

# GLOBAL NETWORK FOR JUSTICE

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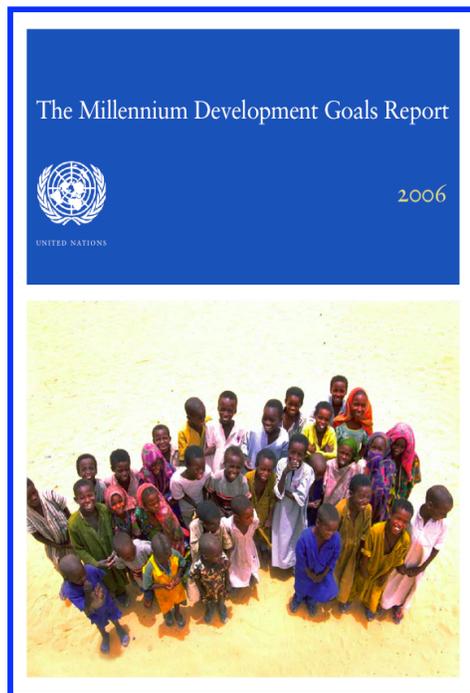
## WE ARE BACK!

Note: The last issue was September 2005, Volume 4 Number 12. Due to the hurricanes Katrina and Rita we were not able to publish bulletins since then.

**The United  
Nation  
Report on  
progress  
towards the  
Millennium  
Develop-  
ment Goals**

**2006** was released on July 3, 2006. The report presents the latest assessment on how far we have

come, and how far we have to go in reaching the goals, in each of the world's regions. With less than a decade left to meet the MDG targets, the United Nations said that there were "staggering" obstacles to succeeding and conditions in many poor countries were actually worsening. The report found that while global incidence of extreme poverty has declined, some 140 million more people have entered that category in sub-Saharan Africa. More people are also going hungry in the region, which has seen only modest improvements in child mortality and maternity rates in the past six years. The report noted some improvement in access to primary education and other areas.



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 Economics 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. A number of national statisticians and outside expert advisers also contributed:

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION** – [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org),  
**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UN** –  
[www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org),  
**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION- UNESCO** [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)  
**THE WORLD BANK – WB** – [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)  
**INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND- IMF** – [www.imf.org](http://www.imf.org)  
**INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION- ITU-**  
[www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int)  
**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA- UN ECA** –  
[www.uneca.org](http://www.uneca.org)  
**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE- UN ECE-**  
[www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)  
**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE  
CARIBBEAN- UN ECLAC-**[www.eclac.org](http://www.eclac.org)  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND  
THE PACIFIC – UN ESCAP** [www.unescap.org](http://www.unescap.org)  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN  
ASIA- UN ESCWA** [www.escwa.org](http://www.escwa.org).  
**JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS-  
UNAIDS** – [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org)  
**UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND- UNICEF-**  
[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)  
**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND  
DEVELOPMENT- UNCTAD-** [www.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org)  
**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN-  
UNIFEM-** [www.unifem.undp.org](http://www.unifem.undp.org)  
[www.un.org/womenwatch](http://www.un.org/womenwatch)  
**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME- UNDP-**  
[www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)  
**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME- UNEP-**  
[www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE- UNFCCC [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)  
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES-  
OHCHR - [www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)  
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME-  
UN- HABITAT-[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)  
UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND –UNFPA-  
[www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)  
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION - IPU  
ORGANIZATION FOR and ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT- OECD -  
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION- WTO –[www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)

**In this issue we will only focus on:**

### **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**

In 1990, more than 1.2 billion people – 28 percent 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 in less than a \$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**

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 2000–2003. An estimated 824 million people in the developing world were affected by chronic hunger in 2003.

The worst-affected regions are 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.

The MDGs Report 2005 noted that:

- Most of the world’s hungry live in rural areas and depend on the consumption and sale of natural products for both their income and their food. Hunger tends to be concentrated among the landless or among farmers whose plots are too small to provide for their needs.
- More than a quarter of the children in the developing world are malnourished. Strategies to combat child nutrition include breastfeeding, increasing micronutrient supplements, reducing infectious diseases and improving access to clean water and sanitation.
- Conflicts and disasters exacerbates poverty and hunger. 37 million refugees and displaced persons and the areas are where the number of hungry people are growing.
- **For more information: visit [www.undp.org/mdg](http://www.undp.org/mdg) [www.unmillenniumproject.org](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org)**

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