"WE the PEOPLES" 2005

Special Report
THE UN MILLENNIUM DECLARATION AND BEYOND

Mobilizing for Change: Messages from Civil Society

World Federation of United Nations Associations

The North-South Institute

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We value our continued collaboration with the UN Millennium Campaign.

"WE the PEOPLES" 2005

Special Report
The UN Millennium Declaration and Beyond

"Massive poverty and obscene inequality are such terrible scourges of our times... that they have to rank alongside slavery and apartheid as social evils."

Nelson Mandela,
in a speech in Trafalgar Square,
London, England, February 3, 2005
on the eve of the G-7
Finance Ministers Meeting

The North-South Institute (NSI) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental research institute providing foreign policy and international development analysis to policy-makers, educators, business, the media and the general public. The Institute is dedicated to eradicating global poverty and enhancing social justice. NSI Research promotes international cooperation, democratic governance, and conflict prevention. (www.nsi-ins.ca)

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) is a non-governmental global network of people and national UN Associations in support of the United Nations. The Federation encourages people to address a wide range of critical issues including peace, human rights, equitable development and international justice (www.wfuna.org)

The contents of this document represent the views and the findings of the authors alone and not necessarily those of NSI or (WFUNA) directors, sponsors or supporters or those consulted during its preparation.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015)

**To be reviewed by World Leaders,
September 14-16, 2005
United Nations, New York**

GOALS AND TARGETS

The Millennium Development Goals are an ambitious agenda for reducing poverty and improving lives, agreed on by world leaders at the Millennium Summit in September 2000. (http://www.un.org/millennium/summit.htm) For each goal one or more targets have been set, most for 2015, using 1990 as a benchmark:

1. *Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal1.pdf

Target for 2015: Halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and those who suffer from hunger.

More than a billion people still live on less than US$1 a day: sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and parts of Europe and Central Asia are falling short of the poverty eradication target.

2. *Achieve universal primary education*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal2.pdf

Target for 2015: Ensure that all boys and girls complete primary school.

As many as 113 million children do not attend school, but the target is within reach. India, for example, should have 95 per cent of its children in school by 2005.

3. *Promote gender equality and empower women*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal3.pdf

Targets for 2005 and 2015: Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.

Two-thirds of illiterate people are women, and the rate of employment among women is two-thirds that of men. The proportion of seats held by women in parliaments is increasing, reaching about one-third in Argentina, Mozambique and South Africa.

4. *Reduce child mortality*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal4.pdf

Target for 2015: Reduce by two-thirds the mortality rate among children under five.

Every year nearly 11 million young children die before their fifth birthday, mainly from preventable illnesses, but that number is down from 15 million in 1980.

5. *Improve maternal health*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal5.pdf

Target for 2015: Reduce by three-quarters the ratio of women dying in childbirth.

In the developing world, the risk of dying in childbirth is one in 48, but virtually all countries now have safe motherhood programs.

6. *Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal6.pdf

Target for 2015: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Forty million people are living with HIV, including five million newly infected in 2003. Countries like Brazil, Senegal, Thailand and Uganda have shown that the spread of HIV can be stemmed.

7. *Ensure environmental sustainability*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal7.pdf

Targets:

- *Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources.*
- *By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water.*
- *By 2020, achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.*

More than one billion people lack access to safe drinking water and more than two billion lack sanitation. During the 1990s, however, nearly one billion people gained access to safe water and the same number to sanitation.

8. *Develop a global partnership for development*

www.undp.org/mdg/goal8.pdf

Targets:

- *Develop further an open trading and financial system that includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction — nationally and internationally.*
- *Address the least developed countries' special needs, and the special needs of landlocked and small island developing states.*
- *Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt problems.*
- *Develop decent and productive work for youth.*
- *In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.*
- *In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies — especially information and communications technologies.*

Many developing countries spend more on debt service than on social services. New aid commitments made in the first half of 2002 could mean an additional $12 billion per year by 2006.

The key findings and recommendations found in this report are based on:

- **Responses from organizations in more than 100 countries to a unique e-survey (see "Additional Information" for the list of responding groups by country).**
- **Discussions and conclusions from a three-day international experts meeting, December 2004 in Gatineau, Canada (see "Additional Information" for a list of participants).**

This report also draws on recent statements and studies by major NGOs and others on the progress of the Millennium Development Goals.

Partners and Survey

OUR SURVEY: WHO TOOK PART?

The survey was offered in Arabic, English, French, and Spanish. It was directed to NGOs with consultative status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN and to other organizations and movements not formally connected to the United Nations. The survey used contact lists from several United Nations offices, including the ECOSOC, the Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS), and the Department of Public Information. There were 439 survey responses.

Among the respondents are development program agencies like Participatory Development Action Program in Bangladesh, advocacy campaigns like the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, and groups that undertake both advocacy and development. Some respondents are local, including the Association Tunisienne des Droits de l'Enfant; some are global, like Caritas Internationalis. A wide community of interests is reflected in the survey respondents: faith-based, labour, youth, women, minorities, and other.

Of the 439 responding organizations, almost 60% are from the "global South." European groups make up 22% of respondents, Africa 22%, Canada and the United States 19%, Asia 17%, Latin America 13.4%, Middle East 3.4%, Australia/Oceania 1.4%, and the Caribbean 0.9%.

Survey participants describe the scope of their work as global (44%), national (41%), or local (14%). Therefore, the predominant point of view comes from organizations working at a national or sub-national level. The majority of participating organizations have a small staff. One-fifth have no staff, and half have fewer than 20 paid employees. However one-tenth of participating organizations have more than 100 staff, and half of those have 500 or more. About 20% of the groups count more than 1,000 members.

Some 46% of participating organizations have annual budgets of less than US$50,000, while 24% have funding of US$500,000 or more; 4.5% report more than US$10 million each.

SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

We the Peoples 2005 offers a relatively brief overview of diverse opinions on complex and urgent issues. This report cannot be fully comprehensive and cannot include quotations from every worthwhile survey submission. The accuracy of statements depends on the submissions received, contributions to our experts' meeting, as well as on documentary sources utilized. The overall patterns of views are indicative, not conclusive. We believe the diversity of groups participating provides some measure of broad representation.

Executive Summary

At the United Nations Millennium Review Summit, September 14-16, 2005, world leaders will meet in New York to discuss the future of the United Nations, global collective security, and relations between rich and poor. This meeting will mark five years since the largest-ever gathering of Heads of State and Government adopted the Millennium Declaration.

This year, the world's political leaders are called upon to take decisions that will determine whether or not they can fulfill the vision of the Millennium Declaration: "to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people…based on our common humanity."

At the centre of this vision are the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). They embody specific targets and timelines for achieving many of the objectives of the Declaration: to alleviate worldwide poverty, hunger, and disease; to globalize human rights, the equality of women, and environmental protection; and to create fair rules of trade, increase development assistance, and put an end to unsustainable debt. These can only be achieved through a new Global Partnership for Development, "a development compact," in which rich join poor to fulfill the promises.

In short, leaders must come to share a common sense of human security in all its dimensions, for the whole inhabited earth. There is a need for new horizons of action and new thinking about and beyond the goals set in 2000.

MOBILIZING CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

For the last four years, The North-South Institute (NSI) and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) have conducted annual global online surveys of civil society engagement with the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs.

This year civil society organizations around the world are reviewing the progress made over the past five years and lessons that need to be learned. They are engaging in intensive dialogues about priorities, about policy change, about strategies, that meet the promise of the Declaration and beyond. Campaigns for change are springing up in country after country.

Through our most recent global survey, more than 400 groups provided a wealth of information about their work on the MDGs and their assessment of progress on Declaration objectives. Recent statements and reports from other groups, and advice from an experts' meeting in December 2004, help round out this report on civil society activities, views, and advice.

The Millennium Review Summit – "An event of decisive importance."

UN Secretary-General
Kofi Annan

Executive Summary (con't)

MESSAGES: POWERFUL AND URGENT

Civil society organizations are becoming increasingly active in pressing world leaders to keep the promises they made in 2000, and to recognize that now, in the year 2005, their efforts must be broader and bolder if we are to secure the world envisioned in the Millennium Declaration.

These are their messages to world leaders:

- Keep the promises made to the world in the Millennium Declaration.
- Implement the Millennium Development Goals, but go beyond them. Get at the roots of poverty and growing inequality; remove the obstacles to universal human rights, health, and education; eliminate the dangers to our planet's climate and environment; and undertake urgent collective action to build and sustain peace everywhere.
- Strengthen the United Nations to assure development, social justice, peace, and security in our world.
- Commit the necessary resources, human and financial, to these ends.

Because the promises remain significantly unfulfilled, and the goals unmet, there must be a fresh commitment of resources to the objectives of the Declaration and clear markers for progress over the next five years.

ENTRY POINTS FOR INFLUENCE

The Agenda for the Millennium Review Summit is now being shaped and real opportunities exist for civil society to engage in this process.

What are the main entry points and opportunities for civil society to influence the preparatory process for the UN Millennium Review Summit in September? Openings for advocacy with national governments will vary country to country and must be assessed by each organization and network. Events at the UN itself, from January through July, will shape the Summit — details are provided in this report. The G-7/G-8 Summit of the richest nations in July will send decisive signals. Advocacy now, in all three "theatres" is essential.

As well, survey respondents have provided substantial information about their work and experiences, highlighting opportunities for people to participate at many levels in civil society activities. And they have shared useful ideas and recommendations about the development goals and how best to achieve them.

By acting now, we can propose priority issues, we can press for a stronger United Nations, and we can demand bold action and more accountability to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and the Declaration promises.

PART I

The Task Ahead

To prepare for the leaders' summit in September, United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, commissioned two major studies: *A more secure world: our shared responsibility" – The report of the UN's High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change* (http://www.un.org/secureworld/) and *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* (http://www.unmillenniumproject.org).

Both reports call for bold action by governments to enhance the role of the United Nations in providing collective security and to meet the development goals. The report of the Secretary-General for the summit reflects upon their recommendations. *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all. Report of the Secretary-General.* 21 March, 2005 (http://www.un.org).

However, when the leaders meet in September they will represent a deeply divided world. Three large societies, North America, Europe, and Japan, are home to most of the world's wealth. They have a combined average gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of US$26,000. They account for 15% of world population, 75% of world arms spending, and 95% of the world's assistance to developing countries. Three other societies, India, Indonesia, and Nigeria are home to a quarter of the world's population, 1.5 billion people with a combined average GDP per capita of US$2,000. The annual wealth of 11 African countries is less than US$1,000 per person per year.

The world is divided, too, on security issues and how best to respond to threats and conflict. Concepts like "Responsibility to Protect" challenge older ideas of state sovereignty and non-intervention (http://www.iciss.ca/report-en.asp). Millions have died in Cambodia, Rwanda, and Darfur while the world gropes for a new security consensus.

Many things have changed since the last time world leaders met in 2000. Among them, there is new urgency to HIV/AIDS, new attention to terrorism, and increased alarm about Weapons of Mass Destruction, including nuclear weapons.

With these divisions and changes evident to all, there will be one of three likely outcomes from the September leaders' summit.

Leaders will take action to improve the United Nations, strengthen cooperation for peace and security, and dramatically increase resources and efforts to achieve the development goals and Declaration objectives. Or they will agree to some minimal steps for the UN and on a few practical steps to enhance both collective security and the development goals. Or they will fail to agree to anything specific.

Recently, there have been some encouraging signs including the March 11, 2005 report of the UK-initiated Commission for Africa (http://www.commissionforafrica.org), nevertheless the G-7 Finance Ministers failed to agree on an adequate scale and scope of action at the February, 2005 meeting.

And the global civil society effort on behalf of the MDGs has not gone unnoticed. According to British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown, "[We owe progress]. . .to the millions who have campaigned for justice, for the strength of their resolve, the vision of their leadership, their determination in pursuit of a great cause."

Motivated citizens can help determine the agenda and the outcomes of the September leaders' summit and beyond. Civil society groups and movements all over the world face a momentous opportunity. By acting now, we can propose priority issues, we can press for a stronger United Nations, and we can demand bold action and more accountability to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Declaration promises.

Some of this work is already underway. Much more can be done. We hope that this report provides assistance and inspiration in the task ahead.

Part II summarizes the 2005 survey results and reports on the status of each of the eight development goals. It describes the approaches to each goal, notes the type of activities groups undertake, draws attention to obstacles, and presents recommendations for change. Part II also includes other survey information about civil society organizations (CSOs), their interests, and activities.

Part III offers an overview of the limitations of the development goals and outlines six larger challenges that must be addressed in order to achieve the goals and meet other urgent needs.

Part IV draws attention to the seventh challenge, governing our global society.

Part V and the Conclusion offer information and a resource kit to help motivated citizens become involved, or more involved, in campaigns and other actions in support of the Millennium Development Goals, the Declaration, and government accountability. You can use this information to press governments, parliamentarians, leaders, and others to keep the promises made to the world in 2000 (cut poverty, educate children, empower women, improve health and the environment, build a real partnership for development). You can also use these resources to help promote peace, rights, democracy, fair trade, and the other objectives of the Millennium Declaration.

PART II

We the Peoples 2005 Survey Results

ACHIEVING THE GOALS: STARTING POINTS

In 2001 the United Nations launched the Millennium Development Goals to mobilize global support to end extreme poverty. Derived from the Millennium Declaration, and based on global partnership, the primary goal is to reduce extreme poverty in the world by half by 2015.

Unlike many international conference declarations and programs for action, the goals have specific targets and dates for accomplishment. Because of this, and reflecting the high level endorsement, they have fed a revival of interest and debate about development and the eradication of poverty. They have stimulated hope and expectations. As a result, if the MDGs remain unfulfilled, there will be rising cynicism and millions will be left in unnecessary destitution, disease, and hopelessness.

Therefore, governments, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations face a crucial challenge this year to take prompt action to ensure commitments will be met and to remove roadblocks that frustrate the eradication of poverty and the achievement of greater global justice.

CIVIL SOCIETY: CRITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Civil society response to the goals has been "mixed." Why?

Many civil society organizations (CSOs) emphasize the need to change structural and causal elements in the world economy and in power relations. These factors both recreate and sustain continued poverty. Many groups emphasize the need for common, agreed international goals for North and South.

Many CSOs conclude that these concerns were not honoured in actions that followed their participation in UN conferences in Beijing and Copenhagen in the 1990s. The rich countries, through the Organisation for Co-operation and Development (OECD), came up with an approach to development without the participation of Southern countries.

Among the failings, this OECD approach dropped 12 vital elements of the Beijing Platform for Action for women/gender equality. Social development objectives lacked specificity. Donor countries were not bound by time targets to provide aid and social development funding.

At a 2000 meeting in Geneva, NGOs bitterly responded to a joint presentation by the OECD, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the UN, *"A Better World for All"* (http://www.paris21.org/betterworld/). Once again, the approach had not been negotiated with Southern representatives. The existing poverty-sustaining, macroeconomic framework remained unexamined and unquestioned. Rich countries omitted references to their own poverty eradication and social development needs. There were no fixed commitments for donor countries. Some organizations also saw the approach as a sell out by the United Nations to the interests and organizations dominated by the North.

Because the Millennium Development Goals reflect in many details the approach taken in *"A Better World For All,"* they suffer some of the same NGO criticisms.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? THE GOALS AT RISK

"So far, the record in achieving these goals is mixed. Broad regions are far off track. Changing that will take a strong and joint effort from the whole international community, developed and developing countries alike...We are willing to take on that challenge...Active participation from a wide range of actors – civil society, the academia and the private sector – will be key factors in ensuring that the Millennium Development Goals are reached."
- H.E. Göran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden, February 8, 2005.

The Millennium Project's 2005 report *"Investing in Development"* (http://unmp.forumone.com/) states the goals are still achievable if all countries fulfill their promises and redouble their efforts. Donor countries must increase development aid. Recipient countries must put poverty reduction strategies in place by 2006.

The European Commission's *Report on the Millennium Development Goals 2000-2004* (http://www.undp.org/mdg/donorcountryreports.html), proposes that the goals can be achieved if there is a "quantum leap in scale and ambition, both in terms of resources and policies."

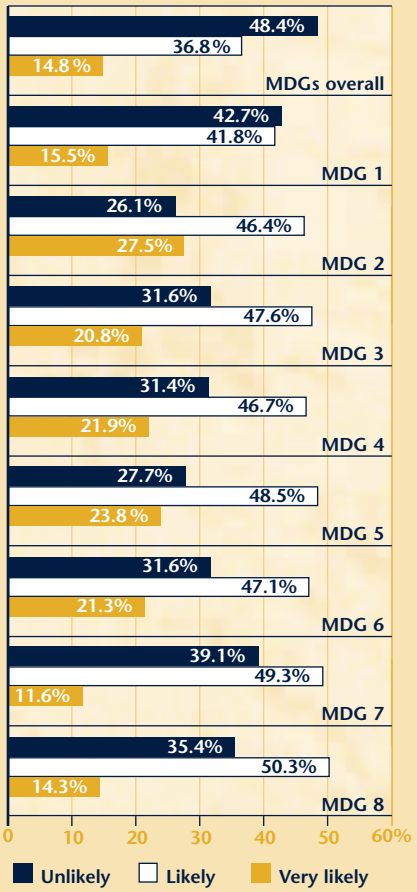
However, there is a risk of early failure.

Developing countries are making progress in reducing extreme poverty and providing basic necessities for their citizens. However, progress has been slow in the Least Developed Countries, in sub-Saharan Africa, in Central Asia, and in the poorest regions and provinces of some countries. There are even significant reversals. Governments and international agencies report that if current trends continue, we will not reach the goals by 2015.

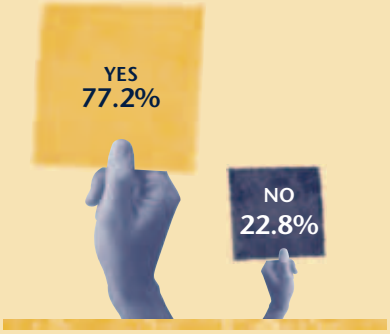
On-target progress is evident for only two goals: halving the proportion of people living in absolute poverty, and ensuring access to safe water. By current trends, child and maternal mortality goals will not be met in most regions, and sub-Sahara Africa will not meet the universal primary education goal (with shortfalls likely in South Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa as well). About one-third of developing countries are unlikely to achieve gender parity in education. Targets on infectious diseases remain daunting and even more difficult where there is no safe drinking water or basic sanitation. A global partnership for development is hampered by insufficient aid from rich countries.

Yet, the eight development goals are achievable. The greatest advances are taking place in East and South Asia, especially in China and India, the world's most populous countries. Major advances there positively influence global results.

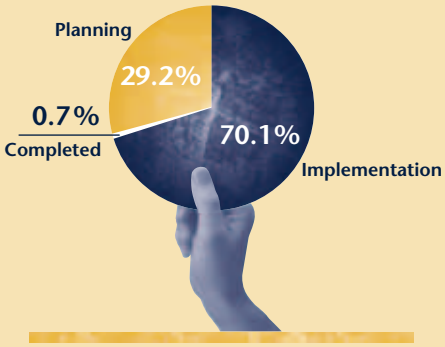
In the country where you are working, how likely is it that the MDGs will be achieved by the target dates?



Have the Millennium Development Goals and the Declaration been an impetus for civil society engagement with the United Nations' development agenda?



Do you know about the United Nations' Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)?



At which stage is your organization's work on the MDGs?

WHAT WE KNOW: THE 2005 SURVEY RESULTS

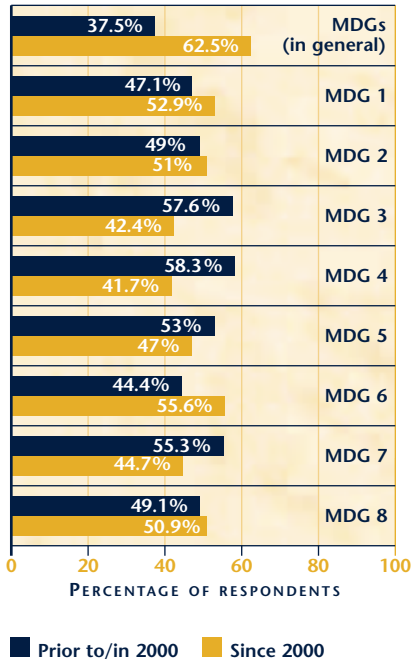
The 439 survey participants provided information, views, and recommendations on all the Millennium Development Goals.

Our survey shows a trend of increasing CSO activity in support of the Millennium Development Goals. The 2005 *We the Peoples* survey was broader than in previous years. For the first time it included questions about each of the specific goals and about the development goals and civil society work in general. Here are the summary highlights from responses to questions about the nature and scope of work and activities.

Of survey respondents familiar with the development goals and Declaration, 85% are involved in related activities. The majority of respondents are in the implementation stage of their activities, with almost one-third at the planning stage. Very few have completed their activities.

Half the respondents started their work *prior to* the 2000 Millennium Summit, the remaining half *since* the adoption of the development goals.

When did your organization begin MDG-related work?



The eight development goals provide a framework for civil society activities even when organizations have been working on some of these same development goals for many years.

Three-quarters of organizations find the goals have had no favourable effect on their funding. One-quarter find funding has improved as a result of the Millennium Declaration and/or the goals. Primary sources of improved funding are UN programs, other NGOs, aid agencies, and governments. The principal source of funding for almost half the respondents is membership. One-third depend on grants from private individuals and foundations as the source of most of their funds.

THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

Civil society efforts to achieve the development goals are wide-ranging, with a variety of expected outcomes. Most activities fall into the following categories:

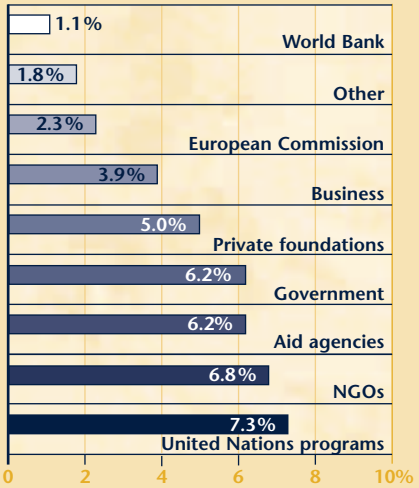
- awareness-raising (in the general public and in specific communities, including decision-makers)
- education and training
- poverty reduction efforts
- direct provision of services (e.g., health-related)
- advocacy work to introduce or change policy
- issues of governance
- general campaigning for all, some, or one of the goals

In the survey, respondents were given an opportunity to describe their projects and activities. There is great diversity.

- A **Sudanese** youth organization is rebuilding a sanitation system. This is a participatory community project in a post-conflict zone. The project deals with waste, water, and sanitation management while raising public awareness about HIV/AIDS.
- An organization in the **United Kingdom** promotes the Tobin Tax as an alternate means of financing the eight development goals. (Proposed by economist James Tobin in 1978, the small tax would be applied to foreign currency exchange transactions.)
- A **Kenyan** organization has created a small bank for local fishing people. The bank creates opportunities to save money for future investment in the industry. Organizers of this micro-finance initiative hope to eventually involve 30,000 people.
- A **Pakistani** organization lobbied for and drafted new national legislation on infant and child nutrition. Now it publicizes the implications of the new laws.
- A **Canadian** woman weaves tapestries that include messages about female infertility, bioethics, and biotechnology. She speaks publicly to raise awareness of reproductive health and technology, and the need for gender equality.
- One organization capacity-builds in the *favelas* (slums) of **Rio de Janeiro** to assist disadvantaged youth and adults acquire job skills. This is part of an entrepreneurship and small business development program.
- An **Australian** organization works for sexual and reproductive health and rights in Asia-Pacific. It advocates implementation of the program from the International Conference on Population and Development.

Does working on the Millennium Development Goals help civil society organizations get funding?

If the Millennium Declaration or the MDGs had a positive effect on your organization's ability to obtain funding, from what sources did you obtain funding?



"Poverty is the 'ultimate threat' to stability in a globalizing world. But the fact is that the international community is giving with one hand, but is taking with the other."

- Michel Camdessus, former Executive Director, IMF. UNCTAD, February 13, 2000.

"Although we are likely to reach the first Millennium Development Goal of reducing poverty by half worldwide by 2015, much more aid, much more openness to trade, and more widespread policy reforms are needed to achieve all the Millennium Development Goals in all countries."

Comment by François Bourguignon, chief economist of the World Bank for OneWorld.net

THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS PLUS

Survey respondents also report great diversity in setting targets for themselves, and in pressing governments at several levels to adapt the goals to local circumstances. Many have set more ambitious targets than the eight development goals or have moved deadlines for achieving earlier results.

The following consolidated summary matches these survey results to each of the eight goals.

The survey also provides a snapshot of how CSOs are working with governments, the media, and the private sector; how they are including people with special needs; and how they are adapting their work to the development goals set in 2000.

THE MOST IMPORTANT GOAL: GOAL 8 —"DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT"

We believe this is the most important of the eight development goals. Survey respondents agree. We believe it is essential to achieve Goal 8 in order to achieve the other seven.

In preparation for the September 2005 summit of world leaders, there is a superior task to assess the state of the partnership between developed and developing countries. The United Nations, national governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and motivated citizens everywhere should take part in this assessment. The need for a real North-South global partnership has never been greater.

World leaders pledged support for this partnership in the 2000 Millennium Declaration, in the development goals, and again when they met in 2002 in Monterrey, Mexico. Each time they agreed and emphasized the significance for economic and social development of governance, trade, development assistance, debt, and private sector involvement. The aim of the partnership, says UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, "is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people." The promised partnership of Goal 8 reminds us of the vital role wealthy countries must play to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

There are seven targets on the way to this global partnership:

Target: Develop an open, rules-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system that includes a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction – nationally and internationally.

Target: Address the special needs of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), including tariff and quota-free access for their exports. Create an enhanced program of debt relief for the highest indebted poor countries, cancel official bilateral debt, and offer more generous Official Development Assistance (ODA) for countries committed to poverty reduction.

Target: Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing countries (based on the UN-agreed Program of Action).

Target: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries.

Target: Develop decent and productive work for youth.

Target: Provide affordable, essential drugs to those who need them in developing countries.

Target: Make the benefits of new technologies — especially information communications technologies — more available to people in developing and poor countries.

Survey Results: Goal 8 Civil Society Activity and Views

According to our survey, most civil society organizations are working on one or more of these targets. Their work includes governance, trade, development assistance, development financing, and debt.

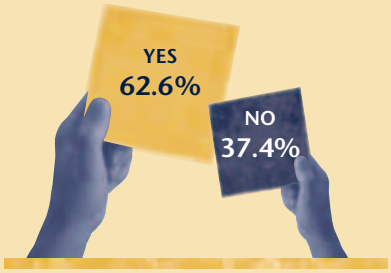
Governance. Groups working on governance aim for "more democratic systems of global governance, especially economic governance," according to a Belgian organization. Such groups promote a stronger voice for developing countries in the international financial institutions (World Bank, IMF). They support equal partnership between the North and South in poverty reduction strategies and actions. Some would like to see a stronger role for the UN to better link economics and human rights.

Trade. Civil society organizations working on trade issues promote fair trade so that trade better benefits poor countries. Much of this work is aimed at developed country governments and their existing trade agreements and practices. Some groups promote policy changes by Northern governments to facilitate market access for goods from those developing countries that respect human and labour rights.

Some groups promote change in trade agreements such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas and the General Agreement on Trade in Services. One Norwegian respondent works against the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement. Others target the World Trade Organization (WTO) to promote safeguards for agricultural products from poor countries.

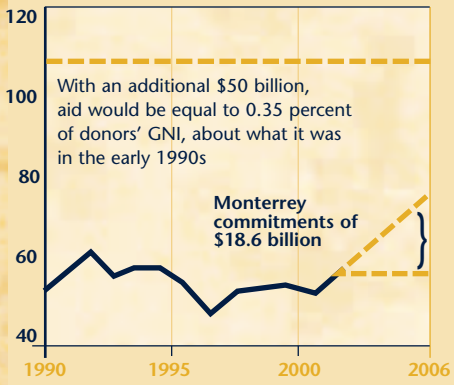
Development assistance and financing. Many responding organizations demand wealthy countries meet the long-agreed Official Development Assistance (ODA) minimum target of 0.7% of GDP. Many advocate untied aid to support the Millennium Development Goals. Some respondents call for a "new architecture for global finance," including global taxation initiatives (see http://www.wider.unu.edu for background) to help finance the eight development goals. In India, one group promotes financing changes to support small, decentralized projects that invest in community "start-ups," technology, and marketing for mini-enterprises.

Debt. A few groups lobby developed country governments and international financial institutions (IFIs) to cancel the debts of developing countries (especially the poorest nations). One international NGO advocates debt cancellation for all those countries identified as the poorest and for those countries with unsustainable debts.



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/ or advocating about MDG 8?

Net official development assistance ($ billions)



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org/partnership.htm

An Indian organization notes: "As developing countries become further integrated in the world economy, their chances for development become increasingly dependent on global economic structures and policies. This applies particularly to countries that depend on multilateral institutions and developed countries for loans and debt relief and therefore have to abide by certain 'conditionalities'... Hence, what is of relevance here is the 'external economic environment' which comprises the WTO, the International Monetary Fund, UNDP, UNCTAD, the World Bank and developed country groups."

The goal: Achieving a global partnership

Obstacles: In wealthy countries, low public awareness about development and about the development goals is a handicap to meeting targets and building a global partnership. Survey respondents fear this lack of awareness will enable governments and leaders to ignore the commitments made in 2000. It is important, they say, for Northern societies to realize that development in the South is in their own self-interest. An organization in China notes, "The developed countries should realize that development is inter-related and that helping developing countries is helping themselves…The developing countries should be better prepared for cooperation."

There is a need for political commitment. However, commitment to development is lacking in wealthy countries. Yet, developed countries hold much of the power to determine amounts of aid, trade regulations, and debt relief. Despite commitments made in international agreements, these countries have not yet built "transparent and accountable partnerships for development," according to one international NGO.

Respondents are also concerned that Northern countries are turning to armed security and military spending at the expense of development.

Recommendation: There should be more development education in the North and more citizen participation in the development goals and the efforts to achieve them. Governments and leaders should be more accountable to parliaments and citizens to increase funding and make progress on the MDGs.

Survey participants propose significant increases to ODA, additional funding beyond ODA specifically for the eight development goals, a binding donors treaty to legally guarantee funding commitments, a currency transfer tax to help finance development, and changes to trade rules and subsidies to support developing economies.

Obstacle: The survey identifies the powerful "exclusive clubs" of the wealthy countries as a roadblock to achieving global partnership progress. One respondent says institutions like the G-8, IMF, OECD, and the WTO, "make decisions that affect the lives of the poorest with little room for input from those affected by these decisions."

Recommendation: Respondents emphasize the need for increased cooperation among states, a stronger UN for making decisions on trade, finance and debt, more voting power for the South in multilateral institutions, and increased transparency and improved governance of international economic, financial, and trade institutions.

GOAL 1.
Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Is your organization contributing to/promoting/ or advocating about MDG 1?

Target: By 2015, halve the proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day.
Target: By 2015, halve the population suffering from hunger.

