

## HIROSHIMA CONFERENCE

*A research paper*

*on*

### **"Problems of current MDGs and expectations in the Post MDGs framework from Southern Perspective"**

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#### **Background:**

The MDGs<sup>i</sup> are a set of eight voluntary goals accepted by the nations in 2000 to achieve the set targets by 2015, taking 1990 as the baseline year. The Millennium Development declaration was a visionary document, which sought partnership between rich and poor nations in order to make the world a beautiful place to live in.<sup>ii</sup>

Before we make a critical appraisal of MDGs, let us see some good aspects about MDGs. The MDGs have been a fundamental framework for global development. A clear agenda, with measurable goals and targets, and a common vision have been crucial for this success. There is an expectation all over the world that achievement of these goals is vital to the betterment of human life.

#### **Broad progress on the MDGs<sup>iii</sup>**

<b>Extreme poverty is falling in every region.</b>	For the first time since poverty trends began to be monitored, the number of people living in extreme poverty and poverty rates fell in every developing region—including in sub-Saharan Africa, where rates are highest. The proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day fell from 47 per cent in 1990 to 24 per cent in 2008—a reduction from over 2 billion to less than 1.4 billion.
<b>The poverty reduction target was met.</b>	Preliminary estimates indicate that the global poverty rate at \$1.25 a day fell in 2010 to less than half the 1990 rate. If these results are confirmed, the first target of the MDGs—cutting the extreme poverty rate to half its 1990 level—will have been achieved at the global level well ahead of 2015.
<b>The world has met the target of halving the proportion of people without access to improved sources of water.</b>	The target of halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water was also met by 2010, with the proportion of people using an improved water source rising from 76 per cent in 1990 to 89 per cent in 2010. Between 1990 and 2010, over two billion people gained access to improved drinking water sources, such as piped supplies and protected wells.
<b>Improvements in the lives of 200 million slum dwellers exceeded the slum target.</b>	Target 7.D: Achieve, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers. More than 200 million people gained access to either improved water sources, improved sanitation facilities, or durable or less

	crowded housing. This achievement exceeds the target of significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, well ahead of the 2020 deadline. According to UN Habitat study, the share of urban residents in the developing world living in slums declined from 39 per cent in 2000 to 33 per cent in 2012 <sup>iv</sup> .
<b>The world has achieved parity in primary education between girls and boys.</b>	Driven by national and international efforts and the MDG campaign, many more of the world's children are enrolled in school at the primary level, especially since 2000. Girls have benefited the most. The ratio between the enrolment rate of girls and that of boys grew from 91 in 1999 to 97 in 2010 for all developing regions. The gender parity index value of 97 falls within the plus-or-minus 3-point margin of 100 per cent, the accepted measure for parity.
<b>Many countries facing the greatest challenges have made significant progress towards universal primary education.</b>	Enrolment rates of children of primary school age increased markedly in sub-Saharan Africa, from 58 to 76 per cent between 1999 and 2010. Many countries in that region succeeded in reducing their relatively high out-of-school rates even as their primary school age populations were growing.

Source: MDG report, 2012; UNO

**However challenges remain; some impressive achievements nonetheless:**

Achievements were unequally distributed across and within regions and countries. Moreover, progress has slowed for some MDGs after the multiple crises of 2008-2009.

<b>Vulnerable employment has decreased only marginally over twenty years:</b>	Vulnerable employment <sup>v</sup> accounted for an estimated 58 per cent of all employment in developing regions in 2011, down only moderately from 67 percent two decades earlier. Women and youth are more likely to find themselves in such insecure and poorly remunerated positions than the rest of the employed population.
<b>Decreases in maternal mortality are far from the 2015 target:</b>	There have been important improvements in maternal health and reduction in maternal deaths, but progress is still slow. Reductions in adolescent childbearing and expansion of contraceptive use have continued, but at a slower pace since 2000 than over the decade before.
<b>Use of improved sources of water remains lower in rural areas:</b>	While 19 per cent of the rural population used unimproved sources of water in 2010, the rate in urban areas was only 4 per cent. And since dimensions of safety, reliability and sustainability are not reflected in the indicator used to track progress towards the MDG target, it is likely that these figures overestimate the actual number of people using safe water supplies. Worse, nearly half of the population in developing regions—2.5 billion—still lacks access to improved sanitation facilities. By 2015, the world will have reached only 67 per cent coverage, well short of the 75 per cent needed to

