

GLOBAL MONITORING REPORT 2007



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*Millennium Development Goals:
Confronting the Challenges of
Gender Equality and
Fragile States*



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Foreword

The 2007 *Global Monitoring Report* takes stock of progress toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals and assesses the contributions of developing countries, donor nations, and the international financial institutions as they work toward meeting commitments under the 2002 Monterrey consensus. This fourth annual GMR finds both areas of progress and gaps where far greater effort is required. This year's special topics—achieving gender equality and addressing the problems of fragile states—highlight two particular areas where serious challenges confront the international community.

The GMR presents striking evidence of real progress on the MDG agenda in several areas. Globally, rapid growth is translating into falling levels of extreme poverty: in the five years between 1999 and 2004 global poverty fell by nearly 4 percentage points, lifting an estimated 135 million people out of destitution. Sub-Saharan Africa's performance has also been encouraging over this period; the share of extreme poor fell by nearly 5 percentage points, although the absolute number of poor has not fallen: Sub-Saharan Africa remains the poorest developing region in the world with about two-fifths of its people living on less than US\$1 a day.

Significant gains are occurring in human development: globally the primary school

completion rate has increased from 78 percent in 2000 to 83 percent in 2005 and the pace of increase has accelerated in all regions (except Latin America and the Caribbean, where levels were already high).

Aid quality and effectiveness are improving: signatories to the 2005 Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness are monitoring progress on harmonization, alignment, and managing for development results. Still, many challenges remain in accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agenda.

Strengthening future performance will require greater attention in two important areas. The first relates to gender equality and the empowerment of women. Second is the condition of fragile states, where nearly 500 million people, or nearly one-fifth of all people in low-income countries, reside.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women are important for basic reasons—fairness, equality of opportunity, and economic well-being. Increasing efficiency and achieving the full potential of men and women alike is a precursor to prosperity. Gender equality is also vital to advancing the other millennium goals—halving poverty, achieving primary education for all, and lowering the under-five mortality rate. Achieving equal opportunity for women will require greater accountability among donors, developing countries, and international institutions such

as our own. It will entail moving beyond a general institutional call for attention, toward a concrete strengthening of programs and project implementation. This would in turn allow a focus on outcomes as well as on a longer-term agenda. Such a shift requires improving monitoring systems for tracking progress in gender equality, and evaluating the impact of interventions aimed at attaining equality of opportunity.

Fragile states, with their limited capacity to secure a better life for their citizens, merit special attention because of the enormity of the problems they face. These countries by definition have weak governments and are hard put to deliver basic services to their people. Over one-fourth of extremely poor people in developing countries live in fragile states. These nations face enormous challenges, regarding both how to take action to meet human development needs, and how to stave off a potential downward spiral of conflict, human abuse, and refugee flight. New instruments should be considered to help countries that have turned the corner to quickly stabilize, restore both security and basic services, and bring greater accountability into public service. This will require better coordination and more effective intervention by the international community.

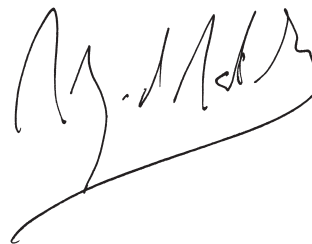
To move both of these crucial agendas forward and to secure faster progress toward meeting the MDGs, international efforts to scale up aid for deserving country programs are vital. We have not made sufficient progress

in delivering on the promises of the Monterrey Summit in 2002, or the 2005 Gleneagles commitments to scale up aid to Africa. Current examples of countries that have received significantly scaled-up aid to help finance sound programs to meet the MDGs are few and far between. This is not for lack of opportunity, which abounds at the project-, sector-, and country-levels. Rather, the dearth of successful scaling-up efforts points to the need for the greater “mutual accountability” called for under the Monterrey consensus. First, we need to identify and fund existing opportunities for scaling up based on current knowledge and capacity, such as in the country and sector areas that the World Bank and the UN have identified. Second, we must work together to develop a dynamic strategy for country-based opportunities to sequentially scale up, including with sufficient technical assistance from our two organizations, working together with other development partners. This will require that donor countries fulfill their pledges to strengthen their development strategies and that they put real resources to work to enact these programs.

Deadlines to deliver on promises in 2010, 2015, and 2030 are looming large and, collectively, we need to speed up investments in projects and reform programs that will save lives, create jobs, and promote growth. The responsibility for this lies with donors, our own and other institutions, and recipients alike.



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Abbreviations

AAP	Africa Action Plan	HIPC	heavily indebted poor country/ countries
ACP	African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
ADB	Asian Development Bank	IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
AfDF	African Development Fund	IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
AsDF	Asian Development Fund	ICS	Investment Climate Surveys
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	IDA	International Development Association (of the World Bank Group)
AMC	Advance Market Commitment	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ART	antiretroviral treatment	IFC	International Finance Corporation (of the World Bank Group)
COMPAS	Common Performance Assessment System	IFFIm	International Finance Facility for Immunization
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment	IFI	international financial institution
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (of the OECD)	IMCI	integrated management of childhood illness
DALY	disability-adjusted life year	IMF	International Monetary Fund
DB	Doing Business (surveys)	LIC	low-income country
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey	LICUS	low-income countries under stress
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	MDB	multilateral development bank
EC	European Commission	MDG	Millennium Development Goal
EFA-FTI	Education for All-Fast Track Initiative	MDRI	Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement	NGO	nongovernmental organization
ES	Enterprise Survey	NTM	nontariff measure
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the UN)	ODA	official development assistance
G-8	Group of Eight	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
GII	Global Integrity Index		
GMR	<i>Global Monitoring Report</i>		
GNI	gross national income		

ABBREVIATIONS

OOF	other official flow	TRI	trade restrictiveness index
OTRI	overall trade restrictiveness index	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PEFA	Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability	UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
PFM	public financial management	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
PIU	project implementation unit	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
R&R	results and resources	WHO	World Health Organization
SDR	special drawing right	WSS	water supply and sanitation
STD	sexually transmitted disease	WTO	World Trade Organization
SWAp	sectorwide approach		
TB	tuberculosis		



Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Goals and Targets from the Millennium Declaration

GOAL 1	ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER
TARGET 1	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day
TARGET 2	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger
GOAL 2	ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION
TARGET 3	Ensure that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling
GOAL 3	PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN
TARGET 4	Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and at all levels of education no later than 2015
GOAL 4	REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY
TARGET 5	Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate
GOAL 5	IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH
TARGET 6	Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio
GOAL 6	COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA, AND OTHER DISEASES
TARGET 7	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS
TARGET 8	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases
GOAL 7	ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
TARGET 9	Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources
TARGET 10	Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
TARGET 11	Have achieved a significant improvement by 2020 in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers
GOAL 8	DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT
TARGET 12	Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, nondiscriminatory trading and financial system (including a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction, nationally and internationally)
TARGET 13	Address the special needs of the least developed countries (including tariff- and quota-free access for exports of the least developed countries; enhanced debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to reducing poverty)
TARGET 14	Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing states (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the 22nd special session of the General Assembly)
TARGET 15	Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures to make debt sustainable in the long term
TARGET 16	In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth
TARGET 17	In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable, essential drugs in developing countries
TARGET 18	In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication

Source: United Nations. 2000 (September 18). *Millennium Declaration*. A/RES/55/2. New York.

United Nations. 2001 (September 6). *Road Map towards the Implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration*. Report of the Secretary General. New York.

Note: The Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of state, in September 2000. The goals and targets are related and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership of countries determined, as the Declaration states, "to create an environment—at the national and global levels alike—which is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty."