



◎ MEASURING PROGRESS



Ensuring basic capabilities, an essential task for development

...the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights...

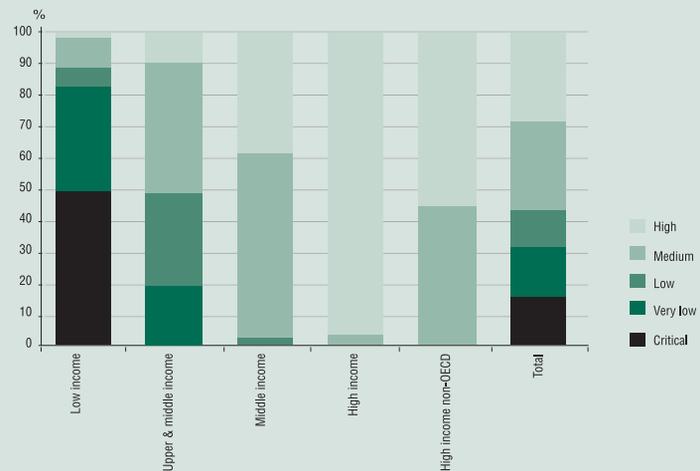
Preamble of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Social Watch Research Team¹

The multiple dimensions of the notions of development and poverty imply taking into consideration a very large set of elements in order to evaluate the degree in which a country or community progress toward the well-being of their population. However, minimum basic capabilities have to be met in order to stride toward that goal. Those requirements are associated to capabilities that members of a society must have and that are reciprocally strengthened in order to enable their individual and collective performance. They refer, especially, to the capabilities achieved by their younger members, who are the driving force in the future of their countries.

Social Watch has developed the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI)² as an approach to measure poverty and well-being based solely on capabilities.³ Each of its three indicators (percentage of children enrolled in first grade that reach 5th grade, malnutrition in children under 5, percentage of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel) express results in different dimensions of the human condition included in the development goals (education, children's health and reproductive health). The BCI as a summary-measure is able to summarize, in general, the sanitary status and the basic educational performance of a population. Also, it has shown it is highly correlated with the measure of other human capabilities related to the social development of countries.

SATISFACTION OF BASIC NEEDS: A REFLECTION OF WEALTH INEQUALITIES AMONG COUNTRIES



The level of satisfaction of basic needs clearly shows the inequalities in wealth among countries, measured through the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.

Half of the countries with the lowest level of income¹ are in the most critical situation in satisfying their basic capabilities. Furthermore, none of the countries with *Very Low* or *Critical* BCI rankings are above the middle low income level.

In the other end, only high income countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development are almost completely in the highest BCI category, with the full or almost full satisfaction of their basic capabilities. Meanwhile, the remaining high income countries are close to satisfying their basic capabilities, ranking all of them in the two higher BCI categories. In short, among high income countries the level of unsatisfied basic needs is minimum or inexistent.

However, some low income countries have achieved a *Medium* or even *High* BCI ranking. Almost 15% of those countries are placed in the category with the highest satisfaction of capabilities, showing that overcoming a population's basic needs is possible beyond the wealth of those countries. ■

¹ World Bank country classification by GNI per capita.

¹ The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

² The BCI is originated in the Quality of Life Index developed by the non-governmental organization Action for Economic Reforms-Philippines, which was derived from the Capability Poverty Measure (CPM) proposed by Professor Amartya Sen and popularized by the United Nations Development Programme Human Development Index (HDI).

³ In contrast with the HDI, which combines capability indicators with income measurements.

Through this index it is possible to assign a value to each country that ranks them in relation with the other countries.⁴ This ranking was possible for 162 countries.

Likewise, with the goal of analysis, the countries were grouped in categories with similar conditions in relation to the degree of satisfaction of

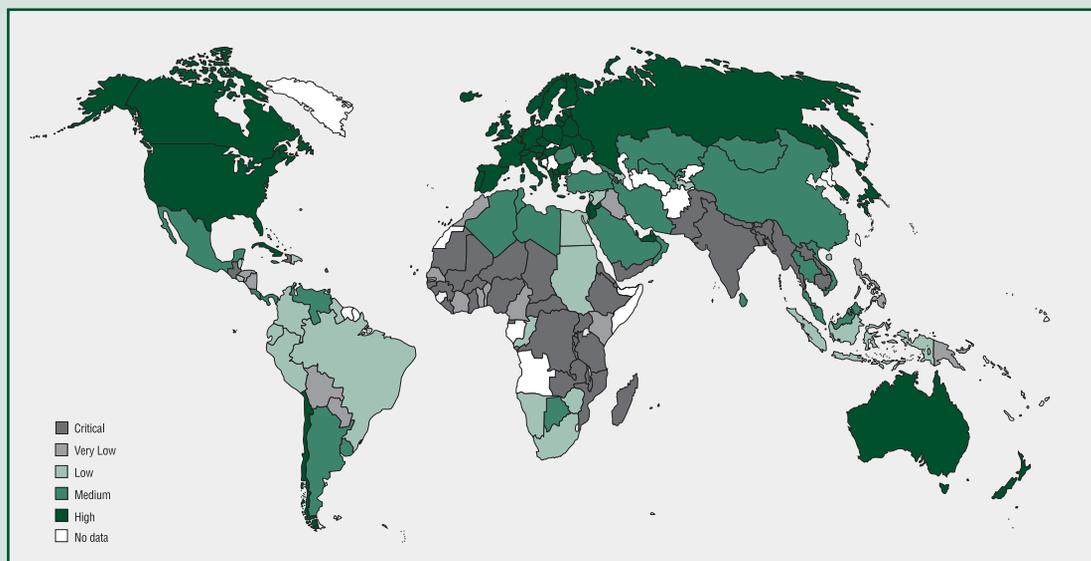
these basic capabilities. The most serious situations are concentrated in countries with *Critical BCI*. In the *Very Low BCI* category are countries that also show very significant obstacles to achieving the well-being of the population. Countries with *Low BCI* are at an intermediate level in the satisfaction of basic capabilities and their performance varies in some development dimensions.

The countries that have progressed to meet most or all of their population's basic capabilities are in the

⁴ All the statistics tables in this Report include the BCI ranking in the row "BCI ranking (out of 162 countries)".

GEOGRAPHY ACCORDING TO THE BCI

Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are the two regions with the highest concentration of basic needs



More than 7 in every 10 countries with a *Critical BCI* belong to sub-Saharan Africa. This region and South Asia make up 88% of the countries with highest basic needs (*Very Low BCI*).

From a regional perspective, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are the areas in the world with the largest percentage of countries in the lowest BCI categories (four of the South Asian countries are in the *Critical* level and two of them rank in the *Very Low* level).

In the sub-Saharan region, half the countries are in the *Critical* level and 36% are at the *Very Low* level in the BCI.

In an intermediate situation are some regions in which there are countries with very diverse behaviours. In Latin America, 11 of the 31 countries with available information have a *Low* or *Very Low* level

in the BCI, all of them in Central America and the Caribbean. Only Chile ranks among the *High BCI* level countries.

Among the East Asia and Pacific countries, five belong to the *Critical* or *Very Low BCI*, while four reach the *High* values in meeting their basic capabilities.

The Northern Africa and Middle East region also has countries with diverse performances. Although four countries have *Very Low* or *Critical* levels, five are in the group of higher BCI level.

More uniform is the performance of Central Asia, where the five countries with available information have *Low* or *Medium BCI* values.

In Europe and North America, the BCI shows *Medium* and *High* values for all of the countries with available information. ■

two categories with higher BCI values (*Medium* and *High BCI*). However, belonging to these groups does not imply a high level of development, but rather meeting the minimum essential requirements in order to progress towards higher levels of well-being.

In the *High BCI* group are the most developed countries and those without major problems to guarantee the satisfaction of the aforesaid capabilities.

The BCI, a summary indicator for the multiple dimensions of development

The BCI is a summary index that efficiently ranks countries according to the basic dimensions usually associated to social development – and present in the goals pledged by the countries in their international commitments. Each country's ranking in the BCI categories is closely related to the ones

obtained as a summary of the current situation in the various areas of development that Social Watch analyzes based on a wider set of specific dimension indicators.⁵ In each one, the situation improves in average as the countries rise in the BCI ranking.

The BCI's usefulness arises from an efficient identification of countries in more critical situations,

enabling a viewing of their situations in relation to their stages of development. According to the analysis shown in the following chapters, it is clearly visible that the group of *Critical BCI* countries have, in average, extreme insufficiencies in all of the social development dimensions assessed by Social Watch. This behaviour explains that the majority of these countries belong to the groups of "worse relative situation" in each of the areas under study. ■

5 Food security; Health; Reproductive Health; Education; Public Expenditure; Information, Science and Technology; Water and Sanitation, and Gender Equity. The tables in this Report assess countries according to the average performance of the set of specific indicators in each development dimension, ranking them among four categories: Countries in a better relative situation within the area, Countries above average, Countries below average, Countries in worse relative situation. For more details on this ranking, see the Methodology section in this Report.

Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) by country*

CRITICAL LEVEL	PLACE	BCI	VERY LOW LEVEL	PLACE	BCI	LOW LEVEL	PLACE	BCI	MEDIUM LEVEL	PLACE	BCI	HIGH LEVEL	PLACE	BCI
Chad	162	47	Myanmar	136	70	Bolivia	110	80	Kuwait	92	90	Trinidad and Tobago	45	98
Ethiopia	161	49	Togo	135	70	Ecuador	109	81	Suriname	91	90	United Arab	42	98
Rwanda	160	52	Cameroon	134	70	Guyana	108	81	Belize	89	90	Ukraine	42	98
Bangladesh	159	53	Côte d'Ivoire	133	71	Paraguay	107	82	Cape Verde	89	90	Jordan	42	98
Niger	158	55	Burkina Faso	132	71	Gabon	106	82	Botswana	88	90	Bulgaria	41	98
Nepal	157	56	Guatemala	131	72	Cook Islands	105	82	Viet Nam	87	91	Italy	40	99
Burundi	156	56	Honduras	130	73	Tajikistan	103	83	Panama	86	92	Latvia	37	99
Lao PDR	155	58	Comoros	129	73	Azerbaijan	103	83	Mexico	85	92	Barbados	37	99
Equatorial G	154	59	India	128	73	Indonesia	102	84	Turkey	83	92	Belarus	37	99
Cambodia	153	59	Nicaragua	127	73	Peru	101	84	Grenada	83	92	Hungary	35	99
Pakistan	152	60	Benin	126	73	Dominican Republic	96	85	Brazil	82	92	Lithuania	35	99
Guinea-Bissau	151	60	Tanzania	125	74	Vanuatu	99	85	China	81	93	Croatia	33	99
Mozambique	150	61	Senegal	124	74	Namibia	98	86	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	94	Mauritius	33	99
Yemen	149	61	Zambia	123	74	Syrian Arab	97	87	Tonga	79	94	Slovenia	32	99
Malawi	148	63	Papua New Guinea	122	75	South Africa	96	87	Georgia	78	94	Estonia	28	99
Uganda	146	63	Iraq	121	75	Marshall Islands	95	88	Palau	77	94	Cuba	28	99
Nigeria	146	63	Mauritania	120	76	Egypt	94	88	Albania	76	94	Australia	28	99
Liberia	145	64	Zimbabwe	119	77	Colombia	93	89	Dominica	75	94	Canada	28	99
Madagascar	144	65	Swaziland	118	77				Malaysia	73	94	France	26	99
Mali	143	66	Philippines	117	78				Jamaica	73	94	Czech Republic	26	99
Ghana	142	66	Sao Tome and Prin.	116	78				Venezuela	72	94	Bahrain	25	99
Eritrea	141	67	El Salvador	115	78				Mongolia	70	95	Chile	22	99
Guinea	140	67	Djibouti	114	79				Tunisia	70	95	Poland	22	99
Bhutan	139	69	Maldives	113	80				Algeria	69	95	United States	22	99
Gambia	138	69	Morocco	112	80				West Bank and Gaza	67	95	Ireland	17	99
Lesotho	137	70	Sudan	110	80				Saudi Arabia	67	95	Israel	17	99
									St. Kitts and Nevis	66	95	United Kingdom	17	99
									Romania	65	95	Malta	17	99
									St. Vincent	63	95	Cyprus	17	99+
									Moldova	63	95	Korea, Rep.	6	99+
									Macedonia	62	95	Netherlands	6	99+
									Fiji	61	96	New Zealand	6	99+
									Bahamas	60	96	Greece	6	99+
									Qatar	57	96	Spain	6	99+
									St. Lucia	57	96	Austria	6	99+
									Slovakia	57	96	Belgium	6	99+
									Lebanon	56	96	Switzerland	6	99+
									Kazakhstan	54	96	Germany	6	99+
									Costa Rica	54	96	Denmark	6	99+
									Argentina	53	96	Portugal	6	99+
									Uruguay	52	97	Finland	1	99+
									Armenia	51	97	Japan	1	99+
									Samoa	50	97	Norway	1	99+
									Luxembourg	49	97	Sweden	1	99+
									Oman	48	97	Iceland	1	99+
									Brunei Darussalam	47	97			
									Thailand	45	98			

* Countries for which there is sufficient information available to construct the index. See the section on Methodology.

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

A question of rights

Poverty is a phenomenon with many dimensions. We will approach it from a human rights perspective, whereby the fight to eradicate poverty becomes a political responsibility. The available data show that a worryingly high proportion of countries will not achieve the first Millennium Development Goal, which is to reduce the percentage of the population living in extreme poverty by half between 1990 and 2015. If we leave India and China out of the calculations we find that not only has the number of poor people in the world not fallen, it has actually increased.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Gini Index
- Population living on less than USD 1 per day (international poverty line)
- Population living on less than USD 2 per day (international poverty line)
- Population below the national poverty line
- Participation in the poorest consumption/income quintile

The phenomenon of poverty is on the agenda of virtually all the social and political actors in the world today. It is on the policy agendas of governments, multilateral bodies and civil society organizations too. However, there is a wide range of focuses on this problem and alternative ways to analyse it, some with slight differences and some that are in complete contrast to each other. There is laboured discussion about just how being poor ought to be conceptualized, but behind these debates about concepts what is in play here are the different policies and different paths towards achieving a decent life for all human beings.

From the very beginning Social Watch has taken the view that poverty as a complex, multi-dimensional phenomenon which must be tackled with a holistic approach. Poverty is regarded as “a situational syndrome that involves under-consumption, malnutrition, precarious housing, low levels of education, bad sanitation, unstable insertion into the productive structure, discouragement, anomie, little participation in social integration mechanisms, and perhaps adherence to a particular set of values that are to some extent different from those of the rest of society.”² There are also qualitative dimensions to poverty that call for a wider perspective: “To feel that one is poor is a relative concept that has a lot to do with having access to the resources

needed to maintain the standard of living one is accustomed to or which is considered suitable by the society one belongs to.”³

If poverty is defined in terms of a lack of well-being or the resources to be able to enjoy a good quality of life, we have to bear in mind dimensions like the availability of free time, personal security, protection against public and domestic violence, protection against natural disasters, and gender equity.⁴ It also involves other non-material, symbolic dimensions and having the personal resources to be able to avoid exclusion, like various systems of codes that operate in the modern world the most important of which are analytic thought, the ability to process information, and communication and management skills that enable people to participate fully in the globalized world and adapt to new modalities of work and production.

When it comes to conceptualizing and measuring poverty and taking action to combat it in the world, the human rights approach (and in particular the economic, social and cultural rights approach) is useful in that it sheds light on some dimensions of the problem that are usually overlooked.

The rights-based approach marks a shift away from an earlier development focus on meeting basic needs, which relied on charity or good will. A rights-based approach, in contrast, recognizes individuals as “rights-holders”, which implies that others are “duty-bearers”. Needs, on the other hand, have no object – there is no person or mechanism designated to meet them.

Under a human rights framework, governments are the primary duty-bearers. Among their duties are the establishment of equitable laws and systems that enable individuals to exercise and enjoy their rights, and to seek judicial recourse for violations under the rule of law. As rights-holders, people can claim their legitimate entitlements. This approach emphasizes the participation of individu-

“...poverty may be defined as a human condition characterized by sustained or chronic deprivation of the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary for the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living and other civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.”⁵ ■

als and communities in decision-making processes that shape policies and programmes that affect them.⁶

The United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) has stated that poverty constitutes a negation of human rights,⁷ and this is a crucial element in the analysis of the phenomenon. From the perspective of rights, it is essential to know how far each country has progressed or lost ground in the struggle against poverty. If poverty is conceived of as a negation of rights, there have to be criteria to make it possible to judge when a certain situation constitutes a violation of rights.

The criteria of the maximum utilization of resources and of non-regression (not to retreat from positions that have been won in the realization of rights) can be key elements in this analysis. Another important variable is the distribution within a country of wealth and resources, these being understood as the people and the material, financial and technical assets that there are. It is clear that this variable covers a much wider field than just income.

States have responsibilities that go beyond specific governments and that are subject to contractual agreements in the international human rights system. These obligations are not subject to

1 The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 Altimir, O. (1979). *La dimensión de la pobreza en América Latina*. ECLAC.

3 *Ibid.*

4 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). (2003). *Documento sobre la pobreza para la III Conferencia Regional de Seguimiento de la Cumbre de Desarrollo Social*.

5 Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2001). “Substantive issues arising in the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Poverty and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights”. Document E/C.12/2001/10. Available at: <www.unhchr.ch>.

6 UNFPA (2005). *State of the World Population 2005*. Chapter 3: “The Promise of Human Rights”. Available at: <www.unfpa.org/swp/2005/english/ch3/index.htm>.

7 Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2001). *op cit.*

variations contingent upon what resources are available, they have to do with the right that all people have to a decent life.⁸

...a State party in which any significant number of individuals is deprived of essential foodstuffs, of essential primary health care, of basic shelter and housing, or of the most basic forms of education is, prima facie, violating the Covenant. Such minimum core obligations apply irrespective of the availability of resources of the country concerned or any other factors and difficulties.⁹

The international community also has a responsibility to provide support and solidarity for the implementation and promotion of human rights. Aid in the fight to eradicate poverty does not constitute a gift from the richest countries to the poorest, it is a political responsibility.

In the international system there are declarations in various fora and organizations, and the CESCR declaration is just one among many. However, there is no agreed, exhaustive and comprehensive definition of poverty that involves a commitment to action.

The 1995 Declaration of the World Summit on Social Development was one of the first international declarations with a multi-dimensional focus that was signed and ratified by governments from all over the world. Paragraph 19 of the Summit's Programme of Action affirms:

Poverty has various manifestations, including lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments; and social discrimination and exclusion. It is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life.

In recent decades we have witnessed the application of global remedies in which poverty is spoken of not as a social phenomenon but as if it were an intrinsic attribute of specific individuals. Another factor here is that poverty is basically identified with lack or insufficiency of income, and while it is true

8 These concepts were widened by a group of experts in a document that determines what action or omissions constitute a violation of economic, social or cultural rights, and which stresses the importance of distinguishing lack of capacity from lack of will on the part of the State to fulfil its obligations under international treaties. "Maastricht Guidelines on Violations of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", Maastricht, 22-26 January 1997.

9 *Ibid.*

TABLE 1. The number of countries by percentage of the population living in poverty (the USD 1, USD 2 and national poverty lines)

POVERTY LEVEL	USD 1 PER DAY	USD 2 PER DAY		NATIONAL POVERTY LINE
Less than 2%	33	10	Less than 20%	14
From 2% to 9%	14	14	20% to 29%	17
From 10% to 24%	21	15	30% to 39%	20
From 25% to 49%	14	20	40% to 49%	16
50% to 74%	10	16	50% and over	18
75% and over	3	20		
Countries with information	95	95		85

Source: World Development Indicators 2006 on line. The World Bank <www.worldbank.org>.

that level of income is a major determinant factor, it is not the only factor. In a multi-dimensional focus, income is seen as relative. For one thing, poverty of income cannot be used to identify other dimensions of the concept of a decent life that are not connected to monetary income, so income alone cannot yield an accurate estimate of access to material goods and services. To consider the satisfaction of needs only from the perspective of the consumption of goods and services that are purchased for money is to overlook access to other goods and services that are provided outside the market by the State, NGOs or at home. In many communities there are other ways of exchanging goods and services, ways that do not involve money. The importance of monetary income is associated with specific patterns of modern life and well-being, but it can vary considerably from one community to another.

From the income perspective, a person is defined as being poor when his or her income is below the threshold that is considered the minimum to satisfy specific needs and wants. The method of using an income threshold can be based on a poverty line that is relative or absolute.¹⁰

A specific level of income determines whether we regard an individual as poor or not poor. Depending on the standards used to quantify income poverty, an individual may be poor in the national sphere but not poor according to an 'international' definition, or vice versa, while his or her conditions of life are still the same.

Identifying whether someone is poor or not poor 'defines' who will benefit from most poverty eradication policies. In 2000 the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) proposed to "eradicate extreme poverty and hunger in the world", and to

10 The **relative poverty line** is fixed in such a way that a person is considered poor if his or her income is lower than the average or the mean or some other statistic that depends on the distribution of income across people in a society. The **absolute poverty line** is established in a way that reflects the amount of money needed to have a minimum level of life, and does not depend on income distribution.

this effect poverty was defined by income: an individual is considered poor if he or she lives on less than USD 1 per day.

