



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2002

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United Nations
Development
Programme contacts:

New York:
Trygve Olfarnes
(212) 906-6606
Fax (212) 906-5364
trygve.olfahrens@undp.org

Washington:
Inga Hawley
(202) 331-9130
Fax (202) 331-9363
inga.hawley@undp.org

Geneva:
Jean Fabre
(41-22) 917-8541
Fax (41-22) 979-9005
jean.fabre@undp.org

Copenhagen:
Rolf Aspestrand
(45-35) 46-7000
Fax (45-35) 46-7095
rolf.aspestrand@undp.org

Brussels:
Diana Moli
(3-22) 505-4620
Fax (3-22) 503-4729
diana.moli@undp.org

Tokyo:
Akiko Fujii
(81) 35 467-4875
Fax (81) 35 467-4853
akiko.fujii@undp.org

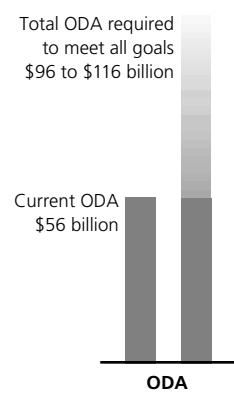
Human Development Report Examines Country-by-Country Progress on Millennium Development Goals

Countries with half the world's population falling behind targets

Manila, 24 July 2002—Nearly two years since world leaders set measurable objectives for development and poverty eradication by 2015, the ***Human Development Report 2002*** today released new analysis showing which countries are on track to meet the targets—and which are not.

At the current pace, only 55 countries, with 23 percent of the world's people, are on track to achieve as many as three-quarters of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), concludes the Report. And 33 countries, with 26 percent of the world's people, are failing on more than half of the targets. The Report also warned that a lack of data collection in poor countries makes progress in key areas difficult to monitor.

FIGURE 1.16
Official development assistance must double to meet the Millennium Development Goals



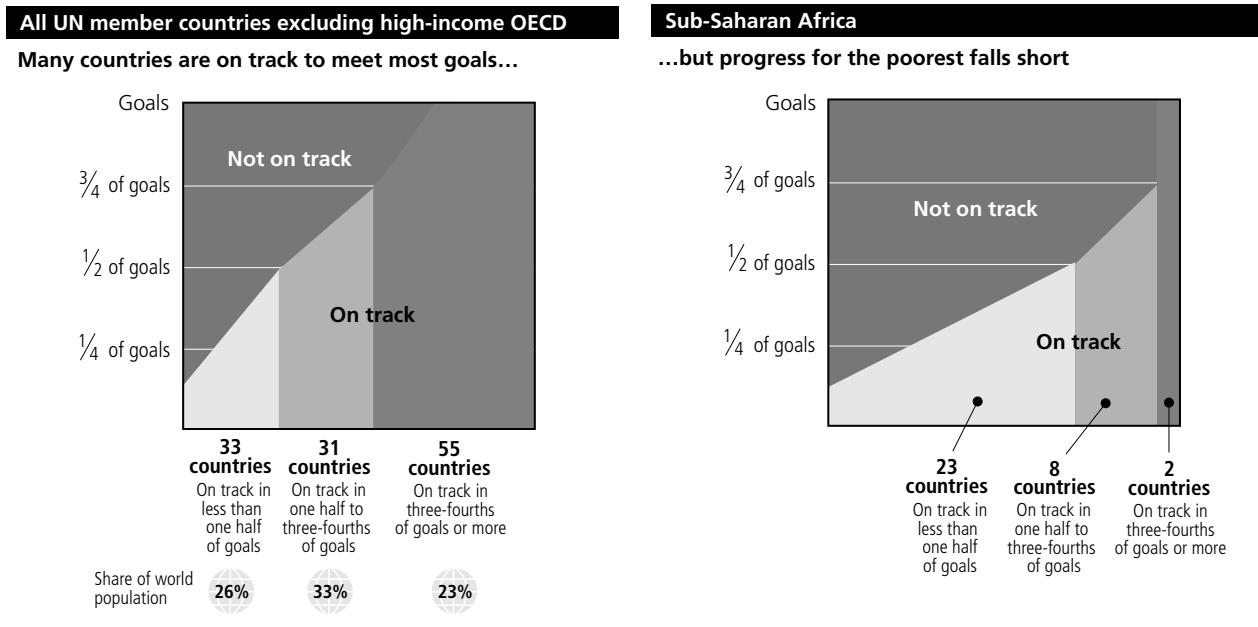
There has been important progress in some areas, but it is far from universal:

Education: 51 countries, with 40 percent of the world's people, are on track to achieving universal primary education by 2015 or have done so already. But 24 countries are slipping back or far behind on the target—and 93 countries, with nearly 40 percent of the world's people do not have data to make a judgment. Globally, one in every six children of primary school age is not in school.