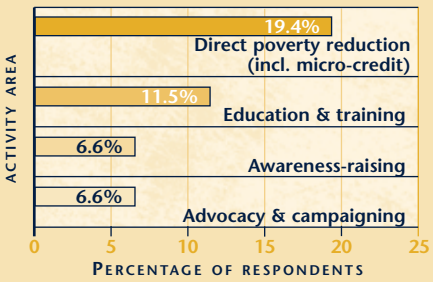
A handful of groups are active internationally. To help achieve poverty reduction, these groups advocate changes to the international financial institutions (the World Bank and IMF) and they promote changes at other international organizations. They also work to address the underlying causes of worldwide poverty. For example, one organization in the United States is concerned about declining coffee prices and the subsequent impoverishing impact on farmers in countries where coffee is a primary source of income. "We have already helped thousands of farm workers and their families," this NGO writes, "by certifying farms and bringing farms up to standards that provide education, housing, and decent wages." This NGO's international work also includes environment sustainability.

A Peruvian NGO states that they address, "development of regional markets, integrating urban systems, and improving relations between regional markets and international markets" as a means to addressing poverty.

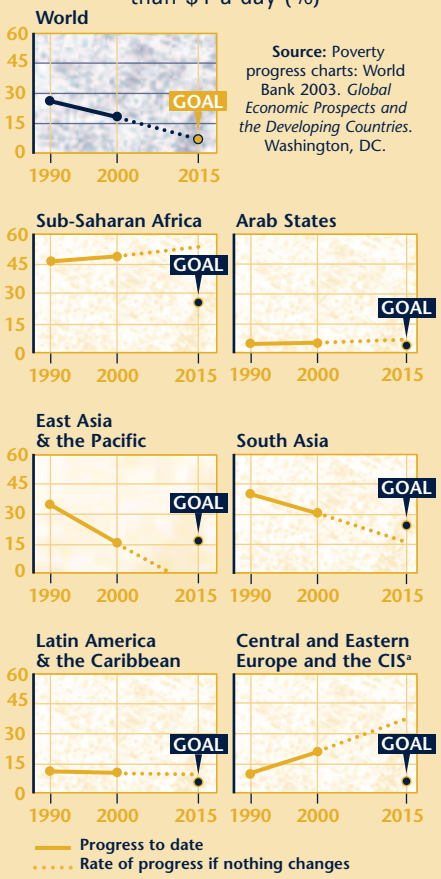
However, most responding groups work at national or local levels. Groups working to reduce poverty by country and by community try to improve household income and increase access to resources. Their focus is employment opportunities and rural development. Micro-credit income-generation activities are popular among respondents. These activities often create employment, encourage savings, and help strengthen communities. Groups active at the local level recognize that increased income improves nutrition. For example, one Afghani organization is helping farmers "collect the fruits of distributed seedlings for income generation and for better nutrition." An improved water-supply system also boosts nutrition.

Other local activities to help reduce poverty include education, training and capacity-building. Special efforts are made to involve women, Indigenous Peoples, and youth in an effort to strengthen employability for these disadvantaged sectors of societies. A Nicaraguan organization says it provides "education for the young population on their rights and potential

CSO MDG 1 Activities

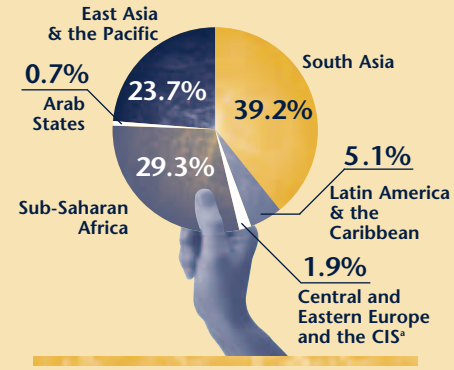


Poverty:
Proportion of people living on less than $1 a day (%)



Source: Poverty progress charts: World Bank 2003. *Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries.* Washington, DC.

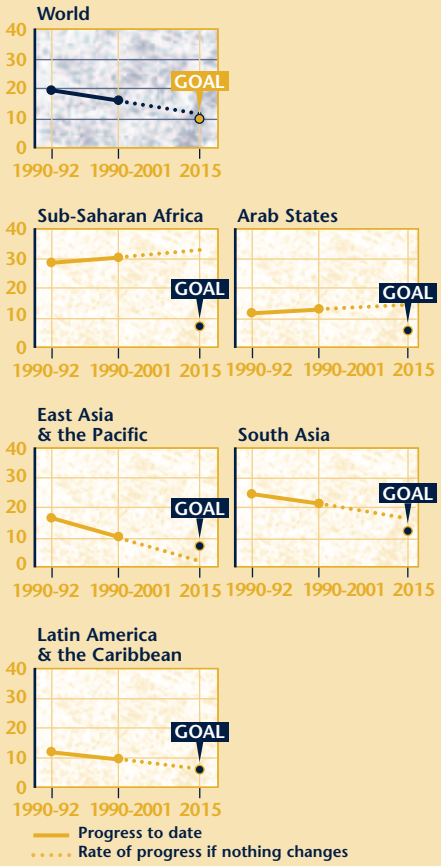
Regional distribution of population living on less than $1 a day, 2000 (% of total)



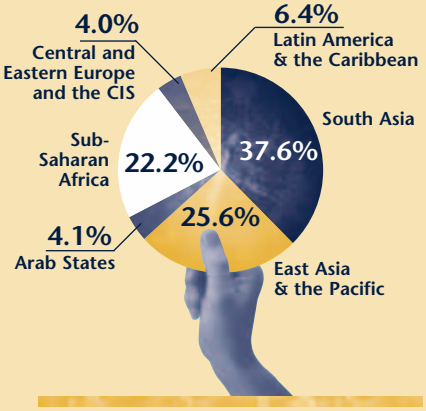
GLOBAL TOTAL: 1,100 MILLION IN 2000

[a] Refers to population living on less than $2 a day.

Hunger:
Undernourished people
(as % of total population)



Regional distribution of population undernourished, 1998–2000
(% of total)



GLOBAL TOTAL: 831 MILLION IN 2000

Source: Hunger progress charts: World Bank 2004. *World Development Indicators 2004*. CD-ROM. Washington, DC. FAO 2003. *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2003*. Rome.

to improve their living conditions" as well as "education and information to the population on nutrition and food security." Small-scale agriculture training also aims to increase family and community nutrition.

Some CSOs work to raise public awareness to increase support for poverty reduction. Some also inform people of their rights, including the right to food and water. A very small number of groups advocate national/local policy changes favourable to poverty reduction and increased civil society involvement in poverty reduction strategies.

The goal: Eradicating poverty and hunger

One NGO from Cameroon states, "Resources don't get to the real target, people at the grassroot level."

Obstacle: The most commonly cited obstacle to the achievement of Goal 1 is "insufficient resources." Respondents recognize that this includes lack of money, insufficient political will, lack of commitment, and inadequate policy.

Recommendation: Better national policy. Policy and resources are needed to support social development. Survey respondents believe present economic development policy is not benefiting the poorest populations, and that investments in social support systems would increase people's quality of life. One Indian respondent calls for "changing priorities and investments to enable the poor to set up their own livelihoods. Education, vocational training, infrastructure, and health care systems are essential."

Obstacle: Various forms of inequality, including inequality based on gender, greatly hinder poverty reduction.

Recommendation: Policies and programs to eradicate poverty and hunger should calculate and address the needs of the disadvantaged and marginalized. Inequalities based on caste, gender, class, ethnicity, and other social factors must be addressed in achieving this goal. In particular, women's empowerment is a priority; women make up the poorest group within populations around the world.

Obstacle: Survey respondents note that poor national economic performance undermines poverty reduction locally. Of particular concern are insufficient employment opportunities, unequal distribution of national income, and lack of initiative in the private sector.

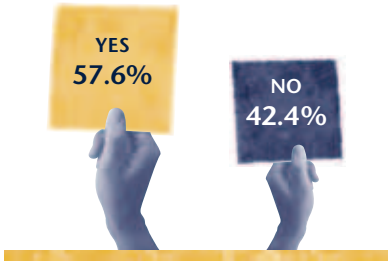
Recommendation: Young people in particular need employment opportunities with adequate wages and fair working conditions. This may require government-private sector cooperation to enforce labour standards. The population of those aged 15 to 24 is rising rapidly in most parts of the world.

Security issues, including situations of war, occupation, terrorism, and political instability are cited as obstacles to poverty reduction from respondents in several countries facing these scenarios.

Obstacle: Many respondents criticize government planning and decision-making that does not include civil society organizations and citizens.

Recommendation: Respondents call for increased opportunities for public participation in planning and implementing poverty reduction programs. There is a special need to include those who are most affected, often women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and the elderly. Surveyed groups argue in favour of hearing the needs of affected people for the most effective solutions to poverty. Such participation requires investment in training and education so citizens are able to participate. A Chilean organization notes the need to "implement productive programs that give tools to the most needy so that they can become aware of their own reality and create and take actions toward their social improvement."

GOAL 2.
Achieve universal primary education



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/ or advocating about MDG 2?

Target: By 2015, ensure that all boys and girls complete primary school.

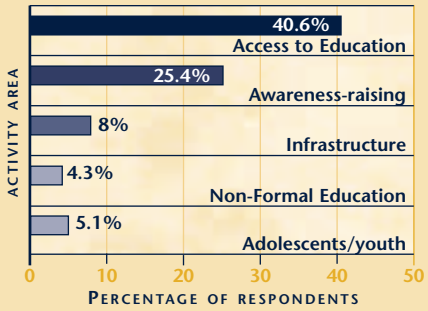
Survey respondents are convinced universal primary education is necessary to achieve other development goals, including poverty reduction and gender equality. Many groups work to improve access to education and to encourage enrolment and infrastructure development.

Activists for access to education run local school programs, discourage dropouts, and encourage enrolment by poor, disabled, and rural children. They help sensitize parents about the value of education for girls. They help address parents' financial needs and tackle cultural norms that hamper school attendance by girls.

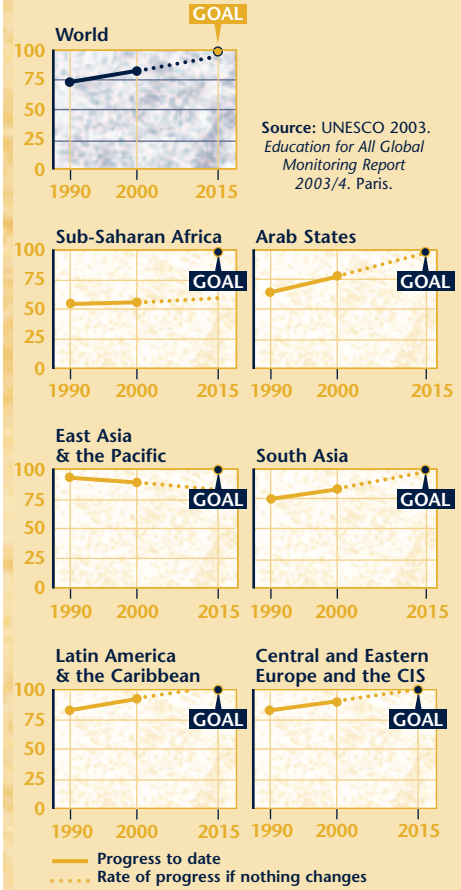
> *"Achieving primary education is already a reality in Tunisia. Our action consists of fighting early school leaving, especially for girls."*
> – Tunisian organization

Some organizations work to increase public and decision-maker knowledge and awareness of enrolment issues and the value of education. Others promote building schools, rehabilitating abandoned or conflict-destroyed schools, improving teaching resources and teacher training. Some groups provide non-formal education to adults and youth (including literacy skills, life and job skills, and information communications technology training).

CSO MDG 2 Activities

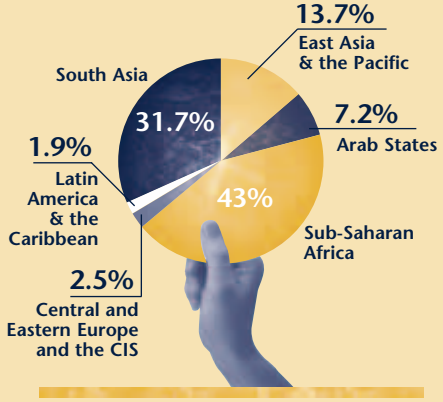


Primary education:
Net primary enrolment ratio (%)



Source: UNESCO 2003. *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2003/4*. Paris.

Regional distribution of primary age children not in school, 2000 (% of total)



GLOBAL TOTAL: 104 MILLION IN 2000

"Basic education should be made compulsory and free, and made a fundamental right. Sufficient resources should also be allotted [to allow it to function]."

– NGO respondent from India

The goal: Universal primary education

Obstacles: Groups active in education say the greatest obstacles are a shortage of schools, lack of material and equipment (including computers and Internet access), lack of quality curricula, a shortage of trained teachers, and the disincentive of low wages.

Recommendation: More resources are needed for the education system in poor and developing countries.

Obstacles: Some social/cultural practices and norms work against school attendance and education, especially for girls. Lack of awareness among adults of the value of education also prevents progress toward this goal.

Recommendation: Greater public awareness of the value and importance of education. Survey respondents highlight the need to build awareness among parents, political and religious leaders, and the larger community. Increased support from parents and the community can lead to higher school enrolment and political support for bigger education budgets.

> *"The government needs to make [education] a top priority and start a huge media campaign to get parents on board…The government needs to stop gender-segregation at primary level education. It is devastating for children to be segregated at such an early stage. It is an absurd thing to make separate primary schools for boys and girls in a country where the government cannot even provide enough schools. Unless the government tackles this head-on this goal will never be achieved in Pakistan…Unless there is a rights-based approach to education at all levels, especially at primary level, this goal will not be achieved."*
>
> – Pakistani civil society group

Obstacle: Commercialization of education has a negative impact on the poor. User fees can be a prohibitive barrier to education of children from poor families.

Recommendation: Some respondents emphasize the need for free primary education, without user fees (at least until secondary school). Where necessary, national education policy changes should address this need.

GOAL 3.
Promote gender equality and empower women

Is your organization contributing to/promoting/or advocating about MDG 3?

Target: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005 and at all levels by 2015.

- **Indicator** Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary, and tertiary education
- **Indicator** Ratio of literate females to males, 15-24 years old
- **Indicator** Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector
- **Indicator** Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

Many survey respondents recognize the need for gender equality and women's empowerment in order to achieve any and all eight development goals. They argue for gender analysis as part of the assessment of each goal.

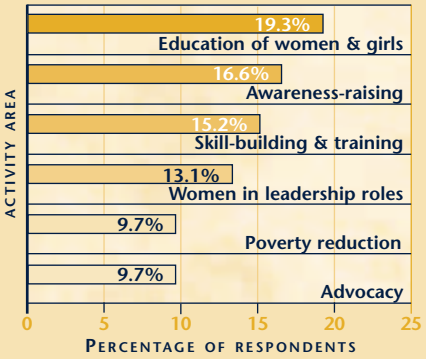
Civil society organizations are working toward this goal in a variety of ways. Some groups promote women's education, working with educational institutions to improve literacy. Improved education empowers women by increasing earning capacity and contributing to better health. Some organizations work specifically with girls.

Other groups work to increase awareness and sensitize the public, decision-makers, the media, institutions, and their partner organizations about gender issues, women's rights, and the positive impact of women's participation in society. They also address discriminatory and harmful practices and behaviour.

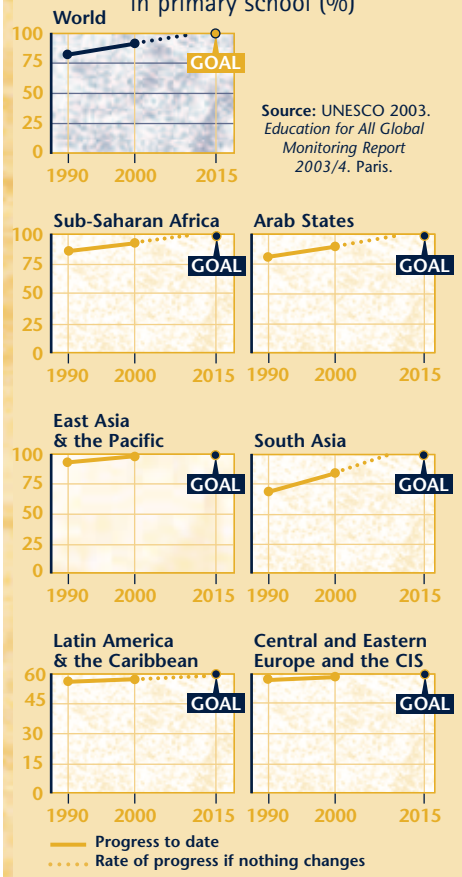
Respondents include those involved in capacity-building and skills training in leadership, decision-making, gender-sensitivity, organizational management, and sexual and reproductive health. Some organizations lobby decision-makers for resources and for changes in legislation and policy. They promote gender mainstreaming in policy-making and gender-sensitive budgeting.

Many CSOs stress the importance of sexual/reproductive health rights as a means to achieve empowerment, education, and better health, and as fundamental rights. Some respondents also uphold the UN framework as a reference for national policy and programs and as a standard to assess progress. This framework includes the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/cedaw.htm), the Beijing Platform for Action (http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/e5dplw.htm), and the Cairo Program of Action (http://www.iisd.ca/Cairo/program/p00000.html)

CSO MDG 3 Activities

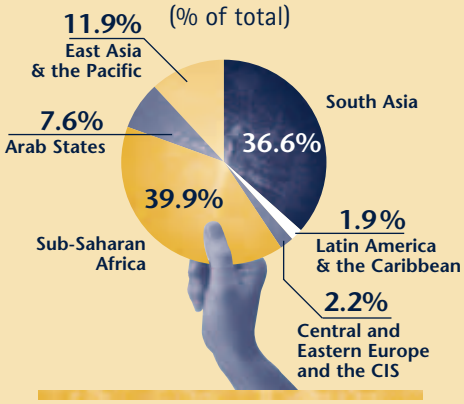


Gender equality:
Ratio of girls to boys in primary school (%)



Source: UNESCO 2003. *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2003/4*. Paris.

Regional distribution of primary age girls not in school, 2000
(% of total)



GLOBAL TOTAL: 59 MILLION IN 2000

"The chief obstacles [to achieving MDG 3] have to do with culture – traditional norms for women's roles and power relationships take time to change. Gender equality is a transformative process which will take time..."

– An American NGO

"Some Cambodians do not allow their children, especially girls, to continue their studies due to poverty. Girls have the task of helping their parents earn money to uplift the living standard of their families while boys pursue their studies far from home."

– NGO respondent from Cambodia

The goal: Gender equality and women's empowerment

Obstacles: Many respondents point to cultural and religious beliefs and practices as well as women's and girls' traditional roles as obstacles to progress. Others mention "attitudes" and "mindsets" about women and girls, the lack of public awareness about the value of women, and patriarchal systems.

Recommendation: Awareness-building and public education about gender rights require more resources. Observance of religion(s) should be separate from state policy and decision-making, especially decisions affecting the rights and empowerment of women.

Obstacle: Bad government including instability, corruption, lack of political will, and unsound policy negatively impact efforts to achieve this goal. Some organizations draw attention to the low participation of women in governance as a major obstacle.

Recommendation: Decision-making structures need to be more representative and inclusive of women and women leaders. Decision-making decentralization will enable women in local communities to participate in the discussions and changes that affect them most.

Obstacle: Lack of opportunities in education and training for women severely limits their earning power and their access to information, health care, and further education.

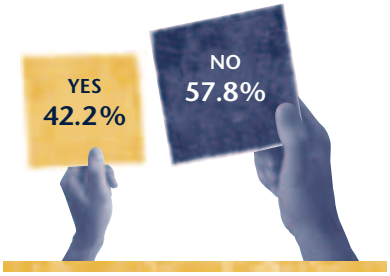
Recommendation: Policy and increased resources should support education and training for women and girls. There is need for more investment in formal and informal capacity-building, training, and support for income-generating activities such as micro-credit programs. Many groups suggest incentives for parents to send both male and female children to school. Traditional attitudes and beliefs about women need to be addressed.

Obstacle: A small group of respondents draws attention to the different impact of poverty on men and women. They see continuing gender inequality as a result of inadequate attention to this difference.

Recommendation: More resources for the empowerment of women and for social development. Budgets should be gender-sensitive. Gender should be mainstreamed in policy development.

"The state must have the courage to change the laws and policies that discriminate against women due to gender. The state must not use religion to justify discrimination against women and must not allow any individual or group to do the same. NGOs can work to help and are working to help but if the government machinery is not with them, they will not succeed."
– Pakistani organization

GOAL 4.
Reduce child mortality



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/or advocating about MDG 4?

Target: Reduce by two-thirds the mortality rate among children under five.

For this goal, most groups are active in the health sector. Half of these groups work in postnatal health care, the other half work with adults to reduce child mortality.

Those working in postnatal care monitor infant health and promote infant and child nutrition, regular postnatal vaccinations, and disease prevention. For example, a Nigerian group is working to "reduce the number of children that die in rural areas through common ailments like malaria and diarrhea."

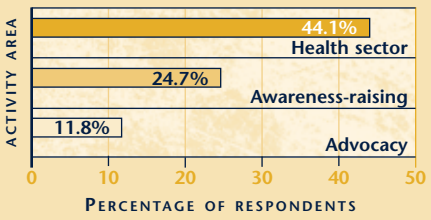
Working with adults includes the sexual and reproductive health and rights of potential mothers, counseling, childbearing/childcare information about breast-feeding, pre- and postnatal vaccinations, and disease prevention. Some groups provide general, primary, and preventative health care through medical clinics, health centres, and free health camps. One Ghanaian organization is "working with traditional birth attendants… to update [their] knowledge and skills…to reduce infant mortality."

A Colombian organization is working toward "Improvements in the health of children extricated from child labour."

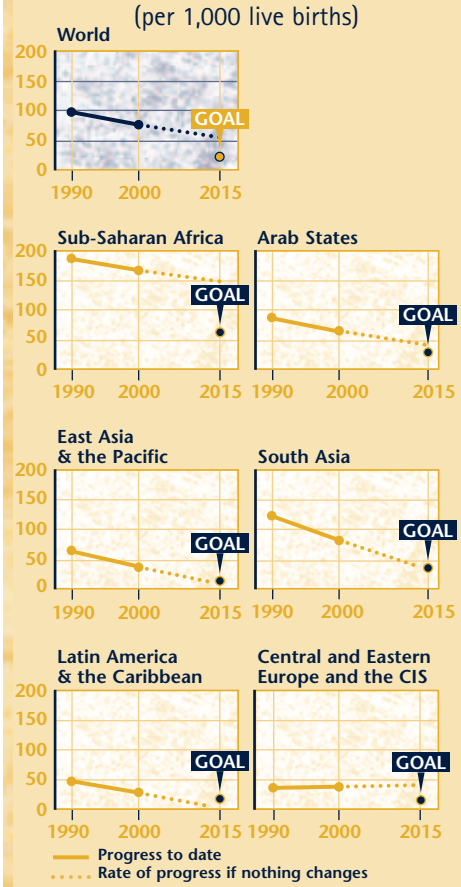
Many groups raise awareness, publish, and take up media campaigns, education, counseling, and capacity-building. They target the general public and parents. For parents, they address both pre- and postnatal stages to increase the chances of child survival. Child mortality awareness in the larger community can influence decision-makers to make policy changes in key areas.

Some organizations advocate policy change. They strive for equitable health systems, better maternal and child health policy, more resources, and implementation of international law. One international organization desires to "shift World Bank economic analysis of health, which has failed children, the poor, the disabled, and the elderly, and promote a rights-based, pro-poor social model of health." Many groups support ratification of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

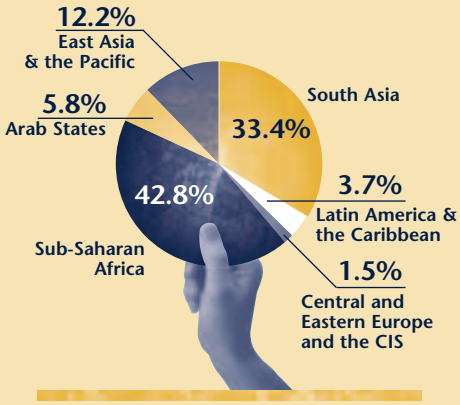
CSO MDG 4 Activities



Child mortality:
Under-five mortality rate
(per 1,000 live births)



Regional distribution of children dying each year under age five, 2002 (% of total)



GLOBAL TOTAL: 11 MILLION IN 2002

Sources: UN 2003. *World Population Prospects 1950-2050: The 2002 Revision.* Database. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. New York. World Bank 2004. *World Development Indicators 2004.* CD-ROM. Washington, DC.

The goal: Reducing child mortality

Obstacles: The vast majority of respondents point to the underlying problems of resources and funds, lack of political will, and poverty as obstacles to health care and adequate nutrition. Insufficient resources and political will mean health facilities, services, and trained professionals are not adequate to meet the needs of parents and young children.

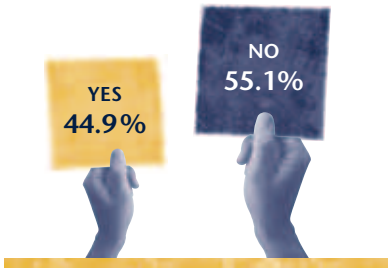
Recommendation: More investment in the health sector. More resources for maternal care and for child survival. Respondents also stress the need for health care facilities with adequate supplies, lower costs (some suggest "free" health care as a priority), and greater access to necessary drugs. There is a recognized need for more medical staff, and more training for existing staff.

Obstacle: Children die from preventable causes because of poor education, low awareness of child mortality risks, and some cultural/religious beliefs/practices which inhibit education and awareness.

Recommendation: Resources are needed for parent and public education and awareness. Survey respondents want parents to know the options that are available to them to better care for their children. The media and modern communication tools and techniques can reach larger numbers of people.

An Indian NGO requests that "local hospitals and nursing homes be given grants by the national governments to engage non-profit [organizations] to carry out intensive care for the newborn, including activities with the patient's families."

GOAL 5.
Improve maternal health



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/or advocating about MDG 5?

Target: Reduce by three-quarters the ratio of women dying in childbirth.

Most CSOs active in maternal health are involved in raising general awareness and educating women and mothers (including adolescents and young mothers) about their health and the health of their child.

Some groups offer reproductive health services to women, including attending at childbirth, providing contraception, family planning counseling, and promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.

A group from Nigeria notes, "Maternal mortality indicators are higher for adolescents than older women, [however] the national adolescent health policy is weak in addressing the factors that contribute to it. Funding of the adolescent health policy is central."

Some groups work to improve health care infrastructure and train health care staff. A small number advocate policy and system change to adequately address maternal health (including ratification of the ILO Convention on Maternity Benefits). (http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/convde.pl?C183). A few groups work with pregnant women living with HIV/AIDS to help reduce transmission and prevent maternal mortality.

The goal: Improving maternal health

Obstacle: Many respondents find fault with the health care system and attribute the continuing existence of maternal mortality to inadequate health policy.

Recommendation: Survey respondents would like to see systematic or structural reform in national health care systems and better national policy to increase access for users, especially women and adolescents. Several mention making health care free, particularly maternal health care. Others desire policy changes. These changes would include: integration of the Program of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development into national policy; removing links between women's health policy and religious views/institutions; changing intellectual property rights to better meet the needs of the poor; and integrating HIV/AIDS awareness into sexual and reproductive health programs.

Obstacle: A shortage of facilities, skilled personnel, adequately trained personnel, and equipment. It is felt that insufficient resources are allocated to health infrastructure in general, and sexual and reproductive health/maternal health in particular.

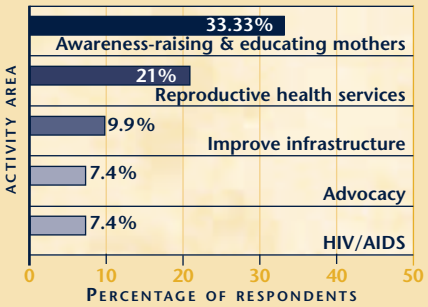
Recommendation: Strengthen health infrastructure to better address the needs of women, including more and better health care facilities with updated equipment, more and better trained health care personnel with higher pay, and more support for stronger planning and management.

Obstacles: Respondents believe that general lack of knowledge about maternal health, lack of education, and limited access to information about health are the key problems. Certain beliefs and practices, sometimes emerging from cultural and religious traditions, perpetuate this lack of awareness and create barriers to the empowerment of women.

Recommendation: More resources for public education and awareness-raising campaigns about maternal health, and sexual and reproductive health in order to make information available and to challenge pervasive ignorance about these issues.

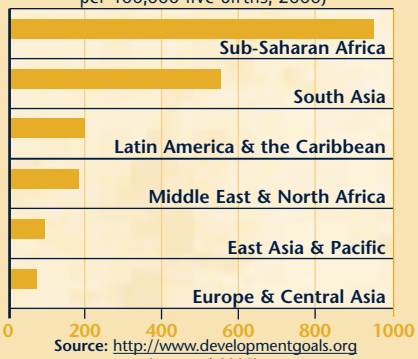
A civil society organization from the Philippines identifies the chief obstacle to achieving Goal 5 as "the government's failure to adopt a comprehensive family planning and reproductive health program, based on an appalling subservience to the dictates of the local Catholic Church."

CSO MDG 5 Activities



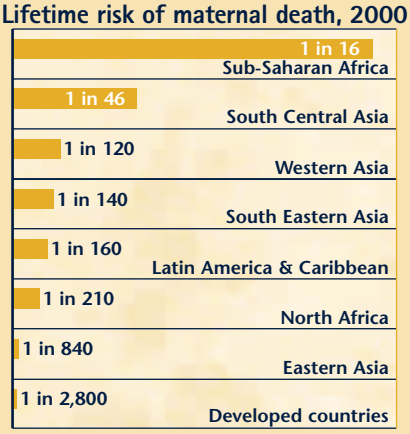
Maternal mortality ratio

Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births, 2000)



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org (accessed 2005)

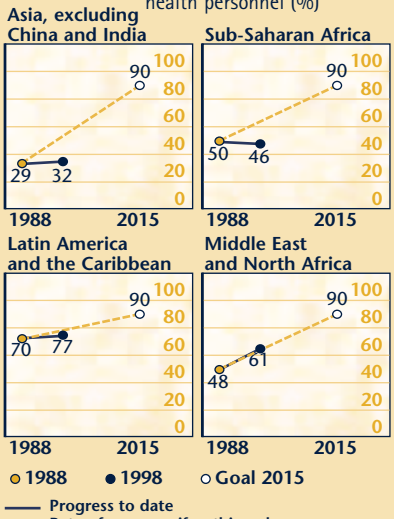
Lifetime risk of maternal death, 2000



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org/Maternal_Health.htm#chart (2005)

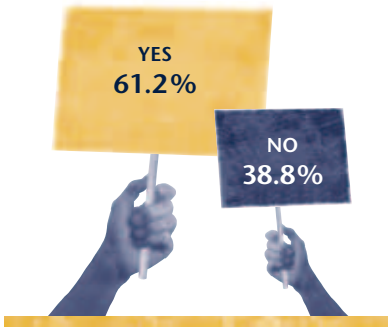
Lack of skilled care at birth

Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)



Source: http://www.paris21.org/betterworld/maternal.htm (accessed 2005)

GOAL 6.
Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/or advocating about MDG 6?

