

Is development sustainable?

– The world beyond the Millennium Development Goals



In the year 2000, countries around the world agreed on the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which provided guidelines to solve the global poverty problem. Based on the Declaration, eight concrete and measurable goals were defined in order to halve global poverty by 2015.

As the deadline for these Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) approaches, the UN and several national governments and international organisations are already planning a post-2015 system. UN-level preparations are being coordinated by a Task Team set up by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, which is due to release its proposal for promotion of the work in May 2012. In addition, the Secretary-General will establish a High-level Panel to deliberate on how to overcome global development challenges.

The new direction of the international development agenda will also define the development policy and development co-operation carried out by Finland. Therefore, now is the time for Finland to make a difference.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, will be organised in June 2012 to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The conference will discuss the world beyond the Millennium Development Goals. The work to create new development goals has begun.

FINLAND SHOULD

- ▶ contribute to ensuring that the new goals are prepared in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner at UN and national levels;
- ▶ promote inclusion of environmental, human rights and corporate responsibility issues in the new goals;
- ▶ take global challenges for sustainable development into account when reforming government strategies, paying special attention to the Climate and Energy Strategy, the Sustainable Development Strategy and the Government Report on the Future.

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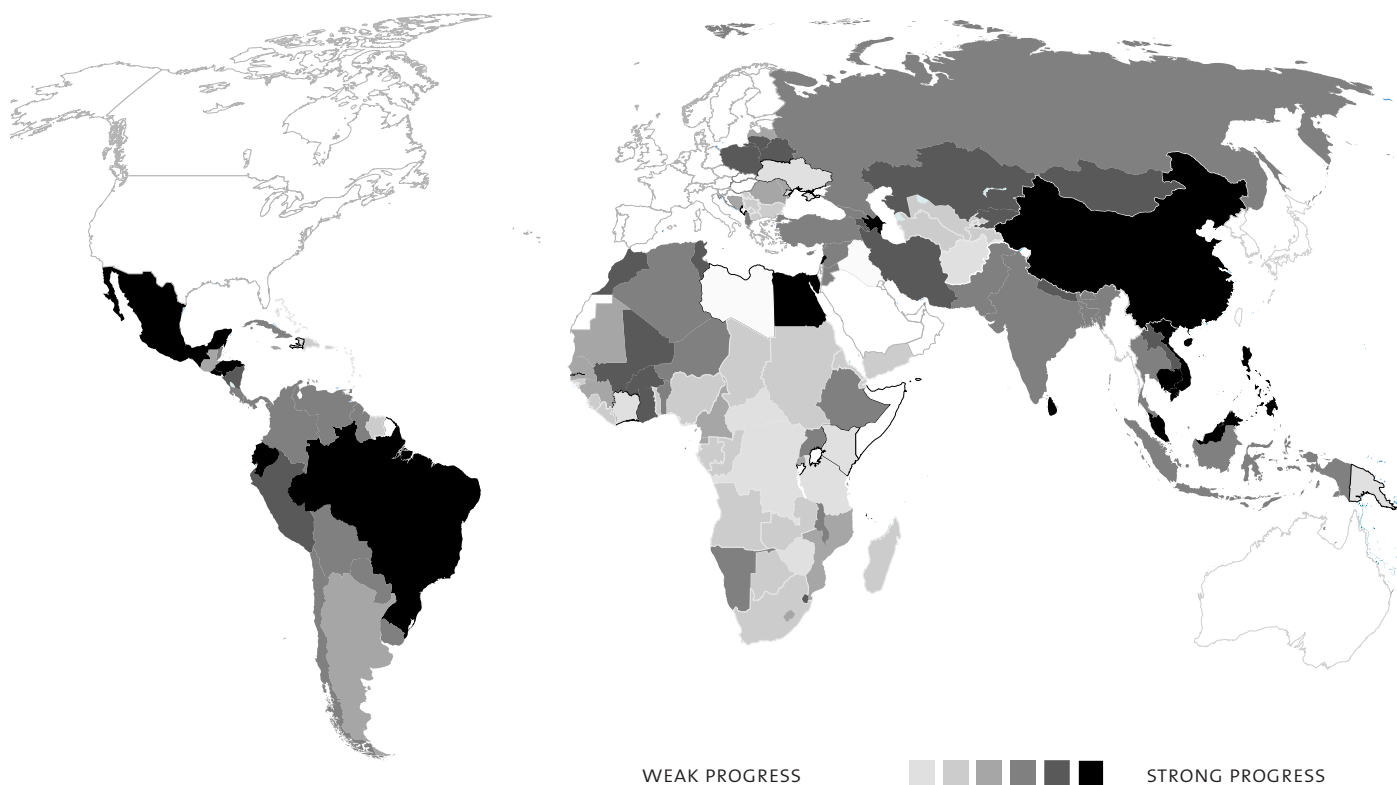
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**ACHIEVEMENT OF UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS
- CURRENT STATUS BY COUNTRY**



SOURCE:
CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT 2011,
MDG PROGRAM INDEX

Millennium Development Goals today

The Millennium Declaration adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2000 included a wide range of goals to reduce poverty. These Millennium Development Goals comprise eight measurable goals and more specific targets (see the list of Millennium Development Goals on p. 13). At the same time, rich countries renewed their commitment to raise the share of their development assistance to 0.7% of their gross national product (GNP).

The Millennium Development Goals brought the goals of social development into the mainstream of international politics in a situation where the model relying on deregulation,

carried out since the early 1980's, had failed to bring about the desired economic growth.¹ Both the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development and other UN and OECD summits created a foundation for a shared understanding of new post-Cold War problems and formulas for solving these.²

While solving the poverty problem was considered to be an important goal in itself, it was also seen as being key to improving global security and the state of the environment. This basic starting point is still at least as topical today as it was at the turn of the millennium.

¹ Nilsson 2008

² Green 2011

Will the goals be achieved?

GLOBAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN ALMOST ALL OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS. A DEPRESSING EXCEPTION IS THE GOAL TO IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH, WHERE WE ARE CLEARLY LAGGING BEHIND.

Uneven progress

In all, about half of the developing countries will achieve the goals relating to reduction of poverty, water supply, education and gender equality. Progress is considerably weaker in terms of reduction of child and maternal mortality and undernutrition: these goals will only be achieved by a third of countries.

There have been significant differences in achievement of individual goals. Several poor countries, such as Rwanda and Tanzania, have made great strides in terms of universal primary education. At the same time, however, Tanzania has lowered expectations in relation to the goal to reduce poverty (see p. 12).

Progress may also be uneven between and within regions and countries. Some of the emerging economies have seen very rapid development in statistical terms, even as Africa and South Asia have fallen behind other regions.³ On the other hand, countries with rapid economic growth have witnessed creation of regional and social poverty traps, which are not visible in national GDP figures. Comparison of states' development rates on the basis of the gross domestic product has, indeed, lost some of its significance.

In a world of new crises and threats, the poverty problem is more and more complex and affected by an increasing number of factors. This is why there will be demand for clear and understandable goals in the future as well. Without the Millennium Development Goals, development would certainly have been slower.⁴

Global partnership remained rhetorical

Several problems hindering the achievement of Millennium Development Goals are rooted in the structures of the global economic system discriminating against developing countries. In addition to increasing development assistance, the eighth goal focusing on global partnership com-

What grievances remain?

The Millennium Declaration and, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals also met with criticism. Important themes were omitted from the goals, they were considered to be too moderate and there were doubts about the effectiveness of numerical targets. In addition, it was considered impossible to reduce broad structural problems into individual themes.

Some critics felt that too little attention was paid to employment issues, for example⁵, while the environmental perspective was considered to be too narrow.⁶ Others, in turn, called for a broader human rights perspective in the goals.⁷ In addition, the goal aiming at global partnership remained loose in terms of formulation.

Some of the goals fell short of the standard of existing international commitments. For instance, the target of halving the number of people living in poverty was less ambitious than the target agreed at the 1996 UN World Food Conference in Rome.⁸

mitted rich countries to further developing a fair and rule-based international trade and financial system that would take the special needs of developing countries into account.

Nevertheless, progress has remained modest: international trade rules still fail to support reduction of global poverty. Effective long-term solutions to the debt problems of developing countries have not been found despite promises. International actions have also failed to significantly strengthen opportunities for developing countries to collect tax revenue for themselves to finance their development.

