WHAT ARE THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

In the year 2000, the European Union (EU) joined world leaders at the United Nations Millennium Summit in a pledge to reduce global poverty and save millions of lives. Leaders of 189 countries agreed on eight specific goals to be achieved by 2015.

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

This publication illustrates how European Commission-financed programmes have contributed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The period covered is indicated underneath each result in brackets (generally results cited cover either the period 2004-2012 or 2004-2014).
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“The United Nations Millennium Development Goals have guided our development policy for 15 years now. Remarkable results have been achieved. The European Union and its Member States, together the world’s largest donor of development aid, have helped make a difference to the lives of millions. And we will not reduce our efforts.

In September 2015, world leaders will meet in New York to agree the post-2015 development agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will frame global action for the 15 years to come. This is a unique opportunity to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development together.

The post-2015 agenda will be universal, meaning that it will apply to all countries, taking into account their levels of development, national contexts and capacities, and respecting national policies and priorities. This is a true paradigm shift. Universality is fundamental: we should recognise that all countries have common challenges and opportunities for a shared future, and that we all need to make concrete commitments – both global and domestic – to make change happen. This agenda is about bringing tangible improvement to the lives of all people, including European citizens.

The EU will need to rise to the challenge. This is not a new departure for us – we are already committed to sustainable development at home and abroad, and to global solidarity. But we will need to do more, and better. Crucially, we will also need to get others to do the same, and contribute their fair share.”

*European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker,*

excerpts from speech at the Opening Ceremony of the European Year for Development 2015, January 2015.
“The Millennium Development Goals have helped drive unprecedented development progress across the globe. Today fewer people go to sleep hungry, fewer children are dying from preventable diseases, and an increasing number of children, particularly girls, have access to primary education. Most remarkably, extreme poverty has been halved, five years ahead of the 2015 deadline.

The European Union has played its part by working continuously to boost the impact of its development policy. Today EU aid is more focused where it is most needed and where it can have the greatest impact. We are working more closely with Member States and we have made Policy Coherence for Development (that is, ensuring that our work in areas such as trade and finance, agriculture, security, climate change, or migration helps to overcome poverty in developing countries) a bigger priority. Yet our task is far from complete, and we must not be complacent.

The European Union is fully committed to the ambitious, transformative and universal 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will enable us to address together poverty eradication and sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions. This is, quite simply, an opportunity we cannot miss.”

European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica
OUR COMMITMENT

Reducing and eradicating poverty are the main objectives of the European Union’s development cooperation policy and a priority for the EU’s work with partner countries. The EU has been committed to the Millennium Development Goals since their adoption in 2000 and has progressively adapted its development policy to help achieve them.

The Agenda for Change, launched in 2011, has been the basis for the EU’s development policy in recent years, representing a new approach to respond to complex global challenges, reduce poverty and support developing countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In line with the Agenda for Change the EU has been directing resources to where they are needed most, in order to make EU funding for development more effective.

Refocusing resources towards countries in greatest need and where the support can have most impact in reducing poverty has allowed the EU to increase the share of aid it allocates directly to Least Developed Countries and other low-income countries to around 75%. 16 upper- and large middle-income countries no longer receive bilateral aid.

The starting point of the Agenda for Change is that good governance, which includes the promotion of EU values such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law, is essential for development. It also recognises that peace and security are necessary for sustainable development. As a result, more EU programmes are now dedicated to human rights, democracy and other ways of improving governance, as well as support to fragile countries.

The EU has also been investing more to help people participate in and benefit from wealth and job creation. To this end, at least 20% of EU aid supports social inclusion and human development, addressing education, health, gender and support to social protection systems. At the same time, the EU has developed new ways of engaging with the private sector, notably by blending grants and loans to leverage private sector activities and resources to deliver public goods. EU investments in sustainable agriculture and energy have almost doubled, aiming to support the foundations of growth and to reduce developing countries’ exposure to global shocks, including by addressing climate change.

The EU has been actively supporting the Global Partnership for Development. Despite the financial crisis the EU and its Member States increased official development assistance (ODA) by EUR 1.3 billion in 2014, to reach its highest nominal level to date, EUR 58.2 billion. Together, they provide more than half of global aid reported by the OECD and have reaffirmed their collective commitment to spend the equivalent of 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) on ODA within the timeframe of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Even more ambitious targets have been set for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with the EU and its Member States having undertaken to collectively meet the target of 0.15-0.20% ODA/GNI to LDCs in the short term, and to reach the 0.20% ODA/GNI to LDCs within the timeframe of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Goals:
Eradicate poverty. Deliver sustainable development.

The Millennium Declaration and MDGs expire at the end of 2015. They have made an enormous contribution in raising public awareness, increasing political will and mobilising resources to end poverty.

Some of the greatest progress in recent years has been made in areas targeted by the MDGs. Extreme poverty was halved five years ahead of the 2015 deadline; 90 percent of children in developing regions are enrolled in primary school, and school enrolment disparities between boys and girls have narrowed.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will build on these successes. Issues addressed by the MDGs will be part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. But it will also go further. The new agenda will incorporate follow-up from the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, and aim to address poverty eradication together with the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

It will also address issues in the Millennium Declaration that were not in the MDGs, such as effective institutions, good governance, the rule of law and peaceful societies.

One new feature will be the universality of the new agenda, meaning that it will apply to all countries at all levels of development, taking into account their different capacities and circumstances. A new global partnership, characterised by shared responsibility, mutual accountability, and engagement by all, will contribute to implementing this new agenda.

There will be a tougher monitoring, accountability and review framework than existed for the MDGs to help ensure delivery of the new agenda.

The EU has played an important role in shaping the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through public consultations, dialogue and research. It will continue to make sure that we realise the promise of an ambitious, transformative and universal 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that eradicates poverty and achieves sustainable development for all.
THE EU MDG INITIATIVE

In 2010, the EU launched the MDG Initiative, targeting support specifically towards the goals on which progress was most off track in the African Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP) covered by the European Development Fund (EDF). The Initiative finances 68 projects in 46 countries focusing on hunger, maternal health, child mortality and water and sanitation. The EU has allocated EUR 1 billion to these projects.

Haiti

The EU launched the Food Safety Enhancement Programme in Haiti in 2012 (budget: EUR 20 million). The programme contributes to agricultural and livestock production, processing and marketing of agricultural products, institution-building and the fight against malnutrition in five districts (North-West, North-East, Centre and partly in the Artibonite and South).

The North-West district is one of the main areas of activity. Through funding to local NGO Ansamn pou Ayiti Demen Miyo (ADEMA), the EU supports four major productive sectors, which provide income to more than 44,000 people, mostly farmers, fishermen, traders and fruit growers in cooperatives. Around 4,250 producers from the communes of Môle-Saint-Nicolas, Bombardopolis and Jean-Rabel are now better equipped to improve yields and increase their income thanks to new production, harvesting and packaging techniques.
Malawi

The EU-backed Farm Income Diversification Programme in Malawi aims to provide training and expertise to thousands of smallholder farmers, to halt and reverse the decline of natural resources, and to reduce post-harvest losses and increase the processing and manufacturing of agricultural products.

As a result, average household farm income increased over 50%, from EUR 126 to EUR 190, and the construction of 1,290 modern concrete granaries cut post-harvest grain losses by over 1.5 million kg. Farmers can now store surplus grain for later sale at a higher price. Over a million trees were planted in agroforestry initiatives to preserve natural resources. Dairy activities improved milk production from 4 litres a day to a range of 15 to 30 litres per cow. The project is ongoing, with an EU contribution to date of EUR 37 million.
Globally, extreme poverty was halved in 2010, five years ahead of schedule, and has continued to fall since. According to the latest figures, the number of people living on less than USD 1.25 a day has fallen by over a billion since 1990. But 836 million people still live in extreme poverty. Similarly, 72 out of 129 countries have halved the proportion of people suffering from hunger, yet 795 million people globally remain hungry.

The EU is one of the biggest contributors to sustainable agriculture and food security for development. Worldwide, the EU supports more than 60 countries in their efforts to improve food and nutrition security and promote sustainable agriculture and food systems, alleviate hunger, support economic growth and ensure political stability. From 2014-2020 the EU will invest more than EUR 8.8 billion in sustainable agriculture and food security, with a focus on small-scale farmers and on preparing the most vulnerable people to cope with food crises. This is an increase on the EUR 1 billion a year that the EU provided for food security from 2007-2013.

