



Together towards 2015

Sweden's Report on the Millennium
Development Goals 2006



REGERINGSKANSLIET

The eight Millennium Development Goals to be fulfilled are:¹

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

2. Achieve universal primary education

Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

3. Promote gender equality and empower women

Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

4. Reduce child mortality

Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

5. Improve maternal health

Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

7. Ensure environmental sustainability

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. Have achieved by 2020 a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

8. Develop a global partnership for development

A commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally. Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system. Address the special needs of least developed countries (LDCs)², landlocked developing countries and small island developing states. Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries, with youth unemployment, and with the supply of essential drugs, and make available the benefits of new technologies.

¹ Annex 2 provides a full list of the eight MDGs and the 18 targets and 48 indicators linked to them. This list of targets and indicators has been compiled jointly by the UN, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The base year for the calculations is 1990. In addition, nationally adopted indicators have been selected to measure the progress of each individual target.

² The least developed countries (LDCs) are a group of 50 countries classified by the UN as being the poorest in the world. Of these, 34 are in Africa. Some 600 million people live in these countries.

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Foreword

At the UN Millennium Summit in 2000, heads of state from 189 nations issued a joint declaration on the future of the world. Peace and security, poverty reduction, health, education, the environment, human rights and democracy are mutual global challenges requiring mutual global solutions. To implement the declaration, the UN Secretary-General has drawn up a road map setting out eight specific objectives: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In the autumn of 2005, over a hundred world leaders assembled once again at a UN summit to formulate a plan of action aimed at promoting international security and eradicating poverty in the world. The 2005 summit reinforced the international community's pledge to achieve the MDGs by the year 2015.

These goals are unique in that they are time-bound, measurable and internationally agreed. We possess the means to achieve the goals by 2015 – if the political will is there. Sweden attaches high priority to their achievement. But if the MDGs are to be achieved, the rich countries must actively support the efforts of the poor countries to reduce poverty. Also, the UN must adjust to the new challenges facing the modern world. We must make sure that the resources channelled through the organisation actually reach the poor. The various UN programmes and agencies must become more unified and coherent, especially at country level. Via its participation in the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on System-Wide Coherence, Sweden is working to improve efficiency in UN activities in the economic and social fields.

We in the rich countries must play our part in helping to ensure that the MDGs are achieved. This applies in particular to the commitments made under Goal 8 on a global partnership for development. You now hold in your hand Sweden's second report describing the work we have undertaken to honour the commitments we have made. The report also aims to encourage debate at both national and international level on global issues and on the MDGs.

The Millennium Development Goals focus the attention of world leaders on people's needs and rights. Men, women and children have the right to live their lives in dignity, free from hunger and free from fear of violence, oppression and injustice. Democratic governance based on the will of the people is the best means of ensuring compliance with these rights. Women and girls have the same right to power and influence and to decide over their own lives as men and boys. Discrimination of women and girls is a major constraint on efforts to combat poverty. Of the 120 million children around the world who are denied an education, the majority are girls. Human rights, democracy and gender equality – the right of all people to actively shape their own future – are at the heart of the Millennium Development Goals.



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A common global agenda

Development, peace and security, and respect for human rights, are all essential to a life of dignity. The close link between these areas, and their interdependence, was established by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his report³ to a UN summit meeting in New York in 2005.⁴ At this meeting, more than one hundred world leaders expressed their support for this viewpoint.

The 2005 summit, which was a follow-up to the UN's Millennium Summit five years earlier,

this field. This is a Swedish priority that improves the chances of achieving a number of the MDGs. In the lead-up to the summit, decisions were also taken on increased development assistance, debt relief and new development financing modalities. The meeting identified three development issues as being among the most serious threats faced by humanity: poverty, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and environmental degradation.



clearly showed that there now exists a common global agenda based on the UN Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000. Several issues of importance to Sweden were adopted at the meeting. Sweden has, for instance, strongly emphasised the duty of the international community to provide the protection necessary to prevent grave abuses and genocide. The goals concerning universal access to reproductive health formulated at the UN Population Conference in Cairo in 1994 now carry more weight in global efforts in

The 2005 summit also showed that there is now a broad political will to make changes at the United Nations. Under the presidency of Sweden's Jan Eliasson in the Sixtieth Session of the UN General Assembly⁵, the countries of the world have agreed to set up a Peacekeeping Commission and a Human Rights Council. In addition, a fund enabling instant action in disaster situations has been established, and a decision has been taken to reform the UN Secretariat.

As of 2005, a common global agenda is in place for the coordination of development assistance. The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness emphasises harmonisation, alignment and ownership in the development cooperation process. The Swedish Government is actively engaged in implementing the Paris agenda. Since 2003, Sweden has pursued a coherent Policy for Global Development that has a single overriding objective for all policy areas: to promote fair and sus-

Sweden and likeminded countries have produced a model for what form reporting on the MDGs should take. In accordance with this model, the present report describes and gives examples of both Sweden's efforts to achieve Goal 8 on the development of a global partnership for development, and Swedish contributions to Goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability.⁷ The model also provides scope for raising issues of particular urgency or topicality. In the present report,



tainable global development. This policy builds upon two perspectives – a rights perspective and the perspective of the poor on development.

The present report is part of an international effort to follow up progress towards the Development Goals. As part of the work of the OECD's⁶ Development Assistance Committee (DAC),

Sweden focuses in particular on human rights and gender equality. These are both priority areas for the Swedish Government as they are crucial to development and to the achievement of most of the MDGs. Examples of Swedish support for the developing countries' efforts to achieve Goals 1–6 are provided in Annex 1.

³ *In Larger Freedom: Development, Security and Human Rights for All*

⁴ *The Millennium + 5 Summit* was held on 14–16 September 2005 in New York.

⁵ Jan Eliasson took up the post of President of the UN General Assembly in September 2005.

⁶ The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

⁷ The document describes the work undertaken by Sweden since the previous report in August 2004.

Goal 8



Develop a global partnership for development

This goal is about entering into partnerships and contributing to closer cooperation and interaction between rich and poor countries in pursuit of sustainable global development. Goal 8 affects a number of different policy areas, such as the development of a fair, internationally regulated trading and finance system, addressing the special needs of the least developed countries, land-locked countries and small island developing states and their poorest populations, and providing debt relief to the most heavily indebted poor countries. Rich countries should also cooperate with developing countries in putting together and implementing strategies that are conducive to human development for all, and that create decent and productive work for youth. They should further seek to ensure that developing countries have access to affordable essential drugs and to new technologies, especially information and communications technology (ICT).

A coherent policy for global development

Sweden's Policy for Global Development was adopted by the Riksdag (Parliament) in 2003. All policy areas are required to help achieve the overall policy objective of promoting fair and sustainable global development. Swedish government policy builds upon two perspectives – a rights perspective and the perspective of the poor on development. This policy could be described as a response to the question of how Sweden is pro-

ceeding in accordance with the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals and with other international agreements and commitments. Every year, the Government reports to the Riksdag on the results of its policy implementation in this respect.

Swedish policy is based on a perception of poverty as multidimensional, dynamic and specific to each situation. Conditions for poor people are therefore affected by a wide range of factors.



Accordingly, coherent action across different policy areas is essential if the global objectives are to be achieved.

The Swedish policy approach embraces all political decisions that directly or indirectly affect poor people in developing countries or in countries that are currently undergoing a transition to a market economy. The policy framework comprises four main categories:

1. Basic values: respect for human rights, democracy and good governance, and gender equality.
2. Sustainable development: environmental care and the sustainable use of natural resources, economic growth, and social development and security
3. Conflict management and security
4. Global Public Goods and global challenges: cross-border issues requiring the adoption of joint positions and action on the part of the international community.

Swedish development policy takes the perspective of the poor and a rights perspective as twin points of departure. These supplementary perspectives are to inform all decisions and all work. Together, they make clear that the focus is on the individual, who, through his/her own strength, will and ability, carves out his/her own future. Sweden is proactive in seeking to integrate these two perspectives into various international forums.

Basically, poverty is about a lack of freedom, and may be described as a lack of security, resources, opportunities and power. The perspective of poor people on development means that the fight against poverty and in pursuit of fair and sustainable development must be based on the situation, needs, conditions and priorities of poor women, men and children. Poor people are and must be viewed as active actors in the poverty reduction process, not as passive recipients of aid.

The rights perspective means that the values and principles expressed in the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in later human rights conventions, are to serve as a basis for all work relating to poverty reduction and for all development work. The rights perspective also places emphasis on democracy as a prerequisite for development.

In many parts of the world, poverty and lack of democracy lead to a lack of security, which in turn impedes economic and democratic development. In itself, poverty does not necessarily cause conflict. The least developed countries, however, are afflicted by armed conflict to a greater extent than states that are more economically developed and democratic.

Action of many different kinds is required to break this vicious circle. Sweden's Policy for Global Development, therefore, is being implemented step by step while adopting an integrated, holistic approach. Besides providing both traditional humanitarian aid in disaster situations and long-term development assistance, Sweden is implementing measures in a number of other policy areas. This includes easing international trade regulations for partner countries, acting against environmental degradation and taking steps to curb the spread of disease. Another area of Swedish activity is the prevention and management of armed conflicts. Also, Sweden feels there should be a greater understanding of the impact that agricultural policy in the rich countries is having on the prospects for rural development and agriculture in developing countries. In such contexts, the position of women and the conditions under which they live are of crucial importance.



