentage)



Women's political participation has increased significantly since 1990. One in five parliamentarians elected in 2005 are women, bringing the percentage of parliamentary seats held by women in 2006 worldwide to almost 17. In 20 countries, more than 30 per cent of parliamentarians are women. Striking disparities remain, however. While Rwanda and the Nordic countries have come close to parity, women's national political representation is very low in Oceania, Northern Africa and Western Asia. The most encouraging signs come from Latin America and the Caribbean, where women now hold 20 per cent of parliamentary seats.

Several factors are at work. Public debate and advocacy have shifted the political landscape. Quotas and other measures have broken barriers and triggered positive change. More than 95 countries have now implemented either mandatory or voluntary measures to increase women's political participation. New constitutions in countries emerging from conflict have been especially effective in this regard: After the 2005 elections in Afghanistan and in Iraq, for example, women now represent 27 and 25 per cent of parliamentary seats, respectively.

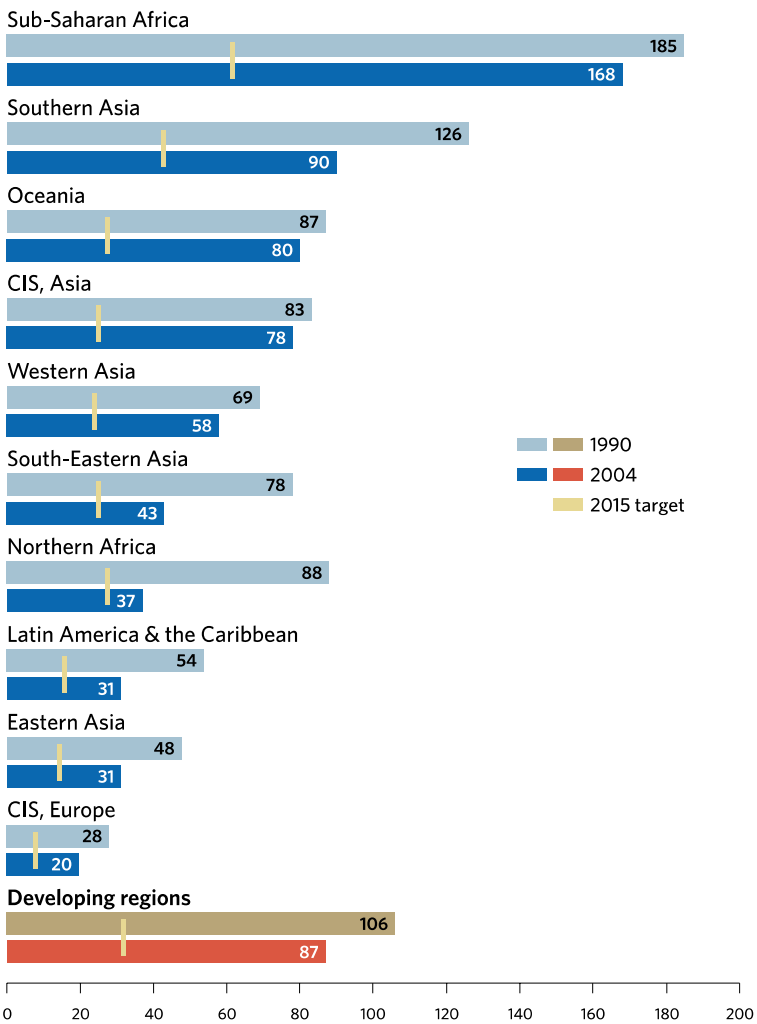
Goal 4
Reduce child mortality

TARGET

Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

More children are surviving their first years of life, though sub-Saharan Africa trails far behind

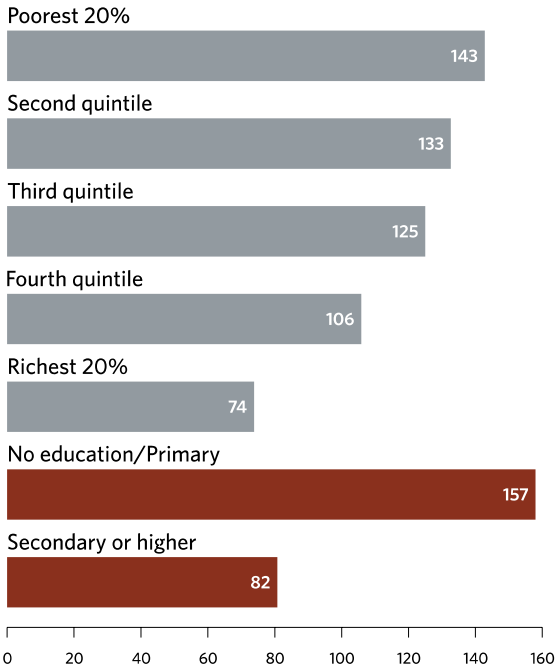
Under-five mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 1990 and 2004



Though survival prospects have improved in every region, 10.5 million children died before their fifth birthday in 2004 – mostly from preventable causes. The vast majority of these children (94 per cent) lived in 60 countries. Sub-Saharan Africa, with only 20 per cent of the world's young children, accounted for half of the total deaths, a situation that has shown only modest improvement. In contrast, child survival has improved markedly in Latin America and the Caribbean, South-Eastern and Eastern Asia and Northern Africa, where child mortality rates have declined by more than 3 per cent annually.