Undernutrition and stunted growth are persistent global challenges: two billion people suffer from
It also supports the view of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, set out in both the Sustainable Development Goals and Financing for Development Outcome documents, that universal access to social protection is the basis for eliminating poverty. In 2007-2013 the EU launched 27 social protection projects and programmes with a total value of EUR 392.5 million.

The EU sees employment and decent work as the building blocks of inclusive and sustainable development. It financed projects for employment and vocational education and training totalling over EUR 2 billion in 2007-2013 and is increasing its focus on employment issues for 2014-2020.

micronutrient deficiencies (i.e. lack of minerals and vitamins) and around one in four children are affected by stunted growth. The EU is at the forefront of efforts to combat stunted growth and undernutrition. It has pledged to support partner countries to reduce stunted growth in seven million children by 2025 and committed to providing EUR 3.5 billion from 2014-2020 to improve nutrition.
EU Food Facility

Drastic increases in food prices in 2007 and 2008 pushed millions of vulnerable people back into poverty and food insecurity. The EU Food Facility was created in response to this and represented the first major financial response to the food crisis. It provided EUR 1 billion over three years (2009-2012) to improve agricultural productivity and food supply in the 49 most affected countries. The Facility reached 59 million people directly, mainly smallholder farmers, and indirectly benefited an additional 93 million. This included social transfers to 9.7 million people to increase access to food. Thanks to the lessons learnt from the Food Facility, food and nutrition security, resilience, sustainable agriculture and increasing the contribution of agriculture to economic growth have become key EU priorities in supporting partner countries’ efforts to develop.
Myanmar

The EU contributes to the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT), which supports smallholders and the rural landless poor in Myanmar to use agriculture as a safety net for improved food security and nutrition.

As landless farm labourers, Ma Khin Yamon Kyaw and her husband were the poorest couple in their village in Myanmar’s southern Rakhine State. Their lives changed when LIFT set up a vegetable demonstration plot in the village to promote alternatives to paddy cultivation, which was draining village resources. Villagers elected Ma Khin to work on the tomato demonstration plot, and she received training on cultivation methods and the proper use of fertiliser. Her plot was so successful that it became a model for the village. With money earned from the plot, Ma Khin started growing betel and bought a cow and a pig. She fattened and sold the pig, and bought two more piglets.

The LIFT programme has supported 576,000 households: 249,000 people took part in skills training, 290,000 households increased food security by more than one month and 60,000 households reported increased incomes.
Globally, much progress has been made in enabling more children to go to school. The number of out-of-school children has fallen by almost half since 2000. At the same time, literacy rates for young people aged 15 to 24 increased from 83% in 1990 to projected 91% in 2015. EU support has contributed to this progress, as well to substantial improvements in all other levels of education.

However, 57 million primary-aged children, more than half of whom live in conflict-prone areas, are still not in school. Providing quality and consistent education to all children and young people remains a challenge: about 100 million children in poor countries do not complete primary schooling; the quality of education is often very poor, and about 250 million children do not acquire basic literacy and numeracy skills, let alone those they need for reasonable livelihoods and to contribute to the well-being of their communities.

The EU supports governments in over 40 countries to provide quality education and learning opportunities for all. Half of these countries are fragile and affected by conflict. The EU also works with the Global Partnership for Education, Unicef, Unesco, multilateral and bilateral agencies, and civil society to deliver on education.

The EU will invest EUR 4.7 billion in education in developing countries in 2014-2020, an increase on the EUR 4.4 billion invested in 2007-2013. It supports basic, including primary, education by:

**13.7 MILLION NEW PUPILS ENROLLED IN PRIMARY EDUCATION (2004-2012)**
**EDUCATION**

**1.2 MILLION PRIMARY TEACHERS TRAINED (2004-2012)**

- Making schools accessible for all children and ensuring they are safe and suitable learning environments. Over 37,000 schools have been built or renovated since 2004.
- Strengthening professional development for teachers, school principals and officials, providing teaching and learning materials, and strengthening ways of working to enable staff to do their jobs effectively. Over 1.2 million primary school teachers have been trained since 2004.
- Ensuring that girls and other disadvantaged children are not discriminated against in the access to good education.
- Strengthening parental and community engagement with schools.
- Ensuring refugee children and others in vulnerable situations can continue their education.