In 2005, a new public authority was established in Sweden: the Swedish Agency for Development Evaluation (SADEV). Its principal task is to evaluate development work, and the agency's findings will be used to increase efficiency and quality in the Swedish development cooperation programme.

Swedish development cooperation

Sweden's development cooperation work with the poor countries of the world has enjoyed the support of the Swedish public for many decades. Consequently, Sweden has long maintained a high level of aid provision. Over the years, the principal goal of Swedish development cooperation has been poverty alleviation. With the introduction of the new Policy for Global Development, this focus has been sharpened. In 2006, Swedish development assistance will amount to 1 per cent of Sweden's GNI, and the total aid volume at present amounts to SEK 28 billion. A number of Swedish Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) have been working to make this increase in aid provision a reality. Of all Swedish development assistance, 98.3 per cent is untied.⁸

In 2007 and 2008, the aid level will remain at 1 per cent of GNI. This makes Sweden one of the largest donors in the world in terms of the proportion of GNI used for official development assistance (ODA). Our contribution is well in excess of the UN's goal of at least 0.7 per cent of GNI in the form of ODA. This is also true of the UN goal whereby at least 0.15–0.20 per cent of GNI is to be channelled to the least developed countries. In Sweden's case, the proportion was 0.18 per cent for 2005. The bulk of this assistance will go to Africa, as it is there that the greatest challenges in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals are to be found.

Sweden has pressed hard for the OECD countries⁷ to raise their levels of development assistance. Sweden's efforts in this respect have helped make the eradication of poverty in the world one of the overall goals of all European Union (EU) aid provision.⁹ With the aim of achieving the UN's goal of 0.7 per cent of GNI in the form of ODA, the EU member states managed to agree in time for the 2005 UN summit on a new joint target for the Community's development assistance as a whole. The EU established a target of 0.56 per cent of GNI by the year 2010, and at the same time national targets were set for each member state. This is expected to result in an increase of EUR 20 billion by the year 2010 in the EU countries' overall aid provision. At least half of this increase is to go to Africa. About six per cent of Sweden's development assistance was channelled through the EU in 2005.

More effective aid

The international work currently under way to boost the effectiveness of development cooperation acquired a new dimension with the Declaration on Aid Effectiveness adopted in Paris in 2005. The Paris agenda represents an agreement between donor countries and partner countries to join in strengthening harmonisation, alignment and ownership in the development cooperation process. For the purpose of following up implementation of the declaration, twelve indicators have been formulated. The outcome of a first international follow-up to these indicators will be reported in the autumn of 2006. Sweden attaches high priority to efforts to implement the Paris Declaration and has made progress in several areas in relation to the indicators.



⁸Based on Sweden's reporting to the OECD/DAC, 2005.

⁹The EU Development Policy was adopted in December 2005.

One of the goals of the Paris Declaration is for donors to use the partner countries' own systems for planning, disbursements and reporting. In May 2005, new guidelines were adopted for the Swedish Government's bilateral development cooperation programme, based on the partner countries' own priorities and objectives. Sweden has also invested more heavily in developing the partner countries' public financial management systems, which makes it easier for all donors to work via the countries' own systems.

The Swedish Ministry of Finance is cooperating with the finance ministries of Russia and Ukraine, the aim being to strengthen their transition to market economies by making economic controls of their central government administrations more efficient. In addition, extensive exchanges are under way between public authorities, education and research institutions and NGOs.



An important step in the process of making development cooperation more efficient is a better division of labour between donors. All donors should, for instance, use joint analyses so as not to burden the partner country unnecessarily. Sweden is involved in a number of joint strategy processes in countries such as Zambia, Tanzania and Uganda. Sweden is also seeking to concentrate its development assistance efforts to fewer sectors in each country, and in a number of countries has delegated its aid provision in a specific sector to another donor. For the partner country, this reduces the number of parties it has to deal with and thereby reduces administrative costs.

Via the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Sweden has developed guidelines for assessing the impact that Swedish aid may have on current or potential conflicts in the recipient countries. Without such assessments, development efforts risk having adverse rather than favourable effects in embattled countries and in countries with weak public structures.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE INDICATORS

Indicators for Sweden	1990	1995	2000	2005
Net ODA, total, as a percentage of GNI	0.91	0.77	0.80	0.94*
Net ODA to LDCs, as a percentage of GNI	0.35	0.22	0.24	0.18*
Percentage of ODA to landlocked developing countries	15.7	17.2	14.9	11.1*
Percentage of ODA to small island developing states	2.6	1.9	1.3	0.1*
Proportion of multilateral ODA (% of total net ODA)	31.3	30.2	31.0	32.9*
Proportion of bilateral aid that is untied (%)	87.5	93.9	85.4	98.3*

Source: OECD/DAC

* The statistics for 2005 are preliminary and based on Sweden's reporting to the OECD/DAC.

An international evaluation of the outcome of donors' total budgetary assistance to seven countries in 1994-2004 was presented in 2006. It shows improvements in the partner countries' national ownership, public financial management systems and social services.

The importance of good governance

Sustainable social and economic development is not something that can be pursued from the outside. Each country must formulate and pursue its own priorities. The aim of efforts currently under way to make aid more effective, therefore, is to strengthen the capacity of partner countries to pursue their own development. The scope for action in this respect is necessarily curtailed, however, in the field of human rights and democracy. The Swedish Policy for Global Development is based on an integrated, holistic approach that seeks to help societies in their efforts to establish efficient judicial systems, proper security structures and opportunities for their citizens to express their views.

Democratic states are generally better at solving conflicts by peaceful means before they get out of hand and become destructive. People who feel secure in the knowledge that they have rights and obligations vis-à-vis the society they live in are often more inclined to accept decisions that affect them adversely. Basically, democracy is about creating a framework in which citizens become aware of their rights and are able to exercise them and thus make conscious choices and empower themselves.

In light of the above, Sweden has been proactive in moves to develop broader mandates for international peacekeeping operations. From once having been confined to monitoring cease-fires and peace agreements by military means,

these operations now include elements such as the re-building of legal systems, support for democratisation processes, and the strengthening of administrative structures. These 'multi-functional initiatives' require the additional presence of civilian expertise. The demand for Swedish military personnel, police officers and other types of civilian staff by the UN, the EU, the OSCE¹⁰ and other international actors has increased markedly in recent years.

The trend towards linking security-enhancing measures to more long-term efforts in pursuit of economic and democratic development is also illustrated by the establishment of a UN Peacebuilding Commission. The aims of this body include extending the international community's commitment to post-conflict recovery and facilitating the transition from peacekeeping to long-term reconstruction. Sweden played an important part in the process that led to the creation of the Commission, not least through the Swedish presidency of the Sixtieth Session of the UN General Assembly.

An open trading and finance system

International trade can make an important contribution to economic progress and sustainable poverty reduction in developing countries. Improving their capacity to benefit from trade is an effective instrument for promoting fair and sustainable global development. The presence of direct and indirect trade barriers and a variety of subsidies, however, makes it difficult for these countries to develop their exports.

The Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Hong Kong in 2005 opened the door to freer world trade in certain respects. Important decisions were taken whereby the least developed countries were to be given duty and quota free



¹⁰ The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe

access to the markets of more countries. Sweden was proactive in seeking to extend this decision, in principle, to all products.

Even when zero tariffs are in place, however, many developing countries are not in a position to benefit from world market access. They often lack both institutional capacity and the necessary infrastructure to make use of the opportunities afforded by a liberalised world trade system. Consequently, Sweden has taken an active part in the *Aid for Trade* process. This includes initiatives for strengthening developing countries' trade-related institutions, enhancing the capacity of developing countries to meet export market requirements, and strengthening their ability to benefit from greater trading opportunities.

Sweden also supports other initiatives aimed at helping the developing countries to build capacity in the trade field. One such initiative involves providing information about the rules and conditions that govern exports to rich countries. A one-stop information centre for exporters from developing countries, *Open Trade Gate Sweden*, was set up in 2005 to deal with questions about EU-aligned and national import regulations in Sweden. This has aroused considerable interest and many queries have been dealt with to date. Sweden also supports the *Integrated Framework (IF)*¹¹, a mechanism designed to assist developing countries in their bids to play a greater part in the global economy. This mechanism is also designed to strengthen the coordination of donors' aid efforts in the trade field. In addition, Sweden provides extensive trade-related technical assistance.

Ever since joining the EU, Sweden has actively sought the removal of the Union's export sub-

sidies, on the grounds that they distort competition. At the WTO Ministerial Conference in 2005, member states agreed to discontinue these subsidies by 2013.

A further obstacle to exports is the fact that developing countries may find it difficult to live up to the demands imposed on products in the international market. This particularly applies in the field of environment and health protection. Through the provision of support to local and regional standardisation organisations, such as the *African Organisation for Standardisation*, producers in the developing countries learn about which rules apply and how they can adapt to them. The developing countries also come to exert an influence on the way these standards are formulated.

Sweden is continuing its intensive efforts to ensure that the negotiations in the WTO's Doha round benefit the developing countries. The Government will work actively in the trade and agricultural policy fields to ensure that both national and EU regulations are designed in such a way as to promote trade with developing countries. At the same time, however, due consideration must be given to our national requirements in such areas as sustainable environment, the protection of biodiversity, safe food and animal welfare.

Exports of paranuts are an important source of income for poor people in Brazil. However, EU poisons monitoring has shown that the levels of carcinogenic aflatoxin in the nuts are too high. Exports have therefore virtually ceased. A joint project between Sweden's National Food Administration and Brazil has been launched to reduce aflatoxin to acceptable levels.

¹¹ A coordinating mechanism between the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the International Trade Center, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank and the WTO.



TRADE INDICATORS*

Indicators for the EU, including Sweden	1990	1995	2000	2004
Percentage of EU ²⁾ imports (by value and excluding arms and oil) from developing countries, admitted free of duties (% duty free trade)		42 ¹⁾	56	77
Percentage of EU ²⁾ imports (by value and excluding arms and oil) from LDCs, admitted free of duties (% duty free trade)		94 ¹⁾	97	95
Average tariffs imposed by the EU ²⁾ on				
a) agricultural products ³⁾				
- Developing countries (excluding LDCs)		16 ¹⁾	13	14
- LDCs		7 ¹⁾	5	5
b) textile products ³⁾				
- Developing countries (excluding LDCs)		8 ¹⁾	8	7
- LDCs		7 ¹⁾	7	7
c) clothing products ³⁾				
- Developing countries (excluding LDCs)		13 ¹⁾	12	12
- LDCs		13 ¹⁾	12	12
Agricultural support estimate for the EU ²⁾ as a percentage of GDP	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.3
Agricultural support estimate for the EU ²⁾ in volume (USD billion)	125.0	140.8	97.5	150.6
Indicators for Sweden alone	1990	1995	2000	2004
Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA provided to help build trade policy and regulations capacity ⁴⁾			0.6 ⁽²⁰⁰¹⁾	0.3
Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA provided to help build trade development capacity ⁴⁾			0.3 ⁽²⁰⁰¹⁾	0.5

Source: OECD, UNCTAD/WTO

* Statistics for 2005 are not available.

¹⁾ 1996

²⁾ Total, European Union

³⁾ According to the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) principle.

⁴⁾ Series available as of 2001



Sustainable debt burdens

Sweden has long been involved in the task of helping the poorest countries of the world to reduce their debts to sustainable levels. As early as 1978, the Swedish Government decided to write off virtually all outstanding development loans and to thereafter provide only grants in order to help the developing countries keep down their debt burdens. As a result, Sweden today has no major debt claims in the developing world, but is nevertheless continuing to contribute financially to debt relief schemes and to provide budgetary support to indebted poor countries.

Sweden supports the decision of the G8 countries¹² taken in Gleneagles in 2005¹³ to write off the debts of the most heavily indebted countries, and will finance its part of the cost of this initiative. Countries seeking to have all or part of their debts written off are required to pursue economic policies that aim to reduce

poverty. Sweden actively sought an arrangement whereby the World Bank and African Development Bank windows for soft loans (the IDA and the AfDF respectively) would be compensated for the writeoffs, so that their resources to poor countries would not be reduced because of the loss of future repayments. This secures future funding to the poorest countries and enables achievement of the Millennium Development Goals to be speeded up.

Sweden is also pressing for full financing of the debt relief initiative for heavily indebted poor countries, known as the HIPC Initiative.¹⁴ Sweden has contributed to the HIPC Trust Fund for Debt Relief on a number of occasions, providing SEK 545 million in all. This does not count the Swedish part of the funding paid in by the European Development Fund, which totals approximately USD 18 million. Sweden has declared its willingness to contribute further to the fund together with other donors.

¹² The G8 group comprises Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the UK, the US and the EU.

¹³ Eighteen low-income countries already have access to the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) from Gleneagles, and a total of 40 – most of them in Africa – are covered by it.

¹⁴ Introduced by the World Bank and the IMF in 1996. It involves coordinated action by the international community aimed at reducing the debt burdens of the poorest and most heavily indebted countries to sustainable levels. The funds released through debt relief are earmarked for poverty reducing measures.



DEBT INDICATORS

Indicators for Sweden	1990	1995	2000	2005
Debt forgiveness as a percentage ¹⁾ of ODA	1.5	0.3	2.6 ⁽²⁰⁰¹⁾	1.6*
HIPC debt relief as a percentage of net ODA ²⁾	–	–	1.8 ⁽²⁰⁰¹⁾	6.9 ⁽²⁰⁰³⁾
Proportion of grants (% of total gross ODA)	100	100	99	100*

Source: OECD/DAC

* The statistics for 2005 are preliminary and based on Sweden's reporting to the OECD/DAC.

¹⁾ Bilateral debt relief. Sweden does not have large debt claims in developing countries.

²⁾ Multilateral debt relief through the HIPC-initiative. Contributions are based on the IMF's and the World Bank's estimated financing need for the initiative but also on the equal burden sharing among creditors. (The data series starts in 2001).

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is building up a programme for debt management with Swedish support. Sweden is also supporting the efforts of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to develop a framework for sustainable debt in the world's poorest countries.

Through its work on the boards of the various international institutions, Sweden is helping to strengthen the efforts of the IMF to identify and deal with economic vulnerability in individual countries and at regional and global level. This endeavour includes managing countries' unsustainable debts, acting to prevent financial crises, and dealing with the question of the IMF's role in low-income countries.

In the EU, the IMF and the G10 group,¹⁵ Sweden is contributing to the development of mechanisms for external government borrowing designed to avert financial crises. Sweden has also called attention to the need for clearer guidelines for the renegotiation of a country's foreign debt, including debts to private lenders.

Swedish NGOs are taking an active part in the debate on poor countries' debts, and are urging the Government to press for debt relief.

Increased employment opportunities and an efficient labour market

Since 2004, Swedish development cooperation has been placing special emphasis on job creation and efficient labour markets. Employment represents an all-important but oft-neglected link between economic growth and poverty reduction. Also, it is one of the keys to equitable globalisation. Priority areas for the Swedish Government are labour market policy, unemployment, people without access to the formal economy, and the implementation of international conventions for the protection of people's right

to work. Contributing to the efforts of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to protect the freedoms and rights of members of employer organisations and trade unions is a matter of special importance for Sweden.

A properly functioning labour market helps to reduce poverty and has a favourable impact on income distribution in a country. An efficient business sector and stable growth are necessary conditions for the creation of more jobs. The private sector accounts for easily the largest proportion of jobs in the poorest countries. It is vital, therefore, to improve conditions for entrepreneurship and to ensure that acceptable working conditions prevail in the business sector. Providing women and young people with greater opportunities to find work and support themselves is a matter of particular urgency.

Through Sida, Sweden has been building up a body of knowledge over the past year on the link between economic growth and employment policy. These perspectives are being integrated more closely into country strategies and programmes. In 2005, a partnership agreement was concluded between Sida and the ILO on support for a range of programmes aimed at stimulating employment, strengthening rights in working life and developing the organisation's analytical capacity. This joint undertaking is part of the Swedish Government's efforts to give employment issues a more prominent place on the international agenda, with the backing of such bodies as the ILO, the rest of the UN system, the World Bank and the African Union.

At the end of 2005, Sweden organised an international conference in Stockholm entitled *Work Ahead*, focusing on the link between employment and reduced poverty. The conference discussed what the international community can do to create more and better jobs for poor people.



¹⁵ The G10 group includes the finance ministers and central bank governors of Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the US.

Important issues for the Swedish Government in this area are trade, investment, right of ownership and opportunities for borrowing money. In most developing countries, working life is dominated by the informal sector, where wage-setting and working conditions are unregulated. Excessively rapid formalisation of this sector, however, may remove people's only source of income, which is why change here must proceed gradually. Sweden is drawing attention to the importance of eliminating obstacles for small and medium sized enterprises, and is supporting global networks operating in the informal sector of the labour market.

Productive work for young people in developing countries

Young men and women throughout the world are finding it increasingly difficult to break into the labour market. Unemployment is higher among young people aged 15–24 than among adults in general. According to the ILO, unemployment is three times as great among young people as among adults, and is higher among young women than among young men.

Youth unemployment represents a threat to stable, long-term economic and social development. Young people who are both poor and unemployed risk being drawn into criminality and prostitution, or being recruited by actors in armed conflicts or terrorist networks. This may in turn lead to an increased spread of communicable diseases and instability in society. Countries that are able to create opportunities for productive work among young people can help reduce the potential for conflict and criminality. To boost youth employment, Sweden has increased its support for the global *Youth Employment Network*, which is a joint project run by the UN, the World Bank and the ILO.

Access to health care and essential medicines

Health promoting initiatives are crucial to economic development and poverty reduction. One important area is the development of preventive public health systems that provide universal access at affordable prices to basic health and medical care, including essential medicines. Major investments will be needed, however, if new drugs are to be developed, as the process involves extensive research and trials. The protection of intellectual property rights, such as patents, is frequently required. Meanwhile, there is a severe lack of access to existing medicines. With few exceptions, low and middle income countries seldom have the capacity to manufacture expensive patented drugs themselves, or to import them. When these countries face serious public health problems, they must be able to import cheap copies of patented drugs.