	achieve the MDG target.
<b>Hunger remains a global challenge:</b>	The most recent FAO estimates of undernourishment set the mark at 850 million living in hunger in the world in the 2006/2008 period—15.5 per cent of the world population. This continuing high level reflects the lack of progress on hunger in several regions <sup>vi</sup> , even as income poverty has decreased. Progress has also been slow in reducing child under nutrition. Close to one third of children in Southern Asia were underweight in 2010.
<b>The number of people living in slums continues to grow</b>	Despite a reduction in the share of urban population living in slums (The share of urban residents in the developing world living in slums declined from 39 per cent in 2000 to 33 per cent in 2012, according to UN Habitat Study.), the absolute number has continued to grow from a 1990 baseline of 650 million and 760 million in 2000. <i>An estimated 863 million people now live in slum conditions. This phenomenon of decreasing percentage of slum population, but increase in the absolute number can be explained partly by rapid urbanisation and ethnic conflicts in many developing countries.</i>

**Source: MDG report, 2012; UNO.**

As such Progress towards reaching the goals has been uneven<sup>vii</sup>.

To accelerate progress towards the MDGs, the G-8 Finance Ministers met in London in June 2005 (in preparation for the G-8 Gleneagles Summit in July) and reached an agreement to provide enough funds to the World Bank, the IMF, and the African Development Bank to cancel an additional \$40 to \$55 billion in debt owed by members of the **Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)**. This would allow impoverished countries to re-channel the resources saved from the forgiven debt to social programs for improving health and education<sup>viii</sup>.

#### **Problems of MDGs:**

Of course problems are there. They are one of the reasons why we have not succeeded in getting near MDGs as much as we would have loved to. These problems are not difficult to find out viz,

- ❖ Lack of analysis and justification behind the chosen objectives.
- ❖ The difficulty or lack of measurements for some of the goals. For example, goals related to maternal mortality, malaria, and tuberculosis are in practice impossible to measure. Household surveys are often used by the UN organisations to estimate data for the health MDGs. These surveys have been argued to be poor measurements of the data they are trying to collect. Furthermore, countries with the highest levels of maternal mortality, malaria, and tuberculosis often have the least amount of reliable data collection.

- ❖ Uneven progress towards reaching the goals. Interregional, intraregional, even intercommunity within a country.
- ❖ The MDGs lack a focus on local participation.
- ❖ The MDGs also lack an emphasis on sustainability, making their future after 2015 questionable. Though the ways are being tried to be found out no doubt.
- ❖ Some important gaps in the MDGs viz, agriculture not specifically mentioned in the MDGs even though a major portion of world's poor are rural farmers. *MDG 1 mentions: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. If we have a look at Targets under it, we find Target 1C mentions: Halve between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people, who suffer from hunger.*  
*\*Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age;*  
*\*proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption.*  
*This could have been achieved if we had focussed on agriculture. It should have been mentioned. The consistent efforts over 15 years towards integrating agricultural research with agricultural practices, addressing the issue of heavy subsidy of agriculture in developed countries and its implications for farmers in Asia and Africa, investment by both public and private sector in agriculture etc. would have worked wonders towards the achievement of MDG1.*
- ❖ Obsessive focus on primary education. In some countries, it has led to increase in primary education enrolment with no sufficient attention to learning. In some cases, it has also negatively affected secondary and higher secondary education.

As 2015 approaches, however, increasing global uncertainties such as the economic crisis and climate change have led to an opportunity to rethink the MDG approach to development policy.

Development scholars, such as Naila Kabeer, Caren Grown, and Noeleen Heyzer advocate for an increased focus on women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming to accelerate the progress of the MDGs. Kabeer argues that increasing women's empowerment and access to paid work will help reduce child mortality. Besides it, increasing a mother's education and workforce participation increases mother's say in household affairs as there is inverse relationship between mother's schooling and child mortality, as well as the positive correlation between increasing a mother's control over unearned income and health outcomes of her children, especially girls. Lastly empowering women by creating economic opportunities for women decreases women's participation in the sex market which decreases the spread of AIDS.