³ Melamed 2012

⁴ Kepa 2012

⁵ Khan 2007

⁶ Amin 2006

⁷ Amnesty International 2010

⁸ Loewe 2011

The changing geography of poverty

The global geography of poverty has undergone a fundamental transformation since the Millennium Development Goals were set in 2000. At present, an overwhelming majority of people living on less than 1.25 US dollars a day live in middle-income emerging economic powers. The poor have not moved – the underlying reason is the rise of populous countries, such as China and India, to the group of middle-income countries.

The change in the geography of poverty will have an inevitable bearing on the tools and targets used to eradicate poverty after 2015. Even though development co-operation will continue to play a strong role in the poorest countries, the focus in terms of finding a broader solution to the poverty problem will increasingly shift to other areas.

In the case of middle-income countries, it is essential to ask how to make their development genuinely sustainable: How to reconcile rapid economic growth with the limits of ecological carrying capacity? How to ensure that emerging business activities benefit citizens and states through reasonable tax revenue, for example? What kinds of income distribution and social policies will ensure that economic growth will also benefit others besides the elite groups?

Middle-income countries are ultimately responsible for their own policies, but international co-operation and agreements may create conditions for and examples of eradication of poverty. The activities of major transnational companies also play a role in the areas of sustainable use of natural resources, tax revenue and respect for human rights.

Distribution of the number of people living on less than US\$1.25 a day

	1988–90 or nearest year	2007/08 or nearest year
Low income, stable	80%	16%
Low income, fragile conflict-affected state	13%	12%
Middle income, stable	6%	61%
Middle income, fragile conflict-affected state	1%	11%

SOURCE: KANBUR JA SUMNER 2011

A new development agenda takes shape

THE EIGHT MEASURABLE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY BROUGHT DEVELOPMENT ISSUES TO THE PUBLIC AGENDA AND FACILITATED PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE PROCESS. THERE WILL BE DEMAND FOR THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MODEL THAT THEY REPRESENT IN THE FUTURE AS WELL.

The Millennium Development Goals have provided plenty of valuable lessons for evaluation of the post-2015 world. It is clear that the goals will need to be further expanded – however, without making them into an endless wish list. It is crucial for the reform process to recognise that the borders of states and poverty do not always coincide: more attention will have to be paid to poor groups of people and regions within states. The new goals will also need to be tied to the sustainable use of natural resources and the environment. In addition, the increasing criticism towards perceiving economic growth as being the prerequisite for development will have to be taken seriously.

Towards Sustainable Development Goals?

In the run-up to the Rio+20 Conference, there has been a lively debate about so-called sustainable development goals. Their key aspect is the attempt to integrate more environmentally sustainable practices into eradication of poverty. Sustainable development goals are included in the preparatory process for Rio+20.⁹

The governments of Colombia and Guatemala have put forward a proposal for sustainable development goals. The proposal includes the following eight goals: combating poverty, changing consumption patterns, promoting sustainable human settlement development, biodiversity and forests, protection of oceans, water resources, food security, and energy issues.¹⁰

The proposal suggests that states should agree on the basic principles and a road map for further development of contents and indicators for the new goals. The planning work is still in the early stages.

In September 2011, a number of NGOs due to participate in the Rio+20 Conference put forward their own proposal for new sustainable development goals, which was more extensive than the Colombian and Guatemalan proposal.¹¹

The goals suggested by the NGOs include sustainable consumption and production; livelihoods, youth and education; climate policy; clean energy; biodiversity; water; healthy seas and oceans; healthy forests; agriculture; green cities; subsidies and investments; new indicators of progress; access to information; public participation; access to redress and remedy; environmental justice for the poor and marginalised; and basic health. The Dutch Government's Advisory Council has, in turn, proposed that the strict deadline for the current Millennium Development Goals be replaced with a more flexible process and that its realisation be evaluated every five or ten years. This would also make it possible to update the goals as required.¹²

Support for new goals from the Global Sustainability Panel

The UN High-level Panel on Global Sustainability, co-chaired by Finnish President Tarja Halonen and South African President Jacob Zuma, suggested that work on sustainable development goals should be launched at the Rio+20 Conference, such that it would be completed by the deadline for implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015.¹³ New goals would offer an opportunity to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, environmental and social.