Sweden has urged that countries experiencing national health crises should be allowed to produce drugs without having to pay licence fees. Such an opportunity presented itself as the result of a WTO decision on TRIPs¹⁶ and health in 2003. In the run-up to the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong in 2005, agreement was reached on how this change was to be introduced.

Sweden is involved both bilaterally and multilaterally in the task of strengthening the health sector in poor countries. An important partner in this endeavour is the World Health Organisation (WHO). Sweden also makes important contributions via the EU's development assistance programme. Sweden is one of the largest donor countries involved in funding research on tropical diseases and other causes of ill-health in poor countries with inadequate health and medical care systems.

¹⁶ The WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.



Combating communicable diseases

More than a quarter of all deaths in the world are caused by communicable diseases which it is often possible to prevent, alleviate or cure. Poor people tend to lack the means to protect themselves against infection, and are afflicted to a greater extent and with more severe consequences than people in high-income countries. Besides the human suffering involved, poverty-related diseases are also a threat to development in general. Preventive work and greater support for treatment are required, while at the same time efforts must be made to prevent people from developing resistance.

In 2005, the Government adopted a strategic action plan for 2006–2008 specifying how Sweden intends to contribute to the global fight against communicable diseases.

Sweden also contributes actively to the WHO's revised rules for the international surveillance of serious outbreaks of disease and for combating the spread of infection. These International Health Regulations (IHR) also apply to capacity building in poor countries. The aim is for the international community to create an efficient global system for monitoring and responding to serious outbreaks of diseases that risk spreading. Sweden's continued support to the WHO is aimed at helping poor countries to gain better access to efficient health systems with sufficient health staff. The EU, too, has adopted an action plan for combating poverty-related disease, including support to such systems.

Sweden has significantly increased its support to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI), and also belongs to the original circle of donors to a new international financing mechanism for immunisation, the IFFIm. With this mechanism in place, GAVI

expects the chances of reducing child mortality (Millennium Development Goal 4) to improve significantly.

The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) is of great importance in combating these communicable diseases. Some 1.8 million people have been given access to antiretroviral drugs against AIDS, and a further five million have been treated for tuberculosis. Over 260 million combination drug treatments against malaria have been funded, and 109 million mosquito nets have been distributed to protect families against the disease. More than half of the funding has gone to Africa. Sweden drastically increased its contribution to the Global Fund in 2005 and will increase it further in 2006.

Avian flu continues to spread. Sweden makes contributions to the WHO and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) for the purpose of enhancing food safety and combating the spread of the disease.

Combating HIV/AIDS

Today, some 40 million people around the world have HIV or AIDS. This is a record figure. In southern Africa in particular, HIV and AIDS remain an ongoing disaster, but there is reason for growing concern in parts of Asia and Europe as well. The most rapid increases are to be found in Estonia, Russia, Belarus and Ukraine.

Sweden emphasises the importance of working with the whole chain of measures – from prevention to treatment, care, research, and action to alleviate the effects of the pandemic. In Sweden's case, however, the focus is on preventive work, including such sensitive issues as sexuality, access to condoms, gender equality and power relations in society.

HIV and AIDS cannot be properly combated without the presence of an efficient international



system. Sweden's support includes significantly increased core funding to UN bodies such as the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and a contribution to the UNAIDS/WHO initiative '3 by 5'. This initiative aimed to ensure that three million people had access to antiretroviral drugs against AIDS by the end of 2005. The target was not reached, but thanks to the initiative the number of people receiving antiretroviral drugs increased to 1.4 million. Sweden is continuing its financial commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS and will step up its contribution in 2006.



Sweden is assisting Tanzania over a three-year period with the implementation of a plan of treatment for HIV, developed with the help of the Clinton Foundation.¹⁷

The fight against illicit drugs is important if the spread of HIV/AIDS is to be halted. The infection, however, is not spread by injection abuse alone. Drugs also increase risk behaviour and thereby contribute to the spread of other sexually transmitted diseases. Sweden is cooperating with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and is also supporting the work of a Swedish NGO in the Golden Triangle between Burma, Thailand and Laos.

Access to Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Information and communications technology (ICT) is a powerful tool for economic growth and social development. If its potential can be fully realised in the developing countries, it can contribute significantly to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Today, almost

two thirds of the global population lack access to new technology in the form of computers and mobile phones.

Sweden is one of the leading countries in the ICT field and takes part in a number of international cooperation programmes relating to the application of ICT for development. One of the issues emphasised at the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunis in 2005 was the link between ICT and the MDGs. Sweden was proactive in seeking to include representatives of the business community and civil society at the meeting, and helped to ensure that the UN summit become the first to have a broader attendance.

Sweden is actively involved in promoting ICT development in poor countries. A Swedish network, SPIDER,¹⁸ has been established to coordinate the ICT work of Swedish academic institutions in developing countries. The chief sponsors are the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) and Sida. Board members include representatives of the Swedish telecom company Ericsson.

Sweden contributes direct support for ICT development to a number of countries, including Rwanda, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Vietnam. It also provides assistance to universities and research institutes in developing countries for the purpose of building up Internet capacity.

A study financed by Sida and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) on ICT awareness and use in rural areas has been carried out in Tanzania. It showed that the population had either very little knowledge of computers or none at all. Awareness of mobile phones, however, was considerably greater. As a result, Ericsson has launched a programme for the expansion of the mobile phone network and its applications in Tanzania. Cooperation with Sida and the UNDP aimed at disseminating the favourable effects of this initiative is also in place.

¹⁷ An American charity organisation working with a range of issues including global health.

¹⁸ The Swedish Program for ICT in Developing Regions.

Other Resource Flows to Developing Countries

Development assistance represents only a small part of the overall flow of resources to the developing countries. Both knowledge and money are largely transferred through unofficial channels. The main non-official resource flows to developing countries comprise migrants, foreign direct investments and NGOs.

Migrants' transfers of money and knowledge

Of the world's 200 million migrants, only eight million are refugees or otherwise displaced. This means that the great majority emigrate in order to find work, to study or for family reasons. Sweden is working actively to bring the link between migration and development onto the international agenda. In September 2006, the UN General Assembly will be holding a High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, based on the conclusions from the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM),¹⁹ initiated *inter alia* by Sweden. The GCIM report makes clear that migration can benefit development both in the country of origin and in the host country. In his report to the dialogue session, the UN Secretary-General proposes the establishment of an intergovernmental global forum where member states can discuss migration-related issues. Sweden supports this proposal.

Sweden also argues that greater note should be taken of the synergies between international migration and development policy. Much more needs to be known about the impact of remittances – the money that migrants send home to their native countries – on development. It is also worth making a closer study of how remittances are used by female and male recipients respectively. In all, the world volume of remit-

tances last year was USD 232 billion – which is more than the total volume of international development assistance during the same period. These remittances, which are private assets, are important not just to the migrants themselves and their families and social networks but also to the recipient countries in general. They help to boost both the consumption of goods and services and investments in these countries. Sweden emphasises, however, that the remittances should not lead to a reduction in overall ODA.

The high transaction costs for remittances means that a large share of the money is not registered through formal channels. The EU has begun examining the various payment flows more carefully with a view to strengthening competition between them. The aim is to create more cost-effective systems so as to prevent illegal transactions. Sweden strongly supports this move.

The favourable effects of circular migration – i.e. when migrants legally move backwards and forwards between their country or origin and their host country and thereby contribute knowledge and promote development in the long term – warrants attention and should be analysed more closely.

Foreign direct investments

Private flows of capital greatly exceed the annual total flows of ODA. Private investments that



¹⁹ The Global Commission on International Migration

companies and investors in high-income countries make in developing countries are often of considerable importance in promoting employment, knowledge development, transfers of technology and economic growth.

Trade and investments that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable have a greater development impact. Consequently, Sweden works actively to integrate social and environmental aspects into trade and investment policies. Sweden has for instance gained support in UNCTAD for its position that greater attention should be paid to investments emphasising the importance of good governance and promoting the kind of development that is sustainable in the long term. At national level, the Swedish Government is seeking to encourage Swedish enterprises to integrate social and environmental aspects into their trade relations.

To this end, a special secretariat, the *Swedish Partnership for Global Responsibility*, was established in 2002 at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. This initiative aims to promote the work

of Swedish enterprises with human rights, basic working conditions, the fight against corruption, and environmental improvement, based on the international conventions and standards established in the OECD's guidelines for multinational companies and in the UN's Global Compact.²⁰

High risks represent an obstacle to investment in developing countries. Swedish companies that invest in these countries can be supplied with export credit guarantees via the Export Credit Guarantee Board (EKN).²¹ In 2005, investment protection agreements were negotiated with a number of countries, including Ghana, Uganda, Iran and Armenia. The EKN and the Swedish Trade Council have been assigned by the Government to develop their work with ethical issues, in line with the Global Responsibility initiative. Special consideration is to be given in the case of credit guarantees provided to heavily indebted LDCs. In this way, Swedish government-sponsored provision of export credits and credit guarantees can help promote sustainable development in society.