Post MDG review also gives us the occasion about thinking about alternative model to MDGs model of transferring billions of dollars. In many cases these money land in the hands of often bureaucratic or corrupt governments in developing countries. Then we are left with no choice but to look for some political reasons behind these transfers rather than purely humanitarian reasons. Aid by developed countries is a very big issue. Very big amount is involved. But if we look at its proper utilisation, we find that more than half is towards debt relief owed by poor countries. Remaining aid money goes towards disaster relief and military aid which does not further the country into development<sup>ix</sup>. The developed countries should devise new methods to distribute billions of dollars. Can we think about following the

example set by Cuba? Cuba, a small, low-income country has been playing a significant role in providing medical services to developing nations; it has trained more than 14,500 medical students from 30 different countries at its Latin American School of Medicine in Havana since 1999. The role played by Cuba in ameliorating health conditions in many developing countries can't be replaced by aid in dollars<sup>x</sup>.

Decline in aid money by DAC countries is another problem<sup>xi</sup>. In recent years however non DAC countries' role in the Aid is increasing which is a good sign in the post 2015 era<sup>xii</sup>.

### **Post 2015 development agenda:**

On 31 July 2012, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed 26 civil society, private sector, and government leaders from all regions to a high-level panel to advise on the global development agenda beyond 2015<sup>xiii</sup>.

### **Ideological Framework to guide in post MDG era:**

There is a need to review the development 'agenda' for the developed and developing countries in its entirety and not merely to make additions in terms of specific goals, targets and indicators.

- **Integration of human rights into MDGs:** Unlike the existing MDGs, post-2015 development agenda has to emphasize the fundamental inalienability of human rights with development goals.
- **Inequalities, discrimination and social exclusion,** Given our experience of inter group variation in development so far, we need to look at development goals in terms of castes, religions, regions, aboriginal tribes etc. Simply economic growth will not suffice to meet the requirements of marginalised groups, because jobless growth is a marked feature of economic growth of many countries in the globalisation era.
- **A gender-transformative, gender-inclusive and gender-responsive policy frame** Achievement of MDGs will be a distant dream unless we incorporate the dreams and aspirations of half of the population. It is as simple as that. There is no rocket science involved in this!
- **Combining inclusiveness and sustainability:** The Rio+20 Conference in June 2012 established an Open Working Group of 30 members to propose "sustainable development goals" (SDGs) for presentation to the U.N. General Assembly. The new MDGs and the SDGs need to be combined into one set of goals that have both inclusiveness and sustainability.
- **The principle of 'just' governance:** 'Just governance should be the cornerstone of governance reform. This principle needs to apply not only to public institutions but to the private sector, to global governance institutions and to the developed world to ensure a level playing field (WNTA, 2015)<sup>xiv</sup>

