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**“Millennium Development Goals: Goal 1: End Poverty and Hunger. Results in Ecuador to  
2010 (July - December)”**

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## **Dedication**

I wish to dedicate this work to my mother, Teresita Arce, who throughout my life, has been with me and has given me strength to continue and be better every day. She has been my role model because she is a brave woman as well as a caring and loving mother. I owe her all that I am.

## **Acknowledgements**

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### **Abstract**

This project has been created with the purpose of evaluating the job done by the countries of the world, especially what has been done by Ecuador towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, with particular interest in Goal number 1. The sources of information used in order to make this analysis have been submitted by official organizations like the United Nations, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), World Bank, among others. The most important goal of this study is to know if the plans that have been put into effect have been successful and above all if we will achieve the results expected by 2015.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Poverty is considered as the impossibility of satisfying the various needs of the human being, which have a direct impact in the quality of life, in terms of nutrition, housing and basic services. Within this consideration we can mention the absence of means to access these services, for example unemployment, insufficient income or even absence of these for whichever reason. In addition, poverty can also be produced because of social phenomena like exclusion or marginalization.

In the global context, there is a term used to designate the situation of some countries, which is “underdevelopment”. This can be observed when the population does not possess the necessary means to obtain the Basic Food Basket. This perspective is clearly economic. It has strong financial and social impacts. In these contexts, poverty has a very negative effect and constitutes an obstacle for the population’s development.

Poverty tends to be the result of an economic and social model applied within the borders of a country. For obvious reasons, the flaws within the model produce inequality in the distribution of the wealth, thus a division where some groups are left outside and become the poor percentage of the population. People within this group suffer deprivations in areas of education, healthcare employment, among others. Being a complex phenomenon, poverty should be treated in a way in which plans should try to shorten the gap between rich and poor people, so people with few resources can access to a decent lifestyle. This means that the priorities and development of some social entities should be modified, which constitutes a long and hard progress.

There are certain patterns that are common between areas of poverty, for example that the highest rates are usually located in rural areas which produces migratory movements from the countryside to the city. This causes for the labor situation to get tight in cities. Therefore poverty transfers to cities, leading to the appearance of overcrowding areas.

With respect to this situation, states have acquired the commitment of contributing in order to solve this problem, which troubles the entire world. To achieve this group effort



and work as a whole in three aspects: market, government and least favored population. The market should work in a way in which all its participants develop an active and protecting role. The estate, through its government, has the obligation for pro development policies to be put into effect to help the people in need, and they should be respected and considered as an active part of the society so they can be part of the established plans.

For all the previously mentioned, the United Nations has put to work since the Millennium Declaration, given and signed in year 2000, a plan known as the Millennium Development Goals. The implementation of this initiative in the world represents a great commitment of the states as well as of the people of the world towards the improvement of the lifestyle of the amount of poor people around the world. This will result in the creation of plans in various fields in order to solve problems in critical aspects, where quality of life has suffered as well as to accomplish the goals established towards 2015.

Considering the importance of the respect to human rights established in the Universal Declaration, it is impossible to deny that many people around the world, lack the Access to some of these basic rights, due to economic situation, political or social issues the country, where they live in, has. To name an example we can mention countries from Africa, where democracy has not grown strong enough, the spread of HIV/AIDS is growing instead of decreasing, the debts are high and the income is barely enough to pay for the interest rates, while capital remains intact. Add the lack of protection for minorities and the difficulties to achieve gender equality, violence against women. All of these remain to be serious problems that are yet to be solved.

## **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION TO THE MLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT**

### **GOALS**

#### **1.1 Development: The concept the MDGs were built over.**

In 2000, in the General Assembly of the United Nations, various delegates and heads of state got together to create a global commitment by putting all their wishes together in order to help the developing countries and fight extreme poverty of which millions of people are victims.

This resulted in the creation of goals directed to solve issues in areas like: extreme poverty and hunger, avoid over exploitation of resources, education, healthcare, promoting gender equality, among others. Besides it was evident that the lack of development affects all countries. This is why within these goals a world partnership for international cooperation was created, based on course of the principles of goodwill over which international relations work.

The reality of life of the people varies from one person to another. While some have good expectations and a promising future, some millions are forced to survive in extreme poverty conditions. Around 1.100 million people are made – and continue to be – t olive with less that \$1 (one US dollar) a day. From this number 30% are children. Event today and in the richest countries of the world, one of every six children lives under the poverty line<sup>1</sup>. In addition, the poor conditions in which some people live, produce high mortality rates, malnutrition, problems in the development stages, risk of getting diseases like HIV/AIDS, exposure to risk situations such as domestic violence, as well as lack of access to education and healthcare. As it has been mentioned, children are the most affected by these shortages. We can observe this in the following data quoted from UNICEF:

\* “One in every three children in the developing world – over 500 million children – has no access whatsoever to sanitation facilities; one in five has no access to safe water.”

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<sup>1</sup> UNICEF. *Sobre los objetivos*. [http://www.unicef.org/spanish/mdg/28184\\_28230.htm](http://www.unicef.org/spanish/mdg/28184_28230.htm) (Enero 18, 2012)

\*” Over 140 million children in developing countries – 13 per cent of those aged 7 to 18 years – have never attended school. This rate is 32 per cent among girls in sub-Saharan Africa, where 27 per cent of boys also miss out on schooling, and 33 per cent among rural children in the Middle East and North Africa.”

\*” AIDS has killed one or both parents of an estimated 15 million children worldwide; 12 million of these are in sub-Saharan Africa. The number of orphaned children is projected to exceed 25 million by the end of the decade. (UNAIDS, July 2004).”

After evaluating these aspects the attendees to the General Assembly created the Millennium Declaration, which includes a series of priorities on peace and security, poverty reduction, environment and human rights. All the established within this declaration constitutes a list of measures needed to guarantee the progress of the disadvantaged, especially children.

Children are the first to suffer the consequences of the lack of resources and thus, the first to die when their basic needs are not met. It is very important that these requirements in aspects like food, healthcare and basic services. The rights of children establish that there ought to be access to nourishment, healthcare and housing, education, citizen participation, equality and protection. These rights have been embodied in law instruments like the Convention on Children’s Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

To achieve these goals investment is needed, for the first years to be the best and for the needs to be covered, this allows that achieving the goals can be possible and for it to be more effective considering the percentage of children population.

It is here when organizations that specifically focus on the care for children become important, for example UNICEF, which is the only inter-government organization which works in this area in particular and that is supported by the rulers of the world to promote and protect the rights of children. There are other subsidiaries of the United Nations that support UNICEF, who has incorporated the Millennium Development Goals in its action plans.

## **1.2 What are the Millennium Development Goals?**

The Millennium Development Goals, also known as the Millennium Goals, are eight development aims that were settled in 2000 signed by 193 countries, members of the United Nations. They are scheduled to be completed by 2015. These deal with everyday issues that are serious. The United Nations' comprehensive vision acquired in the nineties is expressed in the agreements, which are part of the Millennium Declaration. One of the implicit objectives in this initiative is the strengthening of the United Nations as an organism of intergovernmental cooperation.

These goals were established as clear as possible, and quantified targets were agreed, in which the level that should be achieved by 2015 was stated. The main economic and social variables are in the approved goals. Periodic evaluations were proposed, so states would maintain the commitment acquired when signing and this way avoid the loss of all the work and investment.

In the Millennium Declaration eight goals are collected concerning eradication of poverty, universal education, gender equality, child health, maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS and environmental sustainability. These goals constitute a response to needs that require a more responsible and fairer economic scene.

Each goal is divided in a number of 18 targets, quantifiable through 48 indicators. For the first time, the international development agenda has established a date for the accomplishment of measurable and concrete agreements.

The names of the eight goals, with their specific targets and indicator (according to the United Nations and the MDG 2010 Report) are the following:

### **Goal 1: End poverty and hunger.**

**Target 1A:** Reduce by half, between 1990 and 2015, the percentage of people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day.

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day, 1990 and 2005 (Percentage).
- Poverty gap ratio at \$1,25 a day 1990 and 2005 (Percentage).

**Target 1B:** Achieve, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.

**Indicators:**

- Employment-to-population ratio.
- Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment.
- Proportion of employed people living below \$1,25 a day.

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

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of people who are undernourished in the developing regions and number of undernourished people.
- Proportion of children under age five who are underweight.
- Ratio between the proportion of under-five children who are underweight in rural areas and urban areas.
- Proportion of under-five children who are underweight, by household wealth.
- Number of refugees and internally displaced persons.

**Facts related to the goal:**

- It is likely that for 2009 hunger reached a peak, one of the many consequences of the food and financial crisis.
- In most regions, the progress towards achieving the eradication of hunger has stagnated.

- In spite of some progress, one in every four children in the developing countries, weights less than what they should and in some regions, the preponderance of children who weight less than normal is higher among the poor.
- The deterioration of the labor market, caused by the economic crisis, caused a strong decrease in the employment rates and with the loss of jobs, more people has been forced to take vulnerable jobs.
- Since the economic crisis, more workers and their families are living in extreme poverty.
- Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the region with larger proportion of people living in poverty. If action is not taken, by 2015, 800 million people will live with less than 1 dollar a day, and not the 420 million established in goal number one.
- The more obvious inequalities are found in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in Sub-Saharan Africa, where 20% of the poorest population represents only 3% of the national consumption rate.
- More than 2 billion people in developing countries, depend on agriculture to satisfy their basic nutritional needs. Southern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa continues to register the highest percentages of hungry children. More than 20% of the preschoolers are underweighted specially in the region of the *Sahel* (between Senegal and Ethiopia).

## **Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education.**

**Target 2A:** Ensure that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

### **Indicators:**

- Adjusted net enrolment ratio in primary education.
- Distribution of out-of school children by region.
- Literacy rate of people between 15 and 24 years, men and women.

**Facts related to this goal:**

- In spite of the fact that the enrollment rate for primary education has reached 89% in developing countries, this will not be enough to guarantee that children will finish the cycle.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa in 2008, about one in every four children was not in School.
- It has not been possible to meet the demand of teachers for some areas in Africa.
- Countries like Burundi, the Republic of Tanzania, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Zambia have made great achievements.
- The gender gap in primary education has been reduced.
- Factors such as disability contribute for children never to go to school.

**Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women.**

**Target 3A:** Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

**Indicators:**

- Girls' primary-school enrolment in relation to boys.
- Employees in non-agricultural wage employment who are women.
- Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment.
- Share of women in top-level and all occupations.
- Proportion of seats held by women in single or lower houses of national parliaments.

**Facts related to this goal:**

- For women in their teenage years is harder to realize the right to education.
- In spite of the great achievements, the progress seems to have stagnated.
- Disparities in tertiary education levels are observed with respect of area of study.
- In rural areas the gender gap is much more evident.

- In some regions, jobs not related to agriculture are usually given to men, as well as important positions.
- Many women do not get benefits or job security.
- All around the world, only one in every four managers is a woman.
- There is a remarkable rise in the uptake of posts by women politicians.

#### **Goal 4: Reduce child mortality.**

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

##### **Indicators:**

- Under-five mortality rate per 1.000 live births.
- Causes of deaths among children under age five.
- Proportion of children 12-23 months old who received at least one dose of measles vaccine.

##### **Facts related to this goal:**

- Since 1990 developing countries have reduced 28% of children mortality.
- The main progresses have been achieved in Northern Africa, Eastern Asia, Western Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Some countries still maintain unacceptable rates of child mortality.
- In 2008, 34 countries with high child mortality rates belonged to Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Southern Asia is another region that has struggled to reduce the mortality rates, with little success.
- There are large inequalities with respect to the access to measles vaccines.

#### **Goal 5: Improve maternal health.**

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



**Indicators:**

- Causes of maternal deaths.
- Proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel.

**Target 5B:** Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health.

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of women attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled-health-care personnel.
- Proportion of women attended four or more times during pregnancy by area of residence.
- Number of births per 1.000 women aged 15-19.
- Proportion of women who are using any method of contraception among women aged 15-49, married or in union.
- Official development assistance to health, total and proportion going to reproductive health care and family planning.

**Facts related to this goal:**

- The measurement of maternal mortality is a complex task due to the amount of mistaken existing information.
- The births, especially in some regions of Southern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, are high risk due to the lack of right conditions and care.
- Most of the deaths could be avoided with a correct medical attention.
- The gap between the urban and rural areas concerning medical care has been reduced.
- In the Northern part of Africa a progress of 70% in prenatal care was observed.
- In spite of the progress there are still big differences between women who live in the urban and rural areas.
- The reduction of teenage pregnancy has stagnated.

- In Sub-Saharan Africa one in every four women does not have access to contraceptive methods.
- There is a fund shortage for an adequate family planning.

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

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

**Indicators:**

- Number of people living with HIV, number of people newly infected with HIV and number of AIDS deaths worldwide.
- Women and men aged 15-24 with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV in developing countries.
- Condom use at last higher-risk sex among young women aged 15-24 in selected countries.

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

**Indicator:**

- Population living with HIV who is receiving antiretroviral therapy.

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

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of children under five sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets.
- Proportion of children aged 0-59 months with fever receiving antimalarial medicines by residence and wealth quintile.
- Rate of incidence, prevalence and mortality associated to tuberculosis.
- Proportion of cases of tuberculosis detected and cured.

**Facts related to this goal:**

- HIV continues to be the main lethal infection in the world.
- Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the most affected region with a 72% in 2008.
- In 2008, 40% of the people infected where young people aged 15-24.
- in 18 out of 49 countries of which there is available data, correct and comprehensive knowledge about HIV increased 10 percentage points.
- In most developing countries, most people does not use condom, even in high-risk sex.
- The reduction of teenage pregnancies has stagnated.
- Sub-Saharan Africa one in every four women does not have Access to contraceptive methods.
- There is a fund shortage for an adequate family planning.

**Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.**

**Target 7A:** Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

**Indicators:**

- Forested area as percentage of land area.
- Emissions of carbon dioxide.
- Consumption of all ozone-depleting substances.

**Target 7B:** Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate loss.

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of key biodiversity areas protected.
- Proportion of species expected to remain extant in the near future in the absence of additional conservation action.

**Target 7C:** Halve, by 2015, the proportion of population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

**Indicators:**

- Proportion of population using an improved water source.
- Proportion of population by sanitation practices.

**Target 7D:** To have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

**Indicator:**

- Population living in urban slums and proportion of urban population living in slums.

**Facts related to this goal:**

- Reforestation programs have produced good results, in spite of the high rates of logging.
- An issue that has not been controlled is the excessive emission of carbon dioxide.
- Year 2010 has been considered as the first in which the world has been free of ozone depleting substances.
- It is said that a shocking number of 17.000 endangered species.
- In regions like Oceania, the progress concerning drinking water has not been significant.
- The access to sanitation services continues to be reduced in some regions like Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development.**

**Target 8A:** Address the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing states.

**Indicator:**

- Net official development assistance from OECD- DAC countries as a proportion of donor's gross national income.

**Target 8B:** Develop further and open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.

**Indicator:**

- Proportion of country imports from developing and from the least developed countries admitted free of duty and admitted free of duty while their competitors' products were subject to a tariff under MFN (preferential duty free access).

**Target 8C:** Deal comprehensively with the developing countries' debt.

**Indicator:**

- External debt service payments as a proportion of export revenues.

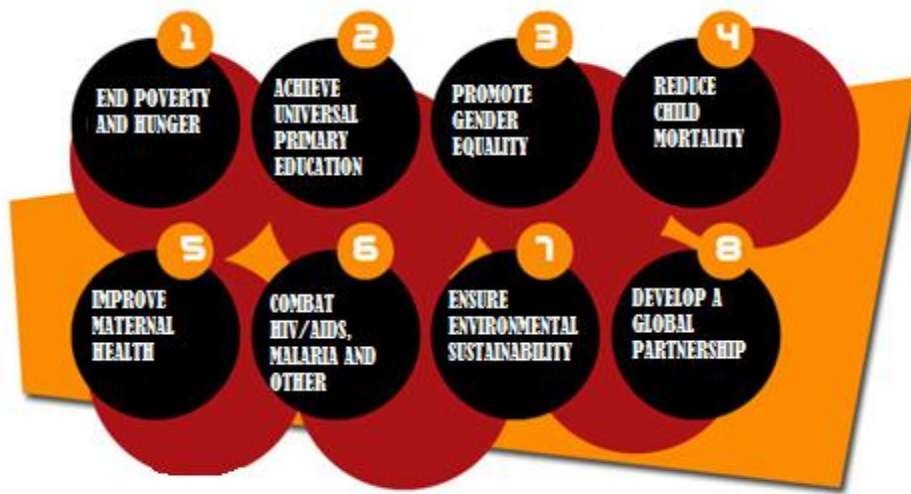
**Target 8D:** In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.

**Indicator:**

- Number of fixed telephone lines, mobile subscriptions and Internet users for every 100.

The only goal that has no deadline is the eighth, which for many people means it should be in process of accomplishment.

**Chart 1: Millennium Development Goals**



Source: <http://www.pobrezacero.org/objetivos/index.php> (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

### **1.3 Reason for which they were created.**

The Millennium Development Goals were created as an option that solves the humanitarian crisis in which millions of people around the world live in, concerning different aspects of everyday life. The world leaders, in year 2000, made a commitment to achieve a real change in education, maternal health, gender equality, resource exploitation, high levels of infection of HIV/AIDS, among others.

Due to some countries' resource shortage, they have failed in their individual initiatives of improving the quality of life for residents. Among the necessary aspects to achieve this we have: education, food security, adequate health conditions and environmental care. Therefore it is necessary the the international community gets involved and help. Each of the Millennium Development Goals is established in order for states, along with the support of the rest of the world, can face in an effective way the issues to which the citizens are exposed.

Education constitutes the basis for building a productive society, capable of facing poverty and overcome it. On the other hand, technology, instead of generating improvements, has caused the widening of the gap between the developed and developing countries. A detail that must be taken into account is that the progress should not be measured only on a global scale, but also for each country. This is because at times the achievements of some countries could cloud the deficiencies of smaller countries.