²⁰ The Global Compact is an international initiative launched in 2000 that calls for cooperation between the UN, the private sector and civil society on strengthening compliance with international principles governing things like human rights, the environment, corruption, and acceptable economic and social conditions.

²¹ A government agency that offers guarantees against different kinds of risks in export dealings.

INDICATORS FOR OTHER RESOURCE FLOWS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Indicators for Sweden	1990	1995	2000	2005
Volume of remittances by migrants (SEK million) ¹⁾	82	113	315	371 ⁽²⁰⁰⁴⁾
Volume of Foreign Direct Investment to developing countries (US\$ million)	117 ²⁾	202 ²⁾	681 ²⁾	430*
Foreign Direct Investment to developing countries as percentage of GNI	0.05 ²⁾	0.09 ²⁾	0.30 ²⁾	0.12*
Grants by Private Voluntary Organisations/NGOs/ Foundations as a percentage of GNI	0.06	0.02	0.01	0.01 ⁽²⁰⁰⁴⁾

Source: Swedish Central Bank, OECD

* The statistics for 2005 are preliminary and based on Sweden's reporting to the OECD/DAC.

¹ It is not possible to correctly register the income that immigrants earn in Sweden and send home. The figures are based on the applications for transfer but the limit on these applications has been set at SEK 150 000 since 2002. Even if corrections have been made the amounts transferred are probably larger than shown. Large sums are also transferred informally.

² Calculated on a 3-year average basis, for 1989-91, 1994-96 and 1999-01.



Sweden is taking an active part in the efforts of the International Standardisation Organisation (ISO) to develop international guidelines for social accountability. A Swedish priority here is making sure that standards are not lowered in respect of the environment, health and basic human rights in the EU's bilateral and regional agreements with developing countries.

Sweden holds the presidency of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA). Via this office, Sweden is, inter alia, pressing for the establishment of similar agencies in developing countries.

The importance of NGOs for global development

Sweden has a strong, enduring tradition of widespread support for international solidarity. Numerous Swedish popular movements, trade unions, churches and religious communities, research institutes, the cooperative movement and many other bodies work actively with development assistance and solidarity. Together, they have had a powerful impact on the way Swedish international development cooperation has evolved. By their often lengthy presence in developing countries and their close cooperation with local bodies, these organisations help raise awareness in Sweden and enhance people's understanding of the purpose and importance of development assistance.

In 2005, the Government's funding of Swedish NGO activities for development cooperation amounted to over SEK 1 billion. These organisations often play a vital role in informing and educating the Swedish public.

Swedish NGOs and their local partners also help ensure that the poverty reduction strategies of the developing countries gain acceptance among the people, and their actions enable various groups in civil society to participate in important processes. In addition, local organisations have an important role to play as critical monitors of domestic policies.

Swedish NGOs also actively promote and critically monitor Sweden's development cooperation work. In 2006, Swedish popular movements for the first time presented a joint evaluation of Swedish global policy in the fields of trade, development assistance, security and debt cancellation.²² The report describes Swedish development policy up to 2006 as satisfactory in terms of aid levels, exports from poor countries, disarmament and arms control, and civilian crisis management. It found the Government's performance less satisfactory as regards trade in war materials, poor countries' scope for political action, and efforts relating to illegitimate debts.²³

The Government's millennium campaign, *The Chance of a Lifetime*, which aims to raise awareness of the UN's Millennium Development Goals among the Swedish public, ended in 2005. It proved a success, and 57 per cent of the Swedish people stated in the autumn of 2005 that they were aware of the goals. In this respect, Sweden is better informed than the average country in Europe. As of 2006, *The chance of a Lifetime* campaign is continuing under the leadership of the Swedish UN Association and the UNDP's Swedish office, with the support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.



²² The report was produced by the Africa Groups of Sweden, Diakonia, Forum Syd, the Swedish Cooperative Centre, the Swedish Fellowship of Recognition, and the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society.

²³ Some actors contend that loans taken by dictatorships, or where the funds have not been used for pro-poor purposes, should be regarded as immoral or 'illegitimate', and that these should not therefore need to be repaid. Various efforts are currently under way to examine whether this approach is viable in practice and whether broad international agreement on such a course can be achieved.

Human rights

The Declaration of Human Rights states that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. These rights are universal and apply to each and every one, irrespective of their country, their culture and their specific situation. Over the past few decades, the UN and most regional organisations have adopted a wide range of instruments relating to fundamental freedoms and rights in order to protect individuals and groups from abuse, and so as to meet people's basic needs.

To a great extent, the aim has been the realisation of all human rights, as these are crucial to the achievement of fair and sustainable global development. By adopting a rights perspective, Sweden's Policy for Global Development seeks to bring human rights into all policy areas. This perspective, along with the perspective of the poor on development, helps to shift the focus from individuals as objects to individuals as actors, from privilege and charity to rights and obligations.

In the EU, Sweden is seeking to ensure that human rights inform all of the Union's activities. The efforts of the United Nations to mainstream human rights into the entire UN system are receiving active Swedish support. In its capacity as president of the UN General Assembly in 2005/2006, Sweden has played an important role and helped to establish a Human Rights Council. Both in the various networks of the OECD/DAC²⁴ and in the World Bank, Sweden is actively seeking the integration of a rights perspective into all development activities. In March 2006, Sweden adopted a second national action plan for human rights. It established among other things that training in human rights was to be provided continuously both at the Government Offices and among government agencies to ensure that they properly understood their responsibilities in this area. It also established a human rights task force whose duties will include mainstreaming the rights

Together with a number of other countries, Sweden has launched an independent high-level commission²⁵ to promote the legal rights of the poor. This body has a broad mandate embracing not only the formal sector and formal ownership but also the right of use and access to common resources, employment and the labour market. The commission also acknowledges the informal sector's potential for poverty reduction and seeks to integrate this sector into society.

perspective into all public activities, assisting Swedish government agencies in their work, and raising awareness of human rights among the general public.

The Swedish Government is planning to hold an international conference on national action plans by 2008 at the latest.

The elderly and the disabled are particularly vulnerable groups in society, and Sweden is actively seeking to enhance their protection by helping to produce a special UN convention on the human rights of people with disabilities. The Swedish Government is also supporting the participation in this work of NGO representatives from the developing countries. Together with the Nordic countries, Sweden has focused in the WHO on the situation of the disabled. In other parts of the UN system, too, Sweden has joined Mexico in promoting this group's human rights.

²⁴ The OECD's Development Assistance Committee

²⁵ The High Level Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor



Gender equality

Gender discrimination is both a cause of poverty and an obstacle to development. Today, most of the poor in the world are women, and their share of overall poverty is increasing. Poverty among women is expressed both in a lack of economic resources and in that they have less opportunities than men to influence their lives. Gender equality and an improvement in the situation of women and girls are both crucial to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Sweden is pressing for equality between women and men to be given priority in all international cooperation. Sweden's actions at the international level are based both on Swedish gender equality policy and goals and on international agreements and commitments. The overarching goal of Swedish gender equality policy is for women and men to have the same power to shape society and their own lives.

In 2006, the Swedish Government launched a special gender equality initiative in the development cooperation field. The initiative has three priority areas: gender mainstreaming, health, and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for women and girls and gender-related violence.

Women and girls must have the right to decide over their own bodies and to take decisions on matters relating to sexuality and childbirth. In 2005, the Swedish Government adopted a new policy for international cooperation in the field of SRHR. This is a broad field ranging over such issues as male roles and responsibilities in gender equality work, the rights of homosexuals, bisexuals and transsexuals, access to contraceptives and safe abortions. The Government intends to continue pursuing these issues regionally, in the EU, and internationally. Sweden actively supports the proposal to establish a new target specifically dealing with SRHR under Millennium Development Goal 5 (Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality rate by 2015).

Steps must be taken to combat trafficking in human beings, especially women and children,

for prostitution purposes. During the 2004-2006 period, Sweden and the US are financing a joint project aimed at developing strategies and measures for combating prostitution and trafficking, both in the EU member states and in specially selected countries in Eastern Europe, including the Balkans.

Strengthening the position of women and their chances of taking part in peace processes and reconstruction undertakings is a key aim in Sweden's efforts to promote peace and security. UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women and peace and security emphasises the importance of women taking part at all stages of the peace work on equal terms, and also its importance of achieving lasting peace. In June 2006, the Swedish Government adopted a national action plan for the implementation of this resolution. In 2006, Sweden will be providing special assistance to the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to help the agency build capacity for dealing with issues concerning the vulnerability of women and girls in conflict situations and also concerning their role in post-conflict situations and reconstruction.

In 2004, the Swedish Government adopted a plan for the implementation of gender mainstreaming at the Government Offices. The plan is to run until 2009 and focuses on different areas each year. In 2006, the focus will be on the gender disaggregation of statistics on individuals and on mainstreaming gender equality into the management of public administration.



Goal 7



Ensure environmental sustainability



Goal 7 is about integrating the principles of sustainable development into national policies. The measures introduced are to focus on forests, biodiversity, energy use and carbon dioxide emissions. The number of people lacking access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation is to be halved by 2015, and the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers are to be significantly improved by 2020.