Although practically every government in the world is committed to the first MDG, it is almost impossible to evaluate what progress has been made in most countries. The basis for making diagnoses and for implementing measures to combat poverty is information, but unfortunately this is a scarce commodity. Indicators are only available for a relatively small number of countries, and those that are available are not always up to date. Estimates for regions and for the world have to depend on a whole series of suppositions, and the figures they arrive at mainly have to do with the numbers of people who are poor. This means they tend to ignore other aspects of the phenomenon like how many countries are reducing or increasing the percentage of the population (not even the number, just the percentage) living in poverty.

Every year Social Watch publishes a poverty and income distribution table ("The present situation of poverty in the world") that is based on the little information available from international data sources. This table shows just some of the indicators used to measure the situation of countries as regards income distribution among the inhabitants and the proportion of the population living in income poverty.

It is estimated that at the present time there are more than one billion people living on less than USD 1 a day, which is defined as extreme poverty or indigence.¹¹

We have information about how many people live on less than USD 1 or USD 2 per day for only 95 countries. Of these, there are at least 13 in which more than half the population have to live on less than USD 1 per day. If we take USD 2 per day as the line there are at least 36 countries in which more than half the people are living in poverty, and in 20 of these more than three quarters of the population have a daily income of less than USD 2.

11 World Bank (2006). *World Development Indicators 2006*.

These poverty lines have been legitimized internationally on the assumption that they make it possible to identify the most critical situations, compare different countries, and decide where the main weight of international aid should be sent. However, in different countries poverty is analyzed using different parameters which are national poverty lines, and these are a more suitable approach since they take account of the context of the society in which poor people live.

For the national poverty line indicator, information is available for only 85 countries. In 18 of these more than 50% of the population live below this poverty line.

According to United Nations estimates, the number of people in extreme poverty has fallen by approximately 200 million since 1990. However, this reduction has been concentrated in only a few countries. If China is excluded from the estimates the panorama changes dramatically and it emerges that over the last 12 years the number of people living in extreme poverty in the world has fallen by a mere 9 million.¹² If India (where poverty has decreased over the period) is also excluded from the calculations we find that the number of poor people in the world has not gone down at all, in fact it has risen.

Between 1990 and 2002 the number of people in the world living on USD 2 a day fell by 40 million, but there are still 2.6 billion people on the planet who have to survive on this amount or less.

According to the latest World Bank estimates,¹³ if the developing countries maintain their current rates of growth until 2015 there would still be 600 million people living on less than USD 1 per day.

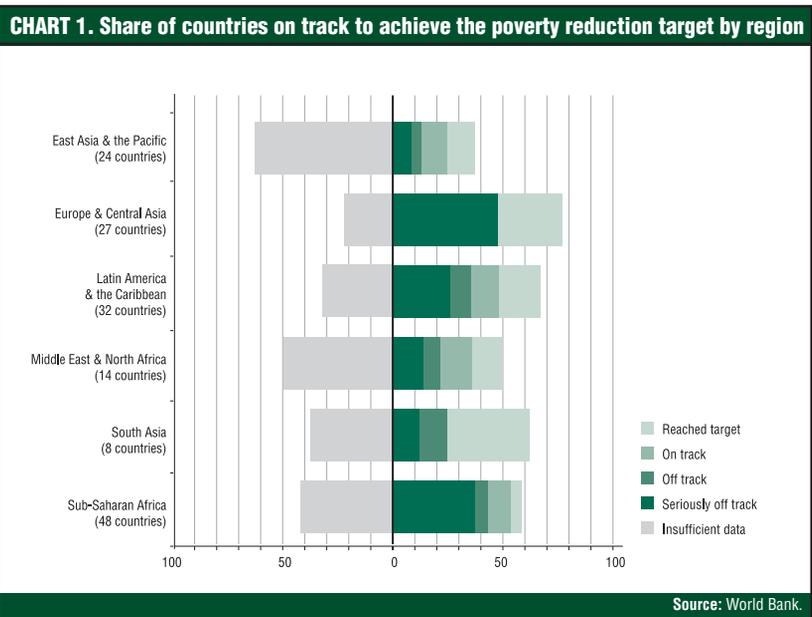
Using the United Nations time series data on the percentage of the population living on less than USD 1 per day¹⁴ we can follow the evolution of this indicator for the limited number of countries for which there is information for the 1990-1994 and 1999-2003 periods.

The conclusions are not encouraging. The number of countries that have managed to reduce their poverty percentages over the period is about the same as the number (25 countries) in which the proportion of poor people has increased. There are 13 countries that have the same percentage, or only slight differences, for the two periods, and in most of these only 2% or less of the population are critically poor. However, there are three cases in which poverty has stagnated at very high levels (Bangladesh 36%, Uganda 85% and Zambia 64%).

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ United Nations Statistics Division. Millennium Development Goals Indicators. Available from: <mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx >.



The World Bank makes an evaluation of the possibilities that countries (for which information is available) have of achieving the first MDG. This estimate is based on these countries' rates of progress in these years.

As can be seen in Chart 1, the prospects of achieving the first of the MDGs are far from good. The information that is available makes up a worrying panorama in which few countries will have actually cut extreme poverty by half by the end of the 1990-2015 period. In some regions, especially sub-Saharan Africa, the percentage of countries that will be able to reach this target is minimal. The countries of Europe and Central Asia fall into two clear groups. On the one hand there are those that have already reached this objective, and on the other hand there are countries, mostly in south-east Europe and the Community of Independent States, that fall a long way short of the target.

Another conclusion can be drawn from Chart 1: there is simply not enough information available to make reasonable evaluations. For some regions we do not have data for more than half the countries, and this means that any global evaluations that are made involve a wide margin of uncertainty.

The distribution of resources must be promoted through measures that are universal and focalized. The rationale of social policy should not be limited just to the fight against poverty. If a state focalizes its programmes only on people living in extreme poverty it will not be tackling the problem in its entirety, and this can lead to more people beginning to slide into poverty. ■

However, as we pointed out at the start of this article, to base the concept of poverty and inequality only on income is to adopt a narrow focus that makes it impossible to evaluate the real magnitude of these problems in the world. ■

FOOD SECURITY

More and more people are going hungry

Some countries have made progress, but others, those in the most critical situation, are clearly losing ground and the gap between the countries that are better off and the poorest is widening. In the countries in worse situation an average of 35% of the population are undernourished, while in the countries in better situation the figure is no more than 7%. Since 1997 the number of people who are undernourished has risen, and the regions that are affected most are sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Undernourishment (% of total population)
- Underweight at birth (%)
- Malnutrition among children under 5, low weight (%)

Food security is one of the most critical dimensions of community development and one of the basic human rights established in the ICESCR. It features in declarations and proposed objectives in countries, in regions, and on the international stage.

However, the reality is that effective achievements in this area fall a long way short of governments' declared intentions. At the present time there are an estimated 842 million people in the world who are undernourished out of a total world population of 6 billion, and the trend in the last 10 years has been most discouraging.² In at least 35 countries more than a quarter of the people are undernourished,³ and in some cases the figures are simply shocking: in Burundi, the Republic of the Congo and Eritrea, three fifths of the population are undernourished.

According to UNICEF, in the developing countries one quarter of the children under 5 suffer from malnutrition,⁴ which amounts to a total of 146 mil-

lion children.⁵ The statistics show that the situation in 31 countries is even worse, and in Bangladesh and Nepal, for example, half the children in the country show signs of malnutrition.

Food insufficiency is also perpetuated through maternity. Every year more than 20 million children (15.5% of all live births) come into the world weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds).⁶ They are underweight mainly because their mothers were undernourished during pregnancy. In 16 of the countries analyzed at least 20% of babies are underweight at birth, and in Bangladesh, India, Sudan and Yemen the figure is over 30%.

The huge gap between the countries in the better and worse situations as regards food security is just one more sign of how important this aspect of development is. In addition, it should be borne in mind that there are no statistics available for many developed countries, so the differences that the indicators show underestimate the real gap.

In the countries that are worse off an average of 35% of the people are undernourished, while only 7% of the people in the countries that are better off are affected.

When it comes to children the situation is no better. In the countries that are in the worse position an average of 30% of children under 5 are undernourished, but in the better group the figure is less than 7%. On average, 15% of children are born underweight in the worse-off countries, but only 7.5% are underweight at birth in the countries at the other end of the scale.

In many communities the problems of food insecurity are accentuated when extreme situations give rise to food emergencies. Food crises are associated not only with natural disasters but also with direct human causes like armed conflicts, economic crises and forced population displacement, and these have increased dramatically in the last 10

The right to adequate food is enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). When States sign this Covenant they commit themselves to working to improve their methods of food production, conservation and distribution, and to ensure the equitable distribution of food in the world according to people's needs. ■

years. The consequences are much worse in poor countries, and very much worse indeed among the most vulnerable communities and population groups, above all in rural areas where the impact is usually more direct and cruel.

However, food insecurity is a global problem whose causes go far beyond natural disasters or armed conflicts.

Food security is linked to other aspects of development in that it is of crucial importance for people in a community to be able to attain a decent level of life.

The latest Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report gives an analysis based on studies and examples of the numerous mechanisms that link food security to the other aspects of development (see boxes). The aim is to show that it is inconsistent to consider development targets, and in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in isolation from one another, and the report concludes that if these goals are to be reached it is essential to see them as necessarily interconnected and tackle them as an integrated whole. If this interconnection is evident in a series of specific and limited goals like the MDGs it is more consistent to talk of human rights to understand why they should be seen as an integrated whole.

The human rights focus shows how essential the ideas of unity and interdependence are not only in the legal sphere but also as a consequence of the very nature of the processes involved. In a community, not being able to exercise one of these rights, or having one violated, has an effect on all the other rights.

It is not possible to talk about the right to food outside the framework of the wider concept of food sovereignty, which has to do with a country's or a community's capacity to feed itself through autonomous

1 The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 FAO (2005). *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005*. Available from: <www.fao.org/docrep/008/a0200e/a0200e00.htm>.

3 Undernourishment: the percentage of the population who consume less than the required minimum of food energy. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) the essential daily minimum, which takes account of calories needed to maintain body weight while performing a light activity, varies in different countries but is approximately 2,300 kcal per capita, depending on age, sex and stature.

4 Infant malnutrition: the percentage of children under 5 whose weight by age is less than minus 2 of the standard deviation of the mean for the international reference population of ages from 0 to 59 months. The reference population adopted by WHO in 1983 is based on children in the United States of America, who are assumed to be well fed.

5 UNICEF (2006). "Progress for Children. A Report Card on Malnutrition". No. 4, May.

6 Low birth weight has been defined by WHO as weight at birth of less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). This practical cut-off point for international comparison is based on epidemiological observations that infants weighing less than 2,500 g are approximately 20 times more likely to die than heavier babies. A birth weight below 2,500 g is more common in developing than in developed countries, and it contributes to a range of poor health conditions. UNICEF and WHO (2004). *Low Birthweight: Country, regional and global estimates*.

control of the food production process. Therefore food sovereignty has to do with the rights of communities, countries or groups of countries to define their agrarian policies in a way that excludes dumping (an unethical strategy in normal international trade transactions whereby a product is placed on the market in another country at a price below its value in the country of origin). This includes, for example, policies of making land and credit available to small farmers, but it also includes international trade regulations. The international trade system currently in operation systematically perpetuates inequalities between rich and poor countries by the use of tariff and non-tariff barriers and by subsidizing production in rich countries.

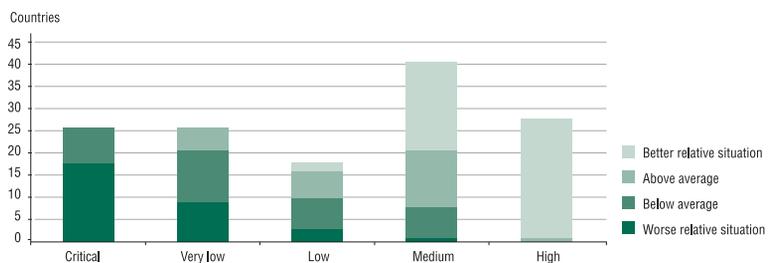
It is no surprise that the countries that are worse off as regards food security are also those that are in difficulties in the other areas of development, as can be seen in accordance with their ranking in the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI).⁷

All the countries in a critical situation in the BCI ratings are also below average in food security, and of the 26 countries in this group 18 are in the worse situation.

In the group of critical BCI countries, 17% of babies are underweight at birth, at least 33% of children under 5 have malnutrition-related problems, and on average 32.5% of the people are undernourished. In the countries that rate high on the BCI, on the other hand, only 7% of babies are born underweight, only 6% of children suffer from malnutrition and a mere 6% of the population are undernourished.

The problems of food insecurity are clearly more serious in some geographical areas than in others. The two regions where a higher proportion of countries are in severe difficulties in this respect

CHART 1. Current food security situation by regions



Food security and gender equity

In Southern Asia infant malnutrition is even more serious than in sub-Saharan Africa.

Lack of food affects women more than men. "Extreme gender inequalities mean that women in Southern Asia are deprived of education, employment opportunities and participation in decision-making. As a consequence, millions of mothers in the south of Asia 'do not have the knowledge, the means or the freedom to take action for their own benefit or for that of their children'. They are very much more likely to suffer from malnutrition. In some parts of Southern Asia the men and boys consume twice the calories that women and girls consume, but the women and girls do a lot of the heavy work."¹⁰

are sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. More than half the undernourished children in the world are in Southeast Asia, and 57 million live in India.¹¹

According to the latest FAO evaluation, some progress has been made in reducing hunger in the world. Between 1990 and 2002 the number of undernourished people in the developing countries fell by 9 million.¹²

Nevertheless, this global figure conceals enormous differences between regions and countries. In East Asia the figure fell by 47 million over the period, mainly thanks to improvements in China, but in sub-Saharan Africa there are 34 million more undernourished people than there were at the start of the 1990s.

In fact, the number of people on the planet who suffer from hunger has risen since 1997.

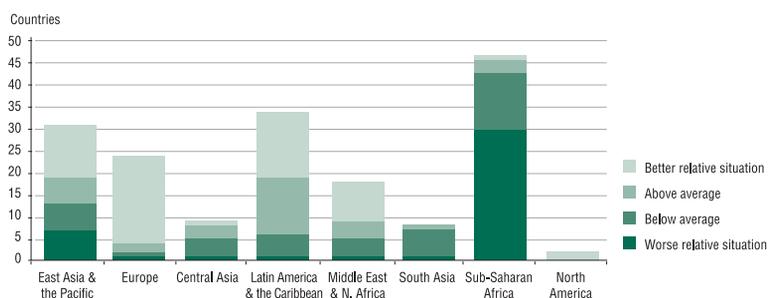
At the current pace, we will fall a long way short of the objective to reduce by half the number of people suffering from hunger by 2015, adopted at the FAO World Food Summit in 1996 and renewed in the MDGs in 2000.

Food security and children's health

Hunger and malnutrition are the main causes of more than half of total infant deaths. Each year they kill nearly 6 million children.⁸

Many babies who are born underweight do not survive because of inadequate food. At least 5.6 million children under 5 die each year as a consequence of malnutrition, which is responsible for more than half of mortality in children under 5 years old.⁹

CHART 2. Final food security position according to the BCI



7 See the section entitled "Achievement of basic capabilities is an indispensable task for development" in this Report.

8 FAO (2005), *op cit*.

9 UNICEF and WHO (2004), *op cit*.

11 UNICEF (2006), *op cit*.

12 United Nations (2006). *The Millennium Development Goals Report*. <mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2006/MDGReport2006.pdf>.

10 FAO (2005), *op cit*.

TABLE 1. Current situation by food security evolution

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	3	5	5	9	8	30
Countries below the average	0	3	4	11	8	26
Countries above the average	1	2	6	10	2	21
Countries in better situation	0	1	7	6	0	14
Total	4	11	22	36	18	91

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative food security situations

		UNDERNOURISHED (% OF TOTAL POPULATION)	LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (%)	MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 5, LOW WEIGHT (%)
Countries in worse situation	Average	34.9	15.4	30.2
	Number of countries	30	37	30
Countries in better situation	Average	6.8	7.5	7.9
	Number of countries	12	51	13
Total	Average	26.9	10.8	23.5
	Number of countries	42	88	43

Social Watch has analyzed the evolution of food security using data by country from two of the relevant indicators (undernourishment and infant malnutrition), and the conclusions are alarming. Although some countries have made progress others are losing ground, and these are mainly countries in the most critical situation. This means the gap between the better-positioned countries and the worst affected is widening.

There are four countries in particular for which information is available that show marked regression in their food security situation, and this is mainly due to the fact that the number of people who are undernourished has shot up. The most serious cases are the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi, where in just a decade the proportion of the population who were undernourished went from 32% and 48% respectively, to a situation where 70% of the people in these countries were suffering from hunger at the start of the new millennium. In both these cases food insecurity has been exacerbated by climate factors and by armed conflicts whose dire consequences have lingered on long after the events themselves passed into history. Peace is currently being restored in Burundi.

Another case is the Democratic Republic of Korea, where the proportion of people who are undernourished doubled in this period from 18% to 36%. ■

The most critical situations at the present time:

At least one person in two suffers from hunger (*) in ...	
Eritrea	73
Congo, Dem. Rep. of	71
Burundi	68
Sierra Leone	50
Zambia	49
* Undernourishment (% of total population)	

3 out of every 10 newborn babies are significantly under normal weight (*) in...	
Bangladesh	36
Yemen	32
Sudan	31
India	30
* Low weight at birth (%)	

Nearly 50% of children under 5 suffer from malnutrition (*) in...	
Bangladesh	52
Nepal	48
Ethiopia	47
India	47
Yemen	46
Burundi	45
Cambodia	45
* Malnutrition in children under 5, low weight	

EDUCATION

The challenge of universality

The emergence of the information society has opened up new possibilities in education but it has also exposed some basic deficiencies. While illiteracy is now almost negligible in the developed countries it is still only too prevalent in the poorest nations. Although indicators show that overall progress has been made, future demographic growth is going to cause serious problems in some parts of the world. The educational systems in the developing countries are in urgent need of greater public investment and contributions from the international community.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Literacy (15-24 years old)
- Enrolment rate in primary education (net)
- Children who reach 5th grade
- Enrolment rate in secondary education (net)
- Enrolment rate in tertiary education (gross)

Improving education has been on the agenda of international bodies, governments and civil society organizations for decades. Education is a basic instrument for eradicating poverty, constructing citizenship and improving people's ability to control their own futures, and it has attracted the attention of numerous actors and given rise to policies to tackle the main problems. Good progress has been made overall, but in the background we can still discern serious inequalities.

The new systems of production and new kinds of culture that the information society has brought in its wake have helped to push education back into the spotlight of world interest, but the response to this challenge from the decision-makers has been fragmented and inadequate.

In the modern world there is an unprecedented flow of information, but paradoxically some of the major problems facing education on a global level have still not been overcome. For example, many countries have virtually banished illiteracy, but many others are still struggling to establish universal literacy. There are nearly 800 million illiterate adults in the world today (two thirds of whom are women) and more than 100 million children who do not go to school (80% of them in Africa), so this challenge involves huge swathes of the world's population.²

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, has made the point that teaching people to read and write is not just an end in itself, it is also a vital tool for eradicating poverty, promoting gender equity, improving health, fostering political participation and improving people's lives in many other dimensions. It is a basic human right, and as such it cannot be renounced.

TABLE 1. Least literate countries, by region

COUNTRY	REGION	% OF LITERACY
Niger	Sub-Saharan Africa	27
Burkina Faso	Sub-Saharan Africa	40
Mali	Sub-Saharan Africa	41
Iraq	Middle East and North Africa	46
Bangladesh	Southern Asia	51
Mauritania	Sub-Saharan Africa	51
Senegal	Sub-Saharan Africa	56
Benin	Sub-Saharan Africa	59
Comoros	Sub-Saharan Africa	60
Ethiopia	Sub-Saharan Africa	61

The developed countries have achieved almost universal literacy but the poorest countries are still plagued with widespread illiteracy. In India more than a third of the people cannot read or write, and this problem is also severe in sub-Saharan Africa, the Arab world and large parts of Asia.

Of the ten countries with the highest illiteracy rates, eight are in sub-Saharan Africa, which is the by far the most deficient region in this respect.

It is vitally important that enrolment rates in formal education be raised, because there are still more than 100 million children growing up without any primary education, which is a serious deficit for humankind. However, in many cases the task of extending the coverage of formal educational systems is complicated since it can be difficult to reach children in rural areas or with special needs, or children who belong to cultural or linguistic minorities.

The latest data from UNESCO shows that between 1998 and 2002 school enrolments worldwide went up very slightly, by just one percentage point, from 83.6% to 84.6%.

The current situation as regards primary, secondary and tertiary education is very different in different regions of the world. In the richer countries the percentage of university graduates in health sciences, engineering and computing is more than double the rate in the poor countries.

