

Global lies?

A partial history of United Nations goals.

Claims by world leaders, academics and others
on global goals and human progress
compared to the original UN resolutions, other documents
and meanings of words



Important note

I do not mean particular people or organisations have lied.

I do mean it is very unlikely that no-one has lied.

It seems many people have just repeated the lies.

I have done this myself, and now I am more careful about accepting what experts say: I try to check the facts.

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Seven "major goals" suggested for 1990-2000 after "extensive consultation" with NGOs and others include: By 2000: Promoting safe water, sanitation and access to basic education for all humans. By 2000: Halve child malnutrition (not just hunger). By 2000: 80% of children to complete primary education. By 2000: Halve adult illiteracy, especially among women. "We are prepared to make available the resources to meet these commitments" "Legal standards in the Convention on Rights of the Child "guarantee" rights. "We will work to promote earliest possible implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child" "Programmes to encourage information about children's rights should be launched worldwide" (World Summit for Children, 1990)337

Six goals for 1991-2000 "must be met". "We pledge ourselves individually and collectively to undertake the measures necessary to implement the Strategy. "environmentally sustainable development" and to "respond to social needs". "Rights, justice and equity are essential" "Environment is a priority". Declaration on International Economic Cooperation (1990), Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade346

Humans are "entitled" to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. "The right to development must be fulfilled...to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations." "Environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process" "At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes." "States shall enact effective environmental legislation" End poverty: All States will co-operate on ending poverty, to reduce inequality in living standards. Environment: Precautionary approach will be widely used. "The special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable, shall be given special priority." States will develop "polluter pays" law. "Indigenous and local communities have a vital role in environmental management and development because of their knowledge and traditional practices." "Peace, development and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible." (Rio Declaration, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or Earth Summit, 1992, at same time as the Conference adopted Agenda 21)350

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Leave no-one behind? Goals for industrialised countries. Agenda 21: "All countries should take immediate measures to provide shelter to their homeless poor". "Holistic view of development": integration of environment and development; prosperity; empowerment. By 2000, health for all. This is an overall strategy. By 2000, shelter for all. By 2000, "Each country should ensure that more than 50 per cent of its youth, gender balanced, have access to appropriate secondary education or equivalent educational or vocational training programmes by increasing participation and access rates on an annual basis." By 2000, many suggested or agreed health and environment goals. By 2025, "adequate environmental infrastructure in all settlements". By 2025, "full coverage in water-supply". By 2025, "dispose of all ...wastes" within environmental guidelines. By 2025, "all urban populations" to have "adequate waste services". By 2025, "sanitation in all rural areas." Freshwater targets for 2025. "Political commitment at the highest level". "The broadest public participationshould...be encouraged". [! - Governments have betrayed the public, through false official information on pledges and progress.] Special attention to unsustainable consumption. Special attention to vulnerable groups. Priority: health service coverage for groups in greatest need. Rio Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit), 1992.....360

Goals for 1992-2000: 159 governments pledge all efforts to end famine, nutrition-related disease caused by disaster, and iodine and vitamin A deficiencies by 2000. Adequate food is a right of every person. There is enough food for all. Unequal access is the main problem. Two billion lack micronutrients. Rich country citizens are dying from overeating and unbalanced diets. We must ensure that the poor participate in decisions. Committed to just and environmentally safe world. We are determined to have national nutrition plans by 1994. [FAO say governments had researched vulnerable groups.] (International Conference on Nutrition, World Declaration on Nutrition, 1992).....391

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"States are duty-bound, as stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and in other international human rights instruments, to ensure that education is aimed at strengthening the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms" The universal and inalienable right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development, must be implemented. All learning institutions should include the subjects of human rights, humanitarian law, democracy and the rule of law (World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 1993). The UN Decade for Human Rights Education was 1995-2004. But in 2017 UK schools and universities, like governments and the UN, seem to breach human rights by misrepresenting or distracting from global pledges, and misdescribing research on progress.407

Equality in health. By 2000: Primary health care for all, including reproductive health care. By 2005: Gender equality in primary and secondary education. By 2015: Life expectancy above 75 years in each country; 70 in countries with highest mortality. Efforts for longer, healthier lives for all should emphasise health equality for male/female and social classes.

By 2015: End inequality of child survival between socio-economic groups in countries. By 2015: Infant mortality rate below 3.5% and under-5 mortality rate below 4.5%, in all countries. By 2015: Maternal mortality under 60 per 100,000 for countries with intermediate mortality levels and 75 for those with highest mortality. Disparities between social groups should be narrowed. International Conference on Population And Development (Cairo, 1994)412

117 Heads of State and Government give "well-being for all and social development the highest priority". Nations will aim to reduce overall inequality. Nations will provide legal frameworks including gender equality, full respect for all human rights, transparent and accountable governance, and the end of discrimination. We will create an enabling economic environment aimed at promoting more equitable access for all to income, resources and social services. International goals must have the rights of the poor and excluded as overriding priority. Nations reaffirm the right to information, especially to help the poor. Poverty includes unsafe environments and lack of information. Governments will urgently make plans with a date for eradicating absolute poverty in each country. "It is our task to address ...underlying and structural causes" of poverty, unemployment and social exclusion. (World Summit for Social Development, 1995)417

"Determined to advance the goals of equality, development and peace for all women" "Determined to address the structural causes of poverty" As soon as possible and no later than 2015, "Reproductive health care accessible to all" By 2000, governments to implement human rights treaties; Urgently implement Convention on Rights of the Child; By 2000, clean water for all; By 2000, halve child malnutrition with special attention to gender. Fourth World Conference on Women. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)430