Halonen and Zuma suggest that practical creation of sustainable development goals could be started with the UN Secretary-General establishing an expert mechanism to draft them.¹⁴ An essential aspect of this alternative would be to secure sufficiently comprehensive representation from different developing countries, while also guaranteeing extensive opportunities to influence for NGOs and other stakeholders, such as local governments, indigenous peoples and the business world.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has set up a Task Team, which is due to release its report on

⁹ United Nations 2012

¹⁰ Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2011

¹¹ Declaration of the 64th Annual DPI/NGO Conference in Bonn, 13th September 2011, <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&nr=273&type=230&menu=38>

¹² Advisory Council on International Affairs 2011

¹³ UN High-level Panel on Sustainable Development 2012

¹⁴ UN High-level Panel on Sustainable Development 2012

NGO vision: Beyond 2015

A global Beyond 2015 initiative of almost 300 NGOs involved in development issues has outlined some guidelines for an inclusive process towards a post-MDG world.¹⁵

The Beyond 2015 coalition suggests that responsibility for planning and practical implementation of the process should rest with the UN and its member states, as the UN is the only body with broad enough representation and acceptance for this purpose. Planning work should be co-ordinated between states, local governments and civil society.

According to the coalition, sustainable development goals should include both global objectives and national objectives adjusted to each country's circumstances. The goals should be in line with international human rights agreements and they should focus on the fundamental reasons for poverty and attainment of sustainable development.

continuation of the Millennium Development Goals in May 2012. In addition, a High-level Panel will be established during 2012 to deliberate on how to overcome global development challenges.

Putting human rights at the heart of development

Many human rights agreements signed by states include commitments relevant in terms of eradication of poverty, which have nevertheless been kept separate from the Millennium Development Goals. Governments could commit to including the principles of human rights in national development plans and projects, just as they are already doing as part of the Millennium Development Goal concerning environmental sustainability.¹⁶

A human rights approach, shifting the focus of attention in development thinking from fulfilment of needs to people's ability to recognise and demand their rights, helps to analyse the post-MDG framework and to integrate it into existing agreements more effectively. In addition to traditional freedom rights, it also highlights cultural, social and political rights, such as the right to work, subsistence and social services.¹⁷

Current international human rights legislation already exceeds the commitments of the Millennium Development Goals in areas such as promotion of gender equality and action against discrimination. In the future, the existing international legislation should therefore be taken as the starting point for measuring progress.¹⁸

How is progress measured?

In addition to the changing world situation and new themes, the debate on post-MDG development policy has focused on how to measure progress in the future.

The debate on development indicators has gained momentum over recent years, while awareness of the limits of economic growth has increased. Besides economic growth, limits have also been reached in terms of the planet's carrying capacity, as humanity has passed three out of the eight milestones of planetary carrying capacity.¹⁹ There are also limits in terms of the lack of human development. In 2012, a fifth of the world's population are living on less than 1.25 US dollars a day and up to one billion people are facing hunger.

It is possible to bring about a reduction in poverty as well as social development by either burdening or preserving the environment. The key question is how to get future goals to support sustainable development more effectively from the perspectives of the environment and humanity.

In the light of current knowledge, it is possible to provide the poorest part of the world's population with adequate food, energy and subsistence in a sustainable manner. For instance, bringing electricity to the almost one fifth of the world's population currently without it could be achieved with less than a 1% increase in global CO₂ emissions. Providing the additional calories needed by the world's population facing hunger would require just 1% of the current global food supply.²⁰

The debate is also intertwined with the definitions of income poverty. The threshold of personal income poverty has been set at US\$1.25 per day. However, risks relating to illness, old age or subsistence and chances of preparing for these present bigger problems to people living in poverty in rural areas, for example, than the amount of income.

¹⁵ Giffen and Pratt 2011

¹⁶ Amnesty International 2010

¹⁷ Amnesty International 2010

¹⁸ Amnesty International 2010

¹⁹ Rockström et al. 2009

²⁰ Raworth 2012

From economic indicators to genuine well-being

Most criticism has focused on the concept of the gross domestic product (GDP) that measures states' revenue development. It only measures the amount of domestic production, but reveals little about its content or distribution. Costs resulting from environmental destruction increase the gross domestic product as much as construction of wind power stations.

Instruments suggested to complement the GDP include, among others, the Human Development Index (HDI) and the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI). In addition to economic development, these take human and environmental well-being into account more broadly. Indicators such as the ecological footprint, in turn, draw attention to consumption habits.²¹

For the purposes of the post-MDG development goals, it is imperative to ensure that the benefits of these different indicators can be put to sensible use instead of making them compete against each other. The Millennium Development Goals have as such contributed to creating alternatives to narrow GDP comparisons.