Another dimension to the problem is that not all children in the world who go to school finish primary education. For example, in Latin America there are around six million adolescents who did not complete their primary school education. This is further complicated in parts of Africa because educational facilities are simply not avail-

able, partly due to lack of public funds, as was recently reported by some African Ministers of Education. In some African countries the budgetary allocation for education is less than 3% of GDP. It is policy decisions like this that define the future of education in these countries.

The situation of education in the world today is very far from uniform, and the indicators show that rates of progress vary greatly from one region to another. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of children without schooling fell by 20% in Asia, due to the fact that the educational systems in that part of the world have developed very rapidly and efficiently. However, in the same ten-year period, the number of children without schooling in sub-Saharan Africa increased by 13%. Demographic growth has been cited³ as the cause of this trend, along with a more general phenomenon called 'de-schooling' which is the result of many parents taking their children out of education or, what is worse, not even enrolling them in schools in the first place.

One of the factors that underlie these problems is that most of the countries in that region have high fertility rates. According to some estimates, the school population will grow by 34 million between 2000 and 2015. These demographic characteristics exert an influence on how the challenge of providing universal education is met, and on the direction that public policies will take in the years ahead.

Another generalised difficulty has to do with the ability of educational systems to retain the children who have enrolled, and here again the outlook is rather bleak. The problem is to keep children in school until the last year of primary education. There are many countries, above all in Africa, that have primary school retention rates of less than 70%, and the worst case is Malawi which retains only 22% in primary education.

An efficacious educational system has to do more than simply keep children in school, it has to teach them, and the repetition rate, the percentage of pupils who have to repeat a year, which is connected to retention, is one indicator of how effective the teaching is. The repetition rate is under 3% in most of the countries for which UNESCO has data, but more than half the nations in sub-Saharan Africa have rates above 15%, and the figures go as high as 34% in Gabon and 40% in Equatorial Guinea.

A further complication in schools is classroom overcrowding. In Southern and Eastern Asia, for example, overcrowding in the classroom is a serious hindrance to effective learning. On average there are 40 children per teacher, but in some cases there may be

³ UNESCO (2005). *World Report Towards Knowledge Societies*.

¹ The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

² Henceforth the figures given are taken from various UNESCO reports.

many more, and for example in Bangladesh, one of the most populous countries in the world, the average is 57 pupils per teacher.⁴ The only solution to this is to undertake teacher training on a large scale.

The latest information⁵ that has become available shows the differences in the amounts of public expenditure allocated to education. This expenditure, as a proportion of GDP, is greater in the richer countries, and these are usually the countries that have reached the goal of universal education. To bring the global picture into focus we can consider mean expenditure on education for different regions of the world. The figures speak for themselves: in North America and Western Europe the mean is 5.52% of GDP, in Asia and the Pacific it is 3.9%, and it is a mere 3.3% in sub-Saharan Africa.

One of the most urgent needs of the educational systems in developing countries is increased public investment. In cases where human, financial and other resources are lacking, the international community should step in and provide them. This is laid down in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR); it is a binding obligation that the developed countries have with respect to the developing countries.

Higher education is becoming increasingly commercialized, and this is opening up unprecedented possibilities for the future. There are predictions such as the following, "it is very possible that in 2010 the so-called corporate universities that were originally founded to update employees' competencies will outnumber traditional universities",⁶ and if this kind of situation emerges the question of democratizing tertiary education will be complicated by problems that have never been met before.

When we survey the general panorama in the world we find that almost all the countries in the best overall situation in terms of education indicators have a medium or high rating on the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI). There is a very strong correlation between these two variables (BCI ranking and the final position given by combining the various education indicators). All the countries that rank high on the BCI are in an above average position in education, and 41 of the 45 countries in the middle range on the BCI are also above average in education.

It is no surprise to find that all 25 countries with a critical BCI rating are below average in terms of education, and of the 26 countries in the very low BCI group only one, the Philippines, is above average for education.

There has been a significant overall improvement in the area of education in the world, and only 8 out of 164 countries have slipped into a worse situation while 127 have improved. Besides this, headway has been made where it was most needed, in countries in an unfavourable situation; these mostly showed some improvement in education. Apart from a few exceptions (Gabon, the Cook Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands), the

4 UNESCO (2004). Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. <www.unesco.cl/esp/atematica/eduygenero/noticias/1.act?menu=esp/atematica/eduygenero/>.

5 UNESCO (2005). *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2005. The Quality Imperative*. Available from: <www.efareport.unesco.org>.

6 *Ibid*, p. 98.

CHART 1. Current situation in education, by regions

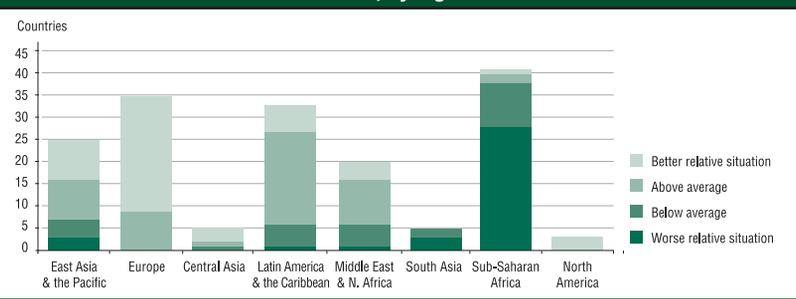


CHART 2. Final position of education according to BCI

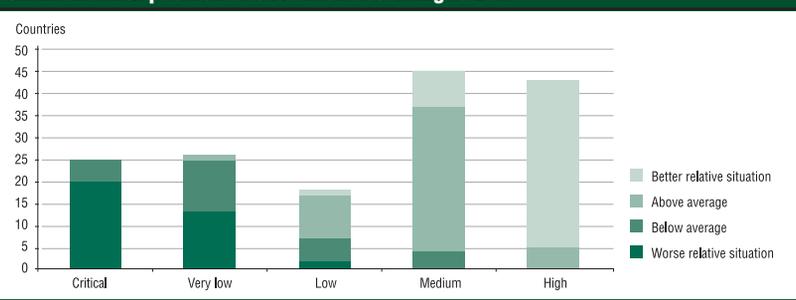


TABLE 2. Current situation by evolution in education

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	1	2	4	13	16	36
Countries below average	0	0	5	14	7	26
Countries above average	0	4	15	25	8	52
Countries in better situation	0	1	5	39	5	50
Total	1	7	29	91	36	164

TABLE 3. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative situations in education

		LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)	ENROLMENT RATE IN PRIMARY EDUCATION (NET)	CHILDREN WHO REACH 5 TH GRADE	ENROLMENT RATE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION (NET)	ENROLMENT RATE IN TERTIARY EDUCATION (GROSS)
Countries in worse situation	Average	69.4	65.1	65.6	24.1	3.3
	Number of countries	30	33	31	27	35
Countries in better situation	Average	99.6	95.9	97	88.9	54.8
	Number of countries	31	49	30	48	50
Total	Average	84.8	83.5	81.1	65.6	33.6
	Number of countries	61	82	61	75	85

below-average countries have not regressed, and most have made some kind of progress even if it is only slight.

The two regions that have the best indicators for education in relative terms are North America and Europe; not one European country is below the world average. Latin America and the Caribbean are in a relatively good situation since 27 of the 33 countries in that region are above the world average. Last on the list comes sub-Saharan Africa which, like in so many other dimensions, is in the worst situation of all. More than 90% of the countries in this region are in a below average situation, and only the Seychelles figure among the nations that are in the better situation.

The averages for each indicator show how great the difference is between the countries in the worst and the best situations. In the former group over two thirds (69.4%) of the population are illiterate, but in the more advanced countries less than 0.5% of the people cannot read or write. There are similar or even greater gaps between the two groups when it comes to school enrolments and educational efficacy indicators, and the widest gulf of all is in enrolment in tertiary education: the countries in the best situation send more than 50% of their young people into higher education, but in the countries in the worst situation the average rate is a paltry 3%. ■

INFORMATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Digital gap, people gap

Access to communication technologies has generated new inequalities. More than four fifths of the people in the world do not have access to Internet and are therefore disadvantaged when it comes to making progress in production, education, and constructing full citizenship. In the most backwards regions, investment in new technologies is not geared to spreading them on a large scale.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Internet users (per 1,000 people)
- Personal computers (per 1,000 people)
- Telephone mainlines (per 1,000 people)
- Scientists and engineers in research and development (per million people)
- Expenditure on information and communication technology (% of GDP)
- Expenditure on research and development (% of GDP)

For some years now the experts have been talking about the potential of the new “information society” (and more recently about the “knowledge society”²), and the challenges and dangers it involves. The capability to manage information is increasingly important, and one consequence of this is that unequal access to communication technologies is currently generating new inequalities in terms of social development.

The global aim ought to be to achieve “computer literacy” for the widest possible range of people. In the information society, a world democratic order depends on equal participation for all in the global information flow. However, there are great inequalities in access to this flow, and this has been called “the digital gap”. For example, at the present time 40% of the people in Canada and the United States have access to Internet, but in Latin America and the Caribbean the figure is only 2% or 3%. One of the main challenges facing the world in the new millennium is to narrow this gap.

In fact there is not just one digital gap but several, since people’s access to current information systems is conditional upon a whole series of factors. UNESCO has listed economic resources, geography, age, gender, language, education, cultural background, employment and physical well-being as reasons why people may be “left out” when it comes to being able to make use of the new technologies.

Access to personal computers is a prerequisite for access to the new sources of information. Table 1

TABLE 1. Personal computers per thousand people: the ten most disadvantaged countries by region

COUNTRIES	REGION	PERSONAL COMPUTERS PER 1,000 PEOPLE
Dominican Republic	Latin America and the Caribbean	0.5
Niger	Sub-Saharan Africa	0.7
Malawi	Sub-Saharan Africa	1.6
Chad	Sub-Saharan Africa	1.6
Burkina Faso	Sub-Saharan Africa	2.2
Central African Republic	Sub-Saharan Africa	2.8
Cambodia	East Asia and the Pacific	2.8
Angola	Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2
Ethiopia	Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2
Mali	Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2

shows that the countries which are most deficient in this tool are all in the world’s poorest regions, which are precisely the regions with the greatest need for insertion into the information society in order to make progress in other spheres like production and politics.

There are more than one billion Internet users on the planet and this has been a great success story, but more than four fifths of the people in the world still do not have access to Internet and are therefore being held back in various ways from making progress in production, education and the construction of citizenship. According to UNESCO, 90% of Internet users are in the industrialized countries.

One measure of inequality is the availability of access to broadband, and this is and will continue to be problematic. According to the United Nations Trade and Development Conference, some countries have made spectacular progress in this respect. China, for example, jumped from almost no broadband subscribers to 23 million in just three years. But at the other end of the scale there are some least developed countries that do not even have statistics about broadband access.

Some governments have placed restrictions on access to Internet, and this goes to show just what a powerful political tool it is for shaping public opinion. Internet may not have turned out to be as pluralistic, horizontal, open, democratic or decentralized as its early promise suggested since there are control mechanisms that can be used to restrict it, but it is still the most participative means of mass communication.

Broadly speaking, technological scientific development in a country depends to a large extent on government decisions, and indicators such as public spending on research and development (R&D) can give

a clear idea of how governments are performing in this respect. Public investment in R&D as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is high in the countries that belong to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), where the average is 2.2% and the top investors, relatively speaking, are Israel (4.7%) and Sweden (4.0%).³ But what is worrying here is that the rate in most underdeveloped countries is under 0.2%. For example, at the start of the millennium the Arab countries in North Africa and Asia were allocating only 0.1% of GDP to R&D.

It has been calculated that in Latin America and the Caribbean more than USD 20 billion has been invested in private telecommunications projects, while in the Middle East, Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa less than USD 2 billion has been invested in information and communication technology (ICT). To make matters worse, the investment in ICT that there is in these countries is very often just private initiatives to provide services for wealthy users in urban areas, and is not geared to the large scale diffusion of these technologies.

It is clear that State investment is a key factor. This is confirmed by the fact that experiences that are successful in terms of scientific and technological progress usually enjoy solid support from the government. This is what is happening in China, where the current surge in ICT has been underpinned by a big increase in State investment in R&D, which jumped from 0.83% of GDP in 1999 to 1.23% in 2002.⁴ China’s recent progress not only in ICT but

¹ The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed on the credits page at the start of this book.

² UNESCO (2005a). *World Report: Towards Knowledge Societies*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 110.

⁴ UNESCO (2005b). *UNESCO Science Report 2005*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing.

TABLE 3. Averages by indicator of the countries in better and worse relative situations in science and technology

		INTERNET USERS (PER 1,000 PEOPLE)	PERSONAL COMPUTERS (PER 1,000 PEOPLE)	TELEPHONE MAINLINES (PER 1,000 PEOPLE)	EXPENDITURE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (% OF GDP)	EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (% OF GDP)	SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (PER MILLION PEOPLE)
Countries in better situation	Average	570	564	565	6.76	2.40	3,972
	Number of countries	26	26	26	20	22	22
Countries in worse situation	Average	31	26	52	4.51	0.29	308
	Number of countries	87	84	87	17	29	37
Total of countries	Average	206	159	180	5.76	0.95	1,409
	Number of countries	176	172	176	69	92	103

also in biotechnology and new materials development has been largely based on financial support from the government.

Another key statistic is the amount of human capital that each country has, in terms of researchers and scientists. It has been reported⁵ that only 3% of the world's researchers are in Latin American and the Caribbean, and, as regions go, this is not in the worst situation. These deficiencies serve to perpetuate a vicious circle which denies under-developed countries the tools they need to make progress towards sustainable development.

In some countries there is almost no generalized access to "techno-science", and this seriously impairs their development prospects. In others there are sectors that are linked to the information society, but there are also sectors that are very far indeed from any connection with how the modern world works. This schism can be found in India, for example, and in various Latin American countries, and it amounts to a chasm that cuts right across society. There are basic skills to do with people's cognitive capabilities, and acquiring these skills depends on whether or not an individual has access to, and can participate in, the world of scientific and technological information.

Put simply, a country's ability to take advantage of the new information systems is connected to its capacity to revalue its culture, traditions and values, and this revaluation should involve full integration into the modern world. If a poor country cannot do this it will remain as a receiver of information and it will be limited to a passive role in the information society. A country's development is directly connected to ICT tools, and this also applies to political aspects that have to do with sovereignty.

It has often been said in recent years that access to these technologies is directly linked to other dimensions of social development. The way that gender inequality, education and reproductive health are managed in a society is closely connected to the way and the extent to which that society accesses modern information and communication systems.

The countries that according to the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) rank as developed are mostly in a

CHART 1. Current situation of science and technology by regions

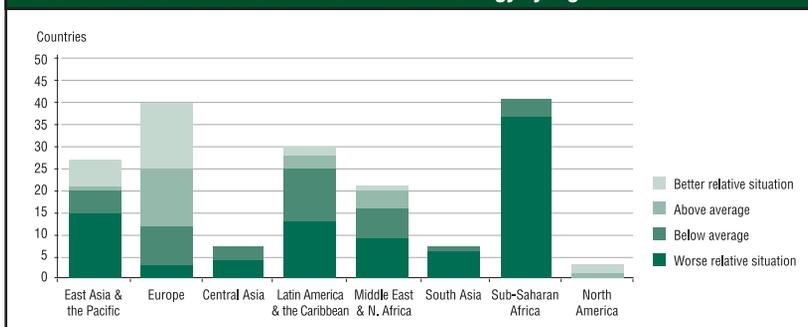


CHART 2. Final science and technology position according to BCI

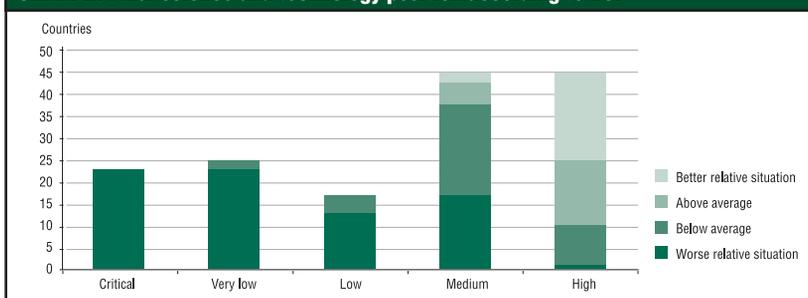


TABLE 2. Current situation by evolution in science and technology

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	2	12	66	7	87
Countries below average	0	0	9	22	10	41
Countries above average	0	0	0	9	13	22
Countries in better situation	0	0	1	15	9	25
Total	0	2	22	112	39	175

favourable situation as regards information, science and technology. This relation is not as marked as in other areas of development but it is clear enough, although there are some exceptions, like Cuba for example.

It is also worth noting that nearly all the countries for which information is available made progress in information, science and technology. Only Kazakhstan and Tajikistan showed regression on this indicator.

The overall geographical picture is that, like in so many other dimensions of development, sub-Saharan Africa is the region in the worst situation as regards technological development, and it is particu-

larly backward in ICT. All the sub-Saharan countries are below the world average, and nearly 90% of them are in a worse relative situation.

The digital gap between the countries where science and technology are more developed and those that are most backward is huge. Access to personal computers is an important indicator in this area. In the more developed countries there are 563 computers per 1,000 people but in the most backward there are only around 25 per 1,000 people, which is to say there are 20 times more in the developed world. That is just one measure of the size of the digital gap. ■

5 Red de Indicadores de Ciencia y Tecnología (2003). "El Estado de la Ciencia. Inversión en I+D: un período de fluctuaciones". Available from: <www.riicyt.org/interior/difusion/pubs/elc2003/3.pdf>.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

Abysmal differences

There are big differences in the absolute amounts per capita that governments in different countries spend on health and education. In the underdeveloped countries a smaller proportion of the national budget is allocated to these areas and often there is more private expenditure than public, so resources do not fully reach those who have the greatest difficulty in accessing these services. To improve their situation, these countries ought to be able to manage their public indebtedness in a way that does not compromise their pursuit of national development objectives.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Public expenditure on health (% of GDP)
- Public expenditure on education (% of GDP)
- Foreign debt service (% of GNI)
- Military expenditure (% of GDP)

Public expenditure is the value of the goods and services bought by the State and its agencies. An analysis of the distribution of public expenditure can shed light on the priorities that governments have in responding to their different obligations.

Public expenditure for social sectors has to compete against other sectors for the resources available in a country's budget. This expenditure has to ensure that the people's economic, social and cultural rights, and the government's legal obligations laid down in a variety of international human rights agreements, are honoured. Budgets are mechanisms to allocate public resources, so they are key instruments for ensuring that these rights are not violated. In a democratic State the budget should be an expression of the will of the people operating through political parties and participative institutions.

The four indicators selected for this study have been used to evaluate the share of the national budget that goes on health and education (social welfare) on the one hand and military expenditure and debt servicing on the other, since the latter can be seen to limit a State's capacity to deal adequately with the former.

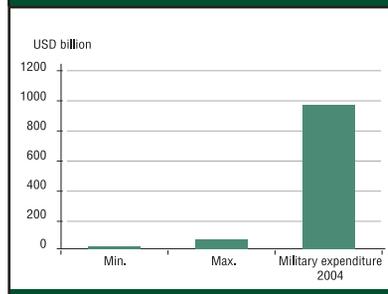
A useful approach to make a comparative analysis of the way States allocate their expenditure is to consider the figures for each sector as a proportion of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which is the total monetary value of the goods and services produced by a country in a given period. This approach makes it possible to compare rich and poor countries in spite of the vast differences in the scale of their economies and the absolute amounts they allocate to social expenditure.

Health expenditure per capita is a paradigm example of these inequalities, not only between different countries but also within the same country. The world average for expenditure on health is less than USD 500 per capita, but in 2003, for example, the average in countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) was USD 2,307. The country that spends most is the United States, with an average of USD 5,635 per capita, which is much more than the figure for European nations like Switzerland or Norway (USD 3,800), and very much more than countries like Spain (USD 1,640). At the other end of the scale there are regions where expenditure on health is only a twentieth of the world average, like sub-Saharan Africa (less than USD 29 per capita per year) and Southern Asia (barely USD 21).

There are also shocking inequalities when it comes to expenditure on education. The industri-

The evolution of public expenditure is directly linked to all of a government's social goals. First, because the country's development possibilities, and particularly the future of the most vulnerable groups of citizens in each society, will depend to a large extent on the allocations that are implemented in the budget. When governments signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, one of the commitments they made was to allocate the maximum possible resources to guaranteeing that the citizens of their countries would be able to enjoy the full exercise of all the dimensions of human rights. But besides this, countries have to be able to manage their public debt in such a way that this does not compromise their national development objectives. Millennium Development Goal 8 involves a commitment to reducing foreign indebtedness and making payment more flexible, so the international community, and the creditor countries and the multilateral banks in particular, are under an obligation to negotiate conditions that will bring about a real improvement in the way debtor countries are able to manage their resources. ■

CHART 1. Expenditure needed to reach health MDG



alized countries contain less than one fifth of the world's population but they enjoy 80% of total world spending on education. Southern Asia has 25% of the world's population but benefits from only 4% of the total, and sub-Saharan Africa has 10% of the world's population, including a third of the children on the planet, but benefits from a mere 1% of total expenditure on education. The world average is USD 630 per capita per year, but while mean expenditure in the OECD countries comes to nearly USD 4,636 per child in primary or secondary education, in the African countries it is only USD 49, and in Southern Asia only USD 38.