Target: By 2015, halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

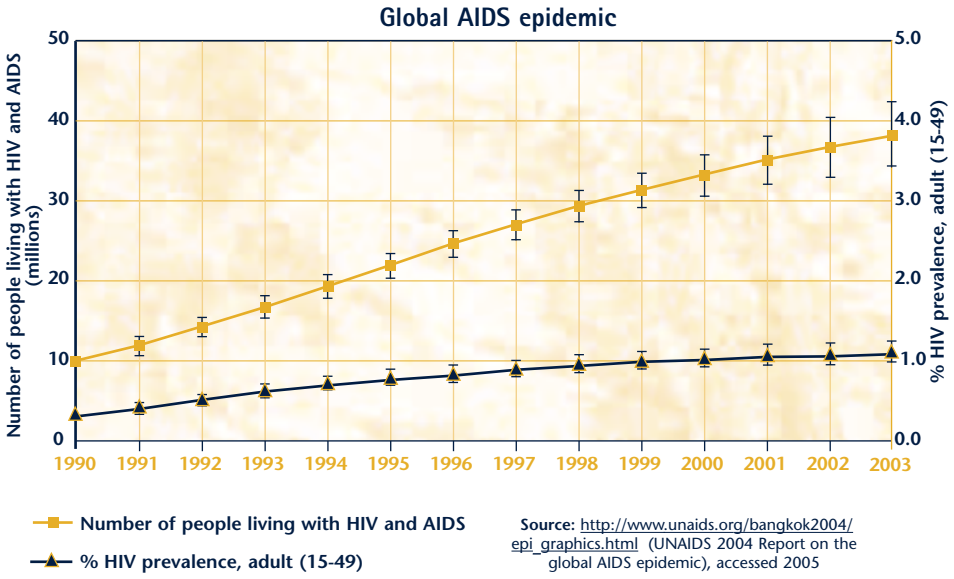
To achieve Goal 6 will require a wide range of initiatives. The activities of civil society organizations reflect this.

Many groups describe their work as promoting awareness of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. They address the general public, youth, women and mothers, and the international community.

- *Public awareness* focuses on generating media coverage, and making information available through publications, seminars, and workshops. Many survey respondents report that their governments still do not admit HIV/AIDS is a major issue and many citizens, although aware, are not really thinking about it because they do not know just how many people are affected.
- Those who target *youth* use similar means, but with the understanding that those at risk should be educated about HIV/AIDS and other diseases from an early age in order to maximize the efficacy of prevention efforts.
- *Attention to women, and mothers* in particular, emphasizes the gendered nature of the issue. The aim is to increase realization that women, especially young women, are particularly vulnerable to becoming infected and at risk of mother-child transmission.
- *International awareness* efforts try to capture the attention of donor nations about the problem in heavily affected and potentially high-risk regions in order to encourage more resources for research, prevention, and treatment, and the recognition of HIV/AIDS as a global problem.

Some organizations work for prevention by providing information about transmission and prevention methods. They promote healthy lifestyles. Groups stress that although many may be aware of HIV/AIDS, prevention education is necessary to increase people's understanding of their own risk and methods of prevention. For example, a respondent from a Canadian university notes that "more education about prevention of HIV/AIDS from kindergarten to end of life [is needed]. Drugs help but they are not magic bullets and prevention/education is more important than drugs and condoms."

Civil society groups are also involved in the treatment of those infected or affected, aiming to improve their capacity to continue with their lives. They work to improve overall health services, create more facilities and



Source: http://www.unaids.org/bangkok2004/epi_graphics.html (UNAIDS 2004 Report on the global AIDS epidemic), accessed 2005

improve staffing, as well as ensure drug availability. Some groups provide affected people with social support. This includes counseling and other services. A handful of civil society groups specifically mention their support for youth and AIDS orphans.

Other civil society organizations undertake political advocacy and network to create a "united front" against HIV/AIDS and other diseases. They propose policy initiatives and lobby governments.

The goal: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

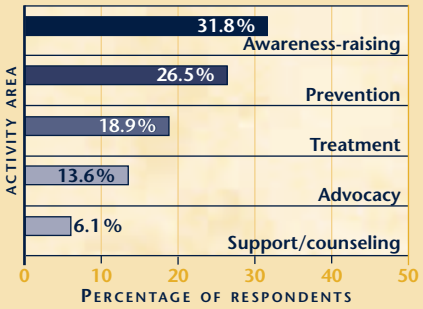
Obstacle: The general public is not aware of the gravity of the HIV/AIDS situation. The public is also not adequately aware of prevention methods. This ignorance is perpetuated by beliefs and practices based in culture and religion and by traditional attitudes toward women. Stigmatization accompanying the disease results from lack of knowledge and discourages engagement to battle the disease while cultivating a non-supportive environment for the affected.

Recommendation: Resources for public awareness campaigns about HIV/AIDS in order to discard stigma, nurture frank and open discussion about the practices that increase risk and vulnerability, and empower people to make informed decisions.

An Irish organization states: "[There is a] failure on the part of political and social groups to face the reality of HIV status. Taboos around the issues remain strong, as does complacency."

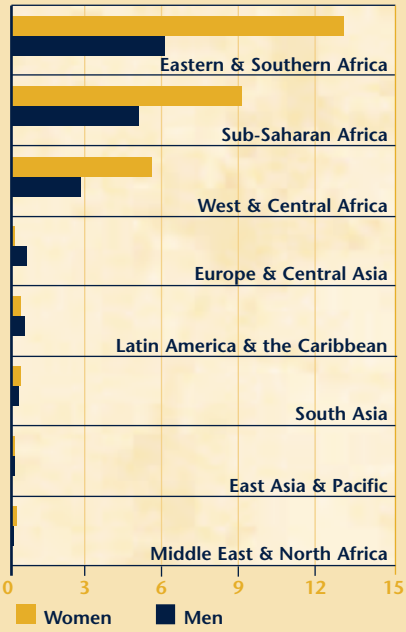
Obstacles: According to our survey, poor health policy and poor health infrastructure (facilities, health professionals, available drugs) are major obstacles in halting and reversing the spread of these diseases. Underfunding and undercommitment are the root causes of this situation.

CSO MDG 6 Activities



Youth living with HIV/AIDS

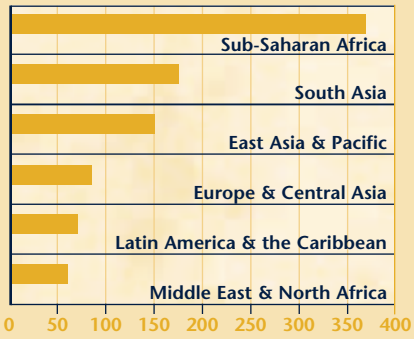
(%, ages 15-24, end 2001)



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org/Hiv_Aids.htm

Incidence of tuberculosis

(per 100,000 people), 2002



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org/Hiv_Aids.htm

Recommendation: Make drugs available to those who presently cannot access them due to high costs in order to better fight HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. In highly affected areas, government policy should enable generic drugs to be produced, with negotiated cooperation from pharmaceutical companies.

Recommendation: More investment in community-based health care. This requires increased national resource allocation for community health and increased resource commitments from donors and international funders. Local community groups should receive more support to strike a balance between them and larger national and international NGOs that traditionally receive the most funds.

Recommendation: Governments must invest in local rural and urban infrastructure to reduce the risks of malaria and tuberculosis. Sewage systems, waste management, and water pollution need attention.

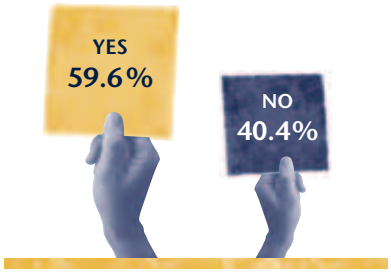
Recommendation: Include sexual/reproductive health rights and more attention to HIV/AIDS in policy and programs to maximize efficacy of prevention and care.

Obstacle: Those who are most vulnerable and affected by HIV/AIDS, especially youth, are not consulted when creating policy and programs.

Recommendation: Educate young people at an early age about risk. Employ peer education where formal counseling is not available. Involve young people, including young women, in policy development and in solutions.

Recommendation: Develop policy to meet the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Policy should include a range of measures to improve treatment, care, education and training, employment opportunities, and quality of life dimensions of people living with HIV/AIDS.

GOAL 7.
Ensure environmental sustainability



Is your organization contributing to/promoting/or advocating about MDG 7?

Target: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target: By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people now living without sustainable access to safe drinking water (and sanitation).

Target: By 2020, achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

Civil society organizations focus their sustainable environment work on raising awareness, natural resource conservation/ management, and advocacy.

About one-third of survey respondents are involved in awareness-raising and education. They promote sustainable practices. There is a noteworthy focus on youth, including university students in hands-on environment work. For example, one Venezuelan organization engages university students who "teach principles of sustainable development and environmental protection to the poorest communities, as part of their social service." Other groups work with slum dwellers, children, and rural populations. There is a clear emphasis on village and grassroots action.

Some organizations carry out water and sanitation projects. One environment group says its "major focus [is] on equitable access to fresh water as a vital key and precondition to the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals." A policy research institute, working through the Commission on Sustainable Development, has a program "to ensure the sustainable availability, distribution, and use of water resources."

Others provide water and improved sanitation by collecting rain and eliminating contamination to benefit target populations in specific regions. Safe water projects include pollution control of Africa's Lake Victoria basin. One group in Peru devotes its energies to "restoring environmental sustainability by eliminating chemical contamination in four lakes serving 36 Indigenous communities in the Peruvian Andes."

Other groups work to reverse forest loss. In India, one NGO has set up 29 village forest protection committees as well as a federation for "conservation and livelihoods" all over the state of Andhra Pradesh. In western Kenya, groups work to save the environment of the Gwasi Hills.

"We are helping conserve millions of acres of farm and forest land and to protect water, soil and wildlife. We expect to continue these efforts, magnify them, and also improve their effectiveness."
– International environmental group

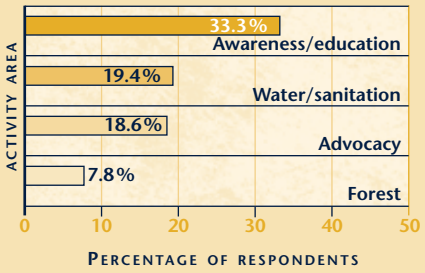
Promoting and protecting the right to water, and advocacy against privatization of water and water systems, are priorities for a number of organizations.

Advocacy for other kinds of policy change is the focus for other organizations. Policy-related work includes ensuring compliance with international law, observance of voluntary codes of conduct, and implementing environmental law. Other groups help create new environmental laws, or help modify existing ones. Some groups fight against privatization of natural resources.

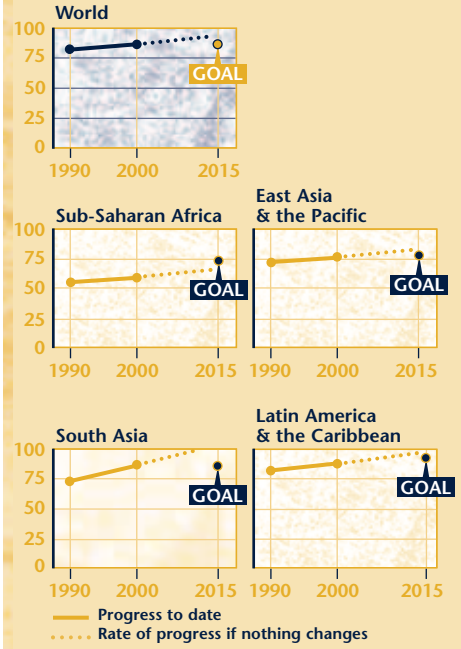
The goal: Ensuring environmental sustainability

Obstacle: Poverty prevents sound environmental stewardship. Many survey respondents draw attention to the fundamental relationship between the environment and poverty. One Indian organization notes that "poverty impels people to destroy the balance" because of their reliance on natural resources.

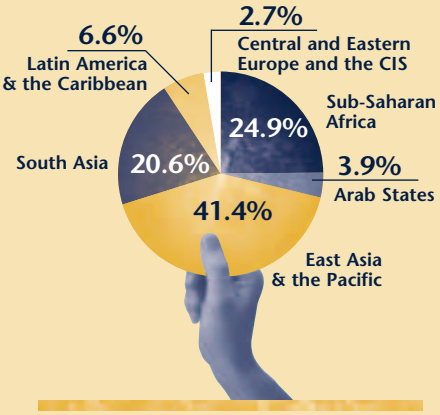
CSO MDG 7 Activities



Access to water:
People with access to an improved water source (%)



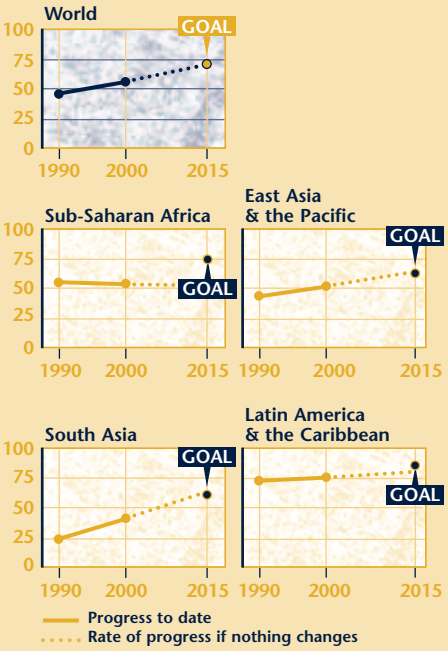
Regional distribution of people without access to improved water source, 2000
(% of total)



GLOBAL TOTAL: 1,197 MILLION IN 2000

Source: World Bank 2004. *World Development Indicators 2004.* "Access to water/sanitation." CD-ROM. Washington, DC.

Access to sanitation:
People with access to improved sanitation (%)



Regional distribution of people without access to adequate sanitation, 2000 (% of total)

GLOBAL TOTAL: 2,742 MILLION IN 2000

Source: World Bank 2004. *World Development Indicators 2004*. "Access to water/sanitation." CD-ROM. Washington, DC.

Recommendation: Ending poverty will strengthen environmental sustainability in many places.

Obstacle: The privatization of some resources like water can negatively affect access to and use of resources, especially by the poor.

Recommendations: Some CSOs call for a rights-based approach to the environment and demand policies that define access to resources and improvement of sanitation and living conditions as basic human rights. Some are especially concerned about slum dwellers. Many respondents are concerned that privatization of resources will undermine this human rights approach.

An Indian NGO urges that governments change their attitudes which consider "slum dwellers as a burden on the society. These people provide basic services to the society and contribute immensely to overall development."

Obstacle: A lack of adequate and updated environment policy. Governments lack the will, incentives, and financial resources to enforce existing policy. Lack of leadership and commitment to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change is one example. The US refusal to support Kyoto is seen as an obstacle by some American and other groups.

Recommendation: Stronger government commitment to better environmental legislation and more capacity to enforce regulations. Ensure local decision-making about resources and the environment. One NGO suggests "recreating mechanisms of local governance and creating a sense of local ownership of natural resources, providing a basic knowledge base and facilitating access to finance for communities to build up their assets." There is a need for government partnerships with civil society and local organizations such as farmers' associations and village committees.

Obstacles: Diverse approaches. Survey respondents find that there is a "lack of support for integrated approaches that incorporate the principles of sustainability (economic, environmental, and social)." One US-based group criticizes "the lack of a civil entity to establish and maintain a network among all countries of the world to work toward the realization of this goal in a concerted manner," while reporting the group is trying to create such a network.

Recommendation: More public education about the environment and ecology. More outreach to parliamentarians and decision-makers to promote a holistic approach to environmental problems. Civil society organizations have an important role. According to one respondent, public information could be improved by "equal time on mass media for facts, news, and commentary" sensitive to these issues.

Obstacle: Current international trade and economic practices are major obstacles, according to some respondents. They claim these practices foster environmental destruction by unlimited exploitation of resources. Some respondents believe that the policies of the international financial institutions, especially policy-driven privatization of resources, detach citizens from local resources and lead to environment degradation.

Recommendation: Some organizations would like to see "reform of company law and trade regulations" and "a legally binding regulatory system at the international level." This regulatory system would include constraints in trade agreements and in trade activities to ensure compliance with environmental standards. Regulations would apply to corporations. Survey respondents encourage corporate social responsibility be included in policy discussions and policy development. These changes would require supervision by international bodies, enhanced monitoring with a role for stronger local civil society groups, and transparent accountability and enforcement.

One survey respondent calls for "an *earth first* law, not just a policy, for all business transactions, as well as a *local peoples decide* law. A *destroyers must pay* law would certainly make a difference."

Terms of Engagement

Innovation

Some examples of the innovative ways groups around the world are working toward the goals include:

- In **Tanzania**, the Tanzanian Gender Networking Program (TGNP) and the Feminist Activist Coalition (FemAct) (http://tgnp.org/Ofemactmembers.htm) have launched a "Return Resources to the People" campaign challenging the government to allocate more resources to health, education, and related sectors. Tanzanian CSOs also prepared their own shadow report of the official 2001 MDG progress report.
- Villagers in the Kashkadarya region of southern **Uzbekistan** had no gas supply and were cooking over open fires. The villagers organized themselves to build a 1,600-metre medium-pressure and a 1,280-metre low-pressure gas pipe to service 260 families for heating and cooking. Local women successfully pressured the government to help pay for gas heating of the village school.
- In **Bulgaria**, a local workshop was held in the city of Plovdiv. The workshop included minority groups and designed specific strategies to localize the MDGs.
- In **Vietnam** an initiative was launched to localize the MDGs and a list of VDGs (Vietnam Development Goals) was developed by the Poverty Task Force (government agencies, bilateral and multilateral donors, national and international NGOs), which served as an input to set indicators for the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. Similar projects were carried out in the **Philippines** and **Cambodia**.
- The **Mediterranean** wetland and coastal ecosystems conservation project is a regional initiative involving Albania, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, and Tunisia. The project aims to conserve wetlands while improving NGO capacity to address biodiversity, raise awareness, and network among Mediterranean populations. It promotes local and national coordination on issues of ecology.

"I am now convinced that the MDGs can only be attained through a global compact, anchored in national policies that take into account local circumstances."

- Benjamin William Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, International Herald Tribune, July 13, 2004.

Inclusion

Our survey reminds us of the valuable role of youth. Youth as specifically mentioned in the MDGs are vital to local and national communities. Organizations such as TakingITGlobal (TIG) (http://www.takingitglobal.org/home.html) and the Global Youth Action Network (GYAN) (http://www.youthlink.org) help to create networks among youth to work on development issues. Similarly, the elderly are working to demonstrate the importance of their growing numbers and their value to the development of healthy, intergenerational societies. However, the MDGs do not mention the elderly.

In our survey, 39% of respondents point out the needs of the elderly are inadequately addressed by the MDGs. Organizations such as HelpAge International (http://www.helpage.org) are networking worldwide to highlight and mainstream in international dialogues the issues of aging.

The quantity and diversity of women's organizations and networks working globally on the Millennium Declaration is noteworthy. The Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (http://www.wgnrr.org), the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) (http://www.wedo.org), and the Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development, and Peace (WLP) (http://www.learningpartnership.org/about), are some of the global networks actively seeking to empower women.

Survey respondents also note that the participation of Indigenous Peoples and minority groups is often overlooked. Development programs sometimes do not account for the particular barriers that these groups face, including discrimination, different languages, and some government refusal to acknowledge their existence. Indigenous groups have formed organizations to promote their interests and welfare. These groups include Minority Rights Group International (MRG) (http://www.minorityrights.org) with 130 partners in 60 countries. Similarly, disabled people are often excluded from their societies by social and physical barriers. Organizations that represent people with disabilities, such as Handicap International (http://www.handicap-international.org/english) recognize the need to work with governments to be included in development programs.

From the survey we know many civil society organizations, such as the Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) (http://www.gnpplus.net) are working to ensure that the needs of people living with AIDS are taken into consideration, while others advocate for an intensive international effort to search for a vaccine against HIV.

Trade unions report education and advocacy campaigns including work for better labour standards. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) (http://www.icftu.org) has embraced the MDGs. Along with other labour organizations in the Global Unions coalition (http://www.globalunions.org), it encourages its members to become involved in advocacy campaigns such as The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (http://www.whiteband.org).

From our survey, here are some examples of civil society activities with youth, the elderly, and others:

- A **Kyrgyz** group is organizing a festival and lectures for youth groups. The United Nations Association of **China** is organizing university student Model UN conferences on the MDGs. Similarly, GYAN is collaborating on a Youth and the MDGs report, and the production of an MDG Youth Campaign Kit intended to involve young people in MDG-related projects, campaigns, and advocacy efforts.
- The **Arab** NGO Network for Development (http://www.annd.org/) has set up an online discussion group for young people from Arab countries to exchange ideas and experiences on development and human rights. The **Pacific** Youth Bureau (http://www.spc.org.nc/youth/) will assist in developing regional youth strategies and policies.
- The International **Nepal** Fellowship (http://www.inf.org.np/) provides technical and financial support to self-help groups of disabled people of all ages, while the **Haiti** Society for the Blind has been working for over 50 years to provide practical support for visually impaired people. The Beguborlik centre in **Uzbekistan** is providing vocational training for orphan children and children with disabilities.
- The Muthande Society for the Aged (MUSA) in **South Africa** is working with older people providing meals, home-based care, and transport to health centres while also running a literacy training program.
- **The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** (http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/) has decided to devote its 2005 session to Indigenous Peoples and the MDGs.
- The Mekong Regional Indigenous Child Rights Home (MRICRH) (http://www.depdc.org/halfwayhome/english/about_us_for_whom_work.html) is an NGO based in northern **Thailand** that provides a half-way house and protective services for Indigenous children vulnerable to human trafficking. It works with 14 hill tribes, as well as Indigenous groups from China, Myanmar, Nepal, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Malaysia.
- CHIRAPAQ (The Center for Indigenous People's Culture of Peru) (http://www.madre.org/sister/Peru.html) was formed in **Peru** by a group of Andean and Amazonian women with the goal of defending Indigenous rights and strengthening Indigenous identities in their communities. Social integration of Indigenous Peoples is the focus of the Australian Tangentyere Council, a voluntary organization formed to address the needs of Aboriginal People living in town camps in Central **Australia**. The Council works to improve the living environment, providing social support services such as education and training.
- MDG campaigns in **Chile** and **Argentina** have a strong gender focus with a particular emphasis on sexual and reproductive rights. The Chilean Citizens Campaign is managed by ACTIVA Consultores, a non-profit association of professionals specializing in issues of gender, poverty, and development. In Argentina, 15 women's groups make up the Argentine Network for Monitoring Gender Policy. They are working to hold their government accountable to its MDG commitments.

Similarly, the **Pacific** Women's Bureau (http://www.spc.org.nc/Women) is redefining the Pacific Platform for Action in light of the MDGs, reviewing areas of critical concern by conducting comprehensive gender audits across 13 areas and reviewing policies and legislation for integration of gender issues.

- In 2003, the CPDC/**Trinidad and Tobago** Network (http://www.caribbeanngos.net/member_profile_pages/cs1/default.htm) produced a Women's Campaign Workbook as a training resource to be used to prepare women to participate in local government.

Engaging Government

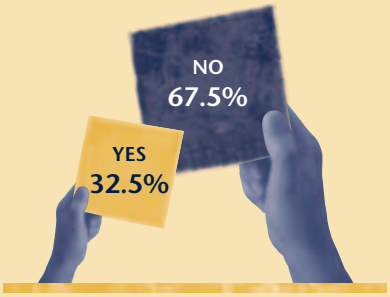
Nearly 55% of survey respondents want to see greater inclusion of civil society in government policy deliberations. A similar 50% would welcome the creation of strategic partnerships with governments for specific goals and for funding civil society initiatives. Many organizations point to the need to involve local community leaders, raise public awareness, and better engage the media. They support greater public transparency and more public participation by officials.

Some respondents want to see greater involvement of NGOs in assessing government activities. More than a third of respondents find formal recognition by their governments to be an important factor in their work.

Many are aware of government initiatives but only a few are asked to participate. For example, only a quarter of responding civil society organizations participated in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers consultations. One organization described the process as "mere consultation for consultation sake; policies and decisions are not affected by these so-called consultations." Many say there are no results or any real impact, as government has already made its decisions and often ignores civil society proposals.

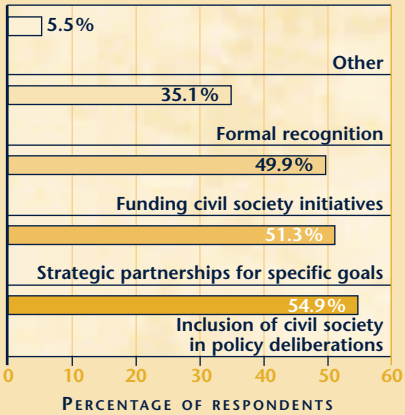
However, from our survey there are encouraging examples and ideas:

- The mayor of Naga City, in the **Philippines**, has improved transparency and accountability by making the city's budget publicly available in the city hall and including a feedback system where complaints about government services can be aired by residents using the mayor's cellular phone. The Naga City People's Council, women, the urban poor and senior citizens are consulted on legislation.
- The **Commonwealth Foundation** (government-funded) (http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com), in partnership with other civil society groups, supported 21 diverse learning projects and case studies for citizens of small and island countries to participate in government. The projects were turned into an interactive Citizens and Governance Toolkit.
- A group from **Cambodia** comments on the best way to engage governments, "Civil society should strengthen networks and lobby governments to fulfill their MDG commitments. Also, civil society should make parallel reports on the progress of MDG achievement to compare with governments' reports."
- In July 2004, the **Moroccan parliament** brought together government, UN, and civil society representatives from French-speaking Arab countries to share information and create a network for planning and action around the MDGs.



Does your organization participate in a public review of national budget priorities and advocacy about them?

In the country where you are working, how could government better support civil society's role in implementing the MDGs?



- In **Italy**, parliamentarians were invited to sign a draft resolution that focuses on the 0.7% GNP aid target. Parliamentarians in **Spain** have expressed interest in a similar resolution on the MDGs.
- In October 2004 in **Fiji**, parliamentarians from Pacific islands convened the First Conference for Pacific Parliamentarians on "The Role of Pacific Parliamentarians in the Fight against HIV/AIDS." They committed themselves to be proactive advocates for HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention and promised to strengthen institutional support for the fight against HIV/AIDS (see the Suva Declaration at http://www.spc.org.nc/AC/artHIVAIDS_ParliamentariansDeclaration.htm).
- The 2002 Youth Summit in **Ukraine** created Ukraine MDGnet. It presented a one-page report on each of the MDGs, outlining specific recommendations to Parliament. An initiative in **Botswana** has linked all legislators online, allowing citizens to follow parliamentary proceedings on the Internet.

Engaging the Private Sector

Almost 52% of survey respondents believe progress on the development goals would be significantly improved through strategic partnerships with the private sector.

As well, 49% want to see mandatory standards of corporate social responsibility. A similar number of respondents call for increased transparency of private sector activities. Others point to the importance of independent monitoring of the private sector, ensuring respect for the domestic legislation in host countries, better access for NGOs to corporate resources and funding, as well as greater corporate adherence to fair and environmentally friendly business practices. Specific suggestions to engage the private sector include:

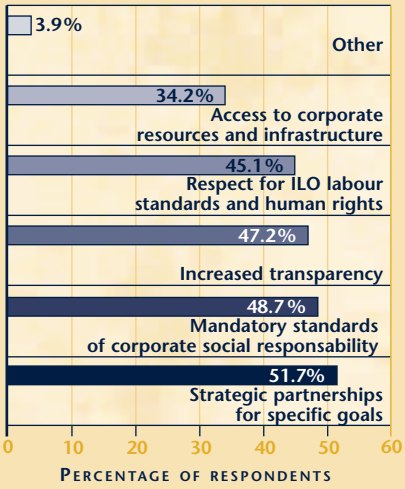
- Support legal frameworks for corporate accountability
- Institute global sanctions and laws for corporations
- Tax benefits for civil society and support for a "good citizen" label program that identifies corporations that comply with the UN global compact

"We believe that the central challenge in meeting the Millennium Development Goals is to foster good governance and economic institutions that are conducive to economic growth, accompanied by a bold program of investments in infrastructure, health, education, public management, and environmental management. These investments directly address the needs of the poor, and build a stronger foundation for economic growth."

"While some tension remains between the NGO community at large and the corporate, for-profit sector, we are witnessing a steady shift in the attitudes of both the business sector and NGOs. Each, at long last, is recognizing the critical and, indeed, legitimate role played by the other in achieving consistent, sustainable, long-term development."

- Mary E. Mc Clymont, President and CEO of Inter Action. Report to USAID, July 2004

How could the private sector support civil society's role in implementing the MDGs?

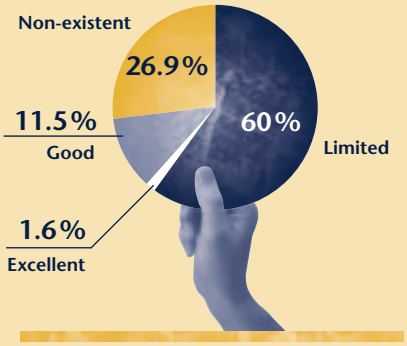


"*Publish what you pay*, Transparency International and Tax Justice Network have the best CSR strategies for the MDGs as companies are a big obstacle to any MDG goals unless robust CSR happens in the coming years."

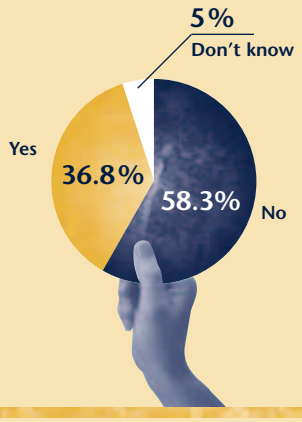
- Comment by a UK-based civil society organization

HELPING BUSINESS MEASURE ITS IMPACT: THE GLOBAL REPORTING INITIATIVE

The Netherlands-based Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) develops globally applicable sustainability standards by which companies can report their economic, social, and environmental impacts and contributions. The standards are developed by a multi-stakeholder coalition drawing not only on business but on accounting, environmental, and social expertise. The GRI works closely with several UN bodies including the Global Compact (www.globalreporting.org).



How would you assess the media coverage of the MDGs in the country you are working in?



Has your organization engaged the media about the MDGs?

Engaging the Media

The media is a valuable partner in the effort to promote greater awareness of the eight development goals and to unite different people and constituencies around these agreed goals. Newspapers, radio programs, and the Internet can all be useful methods to inform, build public support for specific initiatives, and pressure governments and leaders to follow through on their commitments.

However, two-thirds of our survey respondents find media coverage of the Millennium Development Goals in the country where they work limited, while 27% say it is non-existent. Only 37% of the respondents had worked with the media at the local and national level through publications and interviews about local projects and initiatives. Media work can include story-telling, letter writing campaigns, workshops, talk shows, and radio and TV programs. Many groups are involved in media capacity-building, producing programs, providing international documents to the media and other media-related activities.

At the global level, sharing information has led to better civil society networking and the creation of coalitions focused on issues ranging from monitoring the activities of international institutions to pressing for greater efforts to find a vaccine for HIV. Planetwire.org (http://www.planetwire.org) is a virtual newsroom for journalists who want the latest information about reproductive health rights and services, maternal and child health, equality in education, women's empowerment, youth participation, and a healthy environment. The site provides journalists with story ideas, facts and figures, contact with experts, and background information.

Some specific examples of media activity include:

- An organization in **New Zealand** is planning a documentary that would focus on the MDGs in the Pacific region. A **Kenyan** group runs a radio station actively informing people about the MDGs.
- A civil society group in the **Philippines** is distributing flyers illustrating local plans and activities targeting the MDGs. A **Venezuelan** organization is developing community information posters.