In addition, the EU helps young people develop vocational skills that will enable them to secure reasonable livelihoods and develop their societies; and strengthens higher education to ensure countries have sufficient teachers, managers, doctors and engineers. Since 2007, the EU has provided over 40,500 scholarships for developing country students, about 40% of them for young women (compared with 29% in 2007).

**Somalia**

Despite being one of the world’s poorest countries, Somalia has made some progress in education, particularly in the north. The EU invested EUR 85 million in the country in 2007-2013. This helped to increase enrolment in primary schools from 22% in 2004 to 45% in 2012, and to provide more female teachers, facilities dedicated to girls, scholarships and other support to enable many more girls to go to school. The EU is now extending support in the south and centre of Somalia, the most disadvantaged part of the country.

**37 000 SCHOOLS BUILT OR RENOVATED (2004-2012)**
Gender equality and women’s empowerment are both human rights and drivers of development. Improving women’s participation at all levels of society can have significant positive impacts. It can facilitate reconstruction, and help to build peaceful societies. It also provides a way to change rules and social norms that limit girls and boys, women and men, from fulfilling their potential. Globally, significant progress has been made towards achieving gender equality and girls’ and women’s empowerment. Nonetheless, persistent, and in some cases unprecedented, violations of women’s rights occur on a daily basis. The gender gap is even greater when gender inequality is combined with other forms of exclusion such as disability, age, caste, ethnicity, sexual orientation, geographical remoteness or religion.

EU programmes support women’s political participation, as well as their improved economic and social status. This is done, for example, through facilitating women’s contribution in peace- and state-building processes, and promoting equal inheritance and property rights for men and women. Gender is integrated into sector programmes ranging from health and education to private sector development, food security and infrastructure.

All developing regions are close to achieving gender parity in primary education, with 97 girls per 100 boys enrolled in primary education. For secondary and tertiary education, enrolment ratios have improved markedly but
Solomon Islands

Political participation by women in the Solomon Islands is very low. Only one of the 50 members of parliament is a woman. The EU is supporting women’s political participation through the ‘Strongim Mere’ project, which aims to encourage Pacific Islanders to engage in politics and to encourage more women to take leadership and decision-making positions.

The project has produced a 10-part radio drama series, *A Time to Stand*, depicting the challenges faced by women in the Solomon Islands when they try to participate in politics, and how to overcome them. The drama helps spread the message to all provinces, constituencies and villages of the Solomon Islands, especially to rural areas where it is most needed. *A Time To Stand* has reached an estimated 430,000 people and more than 5,000 rural villages.

gender disparities remain larger than in primary education. Some countries are progressing rapidly while others, notably in sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia, lag behind. The EU is committed to closing these gender gaps.

Since 2004 the EU contribution has helped 300,000 new female students to enrol in secondary education. In addition over 18,000 female higher education students have taken part in EU mobility schemes such as Erasmus Mundus, which provides scholarships to students from developing countries to study in Europe.

Promote gender equality and empower women
Globally, major progress has been made in improving child survival. The under-fives’ mortality rate has halved since 1990, from 90 to a projected 43 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2015. Greater declines have been achieved among the poorest households than among the richest in all regions. Despite these advances, progress has been insufficient to achieve the target of a two-thirds reduction in deaths of children under five by 2015 and the toll is still unacceptably high: an estimated 16,000 deaths a day.

Deaths during the first month of life still account for 47% of all childhood deaths and are the most difficult to prevent. The EU supports investments in maternal care, specifically labour and delivery care and other measures focused on the 24 hours around the time of birth, when the potential for reducing neonatal mortality is greatest.

Addressing child mortality requires improvements in nutrition, water supply, child-rearing and caring practices, and health care. Being underweight puts children at greater risk of dying from common infections and globally nearly half of under-five deaths are attributable to under-nutrition⁶. EU support and external aid have helped to protect children against many of the major causes of child mortality, but pneumonia, diarrhoea and malaria continue to be the main killers of under-fives and in 2013 caused about one-third of all under-five deaths.

The EU has worked closely with beneficiary countries and other development partners to address health system weaknesses, and has supported the health sectors of 39 developing countries, with child health a primary target. It also contributes at the global level, in particular through financial support to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, and to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisations. Thanks to EU support at country level, at least 20 million more children were vaccinated against measles between 2004 and 2014. In 2004-2012 the EU helped build or renovate more than 8,500 health facilities worldwide.
The DRC is one of the poorest countries in the world and is off track to reach the MDG 4 target. Nevertheless, concerted efforts by the country’s Ministry of Health and development partners have resulted in tangible progress over the last decade: the child mortality rate fell from 148 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2007 to 104 in 2013.