Higher household incomes and education for mothers doubles child survival

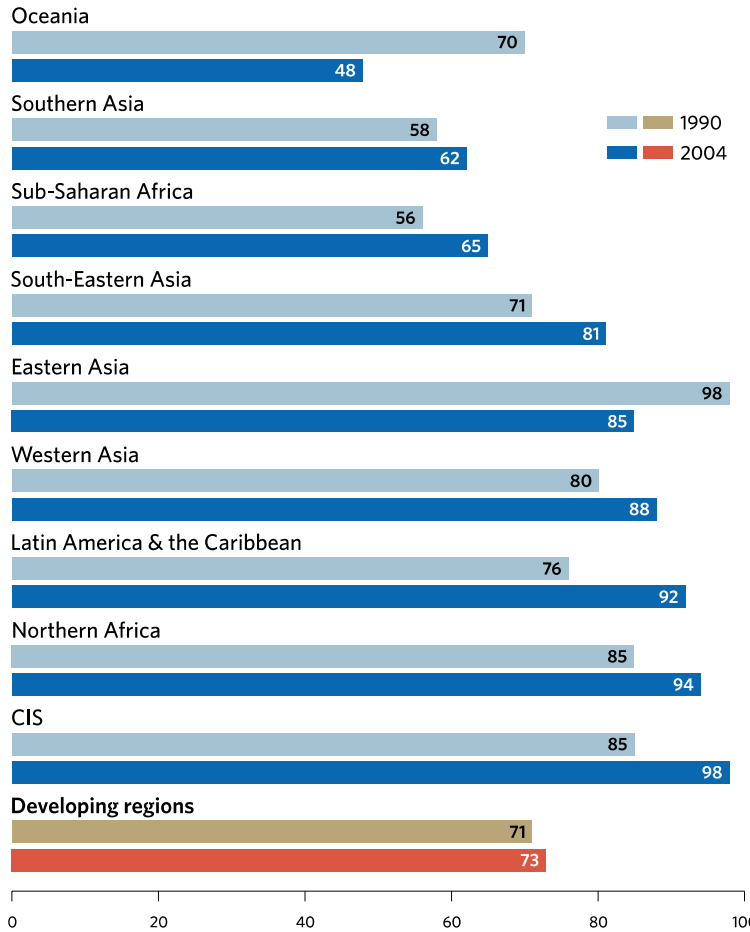
Under-five mortality rate per 1,000 live births in developing regions, by household wealth and mother's education, 1995/2004



Disparities in child deaths are pronounced both within and among countries. Survival rates for children of mothers with at least a secondary education are twice as high as those for children with less educated mothers. Similarly, children living in the wealthiest 20 per cent of households are twice as likely to survive as those in the poorest 20 per cent of households. Addressing these disparities and reaching the most disadvantaged groups is the greatest challenge to achieving the child mortality target by 2015.

Three out of four children are protected against measles, which still kills close to half a million children each year

Percentage of children (12-23 months old) immunized against measles, 1990 and 2004 (Percentage)



The vaccination of three quarters of the world's children has proven to be one of the most cost-effective public health interventions on record. Nevertheless, the disease killed 454,000 children in 2004, leaving others blind or deaf. Two thirds of the world's unprotected children live in six countries: China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Indonesia, Nigeria and Pakistan. Latin America and the Caribbean made the greatest strides in immunizing children, with sub-Saharan Africa showing significant progress as well. Sub-Saharan Africa also achieved the largest reduction in deaths from measles: a decrease of nearly 60 per cent between 1999 and 2004. This overall progress masks wide inequalities within countries: In Chad and Nigeria, for example, children of educated mothers are two to almost four times, respectively, more likely to be vaccinated than children of mothers with no education. The gaps are even wider when children from richer and poorer households are compared.

Goal 5
Improve maternal health

TARGET

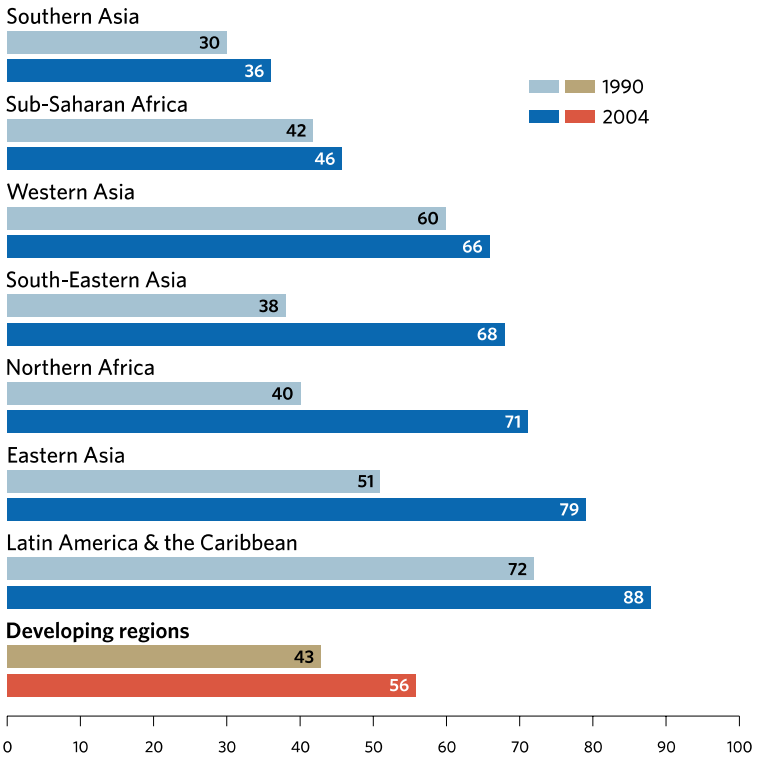
Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

Maternal mortality remains high where most deaths occur

Though the issue has been high on the international agenda for two decades, ratios of maternal mortality seem to have changed little in regions where most deaths occur (sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia). Unreliable data and wide margins of uncertainty make it difficult to tell for sure. Adequate reproductive health services and family planning are essential in improving maternal health and reducing maternal mortality. But some 200 million women who wish to space or limit their childbearing lack access to contraception. Skilled attendants at delivery, backed up by referrals to timely emergency obstetric care, can reduce deaths further, as a growing number of countries have demonstrated.