These are blatant inequalities in the absolute amounts spent on the welfare services a person enjoys just because he or she happens to have been born in a rich or a poor country, but to make matters worse, in the poor countries a lesser proportion of the budget is spent on providing these services.

In the OECD countries average total (public and private) expenditure on health comes to 8.6% of GDP, and in the United States the figure is no less than 15% of GDP (public expenditure alone amounts to 6.8%), but in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia total spending in this sector is less than 5% of GDP. However, the real gap is much wider than that since, in the poorest countries, private expenditure on health accounts for a higher proportion of total expenditure, and on average public spending on these services comes to barely 2% of GDP. In most poor countries private expenditure exceeds public spending, so most of the resources invested do not reach the people who have most difficulty in accessing these services. This phenomenon also occurs within rich countries where a large proportion of the services are privately

¹ The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed on the credits at the start of this book.

provided. For example, according to the World Health Organization, the United States comes 37th of the list for public health provision, behind countries like Morocco (which is 29th, with only USD 186 in expenditure), Spain (seventh) or France (first). In fact the United States ranks just two places higher than Cuba (which spends USD 236). One of the reasons for this low ranking is that in the United States, the country that spends most, there are more than 40 million people who have no health coverage at all.

Another aspect of the situation is that social expenditure in itself does not guarantee that the conditions of life of the people in a country will improve. Social policies and the ways in which the budget is implemented can also have a bearing on how much of an impact this expenditure has on the population's quality of life.

According to the World Bank, the additional foreign aid needed to reach the MDGs in health would amount to just somewhere between USD 25 billion and USD 70 billion per year. However in 2004 alone total military expenditure in the world was USD 976 billion, which was 11% more than in the previous year. The main cause of this rise was increased spending by the United States on the war in Iraq. The 31 highest-income countries in the world are responsible for 75% of total global military expenditure, and the United States alone accounts for 50%.² But these nations have enormous incomes so military expenditure comes to only a relatively small part of their GDP, and this means that these countries do not show up prominently in relative indicators like military spending as a percentage of GDP or of Gross National Income (GNI). But there are other comparisons that reveal absurdities in the real situation, like the fact that these countries allocate ten times more to the military sector than to official development aid.³

Another obstacle to allocating resources to development in general and raising spending on basic social welfare services in particular is that many countries have to service considerable foreign debts. Even the multilateral bank has acknowledged that the weight of these payments constitutes a serious obstacle to growth and economic stability in a large number of countries. In 1996

the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund undertook the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative as a first general attempt to eliminate unsustainable debt among the poorest and most indebted countries in the world.⁴ According to recent declarations by the World Bank, in July 2006 work began on processing some debt cancellations that were announced in July 2005 by the Group of Eight (G8 – the seven most industrialized countries plus Russia).

Chart 2 shows the performance of countries as regards public expenditure according to their rating on the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI). It can be seen that the countries that rate better in the use of public expenditure are in better positions according to this index.

Table 1 shows that the countries with the greatest deficiencies (according to the BCI) are also those that allocate the lowest proportion of their national budget to health and education.

CHART 2. Final public expenditure position by BCI

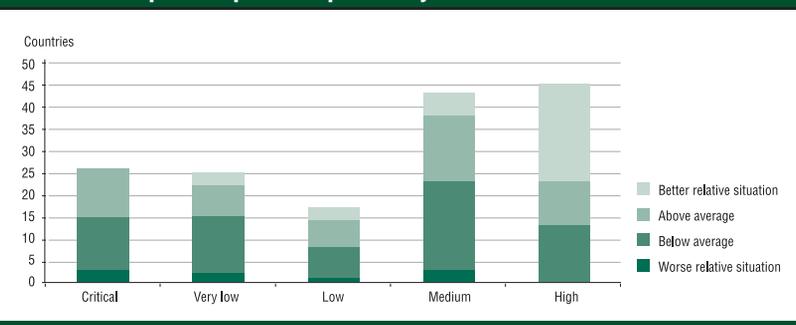


TABLE 1. Public expenditure indicators of countries according to their BCI level

BCI 2006		PUBLIC EXPENDITURE (% GNI 2003-2004)			
		HEALTH	EDUCATION	DEBT SERVICE	MILITARY EXPENDITURE
Critical	Average	2.1	3.6	3.3	3.4
	Number of countries	26	24	26	25
Very low	Average	2.6	4	4.5	2.6
	Number of countries	26	19	24	22
Low	Average	3.4	4.9	5.1	2.1
	Number of countries	17	15	15	14
Medium	Average	3.5	4.8	7.5	2.4
	Number of countries	46	40	38	32
High	Average	5.6	5.6	9	2.2
	Number of countries	45	44	15	42

TABLE 2. Public expenditure indicators of countries by region

REGIONS	PUBLIC EXPENDITURE (% GNI 2003-2004)			
	HEALTH	EDUCATION	DEBT SERVICE	MILITARY EXPENDITURE
East Asia & Pacific	4.2	5.5	4.9	1.8
Europe	5.7	5.3	8.4	1.7
Central Asia	2.3	3.4	8.0	2.6
Latin America & Caribbean	3.5	4.6	7.6	1.3
Middle East & North Africa	3.1	5.5	5.6	5.0
South Asia	2.0	4.0	2.9	2.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.4	4.0	3.9	3.0
North America	6.8	5.5	-	2.5

2 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (2004). *SIPRI Yearbook 2004. Armaments, Disarmament and International Security*. Oxford University Press. Available at: <editors.sipri.se/pubs/yb04/aboutyb.html>.

3 *Ibid.*

4 The International Development Association and the International Monetary Fund (1999). "Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative. Perspectives on the Current Framework and Options for Change". Prepared by the Staffs of the World Bank and IMF. Approved by Masood Ahmed and Jack Boorman. Available at: <www.imf.org/external/np/hipc/options/options.pdf>.

When it comes to debt servicing, the countries that rank medium and high on the BCI are most affected, with averages of over 7.5%. It is noteworthy that these countries do not qualify for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative.

Table 2 shows that average social expenditure (health plus education) is around 8.5% of GDP, and military expenditure comes to 2.5% of GDP. But it is obvious that behind these averages there are wide variations in what different countries spend. In the countries in the better situation on the BCI, the averages for education and health are three times higher than those for the countries in the worse situation. This table shows that the countries in the better relative situation (33) have a public expenditure structure in which education and health are given considerable weight (an average of 13.6% of GDP). These countries spend an average of USD 9 on these services for every USD 1 that goes to the military budget. Furthermore, in this group of countries the average weight of debt servicing is 2.8% of GNI, which is significantly less than in the rest of the countries. At the other end of the scale, the countries in the worse situation (11) spend an average of 4.3% of GNI on education and health, which is not much more than they allocate to military expenditure (3.7%). Another negative aspect is that a sizeable chunk of GNI (14.4%) goes on servicing the foreign debt.

A geographical analysis of performance in public expenditure shows that Central Asia is the region with the most countries below average (8 of the 9 countries in that region). In Asia and Africa

The reduction in the burden of foreign debt servicing is noticeable in... (% of GNI)		
	1990	2004
Congo, Rep. of	22.9	10.7
Jordan	16.5	6.0
Jamaica	15.9	9.9
Algeria	14.7	7.1
Côte d'Ivoire	13.7	3.7
Honduras	13.7	4.7
Mauritania	13.5	3.5
Nigeria	13.0	4.0
Syria	9.9	1.4
Kenya	9.6	2.3
Trinidad and Tobago	9.6	3.4
Costa Rica	9.2	3.8

CHART 3. Current situation of public expenditure by regions

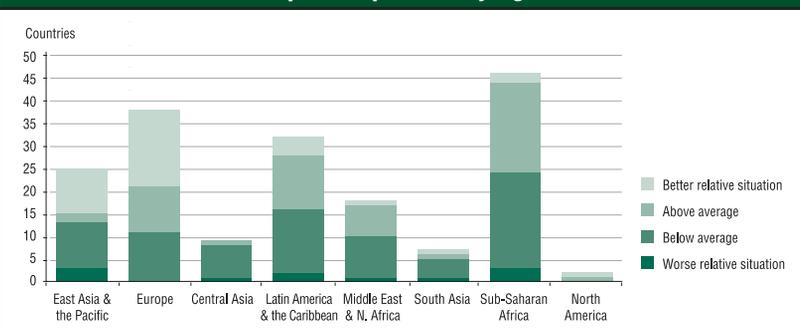


TABLE 3. Current situation by evolution of public expenditure

CURRENT SITUATION	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	4	6	1	0	11
Countries below average	4	14	45	13	0	76
Countries above average	0	9	23	18	4	54
Countries in better situation	1	1	18	13	3	36
Total	5	28	92	45	7	177

TABLE 4. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative situation in public expenditure (2003-2004)

CURRENT SITUATION		HEALTH (% OF GDP)	EDUCATION (% OF GDP)	FOREIGN DEBT SERVICE (% OF GNI)	MILITARY EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)
Countries in worse situation	Average	1.8	2.7	14.4	3.7
	Number of countries	11	11	9	10
Countries in better situation	Average	6.4	7.2	2.8	1.5
	Number of countries	36	33	10	26
Total of countries	Average	3.7	4.8	5.8	2.5
	Number of countries	187	159	133	151

the proportion of countries below the average is also very high. We should note, however, that the situation varies depending on which indicator is studied. The countries in the worse situation in terms of public expenditure on basic social services are in Central and Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where averages are below 2.5% of GNI in health and around 4% in education. Relative military expenditure, on the other hand, is highest in the Middle East and North Africa, at 5% of GNI. The regions in which average debt servicing as a percentage of GNI is highest are Europe (8.6%), Central Asia (8%) and Latin America (7.6%).

The evolution of performance in public expenditure between 1990 and the early years of the 21st century shows that, of the 177 countries for which data are available, only 4% (7 countries) have made significant progress and 25% have made slight progress. There was no change in half the countries, and in 18.6% of them the proportion of budget allocations going to social services fell. ■

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Discouraging trends

Official development assistance – in the form of grants and soft loans – is no longer the main source of foreign income for most middle income countries, but it still is for the poorest. Since 1997, developing countries have transferred more financial resources to developed countries (to cancel debt commitments) than they have received in ODA. At the same time, assistance from donor countries as a percentage of their GDP has fallen.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Official Development Assistance from the countries belonging to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and from multilateral organizations (% of GNI)

International cooperation plays an important role in countries' progress towards economic and social development and in the struggle against poverty.

In this sphere financial assistance is vitally important, and it has a big influence on how some of the most disadvantaged countries will develop in the future. Contributions from developed countries through international cooperation can be vitally important for nations that have limited resources to be able to provide for the economic, social and cultural rights of their citizens. In fact, in this sense, this kind of cooperation is an international instrument to promote human rights.²

The developed countries have made commitments that are an expression of their political will and that quantify assistance to the poorer countries. In recent years, there have been government commitments to allocate a fixed proportion of their resources to ODA. In Commitment 9 of the final declaration of the 1995 World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen, it was agreed that the donor countries would allocate 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) to official development assistance (ODA).

According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), ODA consists of grants and loans with very soft financial conditions³ made by public institutions in the de-

veloped countries with the aim of promoting economic development and well being in developing countries.⁴

However, official assistance and development are currently under debate because of the broad trends that have emerged in flows of official finance. In recent years there have been three main trends in global net flows into the developing countries:⁵

- Official flows of resources have become relatively less important and private sources of finance for development have been growing. The latter mainly consist of direct investment, which tripled between the 1990-1994 period and 2000-2004. There has also been a considerable increase in remittances sent by emigrants to their countries of origin, which more than doubled in the same period from USD 40 billion to USD 99 billion.⁶
- Official net flows have been highly volatile and have tended to decrease. ODA grew between 1970 and 1990 but since then it has been shrinking. The annual average between 1990 and 1994 was USD 52 billion, but between 2000 and 2004 it was only USD 36 billion.
- The modalities of private and official flows of resources have been changing. In the private sphere foreign direct investment and share acquisitions have been gaining ground over debts contracted with private banks and on capital markets. Direct investment is considered to be more stable and a better long term prospect than

Goal 8 of the Millennium Development Goal (MDGs) involves promoting a global partnership for development. This means the richer countries have made a firm commitment to giving development aid, and the countries that receive this aid have a responsibility to channel it into social development. The contribution needed from the international community to reach the MDGs is in fact far more than the set target of 7% of GNI in the donor countries. ■

contracting debts with private international creditors.

Official sources of finance have been reducing the amounts they lend, but grants have increased from an annual average of USD 9.5 billion in the 1970s and 1980s to USD 31 billion per year in the 1990s. The underlying logic of this is that middle-income countries would seek more of their finance in capital markets and that ODA would be increasingly channelled to the poorest countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa.⁷ Only in this region and in Southern Asia, where the poorest countries on the planet are found, have official flows exceeded private finance since the 1990s.

In recent years financial flows to developing countries have tended to be channelled through new instruments, and as a consequence ODA, as it was originally defined, is no longer the main source of foreign finance for most middle-income countries. But this does not apply to the poorest countries, where official assistance still amounts to over 7% of GNI.

It was noted above that private flows account for an increasing share of total finance for development at the expense of official flows, but this does not apply uniformly across the globe. These private flows of foreign direct investment are mostly going to a limited number of emerging countries, and to

1 The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 The International Charter on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR).

3 At least 25% should be donated, and loans have very low rates of interest (around 1% per year) and very long repayment periods (30 to 40 years).

4 Official Development Assistance (ODA), grants or loans to countries and territories in Part I of the DAC List of Aid Recipients (developing countries) which are: (a) undertaken by the official sector; (b) with promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective; (c) at concessional financial terms [if a loan, having a grant element of at least 25%]. In addition to financial flows, technical co-operation is included in aid. Grants, loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. For the treatment of the forgiveness of loans originally made for military purposes, see Notes on Definitions and Measurement below. Transfer payments to private individuals (e.g. pensions, reparations or insurance payouts) are in general not counted.

5 Economic System of Latin America and the Caribbean (SELA) (2005). *La Ayuda Oficial para el Desarrollo en América Latina y el Caribe: contexto y perspectivas*.

6 Since the mid 1990s the amount of remittances received by the developing countries as a whole has exceeded ODA.

7 The main agencies in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Canada, among other donor countries, have indicated that ODA will be concentrated more and more in the lowest-income countries.

COMMITMENTS MADE INDIVIDUALLY BY SOME EU COUNTRIES:		
Belgium		0.7% 2010
France	0.5% 2007	0.7% 2012
Sweden	1% 2006	
Spain	0.33% 2006	0.5% 2008
United Kingdom	0.47% 2008	0.7% 2013

specific sectors within those countries. In fact, between 2000 and 2004, some 65% of these flows went to just five countries, namely China, India, Brazil, Russia and Mexico.

ODA flows changed direction after the 1997 crisis in Asia. The developing countries as a group transferred more financial resources to the developed countries (to pay off debt commitments) than they received, so their net balance was negative. In 2004 the balance ceased to be negative. Some developing countries were able to build up financial reserves thanks to favourable prices for their exports, and they used part of these resources to pay off their foreign debts or at least to make advance payments.

Between 2000 and 2004 ODA increased by around USD 12 billion, but when the figures are analyzed as a percentage of GNI in the donor countries it emerges that the trend is for proportionally less assistance to be given. In this period ODA amounted to only 0.25% of GDP, which falls far short of the 0.7% agreed by the donor countries in the 1960s and is also well below the 0.5% that was paid during that decade.

In 2004 the only countries that exceeded the United Nations target of 7% of GNI were Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden. In 2004 the average for the countries of the European Union went up from 0.35% in 2003 to 0.36%, but some nations in the bloc are still below the 0.33% that the EU set for its members after the Monterrey Summit in 2002, and even further below the 0.39% that was fixed as the target for 2006.

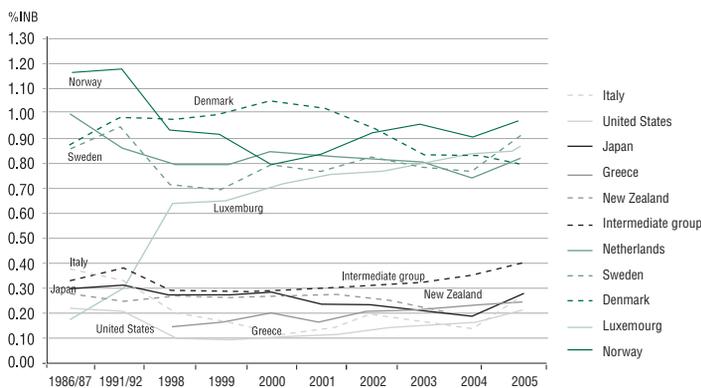
An evaluation of development assistance cannot be confined only to quantifying the funds involved. There is growing concern about the quality of this assistance, that is to say its efficacy, transparency and the real impact that it makes. To improve these dimensions, evaluation tools are being brought into play that allow much better follow up on what is really achieved.

A review of the 2000-2004 period shows that the increases in ODA at that time were in the areas of increased technical cooperation (46%), debt forgiveness for the poorest countries (32%), contributions to multilateral organizations (21%) and emergency aid (15%). At the same time there were decreases in other areas, such as loans and other grants (-14%).

Variations in ODA 2003-2004:

CONSIDERABLE INCREASES	%	REASON
Austria	22.0	Mainly through forgiving debt
Greece	13.1	Increase in technical cooperation and emergency aid
Canada	12.2	Ceased to receive repayments from India
Luxembourg	10.5	Increased cooperation with regional development banks
Portugal	187.5	Forgiving big debts owed by Angola
Spain	14.5	Contributions to international organizations
United Kingdom	8.8	Forgiving debt and increasing assistance for programmes and projects
New Zealand	8.2	Includes a considerable increase in grants to organizations in the South Pacific
SLIGHT INCREASES		
Denmark	3.5	
Finland	5.9	
France	4.3	
Australia	2.3	
Ireland	2.2	
Sweden	1.4	
DECREASES		
Belgium	-30.3	A fall from 2003, when the Democratic Republic of the Congo was granted considerable debt relief
Italy	-9.7	Due to less debt forgiveness
Netherlands	-4.0	Due to India's repayment of assistance loans
Switzerland	-3.0	
Norway	-2.9	

CHART 1. Net ODA payments at current prices and exchange rates (% of GNI), 1986-2005*



* Evolution of the five countries with highest and lowest contributions in 2004, and average value for countries with middle-level contributions.

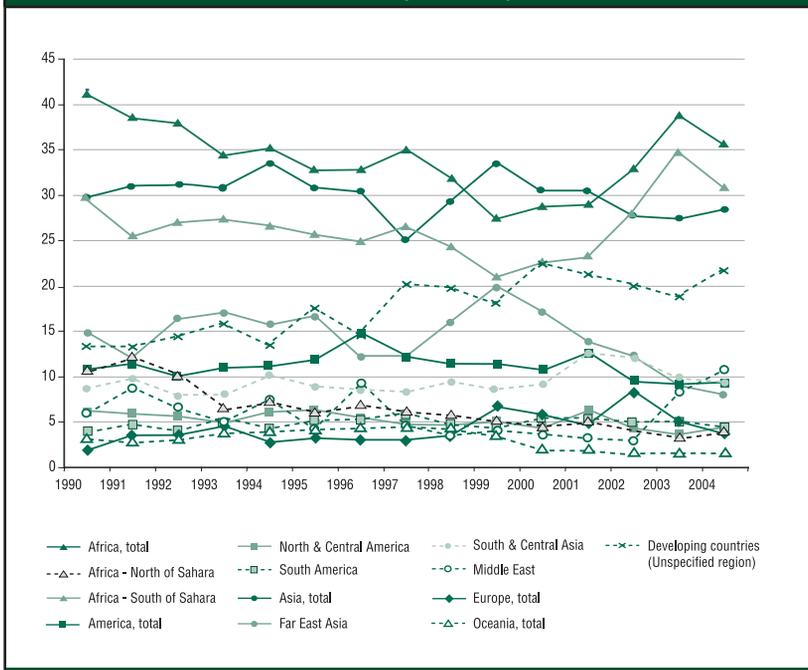
The commitments made at Monterrey meant an increase from the 2004 figure of 0.25% to 0.30% in 2006. It would seem that this proportion will increase, since the G8 (the seven most industrialized countries plus Russia)⁸ announced in September 2005 that they would assume the cost of forgiving the debts that 40 countries have with multilateral organizations.

According to estimates made by the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD, annual OECD contributions will rise by USD 50 billion between 2004 and 2010, and reach USD 130 billion in 2010, which would amount to 0.36% of GDP in that year. In relative terms this is just half of what the donor countries committed themselves to in the 1960s.

The World Bank announced recently that the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) came into force on 1 July 2006, and this would forgive the debts that some of the poorest countries in the world have with the International Development Association. This Association, under the aegis of the World Bank, is to grant some USD 37 billion in debt relief over the next 40 years, which is additional to the approximately USD 17 billion in relief that the Association is already committed to under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC).