The environment and sustainable development


The environmental, social and economic aspects of development are closely interrelated. Economic growth is essential to poverty reduction and helps bring about development. A good environment and proper care of natural resources are important both for long-term economic growth and for the chances of poor people to support themselves, and consequently for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Sweden has acknowledged this close interdependence ever since environmental care was introduced as an ODA goal in 1988. In 2006, an estimated 50 per cent of Swedish development projects and programmes will focus principally on the environment or include environmental care as an important subgoal.

Environment issues transcend boundaries, which means Sweden has to establish a link between its national policy for sustainable development and its Policy for Global Development. Sweden's strategy is based on a long-term vision of sustainable development, covering all aspects – economic, social and environmental – and is constantly monitored. It takes into account both global efforts in pursuit of sustainable development, e.g. in the UN, and the EU sustainable development strategy.

In a number of different international forums, including the UN, the EU and the World Bank, Sweden is actively seeking to integrate environment protection into poverty reduction. Sweden is also working with other EU member states to ensure that the international environment con-

ventions and the WTO agreements do not conflict with one another but act together to strengthen both environmental care and free trade.

Sweden has established a number of national environmental quality objectives. One of these emphasises the importance of securing biodiversity. Sweden is working strategically to mainstream the biodiversity goals into those public sectors that deal directly or indirectly with the sustainable use of natural resources. Another national environmental quality objective is for the environment to be free from substances and metals created by human society, or extracted by it, that may threaten public health and biodiversity. The Swedish Government is working actively to reduce the use and spread of toxic substances, through prohibitions and other means.



In 2006, Sweden is presiding over the Council of Baltic Sea States, where environment and energy are one of a number of areas of cooperation in pursuit of regional development. The presidency covers a range of activities, including information campaigns focusing on what private individuals can do to help promote sustainable development. Also, Sweden will be hosting a joint meeting of environment and agriculture ministers in April 2007 at which the agenda will include rural development issues in the Baltic Sea region.

In 2004, the Government announced the 'Environment Billion' programme, under which funding to environmental care initiatives are to be gradually increased by SEK 1 billion in up to 2008. Part of this programme will focus on environmental technology, an area in which Sweden has extensive skill and experience. This will meet the need for ecological consideration and economic growth both in Sweden and in developing countries. Based on assessments of requirements in the developing countries, Sweden has chosen to give priority to the following areas:

Water and sanitation

Sustainable economic and social development is not possible unless poor people are given long-term access to water. Sweden is taking an active part in the international dialogue on how MDG 7 – on halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation – is to be achieved. The Government is cooperating with such bodies as the Global Water Partnership, the UNDP and the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

In the field of sustainable sanitation, Sweden has cutting-edge skills, particularly with regard to small-scale technology, research and method development. Such activities are being supported in a number of places, including China, Mexico, South Africa and Uganda. A school sanitation programme is also planned, as inadequate sanitation in developing countries sometimes forces girls to leave school prematurely.

Sweden is maintaining its own supply of water and sanitation by such means as the implementation of national environmental quality objectives, the protection of water sources and the implementation of the EU's framework water directive. It has also introduced a new law on public water and sanitation delivery.

Chemical safety

In order to protect people and the environment, the use of dangerous chemicals must be reduced and hazardous waste disposal must be improved. A global chemicals strategy was adopted at a ministerial conference in Dubai in 2006, designed to improve the enforcement of standards and to help countries fulfil international commitments. Sweden was proactive in this work. The strategy will enable the global community to finally adopt an integrated, holistic approach aimed at reducing health risks and environmental damage

associated with chemicals in a lifecycle perspective. The chemicals strategy will also serve as an instrument whereby countries can improve national controls, while at the same time capacity-building support will be made available so that they can fulfil their international commitments.

Over the past year, Sweden has nominated additional chemicals for inclusion in the Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention, including mercury and the pesticide paraquat. In many developing countries, mercury is used in the extraction of gold, a practice that may severely damage the environment.

Renewable energy and the climate

Sweden's efforts in the climate and energy field seek to achieve a fairer distribution of the world's natural resources. One long-term objective is to bring the scope allowed the industrialised countries and the developing countries in terms of average emissions per capita closer together. Among the instruments being used to transform the Swedish energy system and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases are energy and carbon dioxide taxes, a 'green' electricity certificate system, emissions trading, programmes for increased energy efficiency, the Climate Investment Programme, pilot funding for windpower, legislation, public procurement and environmental management systems.

Minimising the use of fossil fuels is a crucial means of reducing the risk of severe climate change resulting from the greenhouse effect. A special commission on oil dependence was set up in 2005 and instructed to present concrete proposals on how various public sectors might help reduce Sweden's dependence on oil.

Sweden is pursuing an ambitious climate policy that aims to reduce national emissions of greenhouse gases and together with other countries pave the way for long-term policies that limit climate change at the global level. One important task is to put in place a global climate regime after 2012, when the Kyoto Protocol's first commitment period expires.

Sweden has managed to reduce national emissions of greenhouse gases since 1990 while at the same time maintaining a sound level of economic growth. Sweden's experience in this respect is important in an international perspective, as it shows that the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions does not necessarily hamper economic growth.

Sustainable urban development

Changes in economic circumstances leads a growing number of people to leave rural areas and traditional farm employment for the city, where their chances of finding paid work are greater. Rapid urban growth without properly planned water, sanitation, energy and traffic systems has meant that environmental problems in towns and cities have increased and become a major challenge in the fight against poverty. Today, over a billion people live in slum areas, and this figure is growing rapidly. MDG 7 aims to achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

Sweden and China are currently engaged in a joint project entitled *The Sustainable City* – aiming for sustainable urban development backed by Swedish environmental technology – in two pilot towns in Inner Mongolia. The project involves environmentally sound water and sanitation, transport, energy and waste disposal systems. There are also *Sustainable City* projects in Sweden. The Stockholm suburb of Hammarby Sjöstad, for instance, has its own ecocycle.





Sweden also supports the *Clear Air Initiative* network, which is working in Asia to create alternatives to slum dwelling.

Air pollution with particular emphasis on acidification has long been a Swedish profile issue, and additional funding is to be provided in this area to various regional projects.

Sustainable use of natural resources and care of the environment

Environmental degradation and natural resource depletion are causes of human poverty and armed conflict and also a result of them. Over a billion of the poorest people in the world live in rural areas and along the coasts and are dependent for their support on local biodiversity and on the ecosystem.

Sweden is actively seeking the development of an international regime for access to – and equitable distribution of – the yields from genetic resources. In the UN’s World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and in the WTO,

Sweden is working with the question of how for instance specifications of origin in patent applications are an effective way of developing such a regime. Via the *Global Crop Diversity Trust*²⁶ Sweden is involved in the establishment of gene banks and other measures aimed at preserving biodiversity.

Sweden has long been supporting regional networks and gene banks in southern and eastern Africa to enable countries in the region to preserve and sustainably use plant genetic resources, and similar efforts are planned for southern Caucasus and Central Asia.

Education, capacity building and environment management

Developing countries need strong institutions and administrations capable of pursuing environmental goals at home and also able to take part in international environment efforts. To this end, Swedish institutions are working with their counterparts in the developing countries to enhance

²⁶ An international fund launched in 2004 to ensure the conservation and availability of crop diversity for food security worldwide.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS

Indicators for Sweden

	1990	1995	2000	2005
Percentage of land area covered by forest	66.5	–	66.7	66.9
Percentage of surface area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area	5.4	6.5	9.1	9.2
Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per US\$ 1000 GDP (PPP) ¹	258.4	264.7	218.4	228.5 ⁽²⁰⁰²⁾
Carbon dioxide emissions (metric ton per capita)	6.6	6.5	5.9	6.2 ⁽²⁰⁰³⁾
Consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs ² (ODP-tons)	1818.0	215.4 ⁽¹⁹⁹⁴⁾	–	–

Source: FAO, UNEP-WCMC, World Bank, UNFCCC, UNSD

¹ PPP = Purchasing Power Parities

² CFC = Chlorofluorocarbons

education, training and capacity building. Sweden's National Chemicals Inspectorate, for instance, is helping developing countries to draft laws and build up institutions for the training of public administrative experts.