Three regions show dramatic gains in the number of assisted deliveries

Proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health care personnel, 1990 and 2004 (Percentage)



Skilled care at delivery is one of the key elements necessary to reduce maternal mortality. Though all regions show improvement, only 46 per cent of deliveries in sub-Saharan Africa, where almost half the world's maternal

deaths occur, are assisted by skilled attendants. In Southern Asia, the proportion is even lower. Eastern and South-Eastern Asia and Northern Africa have made the most headway, with increases in attended births of between 55 and almost 80 per cent.

In the vulnerable period of childbirth, poor and rural women are short-changed

Within countries, the presence of a skilled attendant at delivery is the most inequitably distributed among child and maternal health indicators. Impoverished and rural women are far less likely than their urban or wealthier counterparts to receive skilled care during childbirth. Inequality between urban and rural care at delivery is particularly significant in sub-Saharan Africa: For 33 countries with data, urban women are over three times more likely to deliver with health personnel than women in rural areas. And women in the wealthiest fifth of the population are six times more likely to deliver with a health professional than those in the poorest fifth. Redressing these inequities will require continued analysis of trends matched by targeted policies.

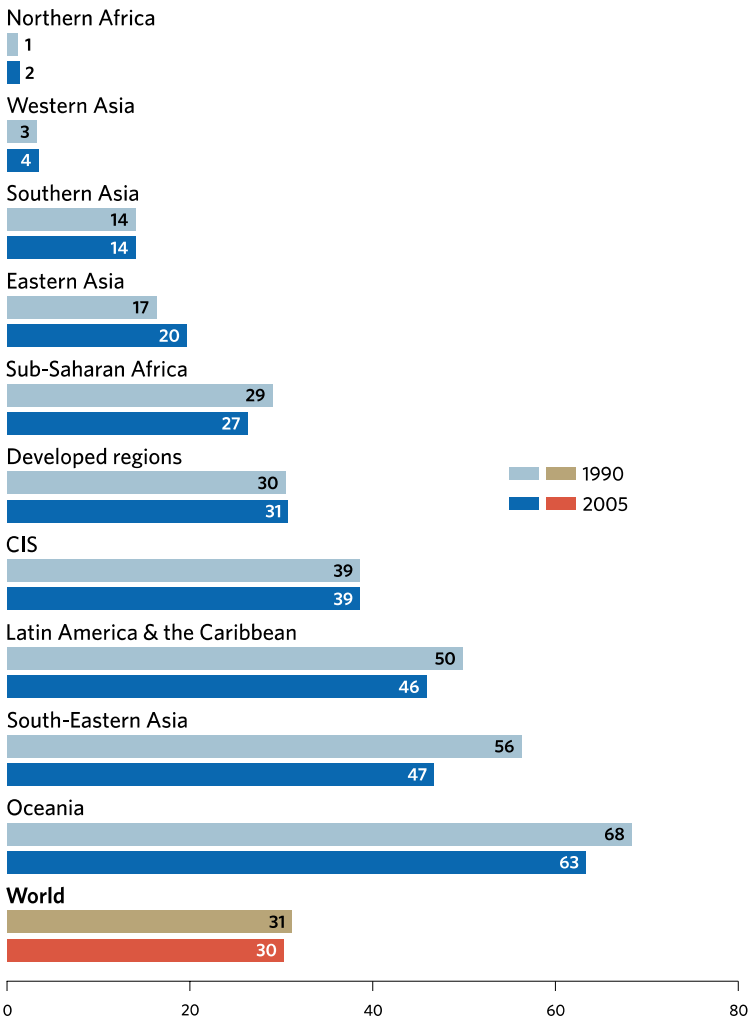
Goal 7
Ensure environmental sustainability

TARGET

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources

Rapid deforestation continues, but the net loss of forest area is slowing down

Proportion of land area covered by forests, 1990 and 2005 (Percentage)

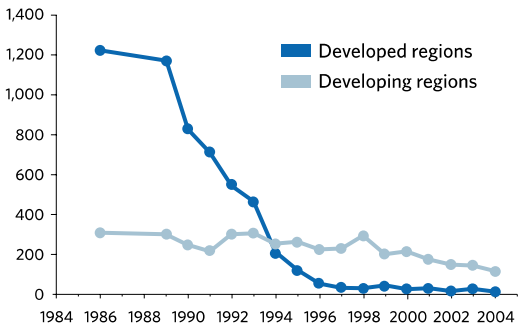


Deforestation, primarily the conversion of forests to agricultural land, continues at an alarmingly high rate – about 13 million hectares per year. Forest planting, landscape restoration and natural expansion of forests have significantly reduced the net loss of forest area. However, these newly replanted lands do not have the ecological value of older, more biologically diverse forests, and do not provide the same benefits and livelihoods for local communities. The net decrease in forest area over the period

2000-2005 is about 7.3 million hectares per year (an area about the size of Sierra Leone or Panama), down from 8.9 million hectares per year from 1990 to 2000. Still, the current net loss is equivalent to about 200 square kilometres per day.