One of the drivers behind new poverty indicators has been the idea of development as freedom, launched by economist Amartya Sen in 1999. According to Sen, releasing human potential also requires other things besides level of income, such as political freedom, social opportunities and social safety nets. At the same time, interest in positive human rights has also become more widespread.

Indicators of social progress have improved

The current MDG indicators may suggest that countries are making progress even if life does not improve for a single disabled person living in poverty. At the same time, however, disabled people account for 20% of the world's poor.²² The same also applies to regions and ethnic groups living in worse conditions than the surrounding population.

Some countries, such as Thailand and Ecuador, already take different minorities into account when reporting on progress towards Millennium Development Goals.²³ Extending this type of reporting as part of mandatory reporting practices would help draw the attention of deci-

Planning with open doors

The original Millennium Development Goals were mainly designed by a relatively small group of UN insiders.²⁴ By this stage, this sort of preparation in a small circle, which was already widely criticised last time, is definitely outdated.

The preparatory process must be opened fairly and equitably to the broadest possible group of participants. Changes in global power relations alone, such as the rise of China as an economic power, will bring new parties to the negotiation tables.

In addition to governments, it is imperative to consult all the so-called leading actor groups, which are also involved in preparations for Rio+20. These include NGOs, women, children and young people, indigenous peoples, local governments, the trade union movement, business and industry, farmers, and the scientific community.

on-makers in different countries to those groups of people who often fail to get their voices heard in the political arena.

The above-mentioned shortcomings of the Millennium Development Goals have also been addressed with new initiatives extending beyond individual countries. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) used in the 2011 UN Human Development Report combines several themes of the Millennium Development Goals into a single measure.

The MPI makes it possible to compare countries, regions, ethnic minorities or other groups based on nutrition, child mortality, access to drinking water and sanitation. This specifically captures multidimensional poverty and problems not revealed by dollar-based measures.²⁵

The Correlation-Sensitive Poverty Index (CSPI), in turn, resembles the MPI in terms of its premises, but it takes better account of the interdependencies between different aspects of poverty.

The impetus for new poverty indicators comes from improvements in the availability of data and statistics from developing countries. On the other hand, many dimensions important in terms of development, in particular various positive human rights, are still often left in a blind spot.

²¹ *Nature* 2009

²² *Amnesty International* 2010

²³ *Amnesty International* 2010

²⁴ *Currah et al.* 2011

²⁵ *Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative* 2012

Let's correct the course!

NEW DEVELOPMENT GOALS MUST OFFER SOLUTIONS TO THE STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND INEQUALITY.

The post-MDG goals involve plenty of open questions.²⁶ A fundamental question is whether we should formulate realistic goals or a general declaration which does not oblige governments to take concrete action and may therefore remain as mere rhetoric within the UN corridors. Secondly, we must decide whether the agreement should be based on unanimity or whether it is also possible to include themes that are not endorsed by everyone.

A third key question is how to promote sustainable use of the environment and socially sustainable development in such a way that neither one will be overshadowed by the other.

Sustainable lending policies and fair trade policies

The influence of emerging developing countries and the changing geography of poverty make it impossible to build the new challenges primarily around development co-operation. In a post-2015 world, eradication of poverty will not come about without strong commitment from the emerging BRICS countries, i.e. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

At the same time, our understanding of the structural problems of the global economy hindering eradication of poverty has become deeper. Disregarding these has been one of the key points of criticism levelled at the Millennium Development Goals.

The turn of the millennium was characterised by debates about the debt problems of developing countries, the loan terms and conditions used by development finance institutions and the unfair rules of international trade. Nevertheless, the Millennium Development Goal on global partnership addressing these issues remained loose in terms of formulation.

The above-mentioned problems have not disappeared since adoption of the Millennium Development Goals. The new framework should

be equipped with incentives for sustainable lending policies and for trade policies supportive of developing countries.

