











Achievement of the Health-related Millennium Development Goals in the Western Pacific Region 2016:

Transitioning to the Sustainable Development Goals

















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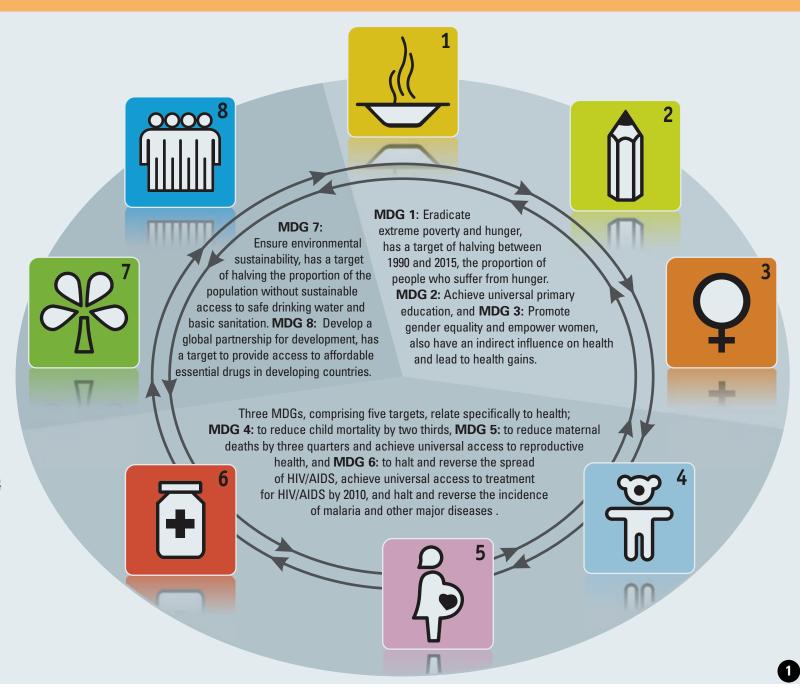
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The Millennium Development Goals

- In 2000, eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were established and adopted by 189 heads of state in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.
- The target year for achievement of the MDGs was 2015. The MDGs led to important progress, but the initiative has been criticized for ignoring many aspects of development and focusing on aggregated rather than equitable achievement.
- The WHO Western Pacific Region achieved all but two of the healthrelated MDG targets, and made significant progress on the two that were not achieved.
- Clear disparities still remain among and between countries in the Region on health-related MDG indicators.
- Efforts will continue to achieve the unfinished MDG agenda and to address new or previously neglected health priorities included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.



Global and WHO regional status of the health-related MDGs

					WHO regions								
		Global health MDG indicators for comparison across WHO regions	Target	Global	Africa	Americas	South- East Asia	Europe	Eastern Mediter- ranean	Western Pacific			
	Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	Per cent reduction in proportion of underweight children under five years of age, 1990–2015	50	44	35	63	49	85	39	82			
₩ 4	Target 4.A: Reduce by two thirds, between	Per cent reduction in under-five mortality rate, 1990–2015	67	53	54	65	64	65	48	74			
W	1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	Measles immunization coverage among one-year-olds (%), 2014	90	85	73	92	84	94	77	97			
	Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	cent reduction in maternal mortality ratio, 75 44 49 49					69	63	54	64			
5		Births attended by skilled health personnel (%), 2013	90	73	54	96	59	99	67	95			
4	Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access	Antenatal care coverage (%): at least one visit, 2013	100	88	81	99	84	99	79	95			
	to reproductive health	Unmet need for family planning (%), 2015*	0	24	55	19	27	28	42	10			
	Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	Per cent reduction in HIV incidence, 2000–2014	>0	45	59	28	50	-16	< -50	27			
+ 6	Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other	Per cent reduction in incidence of malaria, 2000–2015	>0	37	42	78	49	100	70	65			
	major diseases	Per cent reduction in incidence of tuberculosis, 1990–2014				17	14	12	48				
90°	Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe	Per cent reduction in proportion of population without access to improved drinking-water sources, 1990–2015**	50	62	38	62	74	67	39	84			
	drinking-water	Per cent reduction in proportion of population without access to improved sanitation, 1990–2015***	50	31	7	47	32	28	54	54			

^{*}As measured by contraceptive use; **As measured by proportion of population using improved drinking-water sources;
***As measured by proportion of population using improved sanitation facilities

The scorecards reveal clear results

- The Western Pacific Region has achieved all but two of the health-related MDG targets, and made significant progress in the two that were not achieved.
- Many countries in the Region reached most health-related MDG targets.
- There are still a few countries left behind including Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Solomon Islands. More than half of the health-related MDGs in these countries were not reached by the end of 2015.
- Clear disparities still remain among and between countries in the Region on health-related MDG targets.
- In countries with smaller populations, the maternal mortality and, malaria and TB incidence rates are unstable due to small population size. Service coverage indicators such as immunization, presence of skilled birth attendants, and water and sanitation are relatively higher.
- Within health-related targets, child and maternal health and access to improved sanitation are areas with the slowest progress in the Region.
- Strong health systems and universal health coverage (UHC) are important to further strengthen the progress of health-related MDG targets to continue the unfinished agenda of MDGs in the next 15 years.