### **Key concerns in post MDGs Era:**

As such the key concerns in the post MDGs era are as follows viz,

- ❖ **Equitable access to basic quality public *healthcare*** linking it with access to safe and sustainable water supply and sanitation.
- ❖ **Universal inclusive basic *education*** with focus on quality and equity that also addresses concerns of retention, completion and the learning environment.
- ❖ **Ensuring universal *Food and Nutrition Security*** focusing on children (including children with disabilities) and other marginalized groups such as migrants, aged, single women and persons with disabilities.
- ❖ ***Employment and Livelihood*** needs to be attended to.
- ❖ **Reduction in arms and armed militia** in conflict affected areas with special attention to women and the minorities is needed.
- ❖ **special focus on *Human Rights*** is called for with monitorable targets to assess progress in human ‘well-being’ and dignity as opposed to mere human survival.
- ❖ A key aspect that has not been adequately stressed is ***Social Inclusion*** which needs to be articulated through non-discriminatory, participatory and monitorable targets focusing on advancing the rights of the most-excluded and the disadvantaged.
- ❖ ***Gender Justice*** and there is a need to establish gender equality through policy instruments designed to shift away from patriarchal social order, institutions and mindsets.
- ❖ ***Addressing Poverty and Inequality*** is fundamental and for this, greater investments in irrigation, power, agricultural research and development, and roads in the poorer regions, where the concentration of poverty is increasing is called for. Further, progressive and redistributive taxation, public spending, especially for foundational investment in human capital, along with reforms in land and forest policies are vital to reducing inequalities. Transparency in public spending and greater participation in determining spending priorities is called for.
- ❖ ***Environmental Justice*** is another cross-cutting concern and a multi-pronged approach is needed.
- ❖ ***Just Governance*** provides a vital plank to base all of the aforementioned. Public provisioning for basic services, decentralising decision making, people centred planning and citizen-led monitoring are critical. For this, greater budget transparency, accountability in government spending, citizen involvement in determining budget priorities, participation in budget monitoring are also extremely vital.
- ❖ ***Financing for Development:*** Developing countries need to step up domestic resource mobilisation through increased tax-GDP ratios. Further, both developed and developing countries need to plug tax loopholes to check illicit financial flows that lead to significant loss of tax revenue and tax evasion. Innovative financial mechanisms also need to be explored as alternative funding options.
- ❖ ***Specifically, the Role of Developed Countries*** in shaping the post-2015 development agenda must not be limited to making mere prescriptive policy changes but bringing about substantive course correction in the prevalent economic policy paradigm.
- ❖ ***On the need for Partnerships for Development,*** we would expect clearly monitorable targets for the corporate sector in ensuring accountable, transparent and socially-just practices and processes.
- ❖ ***Finally, to ensure that these processes are seamless and not stand-alone country specific efforts,*** there is a need for increased policy spaces to foster South-South cooperation in participating and influencing the post-2015 development agenda.

- Ensuring 5% of GDP for health (as per WHO recommendations) Ensuring 6% of GDP for education (NCMP, 2004; Kothari Commission, 1966) ( WNTA publication)<sup>xv</sup>

### **Position of India vis a vis MDGs:**

India has achieved impressive results on MDGs no doubt. 85 percent of people here have access to safe drinking water. However, 51 per cent people in the country defecate in the open, accounting for 60 per cent of the world's total open defecations. India has seen an improvement in the sanitation figures from 1990, when 75 per cent people defecated in the open as against 51 per cent in 2010. But this improvement is seen only in the urban settings, where 28 per cent had no access to toilets in 1990 as against 14 per cent in 2010. In the rural areas, 91 per cent had no access to sanitation in 1990 as against 67 per cent in 2010.

Four out of every 10 people who have gained access to improved sanitation since 1990 live in China or India, and more than half of the 2.5 billion people without improved sanitation too live in these two countries. In India, 251 million people gained access to sanitation between 1990 and 2010 but the percentage continues to be low because of the annual increase in the population. Over 1.7 million (22% of the world total) children under five who died in 2010 were Indians, diarrhoea being one among the largest killer diseases and accounting for 13 per cent of the deaths. Worldwide, over 80 per cent of diarrhoeal deaths are due to unsafe water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene.

The government of India claims that India is on the track to meet the MDG targets by 2015. It lists as its achievement several flagship schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee Scheme<sup>xvi</sup>, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan<sup>xvii</sup>, Integrated Child Development Services<sup>xviii</sup>, Natioal Rural Health Mission<sup>xix</sup>, Rajiv Gandhi Natioanl Drinking water Mission<sup>xx</sup> and Total sanitation Campaign<sup>xxi</sup>.

However, the impressive growth has not resulted in social development, the economy is marked by jobless growth, uneven expansion of social and economic opportunities, growing inter regional and intraregional disparities across regions, caste and gender. Vicious grip of patriarchy in rural India has been making gender equality and justice elusive.

We can't overlook India's vast geography and its diversity. The variability across regions mandates dedicated goals and specific targets tailored to regional baseline rates, for both specific regions and marginalised populations.

### **Role of NGOs in post 2015 era:**

The role of donor countries is unmistakable but in many cases the donors approach becomes cause of problems rather than solutions to the existing problems. Their waning commitments<sup>xxii</sup> under the global financial crisis, their lack of alignment with local priorities, ignoring of the recipient countries' development needs, the insistence on the reporting and documenting sometimes to the exclusion of the field work, the growing alienation of the ruling class from the local populace as a result of financial aid and very often the resultant weakening tax base etc have raised issues which need to be addressed in the post 2015

period. Aid must help developing countries improve the welfare of their poorest populations according to their own development priorities.