Decisive and concerted action results in drastic reductions of ozone-depleting substances

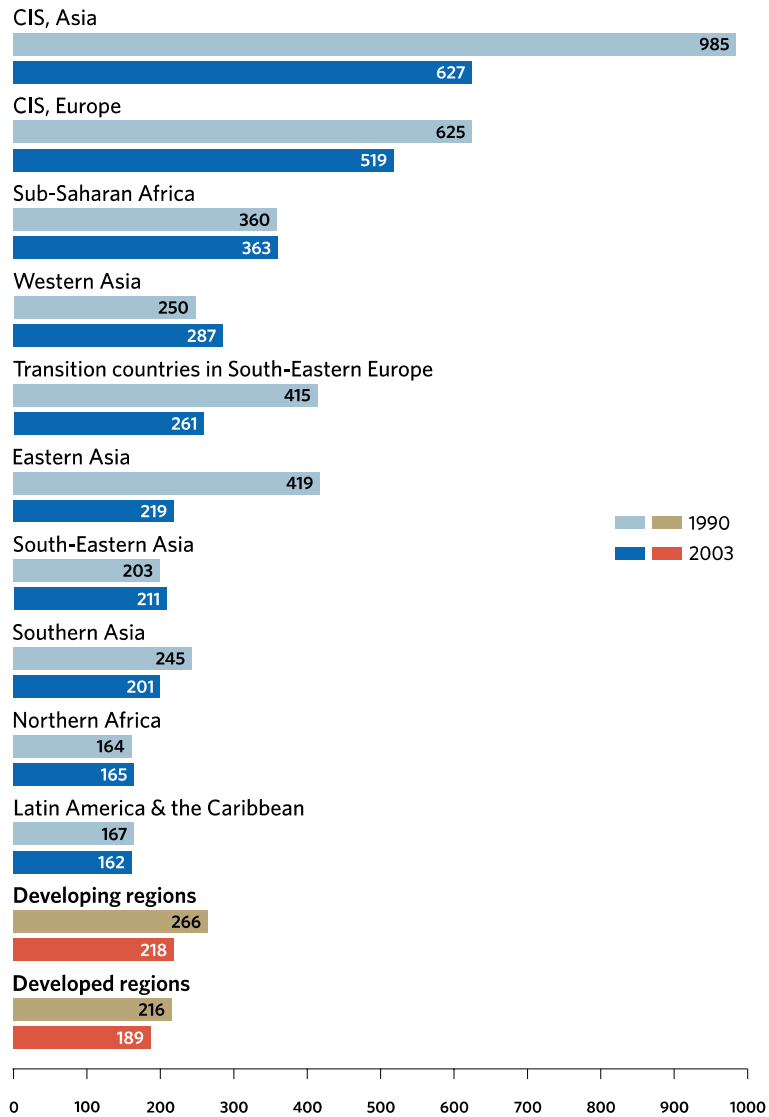
Consumption of all ozone-depleting substances, 1986-2004 (Thousands of metric tons of ozone-depleting potential)



Protection of the ozone layer is a global success story. The 1987 Montreal Protocol catalysed global action to reduce use of chemicals damaging to the ozone layer that shields the earth from ultraviolet radiation. Since that agreement, developed countries have virtually eliminated ozone-depleting substances, and the developing world is not far behind. Without these reductions, ozone depletion would have increased tenfold by 2050 compared to current levels, resulting in millions more cases of melanoma, other cancers and eye cataracts.

Energy use has become more efficient in most regions, though CO_2 emissions continue to rise globally

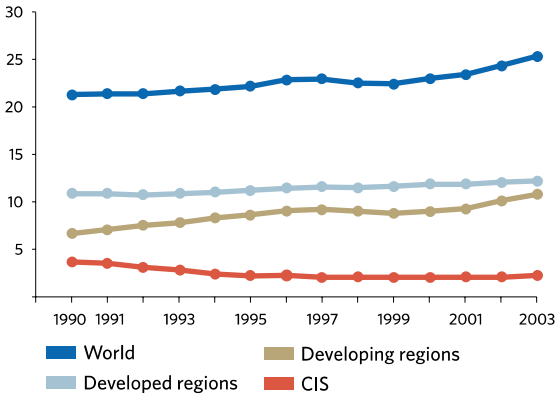
Energy use per unit of GDP, 1990 and 2003 (Kilograms of oil equivalent per 1,000 dollars of GDP in 2000 purchasing power parities)



Since 1990, the ratio of energy used per $1,000 of GDP decreased by about 10 per cent globally, with transition economies and Eastern and Southern Asia showing greatest gains in efficiency. This has helped keep the rate of increase of CO_2 emissions, which are associated with global climate change, slightly lower than the overall growth of energy consumption. Per capita CO_2 has remained fairly constant between 1990 and 2003, at 4 metric

tons per person. But due to population and economic growth, overall CO_2 emissions continue to rise, especially in the developing world, where growth has been most rapid. Greater efforts are needed to develop and transfer cleaner energy technologies and fuels to developing countries that are beginning to invest more heavily in energy-intensive activities.

Emissions of carbon dioxide (CO_2), 1990-2003
(Billions of metric tons)