- A **Canadian** organization is building an Internet-based educational resource on the MDGs, the UN Global Compact, and other initiatives.
- The national "Sin Excusas 2015" campaign in **El Salvador**, launched in July 2003, brings together more than 20 networks and organizations. It uses the media, including TV/radio spots, and posters to spread its "Broken Dreams" motto, and to call for better government adherence to MDG commitments.
- In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the BBC World Service Trust (http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/trust) in partnership with the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe (http://www.cdsee.org) is undertaking a project called *Our Town, Our Future*. It uses radio drama to help promote democratization, good governance, and the rule of law, and to empower citizens to stand up for their rights and voice their concerns.
- The Global Campaign for Education (http://www.campaignforeducation.org) is making life-size cut-outs of "friends" to send by mail to policy-makers. The cut-outs symbolize the 105 million out-of-school children and 860 million illiterate adults worldwide.

Engaging the World

When leaders gather in New York in September they will know that people around the world are working to achieve the eight Millennium Development Goals by 2015. These people work at United Nations agencies, in governments, and as we can see from the survey results, are active in civil society organizations on every continent. Civil society activism and commitment to the goals can be found in labour organizations, women's and youth groups, development, environment and peace NGOs, human rights and community organizations, United Nations Associations, and elsewhere. The more our leaders know about this civil society commitment and activity, the better.

The Irish organization Trócaire (http://www.trocaire.org) sums up the message from our survey:

" What is needed most is radical change in attitude on the part of the world's rich countries — politicians, business people, and the public alike — to face up to the suffering and inhumanity of the current global system which means that 2 billion people go to sleep hungry each night. This is a denial of their basic human rights. We know what needs to be done to change this: cancel the debt, make trade fair, increase aid, and give poor countries a voice. We don't need more elaborate studies and analysis. We need strong leadership, vision, combined with profound listening to those who are suffering. Above all, we need action."

PART III

Action Agenda: Beyond the Millennium Development Goals

Many civil society organizations argue that the Millennium Development Goals and Declaration are simply not enough. Some feel that they deal only with effects or with symptoms, not with causes. Many feel that poverty and vulnerability are recreated by unjust structures, whether based on gender, wealth, religion, or privilege.

According to our survey and other civil society input, further requirements must be met in order to achieve the goals and to bring the objectives of the Millennium Declaration to life.

Six areas require dramatic new thinking and bold attention:

- The injustice of inequality
- The failures of globalization: Financing development, aid, debt, and trade
- War, peace, and security
- Saving lives: AIDS and health systems
- Climate change
- Human rights

As well, there is an ever more urgent need to address the future of the United Nations and the larger issue of how the world is governed, and by whom. In this chapter we take a closer look at the six areas for new thinking.

TODAY'S PRIORITIES FOR TOMORROW'S WORLD

The Injustice of Inequality

Poverty is at the core of the Millennium Development Goals. Poverty is about more than money. It is about lack of capability and choice. Ending poverty means reducing inequality. But inequality is growing in many countries, rich and poor.

Many groups indicate that only by empowering the poor themselves will poverty and hunger be defeated.

The MDGs are only a minimum program for the next five to 10 years, and reflect only part of what is needed. More than 1 billion people live on less than US$1 a day; almost half the world's 2.8 billion people live on less than US$2 a day. As defined by the Millennium Goals, "reducing by half the proportion" of people living in absolute poverty at US$1 a day is not enough.

Copenhagen to New York

Our survey partners remind us that the World Summit on Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995) established a commitment from every country to reduce poverty, not just absolute poverty. The Beijing Women's Conference in the same year had similar goals, as a majority of the world's poor are women.

But since the mid-1990s, poverty has marched on (although there have been successes in India and China in reducing those in absolute poverty). Meanwhile the achievements of the global conferences have been pushed back. Goal 1, an estimable step, with welcome targets and benchmarks, is modest in the extreme. Millions are left out.

The occasion of reviewing progress on Goal 1 offers the opportunity to make course corrections, which are overdue. Some elements might include:

- Redefinition of poverty in its several dimensions
- Redefinition of poverty in relation to wealth
- Reconsideration of policies which reproduce poverty, reduce mobility out of poverty, and enforce discrimination and marginalization
- Implementation of policies that address root causes of poverty, including agrarian reform, redistribution of wealth, enhanced public services, the right to food, and policies to protect workers in the informal sector
- Enhanced respect and implementation of human rights essential to the eradication of poverty, including gender guarantees, labour rights and standards
- Inclusion of commitments to poverty eradication in wealthy countries as well as poor countries
- Enumeration of ways in which the poor themselves are to be engaged in defining and implementing poverty eradication strategies

Will 2005 bring a full commitment to eradicate poverty (not just a portion of absolute poverty), to reduce inequality (South and North), and to a future with decent work, and to gender equity and empowering the poor?

Getting at the roots

Getting at the roots of poverty means assessing several elements that are fundamental to the growing inequality which plagues many, if not all, societies. It is not simply a matter of statistics about minimum dollar-a-day benchmarks. At issue are:

- Distribution of income in society
- Distribution of assets
- Distribution of opportunities for work and employment
- Distribution of social services and benefits
- Distribution of political power, including access to information and political participation

Many women's networks point out that to assess the situation more accurately, including the gender implications, we need disaggregated (in terms of gender, locality, and age) statistics. There is still much work to be done in this area. Some CSOs, like Social Watch Philippines, are pioneers in assessing quality of life at provincial and municipal levels. The Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) is studying and campaigning on the issue of women's access to assets and resources.

"Durable and sustainable solutions to poverty will require active involvement of the poor and civil society, a more comprehensive understanding of the root causes of poverty and its multidimensional and diverse consequences, and the right policies."

- Statement of the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum, October 6-8, 2003.

The current global distribution of wealth provokes the simple question: *how have we allowed this to happen?* The **richest 500 people** in the world have more money than the annual earnings of the poorest 3 billion. **The 10 richest** have a combined net worth of US$255 billion, about 60% of the annual income of all of sub-Saharan Africa.

The overall situation is getting worse. The UN Development Programme (UNDP) points out that over the last 20 to 25 years, income inequality has risen, particularly "…between the groups at the two extremes of the income ladder, the rich have become richer and the poor have become poorer, in relative terms, and in some cases in absolute terms – and in a number of countries, inequality has also risen between the richest and the middle income groups."

Contributing factors include:

- Increased interdependence due to globalization is accompanied by a deepening of the gap between rich and poor regions and countries.
- Privatization policies have led to formerly public assets being concentrated in a few private hands, and in many cases taken over by foreign investors.
- Redistributive tax systems have been weakened. Tax havens, exemptions for foreign investors, and tax forgiveness have weakened the capacity of governments to redistribute income or support social services.
- Opportunities for employment lag behind demand for work, affecting particularly the young and pushing more and more people into the informal sectors.

The UNDP notes that countries can sustain growth and reduce inequality at the same time. But policy advice from the IFIs and business lobbies often assumes that growth is dependent on accumulation by an unequal few. UNDP points out that Japan, the Republic of Korea, Costa Rica, and Uruguay have adopted redistributive policies and succeeded. In the North, Sweden remains "competitive," growing, innovative, and also more egalitarian.

Building in more equality

Some of the elements to address inequality include:

- Universal access to core social services
- Redistributive or "progressive" tax policies
- Ending discrimination in employment
- Restoring balance between the interests and rewards of labour and capital
- Respect for internationally accepted labour standards
- International support for countries without adequate resources
- Policy autonomy or "space" to implement national policies that address the welfare of citizens

Among civil society networks, the international trade union movement has been in the forefront of proposals for specific measures and strategies that lead in these directions. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) has endorsed the MDGs (http://www.icftu.org). The ICFTU presses the international financial institutions to change policies which negatively affect the social impact of globalization, labour standards, and public services. It campaigns against discrimination and for youth employment opportunities.

Public Services International (PSI) states clearly that the sort of education and health services and access envisioned by the MDGs will require quality public services, for which they are leading a worldwide campaign. Gender equity is central to the strategy. PSI advocates fighting back against those who press for privatization, user fees, and market-dominated distribution of access, and calls for a Global Agreement for Public Services.

Our survey respondents believe that citizens' movements should engage even more with national, regional, and WTO negotiations like the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and Trade-Related Intellectual Property. Global rules must change. The Commission on the Social Dimensions of Globalization points out "there is an imbalance in the global rules. Economic rules and institutions prevail over social rules and social institutions…Unbalanced global rules can reinforce initial inequalities, work against the poor and the weak, whether those are countries, companies, or communities." (http://www.ilo.org/wcsdg)

Growing inequality, like poverty, is not an accident. Direct links can be established between the last two decades of globalization dominated by "neo-liberal," market-driven policies, and increased polarization of income and growing inequalities in access to assets. The right politics and policy changes nationally and globally are central to changing the balance in favour of more social justice.

The Failures of Globalization: Financing development, aid, debt, and trade

The MDGs require a global partnership between rich and poor countries. Seven goals identify development needs in poor countries. There is an underlying assumption that it is the poor countries themselves that have the primary responsibility for meeting these goals. But Goal 8 specifies *"a global partnership for development."* It sets out the tasks for rich countries and outlines the contributions they must make to all of the MDGs.

In 2003, the UN declared, "it is no exaggeration to state that the success or failure of all the MDGs hinges on whether developed countries meet their commitments in Goal 8."

The targets and indicators in Goal 8, despite being quite general, outline the measures that donor countries must take to become "global partners." They provide the means to hold donors to account.

Civil society's critique

A number of CSOs have pointed out that the MDGs, and Goal 8 in particular, are not only inadequate but are based on economic assumptions that recreate rather than defeat poverty. Unless these root assumptions and causes are addressed, the goal of eradicating poverty will not be met, they say.

According to the Asia Pacific Civil Society Forum (October 2003), "Addressing poverty and hunger requires addressing the social, cultural, political, and economic forces…that perpetuate vulnerability and marginalization." (http://www.un-ngls.org/MDG/civilsocietyaction.htm)

"If Goal 8 is ignored, it is hard to imagine the poorest countries achieving Goals 1-7."

- UNDP, Human Development Report 2003.

Critics argue that donor pressure to adjust labour and social legislation in what is termed "a flexible" fashion, leads to fewer protections for workers. "Increasing labour flexibility undermines job security by relying on temporary, contractual and subcontracted work in labour-intensive, export-oriented and service industries, and provides lower wages and less protection than traditional employment," says the Asia Forum position paper. In short, the policies can contribute to sustained poverty.

Experts at Focus on the Global South label assumptions governing these policies "private sector fundamentalism." These policies are driven and supported by conditionalities and policy advice which are usually part of international initiatives like the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. Focus on the Global South notes, "Over the years, the Bank and the Fund have consolidated their policy advice toward market orientation, to the exclusion of alternative policies. They have thus failed to consider varied options for structural reforms." (http://www.focusweb.org)

A wide variety of CSOs are pressing for increased policy space for developing countries.

The critique has been picked up by some CSOs in donor countries, as in a recent message to the Canadian finance minister: "We appreciate your candid questioning of at least some aspects of IMF and World Bank conditionality. However, we urge you to look deeper at the consequences of 20 years of experience with Structural Adjustment Programs. These have resulted in disappointing levels of economic growth, efficiency and competitiveness, the misallocation of financial resources, the destruction of national productive capacity, extensive environmental damage and growing poverty and inequality. We believe that it is necessary to abandon, rather than just modify, IMF and World Bank conditionality."

Financing development: Time for innovation

On September 24, 2004, Brazilian President Lula da Silva and French President Jacques Chirac met at the United Nations to launch *Action Against Hunger and Poverty*. Their effort was endorsed by the presidents of Chile and Spain, more than 100 other Heads of Government, and supported by a variety of civil society organizations. The focus of this initiative was to promote innovative ways to finance development (http://www.globalpolicy.org/socecon).

This initiative seeks to broaden the base of financial resources to address urgent development needs. Aid has a valuable role, but today, as the study *Action Against Hunger and Poverty* supporting the initiative states, it may "be in need of a new — supplementary — approach aiming both at increasing the amount of resources available and ensuring better predictability of aid flows."

The technical study concludes that a tax on foreign exchange transactions is feasible at a global level, bringing fresh support to the demand for a Tobin Tax proposed by the Association for the Taxation of Financial Transactions for the Aid of Citizens (ATTAC) (http://www.attac.org) and many other CSOs for the past decade. The study suggests a tax on the arms trade, ensuring transparency and accountability, and raising funds for socially oriented projects. It considers the UK-proposed International Financial Facility, which would front-load aid disbursements, to bring greater predictability to budget making in developing countries.

"We must recognize that it is time to consider the subject of alternative sources of financing as a top priority. The international community cannot afford a wait-and-see attitude. Each year lost represents an increase in resources needed in the run-up to 2015. Let us not waste further time."

- Action Against Hunger and Poverty, a Summary

(The Report of the Technical Group on innovative financing mechanisms for Action Against Hunger and Poverty is available at http://www.mre.gov.br/ingles/politica_externa/temas_agenda/acfp/Report-final version.pdf*)*

Another study on innovative sources of financing for development, commissioned by the UN from WIDER (The World Institute for Development Economics Research) (http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/publications.htm), was published in August 2004. Undertaken by Professor Anthony B. Atkinson of Nuffield College, Oxford University, the study examines some of the same potential sources for additional aid as well as considering how international taxes might be administered by national authorities.

In addition to the Tobin Tax, it considers a global environmental levy, a carbon-use tax, applied at a rate of US4.8 cents a US gallon (E 0.01 per litre). This tax "levied only on high-income countries could indeed raise some US$60 billion a year."

The WIDER study cautiously argues that such an approach yields a double dividend. A tax on goods that harm the environment would encourage people to switch spending away from polluting goods.

A currency transactions tax could dampen destabilizing currency speculation.

These two studies stimulate and encourage initiative for innovation. Opposition to the idea of global taxes is strong in some jurisdictions. Yet the prospect of providing adequate international financing for universal primary education, for reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS, for the eradication of poverty, and for equality for girls and women is a powerful incentive for those seeking greater global justice.

Civil society and financing for development

CSOs active in support of the UN's Financing for Development (FFD) process advocated change at the 2002 Monterrey Conference. They have been involved in subsequent meetings between the UN, the Bretton Woods Institutions, and the WTO. The civil society groups present in Monterrey refused to endorse the consensus reached by state representatives. They issued their own declaration questioning the assumptions on which the consensus was based.

The FFD office of the UN (http://www.un.org/esa/ffd) has developed, in cooperation with a key NGO coalition, The New Rules for Global Finance Coalition, a series of multi-stakeholder consultations focused on systemic issues. The consultations involve academics, civil society representatives, and experts from government and the private sector. They seek out the best ideas and practices that could assist in meeting the Millennium Declaration and the development goals. (For more information see http://www.un.org/esa/ffd, http://www.newrules.org).

A similar series is being organized by the FFD office with business organizations.

The results of both sets of consultations will contribute to a High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development at the UN in June 2005.

This collaboration between the UN and CSOs encourages a serious and substantive discussion and can help to build consensus around needed reforms and alternatives. It moves along the spectrum from criticism and resistance to joint efforts to develop proposals based on the examination of evidence.

Aid and aid targets

Aid is key to Goal 8 and is central to donor commitments to the MDGs as a whole. More and better aid is one of the three demands of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP).

GOAL 8

- calls on donors to contribute "more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction"
- reaffirms the longstanding target of 0.7% of GNI (gross national income) that donors should spend on aid and it stipulates that 0.15% of GNI should be directed to the LDCs
- identifies a number of areas in which donors should focus their efforts including: basic social services (such as basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation), the environment, the transport sector, landlocked countries, and small island developing countries
- draws attention to the importance of "untied aid," aid that is not tied to the purchase of goods or services from the donor country

Although aid has come under criticism in recent years, it is a vital ingredient for development. For many years civil society groups have campaigned to promote the important role that aid can play in lifting people out of poverty. It means millions more children attending school in eastern Africa, free access to basic health care in some countries, roads to help farmers get crops to market, immunization, and eradication of some diseases.

Civil society groups are now increasingly vocal about the importance of aid. Aid will demonstrate the "global partnership" that lies at the heart of Goal 8 and at the heart of the development goals as a whole. Groups want more and better aid, scaled up quantity and upgraded quality. They are looking to donors to do things differently.

Will aid flows be enough to reach the Monterrey goals?

Country	Net ODA 2002 ($ millions)	ODA as % of GNI	
		2002	2006
Austria	520	0.26	0.33
Belgium	1,072	0.43	0.46
Denmark	1,643	0.96	0.83
Finland	462	0.35	0.42
France	5,486	0.38	0.47
Germany	5,324	0.27	0.33
Greece	276	0.21	0.33
Ireland	398	0.40	0.63
Italy	2,332	0.20	0.33
Luxembourg	147	0.77	1.00
Netherlands	3,338	0.81	0.80
Portugal	323	0.27	0.33
Spain	1,712	0.26	0.33
Sweden	1,991	0.83	0.87
United Kingdom	4,924	0.31	0.40
EU members, total	29,949	0.35	0.42
Australia	989	0.26	0.26
Canada	2,006	0.28	0.34
Japan	9,283	0.23	0.26
New Zealand	122	0.22	0.26
Norway	1,696	0.89	1.00
Switzerland	939	0.32	0.36
United States	13,290	0.13	0.17
DAC members, total	58,274	0.23	0.29

These estimates are based on commitments made by donor countries at the UN Financing for Development Conference in March 2002.

The quantity of aid

As civil society groups frequently point out, the situation is clear: donors are not providing enough aid. If all donors met the 0.7% commitment, there would be US$120 billion available. This sum could meet all the MDGs and address other important development needs as well. The Millennium Project Report calls for 0.7% by 2015 and suggests interim targets for high-income countries: 0.44% in 2006 and 0.54% by 2010.

In the lead up to the summit in September 2005, civil society groups are united in their position that rich countries must meet their 0.7% obligations. For instance the Make Poverty History Campaign says, "Rich countries have promised to provide 0.7% of their national income in aid and they must now make good on their commitment by setting a binding timetable to reach this target." (http://www.makepovertyhistory.org/home.html)

The quality of aid

Quality must go hand in hand with quantity. Civil society development organizations, in many cases as part of regional or global coalitions and networks, have identified a number of areas in which donors must address aid quality.

Over the last 50 years, donor countries have been consistently criticized for using aid to further their own interests. Civil society groups are now

closely monitoring whether donors use aid for their own purposes, or for primarily reducing poverty and promoting development. A number of donors have recently released policy statements in which they state a renewed commitment to poverty reduction. Despite these statements, aid continues to be strongly determined by other interests.

The short-term *strategic interests of donor countries* may overwhelm more humanitarian or developmental objectives. As noted elsewhere, in the last three years donors have increased the amount of aid but a large proportion of this increase has been linked to the war on terrorism. Much of it has gone to Pakistan and Afghanistan. As we know, some donor countries are now drawing on their aid budgets to finance anti-terrorism activities which have little connection to reducing poverty in developing countries. Eurodad (http://www.eurodad.org), a network of 48 development NGOs that campaigns and coordinates activities on debt, poverty reduction, and empowerment, raised this issue in a letter to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD: "All donors should explicitly adopt the principle that aid should be used for poverty eradication...Broadening OECD/DAC criteria to include anti-terrorism or donors' narrow security and defence concerns should not be used to artificially increase ODA."

Conditions attached to aid may make eradicating poverty more difficult. Civil society organizations note that aid packages often come with strings attached. In many cases, developing countries have had to agree to implement a long list of conditions in order to receive much needed aid. Much of the aid and loans provided by the IMF and the World Bank is conditioned on recipient governments opening markets, liberalizing trade, and privatizing or deregulating services. Conditions have often included cuts to public expenditure on health and education and requirements that citizens pay for these services.

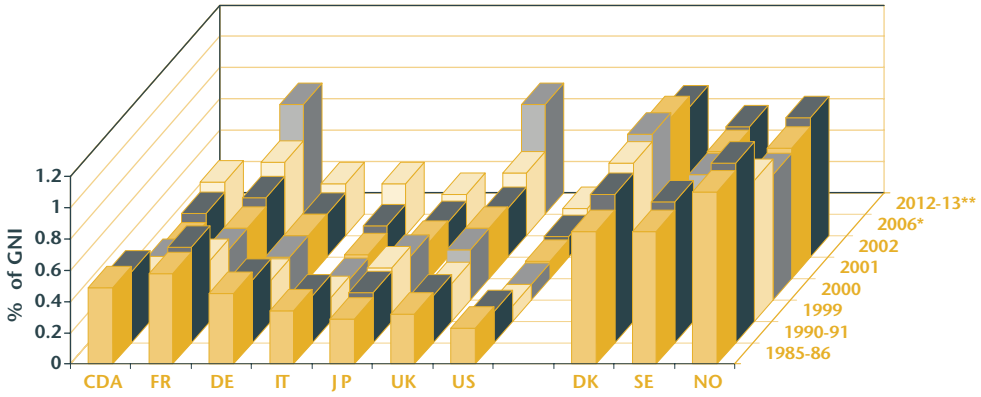
There is no conclusive evidence that these macro policies lead to economic growth. At the same time they have measurable severe negative impacts on the poor. This type of aid conditionality requires developing countries to change policy to meet externally set criteria, and diminishes national ability to determine policy on the basis of local needs and the needs of the poor. Many NGOs seek an end to this approach.

The international NGO coalition Reality of Aid proposed the following reform in its 2004 report on governance and human rights: "In establishing new and equitable partnerships with developing countries, the International Financial Institutions must abandon the practice of externally imposed policy conditionalities…"
(See http://www.realityofaid.org/roa2004/2004report.htm).

Aid conditionality is in direct contradiction to one of the core principles long promoted by CSOs: the principle that developing countries should retain "ownership" of their development. Donors have begun to recognize this principle in a search for "increased aid effectiveness" and new approaches.

Some of these new approaches include "program-based approaches" (PBAs), "sector wide approaches" (SWAPs), and direct budget support. Each is designed to provide coordinated support directly to programs that developing country governments have identified and planned, and that they will implement themselves.

Trends in G7 development assistance,with selected comparison countries



*** Assuming all commitments made at Monterrey are fulfilled** **** Promised**

Source: Ronald Labonte and Ted Schrecker, The G-8, Globalization and Health. University of Ottawa, January 11. 2005

Civil society organizations support these new approaches, but warn that it is too early to assess their impact. The Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC) (http://www.ccic.ca), a coalition of nearly 100 voluntary sector organizations working globally to achieve sustainable human development, states that "civil society critics and official donors agree on the importance of PBAs' laudable goals," including focus on developing country ownership and capacities. But the Council discovered that new approaches may not, in fact, contribute to increased developing country ownership, and that donors "are continuing to insist upon conditionalities for their aid," and that the new approaches turn out to be "the next stage of external donor deep interference and control in the poorest countries." Case studies undertaken on behalf of the CIDSE network (http://www.cidse.org) of Catholic aid agencies have come to similar conclusions.

Tied aid continues, where donors have required that developing countries use aid to obtain goods or services directly from them, rather than from the full range of sources that may be available. Tied aid of this sort limits the ability of developing countries to obtain the most appropriate goods or services for their needs, and it often means they get less value for money. Donors have recognized that tied aid is a poor use of aid funds, and that it limits aid effectiveness. In 2001 the OECD's DAC agreed to untie aid to the LDCs; although they exempted a number of important categories of aid from this agreement.

Civil society groups have made tied aid a central issue for their advocacy work on the MDGs. The Make Poverty History campaign states, "Aid should no longer be tied to goods and services from the donor, so ensuring that more money is spent in the poorest countries." ActionAid (http://www.actionaid.org) is an international NGO which works with poor and marginalized people to eradicate poverty in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Its efforts in drawing attention to the negative impacts of tied aid were a key factor in causing the UK government to untie all its aid in 2002.

Another key issue of aid effectiveness is *aid management*. For developing countries, this has often been a burdensome and time-consuming process, coupled with expensive transaction costs. The often complex demands of individual donor reporting requirements means developing country governments find themselves spending inordinate amounts of time meeting these demands and receiving and facilitating donor missions to inspect "their" aid projects.

Donors have acknowledged that the way they deliver aid has led to management headaches for developing countries and have committed to improving their performance. In 2002 at the Monterrey Financing for Development Conference and in 2003 at the Rome Conference on Harmonising Donor Practises for Effective Aid Delivery, donors promised greater transparency, a reduction in the number of donor missions, and a more harmonized delivery system.

Civil society organizations continue to monitor how donors deliver aid, how they manage their aid programs in developing countries, and the burden they place on the recipients of aid. Oxfam International, which undertook research on these issues in 2004, found that in 60% of reported cases, respondents said that World Bank and US reporting requirements were "too much" or "excessive" and that in 25% of cases, aid disbursements were received between six and 12 months late. While noting some improvements as a result of sectoral programs, the implementation of budget support, and the provision of aid directly through government treasuries, Oxfam cautions that "elements of the previous style of behaviour persist." While donors exert pressure on developing countries to account for their use of aid funds, in contrast, "there is very little to hold donors to account for their behaviour toward aid recipients." One way that donors could "make aid work best for poverty reduction," would be to "fully implement the Rome Declaration commitments to improve the delivery of aid."

Debt: From relief to cancellation

Few elements of international development policy have elicited as sustained and detailed civil society critique as bilateral, multilateral, and odious debt. The remarkable upsurge of public interest expressed in the Jubilee Campaign (http://www.jubileecampaign.co.uk) in the late 1990s put issues of debt reduction, sustainability, and cancellation much higher on the agenda of world leaders. Despite some reform initiatives, the stones of debt service and repayment weigh heavily on the hopes and capacities of many countries whether least developed, developing, or middle income.

The issues of domestic debt and deficits are becoming central concerns in the world's richest nations.

Civil society organizations have been campaigning against debt for more than a generation. Cafod (http://www.cafod.org.uk), Eurodad, and Christian Aid (http://www.christian-aid.org.uk) make substantive arguments for debt reduction and cancellation:

- Debt relief acts as de facto direct budget support in the form of grants.
- Savings are clear, not unpredictable as in ongoing aid relations.
- Reductions in debt stock encourage growth and investment.
- Debt reduction could enhance the effectiveness of recipient country expenditures by allocating development funds according to transparent development criteria.

Debt relief, in support of "debt sustainability" has been around for some time through the Highly Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) initiatives (http://www.worldbank.org/hipc/about/hipcbr/hipcbr.htm). These initiatives have come under increasingly civil society scrutiny and criticism. They

are viewed as inappropriate, not truly aimed at poverty reduction, and failing to achieve "sustainability." As Cafod and others point out, "…in fact, the HIPC initiative is an impediment to achieving the MDGs…A first step in any MDG forward financing package must view a 100% debt cancellation as part of a one-off investment in achieving the poverty targets."

This conclusion by several Northern NGOs is supported by Jubilee South (http://www.jubileesouth.org), which notes that continuation of debt is as fundamentally political as it is economic in character. Jubilee South argues that the discussion should be less about repaying debt than about those who owe the South reparations for all the resources that have been plundered, and the decades-long payments made on odious debts accumulated by foreign-supported dictators.

There has been recent debt cancellation for Iraq to serve the interests of the occupying powers. Canadian debt monitors note that "Canada agreed to cancel, not just suspend, almost as much debt for Iraq alone ($600 million) as the value of all bilateral debt relief granted by Canada to 14 HIPCs ($609 million) over a period of four years." Such developments can feed growing cynicism among those who continue paying huge debt service, but also lay bare the rationales for continuing some current arrangements. If debt forgiveness can be offered a government that succeeds an odious dictator in Iraq, how to justify payment of debts created by a Pinochet, a Suharto, or a Bokasa?

In response to the recent tsunami devastation in South Asia, a large number of civil society groups renewed the call for debt cancellation.

"Now, more than ever, at their hour of greatest need, the peoples of the South must be heeded in their long-standing demand for debt cancellation. In the face of this massive destruction, Northern and international creditors should not continue to hold South peoples in bondage for debts that have in large part, only contributed to their impoverishment and deprivation," urged Jubilee South.

It could be argued that the Iraq debt cancellation and the significant debt moratoriums extended to Asia are part of a growing momentum for new proposals and solutions for the indebted. The UK government suggested early in 2005 its willingness to cancel some of its bilateral debt in Africa, and take on its share of African debt servicing to the World Bank at least until 2015, urging others to do the same. Amid talk of a "Marshall Plan for Africa," the Africa Commission mandated by British Prime Minister Tony Blair is likely to follow similar steps for overall reduction of the debt load.

CSO critics, while supportive of the initiative, caution that to hold off on debt till 2015 is not really cancellation, and that the UK proposals are too closely dependent on questionable HIPC standards for eligibility to be helpful to many of the countries needing help. The initiative, they argue, is relief, not cancellation.

Further, an increasing array of groups seek government leadership to "secure the immediate and unconditional cancellation of 100% of the debts owed to multilateral financial institutions by all impoverished countries that need debt cancellation in order to meet the MDGs, including halting the HIV/AIDS pandemic." With this they argue for an end to IMF and World Bank conditionality, an end to repayment of odious debt, and an increase in aid to 0.7%.

"We call on all organizations and social movements which have participated in the World Social Forum and those who could not be in Porto Alegre, to work together in the campaign for the IMMEDIATE and UNCONDITIONAL CANCELLATION OF THE FOREIGN and illegitimate DEBT of the countries of the South, beginning with the victims of tsunami and others that have undergone terrible disasters and crisis in the recent month."

Social movements at the World Social Forum, Porto Alegre, Brazil, January 31, 2005. http://www.movsoc.org/htm/call_2005_english.htm

Trade

The MDGs assume increased global trade as a principal motor of growth and thus a part of the alleviation of poverty, including a Goal 8 commitment to "develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system." The prosperous are to "address the special needs of Least Developed Countries," which includes "tariff and quota free access for LDC exports."

Five indicators are grouped under the heading "market access," as well as an additional indicator relevant to affordable drugs:

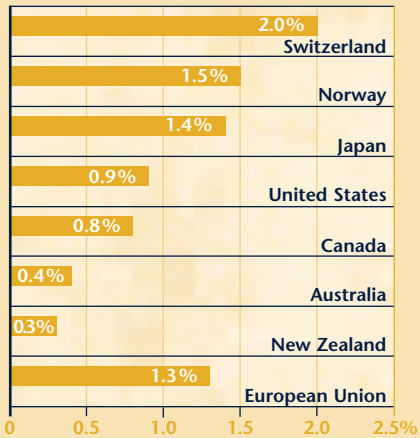
- Indicator 37: Proportion of exports (by value and excluding arms) admitted free of duties and quotas
- Indicator 38: Average tariffs and quotas on agricultural products and textiles and clothing
- Indicator 39: Domestic and export agricultural subsidies in OECD countries
- Indicator 40: Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity
- Indicator 46: Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis

All of these issues feature prominently in official trade negotiations, in particular those that occur through multilateral processes such as the WTO, and through regional trade arrangements such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) negotiations and bilateral agreements. They are addressed through the UN system by agencies such as the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), that have a direct trade mandate, as well as by agencies such as UNDP, whose trade mandate is part of a broader focus on development.

Civil society, trade, and development

These and other trade-related issues are high on the agenda of a number of CSOs. Some of these organizations have been working on trade issues and calling for a fairer global trading system for many years. Some, like the gender and trade networks, address specific dimensions of international commerce. While working on poverty reduction and community development, many civil society groups have realized that to be effective, these efforts must go hand in hand with addressing issues in the broader, "macro" policy environment, including inequities in the global trading system, and its negative impact on the poor.