Health MDGs scorecard for LMICs* in the Western Pacific Region

(with population ≥ 500000)

Regional health MDG indicators for comparison across countries		Cambodia	China	Fiji	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Malaysia	Mongolia	Papua New Guinea	The Philippines	Solomon Islands	Viet Nam
₩	Under-five mortality rate per 1000 live births (2015)	29	11	22	67	7	22	57	28	28	22
W	Measles immunization % coverage (2014)	94	99	94	87	94	98	65	88	93	97
	Maternal mortality per 100 000 live births (2015)	161	27	30	197	40	44	215	114	114	54
5	Skilled birth attendant % births (2007–2014)	89 (2014)	99.9 (2014)	98.8 (2013)	40.1 (2011–2012)	99 (2014)	98.9 (2013)	43 (2013)	72.8 (2013)	70.1 (2007)	93.8 (2014)
	Contraceptive use % married women aged 15–49 (2004–2014)	56.3 (2014)	84.6 (2006)	-	49.8 (2011–2012)	49 (2004)	54.6 (2013)	32.4 (2007)	55.1 (2013)	34.6 (2007)	75.7 (2014)
	HIV/AIDS incidence % adults aged 15–49 (2014)	<0.01	-	-	-	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.01	-	0.03
	Malaria incidence per 100 000 population (2014)	169.5	0.2	-	734.7	13.0	-	3756.1	4.9	3093.1	17.2
+ 6	Malaria mortality per 100 000 population (2014)	0.12	0	-	0.06	0.01	-	2.71	0.01	3.9	0.01
	TB incidence per 100 000 population (2014)	390	68	67	189	103	170	417	288	86	140
	TB treatment (2013)	93	95	77	87	76	89	67	90	94	89
	Water % using improved sources (2015)	76	96	96	76	98	64	40	92	81	98
	Sanitation % using improved facilities (2015)	42	77	91	71	96	60	19	74	30	78

* LMICs – low- and middle-income countries

Refer to page 21 for health MDG scorecard colour code criteria $\,$

Health MDGs scorecard for LMICs* in the Western Pacific Region

(with population < 500 000)

		Cook Islands	Kiribati	Marshall Islands	Federated States of Micronesia	Nauru	Niue	Palau	Samoa	Tonga	Tuvalu	Vanuatu	
₩	Under-five mortality per 1000 live births (2015)	8	56	36	35	35	23	16	18	17	27	28	
W	Measles immunization % coverage (2014)	98	91	79	91	98	99	83	91	67	96	53	
	Maternal mortality per 100 000 live births (2015)	-	90	-	100	-	-	-	51	124	-	78	
5	Skilled birth attendant % births (2007–2014)	100 (2009)	79.8 (2009)	90.1 (2011)	100 (2009)	97.4 (2007)	100 (2010)	99 (2014)	82.5 (2014)	95.5 (2012)	93.1 (2007)	73.2 (2013)	
	Contraceptive use % married women aged 15–49 (2007–2014)	-	22.3 (2009)	44.6 (2007)	-	35.6 (2007)	-	-	26.9 (2014)	34.1 (2012)	30.5 (2007)	49 (2013)	
	HIV/AIDS incidence % adults aged 15–49 (2014)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Malaria incidence per 100 000 population (2014)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	372.0	
•	Malaria mortality per 100 000 population (2014)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	
	TB incidence per 100 000 population (2014)	12	497	335	195	73	0	42	19	14	190	63	
-	TB treatment (2013)	50	86	89	91	67	-	88	83	90	78	85	
20 ⁷	Water % using improved sources (2015)	100	67	95	89	97	99	-	99	100	98	94	
	Sanitation % using improved facilities (2015)	98	40	77	57	66	100	100	91	91	-	58	

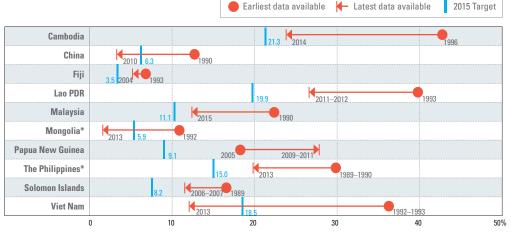


MDG 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

MDG target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

While there were still 3 million underweight children in 2014, countries have made considerable progress to reduce undernutrition. The prevalence of underweight among children under 5 years decreased from 13.5% in 1990 to 2.6% in 2014.

Fig. 1.1 Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age (%) in selected low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, earliest and latest data, and 2015 target.



Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic

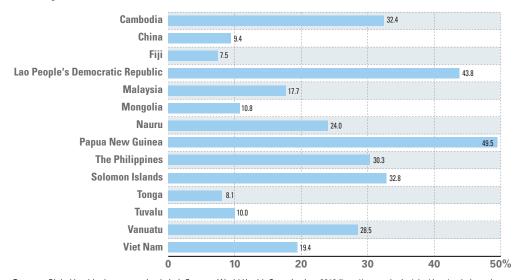
National action plans, multisectoral coordination and linkages helped improve nutrition in the Region.

- All countries in the Region have implemented national nutrition action plans, although implementation varies across countries.
- More countries are now realizing the importance of multisectoral action to improve nutrition, especially between health, agriculture and education, and collaborative planning processes have been initiated.
- Strengthened linkages with other programmes, e.g. water, sanitation and hygiene, and neglected tropical disease programmes, are contributing to nutrition improvement.

The nutrition landscape has changed considerably, reflected in the emerging double burden of malnutrition. The number of chronically undernourished (stunted) children has decreased from 54.4 million (1990) to 8 million (2014) children under 5 years of age.