The EU has supported the health sector in DRC since the 1990s; it is contributing EUR 51 million to the implementation of the national health plan 2010-2015 and an additional EUR 40 million to accelerate progress to achieve MDGs 4 and 5.

The EU has also supported the establishment of an equity fund to ensure that the poorest people are able to access health services. This covers up to 70% of the service cost for mothers and children and 100% for the poorest people in five health zones (Primary Health Care in DRC is organised in “health zones”), with a total population of 994,000. In these areas, vaccination coverage has increased dramatically (83% compared to 42% in other areas in 2013) and the majority of mothers now receive skilled care at delivery (96% compared to 67% in areas not covered by the scheme), thereby ensuring optimal care and support for both mother and baby.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

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Globally, the maternal mortality ratio almost halved from 1990 to 2015. Despite this progress, achievements still fall short of the MDG target to reduce the ratio by three-quarters by 2015.

Maternal death is mostly preventable but improving maternal health is one of the most challenging MDGs, as it is affected by many factors. In developing regions in 2014, just over half of pregnant women got the recommended four antenatal check-ups (coverage increased from 35% in 1990 to 52% in 2014) and skilled health personnel attended 70% of deliveries (up from 57% in 1990), but an estimated 40 million births were not attended by any health professional.

In 2013 alone, an estimated 289,000 women died from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. The uptake of family planning increased from 55% to 63% between 1990 and 2013 but more than 200 million women still have no control over family planning choices due to social and economic barriers.

The EU supports governments in more than 30 countries to develop and implement national health policies and strategies, and strengthen health systems to improve access and uptake of life-saving maternal health services and reach universal access to quality and affordable reproductive and sexual health services and information.

At the same time, the EU cooperates with other bodies – from NGOs and other civil society organisations to UN agencies such as the UN Population Fund – to advocate a rights-based approach to reproductive and maternal health, so that women and girls can make informed choices.

Through these two strands, EU aid contributes to:

- improving access to maternal, newborn and emergency obstetric care;
- training midwives and skilled birth attendants;
- improving working conditions for health professionals;
- integrating maternal and HIV services; and
- increasing availability and access to essential maternal health and family planning supplies such as delivery kits and contraceptives.
Mass protests, violent clashes and armed conflict – a culmination of simultaneous political, social, and economic crises – have destabilised Yemen. Nevertheless, with support from the EU, its Member States and other development partners, Yemen has been able to make remarkable improvements in maternal and reproductive health. The total fertility rate (the average number of children born to a woman) fell from 7.7 in early 1990s to 4.4 in 2013. Over the same period, the uptake of modern family planning methods almost tripled (from 10% to 29%). Antenatal care and safe delivery by a skilled health provider both doubled between 1997 and 2013 (from 34% to 60% and 22% to 45%, respectively).

Since 1999 the EU has committed more than EUR 40 million to the expansion of quality reproductive health services in some of the most insecure and neglected areas of the country, reaching 10 million or approximately 40% of the Yemeni population.
In 2002 the world was struggling to coordinate a global battle against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria, while many countries had limited access to suitable treatment and care options. However, concerted efforts have turned the tide and the number of deaths caused by HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria – six million each year at the beginning of the millennium – has decreased by 40%.

New HIV infections are declining (down 40% between 2000 and 2013), while treatments are becoming more widely available: the world is on track to reach the MDG target of having 15 million people on antiretroviral therapy by the end of 2015. By June 2014, 13.6 million people were receiving life-saving treatment for HIV, compared to just 800,000 in 2003. There also has been a rapid decline in AIDS-related mortality among children, due to effective measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission. However, in 2013, in developing regions only an estimated 36% of the 31.5 million people living with HIV were receiving ART and the need for lifelong treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS imposes an increasing burden on health systems and health budgets in developing countries.

Progress has also been made on malaria. Between 2000 and 2013, greater efforts to combat malaria helped to reduce its incidence by 30% globally (34% in Africa). Over the same period, malaria mortality rates fell by an estimated 47% worldwide (53% in children aged < 5 years). But much more needs to be done. In 2013 there were still about 198 million malaria cases and an estimated 584,000 malaria deaths globally (of which 78% amongst children < 5 years of age).

