

# What will Zambia look like when the MDGs are achieved?

At the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000, 189 Heads of State and Governments pledged to work together to ensure a better world for all by 2015. On behalf of their people, they signed the Millennium Declaration which promises to free men, women and children from the dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty and make the right to development a reality for everyone. Soon afterwards, eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were adopted based on the declaration. If these goals are achieved in Zambia...



1

**Everybody will have enough to eat...**

MDG 1: Reducing poverty and hunger by half by 2015

All Zambians would afford the basic things necessary for a decent life: nutritious food to keep us healthy, clothes, clean water, a home, health care, and affordable schooling.

*How are we fairing with MDG 1? See reverse to find out!*

**All our children, boys and girls will be to go to school...**

MDG 2: Ensuring all children complete primary education by 2015

All Zambians would have choices and opportunities to create better lives for ourselves, our families and the entire nation.

*How are we fairing with MDG 2? See reverse to find out!*



2



3

**Women and men will have equal opportunities in life ...**

MDG 3: Increasing gender equality and empowering women by 2015

Equality is a human right. A more equal Zambia would also benefit from greater economic growth and development for the entire nation; educated women have fewer children, are less likely to contract HIV/AIDS, and are far less likely to remain in poverty.

*How are we fairing with MDG 3? See reverse to find out!*

**Our children will be healthy...**

MDG 4: Reducing child mortality by two-thirds by 2015

Child health services will be widely available and all children will be immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases.

*How are we fairing with MDG 4? See reverse to find out!*



4



5

**All pregnancies will be safe...**

MDG 5: Reducing maternal mortality by three-quarters by 2015

Births will be attended by skilled health personnel and women - in urban and rural areas - and mothers and children will have access to proper health care with availability of both ante-natal and post-natal care.

*How are we fairing with MDG 5? See reverse to find out!*

**We will live longer and healthier lives ....**

MDG 6: Stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases by 2015

Diseases not only affect individuals, but the entire nation. With diseases under control, Zambia can embark on stronger development on all fronts.

*How are we fairing with MDG 6? See reverse to find out!*



6



7

**The environment will be preserved for our children ...**

MDG 7: Ensuring environmental sustainability by 2015

Natural resources that people need for survival be available for future generations and households will have access to sanitation and safe drinking water.

*How are we fairing with MDG 7? See reverse to find out!*

**Our products will meet fair trade at the global market place...**

MDG 8: Developing a global partnership for development

Zambia having delivered it's part of the global deal - the first seven MDGs - the cooperating partners would have stuck to their promises on more effective aid, debt relief and fairer trade rules.

*How are we fairing with MDG 8? See reverse to find out!*



8



**2015** *Make it happen*



# How is Zambia fairing with the MDGs?

Zambia's progress towards the MDGs is captured in the National Millennium Development Goals Progress Reports. In addition to statistics, the reports contain projections on how likely the MDGs will be met. These projections are developed through a broad participatory process where the government, civil society, private sector and various development partners come together to compare the statistics on the basis of such indicators as availability of supporting policy environment, prospects for economic growth, debt relief and aid.



## **MDG 1: Reducing poverty and hunger by half by 2015**

There have been marginal improvements in the incidence of extreme poverty from 58% in 1991 to 51% in 2006 - still a long way from the MDG target of 29%. As the supportive environment is strong, Zambia has however the potential to reach this target. On the target of halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, the prevalence of underweight children declined from 22% in 1991 to 14.6% in 2007. Thanks to the strong supportive environment it is likely that the target will be achieved.



## **MDG 2: Ensuring all children complete primary education by 2015**

Net enrolment has increased from 80% in 1990 to 97% in 2006 as a result of the strong supportive environment. Zambia achieved an increase of 19% in primary school completion rates moving from 64% in 1990 to 83% in 2006. This goal is likely to be achieved, however the decline in literacy rates of 15-24 years olds (79% in 1990, 70% in 2004) needs to be addressed in order to achieve this goal.



## **MDG 3: Increasing gender equality and empowering women by 2015**

This goal is likely to be met, despite an only fair supportive environment recorded in this area. The trend shows a growth in the enrolment of girls in the school system, which stands at 98% while that of males is 96%. However the drop out rates of girls increases as they proceed to secondary education, therefore the ratio of girls to boys decreases sharply. The ratio of literate females to males (15-24 years old) is stagnating at 0.8 (2003-2005).



## **MDG 4: Reducing child mortality by two-thirds by 2015**

Zambia is aiming at reducing the number of children who die before their fifth birthday. Out of every 100,000 births from 191 children in 1992 to 56 children in 2015, with 119 deaths per 100,000 births in 2007, Zambia is potentially achieving this goal. Infant mortality has also shown a declining trend since 1992. The reduction in child mortality is mainly attributed to the strong supportive environment that Zambia has put in place, such as improved childhood immunization.



## **MDG 5: Reducing maternal mortality by three quarters by 2015**

To achieve this goal, Zambia needs to reduce the number of women dying due to complicated pregnancies from 649 (in 1996) to 162 (2015) out of every 100,000 expectant women. Due to the strong supportive environment, Zambia managed to decrease the number to 449 in 2007 and will potentially achieve the target. Despite this achievement, there is still a lot to do, as only 46% of all births were attended in 2007 by skilled health personnel.



## **MDG 6: Stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases by 2015**

It likely that Zambia would have halted and have started to reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS by 2015. The national HIV prevalence rate among adults (15-49 years) has declined from 15.6% in 2001/2002 to 14.3% in 2007. However women still have a higher infection rate than men, and the urban population has rates twice as high than the rural. The drop in the HIV prevalence rates is largely attributed to the good supportive environment, that Zambia has put in place. Zambia is potentially stabilizing the incidence of malaria and other major diseases, with a fairly supportive environment. Improvements have been noted for example in the percentage of pregnant women and children under-five who sleep under impregnated bed nets. For children under-five rose from 7.9% in 2001 to 32.7% in 2007.



## **MDG 7: Ensuring environmental sustainability by 2015.**

The target on including environmental principles into Zambia's policies and programs and reversing the loss of its environmental resources is the only one that is unlikely to be achieved. However the possibility that Zambia will reach the target of improved water and sanitation services seem potentially achievable. Both targets are backed by only a good/fair supportive environment.



## **MDG 8: Developing a global partnership for development**

The Highly Indebted Poor Country Initiative (HIPC) and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) have contributed a lot towards Zambia's achievement of the MDGs. Besides debt relief, and more efficient aid (Official Development Assistance-ODA), increased trade is required to support the achievement of all the MDGs. One of the main challenges to trade in Zambia are supply - side constraints, such as the problem of transportation, storage and communication. Further, Zambian exporters face the challenge to conform with the sanitary and phytosanitary conditions of the United States and the European Union. It is therefore necessary that trade policies address these constraints.