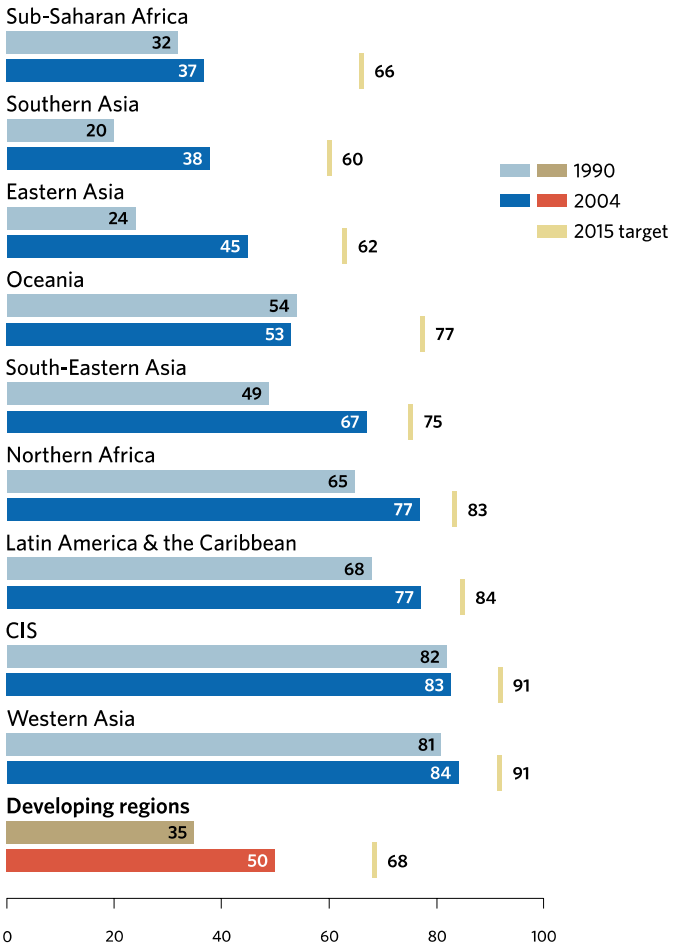


TARGET

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

With half of developing country populations still lacking basic sanitation, the world is unlikely to reach its target

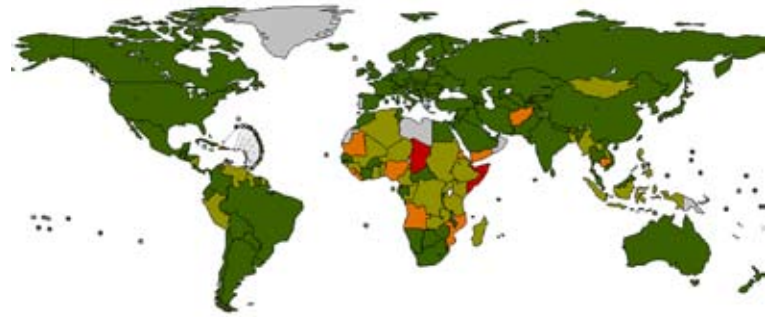
Proportion of population using improved sanitation, 1990 and 2004
(Percentage)



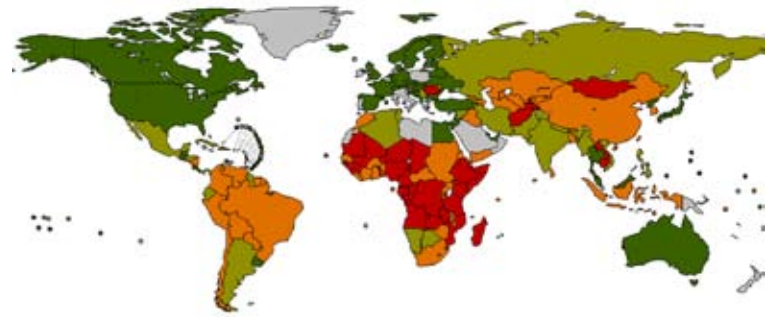
Between 1990 and 2004, sanitation coverage in the developing world increased from 35 to 50 per cent. This meant that 1.2 billion people gained access to sanitation during this period. Another 300 million people should have been served, however, to keep the world on track towards the 2015 target.

World targets for safe drinking water are in sight, but coverage remains spotty in rural areas

Proportion of urban population using improved drinking water sources, 2004 (Percentage)



Proportion of rural population using improved drinking water sources, 2004 (Percentage)



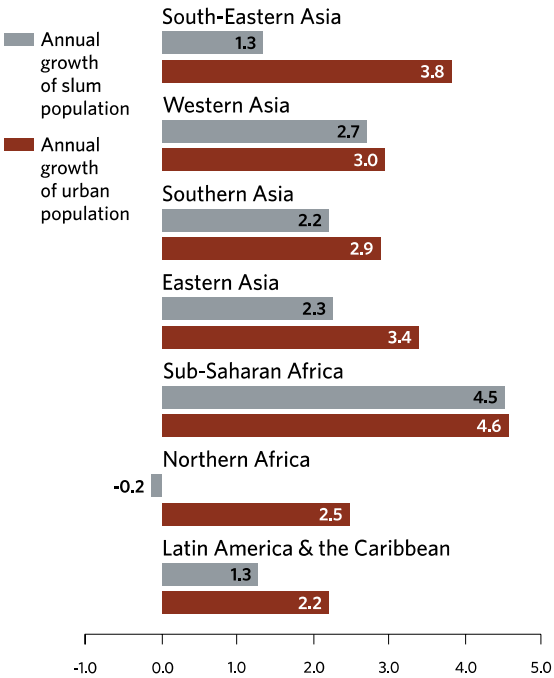
The share of people using drinking water from improved sources has continued to rise in the developing world, reaching 80 per cent in 2004, up from 71 per cent in 1990. This means that the world is on track to reach the drinking water target. Growing populations pose a challenge, however, and wide disparities among countries and between rural and urban areas persist. The largest urban-rural disparities are found in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, where city dwellers are twice as likely to have safe water as their rural counterparts.

TARGET

By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers

Cities in sub-Saharan Africa are growing most rapidly, as are their slums

Annual growth of urban and slum populations, 1990-2001 (Percentage)

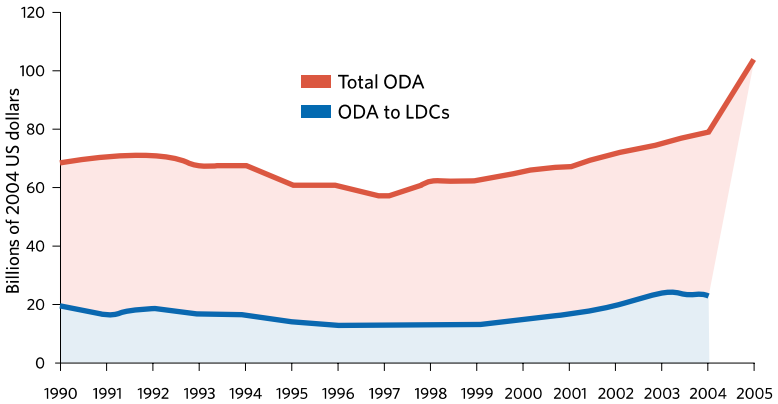


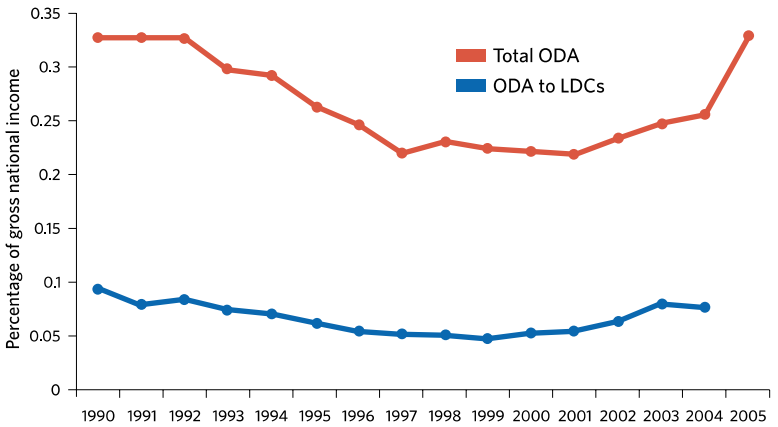
In 2007, for the first time in history, the majority of people will live in urban areas. Throughout most of the developing world, this will result in larger slum populations. Sub-Saharan Africa is the world's most rapidly urbanizing region, and almost all of this growth has been in slums, where new city residents face overcrowding, inadequate housing, and a lack of water and sanitation. In Western Asia, as well, most of the urban growth is occurring in slums. The rapid expansion of urban areas in Southern and Eastern Asia is creating cities of unprecedented size and complexity and new challenges for providing a decent environment for the poor. Northern Africa is the only developing region where the quality of urban life is improving: In this region, the proportion of city dwellers living in slums has decreased by 0.15 per cent annually.

Goal 8 Develop a global partnership for development

Led by debt relief, development assistance increases sharply but still falls short of targets

Official development assistance from developed countries, 1990-2005 (Constant 2004 United States dollars and as a proportion of donor country gross national income)





TARGET

Address the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States

Aid to developing countries has increased steadily since 1997, reaching $106 billion – one third of one per cent of donors' combined national income – in 2005. Debt relief accounted for over half of the increase since 1997 and three quarters of it in 2005. This relief, while welcome, will not necessarily release more money for poverty reduction. Similarly, emergency and disaster relief, also a large part of the increase in aid, although essential, does not address long-term development needs. Other forms of aid rose by 9 per cent in 2005, continuing a recovery that started in 2004. The 50 least developed countries now receive about one third of all aid flows, and donors have pledged to double aid to Africa, where most of these countries are located, by 2010.

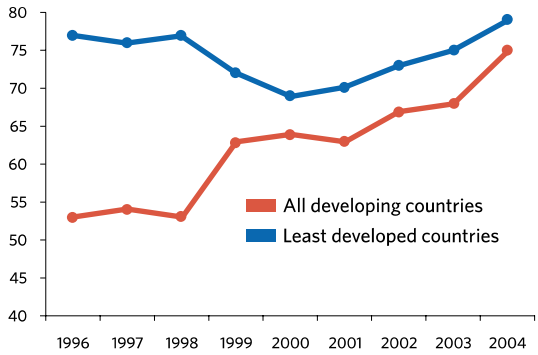
Only five countries — Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden — have met the United Nations aid target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income. Eleven more European Union countries have pledged to do so by 2015. If all donors honour their commitments, aid is expected to reach $130 billion by 2010.

TARGET

Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system

Three quarters of exports from developing countries now enter developed markets duty-free

Proportion of imports from developing countries (excluding arms and oil) admitted to developed countries duty-free, 1996-2004 (Percentage)



Developing countries have gained greater access to markets over the past decade. Three quarters of their exports entered developed country markets duty-free in 2004, with the figure rising to 79 per cent for the least developed countries. However, goods that are strategically important to developing economies, such as clothing and farm products, are still heavily taxed.

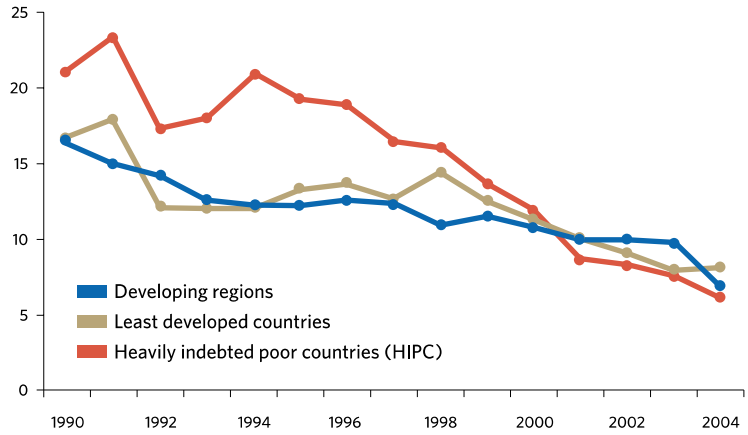
A major objective of ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization is to further reduce such trade barriers. Developed countries have committed themselves in principle to duty-free and quota-free imports from least developed countries. However, further meaningful reductions will require considerable political determination.

