



What are the MDGs?

In 2000, 189 Member States, including Mauritius, unanimously adopted the Millennium Declaration setting out eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be reached by 2015, with 1990 as baseline.

According to Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary General *'the MDGs represent human needs and basic rights that every individual around the world should be able to enjoy — freedom from extreme poverty and hunger; quality education, productive and decent employment, good health and shelter; the right of women to give birth without risking their lives; and a world where environmental sustainability is a priority, and women and men live in equality'*.

More specifically, the MDGs are:-

Goal 1 : Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger

Goal 2 : Achieve universal primary education

Goal 3 : Promote gender equality & 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

Are we reaching the goals?

We are now only three years to the deadline. Let's find out how the world and Mauritius are doing with respect to these goals.



Goal 1 - Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

At the global level, the target of halving extreme poverty will be achieved well ahead of time

Preliminary estimates indicate that extreme poverty fell across the world to less than half the 1990 rate in 2010. In the developing world, the proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day fell from 47% in 1990 to 24% in 2008.

In Mauritius, extreme poverty is marginal

The proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day or Rs 860 per month is negligible.



Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education

Worldwide, progress on primary enrolment has been made but it is not enough to reach the 2015 target.

Enrolment in primary education improved from 84% in 2000 to 91% in 2010 but unlikely to near 100% in 2012.

Mauritius has already reached the target

Net enrolment rate in primary education neared 100% since 1990.



Goal 3 - Promote gender equality and empower women

Worldwide, gender equality has been achieved in primary education but women still face unequal access to jobs and participation in government

The share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector was 39.6% in 2010; the share among parliamentarians was 19.7% in 2012.

Mauritius has achieved the target on education but not on work and participation in parliament

Women represent only 38% of wage employment in non-agricultural sector and 19% of parliamentarians.



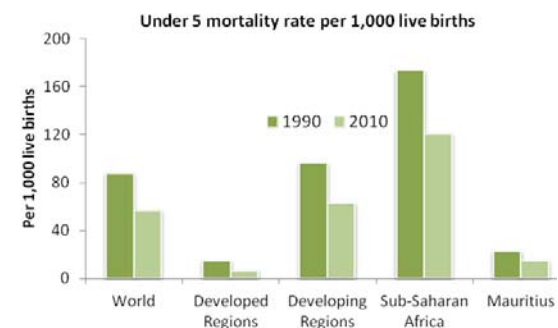
Goal 4 - Reduce child mortality

Globally, child mortality goes down but not fast enough to reach two-third reduction

The under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) decreased from 88 in 1990 to 57 in 2010, still far from the target of 29.

In Mauritius, child mortality goes down but the UN target will not be achieved

The under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) declined from 23.1 in 1990 to 15.9 in 2011 but unlikely to reach the target of 7.7 in 2015. Reducing child mortality to a rate nearing that of developed regions is a bigger challenge.



Goal 5 - Improve maternal health

Worldwide, maternal mortality is declining but not fast enough to reach a three-quarter reduction

An estimated 287,000 maternal deaths occurred in 2010 worldwide, a decline of 47% from 1990. This is far from the 2015 target of a 75% reduction.

Maternal mortality already low in Mauritius

In Mauritius, the number of maternal deaths is low and followed an erratic downward trend from 15 in 1990 to 5 in 2011.



Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Globally, the number of people living with HIV is on the rise

At the end of 2010, an estimated 34 million people were living with HIV, up by 17% from 2001 due to fewer AIDS-related deaths and continued large number of new infections.

and incidence of malaria is going down

The estimated incidence of malaria decreased by 17% since 2000.

In Mauritius HIV prevalence slightly down since 2006

HIV prevalence among adults aged 15-49 years rose dramatically from an estimated 0.02% in 1987 to 1.2% in 2006 and has since been declining gradually to 0.97% in 2011.

Mauritius has one of the highest rates of prevalence of diabetes in the world

In 2009, almost 1 in 2 Mauritians aged 25 to 74 years had either diabetes or impaired glucose metabolism (pre-diabetes). According to the International Diabetes Federation, Mauritius was the 4th country out of 223 with the highest diabetes prevalence in 2010.



Goal 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability

Globally, the goal has partly been achieved

The targets for accessing safe drinking water and improving lives of slum dwellers have been achieved. However, targets on preservation of environmental resources and biodiversity have not reached the target - the proportion of land area covered by forest decreased from 32% in 1990 to 31% in 2010 and CO₂ emissions per capita increased from 2.9 metric tons in 1990 to 4.1 in 2009.

In Mauritius, preservation of environmental resources and biodiversity remains a challenge

Forests occupied 31% of total land area in 1995; the proportion went down to 26% in 2011. CO₂ emissions per capita rose from 0.9 metric tons in 1990 to 2.8 in 2011 while the number of species threatened with extinction increased from 147 in 2004 to 177 in 2011.



Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development

Worldwide, core development aid falls,

Major donors' aid to developing countries fell by 3% in 2011, breaking a long trend of annual increases.

debt service ratios of developing countries fall,

Between 2000 and 2008, the ratio of debt service to exports for developing regions declined from 12.6% to 3.4%.

and ICT grows at a remarkable pace.

By the end of 2011, close to 35% of the world's population was online up from 18% in 2006.

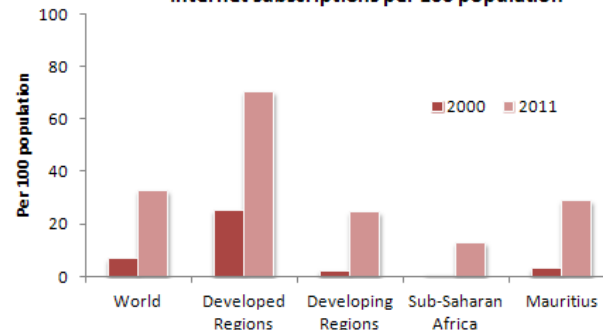
In Mauritius, debt service declines

The ratio of debt service to exports declined from 8.9% in 2000 to 3.5% in 2010.

and ICT penetration increases

Between 1990 and 2011, mobile cellular subscriptions increased from 0.2% of the population to 100% and internet subscriptions from 2% to 29%.

Internet subscriptions per 100 population



Reference

1. UN, *The Millennium Development Goals Report*, UN, 2012
2. *Statistics Mauritius, UN MDG database (1990-2011) available at <http://statsmauritius.gov.mu>*

Understanding Statistics



Millennium Development Goals

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