Total support to agriculture as share of GDP 2002 (%)



Source: http://www.developmentgoals.org/partnership.htm (accessed 2005)

One of many organizations now engaged in seeking "trade justice," Oxfam International provides an example of a new level of sophistication, persistence, and detail in its approach to policy change. In *Rigged Rules and Double Standards*, Oxfam points out that during the Uruguay round of trade talks, in the 1990s, rich countries stated they would decrease agricultural subsidies. In reality, they did the opposite. In 2000 they subsidized their farmers to the tune of US$245 billion, about five times the amount of annual ODA (http://www.maketradefair.com/assets/english/report_english.pdf).

Christian Aid (http://www.christianaid.org.uk/indepth/409trade) has a major trade campaign, and takes up the issues of subsidies in its report, *Taking liberties: poor people, free trade and trade justice*. It states, "While rich countries have demanded that poor countries open their markets and cut subsidies, they have continued to protect and support their own industries. US subsidies enable American cotton to be exported at up to 40% less than it costs to produce."

These NGOs acknowledge that government intervention in agriculture, including subsidies to farmers, can play an important role in supporting important rural development and environmental goals. In the EU and US, however, current intervention is not achieving these objectives, and is instead resulting in serious impacts on farmers in poor countries. Oxfam calls for "a comprehensive ban on export subsidies, and a restructuring of farm subsidies to achieve social and environmental objectives, rather than increased output" (http://www.maketradefair.com/assets/english/OxfamresponsetoEC.pdf#search='xfam%2C%20Rigged%20Rules%20and').

The Southern and Eastern African Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (Seatini) (http://www.seatini.org), aims to strengthen Africa's capacity to be more effective in the global trading system. It points out that over 70% of Africans rely on agriculture for their livelihoods, but that they are prevented from using their comparative advantage because of industrialized country subsidies. It states, "South Africa in particular is giving the land back to black people but is forcing these farmers to compete with subsidized European and American imports. This is a recipe for disaster."

While rich countries have reduced average tariff levels from around 10% in the early 1980s to about half of that by the late 1990s, the actual tariffs may remain high on products of particular export importance to developing countries, such as staple food products, fruits and vegetables, tobacco, textiles and clothing. "Tariff escalation" is a trade barrier that has particularly damaging impacts on developing countries, as it involves increased tariffs according to the level of processing on imported products.

Goal 8 doesn't address a number of these issues, nor others that CSOs believe are central to a fairer, more just trading system. Organizations like Oxfam International urge rich countries to go well beyond Goal 8, for example, giving comprehensive duty and quota free market access to all low-income countries by 2005.

Re-thinking "free" trade

When demonstrators and developing country resistance "stopped the show" at the WTO Seattle Trade Ministers' meeting in 1998, and again at the 2003 Cancun meeting, global attention began to focus on the limitations of the

current trade system, particularly as practiced by the "Quad" of countries – the EU, US, Japan, and Canada – who dominate the processes of the WTO. An international trade justice network has developed among development and related organizations. In the Americas, the Hemispheric Social Alliance brings together labour, peasant, Indigenous Peoples, women's, religious, and cultural organizations in an ongoing struggle against a FTAA (http://www.art-us.org/HSA.html). African civil society organizations have been increasingly effective in analysis of the international agenda and advice to their own governments. An important body of civil society analysis fundamentally questions the current global system — including its structure, institutions, and decision-making mechanisms — and the concept of "free trade" that this system promotes.

Advocates of "liberalized" trade, including Northern governments, economic theorists, and global institutions such as the WTO, the World Bank, and the IMF, have promoted free trade on the premise that it will stimulate international trade, lead to economic growth, and help reduce poverty in the South. Civil society groups have strongly challenged this premise, and have repeatedly drawn attention to the negative impacts of free trade on the poor in developing countries. Christian Aid says "the 20 year myth of free trade is exploding," and goes on to say, "Inappropriate free trade policies forced on the developing world by rich countries and international institutions have failed to reduce poverty significantly and have devastated many poor communities."

The International Forum on Globalization (IFG) (http://www.ifg.org) was formed in response to widespread concerns over economic globalization, a process it says is "dominated by international institutions and agreements unaccountable to democratic processes or national governments." The IFG addresses free trade within the broader context of globalization and promotes equitable, democratic, and ecologically sustainable economies.

Some intergovernmental organizations caution against simplistic approaches to trade liberalization. The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (http://www.unescap.org), warns that if market openings occur too quickly or too early in developing countries, there may be consequences such as "domestic deindustrialization, current account deficits and special threats to marginal farmers, who must remain in agriculture for lack of other options."

Another commentator, the UNDP's Jan Vandermoortele, warns that in an open market, "surging imports" have had a destabilizing impact in many developing countries and that heavily subsidized exports from developed countries have "played havoc" with the livelihood of millions of smallholders in poor nations.

Civil society organizations have worked hard to develop alternative approaches to trade liberalization and market opening, seeking better terms on which to relate to, and integrate with, the global economy. The Third World Network (TWN) (http://www.twnside.org.sg), an international independent network that since 1984 has undertaken detailed research on trade issues from a Southern perspective, is at the forefront of analysis and advocacy on these issues. Its director, Martin Khor, calls for "selective integration" of developing countries into the global economy. He argues that this

should replace the "big bang" approach to liberalization that continues to dominate and is inappropriate in its "one-size fits all" approach. Khor suggests that such a new, selective integration approach would allow developing countries to be more selective and deliberate in choosing how far, how fast, and in what sectors they integrate their domestic economy with the financial, trade, and investment aspects of the global economy. In particular they would choose how far they harmonize their policies with those of more developed countries, through commitments made in trade agreements.

The need for policy flexibility

Many developing countries do not have the freedom to choose their own approach to liberalizing their trade systems and economies. As a result, they have limited scope to use domestic trade policy as an instrument for shaping national development. In addition, globalization has meant that international factors may now be more important than domestic policies. As Martin Khor suggests, policies that may previously have been determined within the national context are now "significantly influenced or shaped" within the context of international forums, or by international institutions.

Developing countries, therefore, currently face an almost "no-win" dilemma. They can choose to engage in the global trade and economic system, in which case they must abide by rules that often override their ability to set domestic policy according to local needs and realities. Alternatively, they can choose to retain control over domestic policy; but this may mean staying outside global trade structures, in which case they are excluded from the benefits and protection these structures are designed to provide.

The terms policy "space" or "flexibility" are now used to describe the need for a global trading system whose rules and commitments allow developing countries to retain the ability to shape trade policy, and the rate and extent of "liberalization" on the basis of their own national development frameworks. This is particularly important for aspects of policy that may have a direct impact on poverty reduction and the poor.

Presenting a clear alternative to the free trade approach, Christian Aid says that the most important historical lesson is that "no country has developed without government intervention in trade." While warning against excessive intervention, it points out that rich countries have often protected industry in order to help promote their own development. Governments of successful economies in Southeast Asia supported industry while at the same time ensuring they also competed in international markets.

The Third World Network makes several recommendations relating to policy flexibility. It recommends that conditionalities accompanying IMF-World Bank loans be reviewed and modified "so that recipient countries can own the priority setting, the policy assumptions, and the choice of financial, macroeconomic, trade, and other policies."

It recommends that "the WTO review processes should consider giving developing countries adequate flexibility in implementing their Agriculture Agreement obligations, on the grounds of food security, rural livelihoods, and poverty alleviation."

Similar concerns were raised in the joint statement of Commonwealth CSOs to the September 2004 meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers (http://www.un-ngls.org/cso/cso5/cfmm2004statement.pdf).

Reforming the WTO

Many CSOs do not necessarily reject the WTO outright. They point out that international trade rules have the potential to promote policies that can benefit the poor, and suggest that many in the developing world recognize that the WTO will be vital to their development in years to come. But even more advocate major reform of the WTO, regarding its rules and decision-making processes.

The CSO critique argues WTO rules strongly favour rich nations, and that benefits for developing countries, promised as part of WTO agreements, have not materialized. This applies in particular to the Uruguay Round of the WTO, in which developing countries agreed to liberalize their trading and economic systems, in return for agreements from rich countries that they would open their markets to developing country exports, in particular in the area of agriculture and textiles. While developing countries kept their side of the bargain, often at great cost to their economies and to the livelihoods of the poor, rich countries found ways to continue to protect their industries and to maintain barriers against imports from poor countries. Third World Network recommends that "Developed countries should meaningfully commit to opening their markets in ways that will benefit developing countries, including relation to products and services such as textiles, agriculture, labour services, products processed from raw materials."

WTO governance is criticized, more for its actual operation than its design. "On paper," the WTO is more democratic and has a more representative structure than other global institutions such as the World Bank or IMF. The WTO's formal structure hides a serious democratic deficit which allows rich countries to set rules to their own advantage. Poor countries do not have the capacity and resources to support and maintain negotiating teams at the WTO on the scale that rich countries can afford. For example, while most rich countries have whole teams of negotiators and strategists at WTO headquarters in Geneva, 11 Least Developed Countries have no representation at all. Such differences in negotiating abilities create major inequalities within the system.

Another feature of the WTO democratic deficit involves power dynamics. Although the WTO operates on the principle of "one country, one vote," actual power relationships between poor and rich countries are unequal. The normal operation of the WTO occurs not through voting but through consensus. This process has been strongly dominated by powerful countries and groups such as the US, the EU, Japan, and Canada, which have often negotiated and reached agreements outside the formal WTO processes. Although poor countries have begun to gain more influence, and since Seattle, Doha, and Cancun, WTO meetings have moved toward a greater degree of "power sharing," they continue to contend with this inherent power imbalance, and continue to have limited voice.

The Third World Network proposes that "the WTO's rules and operations should be re-designed, so that development is established as the overriding principle." This sets the basis not only for the WTO, but for the global trading system. Under this principle, trade would not be pursued for the objective of increasing profits and economic advantage, but would become a tool for promoting development and reducing poverty.

Other trade and investment issues

Trade agreements often involve much more than trade, for example, provisions to extend protection to foreign investors. These investment-related efforts, under the WTO, often result in privileges and guarantees for outside investors not enjoyed by citizens of host, weaker nations. The NAFTA agreement includes a provision which allows foreign investors to sue the host government (including local and state authorities) for alleged injury to present or future profitability due to government policy. Similar provisions have been pressed by investors and by the US government in other bilateral and regional agreements.

Another element is contained in the WTO's Trade-Related Intellectual Property provisions or TRIPS. These have been instrumental in providing 20-year protection to the patents of global pharmaceutical companies. TRIPS "+" provisions, with further protection guarantees, are being pressed in a host of bilateral and regional negotiations. The Quaker UN Office has done remarkable work examining the implications of these provisions on the ability of governments to fulfill their human rights obligations, including the right to health, and to encourage domestic research and industry (http://www.quno.org).

Since the birth of the WTO, the last decade has seen growing civic concern about the "mission creep" of the WTO and of trade, investment, and intellectual property regimes; current negotiations for a new GATS is a case in point. Virtually any public service from playground attendants to sanitary services, libraries to water delivery can be considered affected, as can insurance services, a host of health and other professional services, as well as commercial and financial service industries. As these dimensions are increasingly drawn under trade rules and regulations, the ability of democratic governments to define social policy and public investment becomes more and more restricted, and with that, the rights of citizens to democratically choose alternate approaches are restricted as well.

Bilateral and regional trade agreements have been multiplying rapidly, sometimes with provisions in advance of those negotiated through the WTO. ActionAid has recently examined the implications. It argues that as some developing countries are gaining more influence at the WTO, economic superpowers such as the US and the EU are turning to bilateral and regional trade negotiations in order to establish new markets and to obtain concessions from poor countries that would be difficult to gain under WTO rules. In particular, ActionAid has highlighted the new "economic partnership agreements" (EPAs) that are now being negotiated between the EU and regional groupings of African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries. It suggests that EPAs are "premised on the assumption that indiscriminate trade liberalization and market deregulation are best for achieving development." It warns strongly against EPAs, stating that, "full reciprocal trade liberalization and negotiations on investment, competition policy, and public procurement be dropped from EPA negotiations. Alternatives to EPAs must be sought."

UNCTAD: A forum for alternative approaches?

UNCTAD (http://www.unctad.org) has been dealing with many of the current issues of concern for almost 40 years. Its 2004 conference, in Brazil, offered an opportunity, through a civil society forum, for concerned groups to meet and develop common approaches.

The UNCTAD Civil Society Forum illustrates how civil society groups, with diverse constituencies and varied approaches, can come together to present coherent and united perspectives on important trade issues. The Forum's declaration to UNCTAD XI (http://www.unctad.org/Templates/Download.asp?docID=4873&intItemID=2068&lang=1) identifies a number of trade issues that both reflect and expand on those addressed by other civil society groups. These include:

- the negative impact of "forced trade liberalization" on the day-to-day lives of millions of people and their environment, especially women in all regions of the world.
- the EU and US practice of dumping heavily subsidized farm exports onto world markets which has the effect of destroying rural livelihoods in developing countries.
- the need to replace "inappropriate one-size-fits-all, neo-liberal mentality" with "diverse and participatory economic systems that are flexible, fair, and sustainable.
- the need to refocus global governance systems, including reducing the scope and influence of the WTO, especially on non-trade issues; and for binding multilateral legislation to make transnational corporations accountable.

In relation to these and other issues, the Forum calls for:

- policy coherence, in which the international economic order is made subservient to sustainable development.
- policy space, so that developing countries and countries in transition can meet the challenge of designing national policies that are consistent with their stages of development and capacity to implement them; and
- real partnerships — between governments and civil society, between intergovernmental organizations, governments, and the private sector — based on mutual respect and common objectives for more equitable sharing of trade benefits.

Making trade work for poor people

The Forum's recommendations for UNCTAD are a small sample of the broader thinking and recommendations of civil society on reforming the global trading system. They lead beyond Goal 8 and its relatively narrow focus on market access issues.

TRADE JUSTICE 2005

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance has publicized a vision to make trade work for the poor. They note, "No country became rich without long periods of helping and protecting their vulnerable enterprises and traders until they were strong enough to compete. However, current rules and institutions of world trade deny poor country governments these rights."

The Alliance calls for recognition of the sovereign rights of poor country governments:

- The right to protect poor and vulnerable farmers from cheap imports that would destroy their livelihoods.
- The right to protect infant industries from competition until they are strong enough to compete.
- The right to subsidize the costs of agricultural inputs and technical advice.
- The right to regulate the investment of transnational companies, make them buy materials locally, locate in poor areas, and train local people.
- The right to support local companies by giving them contracts to supply government offices, schools, and hospitals.
- The right to regulate prices to ensure stability for producers and consumers.
- The right to choose for themselves the best means of providing essential services to poor people, including the option of keeping public control.
- The right to limit the export of raw materials so that local companies can process them to add value to the country's exports.
- The right to support the distribution of agricultural inputs and the collection of agricultural produce in areas where markets are non-existent or do not operate properly.
- The right to provide preferential credit to producers to help them invest and grow.

Source: Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, Action Guide (http://www.e-alliance.ch/).

"Global governance is not so much about world government as it is about institutions and practices combined with rules that facilitate cooperation among sovereign nation states, NGOs and firms."

Governing Globalization: Issues and Institutions – A policy brief. Deepak Nayyar and Julius Court for UN and WIDER 2002 (available at http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/pb5.pdf)

Institutional reform

Developing countries are demanding more equitable representation in economic decision-making processes. A group of these countries, the G-24, supports new vote allocations in the IMF. The Monterrey Financing for Development Conference recognized the need and all governments made commitments to reform.

A number of civil society groups push for reform in decision-making, including the UBUNTU campaign (http://www.reformcampaign.net), the international NGO Facilitating Group on Financing for Development (see http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/cs-IFG_Core_Members0504.pdf), and the Global Problem-Solving Group of the Helsinki Process (http://www.helsinkiprocess.fi). Proposals abound. Action is lacking.

Recently, in its report, *World Economic Situation and Prospects for 2005*, the UN suggested it is now time to act on the promises made in Monterrey 2002 and elsewhere. The UN report notes, "Voice and effective participation are issues that go to the centre of the international financial institutions' legitimacy, relevance, and effectiveness."

The UN reports no progress changing quotas, capital shares, and voting rights of member countries in the IMF.

The head of the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs, José Antonio Ocampo, states what many developing countries and NGOs endorse: it is high time for political leadership rather than technical calculations. "The issue is stopped politically," he says. "The essential point here is that we can only advance if there is a political consensus. Technical discussions can go on forever."

Action

Poverty is real. The existing recipes and measures to end poverty generate increasing frustration. For many in civil society, current ideas to reform aid, debt, and trade appear to be insufficient. More and more people are calling for a whole new approach (http://www.iisd.ca/4wcw http://www.unorg/esn/socdev/wssd). The Global Call to Action Against Poverty is organizing to support demands for reform in three main areas: aid, debt, and trade. Many others are taking this year's opportunities to promote new thinking and radical shifts in policy.

When world leaders meet in New York in September 2005 to review progress on the MDGs they should be aware the dominant approach to economic policy and to development has failed poor countries and failed the world's needy. Change is necessary. Action on aid, trade, and debt will be central to that change.

War, Peace, and Security

Development and security

The impact of the war on terror, Iraq, and war in general is of great concern to those who support the MDGs. Diversion of attention and resources to fight poorly defined terror, to Iraq and the threat of other large-scale conflicts undermines prospects for development and wider human security.

World military spending is close to US$1 trillion per year (2003), with the US portion at $420 billion for 2005. Military spending has increased 18% over two years (up 6.5% in 2002, 11% in 2003). The US accounts for half: the wealthy countries together account for 75%. Developed countries now spend 10 times more on the military than they spend for development assistance.

At the same time, there are increasing pressures to redefine development assistance from rich countries to poor countries so that this includes more security-related spending. The Development Assistance Committee of the OECD (http://www.oecd.org.dac), the economic research and coordinating body of wealthy nations, is discussing a new definition of development assistance that would include security and security spending.

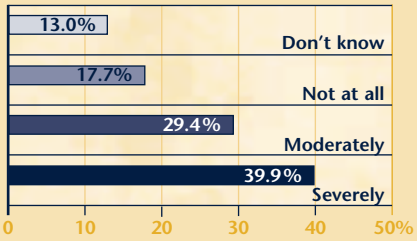
War "creates an environment of fear, of scarcity and competition and it usurps the funding that might otherwise go to needed international aid."

- NGO respondent from the US

"No State, no matter how powerful, can by its own efforts alone make itself invulnerable to today's threats."

- A More Secure World: Our shared responsibility. Report of the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (available online at http://www.un.org/secureworld).

How does the security situation, including the war on terrorism, military expenditure, and new domestic or "homeland" security measures, impact on the achievement of the MDGs in the country you are working in?



Views from the survey

A dramatic result from this year's survey is the view from 70% of the 439 worldwide respondents that the war on terror and Iraq are having a negative impact (either severe or moderate) on development work and on achieving the MDGs. This view is held among respondents in societies as different as Haiti and Switzerland. Particular concerns include:

- Resources and attention are diverted from development
- War displaces populations and destroys people, schools, hospitals, farms, and factories
- Many development and humanitarian organizations have to withdraw staff from conflict zones
- A focus on security and terror generates a climate of fear, feeds xenophobia, and undermines cooperation
- Armed conflict undermines the confidence necessary for investment

An Irish respondent observes, "The over-emphasis on security issues in the EU and OECD has meant that existing aid resources are likely to be channelled increasingly in ways that do not primarily target poverty reduction, but aim to strengthen the State's efforts to combat terrorism. This leads to an emphasis on the potential of violent threats, rather than more systemic and less visible threats to human security, such as hunger, poverty, disease, and human rights violations."

Others note that changes to the EU aid budget could result in higher spending on counter-terrorism measures. Specific counter-terrorist measures such as surveillance could be counted as ODA. This would seriously undermine the poverty/MDGs focus of ODA. It could lead to the reallocation of resources to those countries considered as priorities in the war on terror.

Canadian groups are concerned about changing the definition of ODA. One respondent notes, "Canada is pressing to open up the definition of ODA at the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is increasing its support for security sector reform in the South. We are diverting very large amounts of small aid increases to Afghanistan and Iraq under pressure from the US government."

The war on terror

There is additional concern that due to the war on terror and the militarization of aid, countries directly involved in the fight against terrorism will be preferred for development aid, and others sidelined. A survey respondent from Vietnam notes, "Since Vietnam is not involved in the security issue, funds might preferably go to other, more needy, countries." Several participants note that Iraq and Afghanistan have been the largest recipients of aid since the start of the war on terror. Says one US NGO, "In the US this has drastically affected resource allocations and priorities to the Middle East and North Africa region at the expense of other regions of the world."

Other groups report additional concerns about the militarization of civil conflicts, increased military responses to political problems and increased military/security spending. Some fear that the war on terror is being used to transform and prolong existing conflicts. A Colombian group reports:

"In my country, there is a convergence of the war against drugs developed by US troops and agencies, with a prolonged internal armed conflict, and a response to all conflicts from the standpoint of the war against terrorism. This absorbs most of the resources that are not absorbed by the foreign debt payments."

A US group suggests that the war on terror is used to further the adoption of neo-liberal policies and to repeal civil and human rights. "The war on terror is being used by the government as an excuse for increasing military expenditures (thus cutting social spending); advancing neo-liberal economic policy; reversing gains in civil liberties and rights; legitimizing the lack of transparency by the government; and mitigating proposals for peace and development by civil society."

As well, respondents believe war and the war on terror are eroding respect for human rights and civil liberties. Organizations such as the Red Cross have expressed concern about violations of the Geneva Convention by the US government in the Abu Ghraib tortures. The 2004 Reality of Aid *Report* (available at http://www.realityofaid.org/) suggests that some anti-terrorist legislation adopted by various countries is in violation of UN treaties and declarations including, the UN Declaration of Human Rights (http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html), the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/a_ccpr.htm), and the UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/a_cescr.htm).

The International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (for more information, visit http://idrf.ca/IDRF-CCIC-ICLMG.htm) expresses concern about the increasing ease with which governments are willing to violate human rights: "Many countries, including Canada, have adopted or revised laws and measures to increase surveillance of the lawful conduct of their citizens. Fundamental rights and basic civil liberties are being eroded under the guise of the so-called war on terrorism … Anti-terrorism legislation around the world … has contributed to an increase in racial profiling and institutionalized racism … Canada, which has always prided itself for its policy of official multiculturalism and its human security policy, has followed the lead of the US and of the UK in replicating and expanding the most controversial parts of their laws designed to wage war on terrorism. Those tough measures, which include the reversal of the burden of proof, contravene Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)."

The UN Global Security Forum in its paper titled, *"How to Approach Human Rights as a Central Issue of Security"* (available at http://www.un-globalsecurity.org/pdf/vieira.pdf), notes that human rights must be a fundamental component of security policies. This incorporation of human rights into policies will foster mutual concern and respect. In this regard, the MDGs "can be considered an important first step to meet the challenge to create an international environment where human rights can be universally realized."

The roots of conflict

Survey respondents overwhelmingly suggest that the most constructive way to tackle insecurity and terrorism is to address poverty and the inequalities that exist across the globe. "Threats to peace and security emanate, in part, from inequitable distribution of resources and global power," according to one UK NGO. "Government funding for arms could be better used to fund MDGs and development needs. The best way to deal with insecurity is to tackle poverty."

A respondent from Panama says "this country is spending billions and billions on spurious security measures. The money would be better spent on achieving MDGs. Indeed, spending on MDGs might be a way of increasing security."

These concerns are also echoed by Social Watch. The 2004 Social Watch Annual Report, *Fear and Want* (http://www.socialwatch.org/en/portada.htm), notes that the war on terror "is threatening to undermine the UN-led global war against poverty."

HUMAN SECURITY

Our survey respondents adhere to the belief that national security cannot be achieved without addressing human security, economic, nutrition, gender, education, and health needs. Addressing these can attack the roots of violence, insecurity, and terrorism. As the UN's High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (http://www.un-globalsecurity.org/panel.asp) notes, "Poverty is strongly associated with the outbreak of civil war." Poverty is strongly connected to environment degradation that can lead to conflicts over land and other resources. Additionally, the Panel notes efforts to promote social and political rights, the rule of law, and education are broad and comprehensive methods of fighting terrorism.

The Panel urges all nations to contribute to a more effective UN for our century. "The United Nations," it stresses, "was never intended to be a utopian exercise. It was meant to be a collective security system that worked." The Panel makes comprehensive recommendations for making the UN an effective and more powerful guarantor of security.

Complementing these proposals, leaders and governments must bring political attention, will, and resources to the MDGs as an essential response to real global threats to peace and security.

"We saw the UN as a fresh start for a world trying to work out its problems together rather than a return to a nineteenth-century world where the great powers carved it up...Who wants to go back to the jungle?" - Helen Clark, Prime Minister of New Zealand, *The Guardian*, May 3, 2003

Saving Lives: AIDS and Health Systems

The MDG on HIV/AIDS is scandalously modest. Set in 2000, Goal 6 takes inadequate note of the far-reaching impact of the disease on development. The current goal ignores the lifesaving potential of new treatments. Furthermore, the HIV/AIDS goal lacks the specific benchmarks that make progress on other goals measurable and verifiable.

Sensibly, the United Nations has moved beyond the limitations set in 2000. The Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 (UNGASS) and a unique session of the Security Council helped (http://www.un.org/ga/aids/coverage). The creation of UNAIDS, the WHO program to bring treatment to 3 million people by the end of 2005, and the creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have also helped (http://www.theglobalfund.org/en). However, these initiatives are only a fraction of what is needed. As well, the resources to bring them to adequate scale are still too limited, despite increased commitments from the United States, Canada, and other donor nations.

The AIDS tsunami

A "silent tsunami" of HIV/AIDS continues to take 2.2 million people per year – over 6,000 a day – in sub-Saharan Africa alone. Twelve million children in sub-Saharan Africa have lost one or both parents to AIDS, a number estimated to grow to 43 million by 2010.

The course of the disease continues through Russia and Central Asia, India, China, Vietnam, and vulnerable populations around the world. The scale of infection, disease, and death is staggering.

Our survey respondents report much work in public awareness, prevention, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. They report work to reduce stigma and defend the rights of vulnerable populations. They note that the empowerment of women and the recognition of sexual and reproductive rights for women and men are instrumental in prevention.

Among the changes they recommend are: access to anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs), investment in community-based health care facilities and services, and programs on sexual and reproductive rights. They recognize that poverty, inadequate sewage and waste management systems, water pollution, and inadequate access to safe food are all part of the determinants of health.

Development impact

United Nations agencies and government policy-makers are still calculating the impact of HIV/AIDS on food production, labour force, and the availability of teachers and other essential public servants. In Zambia, teacher deaths from AIDS are equivalent to half those trained annually. With an infection rate of 20%, countries in sub-Saharan Africa will have a national income 67% less than it would be otherwise, 20 years from now.

The other seven development goals simply cannot be met unless HIV/AIDS is dealt with. Successful efforts to address poverty, maternal health, and education are an essential component to eroding the impact and dangers of HIV/AIDS.

Health systems

Perhaps the most serious obstacle to success against HIV/AIDS is the weakness of health service at the community level. As the Millennium Project Task Force (http://unmp.com/enght_html_02html) testifies, "the elusive goal of bringing basic health services to all will never be met without vigorous financial and political commitment to health systems."

One essential component is trained, skilled health workers. While the urgency of the AIDS and tuberculosis epidemics is clear, it is important that investments be made in existing and broadly mandated community health services, rather than creating a parallel system of disease-specific efforts. Priority must be placed on scaling up systems that benefit the poor, with attention to gender equity, so treatments do not benefit only the well-off and men.

There must be assured access to radically strengthened health systems. A failure to embody the right to health in national strategies is killing people. As one Ghanaian writes, "pay cash or carry death." In Vietnam, out-of-pocket payments for health care pushed 2.6 million into poverty in 1998. In Mexico, where half the population is without health insurance, more than half of health spending is out-of-pocket. Global support and leadership by multilateral financial institutions in assuring universal coverage and equitable access is more urgent than ever.

Access to life-extending medicine

The WHO set a treatment target of reaching 3 million people in 2005. Part way through 2004, only 440,000 people with HIV were receiving treatment, about half of them in sub-Saharan Africa. By 2005 that number had improved to an estimated 700,000. However, it will take a massive effort to reach the 3 million target by January 2006. But even that ambitious target pales when we realize that there will be 4 million new infections in sub-Saharan Africa and a further 2.2 million deaths in 2005. The fight and humanity are losing ground.

Assuring access to treatment has been further set back by the strenuous efforts of large drug manufacturers to protect their patents and intellectual property. Battles led by CSOs in countries as diverse as South Africa, Brazil, and Canada have led to changes in national policy and legislation. International campaigns have forced the WTO to modify its interpretation of TRIPS agreements, and to recognize, at least partially, the human right to health. Legislation to facilitate export of accessible pharmaceuticals has been pioneered in Canada and Norway. But implementation has been regrettably slow.

However, national legislation in countries like Brazil has extended free access to treatment to hundreds of thousands of infected people. Civil society organizations like Médecins Sans Frontières (http://www.msf.org), in cooperation with local partners, have played a pioneering role in demonstrating how treatment can be extended.

An international civil society campaign to assure free and equitable access to treatment is under way. Developed by health economists at the University of Kwa-Zulu in Durban, South Africa, together with Médecins Sans Frontières and other NGOs, the "Free by 5" initiative is based on the

conclusion that "Most people living with HIV will die simply because they cannot afford the contribution which is sought from them," due to user fees for services.

The sponsors report "evidence that user-fees for AIDS treatment are barriers to equity, efficiency, and quality of treatment programs. They threaten the possibility of scaling up these programs."

To mobilize public support, the groups have launched a sign-on declaration which seeks to provide a rights-based basis on which scaled up medical services could be delivered: "We believe that, for human rights, public health, and economic reasons, there should be free access for all to a comprehensive minimum medical package, including ARVs."

On February 1, 2005, at their Summit in Abuja, Africa's leaders called for a pharmaceutical manufacturing plan to bring "quality" generic drugs to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and polio across the continent. The plan will help in the production of reduced-cost drugs in coordination with support from international groups.

Other challenges

In addition to the lack of affordable access to care, stigma and repression of vulnerable populations also play a deadly role. Access to care for women and children under 15, for injection drug users, men who have sex with men, sex workers, and ethnic minorities needs to be monitored and assured.

While recognition of the murderous course of the disease is increasing, HIV/AIDS still lacks an essential, coherent "Marshall Plan." Anti-retroviral drugs have been available to some for 10 years. The work of UNGASS in 2005 and 2006 should be devoted to developing a comprehensive AIDS Marshall Plan.

Improving the targets

The Millennium Project Task Force recognizes that the AIDS-related development goals need to be enhanced. They suggest that targets for prevention are needed to assure an increased momentum of effort.

The UNGASS targets are reduction of prevalence among young people by 25% in the most-affected countries by 2005, and globally by 2010. The Task Force suggests more specific targets and measures.

As the Task Force points out, "the diversity of infections and vulnerability make development of country and sector specific approaches essential. The need to redefine and make more exact specific targets and dates is clear. National AIDS strategy councils and health ministries can develop appropriate measures."

Scaling up

In 2001, the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health (http://www.cmhealth.org) estimated that 8 million lives a year could be saved by 2010, with an investment of US$30-$45 per person in the world's poorest countries. This investment would create a "minimal" health system. This would cost an estimated US$27 billion a year (by 2007).

The ultimate objectives of the **Free by 5 Declaration** are:

- to provide economic and public health evidence that could help inform the decisions of policy-makers and governments on the issue of free treatment;
- to urge UNAIDS, WHO, the Global Fund, the World Bank, PEPFAR and other donors to adopt guidelines and actively promote the principle and implementation of free treatment; and
- to assist activists and others in their advocacy efforts to obtain free treatment.