Hunger: Some 57 countries, with half of the world's people, have halved the share of people living in hunger or are on track to do so by 2015. But progress is barely keeping up with global population growth. During the 1990s the number

Source: World Bank and IMF 2001.

FIGURE 1.6

Countries on track to meet the Millennium Development Goals

Source: Human Development Report Office calculations based on appendix table A1.3.

of people living in hunger fell by just six million a year. If it continues at such a snail's pace, it will take more than 130 years to rid the world of hunger.

Poverty: Lack of data makes it hard to assess progress in halving poverty—but slow growth in many areas suggest that many will struggle to achieve the goal. Nearly 130 countries with 40 percent of the world's people may not be growing fast enough—and 52 countries actually had negative growth over the past 10 years.

The picture is especially bleak in sub-Saharan Africa, the Report says. As many as 23 of the region's 45 countries are failing on more than half the targets, and another 11—such as Angola and Somalia—do not have data and are probably even further behind.

The Report shows that a low level of national income does not rule out significant progress in meeting the goals:

- ⦿ Benin with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per head of only US\$990, is on track to put all of its primary school age children in school by 2015—whereas Qatar, with nearly 20 times the income, is falling far behind.
- ⦿ Income per head in Egypt is less than a third of that in Hungary, but whereas Egypt is on track to achieve universal primary enrolment, Hungary is now slipping behind.
- ⦿ Guatemala has more than seven times the national income of Tanzania—but while Tanzania is on track to give girls the same chance of going to primary school as boys, Guatemala is far behind.

"The very different rates of progress across the world are deeply troubling," said Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, chief author of HDR 2002. "Without extraordinary efforts, there is a real risk that international leaders will be setting the same targets a generation from now. We know from the progress of very poor countries like Nepal and Sudan that it is possible to make a difference—but we also know that it takes a very high level of commitment from all sides."

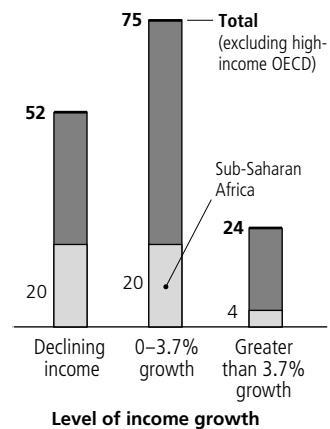
A vital element in making the goals viable will be increasing aid from the developed nations, the Report says. On average, these countries are currently giving around 0.25 percent of their Gross National Product (GNP) in aid. Rough estimates suggest that around double this amount will be needed to meet the goals, which would still be well below the 0.7 percent of GNP agreed by the UN General Assembly in 1970.

The Report also warns that developing countries must benefit from increases in trade as well as aid in order to achieve the eight goals and 18 related targets. Indicators for MDG measurement among the poorest countries include not only increases in official development assistance (ODA) but also market access as well as debt sustainability.

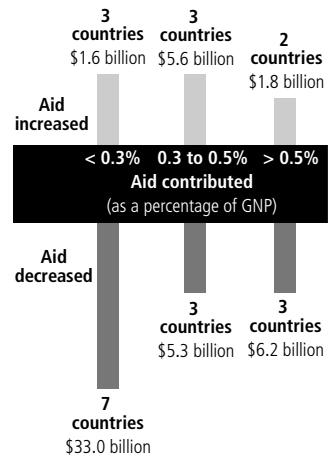
The HDR points out that the inflow of foreign direct investment to the poorest countries is greater than ODA. Yet barriers and subsidies cost developing countries more in lost export opportunities than the \$56 billion in aid they receive each year.

"Despite the setbacks, the MDGs are still feasible if global leaders take action now," stated Mark Malloch Brown, UNDP Administrator, who is helping coordinate a broader UN strategy around the Goals. "Developing countries must be accountable for necessary social, political and economic reform and rich countries must hold up their end of the bargain in terms of providing the trade, aid and investment that will be needed to support these efforts."

**FIGURE 1.7
Failing to grow out of poverty**
Number of countries
by GDP per capita growth rate
(Average annual percentage, 1990–2000)



**FIGURE 1.17
Aid has decreased from most DAC member countries, 1990–2000**



ABOUT THIS REPORT: Every year since 1990, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has commissioned the ***Human Development Report*** (www.undp.org/hdro) by an independent team of experts to explore major issues of global concern. A worldwide advisory network of leaders in academia, government and civil society contribute data, ideas, and best practices to support the analysis and proposals published in the report. The concept of Human Development looks beyond per

capita income, human resource development, and basic needs as a measure of human progress and also assesses such factors as human freedom, dignity and human agency, that is, the role of people in development. The HDR argues that development is ultimately a process of enlarging people's choices, not just raising national incomes.

The ***Human Development Report*** is published in English by Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Cary, NC 27513, USA. Telephone (919) 677-0977; toll free in the USA (800) 451-7556; fax (919) 677-1303.

ABOUT UNDP: UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw on the people of UNDP and our wide range of partners.