In the globalised world economy, trade is still beset with unequal opportunities. Undeveloped countries are prevented from trading their way out of poverty by the high tariff barriers, domestic subsidies, and other protections enjoyed by their rich-country competitors. For example, the agricultural subsidies provided by US or European Union effectively block these markets for African farmers, for say.

It is a very fundamental question; why are we lagging behind in achieving all the MDGs? The reason is simple: there is lack of local participation in identification of challenges and setting of development goals. In the era of increasing public awareness, the governments and bureaucracies can no longer decide the course of actions and fix targets behind closed doors. The public need to be involved at every stage; starting from identification, fixing and implementation of goals. There is need to build confidence between government, civil society, development partners, and other stakeholders. In this sense, the build up to the post MDGs era is much improvement over MDGs, as the consulting group headed by David Cameron and others has the representation from the NGOs as well. Normally there is difference in perspective in the NGOs from the Northern and Southern hemisphere. Since the focus of the post MDGs will be on southern hemisphere, under such circumstances the hopes and aspirations of southern perspective becomes important.

Role of Indian civil society is very important in the post 2015 MDGs development. India is an emerging global economic power, but at the same time houses the largest number of the global poor. As such performance of India matters a lot in the realisation of MDGs till 2015 and beyond. India has a vibrant civil society, which has the capacity to keep the authoritarian tendencies in ruling establishment under guard. In pursuit of MDG goals several bright examples have been set by the Indian civil society. Viz, successful fight against privatisation of Delhi Water Board. WNTA<sup>xxiii</sup> has been sparing no effort to hold government accountable to the promises when it became a signatory to MDGs. So many NGOs are working on Right to Information Act. In fact, RTI act is the result of relentless effort of the civil sector in India. Government and bureaucracy are known to hate accountability and power sharing, still RTI act has pushed the agenda of transparency and accountability in governance in the centrestage. In fact, due to RTI, good governance has become the watch word. So many people have lost their lives pushing for transparency in governance through RTI, but the journey so far has been eventful. So many NGOs are working on water issues, whether it be opposing privatisation of water in remote areas like Chhatisgarh, or preserving or regenerating the old and dying sources of water in water drought areas like Rajasthan. People like Rajendra Singh and his NGO Tarun Bharat Sangh are working exemplary work. Why do I say exemplary, because they have succeeded in water drought areas in Rajasthan, where administration had failed singularly in providing water, Civil society has succeeded. These successful examples have showed the power of popular participation. It shows how positive things happen, when people at local level show interest in the issues of their concern.

The same thing applies with the millennium Development goals. We have to learn from the achievements so far as well as the reason, why we failed to achieve all the goals in the stipulated time frame, impressive show in several targets, nonetheless. And we should also not forget that population is increasing. Under such circumstances we can't keep shifting the goalpost. The pressure to meet the goals in time bound manner will raise the role of civil society and popular participation several fold. NGOs embody local participation, an element



missing earlier. We need to work on this. People in the villages should be empowered so that they may decide the best course of action for them. They need not be controlled from 1000 kms away by people sitting in New Delhi or for that matter Washington, or New York. These people and funding agencies should become facilitator, rather than dictating choices on the people, with whom they probably will never interact. Of course, we will have to come out of the ‘One size fits all’ mentality.

Voice of India matters a lot in the overall MDG scenario<sup>xxiv</sup>. Southern perspective is very relevant to the realisation of the MDGs. Today the world is no longer dominated by the G 7 countries, rather by G 20 countries. The emerging blocs of G 20, BRICS-Brazil, India, Russia, China, South Africa, IBSA-India, Brazil, South Africa etc are playing an increasing role in the world economy and their role is likely to further increase in years to come. As such their role is critical to the success of development goals in post MDGs era. Power centres are shifting southwards in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and this will have its implications on post MDG period. In this regard I would like to attract your attention to the “red flag<sup>xxv</sup>” also and ruminate on the issue how they can be made part of post MDGs era.

