

**EU-US Development Dialogue:
Roadmap on
the Millennium Development Goals
in 2010-2011**

A Common Analysis of the Situation

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are a global monitoring framework to assess progress in reducing poverty and deprivation. To work effectively toward these important goals, developing countries need to implement consistent, inclusive and participatory national development plans, and donors need to align with them through comprehensive and harmonized supporting strategies that aim to sustain development progress beyond 2015.

Since 2000, important gains have been made in terms of lifting people out of extreme poverty, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases and increasing primary education enrolment, though progress has been uneven across regions and within countries, with Sub-Saharan Africa particularly lagging behind. The world is still off track on numerous targets, in particular those relating to child and maternal mortality and sanitation. Furthermore some significant achievements will be forfeited as a result of the recent fuel, food and financial crises.

This September, at the UN High Level Event the international community will review collective efforts to date to achieve the MDGs by 2015 and identify success factors and bottlenecks leading to concrete strategies for action. The EU and the US have substantially increased their respective ODA levels, now reaching close to 80% of all ODA, and both have committed to scale up further by 2015. The ministerial EU-US High Level Consultative Group on Development has decided that the US and EU will work together in support of a coordinated international effort to speed up progress and on joint actions in support of partner countries' efforts to achieve the MDGs by 2015. We will strengthen U.S.-EU cooperation to inform the policy dialogue and to demonstrate concrete and sustainable results at country level.

Accountability for MDG Commitments

Accountability for progress toward the MDGs concerns both developing and developed countries. We will also improve aid effectiveness, as agreed in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Action Agenda.

Country Ownership and Harmonization

It is up to each country to **determine its own development strategy**, how this strategy will lead to achieving the MDGs, and how to measure progress toward them. Donors should work together and with their developing country partners to determine how best to support partner country goals striving for coordinated approaches to support, especially at country level.

Sustainability of MDG progress

EU and U.S. policies also emphasize **making MDG gains sustainable** by promoting inclusive economic growth, job creation, trade and investment, capacity building, institutional development, and transparent, accountable and responsive governance. We will consider

working together to develop specific joint activities related to the MDG target relating to employment for all and decent work.

Enabling Environment

The Monterrey Consensus (2002) and Doha Declaration (December 2008) recognize that **more than a transfer of resources through ODA is necessary to achieve the MDGs**. Transparent, accountable governments committed to creating enabling environments and putting in place sound policies and institutions; to engaging the private sector, civil society and local people, and specially those excluded, at the front end of development planning processes; and to providing broad-based opportunities to foster sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty are also essential. Additional work by donors on Policy Coherence for Development as well as on aid predictability would be useful.

Deliverables (linked to key policy issues listed above)

Policy level

MDG-related sectors

1. Strengthened EU-U.S. dialogue and collaboration in MDG- related sectors, as well as a special emphasis on gender equality as a means to reaching the MDGs
 - a. Agreement on the steps that need to be taken to meet the MDGs by 2015, in particular in the context of the international assessment of what is needed to meet the MDGs currently being undertaken by the UNDP
 - b. Strengthening cooperation on reform of and support to the Education For All/ Fast Track Initiative (EFA/FTI) aimed at accelerating progress towards the education MDG. Increasing collaboration on Quality in Basic Education will lead to successful learning outcomes through, for example, developing effective ways to describe and measure education quality.
 - c. Promoting synergies between the US Global Health Initiative (GHI) and the EU's policy on Global Health with an aim to accelerating progress on the health related MDGs.
 - d. Coordination and collaboration on respective Gender Equality policy and action plans, since maintaining and even accelerating progress in gender equality and women's empowerment remains essential to the overall MDG effort.
 - e. Climate Change (EU-U.S. cooperation in this area will be covered under a separate priority theme of the dialogue).
 - f. Food Security (EU-U.S. cooperation in this area will also be covered under a separate priority theme of the dialogue).
2. Move toward the attainment of the MDGs in all developing countries with special attention to countries, regions, and goals which are lagging behind, with special emphasis on Africa, particularly on Sub-Saharan Africa, and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in other regions.