According to the World Bank, countries that have 'graduated' from the HIPC Initiative would be able to opt for additional relief from their debt burden. In the first stage nineteen countries would enjoy total cancellation "of debts that satisfy the requirements" (Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia). The other heavily indebted poor countries would have to meet the requirements of the programme to be able to accede to the debt cancellation mechanisms.⁹ ■

CHART 2. Evolution of destination of ODA (1990-2004)



8 At the 2005 G8 Summit in Gleneagles in Scotland, these countries committed themselves to cancelling the debts of the most indebted countries in the world, most of which are in Africa. The International Development Association of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Fund will forgive the debts of countries that have 'graduated' (that is, that have reached the 'culmination point') of the HIPC initiative. In March 2006 the donors agreed on a financial package for the MDRI which involves additional funds so as to ensure the flow of new resources for the fight against poverty. Compensatory financial assistance that is given during the period and covers cancelled loans is based on solid commitments that have already been made, and the donors are taking additional measures in the countries of origin to meet the need for supplementary financing in the period.

9 Cf. Wilks, A. and Oddone, F. "Forever in your debt?" in this Report.

Access versus the privatization of resources

Fair access to natural resources is essential for sustainable development. In Millennium Development Goal number 7 there is a call to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. Although more people now have access to drinking water, in 2010 an estimated 215 million still will not. The situation is critical, and the growing trend towards privatizing the service and commercializing this essential resource will lead to even more inequality.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- People with access to improved water sources (%)
- People with access to sanitation (%)

The importance of people's habitat and adequate standards of life have been analyzed and stressed at various international conferences under the auspices of the United Nations and in human rights instruments.

These dimensions of people's quality of life must be approached with an integrated focus because they are connected to other aspects like access to health services, water, sanitary facilities, and decent housing. Governments are under a series of obligations, laid down in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to meet standards that will enable the people of their countries to have a decent life. These standards or values assumed by a society have also been accepted at international conferences like the Copenhagen Summit and the Beijing Conference, and the commitments have been enshrined in the Millennium Declaration and quantified in Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

There are other dimensions that are interconnected with these commitments, like the links between habitat and health, habitat and poverty, and habitat and discrimination.

It is clear that poverty is very closely linked to discrimination, but within population sectors that suffer from discrimination – including indigenous groups, people of African descent, migrants and the homeless – very often the women suffer from double or even triple discrimination. In order to combat this there have to be specific policies for women geared to providing them with improved access to drinking water, sanitary facilities and housing as a basic structural foundation for complying with all the other commitments that countries have made, including those that have to do with reducing poverty, providing work, and children's and reproductive health (MDGs 1, 4 and 5).

In the 1990s the United Nations called several international conferences to tackle different aspects of sustainable development. In 2000 a series of indicators were set so as to facilitate implementation of the MDGs. These would allow for evaluation of the progress made towards MDG 7, which connects access to water and sanitary facilities with sustainable development, the environment and land. This Goal also links these variables together in that it maintains a focus on urban and land development, habitat, access to drinking water and slum settlements. The Goal includes a call for the proportion of people without access to drinking water to be cut by half, and for a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

On this last point, it should be borne in mind that the urban population is growing fast and this is having a big impact on the environment. What makes this even more serious is that over 70% of the urban population in poor countries live in slum settlements and do not have adequate access to drinking water, sanitary facilities or other essential services.

It is very difficult to measure countries' real progress or regression with respect to goals that are fixed internationally because only data about access to drinking water and sanitation are available. There are no complete and up-to-date data available internationally to be able to monitor what percentage of populations have secure access to land tenancy, and analysis of housing quality is still in its early stages.

The seventh of the Millennium Development Goals requires governments to reduce the numbers of people living in slum settlements, but it is extremely difficult to systematize the information available so as to construct relative indicators of the quality of life in these settlements, access to services, quality of housing or the displacement of population groups.

This report will focus on indicators for which data is available so as to try to shed some light on the world situation as regards access to water and sanitary facilities.

Access to water is a basic human right, and according to UNICEF the amount needed to meet the basic needs of one child is 20 litres per day, which is equivalent to two buckets of water. UNICEF has reported that more than one billion people are still using water that is not fit for consumption, and more than 2.6 billion (40% of the world's population) lack basic sanitary facilities. As a result, thousands of children are dying from diarrhoea and other illnesses connected to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Some 4,000 children die every day simply because they do not have access to drinking water.

In 2002 the United Nations Human Rights Committee passed General Observation No. 15,² which recognizes the right to water as an indispensable factor for human dignity, and links this basic right to life and health. Polluted water and lack of access to adequate sanitary facilities are directly linked to illnesses, which means they amount to a violation of the human right to health. Access to this resource is so important that the General Assembly of the United Nations passed a resolution proclaiming the period 2005-2015 as the "International Decade for Action: Water for Life". The aim of this initiative is to reach the targets that have been agreed internationally and to lay the foundations to be able to make real progress in the years ahead.³

According to UN-Habitat, between 1990 and 2002 some 1.1 billion more people gained access to potable water, which raised global coverage from 77% to 83%. However, in spite of what has been achieved, it is estimated that the number of people without such access will double from 108 million to 215 million in the 1990-2010 period.⁴

This situation is further complicated by the fact that globalization has accelerated the trend towards privatizing essential services such as water. In some countries more than half the urban population has to depend on private companies for their water, and this is usually more expensive than public supplies.⁵

Civil society organizations have called on the international water forums to oppose this commercialization on the grounds that private companies do not allow universal access to this resource and this constitutes a violation of a basic human right. They also claim that the privatization of water services involves very serious human, social and environmental costs.⁶

2 The Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. General Observation No. 15 (2002), "The right to water" (Articles 11 and 12 of the International Charter on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). Geneva, 11-29 November, 2002.

3 United Nations. World Water Day. "Water as the source of life, 2005-2015". Available at: <www.un.org/spanish/events/waterday/2005/>.

4 UN-Habitat (2006). *State of the World's Cities 2006/7: The Millennium Goals and Urban Sustainability*.

5 UN-Habitat (2003). *Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities: Local Action for Global Goals*.

6 Joint Declaration by the Movement for the Defence of Water. Mexico City, 19 March, 2006.

1 The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed on the credits at the start of this book.

Discrimination in access to water is not just a matter of socio-economic level, but also involves where people live. According to the World Health Organization, approximately 80% of those who do not have access to drinking water live in poverty in rural areas, and this means they are less able to apply political pressure or to claim their rights. What's more, the time it takes them to collect water is time they cannot spend on productive activities, education or family care.⁷

Another dimension to this problem is gender discrimination. The fact that there is discrimination in access to land, to the means of production and to potable water means that very often rural women have to leave their homes. Most displaced women have children, and they gravitate to areas where they can survive on the outskirts of cities, swelling still more the number of people living in slum settlements.

As if these structural circumstances were not bad enough, the situation of poor people is often further blighted by more transitory phenomena like armed conflicts and natural disasters, and this calls for an extra effort on the part of national governments and the international community to honour the commitments they have made.

These problems are not always rooted in a lack of resources. In 2005 the United States was plunged into a major crisis affecting the safety and health of large numbers of people when Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of New Orleans. A sizeable percentage of the population of this city was living below the poverty line;⁸ these were mostly African Americans who were poor and did not have the means to escape when the disaster struck. Not enough shelters were provided, and these refugees lacked drinking water, decent sanitation and other basic services, and were plunged into a grim, large-scale humanitarian crisis right in the heart of the richest country in the world.

In the developed countries access to water and sanitary facilities is not universal but on average it stands at over 90%, and this is a far cry indeed from the situation in the developing countries. The amount of water consumed per person also varies widely. In the rich countries, average daily consumption is between 500 and 800 litres, but in the poor countries it is between 60 and 150 litres.⁹

7 World Health Organization (WHO) (2003). *The right to water*. Available at: <www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/rtwrev.pdf>.

8 UNESCO (2006). *Water, a shared responsibility. The UN World Water Development Report 2*. Chapter 1: "Living in a Changing World". Available at: <www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr2/pdf/wwdr2_ch_1.pdf>. According to the report, in 1999 some 28% of the inhabitants of New Orleans were living below the poverty line.

9 UN-Habitat (2006), *op cit*.

CHART 1. Current situation of environmental indicators by regions

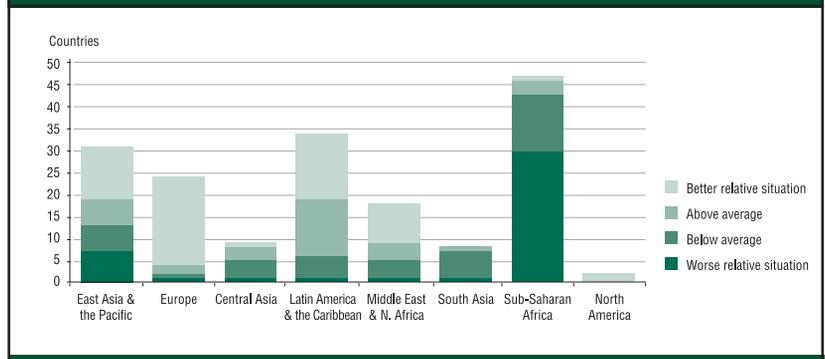
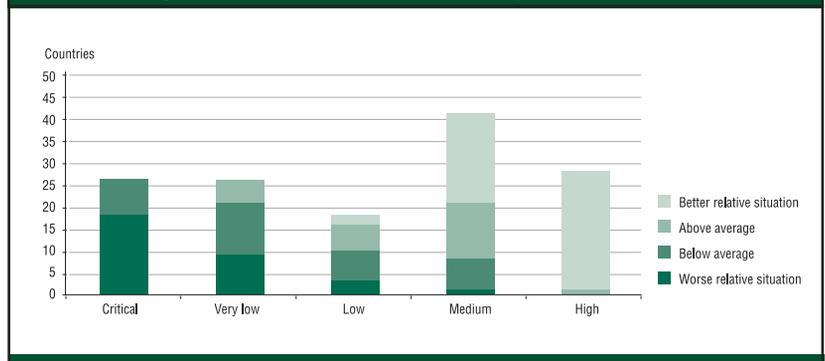


CHART 2. Final position in environmental indicators by BCI



The official international statistics that Social Watch publishes show that in 150 countries for which data is available, 22% are in a worse relative situation, 25% are below average, 18% are above the average and 35% are in a better relative situation.

When we compare the countries in the worse relative situation and those in the better relative situation with the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) constructed by Social Watch, it can be seen that most of the countries in the worse relative situation have a critical or very low BCI rating, and most of the countries in this category are in sub-Saharan Africa.

One country that stands out for the wrong reasons is Romania. It ranks 65th on the BCI but has very poor rates of coverage as regards drinking water and sanitary facilities, with access below 58% for both services.

Most of the countries in the better relative situation – that is to say those that have better rates of access to these resources – rate middle or high on the BCI. There are two exceptions, Egypt and the Cook Islands, which rank low on the BCI but are in the better relative situation category.

Ethiopia and Chad have the worst national coverage as regards sanitary facilities. In both countries access is below 10%, they have not made sig-

nificant progress for a decade (the 1990-2002 period), and in fact, in Ethiopia, coverage was actually less in 2002 than in 1990.

When it comes to an analysis by regions we find that most of the countries in Europe and North America have the best averages for coverage, and the worst situation is in sub-Saharan Africa where the figures for coverage are critical.

The countries that regressed the most as regards coverage of sanitary facilities were Liberia and Burundi, which both fell by more than ten percentage points in the last decade, and less than 40% of the population now have access. At the other end of the scale Myanmar made the greatest progress in sanitary facilities over the period: coverage increased from 21% in 1990 to 73% in 2002.

Mauritania, Kiribati, Haiti, Benin and Madagascar are all in a very critical situation according to the Basic Capabilities Index but they have made the most progress in extending coverage of sanitary facilities, although overall coverage is still very low.

The countries that regressed most in terms of providing drinking water were the Maldives, the Marshall Islands and Algeria. In all three people's access fell by around ten percentage points, and in the Maldives the situation is serious because in 1990

some 99% of the population had access to potable water but coverage fell to 84% in 2002.

Namibia, Benin and the Central African Republic have very low rankings on the BCI but have managed to improve water coverage. The Central African Republic made the most progress with an increase in national coverage from 48% in 1990 to 75% in 2002.

For the total of 135 countries for which data are available, 59 have not progressed or have stagnated, and most of these are countries in the better situation. They have already achieved high coverage in this respect (on average above 95%), but they have not progressed in spite of the fact that they have made international commitments to attain total coverage in water and sanitary facilities.

Half the countries have improved in this area, with 35 making slight progress and 32 significant progress. Nevertheless, an alarmingly high number of people in the world are still living without adequate water or sanitary facilities, and not only is this linked to illnesses among children and adults, but it also has a severe long-term negative impact on national development and the conditions of daily life. ■

TABLE 1. Current situation by evolution in environmental indicators

CURRENT SITUATION	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	4	4	11	8	27
Countries below average	1	0	4	11	15	31
Countries above average	0	1	6	10	7	24
Countries in better situation	0	3	45	3	2	53
Total	1	8	59	35	32	135

TABLE 2. Averages by environmental indicator of countries in better and worse situation

CURRENT SITUATION		POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION (%)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES (%)
Countries in worse situation	Average	30.86	54.17
	Number of countries	42	42
Countries in better situation	Average	95.96	97.55
	Number of countries	50	58
Total of countries	Average	66.24	79.33
	Number of countries	92	100

HEALTH

Extreme risk

There is a huge gap between the countries in the better and worse relative situations as regards health care. Conditions in some poorer countries amount to a public emergency, but in the more developed countries lethal diseases have been brought under control. No country has regressed significantly in health care recently, but fewer than 10% have made good progress. Health care provision is a question of human rights, and this means there must be universal access and efficient public services.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Malaria (cases per 100,000 people)
- Tuberculosis (cases per 100,000 people)
- People with HIV/AIDS (15 to 49 years old)
- Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)
- Mortality among children under age 5 (per 1,000 live births)
- Children under age 1 immunized against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus (DPT)
- Children under age 1 immunized against polio
- Children under age 1 immunized against measles
- Children under age 1 immunized against tuberculosis

There are good and bad aspects to the health situation in the world. On the one hand, good overall progress has been made, but there are still threats to health that affect the whole world. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), "Chronic diseases, consisting of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, cancers, injuries, and neurological and psychological disorders, are major burdens affecting rich and poor populations alike."²

On the other hand, there are shocking differences in the sphere of health care between countries. In the least developed countries some population groups are at extreme risk in situations that amount to public emergencies, but in the more developed countries some of the most lethal illnesses have been brought under control to the point that they can now be considered merely chronic, that is to say, manageable. The gap is wide, and life expectancy at birth is a key indicator that reflects this inequality.

One of the crucial factors underlying this gap between countries is the amount of health infrastructure that there is, and lack of infrastructure goes a long way towards perpetuating these inequalities. Poor living conditions in general, and poverty, gender inequity and environmental pollution in particular, are also important causes of inequalities in health. This is a question of human rights, and what is needed is not just universal access to health services but also that people and communities should play an active role in their own health care and in the efficiency of public services.

The greatest global pandemic is HIV/AIDS. It has now spread to such an extent that it has become the main cause of death among people in the 15 to 49 age bracket. According to UNICEF, "in 2003 alone, 2.9 million people died of AIDS and 4.8 million people were newly infected with the HIV virus. Over 90 per cent of people currently living with HIV/AIDS are in developing countries. . . In sub-Saharan Africa, HIV/AIDS has led to increasing child mortality, dramatic reductions in life expectancy and millions of orphans."³

Today there are more than 40 million people in the world living with the virus, but only 5% of them are in the rich countries. Medical treatment has improved, but even so, in 2005 more than 3 million people died from causes attributable to HIV/AIDS, and half a million of the victims were children.

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), only 4% of the people in Africa who are living with HIV/AIDS are receiving the necessary antiretroviral treatment. Not receiving treatment for the virus has a direct negative impact on life expectancy. To improve this situation it is vitally important to authorize the use of generic equivalents to partly replace patented medicines so that treatment can be rapidly universalized.⁴

In many African countries more than 15% of the population between 15 and 49 years of age has the virus, and in some of these countries the repercussions in terms of morbidity and mortality are catastrophic. In Botswana, for example, life expectancy has fallen to just 19.5 years. The 10 countries with the highest incidence of HIV/AIDS are all in the sub-Saharan region.

TABLE 1. Countries with highest incidence of HIV/AIDS, by region

COUNTRY	REGION	% OF POPULATION WITH HIV/AIDS
Swaziland	Sub-Saharan Africa	39
Botswana	Sub-Saharan Africa	37
Lesotho	Sub-Saharan Africa	29
Zimbabwe	Sub-Saharan Africa	25
South Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22
Namibia	Sub-Saharan Africa	21
Zambia	Sub-Saharan Africa	17
Malawi	Sub-Saharan Africa	14
Mozambique	Sub-Saharan Africa	12
Tanzania	Sub-Saharan Africa	9

Like in other spheres of social development, morbidity and mortality indicators are connected to economic factors, although there are other causes as well. Experience in various countries has shown that the economic factor that has the most bearing on these aspects of health is not per capita income or the rate of economic growth, but rather, equity in income distribution.

An indicator that clearly reflects a country's health situation is life expectancy at birth. The human race has made good progress in the last 30 years, and average global life expectancy has risen from 59.9 to 67.1 years, but in some regions there has been almost no improvement. In sub-Saharan Africa this indicator has increased by a mere 0.3 years, and in Eastern Europe it has actually fallen by 0.9 years.

What is particularly alarming is that within these populations there are some groups that are especially vulnerable. In the poorer countries there is a greater risk of child mortality in the first year, and mortality among children under 5 is also higher. Worldwide, 11 million children under 5 die from preventable diseases every year.

Since the 1960s some progress has been made in this area and by the 1990s there had been an 11% improvement, although this showed more in some regions than in others. As in so many other dimensions of development, sub-Saharan Africa is in the worst relative situation. In this region there has been no significant improvement over this period, there

1 The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 WHO (2006a). *The World Health Report 2006. Working together for health*. P. 7. Available from: <www.who.int/whr/2006/06_overview_en.pdf>.

3 UNICEF (2005). *The State of the World's Children 2005. Childhood under threat*. Available from: <www.unicef.org/sowc05/english/childhoodunderthreat.html>.

4 UNDP (2005). *Human Development Report 2005*.

are still serious deficiencies in health care, and this can be clearly seen from the list of the ten countries in the world that have performed worst as regards mortality among children under 5 years old.

Another crucial factor in improving morbidity and mortality indicators is a country's ability to immunize its population. The poor countries find this far more difficult to do, and they suffer the consequences. WHO has reported that in Gambia and in other African countries, pneumonia and meningitis (illnesses linked to pneumococcus infections) are ten times more common than in the industrialized countries.⁵

Health is one of the dimensions reflected in the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI), so a country's ranking in this index is directly connected to its performance on indicators in the health area. All the countries in the worse relative health situation rate as critical or very low on the BCI. By the same token, the countries with the highest levels of social development, as shown by high BCI rankings, also show the best performance in terms of health: they are all in the group of countries in a better relative situation except for Trinidad and Tobago, and even that country is above the world average.

In recent years no country has regressed significantly in health care, and this is good news, but on the other hand fewer than 10% of countries have made significant progress. Most have advanced, but only to a small extent. But what gives real cause for concern is that countries in the worse relative situation have not managed even slight progress and have simply stagnated (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Zambia) or have lost ground (Côte d'Ivoire, the Central African Republic).

There is no doubt that the most disadvantaged geographical region as regards health is sub-Saharan Africa, where around 90% of the countries are below the world average when it comes to health indicators. In contrast, the Middle East and North Africa are in a favourable situation and nearly three quarters of the countries there (15 out of 21) are in a better situation relative to the rest of the world.