Some countries have made no progress in reducing the prevalence of children under 5 years who are unable to grow and develop to their full potential due to lack of good nutrition. At the same time overweight and obesity and diet-related noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) among all population groups have been increasing in the Region.

Fig. 1.2 Prevalence of stunted children under 5 years of age in selected low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, 2004-2014.



Source: Global health observatory (website). Geneva: World Health Organization; 2016 (http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.home).

Inequities persist between income quintiles. The prevalence of undernutrition in children under 5 years is highest in the poorest quintiles across countries. Overweight and obesity, on the other hand, are still highest in higher income quintiles, in low- and middle-income countries.

Inappropriate infant and young child feeding practices remain a public health concern. Only one in three children is being exclusively breastfed for six months in the Region. Only three countries in the Region (Palau, the Philippines and Viet Nam) have fully implemented the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes.

Health and agriculture policies should become more coherent, creating sustainable food systems that provide nutritious and safe food for all.

Essential nutrition services should be made accessible to all, particularly the most vulnerable, through universal health coverage (UHC).

^{*} United Nations Children's Fund, World Health Organization, The World Bank. Levels and trends in child malnutrition UNICEF—WHO—World Bank Group joint child malnutrition estimates Key findings of the 2015 edition. New York: United Nations Children's Fund; 2015. **Source**: Global health observatory (website). Geneva: World Health Organization; 2016 (http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.home).

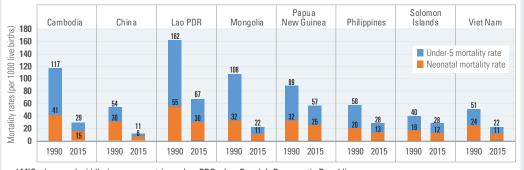


MDG 4 Reduce child mortality

MDG target 4.A: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

The Western Pacific Region had the highest annual rate of reduction in the under-five mortality rate between 1990 and 2015 among all the WHO regions. The under-five mortality rate decreased from 52 to 14 deaths per 1000 live births between 1990 and 2015. Significant reductions in neonatal mortality rates were achieved, particularly in Cambodia, China and the Philippines.

Fig. 4.1. Under-five mortality and neonatal mortality rates in selected LMICs in the Western Pacific Region, 1990 and 2015.



LMIC = low- and middle-income countries; Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic

Source: United Nations Children's Fund, World Health Organization, The World Bank, United Nations. Levels and trends in child mortality report 2015: estimates developed by the UN inter-agency group for child mortality estimation. New York: United Nation Children's Fund; 2015.

Investments in both maternal and child health programmes, as well as overall socioeconomic development contributed to the achievement of MDG 4.

- Seven countries and areas in the Region Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Hong Kong SAR (China), Japan, Macao SAR (China) and the Republic of Korea – have been verified as achieving measles elimination.*
- Despite measles outbreaks in 2013 and 2014 (Australia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Federated States of Micronesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Viet Nam) progress was made in 2015 towards regaining the historically low levels of measles virus circulation achieved in the Region in 2012.
- Eight priority countries in the Region (Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Viet Nam) have taken steps to strengthen their national newborn programmes.

* Measles elimination is defined as the interruption of endemic measles virus transmission for at least 36 months.

Actions to improve child health: selected highlights from countries

China Cambodia an

- Adopted the 1994 Law on Maternal and Infant Health Care, as well as multisectoral National Plans of Action for Children and for Women
- Rolled out health insurance
- Improved education rates and water and sanitation

Cambodia and Philippines

- Conducted coaching or training in early essential newborn care (EENC) for health workers providing childbirth and newborn care to improve clinical practices
- Implemented quality-improvement mechanisms and conducted regular monitoring to assess quality of newborn care

Viet Nam

Adopted two important laws in 2012 on:

- Extension of paid maternity leave from four to six months
- Limited promotion of breastmilk substitutes to support appropriate infant and young child feeding

Inequities, inappropriate clinical and feeding practices need to be addressed.

- Important inequities persist between income quintiles, with the majority of under-5 deaths occurring in the poorest quintiles across countries.
- The decline in newborn mortality has lagged that of child mortality, with newborn deaths now
 accounting for half of all under-5 deaths in the Region. Addressing inappropriate intrapartum
 and newborn care practices in health facilities is crucial to reducing newborn deaths.
- Exclusive breastfeeding for six months is below 50% in several countries, while the dangerous practice of prelacteal feeding is highly prevalent.



Immunization day in the Selima community, Port Vila, Vanuatu,



MDG 5 Improve maternal health

MDG target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

MDG target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health.

The estimated maternal mortality ratio for the Western Pacific Region decreased by 64% between 1990 and 2015. Investments in increasing access to skilled birth attendance, such as subsidies to deliver in health facilities, were important to this progress.

- The skilled birth attendance (SBA) rate in the Region has increased to 95%, with 21 of 31 countries and areas having a rate of ≥90%.
- Facility delivery rates have significantly improved: in five of eight countries with the highest burden of maternal mortality, rates are now above 80%.

Availability and use of information on maternal deaths and their causes is crucial to further reducing mortality.

Countries such as Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Viet Nam have taken steps to strengthen their maternal death surveillance and response (MDSR) systems. The focus is on ensuring that data on deaths and their causes are actively being collected and findings are applied to improve the quality of maternal care.

