

United Nations Millennium Development Goals

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Alternative Title: MDGs

United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eight global policy goals designed to end extreme [poverty](#) worldwide by 2015. The eight goals—the product of a working committee made up of the [World Bank](#), the [World Health Organisation](#), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and several [United Nations](#) (UN) organizations—were adopted by acclamation by world leaders from 189 countries at the 2000 UN Millennium Summit, which was held in [New York City](#) on September 6–8, 2000.

The eight Millennium Development Goals are as follows:

1. [Eradicate](#) extreme poverty and hunger by bringing about full employment for all people and by halving the number of those who suffer from [hunger](#) and whose income is below \$1.25 per day.
2. Achieve universal primary [education](#).
3. Promote gender [equality](#) and empower women by focusing on the gender disparities that exist in education.
4. Reduce child mortality by two-thirds of 1990 levels.
5. Improve maternal health by reducing maternal mortality by three-quarters of 1990 levels and [facilitating](#) access to reproductive health services.
6. Combat [human immunodeficiency virus](#) and [acquired immunodeficiency syndrome](#) (HIV/AIDS), [malaria](#), and other diseases. To achieve this goal, MDG planners set targets to reduce the incidence of these diseases, stop their spread by 2015, and provide universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010.
7. Ensure environmental [sustainability](#). MDG planners sought to [integrate sustainable development](#) practices into governmental policies and programs, reduce the rate of [biodiversity](#) loss, reduce the number of people without sustainable supplies of safe drinking water and sanitation by one-half, and improve the lives of at least 100 million residents of urban slums.
8. Develop a global partnership for development, which would involve the creation of an open trading system, aid packages to landlocked countries, [debt](#) relief, and access to [information technology](#) and [telecommunications](#).

Although the United Nations Millennium Campaign has claimed some success—such as 89 percent of the world’s population having access to potable water by 2013, and numerous local and regional advances in education, neonatal care, and vaccination rates—progress toward these eight goals has been uneven. Some critics have charged that some goals, such as halving the number people experiencing extreme hunger or reducing biodiversity loss, are unattainable and unrealistic as long as the government policies that underpin those phenomena are not addressed.

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...one of eight **United Nations Millennium Development Goals** (MDG) drafted in 2000. Steps toward the achievement of universal education and other MDGs were to be tracked by specific indicators, such as literacy rates and enrollment ratios...

poverty
Poverty, the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions. Poverty is said to exist when people lack the means to satisfy their basic needs. In this context, the identification of poor people first requires a determination of what constitutes basic needs...

World Bank
World Bank, international organization affiliated with the United Nations (UN) and designed to finance projects that enhance the economic development of member states. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the bank is the largest source of financial assistance to developing countries. It also provides technical assistance and...



World Health Organization
World Health Organization (WHO), specialized agency of the United Nations established in 1948 to further international cooperation for improved public health conditions. Although it inherited specific tasks relating to epidemic control, quarantine measures, and drug standardization from the Health Organization of the League of...

Hunger
Hunger, novel by Knut Hamsun, published in 1890 as Sult. It is the semiautobiographical chronicle of the physical and psychological hunger experienced by an aspiring writer in late 19th-century Norway. The unnamed narrator of this plotless episodic work is an introspective young man whose hunger to succeed as a writer...

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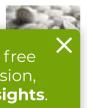
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