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#### End Notes:

<sup>i</sup> The goals are:

1. Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger,
2. Achieving universal primary education,
3. Promoting gender equality and empowering women,
4. Reducing child mortality rates,
5. Improving maternal health,
6. Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases,
7. Ensuring environmental sustainability, and
8. Developing a global partnership for development.

Each of the goals has specific stated targets and dates for achieving those targets.

<sup>ii</sup> The MDGs originated from the Millennium Declaration produced by the United Nations. The Declaration asserts that every individual has the right to dignity, freedom, equality, a basic standard of living that includes freedom from hunger and violence, and encourages tolerance and solidarity.

<sup>iii</sup> These broad progresses have been taken from MDG Report, 2012 prepared by UN.

<sup>iv</sup> <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?catid=9&typeid=24&cid=11712> accessed on July 23, 2013.

<sup>v</sup> Vulnerable employment—defined as the share of unpaid family workers and own-account workers in total employment.

<sup>vi</sup> FAO assessment reveals that small countries, heavily dependent on food imports, were deeply affected by skyrocketing food prices- especially those in sub Saharan Africa. The number of undernourished increased sharply in sub Saharan Africa. Despite recorded reductions in income poverty, there are no signs of improvement in undernourishment rates in Eastern Asia since 2000. The disparity between falling poverty rates and steady levels of undernourishment calls for improved understanding of the dimensions and causes of hunger and the implementation of appropriate policies and measures. (MDG Report, 2012)

**Table: Proportion of people who are undernourished:**

Region	1990-92	2000-02	2006-08
Sub Saharan Africa	31	29	27
Southern Asia excluding India	26	23	22
Southern Asia	22	21	20
South Eastern Asia	24	17	14
Eastern Asia excluding China	8	13	13
Eastern Asia	18	10	10
Developing region	20	17	15

**Source: MDG Report, 2012.**

vii Some countries, such as Brazil, have achieved many of the goals, while others, such as Benin, are not on track to realize any. Areas needing the most reduction, such as the sub-Saharan Africa regions have yet to make any drastic changes in improving their quality of life.

viii Backed by G-8 funding, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the AfDB each endorsed the Gleanegles plan and implemented the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) to effectuate the debt cancellations.

ix Monterrey Consensus urged "developed countries to make concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) as ODA to developing countries. Many OECD nations, including key members such as the United States, are not progressing towards their promise of giving 0.7% of their GNP towards poverty reduction by the target year of 2015.

x Many other countries are also providing development assistance. For example, India focuses its development assistance on infrastructure assistance to its neighbouring countries like Bhutan, Afghanistan and Nepal. Among its many forms of development assistance to Africa are viz, training civil servants, engineers, public sector managers, scholarships, education through India- Africa virtual university, Indira Gandhi national open university, higher education scholarships, railway lines etc. However, Cuban medical help are contributing to the realisation of MDGs in most direct way.

xi According to the Millennium Development Goal Report, 2013, released by the United Nations, net aid disbursements from developed to developing countries totalled \$126 billion in 2012. This represented a 4 per cent drop in real terms compared to 2011, which was 2 per cent below 2010 levels.

xii In 2012, net official development assistance (ODA) from developed countries stood at \$ 125.6 billion, representing 0.29 percent of donors' combined gross national income. This is a 4 percent drop in real terms from 2011 which was 2 percent below the 2010 level. The decline is attributed to the economic and financial crisis and euro zone turmoil, which have led many governments to implement austerity measures and reduce their aid budgets. This is the first time since 1996-97 that ODA has fallen in two consecutive years.

In 2012, the largest donors by volume were the USA, the UK, Germany, France and Japan.

Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden continued to exceed the UN' ODA target of 0.7 percent of gross national income.

Aid is falling most sharply among the largest donors, and European countries. The G 7 countries provided 70 percent of DAC-ODA in 2012, down from 75 percent in 2005. The share of aid from the DAC- European Union (51 percent) is at its lowest level since 2001.

This decline has affected the least developed countries (LDCs). In 2012, bilateral net ODA to least developed countries fell by 13 percent in real terms to about \$ 26 billion. Bilateral ODA to Africa fell by 10 percent to \$ 28.9 billion in 2012.

**The DAC survey** suggests that this shift in aid away from the poorest countries and Africa, and towards middle income countries will continue, with a greater share of aid being offered in the form of soft loans; rather than grants.