Earliest possible achievement of sustainable world food security. Goal for 2015: Reduce the number of undernourished people to half their present level. "It is necessary to target those suffering most". Corruption hinders the task. Governments will "develop legislative processes that are most conducive to achieving sustainable food security for all". We will promote equitable income distribution, and ensure politics, economics and society are designed for zero poverty and peace. (Rome Declaration on Food Security, World Food Summit, 1996).....444

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Leaders persistently break promise to "support a global information campaign on the agreed goals including...the Millennium Declaration" (Monterrey Consensus, 2002) – even though leaders reaffirmed it in 2005, 2010 and 2015.	780

Heads of State and Government and their representatives misinform citizens that "targets of the World Food Summit" were "reaffirmed by the Millennium Declaration". They reaffirm "right of access to safe nutritious food" and the 1996 pledge. Declaration of the "World Food Summit: five years later" (2002)812

Leave no-one behind? Equality. Economic, social and environmental development are interdependent. "We commit...to... equitable ...global society...need for human dignity for all...we assume a collective responsibility to advance...the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development - economic development, social development and environmental protection." "We also commit..to...the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992". "We commit ourselves to the Plan of Implementation...and to expediting the achievement of the time-bound, socio-economic and environmental targets contained therein." By 2015: Specific improvements in saving infants', under-5 children's and mothers' lives from the "rate in 2000" (not the generally easier "MDG" targets - and now with the specific target on infants which is additional to those in the Millennium Declaration). "As quickly as possible": "Reduce disparities" in child and maternal mortality with particular attention to female mortality rates. By 2015: Achieve Millennium Declaration pledge on "affordable" water. Sanitation target likewise appears to have baseline of 2000, not 1990. The major conferences since 1992 "defined for the world a comprehensive vision for the future of humanity." Promote traditional medicine. Sustainable development is "key element" in UN activities. "Programmes that reflect the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All" - which must include the adult literacy target for 2015. World Summit on Sustainable Development or Earth Summit: Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation (September 2002)833

UN member states again invite UN agencies to work on the goals of, and with member states to give "widespread publicity" to, the Millennium Declaration - not the "MDG" targets (resolution of December 2002). Instead of carrying out the agreement, politicians, civil servants, academics, charities, journalists and others mislead citizens that leaders in 2000 agreed the wrongly-named "MDGs".872

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Nations agreed in 2009 that they would "ensure urgent action to fully realize" the World Food Summit pledge – which by the FAO numbers (which do not relate to "undernourishment" as most people would understand the word) would mean fewer than 500 million people in 2015 with chronic lack of calories. In 2015, FAO estimated nearly 800 million. Nations in 2009 also agreed, "We commit to take action towards sustainably eradicating hunger at the earliest possible date." World Summit on Food Security, Rome Declaration (2009) 1165

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BBC World Service "scrutiny" of a "vital goal" by an ex-World Bank economist and future World Bank conference chair and speaker largely reflected the World Bank's own public relations material; the programme gave what was a fictional account of the World Bank "poverty" research method, painting the researchers in a flattering light; ignored problems noted in the researchers' own methodology paper; presented in some ways a more lenient "scrutiny" even than the PR material, and largely ignored the huge controversy outside the World Bank over whether the claims make sense – after consulting a ludicrous mix of World Bank and ex-World Bank economists. 1304

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"We further recognize the importance and utility of a set of sustainable development goals, based on Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation...which... build upon commitments already made...and contribute to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields". United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20, 2012) 1390

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July 2015: Governments commit again to publicising agreed goals which include those in the 2000-baseline Millennium Declaration and water and sanitation for all by 2025, but violate this promise too. 1794

Leaders at the 2015 Summit mislead the species by claiming new goals are "transformative" and "supremely ambitious". In fact they are attempting to delay the deadlines for water and sanitation for all by ten years in some countries and five years in others. Leaders do this even though a) nations agreed in 2012 that new goals should be based on Agenda 21 - which contains the goals for 2025 - and contribute to achieving existing agreements; b) leaders in 2015 at the same time reaffirm previous conference commitments and agree that governments will follow up goals according to the existing mandates. This means governments agree to follow up all conferences and summits. It is clearly a violation of the agreements to ignore the goals of water and sanitation for all in the "least developed countries" by 2020 and all people by 2025. Leaders also mislead the species on existing goals for 2015, reinforcing the false impression that the Millennium pledges, or the whole UN development agenda, were the easier so-called "MDGs". Some SDG targets are new and some not. Immediate measures to eradicate forced labour. Urgent action on climate change. As soon as possible, fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization. Urgent, significant action to reduce degradation of natural habitats and halt loss of biodiversity. By 2020, progress on greenhouse gases. By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of species. By 2020, halve deaths and injuries from road accidents. By 2020, expand scholarships for developing countries. By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems. By 2020, reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training. By 2020, global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact. By 2020, universal, affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries. By 2020, substantially increase the number of settlements implementing integrated policies towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework, holistic disaster risk management. By 2020,

achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes. By 2020, developed countries to mobilize \$100 billion annually for developing countries on climate change. By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems. By 2020, regulate fish harvesting, end overfishing, restore fish stocks. By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas. By 2020, prohibit harmful fishing subsidies. By 2020, ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of freshwater ecosystems. By 2020, halt deforestation. By 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species. By 2020, measures to reduce the impact of invasive alien species. By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts. By 2020, double the least developed countries' share of global exports. By 2020, enhance support to developing countries for reliable data on people. By 2025, achieve targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution. By 2025, end child labour..... 1898

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