

Facts and Actions

Supporting the Millennium Development Goals



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The Millennium Development Goals

- 1) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2) Achieve universal primary education
- 3) Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4) Reduce child mortality
- 5) Improve maternal health
- 6) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- 7) Ensure environmental sustainability
- 8) **Develop a global partnership for development**

Information and text from:

www.millenniumcampaign.org
www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/endofpoverty/oda.html
www.earth.columbia.edu/audio_slideshows/mdgs
www.thedatareport.org
www.one.org
www.un.org/Depts/ptd/global.htm

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MDG 8: Develop a global partnership for development



Targets:

- ◆ Address the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States.
- ◆ Develop further an open trading and financial system that is rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory. Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction—nationally and internationally.
- ◆ Address the least developed countries' special needs. This includes tariff—and quota-free access for their exports; enhanced debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries; cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to poverty reduction.
- ◆ Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt problems through national and international measures to make debt sustainable in the long term.
- ◆ In cooperation with the developing countries, develop decent and productive work for youth.
- ◆ In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.

MDG 8 Overview

Jeffrey Sachs, architect and promoter of the Millennium Development Goals, uniquely frames Goal 8. He asserts that MDG 8 stands apart from MDGs 1-7. The first seven Goals focus on what it would take to reduce the conditions of severe poverty, while Goal 8 is the “glue” that would ensure meeting the prior seven MDGs.

Goal 8 is the call for global partnerships. Sachs reminds us that poverty cannot be alleviated by the world's poorest countries, hence a call for the wealthiest and poorest countries to work together and forge partnerships. The context of these partnerships, each carries a responsibility. The wealthier countries bring to the table financial backing,

technological and scientific research and resources. The poorer countries are asked to govern effectively, address human and social needs and reduce corruption. The wealthier countries also recognize a need to make more fair trading policies and open up import markets from poorer countries.

Historic Progress

In July 2005, the leaders of the G8 nations met in Gleneagles Scotland and made a set of historic promises. Leaders agreed to cancel 100% debts for 18 of the world's poorest countries and owed to the IMF, the World Bank and the African Development Bank by some of the poorest, most indebted countries in Africa. G8 leaders also agreed on: \$50 billion more a year in international assis-

tance per year by 2010; AIDS drugs to all those who need it, and care for all AIDS orphans; Primary schools for ALL children by 2015; And a commitment to protect 85% of vulnerable Africans against malaria. These promises, if kept, are a historic opportunity to fight global AIDS and extreme poverty and save millions of lives.

To meet this commitment and previous promises, the president and U.S. Congress would need to increase poverty-focused development assistance by \$5 billion each year through 2010. As of March 2006, the president has only requested \$2 billion increase in such assistance for FY 2007. Per Jeffrey Sachs, it is also important to recognize that the current aid to Africa

MDG 8 Quick Facts

Trade

- Current trade rules force Mexican farmers who live on a dollar a day to compete with American farmers receiving subsidies of more than US\$20,000 a year (ChristianAid)
- On average, coffee farmers are getting \$1 a kilogram while consumers are paying about \$15 — a mark up of 1500% (Oxfam)
- International trade is worth \$10 million a minute. 70% of this is controlled by multinational corporations (ChristianAid)
- Rich countries spend \$100 billion a year to protect their markets with tariffs, quotas and subsidies — this is twice as much as they provide in aid for developing countries (Oxfam)

Aid

- Current funding by the U.S. to fight global poverty and disease is about \$19 billion total, with about \$4 billion of that going to Africa. \$19 billion sounds like a lot of money, but it represents less than one half of one percent or .42% of our federal budget for poverty-focused development assistance To put this in focus, Americans spend \$42 billion on diet and health books each year, almost three times what America gave in official development assistance to the world's poorest people in 2003 (ONE)
- In 1970, 22 of the world's richest countries (including the United States) pledged to spend 0.7% of their national income on aid. 34 years later, only 5 countries have kept that promise—Denmark, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. (Care)
- 7 countries have committed themselves to a timeline to reach the 0.7% before 2015: Belgium, Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom (The End of Poverty)
- One quarter of the aid provided by rich countries - or \$20bn a year - funds expensive and often ineffective western consultants, research and training instead of going directly to the people who need it most (ActionAid)

Debt Cancellation Works

- The money spent on debt repayments could provide water for around 1.3 billion people (WaterAid)
- In Benin, 54% of the money saved through debt relief has been spent on health, including on rural primary healthcare and HIV programmes
- In Tanzania, debt relief enabled the government to abolish primary school fees, leading to a 66% increase in attendance
- After Zambia was granted debt relief, their President Mwanawasa announced free basic healthcare for all citizens
- After Mozambique was granted debt relief, it was able to offer all children free immunization

pays mostly for emergency food aid and for American consultant salaries.

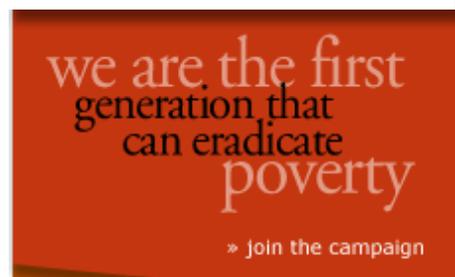
MDG 8 also calls for NGOs, civil society, academia and the media to support poverty reduction.

Some 2,000 corporations have signed onto the UN's Global Compact. This is a voluntary international corporate citizenship network initiated to support the participation of both the private sector and other social actors to advance responsible corporate citizenship and uni-

versal social and environmental principles to meet the challenges of globalization. This includes agreeing to work to implement human rights, labor rights, safeguard the environment and reduce corruption in their sphere of influence.

MDG 8 Take Action

- ▶ U. S. Senator Barak Obama is a member of the US Foreign Relations Committee. Organize a letter-writing campaign to Senator Obama, encouraging the US to increase aid from 0.16% to 0.7%.
- ▶ Track current Congressional activity and legislation at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>
- ▶ Support businesses who have signed the UN Global Compact. Read more on the UN Global Compact site at www.unglobalcompact.org/
- ▶ See the United State's Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCA) website at www.mca.gov. MCA is the mechanism proposed by President George W. Bush to implement a new model for providing foreign aid to the world's developing nations.
- ▶ Monitor G8 leaders' promises to Africa. Read The DATA Report 2006 at www.thedatareport.org. Write U. S. leaders and urge them to keep the promises made at the Gleneagles G8 and toward aid to developing countries and Africa.
- ▶ Promote "base of the pyramid" businesses in developing countries.
- ▶ Review the Global Monitoring Report 2006 from The World Bank. Global Monitoring focuses on how the world is doing in implementing the policies and actions for achieving the MDGs and related development outcomes. It is a framework for accountability in global development policy.
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTGLOBALMONITOR/EXTGLOBALMONITOR2006/0,,menuPK:2186472~pagePK:64218926~piPK:64218953~theSitePK:2186432,00.html>
- ▶ Visit oneworld.net. This site encourages people to discover their power by providing access to information, and enabling connections between hundreds of organizations and tens of thousands of people around the world.



“If these global partnerships are forged with strength and endurance, this would be the greatest hope for all of us for a world of shared prosperity and greater security.”

Jeffrey Sachs, Economist and author,
The End of Poverty

MDGs Resources and Further Information

- www.millenniumcampaign.org
- www.unmillenniumproject.org
- www.undp.org/mdg/countryreports2.html (progress reports)
- www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/trust/2015

View slide shows

- www.earth.columbia.edu/audio_slideshows/mdgs

Extensive listing of MDGs websites

- <http://condor.depaul.edu/~pszczerb/MDGs.html>