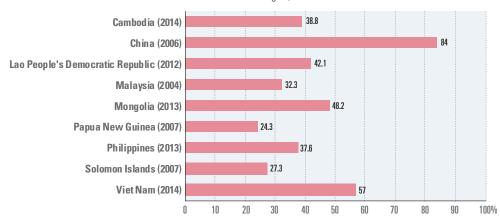
Actions to strengthen MDSR systems: country examples

Viet Nam	Solomon Islands	Cambodia	Lao People's Democratic Republic
 Revised national MDSR guidelines Released first- ever national report on maternal death reviews in 2014 	 Improved national maternal deaths reporting form 	 Reinitiated the National MDSR Committee 	 Released first- ever national report on maternal death reviews in 2015

Improving access to reproductive health will be crucial to achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- With the exception of China, modern-method contraceptive prevalence rates are below 60% in countries with the highest burden of maternal mortality.
- National laws or policies hinder access to contraception and contribute to unsafe abortion and maternal mortality.
- Unmet need for family planning is higher among the poor compared to the rich, and adolescents face a much greater unmet need for contraception.

Fig. 5.1. Modern-method contraceptive prevalence rate (%) among women currently married or in a union (15–49 years) in selected low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, 2006-2014.



Source: Demographic health surveys, Multiple indicator cluster surveys, Social indicator sample surveys, and World contraceptive use 2015.



Pregnant woman receiving antenatal care in a Cambodian health clinic.



MDG 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

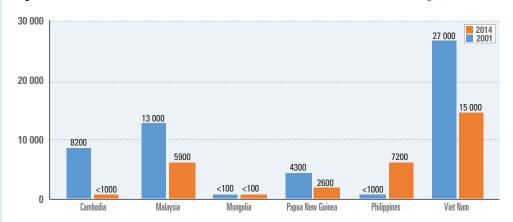
MDG target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/ AIDS.

MDG target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.

The number of new HIV infections in the Western Pacific Region has decreased from 120 000 in 2001 to 97 000 in 2014.

- Scale-up of targeted interventions for key affected populations and antiretroviral therapy provision contributed to the decrease in new infections in most countries.
- Unofficial disease burden estimates in China, Fiji and the Lao People's Democratic Republic show stable incidence.
- The number of new infections has significantly increased in the Philippines. Communitybased testing and immediate linkage to care will be required to curb the HIV epidemic.

Fig 6.1 Number of new HIV infections in selected low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, 2001 and 2014.



Source: AIDSInfo [website]. Geneva: UNAIDS; 2016 (http:aidsinfo.unaids.org, accessed 15 August 2016).

Closing the HIV testing and treatment gaps: country examples

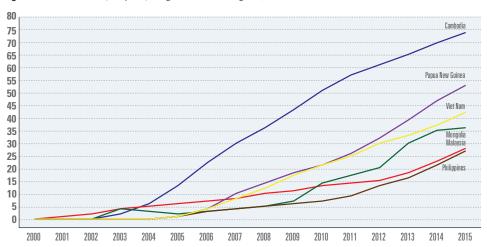
Cambodia

The national HIV response employs integrated case management and partner notification, tracing and HIV testing in high-burden HIV districts. This approach fully utilizes regular HIV testing initiated by health-care providers, community testing initiated by peers, and care and support provided by community-based organizations. Cambodia has achieved a 79% diagnosis rate of people living with HIV and an 88% treatment rate among those diagnosed.

HIV / AIDS

Only 37% of people living with HIV have accessed life-saving antiretroviral therapy in 2014.

Fig. 6.2 Per cent of adults (15+ years) living with HIV receiving ART, 2000–2015.



Source: Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS. UNAIDS/WHO estimates 2015. Geneva: UNAIDS; 2016.

HIV intervention coverage, particularly HIV testing, needs to be increased among key populations. HIV infection in the Region is largely attributed to continued highrisk behaviors — unprotected sex and sharing of injecting equipment.

- In 2013 and 2014, the proportions of men who have sex with men who received an HIV test and knew their results in the past year ranged from 9% in the Philippines to 63% in Mongolia. Cambodia reached 87% HIV testing uptake.
- HIV testing uptake among sex workers ranged from 14% in the Philippines to 68% in Cambodia.
- For most countries, HIV testing was lowest among people who inject drugs. The percentage receiving an HIV test and knew their results was as low as 7% in the Philippines. The highest testing uptake achieved was 41% in China.

Viet Nam

People who inject drugs (PWID) were trained to provide HIV screening tests to their peers in their communities and link them to care. This community-based testing pilot resulted in a high number of PWID living with HIV being identified and initiated with treatment.



MDG 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

MDG target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

All 10 malaria-endemic countries in the Western Pacific Region made significant progress towards achieving the 2015 targets of the Regional Action Plan for Malaria Control and Elimination in the Western Pacific (2010–2015) and are now considering malaria elimination a feasible goal and have incorporated elimination into their national malaria strategic plans.

- Although the Lao People's Democratic Republic has reduced malaria incidence by 50% since 2000, case incidence has increased since 2011, with more than 48 000 cases reported in 2014. This increase can likely be attributed to improved case reporting and to an increase in migrant and mobile populations working in forested areas in the south of the country.
- Papua New Guinea has also reported considerably more confirmed cases since 2012, due to an increase in diagnostic testing with rapid diagnostic tests (RDT).

Fig. 6.3 Trends in malaria incidence rate (per 1000) and mortality rate (per 100 000 population) in the Western Pacific Region, 2000—2014.



Source: National malaria control programme reports. Manila: WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific; 2015.

Malaria

The widespread use of vector-control methods, improved access to accurate parasite-based diagnosis, effective treatment and sound programme management contributed to the achievement of malaria targets.