Source: http://www.nu.ac.za/heard/free/freeby5.asp

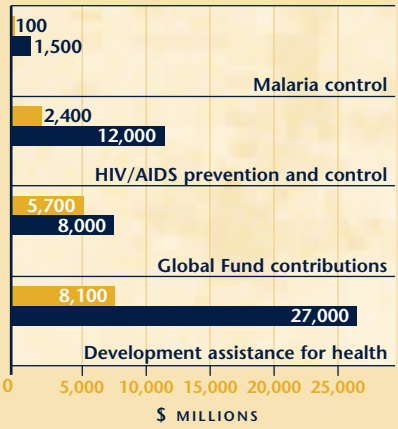
At least US$3.5 billion a year is needed to provide anti-retroviral drugs to 6 million people. With increased committed resources to support the momentum of the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, some 2 million more people might have access to the necessary drugs by 2008. But the Fund, like the WHO, requires a massive scaling up of funding.

Funding is not only required for health systems and treatment, but for research. Research on vaccines for HIV/AIDS and for tropical and neglected diseases must be enhanced. Only about 10% of global health research spending addresses 90% of the global burden of disease. This burden is borne mostly in poor countries.

The need for stable, predictable funding is clear. Development assistance funding can help, as can domestic budgets in poor countries for health expenditures. Removing debt burdens would help. And where they exist, policy restraints to AIDS funding must be removed. ActionAid reports policies on inflation imposed by the IMF led at least one country to refuse AIDS-specific funding, a tragic approach to priorities.

The MDG for HIV/AIDS has already been improved but more resources, including human resources, and more funding from more sources are desperately needed. The vast challenge of HIV/AIDS requires a massive, scaled up, comprehensive, strategic effort which will require committed, sustained, and guaranteed large-scale funding. Utilizing slogans like "AIDS:G-8 must pay up" and "We demand treatment now," a diverse coalition of CSOs has begun a campaign to "Make AIDS history" in 2005.

Needs and responses: health and health systems



- Actual donor financing, most recent year for which data available (or cumulative total in case of Global Fund)
- Anticipated annual need, authoritative assessment

Sources:
Narasimhan and Attaran, 2003; Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, 2001; UNAIDS, 2004.

Climate Change

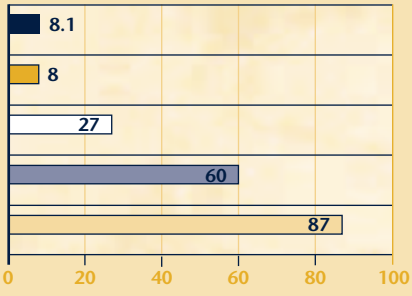
The Millennium Declaration considers "respect for nature" a fundamental human value. It cites the "precepts of sustainable development." The Declaration calls for "prudence" in the management of all living species and natural resources, and calls for changes to current "unsustainable patterns of production and consumption."

MDG 7 sets out a range of targets to secure a sustainable environment:

- reverse loss of forests
- double the proportion of people in urban areas with improved drinking water
- double the proportion of people in rural areas with improved drinking water
- halve the proportion without sanitation in rural areas
- improve the lives of slum dwellers

The 2004 report of the UN Secretary-General (available at http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals) highlights some aspects of the global environment situation. "Even regions that have made significant progress toward achieving many other goals, such as parts of Asia, tend to have a poorer record on environmental issues. The good news is that ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons have been almost eliminated. The bad news is that forest cover has been lost, notably in tropical forests, and energy use and per capita carbon dioxide emissions have increased in many developing countries."

Interrogating "scarcity"



- Value of development assistance for health, 2002
- Amount spent annually in US for bathroom renovations
- Donor financing needed for health in 2007
- 2007 value, 2001 US income tax cuts for top 1%, avg. income $1.3 million
- Added funds requested by President Bush for pacification of Iraq, September 2003

Meanwhile, implementation of key global agreements is mixed:

- The Desertification Convention is hampered by lack of resources (See http://www.unccd.int/main.php).
- The parties to the Biodiversity Convention (http://www.biodiv.org/convention/articles.asp) have adopted indicators and specific goals to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.
- The Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety (available at http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp) has come into force.

The World Conference on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002, held 10 years after the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, reaffirmed Rio's Agenda 21 as well as the MDGs. The conference addressed water and sanitation, energy, health, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, and ecosystem management. A number of countries announced particular initiatives, like the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, new conservation areas, or increased funding. Finance and trade policies were discussed, including the phase-out of all forms of export subsidies and subsidies for fossil fuels, as well as increases in development assistance. (For more information, see http://www.johannesburgsummit.org).

The environment and development

A central question remains: *How are policies for rapid development to relieve poverty to be implemented without the extreme environmental degradation that often accompanies such growth?*

The close link between poverty, hunger, and disease on the one hand, with continuing environmental degradation on the other, is the starting point for work on Goal 7 by the Millennium Project. It calls for environmental safeguards to be included in all planning for poverty reduction and other development goals. This requires access to environmental information to assess the consequences of actions.

The Project advocates that the full value of ecosystems and the services they provide be taken into account in trade and other market activities. Many ecosystems transcend boundaries, so international agreements should assure equitable access to and protection of natural resources. Development and environmental plans must be based on realistic estimates of future population growth and distribution.

The environment and security

The High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change recognizes that environmental degradation is a significant threat to security. Renewable and low-carbon energy sources and low greenhouse gas-producing technologies sources should be part of development plans.

The Panel notes that although the Kyoto Protocol comes into force in 2005, the United States, which produces one-quarter of world emissions of greenhouse gases, refuses to ratify the Protocol. Developing countries have resisted binding caps on emissions. The Protocol is insufficient to deal with the problem. It only deals with the period ending in 2015. The Panel urges member states to "re-engage with the problem of global warming" and develop a long-term strategy leading beyond 2015. (http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/kpeng.html).

"The challenge of reversing the degradation of ecosystems while meeting increasing demands can be met under some scenarios involving significant policy and institutional changes...Achieving this, however, will require radical changes in the way nature is treated at every level of decision-making and new ways of cooperation between government, business and civil society. The warning signs are there for all of us to see. The future now lies in our hands."

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) Synthesis Report (http://www.millenniumassessment.org)

"The impacts of climate change will fall disproportionately upon developing countries and the poor persons within all countries, and thereby exacerbate inequities in health status and access to adequate food, clean water and other resources."

- R.K. Pachauri, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (http://www.ipcc.ch)

"Here on the small island atoll of Kiribati, the impacts of human-induced climate change are already visible. The sea level is rising. People's homes are vulnerable to the increasingly high tides and storm surges. Shores are eroding and the coral reefs are becoming bleached. The water supplies and soil fertility are being threatened by the intrusion of salt water. Weather patterns are less predictable, posing risks to fishing and farmers."

- Otin Taai Declaration, Pacific Churches' Consultation on Climate Change, 2004 (available at http://www.wcc-coe.org/wcc/what/jpc/otin_taai_declaration.html).

Being impact-conscious

The World Conservation Union (http://www.iucn.org) defines sustainability as "improving the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems." Carrying capacity means the maximum population of a given species that an area can support without reducing its ability to do so in the future. When we calculate the "footprint" a person leaves on the earth, given his/her consumption, a Canadian currently requires 4.3 hectares of land. The amount available per capita on the globe is 1.5 hectares. Currently, a US resident requires 5.1 hectares, a resident of Japan 2.5, and a resident of India 0.4. Some are borrowing carrying capacity from others.

The implication is that Northern consumption must be reduced to make room for others. Current campaigns to implement Kyoto commitments to reduce consumption of fossil fuels are an attempt to move in this direction.

Climate change: A civil society challenge

Climate change is probably the single greatest environmental threat, one that bears heavily on the poor and on women. Goal 7 does not highlight climate change nor deal with it effectively.

Up in Smoke, published by The Working Group on Climate Change and Development (UK), outlines the dramatic effect even small variations in temperature can have on rain-fed agriculture, on food security and the availability of water, health, and migration. (The report is available at http://www.iied.org/climate_change/pubs.html).

Increasingly variable weather, escalating natural disasters, and changes in sea levels will affect tens of millions of people. The impact will be in rich countries and in poor ones like Bangladesh. The poor will have few resources to adapt to these impacts.

While changes may initially appear subtle, the eventual costs are astronomical, according to *Up in Smoke*. "Assuming that current trends were to continue, by shortly after the middle of this century — in 2065 — the economic costs of natural disasters and increasingly volatile climate would exceed total world (economic) output."

Climate change and women

Up in Smoke points out that little attention has yet been paid to the social and gender implications of climate change, partly because of the lack of women in decision-making at all levels. Women make up 70% of the poor in the developing world, and are more vulnerable to the hazards of climate change, but have little or limited access to resources and services to assist adaptation and survival. Drought, reduction in fish stocks, climate impact on agriculture — all affect women who cultivate or find food for their families. In adapting to impacts in agriculture, for example, women who are almost 80% of the agricultural sector in Africa, must have access to education and investments to help them adapt to changing circumstances.

Growth strategies and trade dependence

The dependence of current development strategies, including the MDGs, on trade-led growth contributes to climate change. While production is up by a factor of five between 1950 and the mid-1990s, *Up in Smoke* reports that exports are up over 14 times. Production is globalized, much of it within transnational businesses, and "lives in a bubble."

International aviation and marine fuels are not taxed in a way that would reflect the real costs of shipping and transport. Greenhouse gas emissions from international transport are also exempt from Kyoto targets. The same transport networks are heavily subsidized (rich country subsidies to fossil fuel industries were US$73 billion per year in the late 1990s).

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) states that trade liberalization in developing and transition economies is having "serious environmental and related social impacts" in such areas as water pollution, biodiversity loss, and obstruction of policies to mitigate environmental damage.

There is an urgent need for new models of trade if climate is to be protected.

Migration

Global warming may exceed war or political upheaval as a producer of displaced people. Environmental refugees already exist. By some estimates, their number is likely to multiply to 150 million by mid-century.

Building a better response

There remain significant gaps between those working on "development" and those working on environment. Much work is needed to better understand climate change, calculate impacts, and plan. To sustain the environment and to address climate change implies deeper questions about current dependence on overall economic growth. The fight against poverty implies a much more equitable sharing of the world's space and carrying capacity.

Models and risk assessments are likely to play a role in further work. A handy approach to relating economic, social, and environmental factors has been developed by the New Economics Foundation, in "The Risk Equation" (http://www.neweconomics.org).

Civil society organizations could work much more effectively toward a collective understanding of the threats posed by some kinds of economic growth, climate change and environment failures.

We need to stop and reverse further global warming. We need to design a new model for development that is "climate friendly" and equitable.

Human Rights

The Millennium Declaration urges governments to "spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development."

In support of the Declaration, governments have agreed to uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and have agreed to protect and promote the full spectrum of rights (including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights). As well, governments have undertaken to

The Risk Equation

Unsustainable development drives disaster risk by exaggerating each of these factors:

HAZARDS INCREASING: The unsustainable use of fossil fuels is warming the planet. The resulting change in climate is increasing the frequency and severity of weather-related hazards (e.g. floods, droughts, windstorms) and expanding the range of disease vectors.

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VULNERABILITY INCREASING: Hazards only become disasters when people get in the way. Unsustainable development involves poor land use (e.g. building on flood plains, unstable slopes, and coastlines) and environmental degradation (e.g. bleaching of coral reefs, destruction of coastal mangroves, deforestation of water catchments), which are increasing vulnerability by putting millions more in harm's way.

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CAPACITY DECREASING: To cope with the effects of climate change, vulnerable communities need enough skills, tools and money. Yet debt repayments, inequitable trade arrangements, selective foreign investment, and the redirection of aid funds towards geo-strategic regions, mean that the poorest and most vulnerable communities lack the resources to cope. Meanwhile, the inexorable migration of millions from rural to urban areas – in the hope of finding work and avoiding disaster – is undermining traditional coping strategies. On top of this, disasters driven by global warming hit the most vulnerable hardest, further undermining their capacities to cope with future disasters.

Source:
http://www.neweconomics.org/gen/uploads/igeebque0l3nvy455whn42vs19102004202736.pdf

strengthen democracy, including genuine citizen participation, and to combat violence and discrimination against women.

However, according to some civil society groups, the MDGs lack specific human rights goals and analysis.

International human rights groups, and in particular women's rights groups, have been fairly critical of the MDGs. Some question the value of supporting them at all. More optimistic civil society groups are hopeful that the goals can be useful to human rights. They insist, however, that the MDGs can only be achieved by employing rights-based approaches to development.

The question arises: *What is a rights-based approach in practical terms?*

A rights-based approach

In human rights work, process is as important as outcome. Therefore, a rights-based approach to the MDGs would involve particular attention to monitoring progress to ensure that all steps are respectful of human rights. The achievement of goals must be compatible with human rights. Measures to achieve the goals should not neglect individuals and their rights.

In a rights-based analysis, there are both claimants of human rights and duty holders. The duty holders in development (i.e., communities, international institutions, governments, the private sector, civil society, others) are responsible to claimants if the right to development has been violated. Appropriate legal frameworks are required to ensure the accountability of the duty holders.

The role of civil and political rights must be strengthened so that citizens can have input to decision-making and access to adequate and accurate information. Not only are these rights of inherent value, they allow citizens to articulate their economic, social, and cultural needs and help keep duty holders accountable.

Finding common ground

According to Philip Alston, Special Advisor to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, what is necessary is "a judicious blend of elements from the human rights framework," poverty reduction strategies, and the MDGs. Alston says human rights groups should be encouraged to "develop critiques of the ways in which the MDGs are interpreted and applied."

One example of how a rights-based approach can be applied to the eight goals is the proposal for participatory budgeting. Citizens monitor public spending and have a direct say in the allocation of resources and setting social policy. A space for civil and political rights is created, and social and economic rights may be given priority in budget and spending. World Social Forum visitors to the Porto Alegre communities experimenting with this kind of budget making, have carried word of its potential around the world. Participatory budgeting can help ensure that poorer citizens receive a larger share of public resources.

The Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Civil and Political Rights, together with the Conventions on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and All Forms of Racial Discrimination and agreements on the Rights of the Child, provide a basis to evaluate the MDGs. These agreements can be used to help set human rights benchmarks.

MISSING IN ACTION: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS

Many human rights and development groups argue that a critical step in ensuring the compatibility of human rights and the MDGs is more explicit recognition of human rights obligations. Women's rights groups are still seeking recognition of the importance of sexual and reproductive health rights 10 years after the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo. This conference recognized population and development issues were no longer about a "population bomb," but about empowering women and men to exercise their reproductive rights. Population stabilization can be achieved through choice, not coercion. The Cairo conference Program of Action aims for universal access to quality reproductive health services by 2015.

The 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing) put forward the concept that: "The human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality."

Despite the results of these two meetings, both the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs fail to mention sexual and reproductive health rights. UN Population Fund (http://www.unfpa.org/) executive director, Thoraya Obaid, says that "the attainment of reproductive health and reproductive rights are fundamental for development, for fighting poverty, and for meeting the MDG targets."

Women's rights organizations and other groups demand that sexual and reproductive health rights targets and indicators be included in the MDGs: some insist that a ninth goal be added in recognition of the essential nature of these rights and their importance to the achievement of all the goals.

The absence of any mention of these rights is frustrating for some women active in civil society because it calls into question the progress in women's rights achieved in Cairo and Beijing. In some sensitive cultural and religious contexts these rights are controversial. That makes it even more important that sexual and reproductive health rights be recognized in international agreements such as the MDGs.

As well as civil society advocacy, other attempts are underway to include sexual and reproductive health rights, and necessary indicators and targets in the MDGs. "Guaranteeing sexual and reproductive rights and health," is a strategic priority for the Millennium Project Task Force on Education and Gender Equality. The Project's Final Report recognizes the direct relationship between these rights and goals 4, 5, and 6. The report also recognizes the indirect relationship to all the other goals. It recommends increased efforts and resources to advance sexual and reproductive health rights as an important part of the strategy to meet the MDGs (http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/).

PART IV

Governing Our Global Society

CIVIL SOCIETY

Are we on the edge of something new? The proliferation and vigour of non-governmental and not-for profit organizations, social movements, dot.causes, constituency alliances, social forums, and other more or less structured networks and coalitions spanning the earth is inspiring and impressive. Like the earth's biosphere, this global civil society is vulnerable to internal and external influences. It has its weak spots and it has challenges.

Over the past decade, though, CSOs have shown adaptability and a growing sophistication in claiming a right to political space at regional, national, continental, and global levels. Many of the groups responding to our invitation to contribute to this report are part of an increasing global ferment, one that is remarkably diverse and uneven. It bubbles with proposals, demands, and experiments.

DYNAMICS AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL: ARAB SOCIETIES

"During the last two decades, the United Nations introduced new concepts of development; by the end of the nineties, new indicators to evaluate development were elaborated in addition to the traditional and technical ones related to economic growth and income, and life expectation and illiteracy rates. The new indicators highlight socioeconomic, cultural and environmental, and life conditions. This new approach to development led to a new understanding about the role of civil society organizations, particularly NGOs. Thus, the role of NGOs became very important and effective as a main partner of the government and the public administration in designing, implementing, and evaluating national policies in the socioeconomic, cultural and environmental and human rights strategies. The challenge that Arab CSOs are facing is to develop and to support civil society capacities, by recognizing the role and the importance, but also by providing the enabling environment in the Arab countries."

– Ziad Abdel Samad, Arab NGOs Network for Development

Civil society claims for political space include demands for the creation of new structures for global governance. There is a growing scepticism about the validity and legitimacy of current global institutions, and intense debate about what might replace them. Here we will consider some elements of that debate. Some ideas focus on the pre-eminent global political institution, the United Nations, and suggestions for how civil society can develop more meaningful engagement. Other thoughts involve global economic governance. Finally we will end with a snapshot look at current work and debate on civil society's self-organizing for global participation.

THE UN AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Over the past 10 years, relations between the UN and civil society have become increasingly intense, characterized by diversity, frequent complexity and occasional breakthroughs in experimentation and engagement.

In 1995 the Commission on Global Governance recommended the creation of an ongoing Peoples/Civil Society Forum at the UN with advisory status to the General Assembly. The suggested Forum would start with the establishment of consultative status for NGOs to the General Assembly. It "would offer international civil society direct access to the UN system and provide an entry point for its views into the deliberations of the UN," to "help the Assembly to decide – by informing its discussions and influencing its conclusions." This proposal has been hovering at the edge of international debate for a decade.

It gained further expression in 2000. In May, the UN Secretary-General invited hundreds of NGOs to the New York headquarters to participate in the "We the Peoples Millennium Forum" in preparation for the Millennium Summit in September 2000. The Forum produced a visionary declaration and program of action addressed to governments, the UN, and civil society on all the major issues on the UN agenda.

It called for "the creation and funding of a Global Civil Society Forum to meet at least every two or three years in the period leading up to the General Assembly, provided that such a forum is conducted democratically and transparently and is truly representative of all sectors of civil society and all parts of the world." (*Our Global Neighbourhood*, 1995 Report of the Commission on Global Governance available at http://www.libertymatters.org/globalgovernance.htm).

However, by 2005, not only has the proposed Global Civil Society Forum not been established, there is very little support for it. Why? And what are the alternatives?

George Monbiot, for instance, in *The Age of Consent: A Manifesto for a New World Order* (2004), argues that such a Forum "would be a disaster for democracy" by limiting civil society participation to a select few, and could divert attention from the fundamental issue, some form of global citizen-based representation. The Commission on Global Governance, on the other hand, said it would be a useful step "pending the evolution of a forum in the nature of a parliamentary or people's assembly within the UN system."

At issue is not just the question of how to select participants from the ever-increasing number of NGOs in the world. There are many other complicating considerations, including the changed security environment around the UN since the 9/11 terrorist attack on New York. There is also the more important issue of how to build greater access for civil society to the UN and its diverse agencies and programs located around the world. This must mean more than supporting visits to New York and should include establishing ongoing relationships in every country.

In 2003, the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly on UN reform recognized that it is time for the UN to better reflect the geo-political realities of globalization. These realities include global civil society actors and networks and calls for action on issues which not only transcend national

"Engaging with Civil Society is a necessity not an option."

- Cardoso Panel Report, 2004

boundaries but reflect NGO preoccupations with global norms and values — peace, human rights, the environment, social justice. The Secretary-General set up a High Level Panel, chaired by the former President of Brazil, F.H. Cardoso, to study and recommend ways to enhance the UN's relations with civil society.

The Cardoso Report *"We the Peoples: Civil Society, the United Nations and Global Governance"* was released in June 2004 (http://www.un.org/reform/panel.htm). It conveys a new spirit, one that would make the UN more outward looking and more effective at identifying multiple constituencies with stakes in particular issues. The report re-defines "multilateral" to mean not just many governments, but many levels of participation by all relevant actors. The report suggests improved support for civil society participation through a trust fund and higher-level leadership in the Secretariat. It proposes access for NGOs to the General Assembly. It suggests new ways that the UN could be more "user-friendly" at the country level. It recommends joint thematic global parliamentary "standing committees" to review key global concerns like the environment.

The Cardoso Report does not propose a regular civil society forum, but it does recommend specific forums to advise the General Assembly. Specifically it proposes regular two-day informal, interactive hearings with NGOs prior to the opening of the General Assembly each year, on an agenda negotiated between UN and NGO representatives. An initial suggestion is that such hearings be instituted prior to special reviews of the Special Session on HIV/AIDS in 2005 and 2006.

The Cardoso Panel recommendations and the Secretary-General's response to them, merit serious examination by civil society organizations. Many of the proposals are worthy of energetic support. Without that support it is unlikely that any official delegation will take the initiative to propose General Assembly action. Such action is urgently needed, and organizations with a common interest need to band together to make that happen.

In December 2004 another High Level Panel, this one on Threats, Challenges and Change, recommended in its report, *A More Secure World – Our Shared Responsibility,* that the General Assembly establish "a better mechanism to enable systematic engagement with civil society organizations." The report acknowledges that civil society and NGOs "can provide valuable knowledge and perspective on global issues." This recommendation endorses Article 65 of the Cardoso report. (*A More Secure World: Our shared responsibility,* Report of the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change is available online at http://www.un.org/secureworld).

Agencies and groups like the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) (http://www.un-ngls.org), CONGO (The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the UN) (http://www.ngocongo.org), the World Federalists (http://www.wfm.org,) and WFUNA (http://www.wfuna.org) can help to engage a wide range of other organizations that have an interest in developing stronger relations with the UN. The matter is practical and urgent.

In what could be a precedent for the sort of engagement Cardoso calls for, there will be in June 2005 a General Assembly Hearing with NGOs to prepare for the September leaders' summit. This innovation in consultative relations between the UN and civil society is exciting great interest among

NGOs around the world. The President of the General Assembly called on NGOs to present ideas to him for the Hearing. They have agreed to do so, and to persist in contributing to the preparatory process, with the aim of ensuring effective NGO input and participation.

A NGO Millennium +5 Network has been developed at the UN in New York, initiating Millennium +5 NGO Forums in conjunction with each of the ECOSOC Commissions – Social Development, Women, Sustainable Development. Their aim is to bring together priority issues for the Millennium Review Summit. The results will be contributed to the Hearings June 23-24.

There are a number of NGO consultative processes and "shadow" evaluative reports which will feed into the Hearings and be directed to the Summit; notably work being done on the MDGs and Financing for Development by diverse NGOs, many associated in the Global Call to Action Against Poverty; NGO responses to the reports of the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change and on UN-Civil Society Relations; as well as the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, which will hold the Global Partnership Conference "From Reaction to Prevention" at the UN in New York, July 19-21, 2005.

Almost all of these processes are open to diverse constituencies, who are encouraged to formulate ideas and recommendations. Whether groups are based among children, the aging, women, youth, Indigenous communities, labour, or a particular thematic concern, the opportunities are there to be used, expanded, and continued.

LOOKING FORWARD, GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

How is "global citizenship" best expressed and best realized?

Academics, journalists, and civil society groups are asking the question and wrestling with answers.

One option is to transfer republican or parliamentary models to the global level. This involves visions of a global people's assembly. *The Guardian's* George Monbiot asks: Why accept a substitute, when you should be working urgently for "the only genuinely representative global forum… a directly representative one…a world parliament. As everything has been globalized except democracy, the rulers of the world can go about their business without reference to ourselves."

A global parliament would be a place where ideas, good and bad, could do battle in a forum with global recognition and weight. It could formally hold global powers to account. It could quicken the bringing together of human concerns and interests. Several diverse NGO initiatives have attempted to popularize the idea of a global "Peoples Assembly." Eminent legal scholars, like Princeton's Richard Falk in the US, have theorized how such a global representative assembly could be developed.

British scholar David Held, in *Global Covenant, The Social Democratic Alternative to the Washington Consensus* (Cambridge: Polity, 2004), suggests a step that might lead in this direction: increasing national parliamentary review and scrutiny of international agreements.

"The common currency that runs throughout so many struggles and movements for liberation across the world today – at local, regional, and global levels – is the desire for democracy."

- Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, Multitude: War and Democracy in the Age of Empire. *New York: The Penguin Press, 2004*

The World Commission on the Social Dimensions of Globalization proposes a similar approach. Established by the International Labour Organization (ILO) to help achieve "a fairer globalization," the Commission concludes the global system is neither coherent nor sufficiently democratic, transparent, or accountable. The Commission presses for increased support and contributions to the UN system. They favour regular parliamentary review of actions of international institutions at the national level and joint parliamentary review of global economic, social, and environmental policies. (For more information, please visit http://www.ilo.org/public/english/fairglobalization).

There are personalities and institutions that militantly resist such visions. For example, World Bank Vice-President for Europe, J.F. Rischard, argues cogently that we just don't have time to deal with such global "constitutional" ideas if we are going to address the 20 urgent global issues (like poverty and global warming) that face us. Something less cumbersome is needed, he argues, something like "issues networks" formed of the "best and brightest" that would establish norms and road maps to address global problems.

As well, sovereign bodies, like the US Congress, and many executive branches, jealously guard their rights against encroachments by international bodies.

Nevertheless, the civil society and NGO Forum ideas and proposals are taking on more and more momentum, as we documented in *We the Peoples 2004*. They can be further developed through 2005 and beyond.

OUR COMMON BUSINESS: GOVERNING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

> *"The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), entrusted by the UN Charter with a global coordinating function, leads a shadowy existence. The most powerful industrialized nations have set up separate coordinating bodies of their own, including the G-7/G-8. As far as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are concerned, these countries generally have their own way in them without having to pay much heed to political majorities in the UN."*
> - Thomas Fues, *Reform Agenda 2005: The United Nations at a Historic Fork of the Road*. Briefing Paper No. 5. German Development Institute (DIE) Bonn 2004, available online at http://www.die-gdi.de

Fundamental to the establishment of a more equitable distribution of power and resources is changing the current structure of economic global governance. Survey participants and others stress this point.

Every institution claiming to share governance of our common global economy requires review and significant change, as we have indicated earlier in this report. Furthermore, one of the debates emerging in the new millennium has to do with overall management of the globalized economy. This debate is reflected in references to the need for increased "policy coherence" among institutions like the World Bank, the IMF, the WTO, and the UN system.

Structures for more effective coordination and management are proposed by a variety of international commissions and studies. Civil society organizations are prone to ask: *In whose interests, and policy coherence for whom?* (Business, the poor, respect for human rights, the powerless, etc.).

One proposal to emerge is the "G-20" (or "Northern G-20"), based on an initiative in the 1990s led by the Canadian government. It recognizes the importance to bring India, China, Brazil, and a number of other nations into discussions that have, to date, been monopolized by the more exclusive G-7/G-8. Other similar coalitions of low and middle income nations are achieving some success to balance powerful economic nations in trade negotiations and high level WTO meetings.

The Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy (Tanzania and Finland) seeks stronger international and regional negotiating forums to ensure a more just and equitable division of the benefits of globalization. NGOs from Finland and Tanzania, including United Nations Associations, and others have developed a Global Citizens' Platform to further these aims. There will be a Helsinki Process world conference in Helsinki, September 7-9, 2005. (http://www.helsinkiprocess.fi)

The Helsinki Process group on "global problem-solving" proposes a consultative process, involving the UN and many other actors, leading to a new "Apex" group of countries. This body would have the prestige to demand annual reports on the state of the global economy, from the Bank, Fund, WTO, and other multilateral institutions. The group supports regular international parliamentary review of such reports, as recommended by the ILO Commission on the Social Dimensions of Globalization (http://www.helsinkiprocess.fi/Track1).

One criticism of this proposal is that rather than bringing discussions of global economic matters into the pre-eminent and universal political body, the UN, this would be one more in a proliferation of parallel and perhaps competing arrangements. Further this "G-20" is not the only G-20, as a Southern-based coalition of governments with that name developed out of the confrontations of the Cancun WTO Ministerial meeting, and continues.

Proposals that do place the UN at the core of a more coherent and equitably global economic structure often focus on ECOSOC. ECOSOC has been increasingly marginalized in recent decades by the aggressive growth of the World Bank, and the clout of the WTO. The issue of how to reform and strengthen ECOSOC and bring it into the centre of global economic, social, and environmental policy-making has provoked a number of new proposals in recent years. Recommendation 89 of the report of the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change calls upon ECOSOC to transform itself into a "development cooperation forum" with a more focused agenda built around the themes of the Millennium Declaration. While a participatory development forum might, in itself, be a worthwhile enterprise, this proposal does not deal with the need to bring key global economic decision-makers into the UN tent, and into UN norms and frameworks, a key civil society demand.

The report of the Commission on Global Governance suggests the establishment of an Economic Security Council (ESC) to bring global economic policy-making into the UN, with equivalent "clout" to the Security Council. Others, including the Zedillo Panel advising the 2002 Monterrey Financing for Development Conference endorse the proposal. As one organization focusing on governance issues points out, while it is not logical to expect trade and finance bodies to develop adequate human rights or environmental policies, the ECOSOC, or something like it would be the logical forum for cross-sectoral considerations.

A variety of CSOs, including UBUNTU, the International Facilitating Committee on Financing for Development, and the World Federalist Movement's Institute for Global Policy have developed other specific proposals. The issue merits focused attention by all NGOs interested in a stronger UN, reformed global governance, and fundamental economic, social, and environment change. In the meantime, governments could strengthen the capacity, authority, and coordinating power of the ECOSOC by several practical and feasible steps, including the creation and mandating of an executive committee.

CIVIL SOCIETY SELF-ORGANIZING

Ideas from civil society for new structures and methods for global governance are not limited to UN reforms to global financial institutions and economic arrangements. Plans and activities to provide space and frameworks for civil society participation in governance at global levels are proliferating.

Spontaneous networking among people all over the world represents the emergence of a global civil society according to the Global Civil Society yearbook, produced annually by the London School of Economics since 2001. Co-author John Keane likens civil society to the global biosphere.

"Just as every part of the earth, from the highest mountains to the deepest seas, supports life," he writes, "so too global civil society is found on virtually every part of the earth's surface." It is a "vast, interconnected, and multi-layered social space that comprises many hundreds of thousands of self-directing or non-governmental institutions and ways of life" (http://www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/global/Yearbook/yearbook.htm).

The World Social Forum is a site for debate on global futures. In preparing the 2005 Porto Alegre Forum, a participatory methodology engaging almost 2,000 organizations, the Forum developed the themes to be highlighted, helping like-minded groups from diverse backgrounds to come together (http://www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/).

The Forum itself, as a principle of operation, refuses to take decisions as a body. Groups meeting under its umbrella can make decisions and do so. Some 150,000 people took part in the 2005 Forum with significant sessions on global governance and the UN. The Forum has stimulated regional and national forums around the world.