From tax evasion to tax collection

Over the last ten years, people have come to understand considerably better the significance of taxation to financing developing countries. Research has revealed a strong correlation between successful tax collection and human development. In general terms, states dependent on tax revenue also fare better when measured by good governance and democracy when compared with developing countries living on revenue from oil, for example.²⁷

The terms and conditions of loans granted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank have contributed to bringing about a situation where developing countries have been forced to shift the focus of taxation towards consumption taxes in recent decades, as customs revenue has plummeted as a result of trade liberalisation.

In recent years, people have come to realise that curbing tax evasion practised by major companies plays a key role as developing countries try to get rid of their dependence on aid. The revenue lost by developing countries due to tax evasion by major companies may even exceed the amounts they gain in the form of development assistance many times over.²⁸

Taxation of foreign companies is also a key issue for middle-income countries that do not receive development assistance. The taxes payable by companies bring sorely needed revenue to the coffers of these states, thus enabling them to carry out their national development plans on their own terms. Taxation and, in particular, the sustainability and fairness of tax systems, should therefore be included as part of the post-MDG development agenda and indicators.

²⁶ Loewe 2011
²⁷ Marshall 2009

²⁸ Kepa 2009, Kar et al. 2011

Spotlight on climate and environment

The current economic growth model does not rest on a sustainable foundation. The biggest problem to the Earth's carrying capacity²⁹ is posed by rich countries, which bear the brunt of responsibility for climate and environmental protection. At the same time, however, developing countries must also find greener development pathways.

Developing countries cannot be prevented from industrialising because rich countries have overburdened the atmosphere and wasted natural resources for hundreds of years. On the other hand, the Earth's long-term carrying capacity would be exceeded even if Europe and the United States did not exist.³⁰

This is why the industrialisation of developing countries must be based more strongly on renewable natural resources and minimisation of emissions than the example set by rich countries would entail. To achieve this, developing countries need international climate funding.

The seventh Millennium Development Goal called for integration of sustainable development into national development plans and for an end to the cycle of destruction of natural resources. In addition, the goal aimed to reverse biodiversity loss and to improve water security and conditions for people living in slums. These goals will also feature high on the agenda at the Rio+20 Conference.

In addition, reversing the loss of environmental resources, for example, is linked to the UN Climate Process through protection of forests. The goals should be formulated with a view to making the combat against poverty and the environmental agenda meet in the middle.

The weight assigned to environmental and climate issues in future indicators will have a bearing on the extent to which targets will only apply to developing and middle-income countries, on the one hand, and to the whole world, on the other. It is important to take environmental dimensions into account in the targets in such a way that they will also force rich nations to pay attention to consumption habits.

Combating inequality

Child benefits, pension schemes, health care accessible to everyone and other instruments of comprehensive social policy have been the cor-

²⁹ WWF International 2010

³⁰ Baumert et al. 2005

What green economy?

One of the two main themes of Rio+20 is green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Green economy refers to many – sometimes even contradictory – things: greener energy generation, reduction of emissions and consumption, and adaptation to climate change. People have not been able to reach consensus on the definition of the concept.

A new concept also arouses suspicion. Some developing countries have expressed fears that more stringent environmental standards may exclude high-emission products from Western markets or may open a door to making aid and debt relief conditional.

In the best case scenario, green economy may promote fair and just trade relations, help developing countries to skip the fossil fuel industry stage and raise the prices of dwindling natural resources to match their real value.

nerstones of poverty reduction for decades in rich countries, in particular in the Nordic countries.

However, it has taken a long time for comprehensive social policy to break through onto the development agenda. Within the UN, the role of social policy was recognised at the Copenhagen Social Development Summit in 1995³¹, but the Millennium Development Goals steered the perspective towards narrower targeted action.

Many things have changed since 2000. Among other things, child benefits and other income distribution systems introduced in Latin America have produced good results. European countries involved in development co-operation are also increasingly interested in the topic, because they have noticed that they are able to share their own experiences with developing countries.

Income distribution systems that guarantee basic protection for all citizens may cost poor states as little as just a few per cent of their gross domestic product. In addition, they are generally easier and cheaper to govern when compared with means-tested benefits.

The advantages of universal social benefits and income distribution systems have been considerable in many cases. Their development

³¹ Wiman et al. 2008

offers many opportunities to achieve the global targets of the original Millennium Development Goals.³²

More work

The spectre of jobless growth haunts many African countries, India and parts of Latin America. By way of example, the average growth of the South African economy was five per cent per year between 2003 and 2008 even as the number of jobs decreased.