Reaching special groups with malaria services is one of the biggest challenges for countries moving towards elimination.

- In the Western Pacific Region, the most important groups identified were ethnic minorities, mobile and migrant populations, and agriculture and forestry workers in remote forested areas. These are groups whose risk is due to occupational, socioeconomic and cultural factors rather than biological.
- Malaria-endemic countries in the Region, except the Republic of Korea,



Ethnic minority couple in high malaria risk area in Viet Nam.

- Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, are struggling to address malaria prevalence in these groups as they constantly move within and across borders, particularly in remote areas, and in many cases their occupation or presence in the country is illegal.
- Cultural and language barriers also often prevent them from accessing health services more broadly. A multisectoral and cross-border approach is needed to tackle the problem.



MDG 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

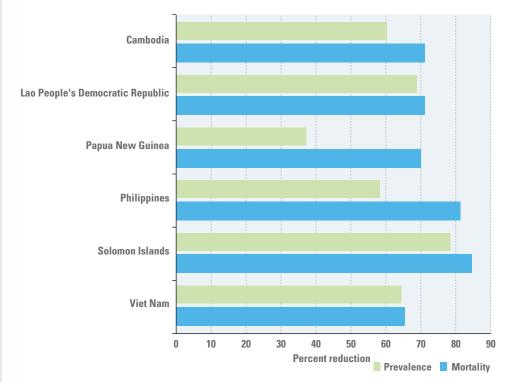
MDG target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Tuberculosis prevalence and mortality were reduced by more than 50% and 70%, respectively, since 1990 in most countries in the Region.

Achievement of TB targets was made possible through the expansion of the **Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) and Stop TB strategies** in all countries in the Region.

Through primary health care networks, **TB diagnosis and treatment were** made available nationwide.

Fig. 6.4 Per cent reduction in prevalence and mortality per 100 000 population from 1990 to 2014.



Source: Global TB database (website). Geneva: World Health Organization; 2016 [http://www.who.int/tb/country/en/].

Tuberculosis

The problem of drug resistance poses a great threat to TB control and remains a major concern for regional health security.

In 2014, there were an estimated 71 000 new cases of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB), defined as resistance to at least isoniazid and rifampicin — two of the most important drugs used in the treatment of TB. Only 13 473 (19%) of these estimated MDR-TB cases were notified in 2014, and among those notified cases, only 8850 (66%) were enrolled in treatment. Only 51% of patients enrolled in treatment in 2012 were successfully treated.

While the gains for TB control made under the MDGs are substantial, future efforts must evolve in order to succeed in the face of new challenges.

- Innovative technologies such as new diagnostics and drugs should be rolled out and expanded rapidly.
- Equitable service provisions should be ensured, particularly focusing on vulnerable populations.
- Health system strengthening should be emphasized within the context of universal health coverage (UHC) and social protection.
- People-centred health care should be the focus of interventions in order to include the perspectives of individuals, families and communities, and treat them as participants as well as beneficiaries of trusted health systems.



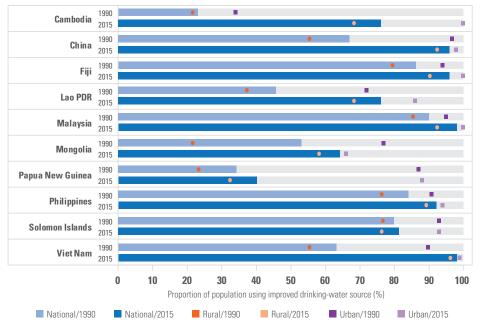


MDG 7 Ensure environmental sustainability

MDG target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Over 95% of the population in the Region uses an improved drinking-water source, and only 5% of the population have no access, 9 percentage points higher than the MDG target. In 1990, 71% of the population in the Western Pacific Region was using an improved drinking-water source. To halve the 29% of the population who had no access, at least 86% of the population should have access to improved drinking-water source by 2015.

Fig. 7.1 Proportion of population using an improved drinking-water source in low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, by residence type, 1990 and 2014.

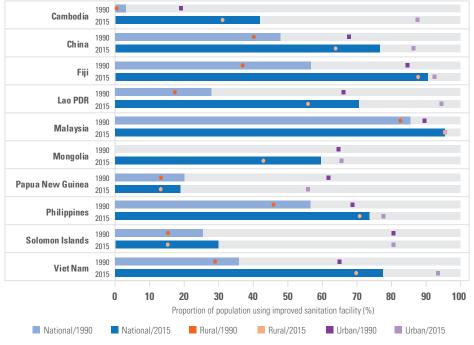


Source: United Nations Children's Fund, World Health Organization. Progress on sanitation and drinking water – 2015 update and MDG assessment, New York, Geneva 2015.

Achievement of MDG 7 may be attributed to the national policies, sector financing plans, and human resource strategies for water, sanitation and hygiene that have largely been put in place in many countries in the Region.

About 79% of the Western Pacific Region population now uses an improved sanitation facility, 2 percentage points higher than the MDG target. In 1990, 46% of the population in the Region had no access to an improved sanitation facility. To halve this, at least 77% of the population in the Region should have access to an improved sanitation facility by 2015.

Fig. 7.2. Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility in low- and middle-income countries in the Western Pacific Region, by residence type, 1990 and 2014.



Source: United Nations Children's Fund, World Health Organization. Progress on sanitation and drinking water – 2015 update and MDG assessment, New York, Geneva 2015.