#### **1.4 Importance of achieving them.**

This is the first time when a real commitment concerning humanitarian aid, from the rulers of the world. This does not only represent the union of the international community, but also implies an essential improvement in the lives of millions of human beings. The assessments have shown that even though there has been progress, it is still necessary that governments support each other if they want to achieve the goals, because in many countries, due to their economic, social and/or political situation, the progress has been stalled and will hardly achieve the target if they do not get help.

The Goals show the most basic needs and the rights every human being should have access to: absence of extreme poverty, quality education, women with same chances as men, maternal health and the right to safe delivery, environmental sustainability, which guarantees the access to natural resources for future generations. The world leaders have also promised to forge an alliance towards the development, in order to achieve these universal goals.

The MDGs are the most specific and widely supported aims, the world has ever set. They are the mainstay of progress at a worldwide level and have served as a reference for many countries, so they create internal policies directed to the progress of people. To achieve them is the proof of solidarity and union among the countries of the world. In addition they constitute the hope for millions of people to improve their lifestyle and end with the poverty that besets.

Comply with what has been stated in the Millennium Declaration constitutes the biggest test to international organizations like the United Nations, who have done great efforts since the time they were created, in order to achieve what has been established in the rights charters and what is fought for everyday, a better world, equal opportunities and decent living conditions for all the citizens of the world.

In spite of the fact there are different opinions, some very optimistic and others not so much, the issue is that the deadline is 2015 and most countries have done a great effort to follow the recommendations to achieve the goals. This will mean a major change in the lives of millions, who could have better opportunities for their future as well as for future generations. The reports show a lot more than just numbers, it is the lives of men, women and children of the world who have the right to live worthily.



## CHAPTER II: GOAL 1 END POVERTY AND HUNGER

### 2.1 Targets and Indicators of Goal 1

The reason why poverty exists is that the various economic and social systems that have been implemented throughout history have generated that the breach between wealthy people and those who depend on them to survive, only gets wider as the years pass. There are countries and regions that have been more affected than others, but what it is unarguable that in almost all countries in the world there is a percentage of people living in an extreme poverty situation. The disproportionate growth of the poor countries' debt, in addition to the dependency of these countries towards the industrialized ones and multinational companies, has caused that the governments of the developing countries find themselves unable to solve their citizens' problems.

We have been able to observe for a while how we've progressively dehumanized. It is known that millions of people die of starvation, but we have been led to believe their fate does not rest in our hands. It grieves us, but does not get us to commit into becoming change agents. There is a tendency to believe that as only one of the billions of people in this world, we cannot change anything. That is where we are wrong. A conscience revolution comes from within and then spreads until it generates a collective commitment. All the citizens, if working together, will be able to change the reality of our less fortunate compatriots.

Organizations like the United Nations have tried to show this, by compromising all the countries in initiatives like the MDGs. The first goal, considered by many as the most important and ambitious, is to **End poverty and hunger** and it is also implicit in all the other goals.

According to the 2010 report issued by the United Nations, this goal is divided in three targets: 1) Reduce by half, between 1990 and 2015, the percentage of people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day; 2) Achieve, full and productive employment and

decent work for all, including women and young people; and 3) Halve between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

Around 923 million people live in extreme poverty (less than one dollar a day) with respect to the 1,25 billion that did in 1990. If the numbers continue to decrease at the current rate, the goal for 2015 might as well be achieved.<sup>2</sup>

The global results are very positive, due to the progress of many countries in Asia, whose population is numerous with respect to other regions. However Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia continue to be the regions where the reduction of poverty, still requires a lot of work. In Latin America and the Caribbean the inequalities are very evident. The situation of these regions has caused stagnation in the advances concerning Goal 1, therefore, achieving it for 2015 will be a hard task.

Directly concerning to this Goal, the worldwide food production is supposedly enough for the entire population, unfortunately the uneven wealth distribution is what causes overspending in some cases and deprivation in others. The agricultural sector is the key to achieving the reduction of hunger and extreme poverty. In the developing countries, agriculture is the productive sector that concentrates most of the population. Due to the lack of technology and know-how, these countries found themselves in a disadvantage in relation to the competitors of the industrialized world. This limits the opportunities of improvement for the people and finding themselves forced to find other subsistence means, they end up in vulnerable situations and eventually, poverty.

Natural disasters, more common every day, as well as armed conflicts, affect a percentage that varies from 5% to 10% of people worldwide who suffer from hunger. In addition these increase the number of people facing food/alimentary emergencies.<sup>3</sup>

**TARGET 1: *Reduce by half between 1990 and 2015, the percentage of people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day.***

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.juventudymilenio.org/objetivos/uno/detalle.html>

<sup>3</sup> Jeffrey Sachs (2005). "El fin de la pobreza. Cómo conseguirlo en nuestro tiempo". (Prólogo de Bono). Editorial Debate. Madrid.

Great progress has been achieved in the first half of the decade, evidencing a reduction of poverty from 46% in 1990 to 27% in 2005. Unfortunately the economic crisis in North America and Europe in 2008 had a strong impact and slowed down the growth of the developing countries. Although it is true that this has discouraged many countries, it has been predicted that for 2015 the global poverty rate would locate in 15%, showing that the goal can be achieved. It is important to take into account that if the global economy had had a sustained growth, better results could have been achieved.

The quickest growth and most notorious reduction of poverty, are happening in Eastern Asia. China and India have contributed to the reduction of poverty rates. It is expected that numbers will fall to 24% in 2015 and that the amount of people living in extreme poverty situation will decrease in about 188 million.<sup>4</sup>

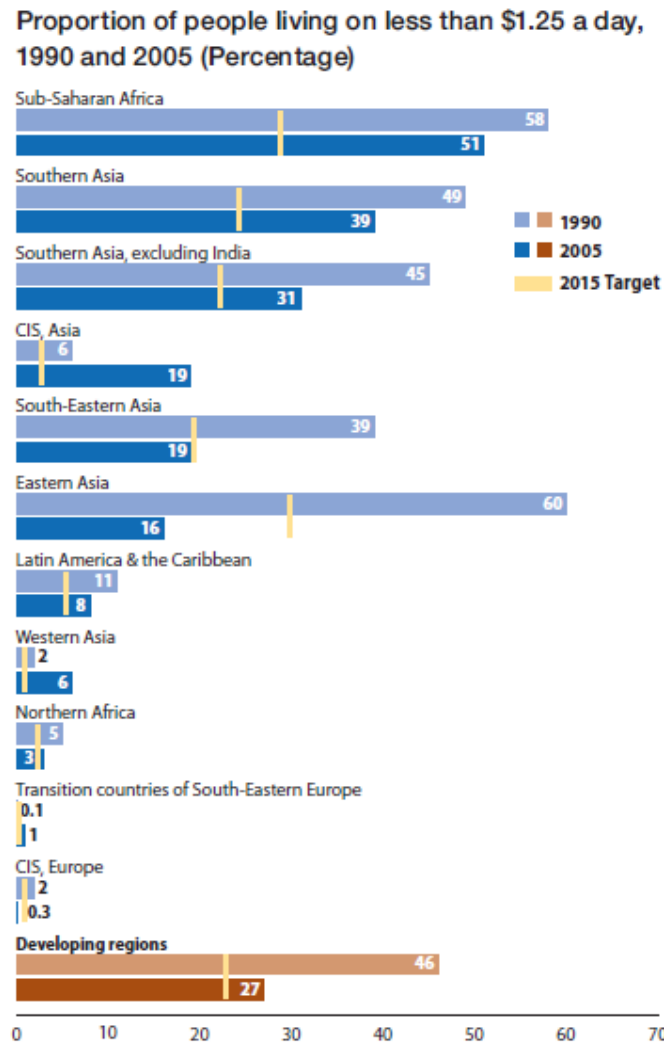
Hopefully almost all developing countries will achieve the first target from Goal 1. This evidences the fact that there are regions where the efforts have not been enough and even though the deadline passes, it is necessary to continue working hard so that all people have access to a decent lifestyle.

Monitoring poverty gets harder in some places, due to the lack of reliable data. This becomes more complex in regions where there has not been a follow-up that allows a comparison between the numbers in order to rule out if there has been a progress or a standstill, for example Sub-Saharan Africa and small insular states of the Pacific and the Caribbean. The measurement method that contributes with important information are household surveys.

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<sup>4</sup> Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. Informe 2010. (pág. 7) Organización de las Naciones Unidas

**Chart 2: Proportion of people livinh on less that \$1,25 a day**



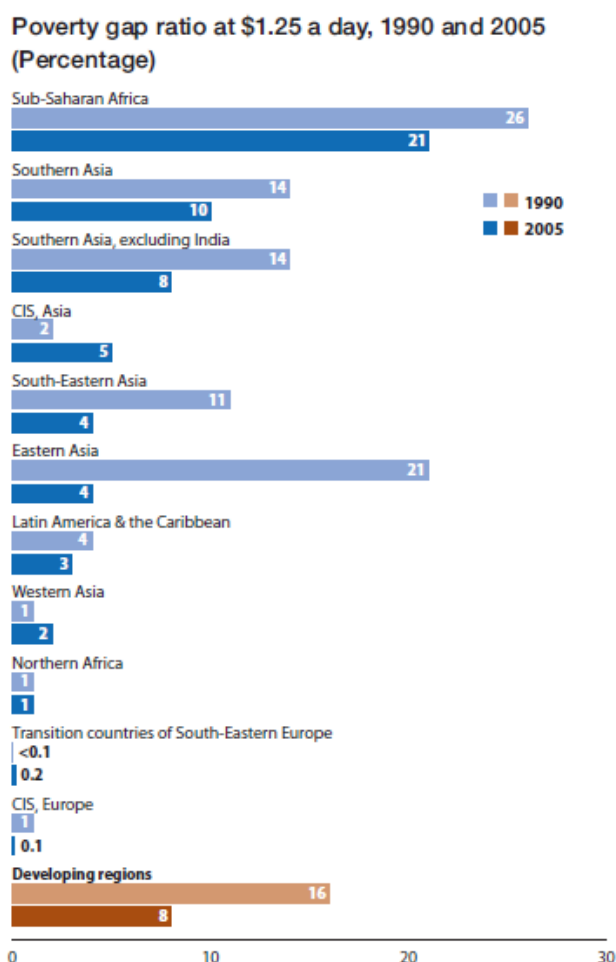
Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

As it can be seen in some regions like Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia have achieved great results concerning extreme poverty. However Western Asia has experienced an increase, while Sub-Saharan Africa and other regions form Asia have not been able to make significant improvements.

Other useful indicator is the coefficient of the poverty gap, which shows the deficit in the income of people living in extreme poverty. In other words, how much Money they need to overcome their situation.

Since 1990 poverty has decreased in almost all regions and in 2005 the average of income of people living in extreme poverty was of 0,88 \$ USD.<sup>5</sup>

**Chart 3: Poverty gap ratio at \$1,25 a day**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

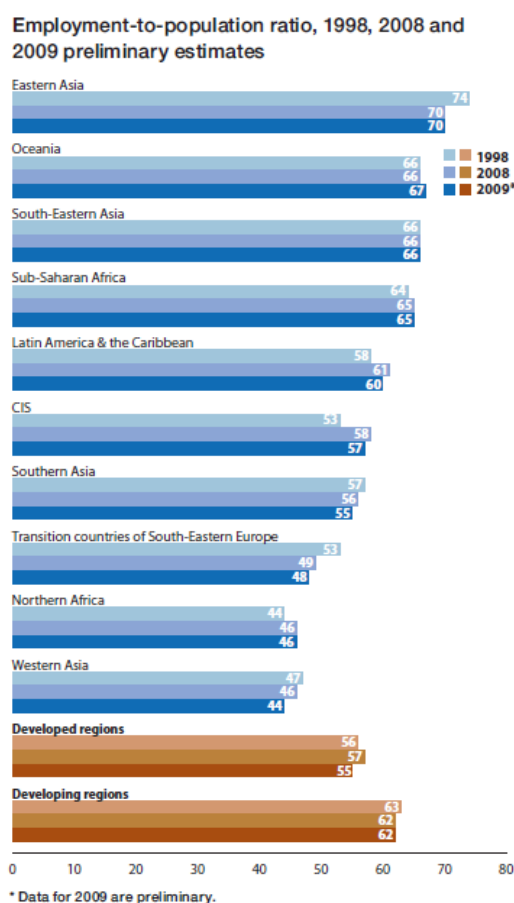
**TARGET 2: *Achieve, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people***

The economic crisis had a hard impact on the labor market and caused a notorious increase in unemployment rates. When the real-estate crisis which began on 2007, a domino effect which had strong repercussions over world's economy by reducing

<sup>5</sup> Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. Informe 2010. (pág. 7) Organización de las Naciones Unidas

investment and the hiring capability of companies, leaving millions in unemployment, who had to turn to vulnerable jobs. Even though the capital injection made by the governments helped to slow down the impact created by the financial blow produced by the economic downfall, the progress achieved was seriously affected. Among the data that shows this is the relation between employment and population, which intends to portray the amount of people in a country with stable jobs. The biggest drop on the worker's performance was seen in the Commonwealth of Independent States, the countries in transition from the South West of Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. All the previous mentioned situations contribute to the worsening of productivity, which in regular conditions is already considered low.

**Chart 4: Employment-to-population ratio**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

The progress made in reducing vulnerable employment was interrupted by the problems suffered by the labor market, due to the economic crisis. Many people, who used to earn an hourly wage, lost their jobs. La tendencia positiva de reducción del empleo vulnerable interrumpió por el deterioro de las condiciones del mercado laboral causado por la crisis financiera. Self-employment and unpaid work in family business are options considered as 'vulnerable employment' because they do not usually have formal work arrangements. This implies that the benefits of law are not always fulfilled, the payment does not tend to be fair and the conditions usually undermine fundamental labor rights of individuals.

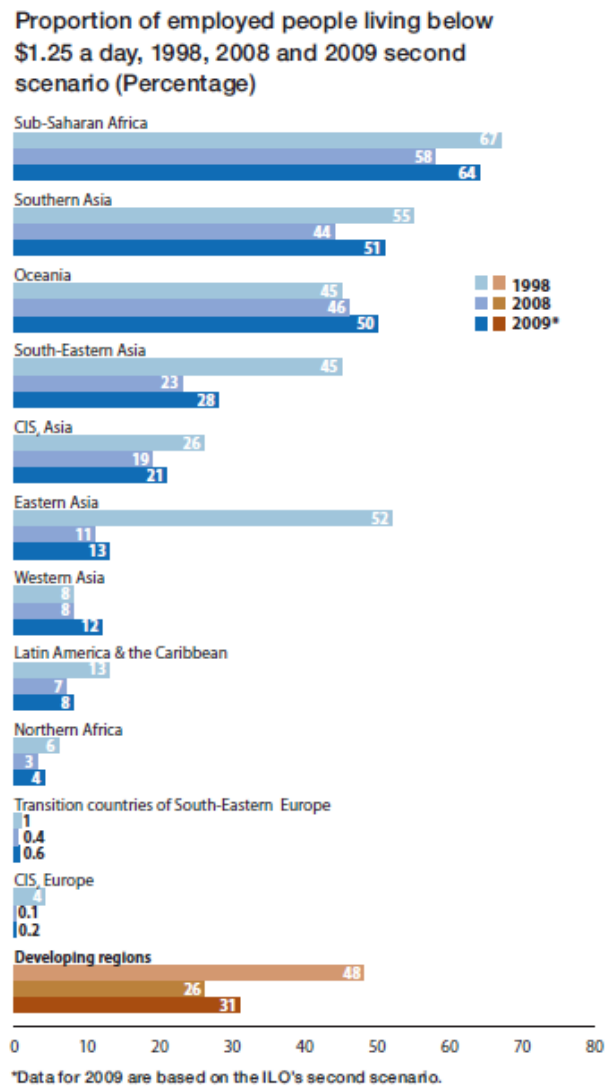
The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates the global vulnerable employment rate in 2009 to be between 49% and 53%, which translates to 1.5 billion to 1.6 billion of people who are working on their own or as unpaid family workers worldwide.<sup>6</sup>

People who work in poverty conditions are those said to live with less than USD 1, 25 a day. By having such vulnerable jobs, they do not have social security protection or assistance plans. They are not in the possibility saving money, which could help them prevent future situations. As a result of the absence of a high level of productivity, the worker's performance decreases.

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<sup>6</sup>Millennium Development Goals Report 2010 (p.10). United Nations

**Chart 5: Proportion of employed people living below \$1,25 a day**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

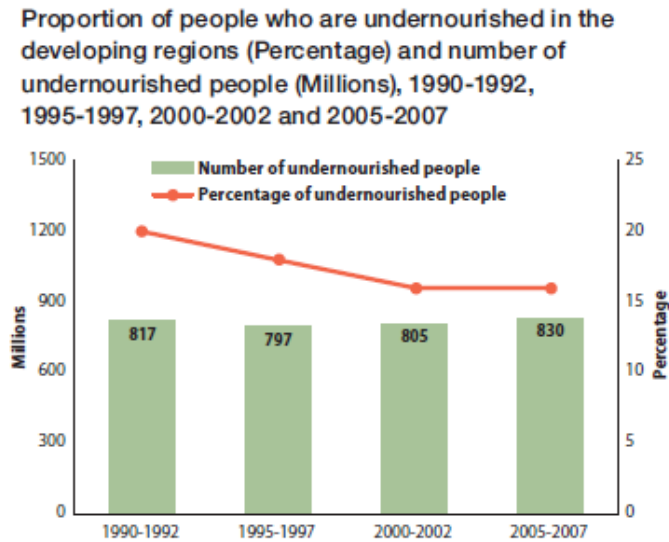
**TARGET 3: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.**

According to the MDG Report 2010 issued by the United Nations, hunger possibly peaked in the year 2009 because of the financial and food crises. Reducing hunger is probably one of the aspects where despite the work done, the expected results have not yet been achieved. Attacking the problem has been extremely complex, due to the aforementioned crises, food prices have increased and progress has stalled in many



regions. Despite this being one of the most important issues, it has been one of the most difficult to solve.

**Chart 6: Proportion of people who are undernourished in the developing regions**



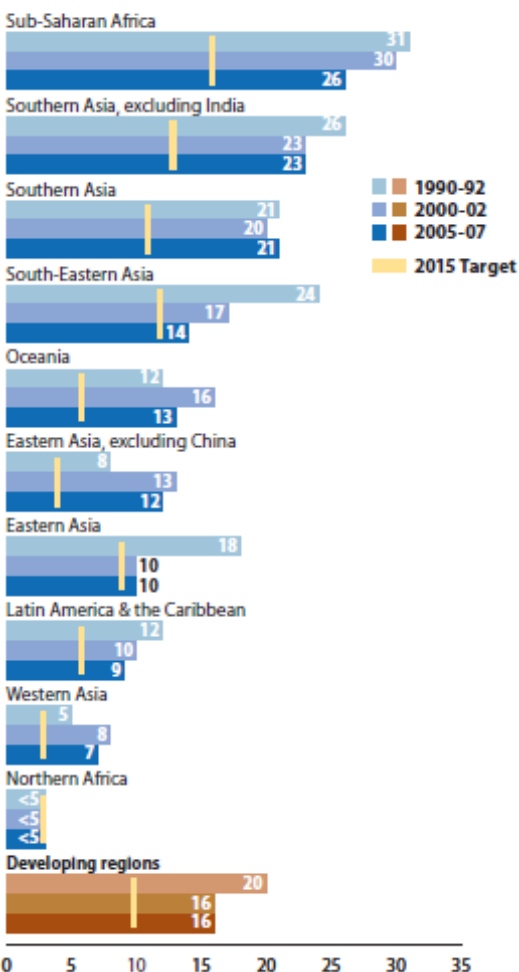
Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

This stagnation has been the result of different factors of global dynamics, such as high food prices and high unemployment rates as a result of the financial crisis triggered by the collapse of markets in North America and Europe. These factors contributed to produce a noticeable reduction in the purchasing power of poor consumers and thus limited the access of the poor to food, who had to spend much of their income on basic food.

Before the food and economic crises were triggered, several regions were on track to halve, by 2015, the percentage of undernourished population. Regions which have seen significant advances are: Southeast Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia. Saharan Africa also showed reductions, although population growth opaque results towards achieving the goal.

**Chart 7: Proportion of undernourished population**

Proportion of undernourished population,  
1990-1992, 2000-2002 and 2005-2007  
(Percentage)

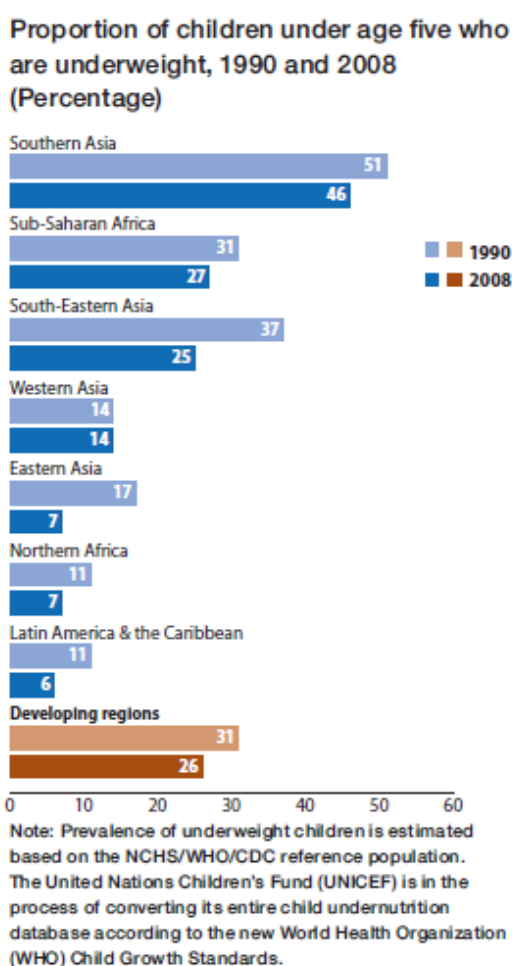


Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

Since 1990 the percentage of children under five years in developing regions has decreased. The only region where the changes were not expected is Western Asia. The goal has been nearly achieved in East Asia, Latin America, Caribbean and Asian CIS countries, Southeast Asia and North Africa are on track to achieve this. Halving the prevalence of children who weigh less than normal in 2015 (based on 1990) requires expedited action in areas such as sub-Saharan Africa. Reducing under nutrition can occur with few interventions at key stages of a child's life, for example feeding exclusively breast milk from birth and during the first six months of life, and

supplementing the diet with micronutrients until the child reaches 24 months old. Insufficient nutrition in children under 5 years is very common, for the lack of quality food, by drinking water unfit for consumption, due to lack of sanitation, among others. Advances continue to be limited as these areas are still not covered. Factors have made the preponderance of underweight in Southern Asia (46%) to be the highest in the world.<sup>7</sup>

**Chart 8: Proportion of children under age five who are underweight**

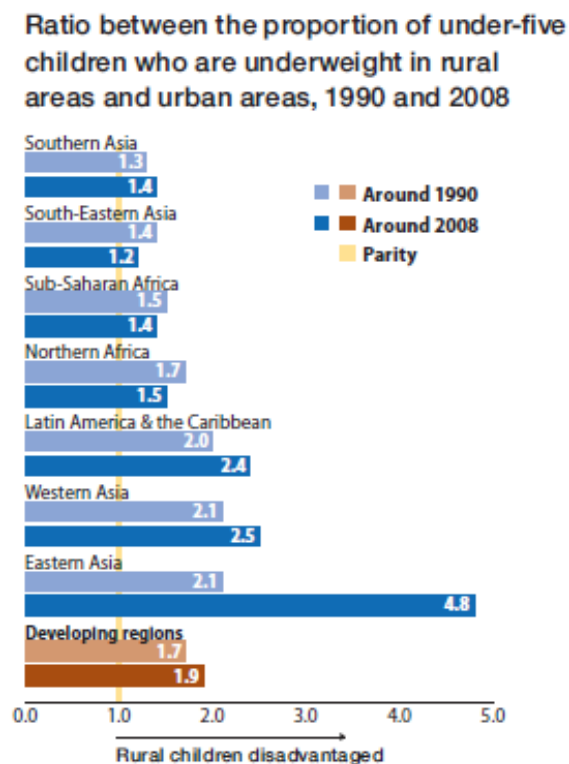


Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

<sup>7</sup>ECLAC.20110b. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges..

Studies conducted by the United Nations show that rural children are more likely to have underweight than children in cities. The relation shows that children from rural areas are 5 times more likely to have a lower weight than children in the city. In all developing regions, children in rural areas are more likely to weigh less than normal children of the cities. Regions such as Southeast Asia, sub-Saharan and North Africa have shown that progress can be made fairer by reducing the gap between urban and rural populations.

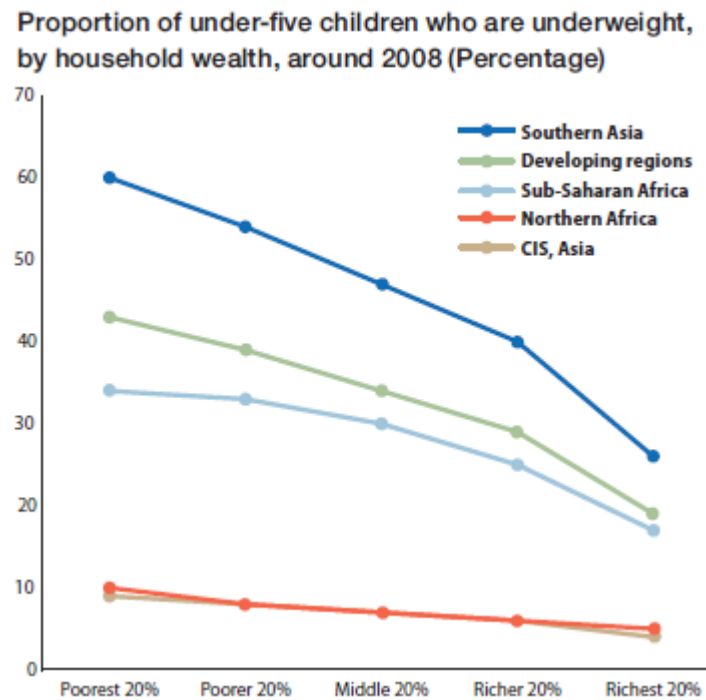
**Chart 9: Ratio between the proportion of under-five children who are underweight in rural areas and urban areas**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

In developing countries it is twice as likely that children are underweight when they come from poor households. In regions such as South Asia, nearly 60% of poor children weigh less than normal, especially due to the high prevalence of underweight.

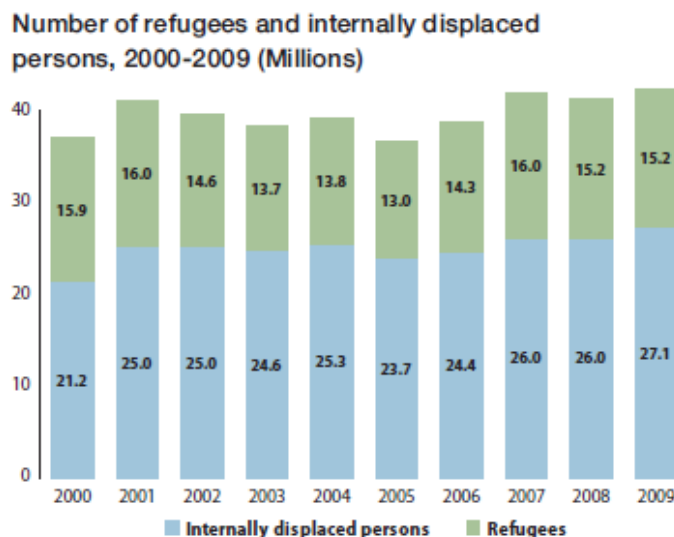
**Chart 10: Proportion of under-five children who are underweight**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

Everything that has been achieved through the MDGs is at risk of being affected by conflicts, which represent a threat to human security. Displacement, poverty, and bereavement cause a damage that persists long after the conflict has ended, many people remain in refugee camps and this implies that employment opportunities, education and access to healthcare become very limited. These difficulties cause refugees to become dependent on the welfare system and fail to stand on their own feet. In 2009, developing countries had four-fifths of the world's refugees. This included 10.4 million people covered by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and 4.8 million Palestinians are refugees, for which the Public Works Agency and United Nations Relief for Refugees in the Near East are responsible. The number of refugees has remained relatively stable over the past two years.

**Chart 11: Number of refugees and internally displaced persons**



Source: Millennium Development Goals Report 2010. United Nations

## 2.2 Indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean (At the beginning of the MDG)

Latin America and the Caribbean have seen exceptional progress over the past decade, thanks to good economic conditions that have been achieved by some of the countries in the region, which has contributed to the existence of the possibility of meeting the goals set in the MDGs. Unfortunately the food and financial crises affected many other countries, most of which had made progress in many aspects on the goals.

The incidence of poverty fell by 11 percentage points between 2003 and 2008 (from 44% to 33%), while extreme poverty fell from about 19% to 13%. This was a breakthrough that put the region and several individual countries on track to achieve target 1.A of the first Millennium Development Goal<sup>8</sup>.

The GDP growth rate continued to increase steadily, which eventually contributed to social and economic development of the countries of the region. International initiatives of developed countries to open their doors to those products from developing countries allowed an increase in revenue. Income from remittances contributed to increase GDP as

<sup>8</sup> ECLAC.20110b. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges

well as the revenue generated by taxes. This way, governments were able to improve the living conditions of its inhabitants, especially on issues related to Objective 1. However, there are countries in the region that have had lower growth rates than the general, such as Haiti, Nicaragua, Guatemala, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, El Salvador and Paraguay. As a result, these countries may not achieve the goals by 2015.

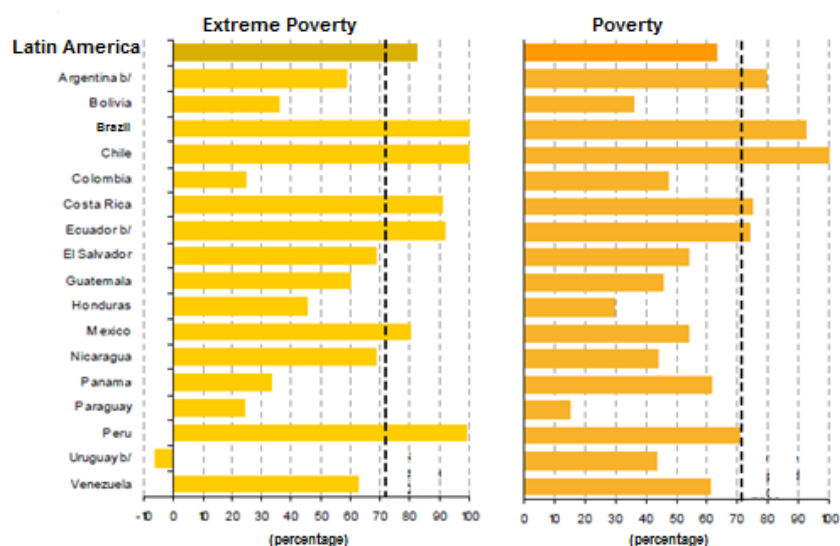
Facing the achievements related to economic issues in the period prior to the financial crisis in 2008, we find that the gap in the fair exercise of rights is strongly defined by gender and cultural conditions. Therefore it is extremely important that governments ensure that plans and policies do include the entire population, especially disadvantaged groups.

En lo relacionado con el empleo productivo, las carencias producidas en el mercado laboral se deben a la incapacidad de muchos gobiernos de garantizar empleos de calidad que garanticen seguridad laboral y beneficios básicos para el trabajador. Esto tiene un impacto directo en las otras dos metas propuestas en el Objetivo 1. Los grandes desafíos que enfrentan los países comprenden garantizar a sus ciudadanos el derecho a empleo seguro y productivo y además oportunidades equitativas. Muchas de estas diferencias están dadas por la disparidad existente entre las economías de la región. Además del trabajo que se realiza como comunidad mundial, es importante que los países tomen en cuenta de que el primer paso es el fortalecimiento regional.

According to ECLAC studies there are four areas to be considered to achieve productive employment. First, implement policies that benefit industrial development, innovation in technology and support to less productive sectors. Second, generate macroeconomic policies that lead to job growth. Third, to promote the strengthening of social safety nets that constitute support for workers not only as part of the economically active population, but also when they have fulfilled their role in the economy and become dependent of it, to ensure the inclusion of women on equal terms, taking into account that many families are headed by women. Fourth, finding the scope of capabilities in order to raise educational levels in the population, adapt educational plans to the

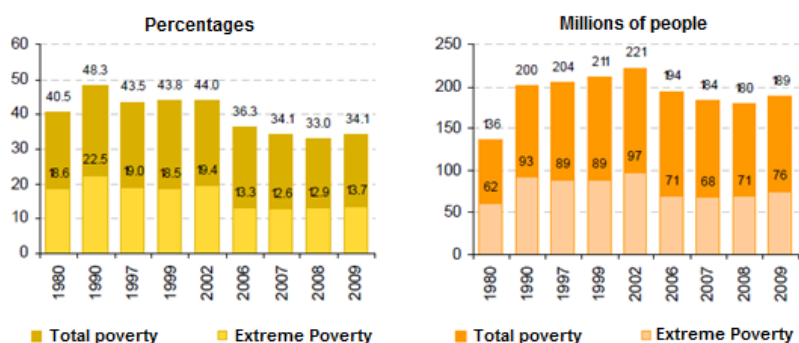
requirements related to technological development, avoiding education to continue perpetuating social inequalities.

**Chart 12: Progress in reducing extreme poverty and total poverty (a/). Latin America, between 1990 and 2008.**



Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)* a/ The percentage of completion is calculated by dividing the reduction (or increase) in indigence in percentage points in the period from the middle of the 1990 poverty rate. The dotted lines represent the amount of progress expected by 2008 (72%). The figures reflect a projection to 2008 for those countries whose most recent survey is prior to that year. b / urban areas.

**Chart 13: Population in extreme poverty and total poverty. Latin America, 1980 - 2009**



Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)*



As the graph shows, the greatest progress in relation to poverty reduction were made in the period 2003 -2008 in which extreme poverty fell by an average of 6.6% annually due to factors such as: the economic growth, better income distribution, increased social spending and reduced fertility.

There are demographic differences that influence disparities between members of the population such as: gender, place of residence, ethnicity, among others. Poverty in Latin America affects children and female population, even more so if they live in rural areas.

**Table 1: Growth of GDP per employed person**

Country	1992-1997	1998-2002	2003-2008	1992-2008
Argentina	3,5	-4,7	6,0	2,0
Bahamas	-0,6	1,0	0,0	0,1
Barbados	-0,9	-1,1	1,9	0,0
Belize	-1,2	2,0	0,9	0,5
Bolivia	0,1	-0,1	1,1	0,4
Brazil	-0,5	-1,0	1,8	0,2
Chile	5,8	1,6	2,7	3,5
Colombia	0,9	-2,9	1,7	0,1
Costa Rica	1,8	1,2	3,0	2,0
Ecuador	-1,4	-1,1	2,3	0,0
El Salvador	3,5	-0,2	1,0	1,5
Guatemala	3,9	-1,3	-1,1	0,6
Guyana	5,1	-0,1	1,6	2,3
Haití	-6,1	-1,6	-1,7	-3,2
Honduras	-0,4	1,0	4,0	1,6
Jamaica	1,7	0,6	0,1	0,8
Mexico	-0,6	1,3	1,5	0,7
Nicaragua	0,8	0,3	-0,2	0,3
Panama	0,6	0,7	4,2	1,9
Paraguay	-1,2	-2,9	0,3	-1,2
Peru	2,4	-1,3	4,0	1,9
Dominican Rep.	1,4	1,9	4,1	2,5
Suriname	-0,3	0,4	4,3	1,5
Trinidad & Tabago	-2,4	3,0	5,7	2,0
Uruguay	3,0	-3,6	6,9	2,4
Venezuela	-1,2	-4,1	2,5	-0,7
Latin America & The Caribbean	0,7	-0,4	2,2	0,9

Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

In this graph we can see the disparities between countries in the region, which have resulted in the implementation of some policies towards the achievement of improvements, which have been effective in the working field, unfortunately not as

much in other fields. Productive employment is definitely a key to reducing poverty. The lack of labor productivity results in the difficulty to reduce poverty and the gap between rich and poor. The achievements of a few countries are sometimes overshadowed by the poor management of some governments that have been unable to direct the people towards meeting the provisions of the MDGs.

**Table 2: Employment-population ratio (MDG indicator 1.5) Latin America and the Caribbean 1990-2002-2008 (percentage).**

**a) Latin America**

Country	Both Genders (15 years and more)			Women (15 years and more)			Men (15 years and more)			Youth (Both Genders 15-29 years)		
	Around:			Around:			Around:			Around:		
	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008
Argentina	52,5	49,0	57,0	35,8	38,4	45,2	71,4	61,2	71,1	53,4	40,8	49,5
Bolivia	53,5	61,5	58,7	42,4	52,7	48,5	66,2	71,8	70,1	42,0	47,7	41,7
Brazil	61,1	60,8	63,7	42,6	47,7	52,1	81,0	74,9	76,3	62,6	56,8	60,9
Chile	47,7	50,1	53,1	29,4	35,1	39,2	67,9	66,3	68,3	41,9	38,3	40,8
Colombia	58,6	56,2	56,9	38,8	43,0	43,1	80,9	71,1	71,7	53,1	48,2	47,0
Costa Rica	54,7	55,9	57,9	30,7	38,0	41,8	79,2	74,9	75,0	54,5	49,8	52,2
Ecuador	57,1	60,6	61,1	39,2	45,8	48,2	76,6	75,9	75,4	46,4	49,1	48,4
El Salvador	55,8	56,1	55,5	39,4	42,2	42,4	75,1	72,6	70,8	49,1	49,8	49,1
Guatemala	56,5	66,5	64,9	27,5	46,8	46,3	88,4	88,1	87,0	53,7	63,9	60,4
Honduras	56,1	57,8	58,0	30,6	35,9	38,4	83,9	82,0	80,6	50,8	52,5	50,9
Mexico	52,1	59,2	59,4	28,8	41,9	43,6	77,3	78,4	76,8	47,2	51,8	52,3
Nicaragua	49,6	58,3	60,4	32,7	40,2	41,5	67,9	77,6	80,7	42,7	52,3	54,7
Panama	48,1	54,1	60,3	29,6	36,7	43,6	67,2	71,6	78,0	39,8	44,2	52,0
Paraguay	61,4	59,9	63,8	46,4	50,4	51,9	79,0	71,7	76,7	56,7	52,8	57,4
Peru	67,9	64,5	71,3	56,7	54,8	62,5	79,9	74,6	80,7	60,1	55,4	62,1
Dominican Rep.	52,9	53,3	54,5	31,0	35,4	37,1	76,0	71,5	72,7	46,3	43,7	45,4
Uruguay	52,6	50,2	58,8	38,9	39,6	49,1	69,2	62,4	69,9	52,3	45,1	52,5
Venezuela	51,6	58,0	60,8	32,3	44,4	46,9	71,3	71,6	74,8	41,6	47,5	49,2
Latin America 1	57,4	59,0	61,4	38,1	44,7	48,1	78,3	74,6	75,8	54,3	52,6	54,9
Latin America 2	55,0	57,3	59,8	36,3	42,7	45,6	75,5	73,2	75,4	49,7	49,4	51,5

1: Weighted Average

2: Simple Average

**b) The Caribbean**

Country	Both Genders (15 years and more) Around:			Women (15 years and more) Around:			Men (15 years and more) Around:		
	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008
Dutch Antilles	49,0	50,9	53,5	38,8	44,5	47,1	60,6	58,5	61,1
Bahamas	63,0	65,6	66,6	56,5	59,6	60,7	69,7	71,9	72,8
Barbados	56,9	64,6	66,9	48,8	57,9	60,3	66,0	71,9	74,2
Belize	47,6	55,6	56,8	20,2	35,4	38,8	74,1	75,5	74,5
Cuba	53,0	55,7	56,0	35,2	42,1	43,7	70,8	69,4	68,3
Guadalupe	44,5	45,1	43,1	36,6	39,6	38,3	53,0	51,2	48,4
Guyana	51,7	55,6	58,9	30,9	39,4	41,8	74,7	72,8	74,4
Haiti	56,0	54,8	55,9	39,5	35,2	35,4	73,6	75,7	77,5
Jamaica	61,5	56,5	58,2	51,4	46,2	47,5	72,4	67,4	69,5
Martinica	46,2	45,5	42,5	39,9	40,9	38,2	53,3	50,7	47,5
Puerto Rico	38,1	41,3	42,4	26,9	32,6	34,6	50,5	51,0	51,2
Suriname	44,6	43,5	44,7	29,8	28,9	30,4	59,9	58,5	59,4
Trinidad & Tobago	45,0	55,2	61,5	34,3	41,7	50,5	56,1	69,4	73,0
<b>The Caribbean</b>	<b>50,7</b>	<b>53,3</b>	<b>54,5</b>	<b>37,5</b>	<b>41,6</b>	<b>43,4</b>	<b>64,5</b>	<b>65,5</b>	<b>65,9</b>

Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

The chart above shows the number of working-age population that is employed. The poverty reduction plans tend to be more effective when there is an increase in productivity bound to job creation. A high ratio means that most of the labor force of a country has a stable job, while a low ratio means that there are high levels of unemployment and therefore poverty.

Usually in Latin America, concerning the labor trend, it has been observed that of the total amount of population, the percentage of employed men is higher than women. However, this trend has been changing, and in recent years the incorporation of women into the labor market has been more effective, partly due to the incorporation of internal policies that promote more active female participation. Although it sounds contradictory, a positive aspect of the fact that the occupancy rate of young men has experienced minimal casualties is that it could indicate a higher level of permanence in the educational system.

**Table 3: Proportion of employed population living in poverty (MDG indicator 1.6) and poverty. National total, urban and rural. (percentage)**

Country	Indigence (National)			Indigence (Urban Areas)			Indigence (Rural Areas)			Poverty (National)			Poverty (Urban Areas)			Poverty (Rural Areas)		
	Around			Around			Around			Around			Around			Around		
	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008
Argentina	...	...	...	1.6*	10.5*	3.2*	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.9*	27.3*	10.5*	...	...	...
Bolivia	...	33.8	30.7	12.1	13.7	11.8	...	60.1	58.0	...	56.7	50.1	39.2	39.7	34.3	...	76.7	72.9
Brazil	15.8	8.0	3.9	9.8	5.0	2.2	36.6	21.4	12.2	38.0	27.6	17.3	31.1	23.5	14.1	62.2	46.1	32.7
Chile	6.5	2.4	1.2	6.2	2.0	1.2	7.9	4.9	1.4	26.0	11.9	7.3	25.3	15.6	7.4	26.1	11.4	6.5
Colombia	18.7	15.8	13.3	12.0	14.9	9.3	28.1	17.9	27.4	45.8	39.8	30.0	41.1	39.5	23.6	52.2	40.4	53.0
Costa Rica	4.5	3.4	1.9	2.4	1.9	1.5	6.2	5.8	2.7	15.6	10.9	8.4	14.5	8.8	8.2	16.5	14.2	8.6
Ecuador	...	16.0	12.1	16.9	12.2	8.5	...	24.0	19.2	...	42.0	32.4	50.4	38.1	28.5	...	51.0	40.2
El Salvador	13.4	14.5	11.9	8.7	8.8	8.4	20.6	24.3	18.4	41.1	37.4	36.2	34.0	29.1	30.9	52.1	51.8	45.7
Guatemala	30.4	19.7	20.2	16.3	10.0	9.7	40.1	26.4	32.3	57.6	47.6	44.0	41.1	33.1	33.0	68.8	57.6	56.8
Honduras	49.6	45.3	37.0	31.5	27.7	18.1	64.2	62.6	54.9	71.9	69.5	60.0	59.0	57.7	46.5	82.4	81.0	72.8
Mexico	12.9	8.7	7.1	8.1	4.4	3.8	21.7	16.3	13.8	38.5	31.2	25.6	33.0	24.5	21.0	48.4	43.0	34.7
Nicaragua	34.4	31.2	24.5	22.9	22.1	14.9	50.0	45.2	37.8	61.2	59.5	53.1	51.7	53.3	45.8	74.0	68.9	63.1
Panama	11.4	12.1	8.0	4.6	3.6	1.6	19.8	27.3	20.9	30.3	25.8	17.5	18.1	15.1	8.3	45.7	44.9	35.9
Paraguay	...	24.9	22.5	6.8 <sup>c</sup>	4.7 <sup>c</sup>	11.2 <sup>c</sup>	...	42.6	35.3	...	50.3	48.0	32.0	31.6	37.6	...	65.0	57.6
Peru	19.5	21.6	10.8	5.9	7.6	2.4	45.2	45.6	25.6	38.9	49.8	30.3	24.6	36.0	19.8	65.9	73.6	55.2
Dominican Rep.	...	8.4	10.7	...	6.4	8.8	...	12.5	15.1	...	29.0	29.3	...	26.7	27.4	...	33.8	33.3
Uruguay	...	...	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.6	...	...	1.0	...	...	8.2	11.3	10.0	8.5	...	...	5.1
Venezuela	5.4	11.5	4.3	4.4	...	...	11.3	...	...	22.9	34.1	16.1	21.7	...	...	30.2	...	...
Latin America	17.8	14.9	11.3	10.5	9.1	5.9	35.3	28.3	23.2	39.9	35.6	26.3	33.1	28.6	19.7	58.7	51.1	43.6

Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

The fact that a person works does not mean they stop being poor. Decent work means that, regardless of the conditions in which the employee is, he/she can make a decent living above the poverty line. The income of a worker can be good, but does not necessarily mean that is above poverty, because if at home there are many dependents, the money is not enough to cover all the needs. The labor market in Latin America and the Caribbean still allows a large percentage of workers in some countries find a way out of poverty. It is necessary that people have more stability and that governments ensure the fulfillment of the rights of workers.

**Table 4: Proportion of employed people working on their own or in a family business (MDG indicator 1.7) by sex (percentage of total employment)**

**a) Latin America**

Country	Both Genders (15 years and more) Around:			Women (15 years and more) Around:			Men (15 years and more) Around:			Youth (Both Genders 15-29 years)		
	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008	1990	2002	2008
Argentina	25,6	22,3	19,3	27,0	16,1	16,7	24,8	26,8	21,3	15,9	15,0	10,3
Bolivia	43,7	46,0	36,0	54,1	57,7	44,1	36,0	36,1	29,8	34,2	36,1	24,5
Brazil	28,9	32,7	29,1	30,0	31,9	28,6	28,3	33,2	29,4	22,0	24,4	19,7
Chile	24,5	21,1	21,3	20,7	19,4	20,9	26,3	22,0	21,5	17,2	13,3	11,8
Colombia	44,6	44,9	45,6	35,2	44,6	45,6	49,7	45,2	45,6	36,8	36,6	37,8
Costa Rica	24,3	23,6	19,5	20,4	24,5	20,2	25,8	23,1	19,1	17,0	15,7	10,7
Ecuador	35,6	34,2	36,2	40,5	40,1	45,8	32,9	30,6	30,2	27,8	23,9	25,5
El Salvador	36,2	37,3	35,3	45,8	45,5	45,0	30,2	31,6	28,6	25,5	29,4	25,8
Guatemala	48,0	45,3	44,5	47,1	56,8	54,9	48,3	38,5	38,0	42,5	40,0	37,0
Honduras	49,6	49,3	48,9	50,4	49,2	51,5	49,3	49,3	47,4	41,6	39,6	34,6
Mexico	29,4	29,6	22,6	30,8	35,8	28,2	28,8	26,0	19,1	21,7	21,3	15,0
Nicaragua	46,5	42,2	44,9	44,8	48,4	49,4	47,4	38,7	42,4	39,8	37,4	38,6
Panama	33,8	34,7	30,7	15,9	26,0	28,6	41,9	33,5	32,0	33,4	31,6	25,1
Paraguay	22,9	26,8	26,4	30,8	30,9	32,8	17,4	23,3	21,8	12,1	16,4	16,2
Peru	52,4	53,6	51,4	62,5	63,1	59,6	44,6	46,4	44,6	44,5	44,9	41,3
Dominican Rep.	41,7	43,5	43,8	32,2	30,0	31,2	45,8	50,3	50,6	34,9	35,6	39,7
Uruguay	20,1	25,8	24,9	21,8	20,8	23,7	18,9	29,5	25,7	12,9	19,5	15,3
Venezuela	25,7	39,3	37,5	22,1	42,2	37,1	27,4	37,5	37,7	19,2	33,9	29,7
Latin América 1	33,0	35,0	30,8	34,1	37,0	32,9	32,5	33,6	29,4	25,7	27,2	22,0
Latin América 2	35,2	36,2	34,3	35,1	37,9	36,9	34,7	34,9	32,5	27,7	28,6	25,5

Source: ECLAC. *Avance regional hacia el cumplimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio (Regional progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals)* 1: Weighted Average. 2: Simple Average (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

Among the considerations for measuring the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in the first goal, is the employment rate. Those who work on their own or with family are more likely to fall into poverty, because in many cases there are no guarantees in relation to job security and benefits as required by law. These jobs are considered vulnerable for all the reasons previously mentioned.

**Table 5: Statistics of Goal 1**

**Table 1 - The MDGs in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Goal	Target	Base year	Final year	Gap
1	Proportion of people living on less than \$1 a day	11.3	8.3	2.65
	Poverty gap ratio	3.5	3.5	-
	Proportion of children under five who are underweight (%)	11	7	-
	Proportion of the population below the minimum of energy consumption	13	10	3.5
2	Adjusted net enrolment ratio in primary education	86.3	95.7	4.3
	Proportion of pupils starting grade and reach grade	89	98	-
	Literacy rate among children between 15 and 24 years	92.7	95.5	-
3	Ratio of girls to boys in primary education	0.98	0.98	0.02
	Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education	1.09	1.07	-0.07
	Ratio of girls to boys in tertiary education	1.02	1.14	-0.14
	Ratio of literate women to men from 15 to 24 years	1	1.01	-
	Employees in non-agricultural wage employment who are women	38	43	-
	Proportion of seats held by women in single or lower houses of national parliaments	12	20	-
4	Under-five mortality rate per 1.000 live births	54	31	13
	Children mortality rate per 1.000 live births	110	102	-
	Proportion of 1 year old children immunized against measles	76	92	-
5	Maternal mortality ratio (maternal deaths per 100.000 live births)	-	190	n/a
	Proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel	72	88	-

Source: United Nations (2006) (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

The table shows statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean for 1990 as the base year for the last year available and shows the gap between the goal and the progress made so far, in those cases where it is possible to make this estimate.

## 2.3 Programs for Latin America towards achieving Goal 1

Having made a commitment to comply with the provisions in the Millennium Declaration, world leaders had to implement domestic policies that allow the fulfillment of the goals. Inequality and poverty have decreased considerably over the last decade. A number of countries are in the ability to meet the first MDG if they continue at the same rate of progress to 2015 (in fact, some have already achieved it). However, in 11 of the 17 countries for which data are available for Latin America, the rate of extreme poverty reduction is insufficient.<sup>9</sup>

ECLAC has been developing work to support countries on the way to achieving the MDGs, in terms of public policy as well as monitoring mechanisms. Many of these studies were performed with funding from the Development Account of the United Nations, which aims to provide monetary support to implement plans that help making the MDGs a reality.

Among existing projects for Latin America and the Caribbean we can find:

**The Millennium Development Goals and the challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean towards achieving higher welfare, best human capital and more equal opportunities:** The project has the support of the Development Account of the United Nations and seeks to strengthen the capacity of countries to design and implement policies and programs to promote social inclusion, gender equality and health promotion. This project is present in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as all the regions of the developing world, under the auspices of the five UN Regional Commissions.

Specific goals of the Project:

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<sup>9</sup> LUSTING, Nora. *Pobreza, desigualdad y Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio en América Latina y el Caribe*. Universidad de Tulane (2011) pág. 5. PDF

- Suggest additional indicators and targets that help measure progress towards achieving the MDGs, taking into account the inclusion of vulnerable groups, empowerment of women and the functioning of health systems.
- Identify the existing inequalities at a sub-national level and among specific groups with respect to the MDGs.
- Spreading awareness about the MDGs and social policies that need to be achieved.

**Strengthening the capacity of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean for the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals:** is a project adjusted to the reality of the countries of the region through improving quality and the appropriate use of the information used for monitoring the goals to strengthen the capacity to generate timely information as well as analyze to implement right policies.

**The strengthening the statistical and inter-institutional capacity towards monitoring the MDGs through inter-regional cooperation as well as information exchange:** This inter-regional project is based on previous work of the regional commissions in the field of the MDGs and recognizes the value of working together for the benefit of the member countries of the United Nations.

The main goal of this Project is to move forward in the production of updated and comparable statistics at a national, regional and global scale, by improving the statistical capability as well as the interagency coordination within the countries, reduce the discrepancies between national and international sources, and strengthen the regional network of the MDGs

It is expected that the integration of the various national, regional and international actors, multiplies the impact on a long term project, increasing the national and regional capabilities as well as supporting the implementation of sustainable development strategies all over the region.

From a regional perspective and responding to the members' request, the five regional commissions have taken over a growing active role in the strengthening of the statistical



capabilities for the monitoring of the MDGs, promoting the collaborative work within the countries and at a regional scale. The purpose is to share good practices and learn from each other. The Statistics divisions from the regional commissions have also coordinated their efforts to solve the previously mentioned discrepancies.

Expected results:

Improve and raise the statistics of the MDGs, at a national and regional scale, produced according to international standards and regional benchmarks, through collaborative practices.

Decrease the statistical discrepancies in the indicators for the MDG between national, regional and international sources, improving the statistical capacities and strengthening the interagency coordination within the countries as well as the coordination between them and the international agencies.

Strengthen the network of experts in the Millennium Development Goals, through the exchange of experiences, best practices and methodologies.

**Follow-up of Poverty Monitoring Component of the First Millennium Development Goal. (2007 - 2011):** this project, with the support of the Spanish Agency of International Cooperation for Development and coordination of the Development Division of ECLAC, seeks to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to design and implement social policies and programs based on the effective monitoring of progress in the first three goals of the MDGs.

The project is divided in two phases:

Goals of the first phase: (2007 – 2009):

- Identify the mechanisms that influence the achievements to date, as well as the obstacles that have made it hard for the countries to attain the necessary progress for the accomplishment of the goal. The purpose of this is for governments to have a higher knowledge about the key factors that will allow greater progress.

- Identify how extreme poverty is influenced by macroeconomic policies.
- Examine the effect of the programs to combat poverty, especially conditional transfer programs carried out in the region.
- Allow the governments to have to necessary tools to analyze the progress towards the achievement of the Goal about the reduction of extreme poverty through disaggregating poverty rates by sex, age groups, family type, ethnicity and place of residence.

Goals of the second phase (2010 – 2011):

- Produce a larger knowledge and capacity of the region's countries and analyze the progress registered since 1990 in the first goal: "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger".
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of governments in the region to assess, design and implement programs to combat poverty, malnutrition and vulnerability of workers who contribute to the achievement of MDG in 2015.

**Table 6: Progress towards the MDG (Indicator 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3)**

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: PROGRESS TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS <sup>a</sup>							
Country or territory	Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger						
	Target 1.A Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day						
	Indicator 1.1 Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day <sup>b</sup>			Indicator 1.2 Poverty gap ratio		Indicator 1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption	
	Level 1990	Level 2008	Progress 2008	Level 1990	Level 2008	Level 1990	Level 2008
Latin America and the Caribbean <sup>c</sup>	22.5	12.9	85.3	8.6	4.4	3.2	3.5
Latin America <sup>c</sup>	22.5	12.9	85.3	8.6	4.4	3.2	3.5
Countries with low and medium-low levels of HD <sup>d</sup>	48.4	35.7	52.7	21.0	13.0	2.6	3.1
Haiti			---				
Nicaragua	51.4	33.8	68.5	24.3	12.3	2.1	3.5
Guatemala	41.8	29.3	59.8	18.5	11.3	2.7	2.8
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	39.5	32.4	35.9	9.7	4.5	3.2	4.3
Honduras	60.9	47.1	45.3	31.5	23.9	2.3	1.9
Countries with medium levels of HD <sup>d</sup>	29.6	21.1	57.8	7.7	6.8	4.1	3.9
El Salvador	27.7	18.2	68.6	9.1	8.1	3.4	3.4
Paraguay	35.0	30.8	24.0	3.6	5.7	5.2	5.0
Dominican Republic		22.6	---	8.8	8.8	3.2	2.9
Ecuador <sup>e</sup>	26.2	14.2	91.6	9.2	4.7	4.8	4.4
Countries with medium-high levels of HD <sup>d</sup>	21.0	13.2	74.0	8.8	4.1	2.9	3.9
Peru	25.0	12.6	99.2	10.1	4.0	3.0	4.0
Colombia	26.1	22.9	24.5	13.8	8.3	2.0	2.9
Brazil	23.4	7.3	137.6	9.7	3.3	2.1	2.6
Panama	16.2	13.5	33.3	5.2	1.6	3.2	4.6
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14.4	9.9	62.5	5.0	3.5	4.3	5.2
Countries with high levels of HD <sup>d</sup>	10.7	5.9	88.8	3.5	2.0	4.1	4.2
Costa Rica	10.1	5.5	91.1	4.8	2.2	4.3	4.4
Mexico	18.7	11.2	80.2	5.9	3.2	3.9	4.0
Cuba			---				
Uruguay <sup>e</sup>	3.4	3.5	-5.9	0.9	0.9	4.8	4.9
Argentina <sup>e</sup>	8.2	5.8	58.5	1.6	2.6	4.2	3.7
Chile	13.0	3.7	143.1	4.4	1.1	3.5	4.1

Source: ECLAC. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and challenges (2010)

**Table 7: Income Inequality - Latin America and Europe**

**LATIN AMERICA AND EUROPE (SELECTED COUNTRIES): INCOME INEQUALITY  
BEFORE AND AFTER TAXES AND TRANSFERS, 2008**  
(Percentage variation of Gini coefficient)

<b>Latin America</b>	
Argentina	-2.0
Brazil	-3.6
Chile	-4.2
Colombia	-7.0
Mexico	-3.8
Peru	-2.0
Latin America and the Caribbean (6 countries)	-3.8
<b>Europe</b>	
Austria	-34.2
Belgium	-36.2
Denmark	-40.8
Finland	-34.7
France	-24.4
Germany	-34.9
Greece	-25.0
Ireland	-35.8
Italy	-22.9
Luxembourg	-41.5
Netherlands	-33.3
Portugal	-24.0
Spain	-25.5
Sweden	-35.6
United Kingdom	-34.6
Europe (15 countries)	-32.6

Source: ECLAC. Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails (2010)

**Table 8: Maternal Mortality Rates**

**LATIN AMERICA (SELECTED COUNTRIES): TRENDS IN MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIOS  
(INDICATOR 5.1 OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS), 2001-2008**  
(Per 100,000 live births)

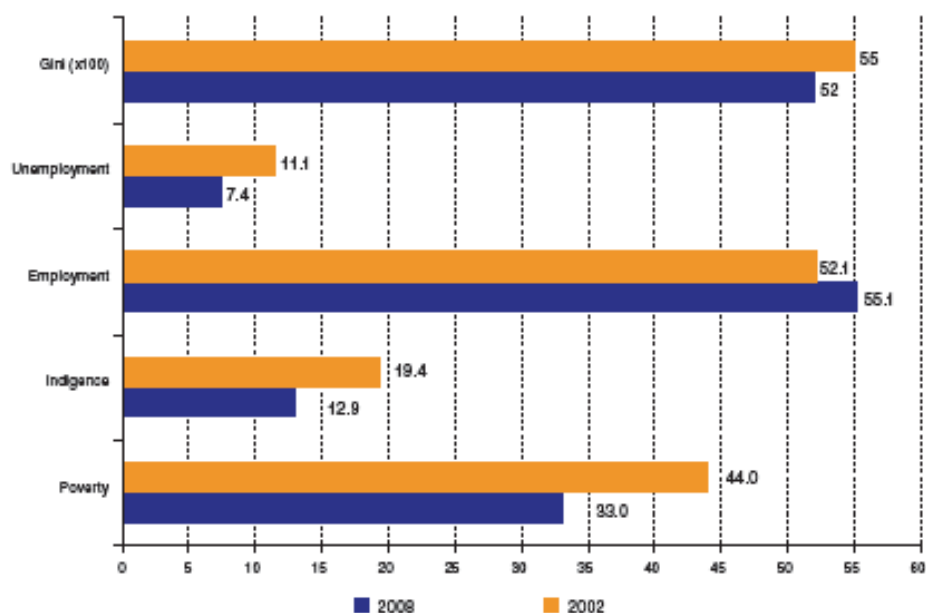
Country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Downward trend</b>									
Paraguay	164	159.7	182.1	174.1	153.5	128.5	121.4	127.3	--
Colombia	104.9	98.6	84.4	77.8	78.7	78.7	72.9	70	75.6
Mexico	72.6	70.8	59.9	62.6	60.9	61.8	58.6	55.6	57.2
Nicaragua	--	87	95.6	82.8	87.3	86.5	90.4	76.5	--
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	--	60.1	67.2	68	57.8	--	59.9	--	56.8
<b>Little variation</b>									
Brazil	73.3	70.9	75.9	73	76.1	74.7	77.2	--	--
Cuba	40.4	33.9	41.1	39.5	38.5	51.4	49.4	31.1	46.5
Costa Rica	35.8	31.4	38	32.9	30.5	36.3	39.3	19.1	--
Chile	18.7	--	16.7	13.4	17.3	19.8	18.1	18.2	--
<b>Upward trend</b>									
Dominican Republic	--	69	82	63	75.3	91.7	80	72.8	86.3
Argentina	35	43.5	46.1	43.6	40.1	39.2	47.8	43.7	--

Source: Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Basic Indicator Database, February 2010.

Source: ECLAC. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges (2010)

**Chart 14: Contrast between 2002 and 2008 (poverty, indigence, employment, unemployment and Gini)**

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: POVERTY, INDIGENCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE GINI COEFFICIENT, AROUND 2002-2008 \***  
(Gini x 100 and percentages)



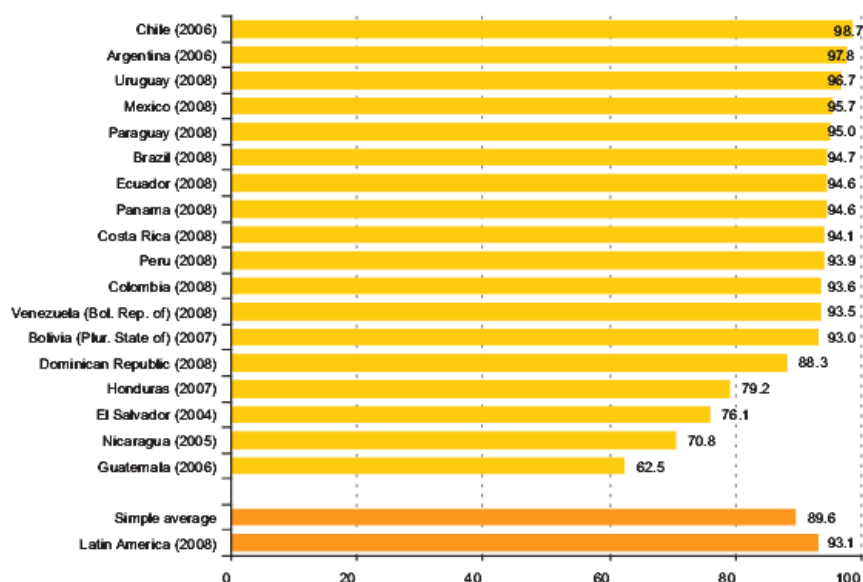
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/International Labour Organization (ECLAC/ILO), "Crisis and the labour market", *ECLAC/ILO Bulletin The employment situation in Latin America and the Caribbean*, No. 1, Santiago, Chile, June 2009.

\* The period 2002 refers to the available survey closest to that year and the period 2008, to available surveys between 2007 and 2008. Unemployment and employment data relate to the urban rate for Latin America and the Caribbean.

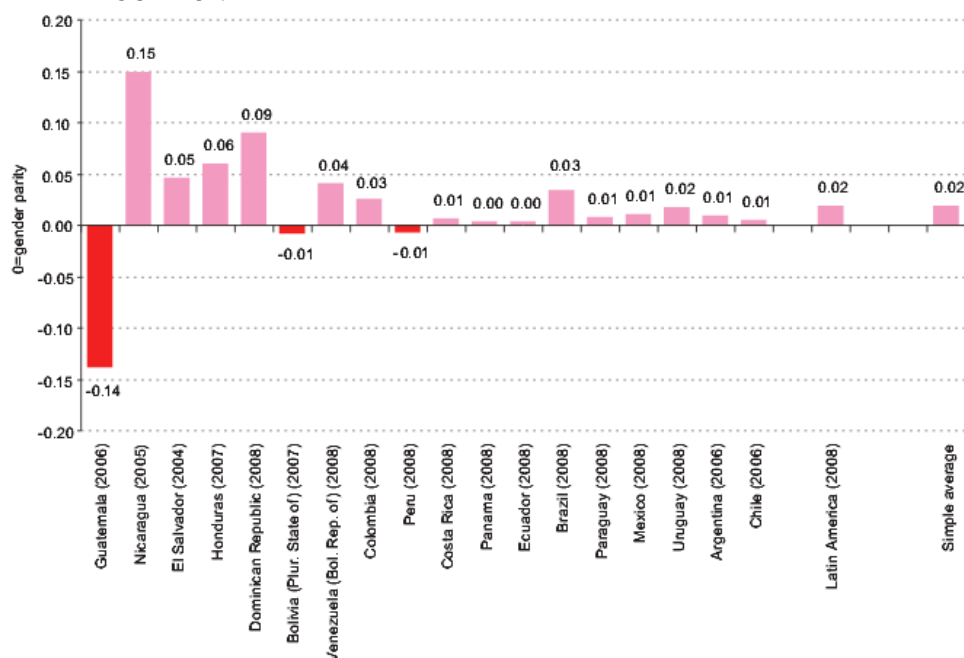
Source: ECLAC. Time for equality: Closing gaps, opening trails (2010)

**Chart 15: Achievements in terms of access to education in Latin America: Circa 2008**

**a) 15 TO 19 YEAR OLDS WHO COMPLETED PRIMARY EDUCATION, AROUND 2008**



**b) GENDER PARITY INDEX OF 15 TO 19 YEAR OLDS WHO COMPLETED PRIMARY EDUCATION**

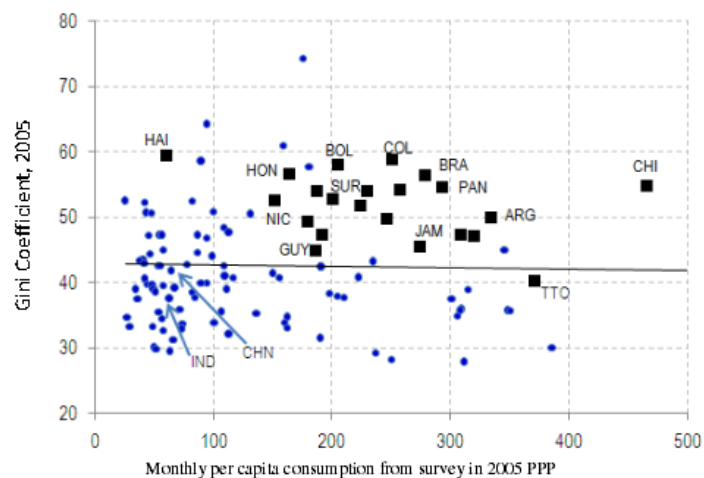


Source: ECLAC. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges. (2010)

## Chart 16: Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean: Poverty and Inequality

### a) INCIDENCE OF POVERTY AND PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION

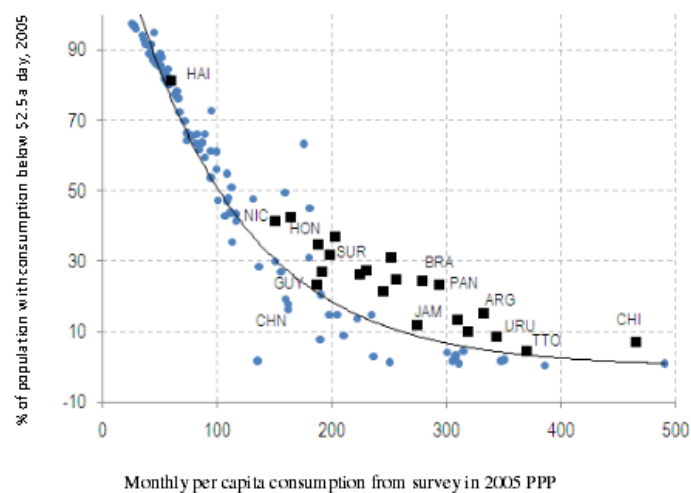
Figure A1: Latin America and the Caribbean is the most unequal region in the world...



Source: IDB staff calculations, World Bank/WDI

### b) GINI COEFFICIENT AND PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION

Figure A2: High levels of inequality mean that there are many more people in the Region than would otherwise be the case

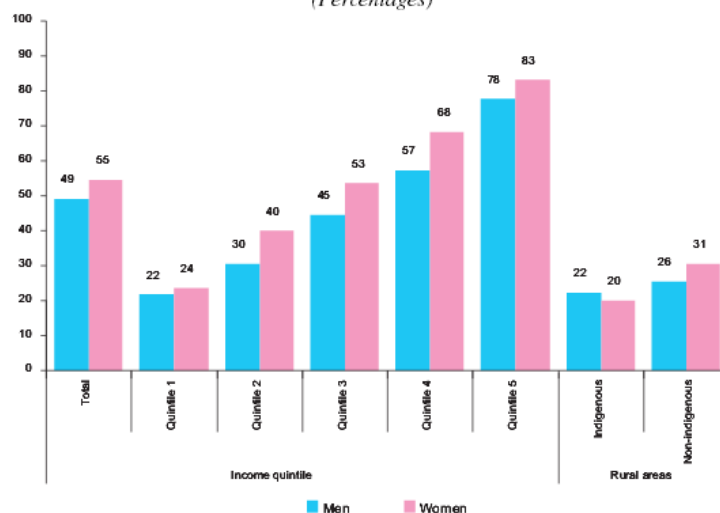


Source: IDB staff calculations, World Bank/WDI

Source: IDB. Strategy on Social Policy for Equity and Productivity (2011)

## Chart 17: Completion of secondary education

LATIN AMERICA (18 COUNTRIES): <sup>a</sup> ADULTS AGED 20-24 WHO COMPLETED SECONDARY EDUCATION, BY PER CAPITA INCOME AND SEX, AROUND 2008  
(Percentages)



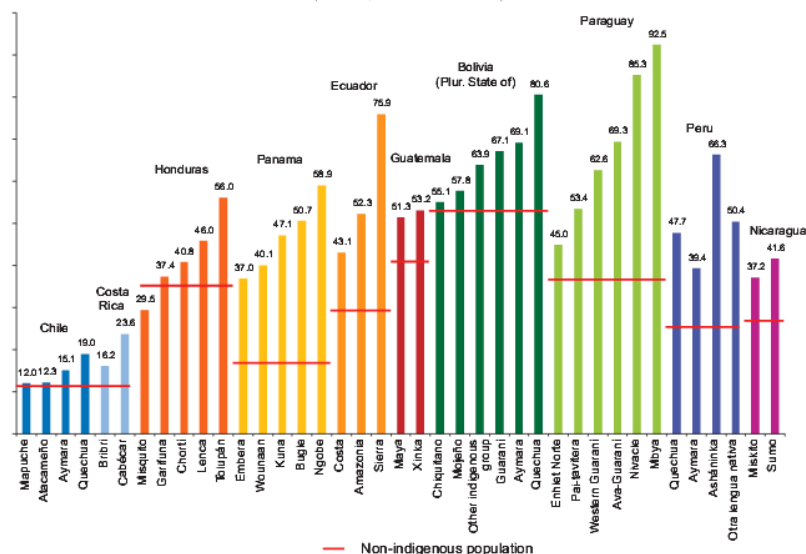
Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

<sup>a</sup> The figures related to indigenous and non-indigenous youth refer to eight countries.

Source: ECLAC. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges. (2010)

## Chart 18: Child mortality according to demographic information

LATIN AMERICA (10 COUNTRIES): INFANT MORTALITY RATE, BY COUNTRY AND INDIGENOUS GROUP, LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE FAMILY AND TERRITORY, 2000 CENSUS ROUND  
(Per 1,000 live births)



Source: ECLAC. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges. (2010)



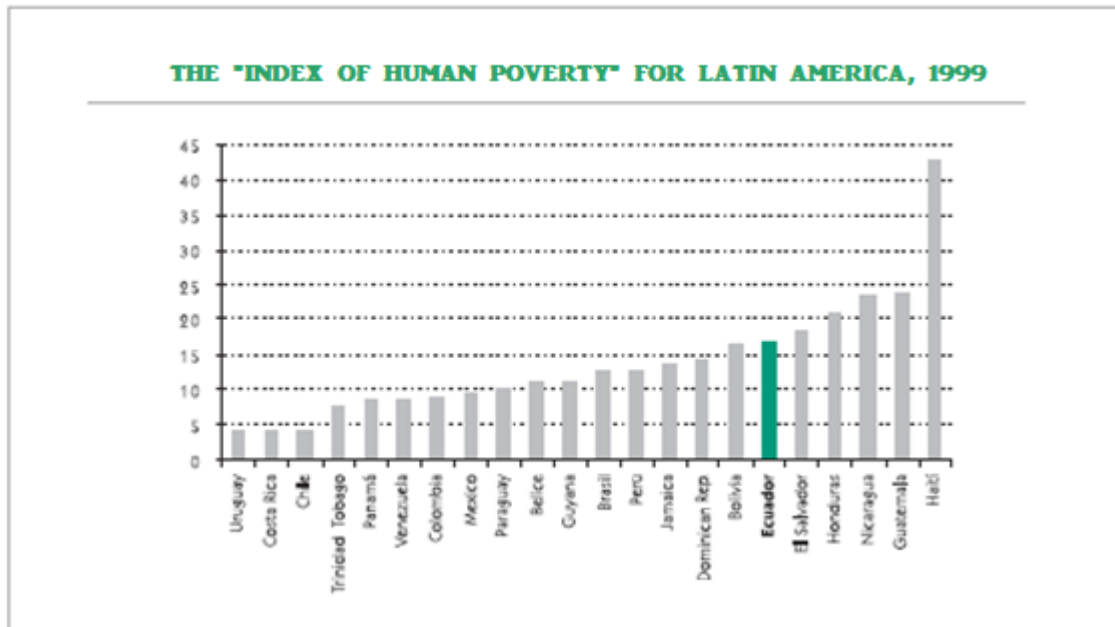
## **CHAPTER III: ECUADOR WITH RESPECT TO GOAL I**

### **3.1 Starting point at the signing of the Millennium Declaration.**

The Millennium Declaration constitutes a global call to bring poverty to the spotlight of the political, economic and social stage and it was the embodiment of the will of the world leaders towards a common improvement. It portrayed the conclusions of all the great summits of the nineties. In order for all the countries to direct their actions and become accountable, eight goals were established, as well as 18 clear and measurable targets within a period of time. Since the beginning it was clear that it was not possible to apply all the goals and targets in the same way to the different contexts. They became a reference point on which countries should work but below which it is not acceptable to live. This series of objectives and goals constitute the most complete and supported initiative.

Their conceptual value is based on the economic and development theories. For poor households, the achievement of the MDGs means a raise in their income, a substantial improvement in their lifestyle and thus, a better future for all their members and through this, an improvement of the chances of the country as a whole. The achievement of the MDGs is the chance for poor people to acquire the necessary human development. Ecuador has set to overcome the established agenda of the MDGs. In other words, improve the lifestyle of the people, beyond of what is proposed in the Millennium Declaration. Even though the initiative proposed by the MDGs is very interesting, it is also true that Ecuador has already set out very ambitious plans concerning aspects like education. In spite of all this, the advantage provided by the MDGs is the wide support they have from all the countries of the world as well as from the international organizations. A plan as big as this, requires a real commitment that overcomes the cultural, social and religious barriers.

**Chart 19: Index of "Human Poverty" for Latin America**



Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio*. (2007) (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

**Table 9: Evolution of poverty and extreme poverty by consumption**

EVOLUTION OF POVERTY AND EXTREME POVERTY CONSUMPTION (% OF TOTAL POPULATION)								
SLC	1995		1998		1999		2006	
	POVERTY	EXTREME POVERTY	POVERTY	EXTREME POVERTY	POVERTY	EXTREME POVERTY	POVERTY	EXTREME POVERTY
Region								
<b>COAST</b>	36,07	9,06	46,44	16,30	52,85	15,98	40,31	10,85
<b>SIERRA</b>	41,73	18,53	42,15	21,77	51,44	24,65	33,75	12,20
<b>AMAZON</b>	60,57	23,80	50,04	22,25	n.d.	n.d.	59,74	39,60
Area								
<b>COUNTRY</b>	63,00	27,37	66,75	33,91	75,05	37,68	61,54	26,88
<b>CITY</b>	23,02	4,11	28,72	7,80	36,39	7,99	24,88	4,78
<b>NATIONAL</b>	39,34	13,60	44,75	18,81	52,18	20,12	38,28	12,86

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio* (2007) (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

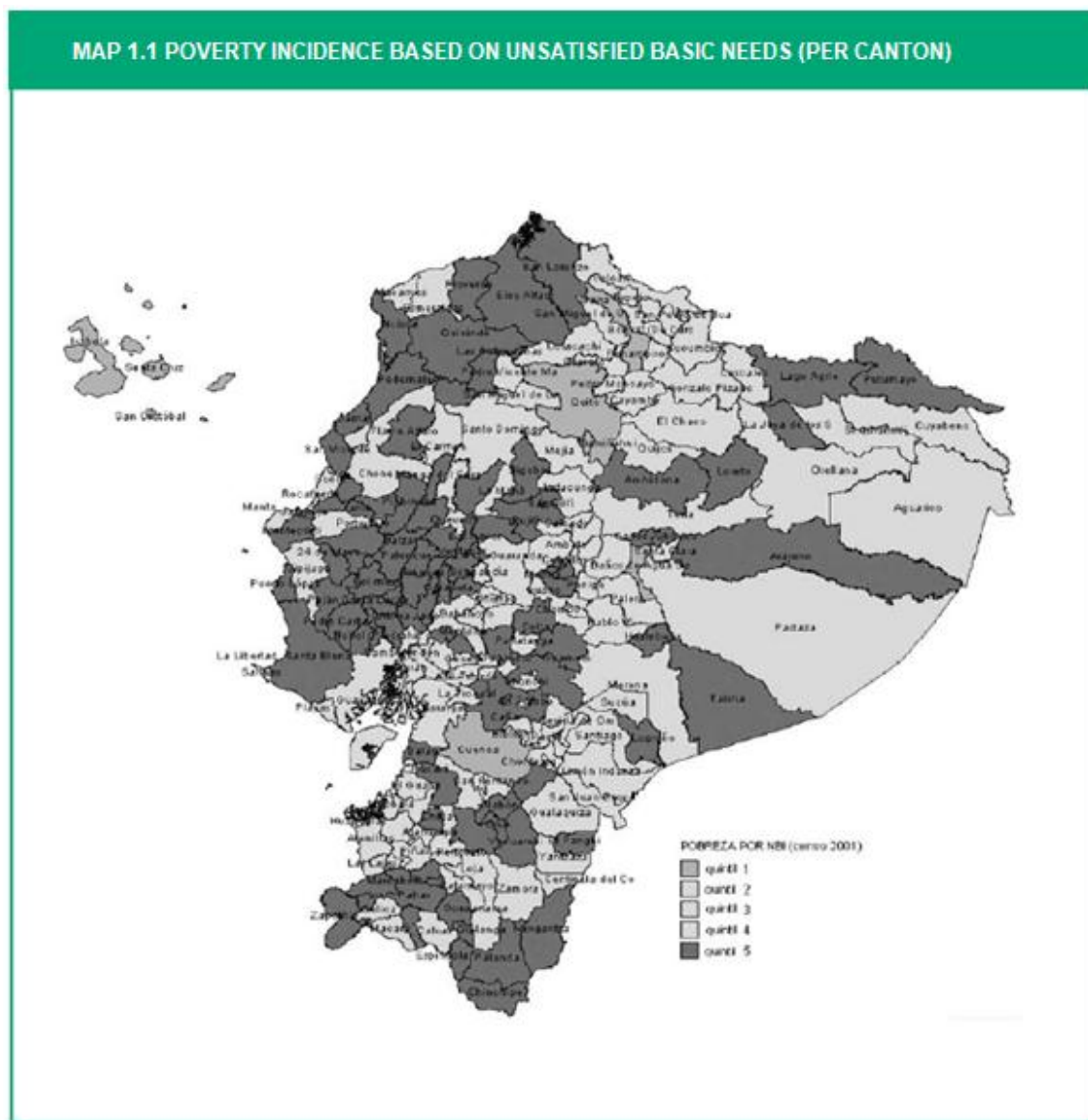
From the second half of the 90s, Ecuador suffered political instability, which very strongly impacted the economy. The excessive growth of inflation, the loss of foreign

investment, the closing down of many companies, among other situations; were the reason for many Ecuadorians to become lost in poverty and also that seeking ways to provide for their families to become extremely difficult. The loss of purchasing power caused by the banking crisis, and political circumstances in Ecuador, not only affected the national economy, but also the morale of all the people who felt let down by their leaders and also helpless not knowing who to trust. Many plans were unfinished due to the frequent changes of government, causing the initiatives to end prematurely.

In the national scenario we observed an increase in total poverty and extreme poverty in the second half of the 90s (from 39% in 1995 to 52% in 1999), and then a reduction in the percentage of poor people in the first half of 2000 (38% in 2006). As it is well known, the increase in poverty in the second half of the nineties was due to a natural disaster (El Niño 1998) and a macroeconomic shock (the banking crisis of 1999 and the global financial crisis). During the first half of the 2000s, there was a reduction in total poverty and extreme poverty. Among the factors responsible for these conditions we can mention: the economic recovery after the crisis (achieved in part through dollarization), investment in oil exploration and the subsequent oil price rise, the money that came from remittances sent by migrants, among others. Despite the positive in these situations, what is worrying is that the progress achieved in terms of poverty reduction during this period, was due to situations outside government administration.

Economic stability is, without any doubt, necessary to reduce poverty and the unbalance it suffers has a strong impact, especially over the poor. Unfortunately the economic prosperity is not enough to reach the goals if there is not a good distribution of wealth. The GDP can grow, but if there is population with unstable working conditions, there is still the risk for them to fall into poverty. The economic recovery has taken some years and still no significant improvements had been reached. In addition it is important to mention that one of the great obstacles that have stood in the way is the continuity of social disparities. In the following chart the presence of poverty in cantons can be observed:

**Chart 20: Poverty incidence based on UBN**



**Source:** UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

According to the map the cantons who are in the most serious poverty by Unsatisfied Basic Needs are:: Río Verde and Eloy Alfaro (Esmeraldas), Taisha and Huamboya (Morona), Guamote and Colta (Chimborazo), Urbina Jado and Colimes (Guayas), Loreto (Orellana), Putumayo (Sucumbíos), Olmedo, 24 de Mayo and Pichincha (Manabí), Espíndola (Loja), Manga del Cura (unbounded zone) and Sigchos (Cotopaxi). On the other hand, the cantons on the best situation are provincial capitals: Rumiñahui,

Quito and Mejía (Pichincha), San Cristóbal, Santa Cruz e Isabela (Galápagos), Cuenca (Azuay), Mera(Pastaza), Ibarra (Imbabura), Baños (Tungurahua), Riobamba (Chimborazo), Quijos(Napo), Loja (Loja), Machala (El Oro), Tulcán(Carchi), Guayaquil (Guayas), Manta (Manabí) y Ambato (Tungurahua).

The estimates are from the Integrated System of Social Indicators of Ecuador (SIISE for its acronym in Spanish) and in this case the criterion used is the Unsatisfied Basic Needs (NBI in Spanish), according to what is established by the Andean Community of Nations. Following this criterion, a household is considered poor if:

- a. The house has physical inadequate characteristics (Those that are inappropriate for human housing: walls made of tin panels, fabric, cardboard, rush mat, plastic, among other materials considered as disposable. The housing considered of precarious conditions includes the houses with soil floor as well. Within this category we can also consider the moving houses, natural refuges, bridges and similar).
- b. The house has inadequate services (housing without correct plumbing system).
- c. The house holds a high economic dependence (those with more than three working member and whose house leader has approved a maximum of two years of primary education).
- d. There are children who are not enrolled in School (Those with at least one child from six to twelve years old who does not attend to school).
- e. The household finds itself in a critical overcrowding state (Those with more than an average of three people per room used for sleeping). If a house does not satisfy one of these needs, it is considered to be poor, and if it does not satisfy two or more needs, it is considered indigent.<sup>10</sup>

The following chart presents the results of the estimates of the ISSIE:

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<sup>10</sup> UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* Pg. 45

**Table 10: Incidence of poverty and extreme poverty (data per province, ethnicity and area)**

CHART 1.2 - INCIDENCE OF POVERTY AND EXTREME POVERTY BASED ON CONSUMPTION (PER PROVINCE)		
Province	Extreme	Poverty
Bolívar	60,62	32,31
Amazonía	59,76	39,61
Carchi	54,59	24,73
Chimborazo	54,09	28,76
Manabí	53,23	18,69
Esmeraldas	49,75	21,25
Los Ríos	49,04	12,61
Cotopaxi	47,93	21,66
Loja	47,16	19,90
Imbabura	43,69	19,81
Cañar	38,73	13,13
Tungurahua	36,20	10,19
Guayas	34,77	7,34
El Oro	28,07	5,13
Azuay	26,62	7,03
Pichincha	22,42	5,13
Nacional	38,28	12,8

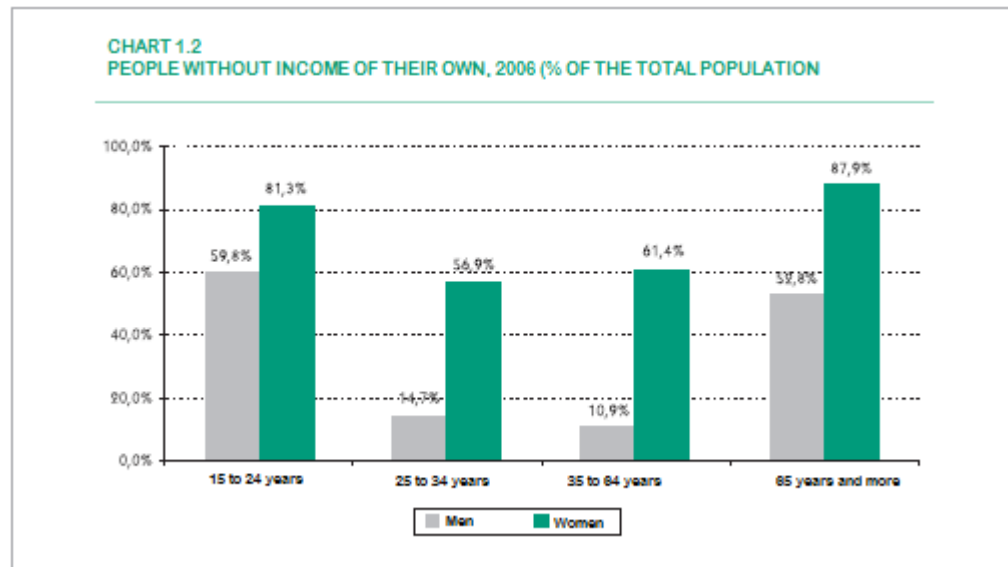
  

CHART 1.3 - INCIDENCE OF POVERTY AND EXTREME POVERTY BY ETHNICITY AND AREA CONSUMPTION ( % OF THE TOTAL POPULATION)		
	Poverty	Extreme Poverty
Area		
Country	61,54	26,88
City	24,88	4,78
Ethnicity		
Indigenous	67,79	39,32
African-Ecuadorian	43,28	11,64
Mestizo	30,78	8,28
White	27,41	7,58
Others	26,14	13,20
Nacional	38,28	12,86

**Source:** UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

Other important element to be considered, as it has already been mentioned, is the disparities between the levels of poverty within the various social groups. In this sense, the level of poverty of indigenous groups, Afro-Ecuadorian and people from the countryside are a lot higher than the national average. Those who define themselves as indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian live in poverty over the national average. While considering the people who lack personal income, for example those who work in vulnerable situations, are retired, handicapped or unemployed we can observe that, whilst in average 34% of men around 15 years have no permanent income, this average rises in the case of women, around 70% (EUS). The differences between the income of men and women are the evidence that gender equality is a strong factor in the reduction of poverty.

**Chart 21: People without income of their own**



Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

### 3.2 Programs in Pro of the achievement of Goal 1.

Following there are the programs established by the Ecuadorian government towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

#### 3.2.1 International Programs

- **Fund for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Ecuador**

The Fund for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (F-ODM in Spanish) is a mechanism of international cooperation destined to accelerate the process towards attaining the MDGs all over the world. It was established in December 2006, since a 528 million Euros (USD 710 million) contribution from the Spanish Government to the United Nations system. The fund supports national governments, local authorities and citizen organizations in their efforts to tackle poverty and inequality. The MDG-F has 128 programs in 49 countries in 5 regions of the world. In Ecuador supports the implementation of four joint programs:

## **Conservation and sustainable management of natural and cultural heritage of the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve**

Yasuní Program allows progress towards achieving MDG 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability) through contribution to the conservation of one of the most biologically diverse and cultural areas of the world as well as the fulfillment of MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) by promoting community management of biodiversity and natural resources in order to generate sustainable sources of income.