Foreign direct investments, much admired in the 1990's, have failed to fulfil the expectations set for them: knowledge transfer to local economies has been weak, jobs have been of low quality and tax revenue has not amounted to much.

Decent, sustainable jobs are a question not only of subsistence and reduction of poverty but also of stability and security. In many respects, the 2011 Arab Spring was an uprising of young generations living in or at risk of unemployment. The 2008–2009 economic crisis alone pushed more than 10 million young people into unemployment worldwide.³³

When progress towards Millennium Development Goals was evaluated in 2005, full emp-

loyment was added as a new target, calling for active employment policies and better social protection, among other things. In practical terms, however, the target has not received much attention.³⁴

The new goals should support such employment and industrial policies that help developing countries to raise the stage of processing of their products and create strong small and medium-sized enterprises. A specific challenge is to reconcile employment and environmental targets in sectors such as the mining industry.

The share of the informal economy is very high in many of the poorest countries in particular, creating additional challenges for development of employment policy. In some developing countries, such as Mali, as many as 80% of the labour force are outside the formal economy. Women work within the informal economy more commonly than men.³⁵

Sound employment policies and improving the ground rules of the world of work provide developing countries with resources to overcome economic and financial crises.³⁶ This is politically far-sighted from the perspectives of both individual countries and the international community as a whole.

³² Melamed 2012

³³ UN Development Group Task Force on the MDGs 2010

³⁴ UN Development Group Task Force on the MDGs 2010

³⁵ UN Development Group Task Force on the MDGs 2010

³⁶ UN Development Group Task Force on the MDGs 2010

Millennium Development Goals in the context of development strategies – Tanzania Case Study

TANZANIA AIMS TO GET RID OF THE LABEL OF A LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRY BY 2025.

In a global comparison, Tanzania has made average progress in achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Goals are being achieved in universal primary education, equal schooling for girls and boys and reduction of child mortality.

Mr. Amarakoon Bandara, Tanzania's Economic Advisor to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) takes the Millennium Development Goals seriously. Political commitment is visible in that the director of the five-year development programme drawn up on the basis of the Vision 2025 strategy, guiding the country's development, reports directly to the President.

In addition to the Vision 2025 strategy, Tanzania's development is guided by MKUKUTA, the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty, which has included the Millennium Development Goals since 2000. The objectives of the first MKUKUTA strategy (2005–2010) were very much in line with the Millennium Development Goals, but the second MKUKUTA, launched in 2011, gives priority to economic growth.

The MKUKUTA strategy is organised around three clusters: economic growth, social well-

being and good governance. From the perspective of the first Millennium Development Goal, aiming at eradication of poverty, Tanzania's economic growth is looking good, as the country's gross domestic product is growing at an annual rate of about 7%.

Regardless of rapid growth, the country has been forced to compromise the target of reducing absolute poverty. The initial goal was to reduce extreme poverty to 19.6% of the population, but the desired progress has failed to materialise. As the poverty rate was still swaying at over 30% in 2010, the government decided to adjust the target down to 24%.

Tanzania's economic growth mostly comes from the extraction sector and there are no guarantees that a sufficient share of gold proceeds will also end up in the state's coffers. This is why the MKUKUTA strategy's good governance dimension is decisive in terms of Tanzania's human development, in order for GDP growth to become genuinely visible in an increase in well-being and reduction of poverty.

The Millennium Development Goals

GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day

Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people

Reduce by half the proportion of people suffering from hunger

GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling

GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education

Share of women in paid employment in the non-agricultural sector

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five

Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles

GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

Reduce by three-quarters the maternal mortality ratio

Achieve universal access to reproductive health

GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Reduce biodiversity loss

Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water

Reduce by half the proportion of people without basic sanitation

GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

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Is development sustainable?

The world beyond the Millennium Development Goals

This publication outlines the post-2015 sustainable development goals. Progress has been made towards the Millennium Development Goals, but development has been uneven and not all goals will be achieved. The work to formulate a new set of goals is already under way and Finland must take an active role in this work.

The world has changed in many ways since the Millennium Declaration. Time has made the gross domestic product obsolete as a universally applicable indicator of development, while the geography of poverty has changed fundamentally. In order to vanquish global poverty, we need new indicators and means that extend beyond development co-operation. In addition, the environment and human rights must be kept at the heart of development.

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