3. Strengthening EU-U.S. cooperation/dialogue on how to combine support to the MDGs in situations of conflict and fragility. This will include state-building and peace-building efforts in fragile situations, referring to the International Network of Conflict and Fragility (INCAF) work of the OECD, as well as efforts to explore how to develop more appropriate measures of progress toward the MDGs in countries in conflict and fragile situations.

ODA and financing for development

4. In addition to supporting financing for development, including through our own ODA commitments, we will jointly encourage and help mobilize support from new donors (including major emerging economies and sovereign wealth funds) and from the private sector.
5. Joint EU-US dialogue to assess ODA commitments in support of the MDGs based on existing international monitoring mechanisms.
6. Contributing to successful outcomes of the UN High Level MDG Review Event in September 2010 in order to pave the way for achievement of the MDGs by 2015, including:
 - a. A joint political declaration could be considered.
 - b. Consideration of the findings of the international assessment of what is needed to meet the MDGs, as called for by the G8 at L'Aquila.
 - c. Working toward a shared view of the follow-up to the High Level Meeting on the Impact of the Economic and Financial Crisis, the establishment of the ad hoc Working Group within the UNGA and of the Global Initiative for Vulnerability Assessment and Monitoring (GIVAS).
 - d. An emphasis on the shared responsibility of progress towards the MDGs including the accountability of developing country partners in terms of improved governance to deliver more effective results.
7. Expanding EU-US dialogue on promoting domestic resource mobilization in partner countries, including through improved governance in tax matters as well as in the promotion of the cooperative international environment needed to curb tax evasion. Exploration of on-the-ground cooperation between USG and EC/EU member countries and, where appropriate, the EC, concerning tax-related technical assistance (TA), when there are multiple TA providers at one time, could be considered. The World Bank and IMF could be included in such discussions.
8. Increasing EU-U.S. dialogue and cooperation to explore the potential of new innovative sources of financing/mechanisms for development to help to meet the MDGs.
9. Strengthening EU-US cooperation/dialogue regarding private sector driven growth and job creation -- in particular, exchange of information, best practice and possibly joint initiatives -- in areas not within the scope/remit of the US-EU Investment Dialogue Forum. A joint review of MDG 8 elements on the role of the private sector in making available the benefits of new technologies) will be considered.

Aid Effectiveness

10. Sharing of best practice on Managing for Development Results, especially on aid effectiveness. The EU and the U.S. will work closely with the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness with a view to facilitating successful outcomes from the IV High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Seoul 2011.
11. Promoting further cooperation and coordination in the field on the MDGs with initial focus on Sub-Saharan Africa and least developed countries (LDCs) in other regions.

Applying aid effectiveness principles: a) Explore ways of enhancing in-country coordination, including strengthened participation in overall harmonization and, where possible, division of labor under country leadership. b) Increased cooperation where feasible on strengthening and using country systems, by jointly analyzing country system capacity, supporting quality improvements, sharing risk assessments, and harmonizing risk mitigation measures. Cooperation on country systems will complement, not duplicate, efforts of the Global Partnership on Country Systems (Cluster B) under the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness.

The ministerial EU-US High Level Consultative Group on Development (HLCGD) has decided to delegate follow-up to a joint EU-US Senior Level Working Group. An EU-US technical level working group on MDGs will review progress achieved and will advise the Senior Level Working Group on a Quarterly basis. The Senior Level Working Group will meet twice before the next HLCGD in 2011 with their first meeting in June 2010.

During the next twelve months, we will meet on the margins at key international meetings, including but not limited to the following, to consult and coordinate further on the MDGs:

- Publication of the UNDP International MDG Needs Assessment, May 2010
- G8/G20 Summits, June 2010
- ECOSOC Annual meeting, especially Annual Ministerial Review, June-July 2010
- UN High Level MDG Review Event, 20-22 September 2010
- Spring and Annual meetings of the Bretton Woods Institutions, April 24-25 2010 and October 9-11 2010.
- High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Seoul 2011