Leadership, an enabling environment, financing and cross-sectoral thinking are key to providing and sustaining access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). While development aid commitments for water and sanitation have increased, one important gap in financing is operations and maintenance, which is key to ensuring sustainable and safe service provision. In many schools and health establishments in rural areas, handwashing facilities are not available, and toilets are in disrepair. Too often, these settings are places where children become ill.

There is a need to increase country capacity for monitoring to be able to track progress in extending sanitation and drinking-water services to the poor.



MDG 8 Develop a global partnership for development

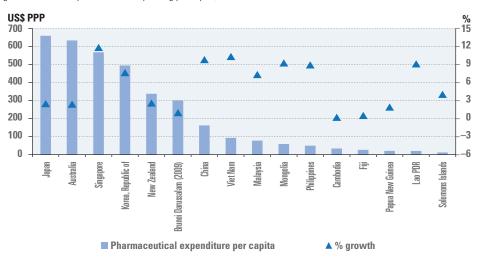
MDG target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.

Monitoring the availability of affordable essential medicines remained a challenge due to a lack of global and regional data.

Given the complex definition of access, an overall picture of the degree of access to essential medicines can only be generated using a range of WHO medicine access indicators. 1,2

Due to lack of data, the proxy indicator *per capita pharmaceutical expenditure* was used which indicates a widening gap between high-, low- and middle-income countries.

Fig. 8.1 Pharmaceutical expenditure per capita 2010 (or nearest year), US\$ purchasing power parity (PPP) and average annual growth rate in real pharmaceutical spending per capita, 2000–2010.



Lao PDR = Lao People's Democratic Republic

Source: OECD/World Health Organization (2014), Health at a Glance: Asia/ Pacific 2014: Measuring Progress towards Universal Health Coverage, OECD Publishing. (http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health_glance_ap-2014-en)

While high-income countries endeavour to contain pharmaceutical expenditure with the uptake of newer and high-cost medicines and health technologies, the pharmaceutical expenditure in low- and middle-income countries are inadequate to ensure access to life-saving treatments.

National medicines policies

have been developed, reviewed and implemented in 21 out of 37 countries and areas in the Region.

National lists of essential medicines have been updated in eight countries in the Region.

Regulatory system capacity was strengthened in nine countries including Cambodia, China, Fiji, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam



A pharmacist dispensing medicines at the state hospital in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

Ensuring equitable access to essential medicines and other health technologies that are safe, effective and of assured quality is critical in achieving universal health coverage (UHC).

Unfinished MDG agenda and future priorities

Quality: Substandard, spurious, falsified, falsely labelled and counterfeit (SSFFC) medical products threaten public safety in many countries where national regulatory capacity is limited.

Strengthen the regulatory system to ensure safety, quality and efficacy of medical products.

Efficiency: Limited resources for essential medicines are often wasted on suboptimal allocation of funds, inefficient purchasing, and irrational prescribing and use.

Promote evidence-based selection of medicines, efficient procurement and reimbursement decisions, and rational use of medicines.

Equity: Essential medicines remain unavailable, unaffordable, and high in out-of-pocket payments for majority of patients in low- and middle-income countries.

Leverage resources for medicines and support countries to achieve better pricing through the exchange of information and negotiations.

¹ United Nations Development Group. Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals. New York: United Nations; 2003.

² Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals, Definitions, Rationale, Concepts and Sources. New York: United Nations; 2013. (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mi/wiki/8-13-Proportion-of-population-with-access-to-affordable-essential-drugs-on-a-sustainable basis.ashx).

From MDGs to SDGs

- The successes of the MDGs were achieved through strong efforts, backed by solid evidence and significant resources. Limitations included vertical health programmes, weak health systems and a focus on aggregate targets rather than equity.
- On 25 September 2015, countries adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all by 2030.
- The SDGs have a broader scope than the MDGs, emphasizing sustainability and equity. Leaving no one behind is the overarching policy goal.
- The SDGs comprise 17 goals with 169 targets. Goal 3: "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages" covers the unfinished MDGs agenda and newer challenges such as noncommunicable diseases, health security, tobacco and injuries.
- Universal health coverage (UHC), a specific target under Goal 3, is the platform that brings health and development efforts together.
- Many core health issues also reside in other goals, such as nutrition in SDG 2, water and sanitation in SDG 6 and civil registration in SDG 16. Other SDGs deal with a range of determinants of health such as poverty, inequality, gender, climate action and urbanization.
- Achieving health in the SDGs requires whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches and a focus on leaving no one behind. They imply new roles and capabilities for the health sector to be able to lead and drive these approaches.





































Leaving no one behind









- Leaving no one behind is a core principle of UHC and the SDGs.
- Stark inequities persist in health and access to services in countries in the Region. For example, most deaths in children under 5 occur in the poorest households. Chronic rural—urban inequities persist in, for instance, access to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- Health and well-being are determined by the socioeconomic situation of individuals and families, including factors such as income, education, ethnicity, gender and political power, which are not distributed equitably across society.
- Reaching UHC entails tackling barriers to access to health services, whether financial, physical or geographic, or educational or cultural, especially those faced by socially excluded groups.
- Collaboration across health programmes can enable them to better reach disadvantaged communities and areas.
- Leaving no one behind requires joint action for equity across sectors and stakeholders.
- It also requires sustainable and equitable approaches to mobilizing and allocating resources.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

In 2015, the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific adopted the resolution on Universal Health Coverage Moving Towards Better Health (WPR/RC66.R2).