However, aid is increasing from non DAC countries. While precise figures are not available for all countries for 2012, Turkey's aid doubled between 2011 and 2012 and the United Arab Emirates' rose by 31 percent.( MDG report, 2012)

Table: Non DAC Donors

Non DAC donor	Total ODA excluding debt relief (in USD m)	Total ODA In 2009 USD million)*
Cyprus	51	39
Czech Republic	228	209
Estonia	19	19
Hungary	114	109
Latvia	16	20
Lithuania	37	44
Malta	14	14
Poland	384	376
Romania	114	138
Slovak Republic	74	78
Slovenia	59	64
Chinese Taipei	381	454
Israel	145	124
Liechtenstein	27	23
Russia	472	--
Thailand	45	95
Turkey	967	697
Kuwait	617	560
Saudia Arabia	3494	3325
UAE	571	597

Source: 2012 DAC Report on Multilateral Aid

\* <http://www.oecd.org/dac/aid-architecture/49014277.pdf>

Brazil, India, South Africa, or China did not report their development assistance to the DAC in 2010. The 2011 DAC Report on Multilateral Aid (OECD, 2011a) highlighted Brazil's use of multilateral agencies for supplying aid to neighbouring countries and circumventing laws against the provision of bilateral aid. In contrast, India and China have large bilateral programmes and very probably channel a share of aid through multilateral organisations that is well below the DAC average of 28%. Non-DAC EU donors direct a high share of their aid to EU institutions, while larger regional players such as Brazil and the Russian Federation allot substantial multilateral aid to regional organisations or funds. China and India contribute lower shares of multilateral aid, usually preferring to use bilateral channels. (2011 DAC Report on Multilateral Aid).

<sup>xiii</sup> Mr. Cameron is co-chair, along with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, of a 27-member High Level Panel of Eminent Persons (HLP) to make "recommendations regarding the vision and shape of a post-2015 development agenda".

<sup>xiv</sup> MDG +15; WNTA publication; 2013.

<sup>xv</sup> These concerns rely on the "Civil Society National Report Post -2015 Development Agenda- India" WNTA Publication.

<sup>xvi</sup> The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

<sup>xvii</sup> Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is Government of India's flagship programme for achievement of Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) in a time bound manner, as mandated by 86th amendment to the Constitution of India making free and compulsory Education to the Children of 6-14 years age group, a Fundamental Right.

<sup>xviii</sup> Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Government of India sponsored programme, is India's primary social welfare scheme to tackle malnutrition and health problems in children below 6 years of age and their mothers.

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<sup>xxix</sup> National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is a health program for improving health care delivery across rural India. The scheme proposes a number of new mechanism for healthcare delivery including training local residents as Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), and the Janani Suraksha Yojana (motherhood protection program). It also aims at improving hygiene and sanitation infrastructure.

<sup>xxx</sup> RGNDWM aims at accelerating the pace of coverage of drinking water supply.

<sup>xxxi</sup> This programme of government of India aims at preventing open defecation. Government bears a part of the cost towards constructing toilets.

<sup>xxxii</sup> At the G-8 summit at Gleneagles and the UN World Summit in 2005, donors committed to increasing their aid by \$50 billion at 2004 prices, and to double their aid to Africa from 2004 levels by 2010. But official development assistance (ODA) last year amounted to \$119.6 billion, or just 0.31 per cent of the developed countries' GDP — not even half of the UN's target of 0.7 per cent of GDP.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> Wada Na Todo Abhiyan is a national campaign to hold the government accountable to its promise to end Poverty, Social Exclusion & Discrimination.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> The World Bank estimated that MDG 1A (halving the proportion of people living on less than \$ 1a day) was achieved in 2008 mainly due to the results from China, India and East Asia.

<sup>xxxv</sup> A number of civil society players, including representatives of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) and the Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA), have carried the eight-point “Red Flag” viz, honouring international, regional, and national financing commitments, enhancing domestic resource mobilisation, and multiple complementary and innovative sources of finance such as private investment, corporate social responsibility, philanthropy, North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, public-private partnerships, debt swaps, guarantees and market mechanisms. Particularly important will be the regulation of tax havens and illicit financial flows.

**THE END**