The gap between the countries in the worse and better relative situations is clear to see in all the indicators in the sphere of health. The incidence of malaria, for example, is only 6 cases per 1,000 in the countries in the better situation, but the average in countries in the most critical situation is more than 143 per 1,000, that is to say, it is 23 times

CHART 1. Current health situation by regions

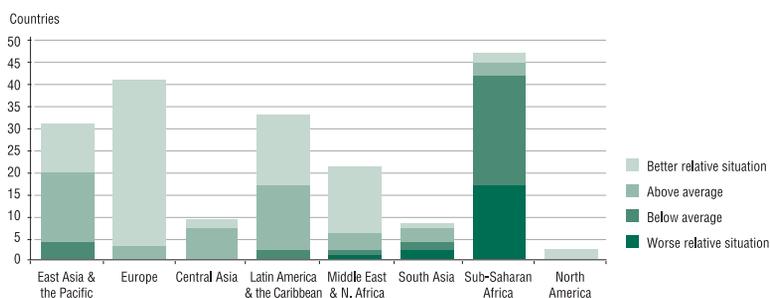


CHART 2. Final health position according to BCI

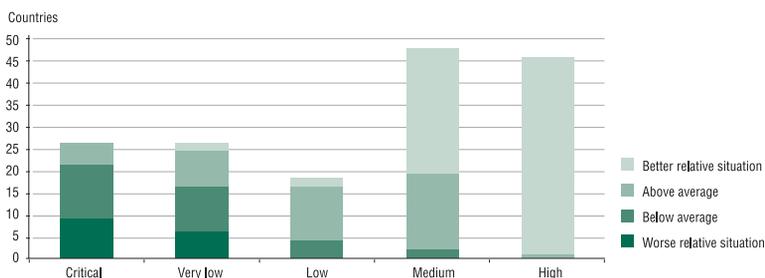


TABLE 2. Mortality among children under 5: the ten countries that have performed worst

COUNTRY	REGION	MORTALITY AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 5 (PER 1,000)
Sierra Leone	Sub-Saharan Africa	283
Angola	Sub-Saharan Africa	260
Niger	Sub-Saharan Africa	259
Afghanistan	Southern Asia	257
Liberia	Sub-Saharan Africa	235
Somalia	Sub-Saharan Africa	225
Mali	Sub-Saharan Africa	219
Dem. Rep. of Congo	Sub-Saharan Africa	205
Equatorial Guinea	Sub-Saharan Africa	204
Guinea-Bissau	Sub-Saharan Africa	203

TABLE 3. Current situation in evolution in health

CURRENT SITUATION	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	2	7	7	1	17
Countries below average	0	6	5	14	4	29
Countries above average	0	1	14	19	4	38
Countries in better situation	0	0	6	53	5	64
Total	0	9	32	93	14	148

5 WHO (2006b). *We are getting into a great era of hope. WHO immunization work : 2005 highlights.* Available from: <www.who.int/immunization/WHO_Immunization_highlights2005.pdf>.

TABLE 4. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative situations in health

		INFANT MORTALITY (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)	MORTALITY AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 5 (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)	MALARIA (CASES PER 100,000 PEOPLE)	PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 YEARS OLD) (%)	TUBERCULOSIS (CASES PER 100,000 PEOPLE)	CHILDREN UNDER AGE 1 IMMUNIZED AGAINST DPT (%)	CHILDREN UNDER AGE 1 IMMUNIZED AGAINST MEASLES (%)	CHILDREN UNDER AGE 1 IMMUNIZED AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (%)	CHILDREN UNDER AGE 1 IMMUNIZED AGAINST POLIO (%)
Countries in worse situation	Average	111	178	144	11.6	577	67.9	66.2	80.0	67.7
	Number of countries	20	20	16	14	20	20	20	20	20
Countries in better situation	Average	12	14	7	0.2	32	93.3	91.7	93.5	92.6
	Number of countries	87	87	11	52	87	87	87	60	87
Total	Average	30	44	88	2.7	134	88.6	86.9	90.1	87.9
	Number of countries	107	107	27	66	107	107	107	80	107

higher. An equally shocking example of this overall inequality is the incidence of tuberculosis: on average, in the countries in the worse relative situation, more than half the population is affected.

Immunization is another area where the health care gap is plain to see. In all the immunization indicators (coverage against polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles and tuberculosis) the average difference between the two groups of countries is around 20 percentage points. ■

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Deficiencies that cost lives

Since 1994 good progress has been made in extending reproductive health and sexual health services, but in some parts of the world medical care for women is still seriously deficient. Every year some 500,000 women die because of complications in pregnancy and 100,000 more from unsafe abortions.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Selected indicators:

- Women between 15 and 49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel
- Births attended by skilled health personnel per 100,000 live births
- Estimated maternal mortality rate
- Contraceptive use among in-union women aged 15 to 49

According to the latest annual report from the United Nations Fund for Population and Development, nearly one fifth of morbidity and premature mortality in the world and one third of illnesses among women of child-bearing age are caused by deficiencies in reproductive and sexual health services.

In the last 12 years public policies in the sphere of population and reproductive and sexual health have been conditioned by the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) (Cairo, 1994), and the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), and by the follow-up on both conferences. The follow-up evaluations on the Cairo Programme for Action (Cairo + 10, in 2004) and the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing + 10, in 2005) revealed that, although important progress has been made towards implementing the resolutions stemming from these conferences, the situation of women's rights in general and of reproductive and sexual rights in particular is plagued by politics, which is jeopardizing and tending to weaken or reverse what has been achieved.

The ICPD Programme of Action stipulated that all States are obliged to:

- ensure that comprehensive and factual information and a full range of reproductive health-care services, including family planning, are accessible, affordable, acceptable and convenient to all users; comfortable for all users through a system of primary health attention by 2015;

- enable and support responsible voluntary decisions about child-bearing and methods of family planning of their choice, as well as other methods of their choice for regulation of fertility which are not against the law and to have the information, education and means to do so;
- meet changing reproductive health needs over the life cycle and to do so in ways sensitive to the diversity of circumstances of local communities.

The Programme of Action further notes that all countries should strive to make reproductive health accessible through the primary health-care system, as soon as possible and no later than the year 2015.

According to the definition adopted at the ICPD, reproductive health not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, but rather a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes. Reproductive health therefore implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so.²

These platforms for action have a legal basis in the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). This Convention, which came into force in 1981, treats reproductive health as an inalienable right for all women in the world, and links it closely to the right to a decent life.³

The General Secretary of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, has pointed out that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Cairo Plan for Action are not independent objectives. "The Millennium Development Goals, particularly the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, cannot be achieved if questions of population and reproductive health are not squarely addressed. And that

means stronger efforts to promote women's rights, and greater investment in education and health, including reproductive health and family planning."⁴

Since 1994 good progress has been made towards the ICPD objectives in terms of universal access to reproductive health services. Many countries have adopted the idea and the practice of reproductive health, broadened their programmes to reach more people who need these services, and integrated family planning into pre-and post-natal care, childbirth attendance services, the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS, and the detection of cervical and other kinds of cancer. In many countries reproductive health services are included in basic health care.

Although clear progress has been made in extending coverage and improving the quality of attention to women, in some countries there are still serious qualitative and quantitative deficiencies in the services provided, and this is reflected in poor health indicators: high rates of maternal mortality, low rates of the use of contraception, and a low percentage of births attended by skilled health care personnel. Every year some 500,000 women die from complications in pregnancy and another 100,000 as a result of unsafe abortions.

- At the present time women make up 40% of the adults in the world living with AIDS.
- A pregnant woman in Africa is 180 times more likely to die than a pregnant woman in Western Europe.
- In Ethiopia one woman in seven dies during pregnancy or in childbirth, but in the United Kingdom the figure is one in 19,000.
- Every day 1,440 women die in childbirth. That amounts to one death every minute.
- For every case of maternal mortality in Spain, 182 mothers die in Cameroon, 200 in Niger and 425 in Angola.⁵

1 The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 United Nations Fund for Population and Development (1994). Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. See: <www.unfpa.org/icpd/icpd_poa.htm>

3 The right to female reproductive health is enshrined in articles 11, 12 and 14 of the CEDAW, and in its General Recommendation number 24. See: <www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/recomm-sp.htm>.

4 Message from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, December 2002.

5 Data taken from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2005). *Human Development Report 2005*.

It is clear that there are huge differences between the developed world and the developing world in the rates of mortality caused by complications during pregnancy or childbirth. The rate of maternal mortality is 18 times higher in the developing countries. On average, women in the developing countries have more pregnancies, and they do not always receive adequate health care, so the actual length of time they are exposed to the risk of maternal mortality is 40 times greater than in the developed world. More than 95% of deaths related to poor reproductive health occur in developing countries, where there is no health care for one third of pregnancies, only 40% of births take place in health care establishments, and only half the births are attended by skilled health personnel.

For the purposes of this report four indicators were used: the percentage of women receiving attention from skilled health personnel during pregnancy, the maternal mortality rate, the percentage of women using contraception, and the percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel. Evolution was analyzed using the same indicators except for the maternal mortality rate, since there are problems with this that hinder comparisons.

Of the 27 countries in the worse relative situation on these indicators, 21 are in the critical group on the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) and 6 are very low on that index. At the other end of the scale, of the 63 countries in the better relative situation as regards reproductive health, 28 have a middle level on the BCI and 33 a high level, and only 2 rate low on that index.

The reproductive indicators in this area show that overall progress has been made recently in all the groups of countries. Only 9 of the 112 countries show slight or significant regression, and 72 have made slight or significant progress.

There is a strong correlation between reproductive health indicators and geographical region, and an analysis of this shows major inequalities. The countries in the worse relative situation are mostly in sub-Saharan Africa (70%) and Southern Asia (14%), while those in the better relative situation are in Europe (39%), Latin America and the Caribbean (23%) and East Asia and the Pacific (17%). The general evolution of reproductive health indicators for the world is encouraging, but there are huge inequalities between regions.

In the countries in the worse situation an average of only 36% of births are attended by skilled health personnel, but the figure for the countries in the better situation is 98%. Other statistics are even more shocking. In the countries in the worse relative situation maternal mortality is 965 per 100,000 live births as against only 43 per 100,000 live births in the countries in the better situation, which means that women in the developing world are 22 times more likely to die during pregnancy or childbirth. ■

CHART 1. Present reproductive health care situation by regions

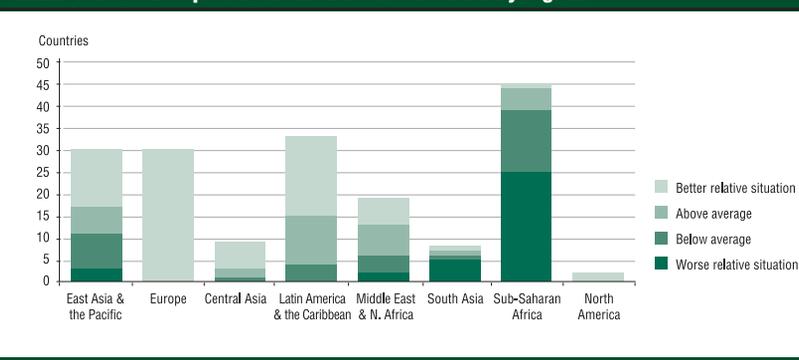


CHART 2. Final position in reproductive health by BCI

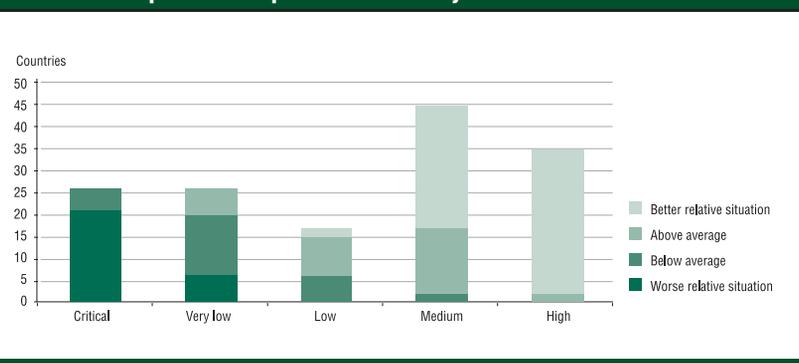


TABLE 1. Present situation by evolution of reproductive health

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	1	6	9	10	26
Countries below average	1	2	6	6	9	24
Countries above average	0	2	4	12	7	25
Countries in better situation	1	2	15	11	8	37
Total	2	7	31	38	34	112

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative situations in reproductive health

		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN-UNION WOMEN AGED 15 TO 49 (%)	WOMEN AGED 15 TO 49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	ESTIMATED MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)
Countries in worse situation	Average	36.1	18.3	64.2	964.9
	Number of countries	35	32	24	35
Countries in better situation	Average	98	65	92.1	43.4
	Number of countries	67	56	12	73
Total	Average	77	47.7	73.5	342.0
	Number of countries	102	88	36	108

GENDER EQUITY

The need to acknowledge discrimination

For every 100 boys who do not attend primary school, there are 117 girls who do not attend. Women represent 67% of the world's illiterate people and only 16.6% of the world's legislators. What is more, they do not receive equal pay to men for doing the same work. Acknowledging that gender relations relegate women to second class status is the first step in creating policies and political will to put an end to these inequities.

Social Watch Research Team¹

The tables presented in this Social Watch Report 2006 take the year 1990 as their starting point for measuring advances and setbacks in gender equity. For each indicator selected, the data presented are the latest available.

While the necessary consideration of gender inequalities should cover all dimensions of analysis of the social phenomena at play, a set of indicators has been incorporated that intends to show the principal areas in which inequalities complicate the fulfilment of women's rights and women's advancement to more equitable positions. Modifying the position and traditional roles of women in society and changing relations between men and women in the public as well as the private spheres are complex tasks that require formulating and evaluating specific policies. The first consideration to take into account is that societies and governments must accept and assume that there is a gender system functioning that generates inequalities between men and women. Therefore, societal inequities exist that must be acknowledged as such, because to acknowledge them means to recognize that an additional factor exists, namely gender, that as so many other already recognized factors is a generator of social inequalities. This "obligates" governments to promote policies to correct these inequalities. Indicators and statistics are needed in order to monitor the situation and evolution of these relations. As the United Nations report *The World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics* shows, the compilation of statistics continues to be deficient and fragmented in many low income countries, while in 90% of the developing world essential statistics do not exist by gender. The Report finds that the last 30 years have shown very little progress, both in the number of countries that publish national statistics and in the degree to which national statistics reflect questions of gender.

Since its 2004 report, Social Watch has incorporated a specific thematic area on gender equity with an eye to making the different treatment faced by men and women evident and facilitating its monitoring and evaluation.

Gender: Education

Selected indicators:

- Gap in literacy rates (women/men)
- Gap in net primary education enrolment rate (women/men)
- Gap in net secondary education enrolment rate (women/men)
- Gap in gross tertiary education enrolment rate (women/men)

Gender equity in education becomes relevant through UNESCO statistics that show us that 67% of the world's illiterate individuals are women. The majority of illiterate women live in rural areas of developing countries, especially Africa, the Arab countries and Southeast Asia. Table 1 shows countries in the worst situation in relation to literacy between women and men. In Chad, for every 100 literate men, there are only 42 literate women; in Mali, 52; in Niger, 54, while in Burkina Faso there are 55.

For every 100 boys who do not attend primary school, there are 117 girls who do not attend, generally due to gender discrimination. More than 40 countries have not met the Millennium Development Goal related to gender equality in primary education, set for 2005. At the same time, achieving gender equality in education constitutes one of the six objectives of the Education for All Programme that 164 governments made their own at the World Education Forum at Dakar in 2000. As a first step toward achieving gender parity the commitment was made to reach

equality in the number of male and female students enrolled in primary and secondary education and again the year 2005 was the deadline for achieving this goal. This goal has not been achieved.

The greatest disparities in access to primary education are found principally in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Chad, for every 100 boys at school, there are only 68 girls; in Guinea Bissau and Niger, 71; in Pakistan, Yemen and Burkina Faso, 73.

Considering as a set the four indicators in the area of education, we observe that of a total of 157 countries, 100 find themselves in the best relative situation, of which 83 also have medium to high BCI levels. The 23 countries that find themselves in the worst position in this area all show critical or low BCI levels. Additionally, upon analyzing trends over time, a majority of the countries that currently find themselves in the worst situation are making positive progress: 20 have advanced while 2 are at a standstill (Chad and Gambia) and 2 have fallen back (Angola and Eritrea). If we look at geographical regions, we see that the countries in the worst situation are largely in sub-Saharan Africa.

It is interesting to place the averages for each indicator in comparative perspective for the countries in a better and worse situation in each area (Table 4). Significant distances exist between both groups. While all indicators demonstrate the inequity in the countries that find themselves in the worst position, in some cases it is even more evident. The gap between women and men with regard to tertiary education enrolment rates shows the greatest distance: 0.4 in the worst positioned countries and 1.4 in the best positioned ones.

TABLE 1. Countries with the largest gap between female and male illiteracy rates

COUNTRY	
Chad	0.42
Mali	0.52
Niger	0.54
Burkina Faso	0.55
Benin	0.56
Yemen	0.60
Liberia	0.64
Mozambique	0.64
Sierra Leone	0.64
Central African Republic	0.67

TABLE 2. Countries with the greatest disparity in access to primary education

COUNTRY	
Chad	0.68
Guinea-Bissau	0.71
Niger	0.71
Pakistan	0.73
Yemen	0.73
Burkina Faso	0.73
Benin	0.77
Liberia	0.78
Côte d'Ivoire	0.78
Djibouti	0.80

¹ The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

CHART 1. Current situation in education and gender by region

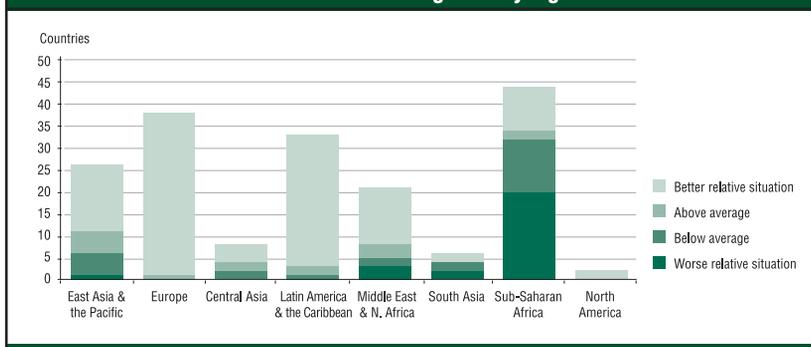


CHART 2. Final position in education and gender according to BCI

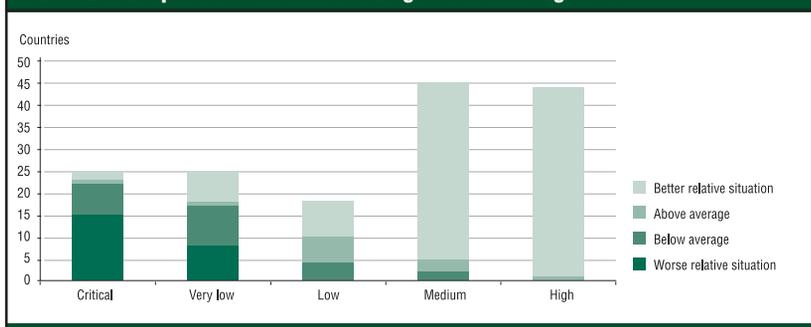


TABLE 3. Current situation based on evolution in education and gender

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	2	0	2	6	14	24
Countries below average	0	2	2	6	8	18
Countries above average	0	0	7	5	3	15
Countries in better situation	0	2	91	16	2	111
Total	2	4	102	33	27	168

TABLE 4. Averages by indicator for the countries in the best and worst relative situation in education and gender

		GAP IN LITERACY (WOMEN/MEN)	GAP IN NET PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (WOMEN/MEN)	GAP IN NET SECONDARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (WOMEN/MEN)	GAP IN GROSS TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (WOMEN/MEN)
Countries in worse situation	Average	0.68	0.83	0.62	0.41
	Number of countries	20	24	19	25
Countries in better situation	Average	1.01	1.00	1.06	1.44
	Number of countries	76	106	101	105
Total	Average	0.94	0.97	0.99	1.24
	Number of countries	96	130	120	130

Gender: Empowerment

Selected indicators:

- Female professional and technical workers
- Female legislators, senior officials and managers
- Women in government decision-making positions at the ministerial level
- Women members of parliament

An undeniable fact is that the world's women are absent from parliaments. On average, according to figures from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), in 2006 women represented 16.6% of legislators worldwide. The level of female political involvement does not depend – unlike other factors involved in development – on the wealth or poverty of a country. Regional averages show that levels of female participation are low in all regions.

Some of the richest countries of the world, including the United States (14%), France (12%), Italy (12%) and Japan (9%) have fewer than 15% female representation in parliament, lower than the 16% average found in sub-Saharan Africa, the poorest part of the world. This region includes some of the most egalitarian countries in terms of the percentage of female legislators, such as Ethiopia (21%), Uganda (24%) and Burundi (31%). One case that stands out is Rwanda, where women make up 48.8% of parliament. At the opposite end of the spectrum are Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, who do not grant women the right to vote or to be elected to office.

In the United Nations system, women comprise 37.1% (2,136 out of 5,754) of all staff in the professional and higher categories with appointments of one year or more. Six out of 37 (16.2%) of the most senior policy-making positions (Under-Secretary-General) are held by women.

There are 39 women ambassadors to the United Nations. They are from Algeria, Australia, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, and Turkmenistan, among others.²

This dimension of gender equity related to female participation in decision-making positions and positions of power is one of the dimensions included in the Millennium Development Goals aiming to strengthen the position of women in the world.

² United Nations. Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women. <www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi>. Accessed November 2005.

In the last 12 months important changes have occurred, among them the election of the first woman president of an African country, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf in Liberia, and the first woman president of Chile, Michelle Bachelet. Currently there are 11 women heads of state or of government in countries on all continents. Nevertheless, despite these achievements, progress toward gender equality continues to be slow.