- Recognized that UHC is an important foundation to support the achievement of SDGs and critical for realizing good health outcomes for everyone.
- Acknowledged that Member States at all levels of development are making efforts to achieve
 the five health system attributes for UHC: quality, efficiency, equity, accountability, and
 sustainability and resilience.
- Urged Member States to:
 - develop country-specific road maps to reach UHC;
 - exercise government leadership in multisectorial approaches and commit sufficient funding to implement national policies and plans to advance UHC; and
 - establish mechanisms to monitor the progress of UHC and evaluate the impact of policies to advance UHC.
- Requested WHO to provide technical support to develop and implement country-specific UHC road maps and monitor progress, facilitate high-level multisectoral policy dialogues to move the UHC policy agenda forward, and provide a regional platform for sharing experiences, joint learning and reviewing progress towards UHC.



Annex 1. Health-related Millennium Development Goals 1, 4 and 5.

	MDG 1 Poverty MDG 4 Child mortality								MDG 5 Maternal health								
		nce of unde dren under 5	J		five mortali 1000 live bi	,		nt mortality 1000 live bi		of one-			ernal mortality 100 000 live bi		Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	Contraceptive prevalence rate (%)	
WHO Regions	1990– 1995	2007– 2014	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2014	1990	1990 2015 2015 Target		2007–2014	2007–2013	
Africa	34	25	17	177	81	59	107	55	36	58	73	965	542	241	51	28	
Americas	5	2	2	43	15	14	34	13	11	80	92	102	52	26	96	74	
Eastern Mediterranean	22	14	11	100	52	33	74	41	25	67	77	362	166	91	67	48	
Europe	10	1	5	32	11	11	26	10	9	83	94	44	16	11	98	68	
South-East Asia	47	26	23	118	43	39	84	34	28	59	84	525	164	131	68	60	
Western Pacific	17	4	9	52	14	17	40	11	13	94	97	114	41	29	96	80	
World	25	15	12	91	43	30	63	32	21	73	85	385	216	96	74	64	
Countries with ≥ 500 000 population	1989– 1996	2004– 2014	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2014	1990	2015 2015 Target		2007–2014	2004–2014	
Cambodia	43	24	21	117	29	39	85	25	28	34	94	1020	161 255		89	56	
China	13	3	6	54	11	18	42	9	14	98	99	97	27 24		100	85	
Fiji	7	5	3	30	22	10	25	19	8	84	94	63	30	16	99		
Lao People's Democratic Republic	40	27	20	162	67	54	111	51	37	32	87	905	197	226 40		50	
Malaysia	22	13	11	17	7	6	14	6	5	70	94	79	40	20	99	49	
Mongolia	12	2	6	108	22	36	77	19	26	92	98	186	44	47	99	55	
Papua New Guinea	18	28	9	89	57	30	65	45	22	67	65	470	215	118	43	32	
Philippines	30	20	15	58	28	19	41	22	14	85	88	152	114	38	73	55	
Solomon Islands	16	12	8	40	28	13	32	24	11	70	93	364	114	91	70	35	
Viet Nam	37	12	18	51	22	17	37	17	12	88	97	139	54	35	94	76	
Countries with < 500 000 population	1985– 1999	2007– 2012	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2015	2015 Target	1990	2014	1990	2015	2015 Target	2007–2014	2007–2014	
Cook Islands				24	8	8	21	7	7	67	98				100		
Kiribati	11	14		96	56	32	69	44	23	75	91	234	90	59	80	22	
Marshall Islands				50	36	17	40	30	13	52	79				90	45	
Micronesia, Federated States of				56	35	19	43	29	14	81	91	183	100	46	100		
Nauru		5		57	35	19	44	29	15		98				97	36	
Niue				14	23	5	12	20	4	99	99				100		
Palau				36	16	12	31	14	10	98	83				99		
Samoa	2			31	18	10	26	15	9	89	91	156	51	39	82	27	
Tonga		2		22	17	7	19	14	6	86	67	75	124	19	96	34	
Tuvalu		2		57	27	19	44	23	15	95	96				93	31	
Vanuatu	11	11		36	28	12	29	23	10	66	53	225	78	56	73.2	49	

Annex 2. Health-related Millennium Development Goals 6 and 7.