A November 2004 gathering of more than 600 people from several continents in Padua, Italy focused on exploring ways to open up and expand the "public sphere" at a global level and explore global democracy. The event gave birth to a global peoples campaign to "reclaim our UN"

"We begin by liberating ourselves from the perception that we must wait upon nation states to deliver global justice. This assembly will belong to the people, and we require no one's permission to establish it."

- *The Age of Consent*

(http://www.tavoladellapace.it/default2.asp). Dot Keet from the Africa Trade Network in South Africa (http://twnafrica.org/atn/campaigns/whatistheatn.htm), sums up one point of view:

"There are parallel systems of power today: the US empire, the IMF, WTO, transnational corporations. All of this contradicts the principles on which the UN is based. It's a political problem and there is no alternative to democratic struggle to change the situation."

One of the more ambitious civil society initiatives on governance is the Barcelona-based UBUNTU (http://www.ubuntu.upc.es), the World Forum of Civil Society Networks and its Campaign for Reform of International Institutions.

The Global Policy Forum (http://www.globalpolicy.org), with bases in the United States and Germany, maintains a continuing overview of governance debates and proposals.

The Helsinki-based Network Institute for Global Democratization has produced provocative studies bringing together civil society proposals for democratic governance (http://www.nigd.org).

The World Federalist Movement's Institute for Global Policy (http://www.wfm.org), has just published a short paper summarizing a number of feasible proposals.

The Montreal, Canada-based and internationally governed Forum International de Montreal (FIM) (http://www.fimcivilsociety.org), organized a world civil society conference on global governance in 2002 (G02) and is organizing once again for (G05), May 29-June 1, 2005.

These events provide an opportunity for activists, scholars, and members of local and national representative bodies to build on existing work and develop new strategies. The events which lead to the September leaders' Millennium Review Summit can and must be used to engage governments and ask fundamental questions about how we are to govern global policy in light of the objectives of the Declaration.

A UN FOR THIS CENTURY

Like a golden thread, every year our survey results document civil society's recognition of the inescapable importance of the United Nations. People everywhere understand the unique and irreplaceable work of the United Nations in preventing and mediating conflict, in peacekeeping in all its dimensions, in working to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and in so many other tasks.

Many leaders will take note of the High Level Panel's attention to the UN and human security. The proposals from CSOs for institutional change and the Cardoso proposals for stronger UN-civil society relations merit attention as well.

The United Nations and its historic work and accomplishments make the achievement of the Millennium Declaration objectives and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals a possibility. That possibility is strengthened by the existence of a fermenting civil society in dynamic and creative partnership with the United Nations.

We could be on the edge of something new. *Carpe Diem — Seize the Day.*

"Reclaim Our UN"

We propose a global day of action for democracy, freedom and peace, against all fundamentalisms and wars, to be held on the eve of the Summit of Heads of State convened by the UN in New York in autumn 2005 for a review of the commitments undertaken at the Millennium Summit and the reform of UN.

- From a call for a World Way of Action, September 10, 2005. (www.tavoladellapace.it)

PART V

Take Action

When world leaders meet in September 2005 in New York they need to know they are accountable to you and millions of others to keep the Millennium Development Goals and Declaration promises. The world will benefit if they each agree to keep those promises before they meet. You can help make that happen.

You may be already involved in work in support of the eight MDGs. You may wish to do more. You might be new to global affairs, the Millennium promises, development issues, or activism.

Here you will find a list of key meetings and events in preparation for the September 2005 leaders' summit in New York. You will also find a summary of recent activities around the world.

There are some suggestions about how you can help and what you might do in partnership with people all over the world. Following these suggestions you will find a list of key organizations and what they do, and a resource index so you can contact others and/or learn more.

Taking it Global

The United Nations Millennium Campaign

The United Nations has initiated a broad Campaign for the Millennium to engage the public, and supported a far-reaching research and assessment Project to analyze what must be done to meet the MDGs and how that might be accomplished.

The United Nations Millennium Campaign was launched in October 2002 to encourage citizens around the world to hold governments to account for the promises they made at the September 2000 Millennium Summit. The Campaign is a focal point for networks, civil society groups, national organizations, and movements. It works at both the national and international levels, with the goal of creating and sustaining a global movement to achieve the MDGs. Hundreds of groups have launched national and local campaigns all across the world that promote the MDGs. They are linked to the global campaign through regional contacts.

For more information on the different national and regional campaigns and ways to get involved, visit http://www.millenniumcampaign.org.

Taking it to the Streets: The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP): The White Band Campaign

Launched in Porto Alegre, Brazil on January 27, 2005, GCAP is an alliance of non-profit organizations in the North and South, dedicated to eliminating poverty and achieving the MDGs.

Spearheaded by several well-established organizations including Oxfam International, Social Watch, DAWN (http://www.dawn.org.fj), the Micah Challenge (http://www.micahchallenge.org/home/intro.asp), MWENGO (http://www.mwengo.org), World Vision (http://www.wvi.org) and the UN Millennium Campaign, the GCAP alliance also includes a growing number of diverse groups working at international, regional, national, and local levels.

Both the GCAP alliance and the Millennium Campaign emphasize the fundamental importance of national-based efforts to achieve the MDGs.

Nearly 60% of our survey respondents are aware of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty and three-quarters endorse it. A number of groups are undertaking intensive awareness-raising initiatives, community programs, and development projects to support GCAP. The alliance's primary strategy is to unite people worldwide in joint action at key times during 2005. All GCAP actions will be linked symbolically by wearing a white band. (See "What you can do" section on page 87.)

CONNECTING PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT: THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PREVENTION OF ARMED CONFLICT

In response to the UN Secretary-General's *Report on the Prevention of Armed Conflict* (June 2001, available online at http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/reports/2001/sgrep01.htm), the European Centre for Conflict Prevention (ECCP) (http://www.euconflict.org) and its partners in various countries formed the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (http://www.gppac.net). The Global Partnership seeks to build alliances both within civil society, and between civil society and like-minded governments. Its objective is to "create a fundamental shift in how the world responds to conflict by developing a common platform for effective action in conflict prevention from the community to global level."

There will be a Global Conference on Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict and Peacebuilding at UN headquarters in New York July 19-21, 2005.

Taking it National

National and regional campaigns

Civil society groups around the world organize campaigns and workshops at the national level. Through news briefings, radio programs, web projects, published reports, newsletters, and other material about the MDGs, they build community awareness and educate the public. They also host public events, seminars, and debates, network and information share. They lobby parliaments, organize letter writing campaigns, public contests, documentaries and exhibitions, press releases, training workshops, and roundtables.

Asia

In March 2004 a regional consultation in Bangkok, Thailand brought together CSOs and regional networks to reflect on a distinct Asian agenda, identify specific regional and national challenges and priorities, and share experiences of campaigning at the national level. In November that same year, 300 participants from more than 30 countries gathered, also in Bangkok, for the second Asia Civil Society Forum to discuss the theme,

A major global policy breakthrough is needed in 2005 to get the world's poorest countries on track to meeting the goals. The Millennium Project's Report presents a framework for this policy shift detailing a series of recommendations for rich and poor countries alike and has also produced an accompanying *Handbook of Best Practices to Meet the MDGs*. For more information, visit the site of the Millennium Project at http://www.unmillenniumproject.org

"Thang's Journey," a comic book created by the UN Vietnam office which tells of a boy's journey from Hanoi to the countryside, includes current information on development in the country, and provides suggestions for how Vietnamese can support the MDGs.

"Building UN/NGOs Partnerships for Democratic Governance through MDGs." The meeting's declaration calls on civil society organizations to use the MDGs as "one of the tools that enable the advancement of human rights and sustainable development within the context of people's ongoing struggle for their basic right to live and sustainable livelihoods." (For more information, please go to http://www.acsf.info).

Current efforts in Asia include:

- Efforts led by Social Watch and Samarthan in **India** to link the country's Five-year Plan to the MDGs and to engage members of parliament and local authorities. Social Watch is also working on awareness-raising initiatives in the **Philippines**.
- Work in **Nepal** by the NGO Federation (http://www.ngofederation.org) to educate politicians and the general public on the MDGs through workshops, public events, and the dissemination of best practice examples, with a particular focus on peacebuilding strategies.
- Consultations in **Pakistan** among civil society groups, media professionals, and artists to prepare for rallies, demonstrations, signature drives, and street theatre to building awareness on human rights issues and the Millennium Goals. Coordinated by the Insan Foundation Pakistan (http://www.insanpk.org).

Africa

The African Union (AU) Summit in July 2004 saw a marked increase in the participation of civil society representatives. Support for the MDGs to motivate political commitment and stimulate sustainable peace and development is gaining momentum at the national level. Here are several examples:

- In August 2004 in **Zambia**, 50 CSOs, including church groups, gender, human rights, health, and education groups, met to plan and launch their MDGs campaign.
- In **Ethiopia**, the Poverty Action Network of Civil Society in Ethiopia (PAN/E), a coalition of more than 40 NGOs, is working to link Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (SDPRS) with the MDGs.
- In **Uganda** efforts are being made to link the MDGs to the Ugandan Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) and to increase awareness within government and civil society.

Latin America and the Caribbean

A regional consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean on the MDGs was held in Quito, Ecuador in July 2004. It was convened by the Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción (ALOP) (http://www.alop.or.cr), Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo (PIDHDD) (http://www.pidhdd.org/index_principal.htm), Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM) http://www.cladem.org/english Habitat International Coalition-Latin America and the Caribbean (HIC-AL) (http://www.hic-al.org), and the FUNDAR Center for Analysis and Research (http://www.fundar.org.mx). At the national level, members of civil society groups are promoting the MDGs to stimulate dialogue, raise awareness, and promote action.

- In **Brazil**, the MDG campaign spreads its message on shopping bags, bank statements, energy bills, and at Rio's Carnival parade. An annual National Citizenship and Solidarity week, with representatives from government, civil society, and the private sector, is planned for every year until 2015. Brazil was also home for the second time to the World Social Forum in January 2005.
- The Citizens' Campaign "No Excuses for Poverty in **Costa Rica**," was launched in November 2004 to promote dialogue and to generate a consensus on the MDGs commitments to eradicate extreme poverty and eliminate gender inequality. In **Paraguay** there has been a remarkable coalescence of more than 18 CSOs around the MDG campaign.
- In **Mexico**, FUNDAR will be working with Equipo Pueblo (http://www.equipopueblo.org.mx) to apply the MDGs to budget analysis, putting together a series of budget indicators that can be used in all countries evaluating the MDGs from a budget perspective.

Europe

Europe is bustling with MDG campaign activity, much of it focused on getting commitments from governments to increase their support for international development, and to hold leaders accountable to these commitments. To raise awareness, the Millennium Gates project, a partnership among eight children in rich countries and eight children in poor countries, has been touring the continent. In addition, there are active country campaigns. Among them:

- In **Ireland**, the "Keep Our Word" campaign is putting pressure on the Irish government to honour its commitments to increase aid. One tool of the campaign, spearheaded by the Catholic Church and Ireland's international development agency Trócaire, is the showing of innovative MDG ads in cinemas.
- The NGO umbrella organization Venro (http://www.venro.org) is leading the **German** MDG campaign, encouraging its diverse membership of over 2,000 organizations to get involved. Groups in **Poland** have entitled their campaign to raise awareness, "The Millennium Development Goals: Time to Help Others."
- In the **Nordic** countries, the Swedish MDGs Campaign was launched in 2002 under the slogan "The chance of a lifetime!" They were soon followed by the Danish who in 2003 announced "We can do it!" And in 2004 the Norwegians proclaimed their motto, "It is actually possible." In Finland, the MDGs Campaign has announced 2005 as "MDG Year." These campaigns consist of coalitions of civil society groups, government bodies, and UN organizations, focusing on monitoring follow-through on donor commitments, and raising public support in communal spaces such as schools, sporting events, and the media.
- In the **United Kingdom**, civil society is planning a mass mobilization in 2005. The campaign, entitled "Make Poverty History," emphasizes the need for urgent change in trade, debt, and aid in order to combat world poverty. A focal point for the 2005 mobilization will be the G-8 summit in July hosted by the UK, where Prime Minister Tony Blair is

expected to call for greater support from developed nations for international development. The "Make Poverty History" campaign (http://www.makepovertyhistory.org) has produced a number of television and print advertisements to mobilize the public.

- In **France**, groups including trade unions and faith-based communities have launched the "2005: plus d'excuses!" campaign. The campaign will organize events throughout the year focused on demanding that world leaders demonstrate their commitment to end poverty. Each month of 2005 will feature a different theme, with emphasis placed on mass mobilization for the "white band days" in July and September. The "No Excuse 2015" campaign in **Italy** hosted the Millennium Gates. A banner displayed along the biennial peace march route from Perugia to Assisi was seen by 100,000 people.

North America

In North America, some of the largest CSOs are joining together to boost public awareness, promote action on international development issues, and demand government support for greater global prosperity and equality.

- Early in 2005, a pan-**Canadian** campaign (http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca) was launched combining labour, Indigenous, religious, development, and a variety of other sectors. To the three emphases of the GCAP campaign, domestic poverty in Canada has been added. The Micah Challenge, a Canadian coalition of the Evangelical Fellowships (http://www.evangelicalfellowship.ca), the Canadian Council of Christian Charities Relief and Development Group (http://www.cccc.org/contents?area=a&id=3000), and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (http://www.foodgrainsbank.ca), is campaigning on the MDGs.
- In the **United States**, a number of the largest organizations dedicated to international development have joined to form the ONE Campaign (http://www.theonecampaign.org) to motivate Americans to join the fight against poverty and HIV. They are also demanding that the US government allocate an additional 1% of its budget to development assistance. The wide variety of participants in the ONE Campaign include Oxfam and the National Basketball Association.

Australia and Oceania

- The **Australian** Council for International Development (http://www.acfid.asn.au), an independent coalition of more than 80 Australian civil society organizations, has launched the Fair Share Campaign (http://www.acfid.asn.au/fairshare.htm). The campaign will seek to ensure that the Australian government and people do their "fair share" in efforts to achieve the MDGs. The *Financing for Development Colloquium and Media Seminar* in August 2004 gave groups from the Pacific region a chance to discuss practical ways to fund the MDGs.
- A national workshop was held in May 2004 in the **Marshall Islands** to discuss practical means to achieve progress on the MDGs. Similar workshops aimed at tailoring the MDGs into national frameworks are planned for 2005 in **Vanuatu** and **Tuvalu**.

Keeping Account

Monitoring, assessing, and evaluating

Many national groups are preparing "shadow reports," evaluations of their own government's response to the Declaration and the MDGs. Several international non-governmental alliances are undertaking detailed assessments.

Join with others — in civil society, think tanks and educational institutions — to become a national "MDG watchdog." Encourage people to share their experiences, assessments, and evaluations. Produce regular reports and request prompt feedback from authorities who have been given responsibility for projects and programs designed to achieve the MDGs.

Alliance2015 (http://www.alliance2015.org) is a partnership of six European development-oriented NGOs. The purpose of the Alliance is to fight poverty more effectively through better cooperation, by working together in developing countries, and by coordinating campaigns to influence public and political opinion in Europe. It plays an active advocacy role in support of the MDGs. It is contributing to the assessment of MDG progress. In 2004, Alliance2015 produced a report on the contribution of the European Union to the MDGs, with a special focus on HIV/AIDS. The report concluded that there is a big gap between policy and implementation. It shows that the EU's development policy is inadequately geared toward the MDGs. To fulfill commitments, a stronger focus on priorities and regular evaluation of policies and programs are necessary (the report can be viewed at http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/_WHHDE/download/positionen/2015_watch_eu.pdf).

The Reality of Aid Project is a major North-South international non-governmental initiative. It is focused on analysis and lobbying for poverty eradication. It brings together more than 40 civil society networks in the field of international cooperation from 22 donor countries. It provides an independent review of poverty reduction and development assistance policies of developed countries. (To read the annual reports of the donor countries' performance on aid and cooperation, visit http://www.realityofaid.org/ roa2002/OECD.htm).

The Centre for Global Development (CGD), in cooperation with *Foreign Policy* magazine, measures the contributions of 21 developed countries to the MDGs. It publishes a "Ranking the Rich Index" to assess national policies and efforts in several areas. It does not examine several important areas including intellectual property and contributions to peacebuilding. The 2004 Index can be found at http://www.cgdev.org/rankingtherich/home.html)

Another monitor of donor country contributions is **CONCORD** (http://www.concordeurope.org), the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development. Its 18 international networks and 19 national associations from European Union member states and candidate countries represent more than 1,500 European NGOs. Its main objective is to improve the influence of European development NGOs in European institutions. These NGOs work toward accountability and effectiveness of the European Union's development programs and ODA. CONCORD actively monitors both the European Commission and the EU member states in their development activities, regularly publishing views and position papers.

The North South Institute publishes the annual *Canadian Development Report*. The 2004 report "Investing in poor countries: Who benefits?" looks at the impact of private foreign investment in developing countries. It includes up-to-date statistics and analysis about the Canadian government's trade-related involvement with developing countries (the full report is available at http://www.nsi-ins.ca/ensi/publications/cdr/2004/index.html). The *Canadian Development Report 2005* will contribute to the global assessment of the MDGs by examining Canada's contributions.

Social Watch is an international network pressuring governments to fulfill their international commitments to achieve the MDGs. Through the annual Social Watch *Report*, national civil society groups report on progress toward the goals. Social Watch country files also include indicators on progress toward the MDGs, compiled from up-to-date authoritative statistical sources. Based on an initiative by the Philippines Social Watch, a "Quality of Life Index" has been developed for use by grassroots organizations. (For more information on the work of Social Watch, visit http://www.socialwatch.org/en/portada.htm).

The Commonwealth civil society network, connecting groups in more than 50 countries South and North, is preparing a **Commonwealth Peoples MDG Report** (http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com), in which national and community level groups will be evaluating the performance of their governments.

OFFICIAL REFERENCE POINTS

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) coordinates global and national efforts to reach the MDGs. It assists developing countries in preparing MDG reports that chart progress toward the goals. Dozens of national MDG reports have been issued, and more are in preparation. Donor countries are now compiling national reports on their efforts to achieve Goal 8, which is the only goal where the responsibilities of the rich nations are clearly set out. So far, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom have published reports on their efforts. Luxembourg has produced a report that examines its contributions to all the MDGs, focusing on Goal 8.

The UNDP also collaborates with other UN agencies, governments, and regional commissions to create regional MDG reports. Regional reports so far cover Africa, the Arab world, Asia/Pacific, and Latin America/the Caribbean. A sub-regional report for central European countries has also been released. (For all reports, visit http://www.undp.org/mdg).

The UN Secretary-General issues a yearly report on progress toward the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs. The report is based on a variety of sources, often drawing on national and civil society reports. (See http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/).

What You Can Do

Campaign

Support the **Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)** by joining in mass actions to end poverty. White Band Days are a chance to make the campaign visible. Wear a white arm band or head band, or decorate a building with one:

- July 1 (just before the G-8 meeting in Britain)
- September 10 (just before the UN leaders' summit in New York)
- December 10 (just before the WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong)

Show your solidarity with global efforts to end poverty (http://www.whiteband.org)

Get involved with the Global Week of Action on Trade (April 10-16) and action around the WTO Trade Ministers Meeting in Hong Kong (December 13-18) and draw attention to fair trade issues.

- Join national and global campaigns for trade reform, debt relief, new mechanisms for development financing, and improvements in international development aid with a particular focus on Millennium Declaration implementation (places to start: http://www.debtlinks.org, http://www.onecampaign.org, http://www.data.org, http://www.makepovertyhistory.org, http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca).
- Join other campaigns for greater equity, health, and sustainability and the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. Places to start: The UN Millennium Campaign website (http://www.millenniumcampaign.org), the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (http://www.un-ngls.org), CIVICUS (http://www.civicus.org), World AIDS Campaign (http://www.unaids.org), and the World March Against Child Labor (http://www.globalmarch.org).
- Initiate a community-based advocacy campaign to demand that your Head of Government support bold action to end poverty and hunger throughout the world at the September leaders' summit.

Volunteer

Whether you are a recent graduate or recently retired, volunteer your services to help achieve the MDGs. Travel to a different country to lend a hand while simultaneously building new relationships and a greater understanding of our global cultural diversity (find out more at http://www.unvolunteers.org). Identify the vulnerable in your community — the ill, the elderly, refugees, the disabled, orphans and those charged with their care — find out what you can do to ease their situations.

Promote participatory decision-making

- Join or help organize local and national MDG hearings with parliamentarians, media representatives, business leaders, and civil society activists — in your decision-making processes ensure the inclusion of women and people living in poverty.

Campaigners in Nigeria, Sweden, and Cambodia are sending letters to G-7 countries' embassies urging debt cancellation. In Ghana and Norway, campaigners are planning to visit Canadian, German, and French embassies. In Zambia and Germany, protests are planned in front of embassies and ministries. End-Debt campaigners in Scotland are planning to publicly "wipe off" debt from a giant board, while in the United Kingdom a public mock funeral will be held to demand "bury the debt, not more dead."

- Join your national United Nations Association (UNA). Many UNAs conduct nation-wide essay competitions and Model UN Conferences on themes related to the MDGs. Others do even more. (See http://www.wfuna.org).
- Inform your local and national media. Write letters to the editor and media releases drawing attention to the Millennium Declaration, the MDGs, and the leaders' September summit. Invite the media to local actions, projects, and events.

Promote inclusive democratic global governance

- Join the global empowerment campaigns such as the WEDO 50/50 Campaign for a balanced representation of women in government (http://www.wedo.org/index.aspx); the Indigenous Peoples' Network for Change (http://www.international-alliance.org); the Taking ITGlobal/GYAN global online community of youth (http://www.takingitglobal.org), and the YES campaign 2002-2012 Empowering Youth to create sustainable livelihoods (http://www.yesweb.org/index.htm).

Implement and adapt: Add a "+" to the MDGs

- Hold community meetings to identify local needs and resources, and to strategize about appropriate solutions. Use the MDGs as a motivator and leverage to engage the public and political leaders. (For an example of a best practice approach, see the Green Belt Movement's community development strategy (http://www.greenbeltmovement.org).
- Approach education institutions about introducing the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs into the classroom. Help develop a curriculum that highlights local aspects of the MDGs.
- Propose to donor agencies, development organizations, and government departments new budget priorities and action plans to achieve the MDGs in ways most appropriate to your country.

Raise funds

Hold fund-raising events to contribute to local initiatives in your community. Or raise funds for global needs like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (http://www.theglobalfund.org). Donate funds to the major civil society organizations dedicated to poverty alleviation, or use the Internet to contribute directly to community initiatives and smaller organizations (see http://www.globalgiving.com or http://www.viacampesina.org).

Be creative

Hold local gatherings, cultural events, art exhibitions, community gardening projects, theatre events, poetry performances, and clean-up initiatives. Highlight local talent, resources, and possibilities. Link these activities to the development goals and the leaders' September summit.

Use your imagination to help realize the visions of peace, equality, sustainability, and prosperity of the Millennium Declaration. Make puppets. Hold competitions. Design posters. Host debates. Throw a party.

Join the MDG Campaign civil society website to share ideas, best practices and strategies for successful planning, reporting and analysis around the MDGs (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdgcampaign).

Important Dates and Places

Many CSOs are officially recognized by the United Nations. They have "consultative status" and are often allowed to attend official meetings. These organizations also organize their own NGO meetings at the same time and place as many official United Nations meetings. There will certainly be an NGO/citizens meeting at the same time as the leaders' summit in New York in September.

UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS WORTH NOTING:

Feb. 9-18	Commission on Social Development (Copenhagen+10), New York
Feb. 21-25	Global Ministerial Environment Meeting, Nairobi
Feb. 28-March 11	Commission on Status of Women, Beijing + 10, New York
March 14-April 22	Human Rights Commission, Geneva
March 14-April 1	Commission on Sustainable Development, New York
April 18	ECOSOC Special High Level Meeting with the Bretton Woods Institutions and the WTO, New York
May 2-27	Nuclear Weapons Review Conference, New York
June 23-24	UN General Assembly Hearings with civil society to prepare for the Leaders Summit, New York
June 26	60th Anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter, multiple sites
June 27-28	Financing for Development High-Level Dialogue, New York
June 29-July 1	ECOSOC High-Level Segment, New York
September 7-9	UN Department of Public Information-NGO Conference, New York
September 14-16	**The Millennium Review Summit**, New York

MEETING OF THE LEADERS OF THE G-8 INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES:

July 6-8	Meeting of the G-8 leaders of industrialized countries, Gleneagles, Scotland

MAJOR CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS:

March 1	Launch of Social Watch Benchmarks for Millennium Review Summit http://www.socialwatch.org
March 2-7	"UN at 60: Time for Renewal": WFUNA conference with the UNA-USA National Convention in New York http://www.wfuna.org
April 25-May 1	Global Campaign for Education: Education Action Week http://www.campaignforeducation.org
May 29-June 1	Global Democracy: Civil Society Visions and Strategies Forum International Montreal http://www.fimcivilsociety.org
July 1	Global Call To Action Against Poverty — First White Band Day http://www.whiteband.org
July 19-21	Conference on the Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict, New York http://www.conflict-prevention.net
September	Launch of the Social Watch *Report 2005*.
September 10	Second White Band Day
December 10	Third White Band Day, Human Rights Day

OTHER IMPORTANT MEETINGS:

September 7-9	Helsinki Process Conference, Helsinki
September 26-27	World Bank and IMF Meeting, Washington, DC
December 13-18	World Trade Organization Ministers Meeting, Hong Kong

Conclusion

2005 AND BEYOND

The Millennium Declaration raised expectations for a new century. The Millennium Development Goals added deadlines, indicators, and a roadmap.

There is clear evidence of some success toward achieving the goals. More attention than ever before is now focused on human development. More people are talking, more governments are talking, and there are more opportunities for advocacy and leverage on key issues, in many places even if, not in all places.

However, there are some very real threats to our common objectives. We have outlined them in this report. Not least is the threat to the capacity and even the future of the United Nations itself.

After the September 2005 leaders' summit, there is the danger that follow-through will lag or fail. What will happen to development assistance in 2006? To debt cancellation? To global levies for global benefit? To democratization of international institutions? Will 2005 lead to stronger mechanisms for accountability, policy change, and resource distribution that will take us to the Millennium Development Goals and a good deal further?

Much depends on the success of civil society advocacy and organizing in 2005. Much depends on what continues in 2006 and beyond.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN

A number of non-government development coalitions and organizations are using 2005 to evaluate not only promise-keeping, but also how promises are kept, including best cases and inadequacies. In the process, they are advancing common understanding of what can make aid effective, how to improve quality, and how to get at the root causes of poverty, disease, and environmental ruin.

Will they be able to sustain the effort? Will those with political and institutional power take these evaluations on board? Will policy change and operational change happen?

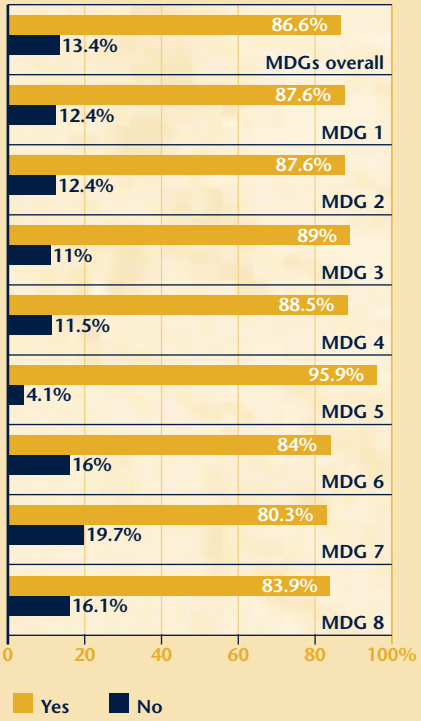
AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRIORITIZE AND TO COALESCE

As we review the submissions to our survey and the evidence in NGO studies, there emerges an identifiable series of common concerns and priorities and an understanding of the interconnected elements of causality and of change.

There is a political opportunity when a few civil society spokespeople represent the broader global community at UN roundtables and hearings. They can use this opportunity to bring as many groups and people as possible into reflecting on and shaping priorities and the message. This happened in Monterrey, Johannesburg, and at other UN conferences. It should happen again.

The desire to organize a worldwide campaign against poverty has led dozens of diverse networks and groups to focus on three broad themes — aid, debt, and trade. They agree to share the "space" or flexibility to ally their own specific organizational priorities and approaches to this broad three-pronged theme for a year.

Do you think change in policy or resources contributing to the achievement of the MDGs is achievable in your country and/or other countries?



Many groups are developing their own priorities to present to governments. *We the Peoples* is one of several efforts to draw together priorities. The opportunities to join hands among networks during 2005 exist. Will they be used?

AN OPPORTUNITY TO ORGANIZE

A number of key networks — like Social Watch in social development and WEDO in gender, environment, and development — have an established record in evaluating government and institutional policy. Activities in 2005 should bring them allies and assist them in strengthening their networks in order to continue and reinforce their effectiveness. Some networks, like those in human rights have an even longer pedigree. Global alliances with more specialized focus in such areas as health, AIDS, child labour, habitat, and education have emerged and could, potentially, significantly strengthen civil society's power to hold authorities accountable. Together with older organizations like WFUNA and World Federalists, a growing number of organizations are concerned with global governance and democratization.

But 2005 may not see the sort of significant shift in power and democratization that many desire. The occasions to strengthen coalitions for change for the longer run are there, whether in follow-up events to the World Social Forum, in forums around the UN processes, in coalition-building for White Band Days, or national campaign events.

TAKING ON THE FUTURE

For four years *We the Peoples* has mapped and marked civil society engagement with the Millennium Declaration. *We the Peoples 2005* signals the necessity of finding new ways forward.

This is a crucial year, but we don't believe the leaders' summit is the end of the story. At a minimum, the summit must agree to dates for further multi-stakeholder evaluation of progress, and opportunities for course correction.

We sincerely hope that 2005 will be used to learn, to coalesce around priorities, and to organize more effectively for the long run, and for the next five years.

We the Peoples intends to assist in evaluating this important year, and in contributing to setting directions for 2006, 2010, and far beyond. We are profoundly grateful to all who have helped us with our 2005 survey and report. We continue to look forward to working even more effectively with you and many others for the common futures we all desire.

Resources

UNITED NATIONS

UN Millennium Development Goals Website
Lists the MDGs and provides links to many of the fundamental UN publications relating to the goals and the Millennium Declaration. (http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/index.html)

UN Millennium Campaign Website
A focal point for information on global involvement and action toward achieving the MDGs. The Campaign site provides a platform for civil society, officials, and citizens to have their voices heard and provides specific actions to remind and hold their governments accountable for their Millennium promises. (http://www.millenniumcampaign.org)

United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS)
This site is a focal point for civil society contacts and information sharing with and from the UN. NGLS organizes UN-NGO meetings, supports NGO networks, maintains NGO databases, and contains an extensive selection of briefing papers, reports, and analyses from civil society groups participating in, and contributing to ongoing processes concerned with the UN development agenda. (http://www.un-ngls.org/index.html)

MDG Net
This is an e-mail based discussion group, facilitated by the UNDP, of over 500 members that provides a continuous flow of information on examples and experiences of localizing the MDGs, as well as strategies and tools for building awareness. (Sign up through the website http://www.undg.org).