570,000 PEOPLE WITH ADVANCED HIV INFECTION HAVE RECEIVED ANTIRETROVIRAL COMBINATION THERAPY (2002-2014)
The EU provides substantial financial resources to fight diseases through country programmes, via the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and through research programmes such as the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership. Partnership, country ownership and performance-based funding are core principles of the Global Fund, which the Commission fully supports. EU direct support to countries focuses on supporting national plans, with an emphasis on reaching the most vulnerable and marginalised part of the population.

India

Home to 1.2 billion people and one of the world’s largest economies, India also has large disparities of wealth and wellbeing. It bears a huge share of the global burden of diseases, including the highest number of tuberculosis cases (2.6 million) and the third-highest number of HIV/AIDS cases (2.1 million). With 881,730 malaria cases in 2013, it had 55% of instances of the disease in South East Asia.

India is close to reaching the MDG 6 targets, reporting a 52% decline in TB-related deaths and a 38% decline in AIDS-related deaths between 2005 and 2013, while 770,000 people (36% of those that need it) are currently receiving antiretroviral treatment. Considerable disparities in access to services persist due to economic and social barriers, as well as stigma and discrimination.

The EU does not provide bilateral support to India but contributes to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and supports direct initiatives to ensure the government allocates greater resources to health and that the poorest and most vulnerable have access to treatment and care. The EU supports the civil society network Alliance India’s Koshish programme, which successfully advocated for the right to health in Gujarat state, with the result that people living with HIV, including pregnant women, are no longer denied care.
Increasing emissions, depletion of natural resources and rapid climate change pose critical challenges to development. Global targets on access to improved water supplies and reduced numbers of people living in slums have been achieved before the deadline, but the loss of environmental resources and biodiversity has not been halted. Global awareness about these challenges is growing rapidly and will take centre stage in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Sustainable development based on inclusive growth, the responsible management of natural resources and climate change prevention and adaptation (ie helping countries to adapt to better cope with the impact of climate change) is a fundamental objective of the European Union. The EU supports partner countries to promote the sustainable management of natural resources, particularly land, forest, coastal zones and fisheries to protect ecosystems and to combat desertification. In 2007, the EU launched the Global Climate Change Alliance in order to strengthen international cooperation on climate change, committing EUR 316.5 million. It currently supports 51 programmes in 38 countries.

The MDG drinking water target coverage was met in 2010, five years ahead of schedule. But much remains to be done: 748 million people – mostly the poor and marginalised – still lack access to an improved drinking water source; nearly half of them are in sub-Saharan Africa.

With regard to the MDG sanitation target, coverage of improved sanitation increased from 49% in 1990 to 27.5 million people connected to sanitation facilities (2004-2014) and more than 74 million people connected to improved drinking water (2004-2014).

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**27.5 million**
people connected to sanitation facilities
(2004-2014)

**More than 74 million**
people connected to improved drinking water
(2004-2014)
Kenya

The EU has supported a project to develop water and sanitation access and promote basic sanitation and good hygiene in rural communities in three districts (Isiolo, Garbatulla and Samburu East). The local community benefited from a 50 m³ elevated steel water tank, the construction of three water kiosks (booths for the sale of tap water) and the extension of a 5 km pipeline. As a result, over 72,000 people can now obtain safe water; over 5,000 households gained access to sanitation facilities, and more than 148,000 people benefited from hygiene awareness-raising activities, including children from 60 schools.

64% in 2012. But more than one-third of the global population – some 2.5 billion people – still do not have access to sanitation facilities, down just 7% from 2.7 billion in 1990. Since 2004, EU assistance has provided access to clean water for more than 74 million people and sanitation to over 27 million people.
DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNER

MDG 8 has seen significant progress since 1990. In 2014, ODA levels reached USD 135.2 billion, a 66% increase compared to 2000. At the same time developing countries’ access to markets has increased.

More and better aid

The EU and its Member States collectively provide more aid than all other donors combined and, with their recent commitment to meeting the UN’s 0.7% ODA/GNI target during the timeframe of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to meeting the 0.15-0.20% of GNI ODA target for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the short term, they are leading the way internationally in supporting the new Sustainable Development Goals. EU aid focuses on where it can have the greatest impact.