	MDG 6 HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases								MDG 7	Environ	mental s	ustainab	bility									
	HIV inc	cidence	Ma	laria	Mal	aria	Tubero	culosis	Tubero	ulosis	Р	roportion	of popula	ntion using	g improve	ed	Pr	oportion	of popula	tion using	g improve	:d
		(per	incider		mortali	'	inciden		treat	ment		drin	king-wate	er source	(%)			sa	nitation	facility (%	5)	
		000	(per 1		(per 10		(per 10		succes		Nat	ional	Urb	nan	Ru	ral	Nati	onal	Urk	nan	Rur	ral
	popul	ation)	popul	ation)	popul	ation)	popul	ation)	(%	6)	Nat	ionai	Oil	Juli	Tiu	iui	rvational		O.Buil			
WHO Regions	2001	2014	2000	2014**	2000	2012	1990	2014	2000	2013	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015
Africa				13 150.12		63	283	281	71	79	49	68.3	84	87	35	57	27	32.1	44	44	20	25
Americas				66.66		0.1	55	28	76	75	90	96	97	98	74	89	80	89.2	88	92	58	76
Eastern Mediterranean				1316.89		4.2	133	117	81	91	85	91.2	95	96	77	86	52	78	81	90	30	65
Europe				0.20			43	37	75	76	96	99	99	99	89	96	90	93.1	94	95	83	89
South-East Asia				88.63		2.3	255	211	50	88	71	92	89	96	65	91	25	48.6	54	67	15	38
Western Pacific				48.35		0.2	162	85	90	92	71	95	97	98	58	92	54	79	77	89	42	65
World	0.08	0.05		2372.54		11	161	133	69	86	76	91	95	96	62	85	54	67.6	79	82	35	51
Countries with ≥ 500 000 population	2001	2014	2000	2014	2000	2014	1990	2014	2000	2013	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015
Cambodia	0.11	<0.01	474.93	169.53	4.62	0.12	584	390	91	93	23	76	34	100	22	69	3	42	19	88	0	31
China			0.82	0.21	0.00	0.00	152	68	93	95	67	96	97	98	56	93	48	77	68	87	40	64
Fiji							84	67	85	77	86	96	94	100	80	91	57	91	85	93	37	88
Lao People's Democratic Republic			757.83	734.69	6.63	0.06	492	189	77	87	45.5*	76	72.2*	86	37.9*	69	28*	71	66.4*	95	17.2*	56
Malaysia	0.09	0.03	55.24	12.97	0.15	0.01	77	103	78	76	90	98	95	100	86	93	86	96	90	96	83	96
Mongolia	<0.01	0.01					403	170	87	89	53	64	77	66	22	59		60	65	66		43
Papua New Guinea	0.13	0.05	1522.16	3756.10	11.57	2.71	371	417	63	67	34	40	87	88	24	33	20	19	62	56	13	13
Philippines	<0.01	0.01	48.33	4.91	0.71	0.01	441	288	88	90	84	92	91	94	77	90	57	74	69	78	46	71
Solomon Islands			15 534.10	3093.11	8.70	3.87	312	86	81	94	79.7*	81	93.2*	93	77.2*	77	25.5*	30	81	81	15	15
Viet Nam	0.06	0.03	95.11	17.20	0.19	0.01	251	140	92	89	63	98	90	99	56	97	36	78	65	94	29	70
Countries with < 500 000 population	2001	2014	2000	2014	2000	2014	1990	2014	2000	2013	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015	1990	2015
Cook Islands							0	12		50	100	100	100	100	100	100	92.1*	98	92.1*	98	92.1*	98
Kiribati							116	497	91	86	50	67	74	87	36	51	28	40	43	51	20	31
Marshall Islands							67	335	91	89	92	95	91	94	94	98	65	77	77	85	41	56
Micronesia, Federated States of							379	195	93	91	91	89	94	95	90	87	19	57	49	85	9	49
Nauru							88	73	25	67	93*	97	93*	97			66	66	66	66		
Niue							0	0			99	99	99	98	99	99	79.3*	100	79.3*	100	79.2*	100
Palau							66	42		88	99		98	97	72		47	100	63	100	8	100
Samoa							36	19	92	83	89	99	97	97	87	99	93	91	94	93	92	91
Tonga							36	14	93	90	99	100	97	100	99	100	94	91	97	98	94	89
Tuvalu							536	190	86	78	90	98	92	98	89	97	73		75	86	71	
Vanuatu			3435.53	371.97	1.52	0.00	127	63	88	85	62	94	94	99	55	93		58		65		55

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Health MDGs scorecard colour code for LMICs* in the Western Pacific Region

		Achieved	Insufficient progress				
™	Under-five mortality rate per 1000 live births	Reduced by two thirds or more (≥67%) between 1990 and 2015	Reduced by less than two thirds (<67%) between 1990 and 2015				
W	Measles immunization % coverage	≥90% coverage	<90% coverage				
Q 5	Maternal mortality per 100 000 live births	Reduced by three quarters or more (≥75%) between 1990 and 2015	Reduced by less than three quarters (<75%) between 1990 and 2015				
5	Skilled birth attendant % births	≥90%	<90%				
	Contraceptive use % married women aged 15–49	≥80%	<80%				
	HIV/AIDS incidence per 100 000 population	Significantly decreased incidence between 2001 and 2014	Stabilized or no significant increase, or significantly increased incidence (new infections) between 2001 and 2014				
5 6	Malaria incidence per 100 000 population	Reduced by ≥60% between 2000 and 2014	Reduced by <60% between 2000 and 2014				
•	Malaria mortality per 100 000 population	Reduced by ≥60% between 2000 and 2014	Reduced by <60% between 2000 and 2014				
	TB incidence per 100 000 population	Decreased between 1990 and 2014	Increased between 1990 and 2014				
	TB treatment % success rate	≥85%	<85%				
	Water % using improved sources	Reduced by ≥50% between 1990 and 2015 those without sustainable access to safe drinking water	Reduced by <50% between 1990 and 2015 those without sustainable access to safe drinking water				
	Sanitation % using improved facilities	Reduced by ≥50% between 1990 and 2015 those without sustainable access to sanitation facility	Reduced by <50% between 1990 and 2015 those without sustainable access to sanitation facility				

* LMICs - Low- and middle-income countries

"Today we are also taking a decision of great historic significance.

We resolve to build a better future for all people, including the millions who have been denied the chance to lead decent, dignified and rewarding lives and to achieve their full human potential. We can be the first generation to succeed in ending poverty; just as we may be the last to have a chance of saving the planet.

The world will be a better place in 2030 if we succeed in our objectives."

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