- **Development and cultural diversity for poverty reduction and social inclusion**

The program promotes the appreciation of cultural, inclusion and intercultural dialogue. It narrows the gaps of discrimination and exclusion, in the exercise of rights that affect the population who find their opportunities -to education, healthcare, productions means and other aspects that influence poverty- restricted due to cultural and ethnic reasons. The program contributes to MDG I, II, III, V and VII.

- **Youth, Employment and Migration for reducing inequities in Ecuador**

The program contributes to the creation of a favorable environment for the creation of decent work particularly aimed at young people. In the case of Ecuador, youth is one that supports the highest levels of underemployment, unemployment and precarious work conditions. The previous, together with other factors, motivate the forced migration of youth.

- **Governance of water and sanitation areas in Ecuador, in the context of the MDGs**

The program contributes to building democratic governance and sustainable water and sanitation services, with a focus on integrated water management at the river basin. It also searches to promote social, territorial and gender equity, in a key sector for compliance of the Millennium development Goals and sustainable human development in Ecuador.



- **Focus Country Initiative**

In 2009, nine countries in different regions of the world were selected to receive additional support for the rigorous application of advocacy, communication strategies, monitoring and tracking. Ecuador was one of the countries chosen as focal participants, under the criterion of having a large indigenous population in its territory. This designation seeks to stimulate creative and innovative interventions on communication and evaluation, which can become examples of interventions and collective impacts in relation to poverty reduction and achievement of the MDGs.

### **Incidence and communication**

Keep the focus on the MDGs and ensure they have high priority in the political debate is central to its achievement, especially when approaching the 2015 deadline. The advocacy and communication strategy seeks to help the MDG Fund to move towards your main goal to accelerate progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), responds to the need to strengthen the effective participation of citizens in national development efforts calls for joint advocacy interventions for developing inclusive public policies and practices that respond to the needs of the poorest.

### **Monitoring and follow-up**

The MDG Fund is a cooperative mechanism for results that positively impact the citizens and institutions. Hence the importance of accountability of all partners, and above all, backed by a rigorous monitoring and evaluation system that helps to learn and improve the decision-making process.

Monitoring and evaluation is useful to determine trends, measure change and gather information to improve program performance and increase transparency sets. Management of development outcomes is a priority as well as a process of continuous monitoring and evaluation, which can provide guidance for program interventions and contribute to the generation and management of knowledge. The objective is to evaluate the effects and progress towards the formulation of public policies and improved

livelihood of people, focusing on the results of the Joint Programs and not just in their activities.

### 3.2.2 Government Programs

**Table 11: Programs and policies towards the achievement of Goal 1**

Type of Policy	People centered policies	Place based policies	Sectorial policies	Re-distributive policies
Scope	a. Social protection/ Human development	b. Rural territorial development	c. Agricultural sector policy	d. Redistribution e. Access to productive assets
Tools and Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conditional transfer programs, healthcare and education programs with attention to minorities</li> <li>• Social and economic inclusion, procurement</li> <li>• Targeted programs: Human development bonus, <i>INFA</i>, <i>Alimentate Ecuador</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clusters, value chains, productive alliances, associativity, territorial participatory planning, special economic zones (SEZs)</li> <li>• Comprehensive territorial intervention programs</li> <li>• Competitive funds</li> <li>• Socio-productive projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural credit, agricultural technical assistance</li> <li>• Productive partner programs</li> <li>• <i>PRONERI</i></li> <li>• Agricultural insurance, schools of the agrarian revolution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agrarian reform</li> <li>• Land plan</li> <li>• Land national fund</li> </ul>
Laws	Public procurement law Popular and solidarity economy law	Production code	Land law Agrarian development act and rural employment Food sovereignty law	Land law

Source: *RIMISP. Diagnóstico de la pobreza rural en Ecuador y Respuestas de Política Pública. (2010) Pág. 8.* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

The policies implemented in Ecuador have been the result of changes in the legislation of the country, which has been produced through the new Constitution of 2008. The National Planning Secretariat (SENPLADES) has proposed National Plan for Good Living, involving various government agencies.

**National Plan for Good Living 2009 - 2013:** the instrument of the national government to create public policy to management and public investment.

The Plan has 12 National Strategies, 12 national objectives, whose fulfillment will consolidate the change Ecuadorian citizens in the country who yearn for the Good Life.

The Plan was prepared by the SENPLADES in his capacity as Technical Secretariat of the National Decentralized Participatory Planning, under Executive Order 1577 in February 2009 and presented by President Rafael Correa, for clearance in the National Planning Council.

The National Development Plan, referred in this period of Government as NATIONAL PLAN FOR GOOD LIVING 2009 - 2013 poses new challenges oriented towards the realization and radicalization of the project focused on change, to reach the construction of a Plurinational and Intercultural State, to finally reach the "Good Life" and Ecuadorians of.

**Target 1:** The goal of ending extreme poverty in Ecuador shows a serious back step between 1995 and 2006. The report demonstrates that there are no significant progresses towards reaching the goal and therefore, a decade could be considered to be lost in the achievement of the goal previously mentioned.

I has been established that a goal towards the reduction of poverty should include the following elements: have a strategy against crises (natural or macroeconomic), promote the development of capabilities and skills of poor people, especially concerning education and health, create mechanisms of productive inclusion and finally have a social security system that that protects the poor population.

The report makes an analysis of the existing social policies and of the key interventions made by the current administration. A number of suggestions with respect to policies are made, as well as the amount of money necessary to achieve the goal. On the other hand, the country broadened the scope of Goal 1 and included as a target the issue of "inequality". Basically the plan is to reverse the trend of the increasing inequality

observed in the past years. Under the light of this goal, there are some results that are not encouraging. On the other hand, a considerable increase of the social inequality in the last decade.

**Main policies:**

Reduce/ End extreme poverty.

- Improve the social security system.
- Improve or broaden the capacities: children development programs, universal primary education, healthcare services and a reform to the Human Development Bonus.
- Promote the productive inclusion through agro-productive and tourism chains.
- Reform and broaden the scope of social security.

Reduce inequality:

- Make a tax reform.
- Improve the equity of the social expenses.
- Alter the structure concerning land property.

Close the urban – rural gap through rural development programs that include: infrastructure development, agro-productive chains, increase of the rural labor productivity, and increase of the rural land productivity and redistribution of the productive assets. In addition the development agro- activities, eco-tourism and of artisans, as well as activities linked to reforestation and environmental services.

**Target 2:** The reduction (or end of hunger) in Ecuador should establish child undernourishment as its central problem.

This indicator has shown a reduction during the last decade. However, the country is far from being able to compare itself with neighboring countries with respect to the

progresses. On the other hand, Ecuador faces a bad nutrition issue, characterized by deficiencies of Vitamin A, Zinc, overweight and obesity, among others. Updating the nutritional surveys should be a priority, in order to have a clear idea of nutritional issues Ecuador faces.

Finally, there are other elements as food security and productive factors, which prolong the poverty cycle and worsen the food and nutritional issue.

**Main policies:**

- Build a specific survey to acquire nutritional information of the general population as well as of underage population, in order to use this as a basis to the correct creation of policies.
- Coordinate the multiple interventions around the goal of reducing chronic undernourishment, with specific lines of action directed to high-risk population located in rural areas, especially in the Sierra.
- Combine the various food distribution programs and make them a central aid program ruled by a nutritional criterion in the selection of the people benefited and of the food.
- Continue with the impact assessment of some of the programs and begin a thorough assessment of those who have not been scheduled yet, in order to improve their efficiency.
- Promote breastfeeding.
- Food supplement with vitamin A.
- Distribute micronutrients.
- Provide nutritional training, especially to mothers.

The Ministry of Education has a program of School Feeding, directed to day care centers, public schools, municipal and special schools for children around 5 to 14 years old. The program delivers Breakfast and lunch, prepared by parents and volunteers.

The Social Welfare Ministry has the following programs: *Alimentate Ecuador* (Feed Ecuador), *Programa Operación Rescate Infantil* (Child Rescue Operation Program), *Fondo de Desarrollo Infantil* (Child Development Fund) and *Bono de Desarrollo Humano* (Human Development Bonus). In Addition the Ministry has other programs directed to improving the nutritional and food security in families who live in extreme poverty. The goal of the Child Rescue Operation Program is to promote and guarantee the fulfillment of right for children under five, paying special attention to those in disadvantage. The program attends for eight hours in a process that includes healthcare, initial education and nourishment. With respect to this last topic, complete meals are supplied to children y community nurseries.

The Child Development Fund is focused on the allocation of resources for the implementation of projects in favor of children under five. These are focused on initial education and family training about nutritional issues, protection, among others. This program shows that up to 2006, 191.565 children have been benefited by it. In 2005 the budget was of about USD 10'320.835 and it reached 46 million in 2006.

The Human Development Bonus is a program that incorporates the search for the nutritional improvement. This program was reviewed with a particular emphasis in target 1.

At present time, the Public Wealth Ministry has a program handled by the National Nutrition Direction, in which there are four strategic axes:

- The Food and Nutrition Surveillance System wishes to recover the nutritional information of the benefit population in Ecuador. However, its implementation and enforcement still shows some serious deficiencies. The Food and Nutrition Education Program's goal is to guide the families and the community towards acquiring healthy habits, through permanent education.

There is an important link between the programs. In some cases they have been put under one system in order to be monitored and improve its focus and scope. This is the case of the School Feeding program, Feed Ecuador and others. They have been put together under the Food and Nutrition Integrated System. These actions are directed towards the systematization of the interventions to produce higher efficiency. Various investigations made in Ecuador show that the micronutrients deficiencies affect a high percentage of women and children. The anemia due to iron deficiency is estimated to affect 65% of the underage between 6 to 12 months, 61% of children from 1 to five years and 60% of pregnant women. Concerning Vitamin A deficiency, around 10 to 26% of five-year olds shows retinol deficit.

The most logic decision to prevent retinol and Vitamin A deficit is to guarantee the access to, on the hand, a diet which contains them in enough quantities of them and on the other, a sanitary infrastructure that contributes to eliminate the issue of the parasitosis. Unfortunately, the actions in both fields continue to be fairly limited. In consequence every time, larger amounts of population live in unhealthy environments and monotonous diets.

The Micronutrients Integrated program began its operational phase in 1007 and was implemented nationwide in the Ministry of Public Health and it has three defined strategies:

- Supplementing: Uses pills or syrup with iron and mega-dosed Vitamin A capsules. This is a short term intervention and not self-sustainable, but it does help with the serious deficiency issues.
- Food Fortification: Is the incorporation of nutrients to the popular consumption food. It allows solving specific deficiencies on a medium term basis. In Ecuador, salt is being fortified with iodine and fluorine; wheat flour, with iron, folic acid and B complex.
- Diet diversification: it is a long term intervention. It wishes to introduce good eating habits.

The general goal of the program is to contribute on the reduction of the nutritional issues of the Ecuadorian population of high social and biological risk. The supplement strives to reduce in three years the deficiency of Vitamin A and iron to levels that go according to Public Healthcare. On the other hand the specific goals establish that:

1. Supplement with iron all pregnant women who attend prenatal care, at least for five months between diagnose of the pregnancy and its end.
2. Promote supplement with iron to 100% of children one cared by the Public Health Ministry.
3. Supplement with Vitamin A 80% of the population of children from 6 to 36 months cared by the Public Health Ministry.

Nourishment and Food program is part of the Public Health Ministry and seeks to cover the nutritional requirements of children up to 36 months old, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. An important element that supports this, is the Nutritional and Food Security Law, which is part of the fundamental rights of the population and searches to guarantee the access of the entire population to healthy, nutritional, sufficient, safe, good quality food and coherent with the culture, preferences and traditions of the people.

The program has the mission of preventing undernourishment in children from 6 to 36 months and the improvement of the nutritional state of pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.

There are three strategic lines which are part of the policy:

- Education, information and communication: Its purpose is to support the fulfillment of the program's goal (give coverage to 468.000 people).

For this there will be continuity to the communication campaign, directed to families.



- Training and community participation: Healthcare personnel, facilitators, community leaders and the community itself will continue to be trained.
- Preparation and distribution of fortified food supplements: The beneficiaries of the program, according to the goals of SIAN, are 468 000, which also correspond to quintiles 1 and 2. However, considering the PHM database, will be addressed to 719 000 children 6-36 months old, to 360 000 324 000 pregnant and lactating mothers. The focus of the program is considered to cover 80% of children and 60% of pregnant women and lactating mothers. To ensure the safety and quality of products, a sampling and analysis is conducted in accredited laboratories to verify compliance with microbiological standards and micronutrients.

The approach is to significantly improve the delivery of food supplements. LCA 2005 - 2006 presents coverage among poor (quintiles 1 and 2 SELBEN index), close to 64% nationwide.

*Alimentate Ecuador*: The program was created on 12 January 2001 and raises the attention of soup kitchens and community work parties to address the nutritional problems of the population. In 2002 becomes the PRADEC, Community Development program under the same physiognomy, and then placed in the SELBEN allocation system. Finally, on May 26, 2004 becomes *Alimentate Ecuador* program, redirecting its target primary care of children between 2 and 6 years.

Currently, the program works as a technical unit of SWM (Social Welfare Ministry). The program serves three main groups through two components: food assistance (20% of resources) for disabled people of all ages and adults over 65, and with the nutritional component for children 3-5 years 11 months, all of them in a vulnerable and that are registered in the lists prepared by SELBEN technically.

This program aims to contribute to the nutrition of the most vulnerable sectors of the country. To meet this objective, the program establishes purposes for children 2-5 years old, improve health and nutrition, reduce the prevalence of anemia and promote their cognitive and psychomotor.

Depending on the target groups of the program, deliveries of the following products are made: rice, beans or lentils, sugar, oil, tuna or sardines (118 elderly and disabled). For children under 6 years NUTRIINFA delivery fortified product which contains a special nutrient base for that age range.

The fortified food delivery started in 2005 and this product came from June through unique delivery. Currently is in the process of replacing it with another product NUTRIINFA67 fortified own program with enhanced nutritional characteristics. It is worth mentioning that along with the fortified product, children beneficiaries also receive other food products that function as "hook" for the family and prevent the NUTRIINFA be consumed by other household members.

**Table 12: Beneficiaries of the program "*Aliméntate Ecuador*"**

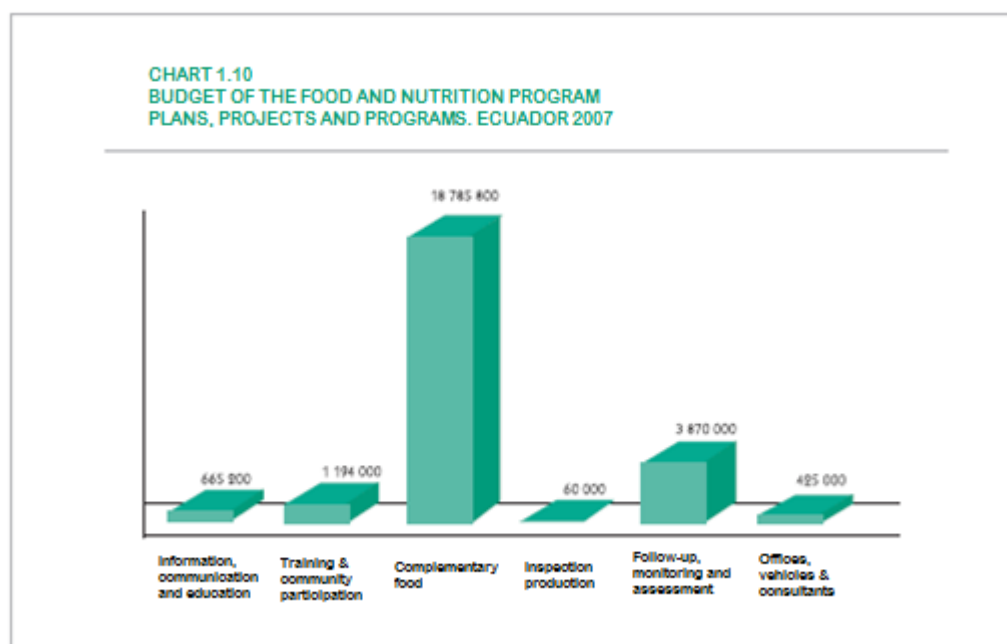
CHART 1.19 - BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAM " <i>ALIMENTATE ECUADOR</i> " (NUMBER OF CHILDREN, ADULTS AND DISABLED)			
PRADEC	2002	2003	2004
Children (2 - 5 years old)	34 028,00	248 088,00	192 768,00
Children (7 - 14 years old)	73 299,00		
Adults over 65 years	159 568,00	69 291,00	76 898,00
Development managers (Development project)	98 034,00	43 000,00	
Disabled people		28 729,00	27 197,00
Subtotal	364 929,00	389 108,00	296 863,00

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

The above table shows a sustained record of beneficiaries who are seniors and people with disabilities. However, in the case of children, has a peak in 2003 and fall in 2004, as a result of product introduction processes fortified and targeting of beneficiaries. In terms of coverage, the program still cannot reach the poor total of SELBEN quintiles 1 and 2. In 2004, the program served only 32% of children in poverty, 41% of seniors and 39% of disabled poor.