The EU’s commitment to Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) meaning that “The Union shall take account of the objectives of development cooperation in the policies that it implements which are likely to affect developing countries” (Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, TFEU, Art. 208), makes the EU a forerunner on the international stage in this area. PCD aims to minimise contradictions and build synergies between different EU policies to benefit developing countries and increase the effectiveness of development cooperation.

The EU is committed to implementing commitments made at the Busan High Level Forum in 2011, which provide a framework for continued dialogue and efforts to enhance the effectiveness of development co-operation. The Busan Forum, and the resulting Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, marked a shift from aid effectiveness to development effectiveness. This involves integrating and promoting the principles of country ownership, focus on results, inclusive partnerships, transparency and accountability both as an individual donor and at European level. Work is ongoing in all these areas.

Significant progress has already been achieved in increasing the transparency of EU aid data and in EU joint programming (for instance, when the EU and its Member States assess the biggest problems and challenges in a country together and then define what sectors to focus on, before preparing a common framework for their work), which now takes place in around 40 developing countries.

Access to markets and aid for trade

The EU remains the most open market to developing countries. A more concrete example of Policy Coherence for Development is the Everything But Arms scheme which exempts exports by LDCs from duties and quotas (except arms and ammunition);
Assessment of economic benefits generated by EU trade regimes towards developing countries

A major study, concluded in 2015, demonstrates that the EU is an extremely important and open market, importing EUR 860 billion annually from developing countries. The study also shows that EU trade policy has significantly increased exports and economic diversification of developing countries; the monetary value of EU trade preferential schemes amounts to more than EUR 6 billion annually.

The impact on exports and economic diversification is greatest for LDCs: the EU duty-free and quota-free market access benefits amount annually to 12% of the total export value of products eligible for preferential access. The study also indicates that in part these exports had a measurable positive effect on poverty reduction, when combined with sound domestic policies.

Mozambique

The Milange-Mocuba integrated corridor project will create a new connection to Malawi (110 km of asphalt road), impacting the 16 million people living in that country. At the same time, with the development of a network of rural roads (110 km of all-weather road) around it, and the new One Stop Border post and weighbridge station, the project supports local development and trade facilitation, with direct impacts for the 3.8 million inhabitants of Zambezia Province.

the EU continues to import more from LDCs than the United States, Canada, Japan and China put together, excluding fuels.

Aid for Trade (AfT) is about helping developing countries, in particular the least developed, to build their trade capacity and the infrastructure they need to benefit from opening their markets. For several years now, the EU and its Member States have consistently been the largest providers of such aid. In 2013, the EU delivered EUR 11.7 billion, representing 31% of global AfT flows.

**EUR 2.9 BILLION**

COMMITTED BY EU AND EU MEMBER STATES FOR TRADE RELATED ASSISTANCE (2013)
In 2013, the EU and its Member States were also the source of 57% of worldwide Trade-Related Assistance (EUR 2.9 billion) (part of Aid for Trade) focusing on core trade-related activities like trade policy and regulations, or trade facilitation.

Security and democracy

Since the creation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the EU has been at the forefront

Among the achievements obtained under MUTRAP is the recognition of the Nuoc mam Phu Quoc as a product of protected designation of origin (PDO) in the EU. The Phu Quoc Extract of Fish (common name: fish sauce) is the first product from an Southeast Asian country to obtain PDO protection in all 28 EU Member States, and the first Vietnamese Geographical Indication to be recognised and protected in the EU.
A global leader in electoral assistance and observation, the EU has sent 85 observation missions since 2004.

Better and more sustainable transport links

Developing a dynamic and resilient transport network is a necessary precondition for a country’s development. Globalisation has made the development of these networks more important than ever. The EU plays an important role in the transport sector, particularly in ACP countries: since 2004 the EU has helped build or improve over 11 500 km of roads and helped maintain more than 82 500 km of roads.

The APF currently supports the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) and the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord’s Resistance Army in the Central African sub-region (RCI-LRA).

The EU assists the deployment of 21 500 peacekeepers in African-led Peace Support Operations, as well as 220 trained peace and security staff who work in APSA institutions. Since 2009, 25 Early Response activities – particularly in crisis mediation and peace-building – have been implemented.