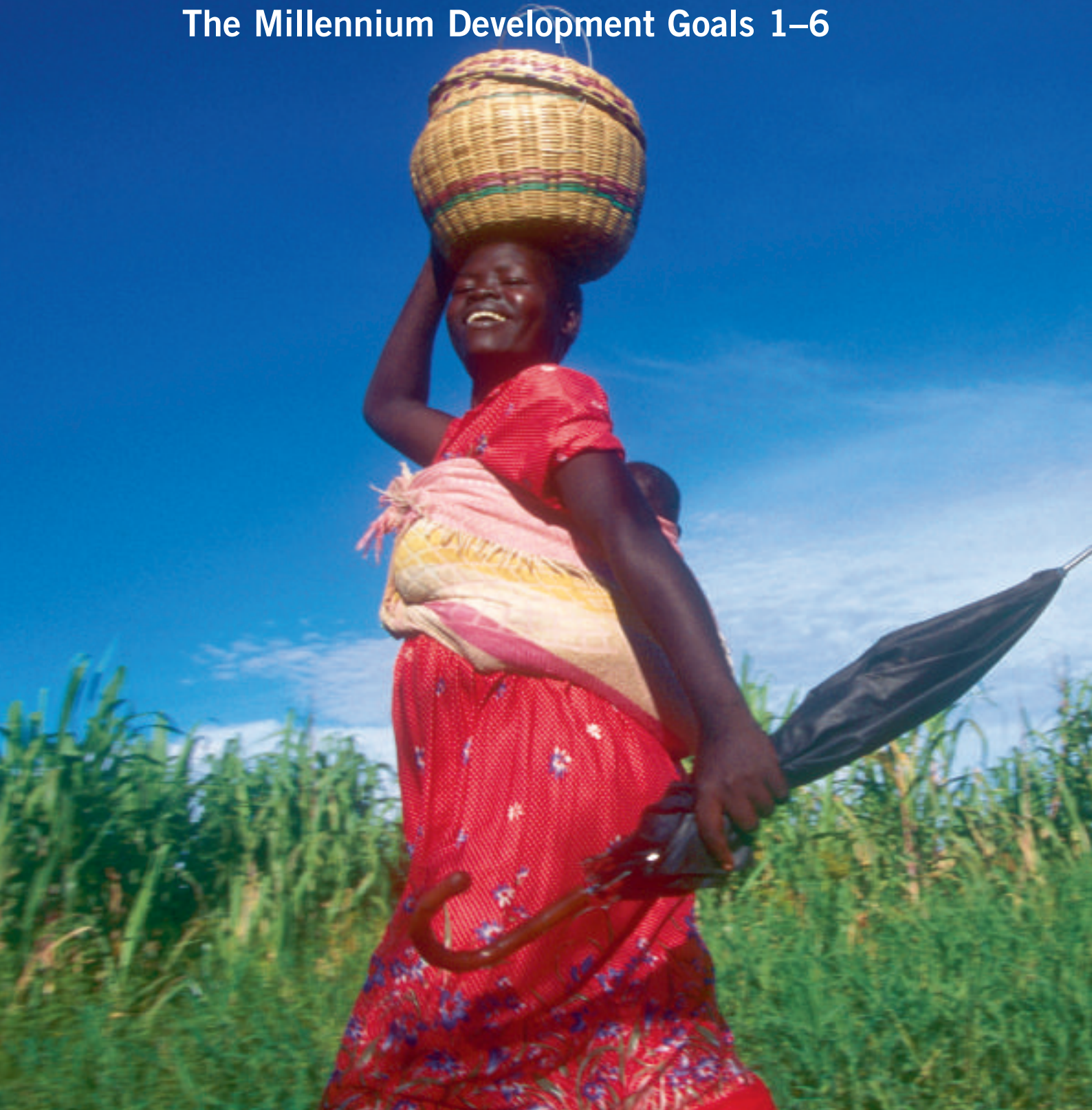
Proper environmental management is crucial to the implementation of national plans for sustainable development. Sida is supporting SEMLA (Strengthening the Environment Management and Land Administration) in Vietnam. This project aims to support Vietnam's environment protection agency in its efforts to strengthen environmental management at central, provincial and local level. Sida is providing SEK 200 million in funding over a five-year period.

In 2006, Sweden introduced an amendment to its Higher Education Act as a result of which sustainable development is to become a general goal of Swedish higher education. New programme objectives for Swedish upper secondary schools will apply from 2007, requiring sustainable development to be mainstreamed into all education at this level. A campaign targeting young people on how the Baltic Sea area can be cleaned up is currently under way.



Annex 1

The Millennium Development Goals 1–6



Supporting the efforts of developing countries

Sweden is supporting the partner countries in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The following section gives examples of specific activities in pursuit of MDGs 1–6.

MDG 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

Today, 1.1 billion people are living on less than a dollar a day. The number of extremely poor has declined by 130 million since 1990. Progress in this respect, however, has differed from place to place around the world, and the substantial decline in numbers is due primarily to poverty reduction in China and India. The proportion of poor in Latin America and the Arab countries, however, has not declined. In sub-Saharan Africa, in Eastern Europe and in Central Asia it has actually increased. The goal of halved poverty by the

year 2015 will hence be difficult to achieve unless poverty begins to decline in these regions.

If the goal is to be achieved, Sweden together with other countries must help enhance opportunities for poor women and men, families and communities, to improve their lives.

Initiatives focusing on institutions, markets and physical and financial infrastructures help to improve the climate for entrepreneurship and investment. Increased productivity and production in rural areas and among informal entrepreneurs is particularly important in this respect. Likewise, human capital in terms of education and health systems needs to be developed.

Examples of specific initiatives:

The poverty reduction goal is reflected in several of the new development cooperation strategies that Sweden has drawn up together with its



partner countries. One example is Bosnia and Herzegovina, where the development cooperation strategy focuses on areas associated with the underlying causes of poverty. The 2006–2010 strategy objective for Bosnia and Herzegovina is the building of a sustainable state and economic development.

Growth-promoting projects have been implemented in Ethiopia, Zambia and Mozambique. In Zambia, Sweden is supporting the *Agricultural Support Programme* in cooperation with the country's ministry of agriculture. In 2005, some 20,000 smallholder households in four provinces were incorporated into the programme, based on the concept 'Farming is Business'. The programme is currently targeting 40,000 households in all, of which about 30 per cent comprise women farmers. The aim is to improve their incomes and their food security and produce a surplus that can be marketed by environmentally sustainable means. The programme has succeeded in bringing together producers and the market. On average, the small households involved have doubled their annual incomes from SEK 1,500 in 2003 to SEK 3,000 in 2005.



MDG 2 Achieve universal primary education

Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

Raising educational levels is crucial to development in poor countries. Knowledge gives people a chance to demand and help build up a democratic society and also to improve their economic and social prospects. The goal is to ensure that all boys and girls have the opportunity to commence and complete a full course of primary

schooling by 2015. Globally, primary school enrolment is on the increase, but at the present rate of progress the goal may be difficult to achieve by the year 2015.

Latin America and the Caribbean have recorded the strongest advances since 1990. There, primary school enrolment has increased from 86 per cent to 96 per cent. Southern Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and Oceania, however, have made comparatively little progress. The greatest challenge in the educational field is to be found in sub-Saharan Africa, where about half of all children fail to complete their primary school education.

Also, the increase in primary school enrolment does not always mean improvements in quality. Thus extensive reforms are required, not only of teacher training but also of the education system as a whole. Sweden is concentrating on the long-term strengthening of educational systems in poor countries by promoting a non-discriminatory, compulsory and free basic education of good quality. Education for girls is a special priority, along with the fight against HIV and AIDS, as the disease represents a growing obstacle to child education. Sweden is increasingly focusing its support on sectoral programmes where funding from a range of donors is helping to finance the country's own education system.

Examples of specific initiatives:
Sweden is taking part in the *Fast Track Initiative – Education for All* (FTI-EFA)²⁷, the purpose of which is to achieve MDG 2 on universal primary education. In 2005, Sweden presided over the initiative's steering committee, and also presided over the advisory committee of the *UN Girls' Education Initiative*. This has resulted in better coordination of the two initiatives. A study has been carried out to determine how gender

²⁷ Education for All was one of the educational goals adopted at the World Education Forum in Dakar in 2000.

equality concerns have been integrated into the educational plans of the countries involved. Also, an agreement has been reached requiring each partner country in the FTI to carry out gender equality analyses.

Sweden is also supporting one of the programmes of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for boosting school attendance among girls in Afghanistan. This programme has meant that a record number of girls now go to school there. Between 2000 and 2004, school attendance among Afghan girls rose from 12 per cent to 40 per cent. For the 2006–2008 period, Sweden will be contributing SEK 180 million to the programme. This further support aims to boost the proportion of girls who receive at least three years' primary education, not least through the establishment of additional village schools.

MDG 3 Promote gender equality and empower women

Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

Gender discrimination is both a cause of poverty and an obstacle to development. A distinguishing feature of poverty among women is that they have both fewer economic resources and less economic power to influence their lives than men.

Development in terms of gender equality has been generally disparate. One of the greatest advances in this field to date has been the increase noted in the proportion of women parliamentarians, especially in Latin America and the Caribbean. Women's pay has increased in 93 of 131 countries studied, but women nevertheless earn less than men in all countries of the world.

According to the UNDP, Sweden is one of the world leaders in terms of gender equality. This affects our international commitments and initiatives. The promotion of equality between the women and men has been a major Swedish priority in the development cooperation sphere for many years. Sweden works both through direct activities in various countries and by methodically incorporating the gender perspective into all current and planned development operations.

Examples of specific initiatives:

In Kenya, Sweden is working with five women's movements and other actors in civil society to improve women's rights to ownership and their right to inherit land and assets. This is having an impact on legislation, on government bodies and on the right of girls and women to economic security.

Via UNIFEM, Sweden is supporting a project that involves building up capacity and carrying out gender equality analyses of the Central American economy. It brings together secretariats and institutes dealing with women's issues from all the various countries in a regional council. The project has strengthened policy work on gender equality issues related to economic development and poverty reduction throughout Central America.