Recently, Rwanda superseded Sweden as number one in the world in terms of women's parliamentary representation – 48.8% women compared to 45.3% in Sweden. Rwanda is an example of the new trend to use electoral gender quotas as a fast track means of achieving gender balance in politics. Despite these exceptions, women are notably absent in parliaments and, as mentioned, on average only constitute 16% of the world's members of parliament. As a result, women's interests and concerns are not represented in the process of creating public policies and women lack influence over fundamental decisions in the social, economic and political spheres that affect the whole of society.

The use of electoral quota systems for increasing the proportion of female officeholders is much more extended than is commonly believed. A growing number of countries are introducing diverse types of gender quotas into their elections. Currently 98 countries have some system of quotas at the electoral, political party or constitutional level.

Given the slow speed at which the number of women in politics is growing, there are increased calls for more efficient methods to reach a gender balance in political institutions. Quotas present one such mechanism. Because of their relative efficiency, there is strong hope quotas can produce dramatic gains in women's representation. At the same time, quotas raise serious questions and, in some cases, strong resistance. "The core idea behind quota systems is to recruit women into political positions and to ensure that women are not only a few tokens in political life"³

Electoral quotas for women may be mandated by constitutional or legislative means, or take the form of a political party quota. They may apply to the number of women candidates proposed by a party for election, or may take the form of reserved seats in the legislature.⁴

Today, quota systems aim at ensuring that women constitute at least a "critical minority" of 20%, 30% or 40%, or even to ensure true 50-50 gender balance. In some countries quotas are applied as a temporary measure; that is to say, to be used only until the barriers for women's entry into

³ Global database of quotas for women. A joint project of IDEA and Stockholm University. See: <www.quotaproject.org>.

⁴ *Ibid.*

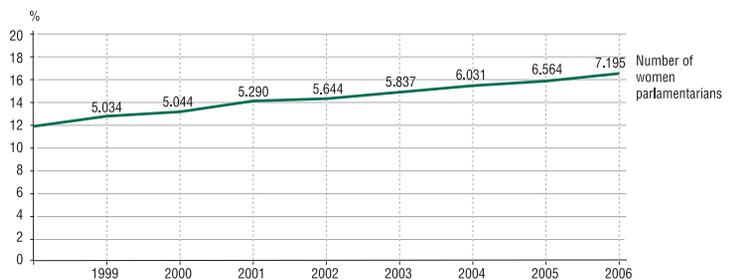
TABLE 1. Regional Averages

	SINGLE HOUSE OR LOWER HOUSE (%)	UPPER HOUSE OR SENATE (%)	BOTH HOUSES COMBINED (%)
Nordic countries	40.0	—	40.0
Americas	20.2	21.4	20.4
Europe - OCDE member countries including Nordic countries	19.6	16.3	18.9
Europe - OCDE member countries excluding Nordic countries	17.5	16.3	17.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	16.5	17.6	16.6
Asia	16.3	14.7	16.1
Pacific	12.3	26.5	14.3
Arab States	8.2	5.9	7.7

Regions are classified by descending order of the percentage of women in the lower or single House.

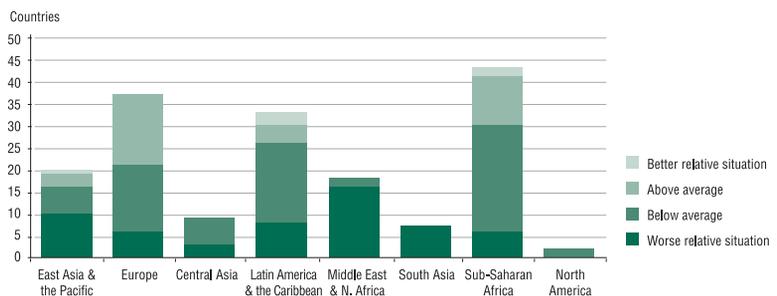
Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU, 2006).

CHART 1. Percentage of women parliamentarians in the world, 1999-2006



Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union

CHART 2. Current situation in gender empowerment according to region



politics are removed, but most countries with quotas have not set time limits to their use of quotas.

The indicators presented in this Report show that of a total of 150 countries, 33% are in the worst position, 42% are below average and only 25% are above average or in the best position. The countries in the worst position have variable BCI positions. Of the countries that find themselves in the worst position in the area of empowerment, 29 have middle or low BCI (among them Armenia, Mexico, Italy, Thailand and Greece). At the other extreme we find that, of 38 countries that find themselves in the best position or above average, 11 have critical or very critical BCI and 24 have middle or high BCI.

Regarding the countries that find themselves in the worst situation, we find that 75% of them have advanced slightly or significantly, while 13% have regressed. We see a tendency toward slow but meaningful progress.

Upon analyzing the particular situation of each indicator for the countries in the worst and best position relative to empowerment, one can clearly appreciate where the deficiencies are greatest. The average presence of women at the ministerial level in the countries in the best situation is 29%, compared to 6% in the countries in the worst situation. In terms of female members of parliament, in turn, the countries in the best situation reach an average of 33%, while those in the worst situation barely reach 9%. In indicators related to women in professional and technical positions and women who are managers or have high-ranking positions, 31 countries find themselves in the worst relative position. The six countries that find themselves in the best situation in relation to gender empowerment do not publish statistics on these indicators. These six countries are Cuba, Granada, Guyana, Rwanda, South Africa and Timor Leste.

Gender: Economic activity

Selected indicators:

- Women wage employment in non-agricultural sector (as a percentage of total non-agricultural employees)
- Estimated earned income ratio (women/men)

Levels of participation in economic activity provide an important indicator of gender equity because the relationship between participation and poverty is direct; two of the reasons for a great deal of female poverty are unequal levels of access to the labour market and work discrimination that translates into women receiving lower wages than men for the same work.

CHART 3. Final situation in gender empowerment according to BCI

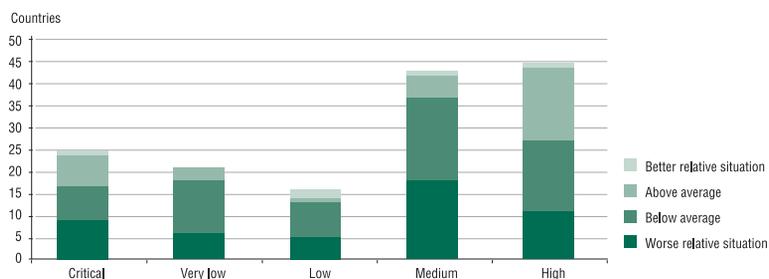


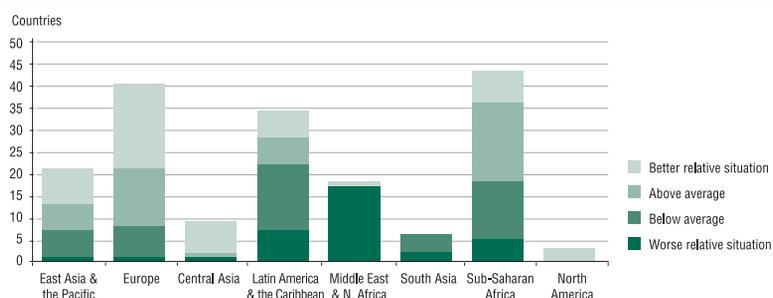
TABLE 2. Current situation according to evolution in gender empowerment

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	2	5	7	35	5	54
Countries below average	0	3	7	40	21	71
Countries above average	0	1	3	10	20	34
Countries in better situation	0	0	0	0	5	5
Total	2	9	17	85	51	164

TABLE 3. Averages by indicator for the countries in the best and worst relative position according to gender empowerment

		WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL	WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT	PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WOMEN	WOMEN LEGISLATORS, HIGH OFFICIALS AND DIRECTORS
Countries in worse situation	Average	6.52	8.63	38.16	19.35
	Number of countries	54	54	31	31
Countries in better situation	Average	29.5	33.5	N/A	N/A
	Number of countries	6	6		
Total	Average	8.82	11.12	38.16	19.35
	Number of countries	60	60	31	31

CHART 1. Current situation in gender parity in economic activity by region



According to a report from the International Labour Organization (ILO) women represent 40% of the current labour force yet in nearly every position receive lower pay than their male colleagues for doing the same work. Women do not receive equal pay for equal work.

Social Watch monitors gender inequity in economic activity in terms of two indicators: the percentage of women's wage employment in the non-agricultural sector and the gap between the income earned by women and men in the labour market.

In the European Union (EU, made up of 25 countries, among them the most developed countries on the continent) the female employment rate does not exceed 51%, compared to 71% male employment, and the salary gap hovers around 16%.

In over 60 of the world's states, women's income is 50% lower than men's income. Women make up only 39% of salaried workers, but 62% of unpaid family workers.³

If we study the position of women in the area of economic activity within the countries, we find that in 134 countries 1 of every 5 are in the worst position, 30% are below average, 20% are above average and 30% are in the best relative position.

Of the 34 countries ranked in the worst position, 20 are countries with a middle or high BCI and 14 are countries with a low, very low or critical BCI. As we mentioned, gender inequities are not directly related to a country's level of well-being. In turn, if we observe the 43 countries located in the best position, 75% possess middle or high BCI and 25% show a low or critical level.

We find differences in the rates of evolution of gender equity in different countries. Of all the countries observed, 44% are stagnant while 47% are advancing slowly or significantly.

Half of the countries in the worst category are stagnant, while 20% have seen slight progress, another 20% significant progress and the remaining 10% have fallen back.

Finally, half the countries in the worst situation with regard to gender equity are located in the Middle East and North Africa, 20% in Latin America and the Caribbean, 15% in Sub-Saharan Africa and the remaining 15% are located in Europe, Central and East Asia and the Pacific.

Of the best-positioned countries, 37% are European, 16% East Asian and Pacific, 14% Central Asian, 14% Sub-Saharan African, 12% Latin American and Caribbean. While the three countries of North America are among the best positioned coun-

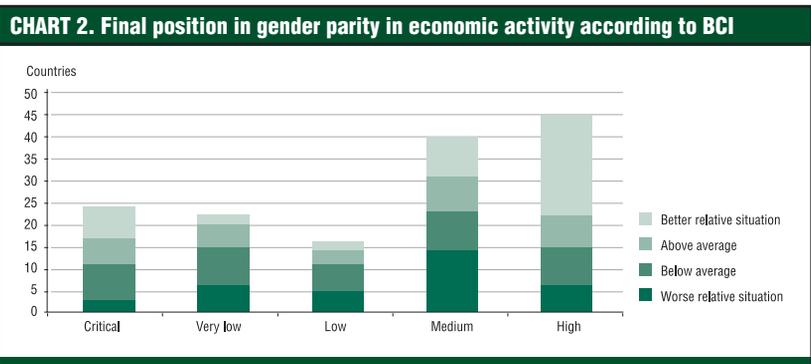


TABLE 1. Current situation based on evolution in economic activity by gender

	SIGNIFICANT REGRESSION	SLIGHT REGRESSION	STAGNATION	SLIGHT PROGRESS	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	TOTAL
Countries in worse situation	0	3	15	6	6	30
Countries below average	2	0	11	11	9	33
Countries above average	0	0	11	11	5	27
Countries in better situation	2	3	22	10	5	42
Total	4	6	59	38	25	132

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator for the countries in the best and worst situation with regard to economic activity by gender

		ESTIMATED EARNED INCOME RATIO (WOMEN/MEN)	WOMEN WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (AS % OF TOTAL NON-AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES)
Countries in worse situation	Average	0.34	24.99
	Number of countries	31	30
Countries in better situation	Average	0.67	49.66
	Number of countries	46	42
Total	Average	0.54	39.38
	Number of countries	77	72

tries in the category, of the 18 countries of the Middle East and North Africa, 17 are in the worst position.

Upon observing the summary of the indicators in this category, it is clear that in the countries with the greatest gender equity in economic participation, nearly half the paid workers outside the agricultural sector are women, while for those countries in the worst position, women do not reach a quarter. Another meaningful statistic in this same

vein is the income gap, that is to say the relationship between female/male earnings: even in the countries in the best position the gap is 66%, while in the countries in the worst position the gap is more extreme, given that women receive earnings that equal a third of the earnings men take in. For all countries combined, women's income barely exceeds half that of men. ■

³ United Nations (2005). *Millennium Development Goals Report 2005*. Available from: <www.un.org/millenniumgoals>, accessed November 2005.

The long road to gender equity

In every human society, there are given practices, relations, institutions and identities that make up a gender system, along with a sexual division of labour that transforms gender differences into inequalities. The first step towards gender equity is for societies and governments to first accept and understand that this system generates inequalities between men and women, and then to promote policies to address them. Social Watch's Gender Equity Index (GEI) provides conclusive evidence that women's opportunities in the economic and political spheres are still limited.

Social Watch Research Team¹

Since the General Assembly of the UN adopted the Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1979, gender equity has been a central theme of the world development agenda. After the World Summit for Social Development in 1995 and the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, the international community dedicated two of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), whose deadline is the year 2015, to improving the situation of women. MDG 3 calls for the promotion of equality of opportunity between the sexes and for women's empowerment – equitable representation of both sexes in decision-making processes; MDG 5 requires the reduction of maternal mortality rates by three quarters.

Despite these gestures, the ratification of the consensus continues to be troublesome, since there are still 47 UN member countries that have not signed or ratified the Convention and another 43 that have done so with reservations; meanwhile, the gender equity statistics look grim. Of the 1.3 billion poor people in the world, 70% are female. Women also form two thirds of the 860 million people who cannot read or write, and in the entire world, women's income is between 30% and 60% of men's. Each day, complications during pregnancy and childbirth kill 1,600 women and cause another 50 million to suffer damages to their health.

There can be no social justice without a reversal of this situation. The UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, has emphasized that, "By effectively increasing the impact of women on public life at all levels, the potential for change towards gender equality and empowerment of women and a more democratic and just society is increased."² As illiteracy and female poverty virulently affect the countries of the South and, in smaller measure, the industrialized

ones as well, women's marginalization from decision-making processes is a global phenomenon. According to international studies, for women to have a real influence on political processes their participation should be at least 30%.

To comprehend the theoretical and methodological scope of the dimension of gender, it is first necessary to establish as an underlying theoretical framework the sexual division of labour and the social organization that regulates it, in other words, the gender system that shapes relations between men and women. Briefly, as it is not the premise of this article to delve deeply into this issue, by "gender system" we mean the practices associated with daily social life: symbols, customs, identities, dress, beliefs and persuasions, common values and meanings, and other loosely bound elements that make reference, directly or indirectly, to a culturally specific form of considering and understanding the difference between recognized genders; that is to say, in the majority of cultures, between men and women.³

In line with this view, we can imagine the gender system as a collection of highly disparate elements, ranging from superficial markers of style and personal preferences to the deep-rooted norms regulating social institutions and relations. Within this collection of practices, relations, institutions and human identities, those which are "marked" for gender have been historically variable. Therefore, the "salience" of gender in different spheres of life is viewed as a factor that is conditioned by time, place and circumstances. This illustrates two of the main characteristics of the gender system, namely, that it is both dynamic and culturally and historically determined. These characteristics imply the possibility of change and modification in gender systems.

The other concept that is central to the understanding of the reach of this perspective is the sexual division of labour. In every society women and men carry out some different tasks, considered as feminine and masculine activities. Although this sexual division of labour has never been the same and has varied in each actual society, it is a phenomenon that has been maintained throughout history. There are norms that set the codes of acceptable behav-

our for men and women and mechanisms of punishment that prevent individuals from deviating from these norms in their personal conduct. The social organization of labour that stems from the existence of this sexual division of labour is the gender system – the processes and factors that regulate and organize society in such a way that both sexes act differently and consider themselves different and determines which social tasks lie within in the scope of each gender.

Although gender roles are different in each culture, the common theme which defines them in all countries is segregation; that is, that men and women are not found in the same sectors of society.

One important element, perhaps the first step toward gender equity, is for societies and governments to accept and understand that a gender system exists and that it generates inequalities between men and women. Society must acknowledge these inequalities, for to acknowledge them means to understand that gender is one of many already recognized factors that generate social inequality. This "obligates" governments to promote policies that will redress these inequalities. A second central element is to establish that the main concern is not differences in themselves, but the transformation of differences into inequalities. Addressing inequalities should be the objective of policy. The State then has the responsibility of forming clear and explicit gender policies to oppose the negative effects of social, cultural and market forces that cause inequality among genders and greater social exclusion of women.

Gender equity: equality of opportunity, recognition, and socioeconomic valuation

As debates around the notion of equity are very extensive at the moment, it is important to approach this concept methodologically and conceptually with the recognition of three dimensions that must be taken into account when speaking of gender equity: *equiphony*, *equipotency*, and *equivalence*.⁴

"*Equiphony*" refers to access to discourse, to the possibility of having a voice. But it is not enough to have a voice; rather, this voice must have the

1 The members of the Social Watch Social Sciences Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 United Nations, Commission on the Status of Women (2005). "Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels. Report of the Secretary-General". E/CN.6/2006/13, 19 December, p. 14. Available from: <<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N05/651/17/PDF/N0565117.pdf?OpenElement>>.

3 Anderson, J. (2006). "Sistemas de género y procesos de cambio". In: Batthyány, K. (Coord.) *Género y desarrollo: una propuesta de formación*. Montevideo: UDELAR-FCS.

4 Batthyány, K. (2004). "Cuidado infantil y trabajo: ¿un desafío exclusivamente femenino?". Montevideo: CINTERFOR-OIT.

TABLE 1. Gender Equity Index (GEI) - 2006

Sweden	89	Switzerland	74	Jamaica	65	Malta	58	Mali	46
Finland	86	Hong Kong (China)	73	Kazakhstan	65	Mozambique	57	Niger	46
Norway	86	Hungary	73	Sri Lanka	65	Tajikistan	57	Turkey	46
Denmark	81	Israel	73	Suriname	65	Uzbekistan	57	Bahrain	45
New Zealand	81	Portugal	73	Viet Nam	65	Albania	56	Bangladesh	45
Bahamas	80	Slovenia	73	El Salvador	64	Ghana	56	Egypt	45
Iceland	80	Ukraine	73	France	64	Korea, Rep.	56	Eritrea	45
Australia	79	Austria	72	Azerbaijan	63	Cape Verde	55	Guinea-Bissau	45
Barbados	79	Czech Republic	72	Chile	63	Lesotho	55	Kuwait	45
Latvia	79	Panama	72	Dominican Republic	63	Mauritius	55	Algeria	44
Lithuania	79	Argentina	71	Italy	63	Nicaragua	55	Equatorial Guinea	44
Canada	78	Romania	71	Belize	62	Lao PDR	54	Morocco	44
Moldova	78	Thailand	71	Kenya	62	Madagascar	54	Oman	44
United States of America	78	Ireland	70	Armenia	61	Senegal	53	Syrian Arab Republic	44
Colombia	77	Macedonia, FYR	70	Cambodia	61	Solomon Islands	53	Congo, Rep.	43
Estonia	77	Trinidad and Tobago	70	Ecuador	61	Zambia	53	Nigeria	43
United Kingdom	77	Uruguay	70	Japan	61	Guatemala	52	Saudi Arabia	43
Netherlands	76	Belarus	69	Malaysia	61	Indonesia	52	United Arab Emirates	43
Philippines	76	Georgia	69	Maldives	61	Tunisia	51	Sudan	42
Spain	76	Brazil	68	Mexico	61	West Bank and Gaza	51	Nepal	41
Croatia	75	South Africa	68	Swaziland	61	Angola	50	Burkina Faso	40
Namibia	75	St. Lucia	68	Uganda	61	Zimbabwe	50	Togo	40
Russian Federation	75	Venezuela	68	Fiji	60	Iran, Islamic Rep.	48	India	39
Rwanda	75	Costa Rica	67	Kyrgyzstan	60	Gambia	47	Central African Republic	38
Slovakia	75	Honduras	67	Peru	60	Guinea	47	Pakistan	38
Belgium	74	Tanzania	67	Bolivia	59	Jordan	47	Sierra Leone	37
Botswana	74	Cuba	66	Burundi	58	Benin	46	Chad	36
Bulgaria	74	Cyprus	66	China	58	Ethiopia	46	Côte d'Ivoire	36
Mongolia	74	Paraguay	66	Guyana	58	Lebanon	46	Yemen	26
Poland	74	Greece	65	Luxembourg	58	Malawi	46		

same value and impact as the voice of other social actors. It is not merely a matter of being able to contribute to discourse, but also the recognition and value granted to this contribution.

“*Equipotency*” refers to equity in the access to and exercise of power. This is an element that commonly gives rise to conflicts, because it involves aspects of power and access to power.

Finally, “*equivalence*” refers to assigning equal value and equal recognition to the activities carried out by men and women, in both economic and social terms. In this regard there is a sphere which must not be ignored, which is the reproductive sphere, and its relation to the productive sphere. “*Equivalence*” relates to the economic value attached to the activities undertaken by women in both the productive and reproductive spheres. It involves the world of work in both of its forms: paid work and unpaid work.