Commission budget without external aid, € 133 504 – 93.1%

External aid (budget + EDF), € 9 906 – 6.9%

Percentage of EU budget committed to external assistance in 2014 (million EUR)
**Geographic Breakdown of ODA 2004-2014**

- **Europe**: 19,536
- **Africa North of Sahara**: 6,942
- **Africa South of Sahara**: 13,844
- **America South & Central**: 7,962
- **Asia Middle East**: 8,016
- **Asia South & Central, Far East**: 3,286
- **Oceania**: 20,642
- **Bilateral unallocated**: 6,572
- **ODA Multilateral Aid, Total**: 37,217

**Sectoral breakdown of ODA 2004-2014**

- **Social infrastructure: education, health, water, government and civil society, other**: 14,032
- **Economic infrastructures and services: transport, communications, energy, other**: 11,294
- **Production: agriculture, forestry and fishing, industry, mining and construction, trade and tourism**: 14,226
- **Multisector/crosscutting: environment, other**: 123
- **Budget support, food aid, food security**: 11,401
- **Action relating to debt**: 13,164
- **Humanitarian aid**: 6,942
- **Other/Unallocated: admin. costs, unspecified**: 46,794
1. **58.7 million** people assisted through food security related social transfers (2004-2014)

2. **8.8 million** people benefited from employment-related assistance (2004-2012)

3. **7.7 million** people received technical and vocational education and training (2004-2012)

4. **658 civil society organisations** working to promote gender equality supported by thematic programmes (2004-2014)

5. **300,000 new female students** enrolled in secondary education (2004-2012)

6. **18,306 female students** in Erasmus Mundus and other student mobility schemes (2007-2014)

7. **13.7 million** new pupils enrolled in primary education (2004-2012)

8. **1.2 million** primary teachers trained (2004-2012)

9. **37,000 schools** built or renovated (2004-2012)

10. **20 million** children under the age of one immunised against measles (2004-2014)

11. **More than 8,500 health centres and facilities** built, renovated or furnished (2004-2012)

12. **Over 7.5 million births** attended by skilled health personnel (2004-2012)

13. **Almost 17 million consultations on reproductive health** (2004-2012)
570,000 people with advanced HIV infection have received antiretroviral combination therapy (2002-2014)

22.6 million insecticide-treated bed nets distributed (2002-2014)

More than 74 million people connected to improved drinking water (2004-2014)

27.5 million people connected to sanitation facilities (2004-2014)

1.9 million km² of forest protected (2004-2014)

Continued conservation of 1.1 million km² of protected areas (2004-2014)

EUR 2.9 billion committed by EU and EU member states for trade related assistance (2013)

220 trained peace and security staff working in African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) institutions (2014)

25 crisis prevention, management and resolution (CPMR) activities supported (2004-2014)

21,500 peace-keepers deployed in African-led peace operations (2014)

85 election observation missions deployed and more than 8,800 observers deployed (2004-2014)

875 million voters covered by election observation missions (2004-2014)

94,000 km of road constructed and repaired (2004-2014)
The data on results presented here refer to European Commission-financed programmes managed by the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, and funded by the EU budget or European Development Fund. Bilateral programmes funded by EU Member States are not covered, unless otherwise specified.

The results highlighted in each MDG section illustrate how Commission-financed programmes have contributed to the eight goals. The figures have been compiled and consolidated on the basis of reviews of EU aid. In cases where concrete outputs could not be directly linked to projects (for example, when aid was implemented through budget support – aid given directly to governments rather than to a particular project – or through co-financing with other donors), results were calculated on a pro-rata basis, taking into account the Commission’s proportion of overall inputs. The period covered is indicated underneath each result in brackets.

Figures on the global status of each MDG are quoted from the UN Millennium Development Goals reports as well as the World Bank’s Global Monitoring Report and the FAO’s report on the State of World Food Insecurity in 2015. The results cannot in any way be interpreted as reflecting the whole range of the Commission’s development aid results. They provide a partial insight into development assistance activities linked to selected MDG-related indicators.

An electronic version of this brochure with hyperlinks to the documents and reports referred to in the text can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/policies/european-development-policy/eu-millennium-development-goals_en
European Commission

The EU’s Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals. Key results from European Commission programmes
2015 – 36 p. – 14.8 x 21 cm
doi: 10.2841/38549

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