MDG Country Reports
Lists of country, regional and donor reports on MDG implementation, as well as useful resources, news bulletins and statements on global progress toward achieving the MDGs (http://www.undp.org/mdg/countryreports.html)

Millennium Country Profiles and Indicators Database
Lists country-wide profiles of the MDG implementation progress, national indicators, and reports and is a useful reference for statistical data on the MDGs globally. (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi.asp)

The Millennium Project
This UN advisory body engages in research on identifying the operational priorities, organizational means of implementation, and financing structures necessary to achieve the MDGs, through 10 thematically oriented task forces. (http://www.unmillenniumproject.org)

CIVIL SOCIETY

Alliance 2015 — a coalition of European CSOs advocating for the realization of the MDGs, seeking to critically assess failure and refocus for a more vigorous effort toward the MDGs. (http://www.alliance2015.org)

ANND (Arab NGO Network for Development) — a network of 30 development organizations and nine national networks from 12 Arab countries. (http://www.annd.org)

AFRODAD (African Forum and Network on Debt and Development) — a policy-oriented research and advocacy organization that presents excellent information on debt, poverty reduction strategies and the MDGs in Africa. (http://www.afrodad.org)

AWID (Association for Women's Rights in Development) — an international membership organization committed to achieving gender equality, sustainable development and women's human rights, focusing on policy and institutional change. (http://www.awid.org)

BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development) — a network of more than 280 UK-based voluntary organizations working in international development and development education. (http://www.bond.org.uk)

CCIC (Canadian Council for International Co-operation) — coalition of Canadian voluntary sector organizations working globally to achieve sustainable human development, end global poverty, and promote social justice for all. (http://www.ccic.ca)

Center for Global Development — an independent research institution that engages in policy-oriented research on development issues and poverty reduction (www.cgdev.org/). The Center produces the "Ranking the Rich" Index, which measures the impact of developed country policies on developing countries. (http://www.cgdev.org/rankingtherich/home.html)

CDSEE (Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe) — non-governmental, non-profit organization that seeks to foster democratic, pluralist, and peaceful societies in Southeast Europe by advocating principles of social responsibility, sustainable development, and reconciliation among the peoples in the region. (http://www.cdsee.org)

CIDSE (International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity) — an alliance of 15 Catholic development organizations that work on the MDGs as well as global governance and financing for development. (http://www.cidse.org)

Citizens for Global Solutions — a grassroots membership organization developing proposals and working to build political support in the United States for reforming and strengthening international laws and institutions and communicating global concerns to public officials. (http://www.globalsolutions.org)

CIVICUS — an international alliance of citizens dedicated to strengthening civil society and the protection of citizen action throughout the world, aiming for a healthy global society (http://www.civicus.org). Has useful toolkits for CSOs to help improve their capacity in engaging with media, promotion and advocacy programs, and project monitoring and evaluation. (http://www.civicus.org/new/civicus_toolkit_project.asp?c=036FB9)

CHOIKE — a portal on Southern civil society organizations that provides a directory of Southern NGOs, and is an excellent source for in-depth reports and information resources regarding the MDGs. (http://www.choike.org)

CONCORD — a European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development, with 18 international networks and 19 national associations from European Union member states and candidate countries. It adopts common positions on major issues relating to European development policy and represents more than 1,500 European NGOs vis-à-vis the European Institutions. (http://www.concordeurope.org)

CONGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations) — CONGO has a consultative relationship with the UN. (http://www.ngocongo.org)

DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era). — A site for Southern feminists and activists. (http://www.dawn.org/fj)

Development Gateway — provides research information on global development issues, including the MDGs, and links to NGOs, capacity-building information and advocacy information. (http://home.developmentgateway.org)

Diakonia — a Christian global development network of people, organizations, and churches working toward a life of dignity for all people. (http://www.diakonia.se)

EURODAD (European Network on Debt and Development) — does research on national and international financing policies that aim at achieving the MDGs. (http://www.eurodad.org)

EUFORIC (European Forum on International Cooperation) — a platform and focal point for discussion and information regarding European development cooperation policies and related issues. (http://www.euforic.org)

FIM (Forum International Montreal) — an international NGO think tank that aims at increasing the role of civil society in multilateral institutions and global governance issues. (http://www.fimcivilsociety.org)

Forum South (Syd) — a platform for cooperation for over 200 Swedish organizations working to provide development assistance, information and to form public opinion on global issues, focusing towards a common goal: global justice and sustainable development. (http://www.forumsyd.se)

GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization) — alliance between the private and public sector committed to saving peoples' lives and health through the widespread use of vaccines. (http://www.vaccinealliance.org)

GCAP (Global Call to Action against Poverty) — GCAP is a worldwide alliance committed to forcing world leaders to live up to their promises, and to make a breakthrough on poverty in 2005. (http://www.whiteband.org)

Global Policy Forum — non-profit organization that monitors policy-making at the United Nations, promotes accountability of global decisions, educates and mobilizes for global citizen participation, and advocates on vital issues of international peace and justice. (http://www.globalpolicy.org)

GYAN (Global Youth Action Network) — a not-for-profit organization that acts as an incubator of global partnerships among youth organizations, whose goal is to facilitate youth participation in global decision-making, and to provide tools and resources for youth action. (http://www.youthlink.org)

Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy — co-sponsored by the foreign ministries of Tanzania and Finland, and involving a variety of civil society, business, academic, and government figures, the process aims at practical steps to bridge Southern/Northern divides and to sponsor reform proposals for global governance. (http://www.helsinkiprocess.fi)

InterAction — the largest alliance of development and human rights NGOs based in the United States. (http://www.interaction.org)

ICFTU (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) — Confederation of national trade union centres, each of which links together the trade unions of that particular country. It has 234 affiliated organizations in 152 countries and territories on all five continents, with a membership of 148 million. (http://www.icftu.org)

International Institute for Environment and Development — independent, non-profit organization promoting sustainable patterns of development through collaborative research, policy studies, and networking, and has a considerable selection of environment-related papers. (http://www.iied.org) (See their MDG-specific webpage at http://www.meetingthemdgs.org)

IYF (International Youth Foundation) — international network working in more than 60 countries to improve the conditions and prospects for young people where they live, learn, work, and play, and improve development programs to address more effectively the needs of youth. (http://www.iyfnet.org)

MDGender Net — this site is a collaborative effort of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, the OECD/DAC Network on Gender Equality, and the Multilateral Development Bank Working Group on Gender. It provides access to resources to promote better understanding of, and sharing of tools for addressing gender equality in all of the MDGs — from literature on gender equality as it relates to each goal, to tools for advocacy and action. (http://www.mdgender.net)

Make Poverty History — Make Poverty History is a massive, concerted effort to end world poverty, bringing together a wide cross section of nearly 100 charities, campaigns, trade unions, faith groups, and celebrities who are united by a common belief that 2005 offers an unprecedented opportunity for global change. (http://www.makepovertyhistory.org)

Net Aid — activist-oriented network of people and organizations which engages in advocacy and raising awareness of the MDGs internationally. (http://www.netaid.org)

New Rules for Global Finance Coalition — a Washington-based alliance of internationally engaged CSOs. (http://www.new-rules.org)

NGO Net — an Internet-based networking resource for NGOs in Central and Eastern Europe and the Central Asian region. (http://www.ngonet.org)

OneWorld — a network and portal that brings the latest news, in-depth research, campaigns, and links to organizations working in human rights and development across five continents and in 11 different languages. (http://www.oneworld.net)

Quaker UN Offices — representatives of the Quaker faith at the UN, Geneva, and New York convening policy gatherings and sponsoring research, with interests in peace, development, and ethics. Pioneering work on the implications of WTO Intellectual Property provisions. (http://www.quno.org)

SAPRN (Southern Africa Regional Policy Network) — regional network that contributes to the sustainable reduction of poverty through effective pro-poor policies, strategies, and debates, and practices in the SADC region. (http://www.sarpn.org.za)

Social Watch — an international NGO network monitoring poverty eradication and the implementation of the MDGs, Social Watch produces national reports on the progress on the MDGs and is an excellent resource centre for MDG resources, including research papers and interactive indicators. (http://www.socialwatch.org)

Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) — the biggest nature conservation and environmental organization in Sweden with 170,000 members and 274 local branches across the whole country. Its activities range from support for eco-labeling, to managing marine pollution and it actively collaborates with environmental organizations in Europe and in the South. (http://www.snf.se)

TIG (TakingIT Global) — international online network led by youth and enabled by technology, taking action to build youth engagement with development, increase youth cooperation, and engage youth in global decision-making. (http://www.takingitglobal.org)

The Helsinki Process — aims to find solutions to global governance through dialogue between various stakeholders. (http://www.helsinkiprocess.fi)

NEWW (The Network of East West Women) — coordinates research and advocacy that supports women's equality and full participation in all aspects of public and private life. (http://www.neww.org/en.php/home/index/0.html)

Third World Network — a key critical centre of research and action on global economic and social issues. (http://www.twn.org)

UBUNTU World Forum of Networks — the goal is to encourage dialogue between national and international institutions working on peace promotion, endogenous development, and human rights. (http://www.ubuntu.upc.es)

United Nations Association of Sweden — a non-governmental, non-partisan and secular organization whose mission is to provide information on, and raise public opinion about the UN in Sweden. It aims to engage people to actively participate in debate and in lobbying the government, political parties, interest groups, and trade and industry. Work contributing to the fulfillment of the goals of the Millennium Declaration is a crucial feature of the Swedish UN movement, with a number of projects currently in progress. (http://www.sfn.se)

WEDO (Women's Environment and Development Organization) — an international advocacy network that aims at greater involvement of women in policy-making processes. The website has useful toolkits and resources on gender and the MDGs. (http://www.wedo.org)

WICEJ (Women's International Coalition for Economic Justice) — works to link gender and macroeconomic policy in international intergovernmental policy-making arenas, from a human-rights perspective. (http://www.wicej.addr.com)

World Economic Forum — an independent international organization that provides a collaborative framework for world leaders and businesses to address global issues. (http://www.weforum.org)

WSF (World Social Forum) — a forum for civil society groups opposed to the neo-liberal economic order to meet, debate, and propose policies that encourage a just and equitable world order. (http://www.forumsocialmundial.org.br)

WFUNA-Youth — an autonomous, not-for-profit global umbrella organization of United Nations Youth Associations and UNA Youth Programs, affiliated with WFUNA, which aims to gain more support for the spirit of the United Nations among young people. (http://www.wfuna-youth.org)

Youth Coalition — international coalition of young people (ages 15-29 years) committed to promoting adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive rights at the national, regional, and international levels. (http://www.youthcoalition.org)

CIVICUS RELEASES MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) ONLINE CAMPAIGNING TOOLKIT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society organisations who are or would like to be involved in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) can now build MDG campaigns with a free online toolkit released by CIVICUS. The seven chapter toolkit, with printable chapters in Word and PDF, provides a framework for the development of strategies customised for different national and regional contexts. It provides basic information on the MDGs, advice on how to plan a campaign, a range of essential campaigning tools, practical campaigning skills as well as a number of case studies on MDG campaigns that have been taking place around the world. It also provides useful campaign resources and links to UN support and to other organisations with similar aims. The toolkit is available on the CIVICUS website at www.civicus.org/mdg/1-1.htm

OTHER KEY DOCUMENTS AND WEBSITES

Joint Civil Society Statement on the Global Compact and Corporate Accountability, July 2004, Global Policy Forum. (http://www.globalpolicy.org)

Martin Khor, *Bridging the Global Economic Divide: Proposals for Millennium Development Goal 8 on Global Partnership for Development*, Penang, TWN, 2003.

We the Peoples: civil society, the United Nations and global governance. Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on United Nations–Civil Society Relations, June 11, 2004, A/58/817. (http://www.un.org/reform/panel.htm)

The UNDP Blue Book: A Hands-on Approach to Advocating for the Millennium Development Goals — Useful advice in designing advocacy and awareness programs (http://ruc.logincee.org/library_full.asp?LD_ID=6396&TargetLangCode=EN)

MOST Clearing House Best Practices Database
This UNESCO database contains examples of projects or policies in all parts of the world, aimed at improving the quality of life of individuals or groups suffering from poverty or social exclusion. They are typically based on the cooperation between national or local authorities, NGOs and local communities, the private sector, and academic communities. (http://www.unesco.org/most/bphome.htm)

UN-Habitat, Best Practices Database in Improving the Living Environment
This searchable database contains over 2,150 proven solutions from more than 140 countries to the common social, economic, and environmental problems of an urbanizing world. http://www.bestpractices.org

Mosaic
Mosaic is a Canadian directory of success stories of youth-for-youth projects about sustainable development. Mosaic is a part of the Youth Agenda 2002 project and is coordinated by the United Nations Association in Canada. (http://www.unac.org/youth_sd/youth_e/index.htm)

Additional Information

List of Survey Participants by Country

*Only organizations who gave permission to be listed are included below

1 Albania
- United Nations Association of Albania
- Albanian Ecological Club - International Friends of Nature

2 Algeria
- Population Initiatives for Peace
- Association Femmes Algériennes pour le Développement (AFAD)
- EL-Amel Association for Social Development

3 Angola
- ACM (YMCA) of Kwanza-Sul
- SOS Habitat - Acção Solidária
- Liga Jubileu 2000 Angola - LiJuA

4 Argentina
- Foro Ciudadano para la Participación, la Justicia y los Derechos Humanos (FOCO)
- Fundación ECOS
- MINU Asociación Civil
- DONUM
- Lugar por la Educación Argentina (LEA)
- Merendero Espacio Abierto
- Centro de Jubilados y Pensionados «Todo por Amor»

5 Armenia
- Zartonk-89 NGO
- Arame Sarafyan Club Fund
- Women for Green Way for Generations (WGWG)
- Geophone

6 Australia
- Australian Association of Yoga in Daily Life
- Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)
- World Federation of Occupational Therapists

7 Azerbaijan
- Young European Federalists

8 Bangladesh
- Participatory Development Action Program (PDAP)
- Integrated Development Foundation

9 Barbados
- Public Services International (PSI)

10 Belgium
- Fédération Européenne des Femmes Actives au Foyer (FEFAF)
- CIDSE
- International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medical Social Assistants

11 Benin
- GRAPAD - ONG
- Usynvepid
- Groupe d'Action de Développement Local (GRADEL)

12 Bolivia
- Fundación REDVIHDA y Red Nacional de Personas que Viven con el VIH
- Acción Andina Bolivia

13 Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Working group for developing of the social work profession in Bosnia and Herzegovina

14 Brazil
- Latin American UN Institute for the Prevention of Crime
- CEPENE/IBAMA
- Instituto de Estudos Socioeconomicos (INESC)

15 Bulgaria
- Women's Health Initiative in Bulgaria
- Youth center - Haskovo
- International Academy of Architecture
- BlueLink Information Network

16 Burkina Faso
- RESOCIDE - Civil Society Organisations Network in Development

17 Burundi
- United Nations Association of Burundi

18 Cambodia
- SILAKA

19 Cameroon
- Africa Development Interchange Network (ADIN)
- Jeunesse Horizon
- Association of UNESCO Volunteers
- Fondation Idole
- Association Camerounaise des Femmes Juristes

- Cameroon Women in Leadership and Development (CAWOLED)
- Global Network for Good Governance (GNGG)
- Cercle des Amis de la Forêt (cafor21)
- Research Institute for Development, Communication and School Partnership (RIDCSP)
- African Women's Association (AWA)

20 Canada

- Roseman Associates
- Institute for Cooperation in Space (ICIS)
- National Anti-Poverty Organization
- International Association of Educators for World Peace
- CUSO
- Steelworkers Humanity Fund
- La Société Éducative de l'Alberta
- Lester Pearson International, Dalhousie University
- Turgeon Consultants International Inc
- Université d'Ottawa Ecole de gestion
- Results Canada
- CHF
- Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC)
- University of Ottawa
- The United Nations Association in Canada
- Secretariat for African Trade, Development and Internet Services (SATDIS)
- Bear Clan of Maxan Lake, BC
- Better Environmentally Sound Transportation
- Rights & Democracy
- Canadian Labour Congress
- Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
- World Vision Canada
- World Neighbours Canada Society
- Comité Justice et Foi
- Canadian Association for Community Living

21 Chile

- Fundación para la Superación de la Pobreza
- Fundación Trabajo en la Calle
- Un Techo para Mi Pais
- Junta Nacional de Auxilio Escolar y Becas
- Fundación Terram

22 China

- United Nations Association of China

23 Colombia

- GLARP-IIPD
- Fundación Gamma Idear
- Universidad de los Andes
- GLARP-IIPD
- Asociación Colombiana de Ingeniería Sanitaria y Ambiental
- Organización Kibutz de Colombia
- Corporación Opción Colombia
- Asociación Red Jovenes Empresarios Exportadores Colombia (REDEXPO)
- Fundación Instituto Biodiversidad
- Fundación Espiral
- Asociación de Trabajo Interdisciplinario

24 Congo

- Centre Africain d'Échange Culturel
- Si Jeunesse Savait
- La Générale des Actions pour la Promotion de l'Idéal Communautaire
- Centre Africain de Recherche Interdisciplinaire (CARI)
- Centre Africain d'Échange Culturel
- Oeuvres Sociales pour le Développement (OSD)
- Action Sociale et d'Organisation Paysanne (ASOP)
- Société Civile du Congo (SOCICO)
- Centre de Formation et d'Appui aux Initiatives Locales (CEFAIL)
- Initiatives pour le Développement de l'Entreprenariat Féminin à la Gase

25 Croatia

- Zelena Akcija / Green Action

26 Czech Republic

- Czech United Nations Association

27 Denmark

- Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark
- Danish Family Planning Organisation
- Danish 92 Group

28 East Timor

- Centro Edukasaun Civika Baucau
- Center for Rural Professional Formation

29 Ecuador

- Wilson Popenoe Private Foundation
- Flacso Sede Ecuador

30 Egypt

- Environmental Protection and Use of Solar Energy
- The Egyptian Organization of CyberLaw
- The National Democratic Party
- Arab Network for Human Rights Information

31 El Salvador

- International Institute for Cooperation Amongst Peoples (IICP)

32 England

- International Association of Schools of Social Work

33 Ethiopia

- UNDP
- SNV/Ethiopia

34 Finland

- World Federation of the Deaf

35 France

- Institut de Recherche sur la Dynamique du Droit dans la Coopération Internationale
- AFNU Lorraine

36 Gambia

- Aid the African Child (ATACAFRICA)
- The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (TANGO)

37 Georgia

- GeoPeer Foundation
- Energy Efficiency Centre Georgia
- International Foundation Lea
- International Funa AIDIO

38 Germany

- Coordination for Southern Africa
- Medical Women's International Association
- VENRO
- Youth Employment Summit - Germany Network (YES)

39 Ghana

- Kids Foundation Inc
- Women's Initiative for Self-Empowerment (WISE)
- United Nations Association Ghana
- Youth for Global Action

40 Greece

- Social Aid of Hellas

41 Guinea

- Guinéenews

42 Guyana

- Guyanese Organization of Indigenous Peoples (GOIP)

43 Haiti

- Fondation Haïtienne pour l'Habitat et l'Intégration des Sans-Abri (FONDHABISA)

44 Hong Kong

- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

45 Hungary

- Pillar Foundation

46 India

- Rural Institute of Medical Sciences
- People's Association for Rural Development (PARD)
- Institute of International Social Development (IISD)
- The Bombay Mothers And Children Welfare Society
- National Conference of Dalit Organisations (NACDOR)
- OneWorld South Asia
- Development Alternatives
- National Youth Service Action & Social Development Research Institute (NYSASDRI)
- Indian Social Institute
- Development Promotion Group (DPG)
- Wisdom Consulting India
- Community Services Trust Salem
- Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS)
- Centre for Action Research & Peoples Development
- Criminologists Society of J&K
- Rural Institute of Medical Sciences
- MEWS-ASIA
- International Association of Women In Radio and Television
- New Life

47 Indonesia

- Society of the Sacred Heart
- Qbar

48 Iran

- Benfam Institute of Natural Living
- Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
- Blue Sky Association
- ICTRC
- Payam Avaran Nazm Ensani

49 Iraq

- The Iraqi Child Development Organization

50 Ireland

- Dóchas - Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations
- Trócaire

51 Israel

- Ittijah-Union of Arab Based Community

52 Italy

- Coordinamento di Iniziative Popolari di Solidarietà Internazionale (CIPSI)
- ARCI Nuova Association
- Associazione Culturale dei Triangoli e della Buona Volontà Mondiale
- Inter Press Service (IPS)
- OneWorld
- International Union of Latin Notaries (UINL)

53 **Ivory Coast**
- S.O.S. Violences Sexuelles

54 **Jamaica**
- Sistren Theatre Collective

55 **Japan**
- Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO)

56 **Jordan**
- The Institute for Educational Excellence

57 **Kenya**
- OSIENALA (Friends of Lake Victoria)
- National Convention Executive Council (NCEC)
- Umoja Ya Wanawake Group
- FEMNET

58 **Kyrgyzstan**
- Civil Society Support Centers Association
- Human Development Center

59 **Latin America & Caribbean**
- Cladem Comite de America Latina y el Caribe para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer

60 **Lebanon**
- Arab NGO Network For Development
- National Association for Social Welfare
- Environmental Society Unlimited

61 **Libya**
- Al Amal Society Orphans' Care

62 **Macedonia**
- Center for Management of Conflict
- "SPHERE" Centre for Implementation and Development of Civic Society
- Humanitarian Association JETA Skopje
- Friends of Kratovo
- SUNA Association

63 **Malaysia**
- Education Research Association for Consumer Malaysia (ERA Consumer Malaysia)

64 **Mauritanie**
- ONG Espoir

65 **Mauritius**
- Halle Movement

66 **Mexico**
- Fundación Eudes, A.C.
- El Closet de Sor Juana

67 **Morocco**
- Espace Associatif

68 **Namibia**
- Legal Assistance Centre

69 **Nepal**
- Bhutan Women and Children Organisation
- Development and Service Centre (DESC)
- Samuhik Abhiyan

70 **Netherlands**
- World Population Foundation
- European Centre for Conflict Prevention
- Tiye International
- Netherlands UNA
- Sun Conscious
- Club of Rome The Netherlands

71 **New Zealand**
- Family Planning Association, International Development, New Zealand (FPAID NZ)
- International Association of Natural Gas Vehicles Inc.

72 **Nicaragua**
- Centro de Investigación, Capacitación y Acción Pedagógica
- Centro de Información y Servicios de Asesoría en Salud (CISAS)
- Asociación Nicaraguense para la Integración Comunitaria (ASNIC)
- Centro Humboldt

73 **Niger**
- Association Nigerienne pour la Promotion des Jeunes

74 **Nigeria**
- Nigerian Centre for Research and Documentation (NICERDOC)
- Paradigm Initiative Nigeria
- African Youth Development Alliance
- Centre for Development Action International (CDA International)
- The Intellectual Group
- ClickITnigeria
- Mark Makers International
- African Women Empowerment Guild (AWEG)
- Sustainable Development Group
- University Village Association (UNIVA)
- Futures Foundation International (FFI)
- The Ebonite Foundation
- Women's Board Educational Cooperation Society
- Down Syndrome Association of Nigeria
- Nigerian Painting Tour
- Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team (NEST)
- African Citizens Development Foundation
- United Nations Association of Nigeria
- African Youth Movement
- Friends of the Environment

75 Norway
- Serangnor
- Norwegian Council for Africa

76 Pakistan
- NGO Resource Centre
- Lok Sanjh
- Leads International Organization
- Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC)
- National Youth Association of Pakistan
- Fundamental Human Rights & Rural Development Association (FHRRDA)
- Population Welfare Association of Pakistan
- Potohar Organization for Development Advocacy (PODA)
- Pakistan International Human Rights Organisation

77 Palestine
- Palestinian Development Gateway
- The Economic & Social Development Center

78 Panama
- Instituto Interamericano de Estadística
- Optar-Panamá
- Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana

79 Peru
- Red de Gerentes Sociales
- Seguimiento Análisis y Evaluación para el Desarrollo
- Centro de Promoción Integral para el Desarrollo (CEPIDP PUNO)
- Comite Promotor de la Central Unificada de Vendedores Ambulantes de la Victoria
- ROSTROS
- Red Interquorum Cusco
- REDNAVAR
- GAVUNALM
- Clave Juvenil
- D-cada Ciudadano
- Centro de Investigación Para la Producción y Desarrollo

80 Philippines
- Mabuhay Vinyl Corporation
- The Zuellig Foundation
- United Nations Association of the Philippines
- Coalition for Bicol Development
- Cebu City United Vendors Association
- Progressive Organization of Gays in the Philippines
- Social Watch Philippines
- Philippine Business for Social Progress
- Organization of Non-Academic Personnel of the University of the Philippines
- Workers and Entrepreneurs Institute, Inc.
- Sultan Kudarat DAR Ladies Association Credit Cooperative
- Philipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation

81 Poland
- Institute for Sustainable Development

82 Portugal
- FENACERCI
- ATTAC Portugal

83 Romania
- Ciulinii Baraganului Foundation
- Agency for Information and Development of Non-governmental Organizations
- CRONO - Resource Center for Nonprofit Organisations from Oltenia
- Romanian Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking Association
- Black Sea University Foundation
- Leaders Sibiu (branch office of Leaders)
- Black Sea University Foundation

84 Russia
- Chelyabinsk City Public Movement of Women "Fatiha"

85 Senegal
- Association des Jeunes pour le Développement (AJD PASTEEF)
- APRAN/SDP

86 Serbia and Montenegro
- Citizens' Association FELICITAS
- United Nations Association of Serbia
- Mercy Corps

87 Somalia
- Tools for Humanity

88 South Africa
- United Nations Association of South Africa
- Universal Service Agency
- Ilitha Labantu
- South African National NGO Coalition (SANGOCO)

89 South Korea
- Unity Alliance of Filipino Migrants Organizations in Korea (KASAMMAKO)
- Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice
- Third Sector Institute

90 South Sudan
- Fashoda Youth Forum (FYF)

91 Spain
- Intermon Oxfam
- Instituto de Promoción y Apoyo al Desarrollo (IPADE)
- International Court of Environmental Arbitration and Conciliation
- Observatori del Deute en la Globalització
- Foro Mundial de Redes de la Sociedad Civil (UBUNTU)
- Fundación Crear-Consejo de Apoyo a los Refugiados
- Plataforma de ONG de Acción Social
- FPFE

92 Sri Lanka
- Centre for Environmental Justice
- Free Trade Union Development Centre
- ODW SRI LANKA
- Dambadeniya Development Foundation

93 Sudan
- The Gender Centre for Research and Training

94 Swaziland
- NERCHA

95 Sweden
- United Nations Association
- The Swedish NGO Foundation for Human Rights
- Star of Hope

96 Switzerland
- Fastenopfer / Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund
- International Council for Human Rights Policy
- Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)

97 Syria
- Yarmouk
- Environmental and Social Development Centre

98 Taiwan
- IAVE Taiwan

99 Tanzania
- White Orange Youth Organization
- Kagera Development and Credit Revolving Trust Fund (KADETFU)

100 Tchad
- ACORD Tchad

101 Thailand
- Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

102 Togo
- Mejeydh

103 Tonga
- Human Rights & Democracy Movement (Tonga)

104 Trinidad and Tobago
- Network of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Advancement of Women

105 Tunisia
- Association Tunisienne de la Communication (ATUCOM)
- Association Tunisienne des Droits de l'Enfant

106 Turkey
- International Blue Crescent Humanitarian Relief and Development Foundation
- Fisek Institute Science and Action Foundation for Child Labour

107 Uganda
- United Nations Association of Uganda (UNAU)

108 UK
- International Association for Volunteer Effort
- Kurdish Human Rights Project
- United Nations Association of Westminster
- HelpAge International
- Attac
- The Salvation Army - International Emergency Services
- The Salvation Army
- Population and Sustainability Network
- UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health
- WOMANKIND Worldwide
- Save the Children UK
- One World Action
- Baby Milk Action
- World Goodwill
- Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC)

109 USA
- The National Service Conference of The American Ethical Union
- UNANIMA International
- The Development Group for Alternative Policies
- Women's Health & Education Center (WHEC)
- U.S. Catholic Mission Association
- NGO Section, OESC, UNDESA
- The Edmonds Institute
- Committee on Teaching About the UN
- The Hunger Project
- Passionist International
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
- School Sisters of Notre Dame
- Community Action Network - Travis County
- World ORT
- Buddha's Light International Association
- Rainforest Alliance
- Institute for Sustainable Communities
- World Federalist Movement

- Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Office Wheaton Franciscans
- Center for International Environmental Law
- Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
- Peace Links
- World of Hope International Inc.
- Information Habitat: Where Information Lives
- Elizabeth Seton Federation
- American Center for International Labor Solidarity
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Yachay Wasi
- The World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows (WAFUNIF)
- Family Care International
- Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)
- World Information Transfer
- Innovations in Civic Participation
- Heifer Project International
- Trickle UP Program
- Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Reponsibility
- Communications Coordination Committee for the UN
- American Red Cross
- American Association of University Women
- International Architects Designers Planners for Social Responsibility
- Kapuna
- Instituto Qualivida
- Save the Children Federation, Inc.
- Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO)
- International Center for Research on Women
- Aquarian Age Community
- Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic
- Information Services Latin America
- US Committee for UNIFEM (UN Development Fund for Women)
- Iowa United Nations Association
- Kids Against Pollution, Inc.
- Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Global Watch
- Environic Foundation International
- Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity
- Gray Panthers
- General Federation of Women's Clubs
- Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG)
- SolManik Inc.

110 Uzbekistan

- Civic Initiatives Support Center

111 Vatican State

- Caritas Internationalis

112 Venezuela

- Asociación de las Naciones Unidas Venezuela (ANUV)
- ONG Fundación "Comunidad 2000"
- Opción Venezuela
- ONG Fundación "Comunidad 2000"
- Federación de Estudiantes Universitarios de Venezuela (FEUV)

113 Vietnam

- Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAF)
- Enfants du Monde Droits de l'Homme
- UNESCO

114 Yemen

- National Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development

115 Zambia

- Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR)

116 Zimbabwe

- SEATINI

117 Offices in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America

- HelpAge International

118 Governmental

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

List of Roundtable Participants

Antonio José Almeida, Rights & Democracy, Canada
Lysiane André, Terre de Hommes/Agir ici, France
Anthony Baah, Ghana Trade Union Congress, Ghana
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Sarah Kambites, UNA, Canada
Renate Koch, LACCASO, Venezuela
Gaia Larsen, WFUNA, USA
Mario Lavoie, Forum International Montreal (FIM), Canada
Li Jing, China Foreign Affairs University, China
Jill Mills, TakingIT Global, USA
Bill Morton, The North-South Institute, Canada
Andrew Mushi, Tanzania Association of NGOs (TANGO), Tanzania
Lev Voronkov, Moscow State Institute of International Affairs, UNA, Russia
Razmik Panossian, Rights & Democracy, Canada
Marina Ponti, Deputy Director Europe, UN Millennium Campaign, Italy
Aminur Rahman, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Canada
Cyril Ritchie, CONGO, Geneva
Nelcia Robinson, Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA), Trinidad and Tobago
Marisol Sanjines, Advocacy Officer, UNDP, UN-New York
Rodney Schmidt, The North-South Institute, Canada
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Pera Wells, WFUNA, USA

The North-South Institute (NSI) is dedicated to eradicating global poverty and enhancing social justice through research which promotes international cooperation, democratic governance, and conflict prevention. It is Canada's first independent, non-governmental and non-partisan research institute focused on international development, founded in 1976.
(www.nsi-ins.ca)

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The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) was founded in 1946 and comprises member UNAs in over 100 member states of the United Nations.
Its mission is to inform, sustain and energize a global network of United Nations Associations to support the principles and programs of the United Nations and to help shape its agenda.
(www.wfuna.org)

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