TARGET

Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt

Debt service burdens decrease, but for many poor countries even these levels are too high

External debt service payments in relation to export revenues, 1990-2004 (Percentage)



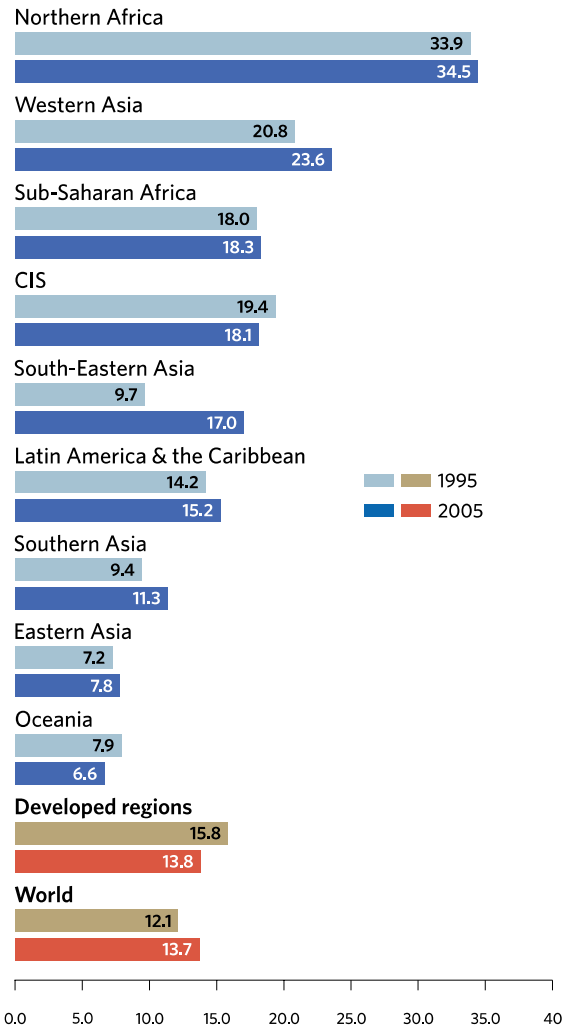
Future debt payments for 29 heavily indebted countries have fallen by $59 billion since 1998, bringing their debt service to less than 7 per cent of export earnings. But for many poor countries, even this reduced level is too high. In 2005, leaders of the Group of 8 industrialized nations pledged to cancel the debt of heavily indebted countries that meet certain criteria, including a track record of sound macroeconomic performance. The International Development Association of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Fund will cancel debts to 19 countries that have met the requirements of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative. Eleven other countries remain potentially eligible for debt relief under the initiative, but are kept out of the running by conflict, poor governance and arrears in payments.

TARGET

In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth

Job prospects for youth have declined in most regions

Youth unemployment rates, 1995 and 2005
(Percentage)



The number of young people, and their share in the population, has increased dramatically in developing countries. Many face grim job prospects. Since 1995, the number of young people worldwide has grown by 135 million; during that same period, youth unemployment has risen from 72.8 to 85.7 million.

Youth now represent close to half of the world's 192 million jobless people. In many countries, they are more than three times as likely as adults to be seeking work.

Without sufficient employment opportunities, many young people grow discouraged and feel worthless. This presents an especially urgent challenge for developing countries, home to 85 per cent of the world's youth. Being young and female can be a double disadvantage: young women often have the most difficulty entering the labour market and retaining decent jobs. In many countries, they are forced to emigrate in search of work and face the risk of being trafficked or coerced into labour.

The integration of youth, especially those from underprivileged households, into the labour market, is important for future growth and for stopping the intergenerational transmission of poverty. In the words of the UN Secretary-General, youth are our most valuable asset for the future, and, as such, must be nurtured.

TARGET

In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

More people are receiving treatment for HIV

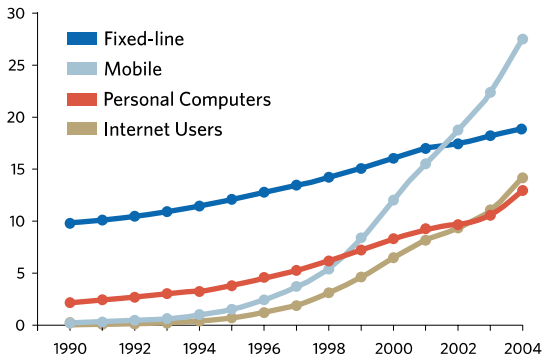
Access to essential drugs, especially those for treating HIV, has expanded in the developing world. Between 2001 and 2005, the number of people on antiretroviral therapy in low- and middle-income countries increased fivefold, from 240,000 to 1.3 million. The scale-up was most dramatic in sub-Saharan Africa: from 100,000 at the end of 2003 to 810,000 just two years later. Prices of antiretroviral drugs have decreased significantly, generic drugs have become more widely available and drug procurement systems have improved. But the target set in 2003 of reaching at least half of those in need of therapy has been missed, and antiretroviral drugs reach only one in five globally.

TARGET

In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications

Access to information and communication technologies grows steadily, but 'digital divide' persists

Proportion of world population with telephone subscriptions, personal computers and internet connections, 1990-2004 (Percentage)



Access to information and communication technologies continues to outpace global economic growth. The number of subscribers to fixed and mobile telephones rose from 530 million in 1990 to almost 3 billion (about half of the world's population) in 2004. Growth has been especially rapid in the mobile sector, which offers access to telecommunications in regions where there is a limited number of fixed lines. In 2004, Africa added some 15 million new mobile phone subscribers. This figure is equivalent to the total number of fixed and mobile telephone subscribers on the continent in 1996.

By the end of 2004, 14 per cent of the world's population were using the Internet, with a large digital divide separating developed and developing regions: Over half the population in developed regions had access to the Internet, compared to 7 per cent in developing regions and less than 1 per cent in the 50 least developed countries.

A note to the reader

The Millennium Development Goals were derived from the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by 189 nations in 2000. Most of the goals and targets were set to be achieved by the year 2015 on the basis of the global situation during the 1990s. It was during that decade that a number of global conferences had taken place and the main objectives of the development agenda had been defined. The baseline for the assessment of progress is therefore 1990 for most of the MDG targets. For most of the indicators, 2004 is the last year for which comprehensive data are available.

