




“Challenges faced by Africa and the World: Can we achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015?”

Civil TICAD Symposium toward TICAD IV in 2008

Key Note Speech
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Let's First Set Out The MDGs

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

The MDGs 2007 Mid Point – Where does Africa stand?

	Sub Saharan Africa	Latin America & Caribbean	Sub Saharan Africa	Middle East & North Africa	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	South Asia	East Asia & Pacific
Goal 1	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	On Track	On Track
Goal 2	Off Track	On Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Slightly off Track
Goal 3	Off Track	On Track	Off Track	Off Track	Slightly off Track	Off Track	On Track
Goal 4	Off Track	Slightly off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track
Goal 5	Off Track	Slightly off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Slightly off Track
Goal 6	Off Track	Slightly off Track	Off Track	On Track	Slightly off Track	Slightly off Track	Slightly off Track
Goal 7	Off Track	On Track	Off Track	Off Track	On Track	Off Track	Slightly off Track
Goal 8	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	Off Track	On Track	On Track

Where does Africa stand vis-à-vis the MDGs?

- Given Africa's relatively unfavourable development circumstances, the MDGs are of particular relevance to African countries
- The UN 2007 MDG Report indicates not a single sub-Saharan African country is on track to achieving all the Goals by 2015
- However, the various assessments undertaken recently show that remarkable progress has been made in a wide range of sectors
- Success is possible, but only with concerted and sustained action until 2015
- All stakeholders must fulfill their commitments made in the Millennium Declaration and subsequently at G-8 Summits and other international conferences

However, There are Some Positive Trends in Africa

- Annual economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa has averaged close to 6% in the last three years
- There is a downward trend in the number of civil conflicts in the African continent
- Poverty rate has declined by nearly 6% since 1990
- Enrolment in primary education grew from 54% in 1991 to 70% in 2005 in Sub-Saharan Africa
- The share of parliamentary seats held by women substantially increased from 7% in 1990 to 17% in 2005
- Measles cases and deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa fell by nearly 75% between 1999 and 2005

Also, There are Tireless Efforts for Achieving MDGs

- Technical assistance by UNDP/Africa has been rolled out to 43 of the 45 sub-Saharan African countries. Only Angola and Eritrea have not yet been covered
- Capacities within Governments for MDG-Based Planning Processes have been built up significantly
- At least 23 sub-Saharan African countries have drafted or completed MDG-Based Plans, with another 20 countries at various stages of Needs Assessments
- Partnerships with a wide range of institutions and donors were strengthened in support of MDG-Based Plans, even though much more remains to be done

Can Africa achieve the MDGs?

Is it really a question?

The Answer is...

“ These goals can be met by 2015 – but only if all involved break with business as usual and dramatically accelerate and scale up action now”

In larger freedom : Towards development, security and human rights for all (Report of the Secretary-General)

How can we achieve the MDGs?

- Countries need to redouble efforts to mobilize additional resources and target public investments that benefit the poor in order to achieve the MDGs
- A MDG-based planning process – aligning national development strategies with the MDGs – need to be adopted in all African countries
- The MDGs need to be systematically integrated into post-conflict recovery strategies by coordinating security and humanitarian operations with long-term development efforts
- Need for fuller engagement of other key national stakeholders, namely civil society organizations, youth and parliamentarians for deepening national commitment and ownership
- Need for adequate incorporation of pro-poor growth, energy and environment and productive and decent employment agenda within the MDG-based planning processes

How can we achieve the MDGs?

- The leaders resolved to accelerate efforts to follow through on existing commitments and address the following three challenges to support development in Africa:
 - Effective mechanisms for implementing commitments in the areas of health, education, agriculture and food security, infrastructure, and statistical systems;
 - Improve aid predictability, following from the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness; and
 - Strengthen joint efforts at the country level in support of the MDGs
- Better coordination with other UN system agencies to scale up joint UN support at the country level in conjunction with the UN Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and bilateral donors

Thank you