MDG 4 Reduce child mortality

Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

Globally, the proportion of children who die before the age of five has declined from 10.3 per cent to 8.8 per cent. This is an important advance,



but if the MDGs are to be achieved by the year 2015, progress must be faster. Some 11 million children under five are still dying every year. Most die from preventable diseases, from starvation or from insufficient breastfeeding.

Substantial progress in this area in a short time is, however, possible. Egypt, for instance, has reduced child mortality by over 60 per cent since 1990, and most of the countries in the Arab region have reduced the rate by over 75 per cent since 1970. Africa has the largest proportion of deaths among children under five and has a long way to go to achieve MDG 4. Many of the diseases that affect children are common ones and can be prevented at low cost if the right measures are taken. The HIV/AIDS epidemic, however, is exerting severe pressure on medical resources in Africa and is thus limiting other medical efforts.

If infant mortality is to decline, maternity care needs to be improved. Early and lengthy breastfeeding gives the child the right nutrition, immunity and security. Vaccinations against the most common diseases are also vital if child mortality is to decline. Sweden, therefore, is focusing its efforts primarily on strengthening the various countries' health systems for maternal and child health care.

Examples of specific initiatives:

Via the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI), Sweden is directly contributing to the reduction of child mortality by reaching poor families with vaccinations against the most common forms of disease. In 2005, Swedish funding to GAVI totalled SEK 100 million.

Sweden has also contributed SEK 500 million to the improvement of child health and maternity care in Bangladesh over a five-year period, with good results to date.

MDG 5 Improve maternal health

Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

Despite the international initiatives launched more than 20 years ago to reduce maternal mortality, the results have not been satisfactory. Over half a million women a year are still dying in conjunction with pregnancy or childbirth. Of these deaths, 98 per cent occur in developing countries. Some of the deaths are due to unsafe abortions.

Statistics in this area are unreliable, which makes it difficult to say whether progress is sufficiently fast to reduce maternal mortality by three quarters by 2015. Estimates show that sub-Saharan Africa, South and South-Eastern Asia and Oceania will all find it difficult to achieve the target in time. Many developing countries, however, among them Gambia, Bangladesh and Egypt, have made considerable progress in this field.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), a woman's right to her own health and body, and people's opportunities for planning their reproductive lives are all important dimensions in pursuit of lower child and maternal mortality rates. SRHR is a special priority area in the Swedish development cooperation programme. It embraces such aspects as HIV and AIDS, other sexually transmittable diseases, and access to birth control devices and safe abortions. Sweden supports initiatives that enhance access both to safe abortions and to effective aftercare. This involves information dissemination and advocacy aimed at liberalising laws, improving access to information on abortions, training staff and improving access to abortion services.



Examples of specific initiatives:

In Africa, Sweden is supporting *Ipas*, an organisation set up to increase women's ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights and to reduce deaths and injuries from unsafe abortions. Sweden is helping to fund the organisation's efforts to train health care staff by providing SEK 13.9 million for the period 2004–2007. *Ipas* also seeks to liberalise abortion legislation, and its work in this area has meant that it is now easier for women in Ethiopia to obtain access to safe abortions.

Sweden is also contributing SEK 420 million over a four-year period to improve maternal and child health care in Uganda. A further aim of this contribution is to focus attention on the SRHR issue, especially on the rights of women and girls.

MDG 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Combating the HIV/AIDS epidemic is the only Millennium Development Goal where the trend is negative. The epidemic continues to spread. Today, some 40 million people are infected. Due to its grave consequences, HIV/AIDS represents the most serious threat to development in the countries worst hit. At the same time, HIV is today spreading most rapidly in some of the regions that still have relatively few carriers of the disease. HIV/AIDS is an epidemic in which economic, political, social and cultural factors are at least as important as the medical ones. Women – especially young women – run a greater risk than men of contracting HIV and suffer

disproportionately from the effects. The promotion of gender equality, therefore, is crucial to the task of curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Sweden emphasises the importance of working with the entire chain of activities – prevention, care and treatment, alleviation of the epidemic's consequences and research funding. Swedish contributions seek to tackle the underlying causes such as poverty and lack of equality between the women and men. This also includes immediate action such as the promotion of condom use and efforts to combat sexual risk behaviour.

Examples of specific initiatives:

Sweden is providing SEK 6.3 million in 2005–2007 to a national plan for care and treatment in Tanzania. The aim of this initiative is to give HIV carriers access to antiretroviral drugs.

In southern Asia, Sweden is supporting the Red Cross in its efforts to strengthen local organisations working with the care and treatment of households afflicted by HIV/AIDS. An important part of this work involves encouraging debate on the HIV/AIDS issue and on the discrimination of people living with the disease.

Sweden is also supporting closer coordination and harmonisation of HIV/AIDS efforts in Russia via the UNAIDS programme, *The Three Ones*. This programme focuses on three principles: a joint action plan, a national coordinating agency for AIDS, and a joint follow-up and evaluation system. Sweden has allocated SEK 6.3 million for the period 2005–2007.



Annex 2



Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

GOALS AND TARGETS (from the Millennium Declaration)

INDICATORS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day

1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day¹.
2. Poverty gap ratio [incidence x depth of poverty].
3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption.

Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

4. Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age.
5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

6. Net enrolment ratio in primary education.
7. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5².
8. Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

9. Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education.
10. Ratio of literate women to men, 15-24 years old.
11. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector.
12. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Target 5: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

13. Under-five mortality rate.
14. Infant mortality rate.
15. Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles.

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Target 6: Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

16. Maternal mortality ratio.
17. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel.

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

Target 7: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

18. HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years.
19. Condom use rate of the contraceptive prevalence rate³.
 - 19a. Condom use at last high-risk sex
 - 19b. Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS⁴
 - 19c. Contraceptive prevalence rate
20. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years.

GOALS AND TARGETS (from the Millennium Declaration)

INDICATORS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS

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

<p>Target 8: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases</p>	<p>21. Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria. 22. Proportion of population in malaria-risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures⁵. 23. Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis. 24. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course DOTS (Internationally recommended TB control strategy).</p>
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Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

<p>Target 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources</p>	<p>25. Proportion of land area covered by forest. 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area. 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP). 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons). 29. Proportion of population using solid fuels.</p>
<p>Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation</p>	<p>30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural. 31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural.</p>
<p>Target 11: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers</p>	<p>32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure.</p>

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

<p>Target 12: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system</p> <p><i>Includes:</i> <i>A commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally</i></p>	<p><i>Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.</i></p> <p>Official development assistance (ODA) 33. Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income. 34. Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation). 35. Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied. 36. ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes. 37. ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes.</p>
<p>Target 13: Address the special needs of the least developed countries</p> <p><i>Includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports;</i> • <i>enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC);</i> • <i>cancellation of official bilateral debt;</i> • <i>more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction.</i> 	<p>Market access 38. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty. 39. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries. 40. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product. 41. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity.</p>

**GOALS AND TARGETS
(from the Millennium Declaration)**

**INDICATORS FOR MONITORING
PROGRESS**

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

<p>Target 14: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States</p> <p><i>(Through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly.)</i></p> <p>Target 15: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term</p> <p>Target 16: In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth.</p> <p>Target 17: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.</p> <p>Target 18: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.</p>	<p>Debt sustainability</p> <p>42. Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative).</p> <p>43. Debt relief committed under HIPC Initiative.</p> <p>44. Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services.</p> <p>45. Unemployment rate of young people aged 15–24 years, each sex and total⁶.</p> <p>46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis</p> <p>47. Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population.</p> <p>48. Personal computers in use per 100 population Internet users per 100 population.</p>
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The Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration, signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of State and Government, in September 2000 (<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>). The goals and targets are interrelated and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership between the developed countries and the developing countries “to create an environment – at the national and global levels alike – which is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty”.

Note: Goals, targets and indicators effective 8 September 2003.

¹ For monitoring country poverty trends, indicators based on national poverty lines should be used, where available.

² An alternative indicator under development is “primary completion rate”.

³ Amongst contraceptive methods, only condoms are effective in preventing HIV transmission. Since the condom use rate is only measured among women in union, it is supplemented by an indicator on condom use in high-risk situations (indicator 19a) and an indicator on HIV/AIDS knowledge (indicator 19b). Indicator 19c (contraceptive prevalence rate) is also useful in tracking progress in other health, gender and poverty goals.

⁴ This indicator is defined as the percentage of population aged 15–24 who correctly identify the two major ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV (using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner), who reject the two most common local misconceptions about HIV transmission, and who know that a healthy-looking person can transmit HIV. However, since there are currently not a sufficient number of surveys to be able to calculate the indicator as defined above, UNICEF, in collaboration with UNAIDS and WHO, produced two proxy indicators that represent two components of the actual indicator. They are the following: a) percentage of women and men 15-24 who know that a person can protect herself/himself from HIV infection by “consistent use of condom”; b) percentage of women and men 15–24 who know a healthy-looking person can transmit HIV.

⁵ Prevention to be measured by the percentage of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets; treatment to be measured by percentage of children under 5 who are appropriately treated.

⁶ An improved measure of the target for future years is under development by the International Labour Organization.