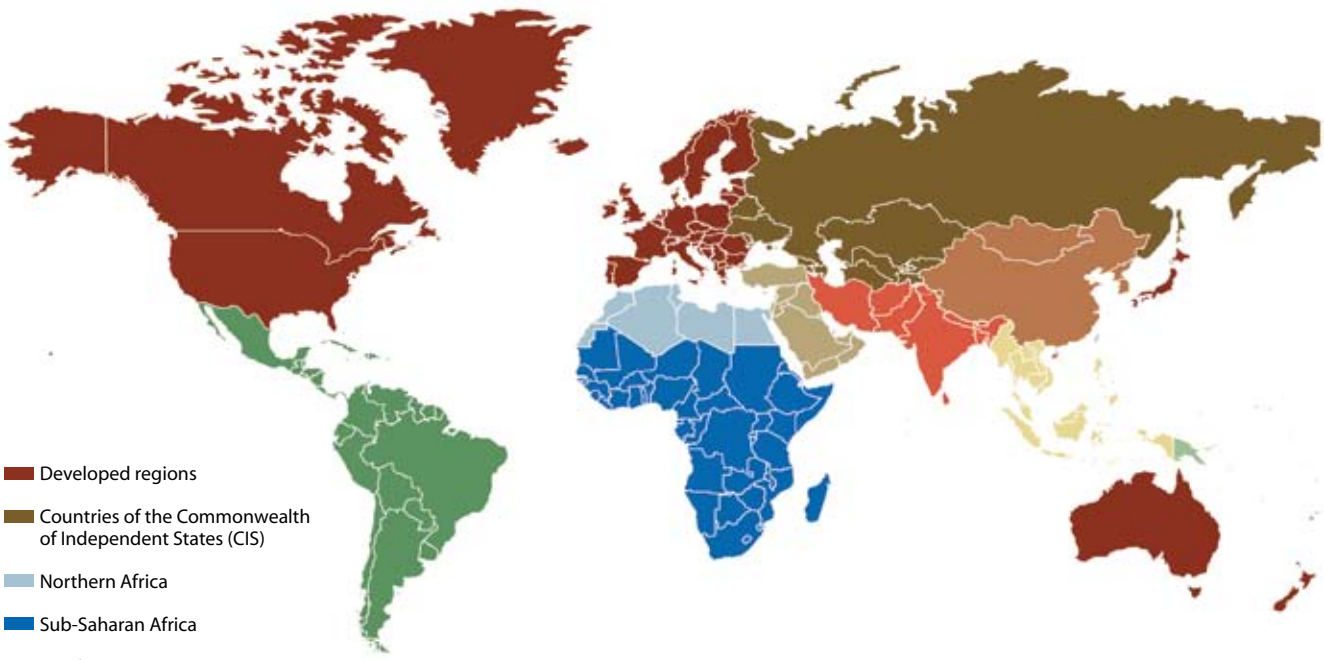
Data to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals are compiled by specialized agencies within their area of expertise. They are drawn from national statistics provided by Governments to the international statistical system — the United Nations Statistics Division and the statistical offices of the various international organizations — and adjusted for comparability. In some cases, national Governments may have more recent statistics that have not been reported to the international statistical system. In other cases, countries do not produce the data required for the compilation of indicators. When this occurs, international statistical agencies make estimates based on the data of neighbouring countries or of countries with similar levels of income. Most of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, along with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, contribute to this exercise.

Many of the indicators — for example, on child mortality and malnutrition, malaria prevention and treatment, and knowledge of and behaviour related to HIV/AIDS — are derived from surveys sponsored and carried out by international agencies. These include, most importantly, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys and the Demographic and Health Surveys, which help fill the frequent data gaps that exist.

Country data derived from international surveys and national sources or estimated by the responsible agencies are aggregated into regional and global figures. It is these aggregates that are used in this report to provide an overall assessment of progress.

Since the periodic assessment of progress towards the MDGs began five years ago, the international statistical community has been concerned about the lack of adequate data to compile the required indicators in many parts of the developing world. At the same time, the monitoring requirements themselves have focused attention on this shortcoming and raised awareness of the urgency to launch initiatives for statistical capacity-building. Though there have been many steps in this direction, much remains to be done until all countries are able to produce a continuous flow of social and economic data needed to inform their development policies and track progress.

Regional Groupings



- Developed regions
- Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
- Northern Africa
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- South-Eastern Asia
- Oceania
- Eastern Asia
- Southern Asia
- Western Asia
- Latin America & the Caribbean

This report presents data on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals for the world as a whole and for various country groupings. These are classified as "developing" regions, the transition economies of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in Asia and Europe, and the "developed" regions.[1] The developing regions are further broken down into the subregions shown on the map above. These regional groupings are based on United Nations geographical divisions, with some modifications necessary to create, to the extent possible, groups of countries for which a meaningful analysis can be carried out. A complete list of countries included in each region and subregion is available at mdgs.un.org.

1 Since there is no established convention for the designation of "developed" and "developing" countries or areas in the United Nations system, this distinction is made for the purposes of statistical analysis only.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in the present publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

For more information:
Visit the UN Statistics Division Millennium Development Goals website at mdgs.un.org

Visit the UN Millennium Development Goals website at www.un.org/millenniumgoals

Visit the UN Millennium Campaign Office website at www.millenniumcampaign.org

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"We, Heads of State and Government. . . reaffirm that our common fundamental values, including freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for all human rights, respect for nature and shared responsibility, are essential to international relations. . . We reaffirm our commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all. . . We strongly reiterate our determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the. . . Millennium Development Goals.

We underline the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies and efforts backed by increased international support."

– *2005 World Summit Outcome*, United Nations, 16 September 2005

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