Reported coverage through February 2006 is reported in the following table, which is additionally a subdivision at the provincial level:

**Chart 22: Budget for the program PANN (Food and Nutrition Program)**



Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

**Table 13: Budget approved for the program PANN (Food and Nutrition Program)**

<b>CUADRO 1.22 PRESUPUESTO APROBADO - PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTACIÓN Y NUTRICIÓN - PANN, ECUADOR 2007</b>		
<b>Planes, programas y proyectos</b>	<b>Indicador de gestión</b>	<b>Costo anual en dólares</b>
<b>Información, comunicación y educación</b>		
Campañas de difusión en medios masivos de comunicación	- 6 243 cuñas y 74 spots mensuales	480 000
Reproducción y distribución de materiales	- 1 796 UO dotadas de materiales	100 000
Ruedas de prensa	- Una rueda de prensa trimestral en las 22 provincias	35 200
Ferías	- 4 ferías por trimestre en las 22 provincias	30 000
Seguimiento y monitoreo	- Una reunión trimestral en las 22 provincias	20 000
<b>Subtotal: Información, comunicación y educación</b>		<b>665 200</b>
<b>Capacitación y participación comunitaria</b>		
Capacitación en alimentación y nutrición	- 6 000 capacitados en 167 talleres mensuales	864 000
Educación a la comunidad	- 9 000 educandos en 1 796 talleres	180 000
Material de capacitación	- 1 700 UO, 170 áreas y 22 provincias atendidas	150 000
<b>Subtotal: Capacitación y participación comunitaria</b>		<b>1 194 000</b>
<b>Alimentos complementarios</b>		
Producción y distribución	- 1 000 TM MI RAPIÑA - 700 TM MI BEBIDA	18 785 800
Seguimiento y monitoreo	- 4 inspecciones a plantas de producción - 4 provincias por cada distribución	60 000
<b>Subtotal: Alimentos complementarios</b>		<b>18 845 800</b>
<b>Seguimiento, monitoreo y evaluación</b>		
Sistema	- 1 796 UO y 170 áreas operando - 365 días accesibles al usuario - 70 personas capacitadas	3 175 000
Refocalización	- Aplicación de recomendaciones	10 000
Red de apoyo interinstitucional	- 20 convenios	20 000
Medición de gestión del programa	- Un estudio de base de aceptabilidad del programa - Un estudio de base. Continuidad estudio de impacto - Un informe trimestral y un taller semestral de seguimiento de aplicación de estrategias - Anuario. Una publicación anual - 22 provincias dotadas de materiales	265 000
<b>Subtotal: Seguimiento, monitoreo y evaluación</b>		<b>3 470 000</b>
<b>Administrativo financiero</b>		
a. Administrativo financiero	- Consultoría y gastos administrativos	825 000
b. Mantenimiento de oficinas y materiales	- Contratos de arrendamiento, formatos de adquisiciones, materiales de oficina	
c. Consultores (estadia y desplazamiento)	- Estadia y desplazamiento de consultores	
d. Adquisición de vehículos	- Adquisición de vehículos	
<b>Subtotal: Administrativo financiero</b>		<b>825 000</b>
<b>Total: Programa de Alimentación y Nutrición - PANN</b>		<b>25 000 000</b>

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)*

### 3.3 Results achieved by 2010. UN Reports July to December 2010.

**Chart 23: Progresses and Achievements: Goal 1 - Target 1**

LOGROS (Metas cumplidas o alcanzables metas que requieren	PROGRESOS (Metas en proceso de hasta el 2015)	DESAFÍOS (Retrocesos, metas detenidas cumplimiento)
<b>OBJETIVO 1: ERRADICAR LA POBREZA EXTREMA Y EL HAMBRE</b>		
<b>Meta 1: Reducir a la mitad el porcentaje de personas indigentes (pobres extremos).</b>		
		<b>Extrema pobreza de consumo</b> 1995: 13,6% 1998: 18,81% 1999: 20,12% 2006: 12,86%
		<b>Pobreza de consumo</b> 1995: 39,34% 1998: 44,75% 1999: 52,18% 2006: 38,28%
		<b>Extrema pobreza por NBI</b> 2006: 27,6%
		<b>Pobreza por NBI</b> 1995: 55,4% 1998: 55,0% 1999: 52,9% 2006: 54,0%
		<b>Mujeres sin ingresos propios</b> 2006: 70,56% 15-24 años: 81,3% 25-34 años: 56,9% 35-64 años: 61,4% 65 o más años: 87,9%
		<b>Modelo probit para pobreza de consumo</b> Dummy 1998: 0,1526 Dummy 1999: 0,2731 Dummy 2006: 0,1434
		<b>Coefficiente de Gini del ingreso</b> 1999: 0,57 2001: 0,62 2003: 0,56 2005: 0,55
		<b>Coefficiente de Gini del consumo</b> 1995: 0,42 1998: 0,44 1999: 0,45 2006: 0,46

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)* (Original chart in Spanish and translated by the author of this project)

**Chart 24: Progresses and Achievements: Goal 1 - Target 2**

LOGROS (Metas cumplidas o alcanzables metas que requieren)	PROGRESOS (Metas en proceso de hasta el 2015)	DESAFIOS (Retrocesos, metas detenidas cumplimiento) y
<b>Meta 2: Reducir a la mitad, entre 1990 y 2015, el porcentaje de personas que están desnutridas o que padecen hambre.</b>		
	<b>Desnutrición crónica</b> 1999: 26,8% 2004: 23,1% 2006: 18,1%	
	<b>Desnutrición global</b> 1999: 13,4% 2004: 9,3% 2006: 8,6%	
	<b>Condición nutricional de menores de 5 años (2004)</b> Bajo peso/ edad: 1,9% Normal: 43,1% Sobrepeso IMC 25 - 29,9: 40,4% Obesidad IMC > 30,0: 14,6% Sobrep. y obes. IMC > 25: 55,0%	
	<b>Regresión logaritmo del consumo de alimentos</b> Dummy 1998: -0,326 Dummy 1999: -0,575 Dummy 2006: 0,20	

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)*

**Table 14: Summary of the expenses of policies towards the achievement of the MDG**

RESUMEN DEL COSTEO DE POLITICAS PRIORITARIAS PARA ALCANZAR LOS ODM, 2008					
Programa	Beneficiarios	Tipo de beneficiario	2007	2008	Inversión adicional
<b>Objetivo 1</b>					
<b>Meta 1</b>					
Programas de desarrollo Infantil	563 000	Niños/as	127 000 000	149 000 000	22 000 000
Bono de Desarrollo Humano y Bono de Emergencia	1 400 000	Hogares	371 126 000	371 126 000	
Hilando el Desarrollo		Alumnos y microempresarios	2 500 000	25 000 000	22 500 000
Microempresas turísticas	4 000	Microempresarios	800 000		
Cadenas agro-productivas			96 700 000		
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>598 126 000</b>		<b>44 500 000</b>
<b>Objetivo 1</b>					
<b>Meta 2</b>					
Programa de Micronutrientes		Madres y niños/as	1 487 856		
Programa de Alimentación y Nutrición	719 000	Madres y niños/as	25 000 000		
Alimentate Ecuador	353 000	Estudiantes	10 900 000		
Programa de Alimentación Escolar	1 953 000	Estudiantes	25 000 000		
Encuesta Nutricional			1 000 000		
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>62 387 856</b>		

Source: UNDP & Ecuadorian Government. *II Informe Nacional de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio. (2007)*

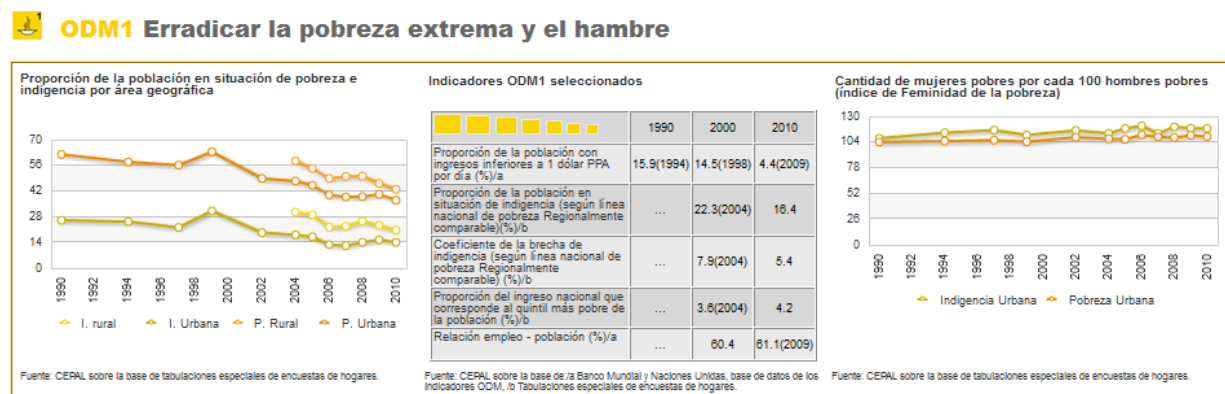
In Ecuador, the MDGs are a priority agenda to move towards adequate conditions for development. As citizens know and discuss more about the millennium development goals, there will be a better chance of building roads to development. Moreover, the targets and indicators of the MDGs can become effective tools for accountability of rulers and ruled.

### **GOAL 1: Eradicate poverty and food problems**

In the period 2006-2010, the national poverty has been reduced by 5 percentage points (from 37.6 to 32.8%) and rural poverty in 8 points (from 60.6 to 52.9%). Extreme poverty fell 4 points (from 16.9 to 13.1%).

The income poverty has declined dramatically between 2007 and 2010, especially as indicator for the group of women (33.2% to 37.2%) and the Afro Ecuadorian (from 51.5 to 38.8%).

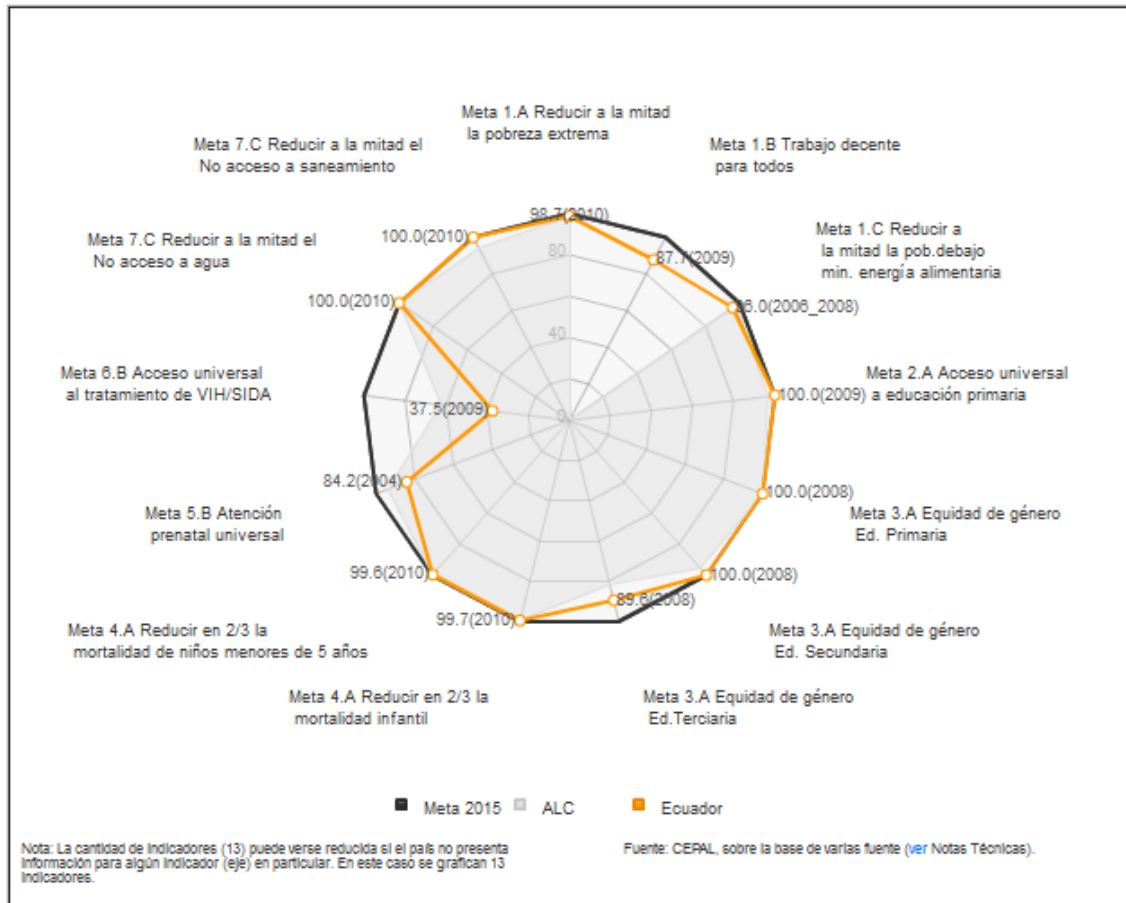
**Chart 25: Statistical information of Ecuador with respect to the ODM**



Source: ECLAC. *Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio: Perfiles de países.* (2012)

**Chart 26: Situation of Ecuador with respect to the targets to 2015**

**Ecuador : Situación respecto de las Metas al 2015 de los  
Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio**



Source: ECLAC. *Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio: Perfiles de países*. (2012)



## **Conclusions**

The Millennium Development Goals were established in the Millennium Declaration adopted by 189 nations in 2000. Most of the goals and objectives were to be achieved no later than 2015. The initiative has been excellent and in many countries has meant a radical change in the future of millions of people. Despite the difficulties experienced during the years in which the MDGs have been implemented, the global commitment that has come through this initiative has proved to the international community that cooperation is not only positive, but essential for an equitable and fair development to all who inhabit this planet.

While regions like sub-Saharan Africa, despite the struggle they have put their leaders and their people are still far from meeting the goals set. This is simply the proof that for any country to move forward, we need the joint work of all actors. The support of international organizations does not work without the support of governments and vice versa. Policy implementation must be accompanied by something to ensure their implementation.

Given the instability in Latin America and the Caribbean have experienced due to several factors, one can say that the MDGs have been effective in some countries on issues of improving the living conditions of the inhabitants. Although there are few who have already reached the first goal, there is still time for other countries to strive these years that still remain. Besides domestic policies implemented through the MDGs, could well be the first step of many others, that developing countries will in the future to provide opportunities for people living in poverty.

Ecuador has proven that when a country is committed to the progress and development, good results are obtained. It has been a long struggle to achieve economic and political stability, so that the plans for the implementation of the MDGs actually happen. Due to the changing situation on government issues, it has been difficult to provide the necessary follow-up to the progresses. However, in regard to Goal 1, action was taken in perfect timing, so quite possibly when the deadline in 2015 comes we will have fulfilled

the goals, or at least we will be close to. The approach that has been given to social security and community development has been important in recent years. There is no doubt that the years of stability and productivity we have experienced, have allowed us to make significant progress in the way of achieving the goals established.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Recommendation 1***

Governments of developing countries should adopt strategies for poverty reduction based on the MDGs. To meet the 2015 deadline, all countries should be developing their strategies before 2006.

### ***Recommendation 2***

These strategies should offer a base for the progressive rise in the public investment scale, as well as create capacities, mobilize resources and official assistance for development. They should also offer a frame to reinforce governance, promote citizen participation and also the activities of the private sector. The strategies for reduction of poverty based on the MDGs should:

- Be based on an assessment of the investments and necessary policies to achieve the MDGs for 2015.
- Specify in detail de national investment, policies and budgets for the next three years.
- Focus on rural and urban productivity, healthcare, gender equality, water and satiation, environmental sustainability, science, technology and innovation.
- Focus on the results in terms of healthcare for women and girls (including sexual and reproductive health) and education, the access to economic and politic opportunities, their right to control property, and freedom from violence.
- Promote mechanisms for transparent and decentralized governance.
- Include operational strategies that include scaling, as training and maintaining skilled workers.
- Involve civil society organizations in decision-making and service delivery and provide them with resources for monitoring and evaluation.
- Prepare the bases of a promotion strategy of the private sector and an income generation strategy for the poor population.

- Adapt to the special needs of landlocked countries, small island developing states, least developed and vulnerable countries.
- Mobilize increased domestic resources by up to four percentage points of the GNP.
- Calculate the need of official assistance for development.
- Describe an exit strategy, appropriate to the situation of the country, to end the dependence on aid.

### ***Recommendation 3***

The governments of developing countries should prepare and implement strategies to reduce poverty based on the MDGs through transparent processes in close collaboration with organizations of the civil society, the private sector and international associates. Civil society organizations should actively contribute to create policies, give services and supervise progresses. The organizations and companies of the private sector should also contribute to the creation of policies and initiatives that promote the foundation of public-private associations.

### ***Recommendation 4***

The international donors should identify at least a dozen countries who are in the fast track with respect to the MDGs for a quick scale increase of the ODA, acknowledging that many countries are already in a good situation due to the good governance.

### ***Recommendation 5***

The massive training program of community-based workers should aim to ensure that by 2015 every community possesses:

- Specialized knowledge in health, education, agriculture, nutrition, infrastructure, water supply and sanitation, and environmental management.
- Specialized knowledge in public sector management.
- An appropriate training to promote participation and gender equality.

### ***Recommendation 6***

The governments of developing countries should align their national strategies with the regional initiatives such as the New Alliance for the Development of Africa and the Caribbean Community (Common Market), and regional groups should receive more support from donors. These regional development groups should:

- Get support for the detection, planning and implementation of high priority projects concerning infrastructure across borders (Roads, railroads and water resources).
- Be motivated to introduce and use revision mechanisms between peers, which promote good governance and good practices.

### ***Recommendation 7***

The countries with high income, should raise the official development assistance from 0.25% from the GNP of the donor 2003 to around 0.44% in 2006 and achieve a 0.54% in 2015, in order to contribute to the economy of low income countries to achieve the MDGs. The debt relief should be wider and more generous. The ODA should be based in real needs to achieve the MDGs.

The criteria to evaluate the sustainability of the load created by the debt should be compatible with the search for the MDGs. The assistance should be oriented towards the support for the strategy of the reduction of poverty based on the MDGs. The donors should measure and communicate the proportion of their ODA with which they support the increase of the investments related to the achievement of the Goals. The countries with medium-sized income, should also try to become suppliers of ODA and give technical support to low income countries.

### ***Recommendation 8***

High income countries should open their markets to the exports of developing countries in the frame of the Commercial Round of DOHA and help disadvantaged countries to

increase their competitiveness in terms of foreign commerce through investments in infrastructure of crucial importance, including electricity, roads and ports.

***Recommendation 9***

The international donors should give support to the scientific investigation and development activities as well as to meet the special needs of the poor people in terms of health, agriculture, environmental management, energy sources and climate. It can be estimated that these needs cost around 7bn every year.

***Recommendation 10***

The Secretary-general of the United Nations and the UNDP should reinforce the coordination between the work of various organizations, funds and other UN programs, supporting the MDGs. The groups of countries should strive to have a collaborative work with their fellow countries as well as with international financial institutions.

The Teams of countries of the UN should have enough resources to help the countries to achieve the MDGs.

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