The Social Watch Gender Equity Index

For the specific theme of gender equity – a concept that is complex, multifaceted and difficult to measure – and in order to contribute to the debate and consistent monitoring of women’s situation, Social Watch developed a Gender Equity Index (GEI). This allows for the positioning and classification of countries through the selection of indicators relevant to gender inequity, chosen according to information

that is available and comparable at the international level. The GEI classifies 149 countries and verifies, by conclusive evidence, that in no country do women enjoy the same opportunities as men, that the elimination of gender inequality does not require increased revenues, and that, even though women’s situation has improved in certain respects over the years, it is clear that women’s opportunities in the economic and political spheres are still limited.

The three dimensions included in the GEI are economic activity, empowerment and education. The possible values of the GEI range from 0 to 100, with 0 the least degree of equity and 100 the greatest.

TABLE 2. Income gap (women/men) by geographic region

REGION	AVERAGE
Middle East and North Africa	0.32
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.43
South Asia	0.46
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.56
Europe	0.58
East Asia and the Pacific	0.59
Central Asia	0.62
North America	0.63
Total	0.53

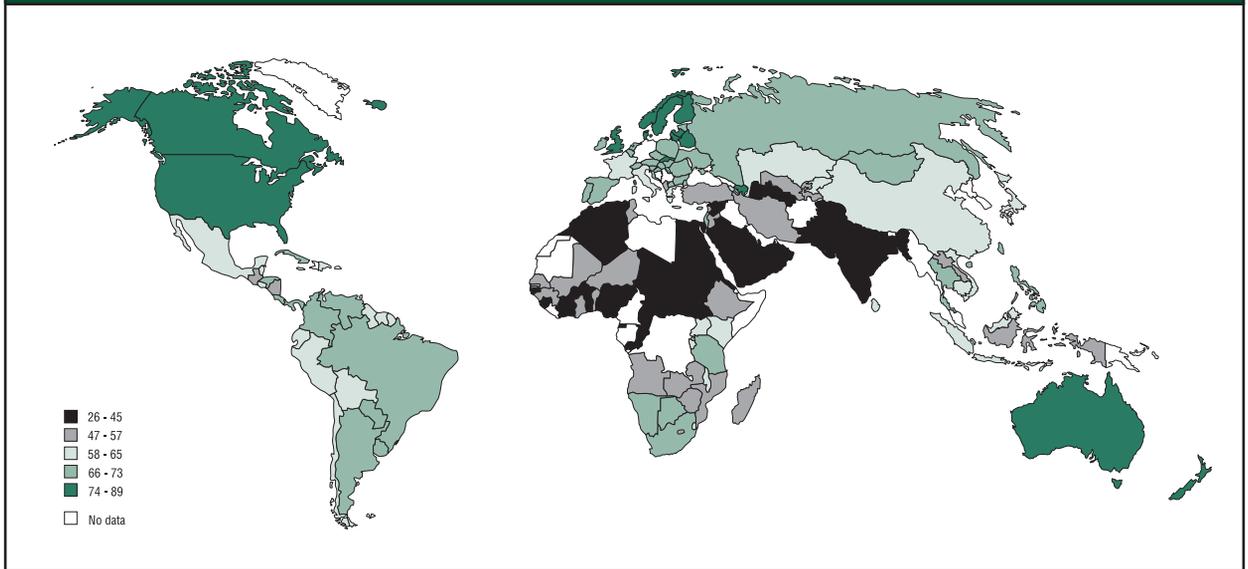
The results obtained by the 2006 GEI indicate that Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark are the countries with the highest scores. The Nordic countries have, in general, a good showing in terms of gender equity due to the advanced application of progressive policies (above all, quotas and policies of gender equity in the labour market.)

Income gap

The degree of gender equity in the economic participation dimension is measured through two indicators: the percentage of the total paid work force (excluding the agricultural sector) made up by women, and the income gap between women and men.

Throughout the world, women have less access to the labour market than men, and face the additional discrimination of lower wages. The average income gap between women and men is 0.53, which means that on average women earn 53% of what men earn for the same work. This situation varies across regions; the smallest gap is found in North America (0.63) and Central Asia (0.62), while the largest is seen in the Middle East and North Africa (0.32), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (0.43).

MAP 1. GEI value for each country



Equality: less and more

The educational sphere is the one with the fewest disparities found in the 2006 GEI. The greatest inequalities in educational access are seen in Chad, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Benin and Yemen, where the gap is greater than 0.5.

By contrast, it is in the empowerment dimension that inequity is most sharply marked. This dimension is measured by assessing the percentage of women in professional and technical jobs, high administration and management positions, parliamentary seats and decision-making posts at the ministerial level. Despite constituting more than a half of the world's population, women occupy a mere 6% of cabinet posts in national governments. Only in Norway, Sweden and Finland (and only in the past few years) have these rates surpassed 40%. In 1995, Sweden appeared before the world as the first nation in history whose cabinet had 50% women. Other countries, such as Spain in 2004 and Chile in 2006, have followed this same path and appointed 50/50 cabinets.

The global average for legislatures is 16% women. Their overall absence in government institutions implies that national, regional and local priorities are defined without their contributions and opinions, despite the fact that their life experience and subjectivity can reveal important

differences in the perception of a community's needs, concerns and priorities.

Since 2004, there has been an improvement in the number of women participants in decision-making processes; the 2006 edition of the GEI reveals that many countries have an index above 30%, with as many from the South as the North: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, South Africa, Spain and Sweden.

Gender inequity by regions and national income

This global map of the GEI permits the identification of regional gender equity patterns.

Excepting Australia, all the highest-scoring countries are European. Most countries in the following level are European and North American, with a minor presence of countries from East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean.

In general terms, the Latin American countries can be found in high and intermediate positions. Meanwhile, the countries of the Middle East and North Africa, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa are found mostly among the intermediate and low positions, revealing the worst degrees of gender inequity. ■

TABLE 3. Countries with worse GEI performance and corresponding region

COUNTRY	REGION
Yemen	Middle East and North Africa
Côte d'Ivoire	Sub-Saharan Africa
Pakistan	South Asia
Burkina Faso	Sub-Saharan Africa
Chad	Sub-Saharan Africa
Central African Republic	Sub-Saharan Africa
Togo	Sub-Saharan Africa
India	South Asia
Nepal	South Asia
Congo, Rep.	Sub-Saharan Africa

Development indicators at the service of human rights monitoring

Social Watch Research Team¹

International commitments and human rights

The General Assembly of the United Nations approved the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948. Since then governments have signed a series of fundamental international treaties² on human rights that are legally binding at the international level. These international treaties and conventions proclaim specific rights that are indivisible and inalienable. The rights they proclaim are indivisible because human realization depends on the enjoyment of all human rights, and the deprivation of one specific right directly or indirectly affects the enjoyment of all the rights; they are inalienable because they cannot be taken away even if they are not exercised.

A long list of rights are consecrated through international agreements such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), including the right to life and physical integrity, to think and express oneself freely, to participate in the government of one's own country, to not be arrested without legal cause, to be judged with the guarantee of impartiality, and to own property, as well as the right to health, education, decent housing, freedom from discrimination, decent work for everyone and the rights of children, among others.

Upon signing and ratifying these international treaties, countries contracted certain obligations within the international system for protecting human rights. Among them are the commitment to guarantee the fulfilment of rights at the national level, by passing laws and implementing policies oriented toward their realization; to respect, promote and protect these rights; and to inform the United Nations on progress toward implementing these rights at the national level, presenting periodic reports before the respective watchdog organizations.³

In addition, throughout the 1990s the United Nations held a series of international conferences⁴ that dealt with the major themes emerging in the area of social development, and the Declarations or Programmes of Action adopted at these meetings have given rise to a group of principles and commitments that have been assumed internationally.

The international commitments of these Summits have included diverse themes related to social development:

- extreme poverty and hunger
- universal access to primary education
- gender equity
- the health of the population (infant mortality, maternal health, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases)
- environmental sustainability
- guidelines on forms of international cooperation to promote development, especially in the poorest countries.

In 1995, the Copenhagen Declaration adopted at the World Conference on Social Development introduced for the first time the quantification of the diverse goals by way of certain indicators considered key for the monitoring and achievement of the commitments in different areas of social development. Minimum thresholds were established that the countries would have to reach before the year 2000 for these goals to be successfully met.

Since 1995, Social Watch⁵ has held governments, the United Nations and international organizations accountable by monitoring progress toward the achievement of the development commitments assumed at the international level for gender equity and the eradication of world poverty.

The Social Watch annual reports track the status of countries around the world with regard to poverty and monitor how governments are implementing policies to fulfil the commitments assumed, in particular during the World Summit on Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995) and at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), as well as the most recent goals expressed in the Millennium Declaration (New York, 2000).

Social Watch has contributed innovative methodological proposals for the creation of tools to evaluate the pace at which governments are advancing toward these goals. Based on the information available in official international statistical sources, Social Watch has designed specific indicators that allow for comparing the degree of advances and setbacks in countries around the world, as well as the sufficiency or insufficiency of the improvements made toward the assumed goals.

In 2000 the General Assembly of the United Nations presented the Millennium Declaration, which gave rise to new targets for 2015: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These goals redefined previous targets in both quantitative and qualitative terms. While Social Watch has carried out a critical revision of the operationalization of the goals established in the Millennium Summit,⁶ the MDGs are nonetheless considered a minimum threshold and important point of reference for monitoring social development and human security in the broadest sense.

Since 2004 the monitoring strategy of Social Watch has focused on a set of basic areas of social development that goes beyond what is strictly proposed by the MDGs. Criteria that permit the analysis of human security have been incorporated and strengthened. Toward that end, Social Watch presents in its annual report a series of statistical tables designed to allow country by country analysis of basic indicators in the different areas of social development.⁷ The dimensions addressed by

1 The members of the Social Watch Research Team are listed in the credits at the start of this book.

2 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948; International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966; Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), 1979; United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989).

3 Social Watch annual reports monitor these last categories. See the table "Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfil their obligations".

4 Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Fourth World Conference on Women, International Conference on Population and Development, World Conference on Human Rights, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, World Summit for Children (WSC), World Summit for Social Development.

5 The International Secretariat of Social Watch is based at the Instituto del Tercer Mundo (ItEM) in Montevideo, Uruguay. ItEM is one of the founding organizations of the Uruguayan Chapter of the Inter-American Platform on Human Rights, Democracy and Development.

6 The redefinition of the goals has meant for many areas reduced aims, meaning fewer demands on governments, focusing primarily on the countries in the worst situation.

7 The indicators selected for defining and evaluating these basic areas of development respond not only to conceptual criteria but also to functional criteria based on the evaluation of coverage and the international comparability of the indicators. In several areas the decision was made to include indicators that, in spite of having high correlations between them, assure that these areas are represented even when some of the indicators are absent from the summary value.

“Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free... Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding [and] tolerance...”

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26, 1948.

“To ensure that [by 2015] children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education.”

Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 19, 2000.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The **right to universal education** is enshrined in:

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948): Art. 26

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965): Art. 5

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966): Art. 13 & 14

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979): Art. 5, 10 & 14

Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989): Art. 28 & 29

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Education is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 2

World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 1

Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

these indicators also represent thematic areas relevant to the understanding of poverty from a multidimensional perspective.

Beyond political will

The link between social development goals and economic, social and cultural rights is reflected in the tables presented in the Social Watch report. Both the goals and the rights concern issues such as health, education, housing, access to drinking water, work and international cooperation. One might surmise, then, that the concept of social development springs from the same source as the idea of the complete realization of the human being. In this sense one might say that these “agreements” compile a series of values or ethical principles that society has defined as fundamental for people to live with dignity.

The ICESCR, as with other international treaties on human rights, and unlike the declarations issued at United Nations conferences, is not a commitment of political will, but rather an enforceable legal commitment. The treaties are a matter of state and countries are obligated to respect the commitments signed and ratified by their governments.

Social Watch analyzes the performance of the world’s countries with regard to meeting the MDGs and realizing and promoting the economic, social and cultural rights.

In this analysis each one of the commitments assumed at the Social Summits has been linked

to its corresponding Human Rights Covenant. One aspect that is very relevant for this comparison is that in both cases, these instruments are backed by the near-unanimous approval of world governments, given that the majority have signed and/or ratified them.

By means of example, let us take the area of **EDUCATION** and analyze which articles within the International Human Rights Conventions deal with the right to education, at the same time that we review the basic social development commitments.⁸

This linkage allows us to show how the achievement of commitments assumed internationally in United Nations international conferences has an enforceability that goes beyond mere political will of national governments. An international legal framework transforms these commitments into obligations.

The commitments to guarantee food security, universal access to education, health care improvements, gender equity, access to reproductive health services, access to information and to an adequate environment including housing are intrinsic **rights** of all human beings and thus cannot be granted or withheld, but rather must be guaranteed and protected.

Governments have the obligation to respect, protect and do everything within their power to ensure the respect and fulfilment of these rights. Human rights are universal, which means that they are valid and possess legal force anywhere in the world. At the same time they are also indivisible, together constituting a group of rights that cannot be divided.

At the same time, the thematic tables reflect the progress and regression in people’s quality of life through the evolution of a series of basic indicators (access to education, health coverage, access to drinking water, women’s participation in decision making, etc.).⁹

Progress and regression are evaluated on a scale comprising five categories and indicated in the tables by a column entitled “Progress and Regression.”¹⁰

Let us take as an example some countries in the table on Education:¹¹

⁸ This does not imply disregard for commitments adopted at conferences of specific UN bodies, such as UNESCO, World Health Organization (WHO), etc.

⁹ Available information from as close to 1990 as possible was taken as the starting point (except when information for all countries is more recent) and compared with the most recent figures available for each country.

¹⁰ See the section on Methodology.

¹¹ See the complete table in the section of statistical tables.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (NET)			CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE	SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (NET)			TERTIARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (GROSS)		
			1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	2003 (%)	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Benin	126	40.4	59.0	→	41.0	82.6	→	69.4	15.9 ^N	17.1 ^P	→	2.4	3.0 ^P	
●	Canada	28				97.7	99.5 ^P			88.8	94.1 ^N	→	95.2	57.2 ^Q	←
●	Philippines	117	97.3	99.2		96.5	93.8 ^R	←	76.0 ^Q	49.3 ^M	59.2 ^R	→	27.1	29.4 ^R	
●	Portugal	6	99.5	99.8		98.4				82.9 ^N	82.3 ^R		23.0	55.5 ^R	→
○	Tunisia	70	84.1	95.7	→	94.1	97.2 ^R	→	96.2 ^Q	69.3 ^P	64.0 ^R	←	8.5	26.2 ^R	→
○	West Bank and Gaza	67				97.5 ^N	86.3	←		76.2 ^N	89.4	→	11.0 ^M	37.9	→

The development indicators viewed from the perspective of the economic, social and cultural rights

From a human rights perspective, the indicators allow us to draw another lesson. Based on Article 2 of the ICESCR, it is possible to use these development statistics as tools to evaluate the current situation and the progress of the economic, social and cultural rights.

ICESCR, Article 2:

Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to take steps, individually and through international assistance and co-operation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the rights recognized in the present Covenant by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures.

The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in the present Covenant will be exercised without discrimination of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

At least two points which spring from this article show the pertinence of the use of indicators for monitoring and the contribution they can make through the work of Social Watch.

The first is the characteristic of **progress** and, above all, the absence of **regression**, which generates a commitment on the part of the governments and whose primary evaluation can be realized through indicators. The evolution across time of specific plans and processes implemented by governments to gradually guarantee the full exercise of rights can be monitored using indicators that demonstrate the result of these initiatives.

When it is said that a country falls back in one of the areas involved in the international development goals, it is evident that the country is not fulfilling its obligation to progress toward realizing that

right; nevertheless, to speak of violating a right it is necessary to have more information to that effect, because in general, violations of human rights are complex. Nevertheless, a situation of regression can signal a possible violation.

In the case of education, for example, the indicators Social Watch uses encompass some basic elements related to the right to education. Primary school completion rates reflect the results of actions taken to achieve universal access to primary education; stated differently, they show whether all boys and girls have access to the educational system. Nevertheless, access alone does not guarantee the fulfilment of the right to education. Monitoring must include at the least an examination of whether children can complete the first cycle of education. Thus the indicator "Children reaching 5th grade" may be used to evaluate to what extent public actions are permitting younger citizens to effectively exercise their right to gain an education, to the extent that they are staying in the system through at least the basic cycle of primary education.

Finally, literacy rates for young people between the ages of 15 and 24 indicate the results of recent steps taken to promote education. Nevertheless, as an indicator of results, these statistics are quite basic, as the classification of individuals as "literate" does not mean that they are fully exercising their right to an education.

With respect to an international comparison of statistics in the same area, the possibilities are limited to a small group of indicators. Nevertheless, within each country, the possibilities of monitoring based on specific indicators are much broader.

As part of their obligations in the area of human rights, states must produce the information necessary to diagnose and evaluate progress in the actions undertaken to guarantee the fulfilment of rights. At the same time, these indicators must be adapted to the realities and the goals proposed by each particular country.

In the area of education, for example, there are many countries where access to primary education and keeping children in the system throughout the basic primary school cycle are currently the principal challenge. Nevertheless, in other countries the greatest obstacle to realizing the right to education

is no longer at this level, but instead lies in assuring, for example, determined educational content and practices that guarantee a quality education for all students across the country. This means that it is necessary to consider other indicators that reveal evolution in the area of educational quality and not just access. In any case, to monitor against regression, it is necessary to continue following indicators of access and permanence within the system.

A second fundamental point that springs from the ICESCR and Article 2 in particular refers to the obligation on the part of governments to guarantee that rights are exercised by all members of society, without any form of discrimination. The governments have committed themselves not only to the ICESCR but also to conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and to taking the action necessary to achieve these objectives.

In this case, to return to the example of education, when we analyze educational coverage rates and more specifically school completion rates, it is necessary to analyze who is being excluded from the system, beyond the numbers alone. It is possible to identify if these children belong to communities, groups or specific territorial areas which could mean they face discrimination. That is to say, the statistics also help us identify possible cases of discrimination if we use indicators that break down exactly which people are those "that are not included".

Gender equity is another area that Social Watch monitors in countries around the world. Both the tables on gender equity (in education, economic activity and empowerment) and the Gender Equity Index are fundamental tools for evaluating the progress made by countries in one of the most serious areas of discrimination. Once again, the lack of indicators that can be compared on an international level limits options for monitoring the distinct sources of discrimination, in particular discrimination on the basis of gender, but also on the basis of ethnicity and race.

At the national level in each country, nevertheless, greater possibilities should exist for adequate

indicators to allow monitoring of the reduction in inequities that translate into forms of discrimination against the exercise of rights.

Conclusion

The information compiled and articulated in the international treaties on human rights and in the commitments assumed in previous UN conferences and in the Millennium Development Goals can constitute yet another lobbying tool that can be used by organizations to press their governments to take action aimed at the eradication of poverty and its causes, with the goal of ensuring equitable distribution of wealth and the realization of human rights.

Upon signing and/or ratifying the ICESCR, the governments committed themselves to doing everything possible to guarantee the progressive enjoyment of the rights therein articulated. To that end, policies and programmes to ensure basic development objectives must have as their objective the enjoyment of these rights by all members of society. In other words, the governments are committing themselves to taking actions with a focus on human rights. This means that each policy or programme implemented by the government must ensure that the distinct themes encapsulated therein consider the general framework of human rights.

The legal force of human rights can recast the struggle for social development in new terms. If civil society groups can base their lobbying efforts on the legal commitments unfulfilled by their governments, it will provide them with a more powerful tool in the pursuit of social development goals.

In that sense, the availability of specific measurements and a systematic monitoring programme for the fulfilment of rights constitute decisive contributions to the monitoring of commitments assumed in each state. ■

WHEN INFORMING IS A STATE OBLIGATION AND A CITIZEN RIGHT

States have the obligation to immediately adopt measures to advance toward the progressive realization of rights. The results may take time to materialize, but the measures must be implemented immediately. Among the measures to adopt, the states have the obligation to revise national legislation to bring it into harmony with legal obligations that the state has contracted upon ratifying a document of international law. In addition to legislative measures, the states must adopt other measures of an administrative, judicial, economic and educational character, among others.

In order to be able to adopt pertinent measures of progress in the area of human rights, states must have information related to the status of each right. Consequently, other concrete obligations arise. The state has the obligation to produce information that allows for diagnosis of the current situation relative to each right, making known in particular the situation in the sectors that are especially vulnerable or those that might face discrimination. The state must also guarantee the broadest access to this information, favouring its free circulation, appropriation and the possibility of criticism stemming from it.

The state must design policies and define priorities compatible with the commitments of international law related to human rights, adopting plans of action that set forth goals and concrete timetables. The state must broadly publicize these plans favouring and promoting the broadest participation possible both in the process of policy design and in monitoring. The state must make periodic evaluations from a rights perspective and must explain the reasons why some of the goals might not have been reached.

The policies are aimed at guaranteeing the progressive realization of rights and in this sense create an obligation for progress whose fulfilment is evidenced in the periodic evaluations based on the established goals. They also imply an obligation against regression that is immediately applicable when state action has the effect of setting back the degree to which a right has been respected. Any measure that deliberately creates regression must become the subject of a careful examination and can only be justified with reference to all of the rights consecrated and in light of complete utilization of the resources available. ■

How to read the Social Watch tables

In this section Social Watch presents a set of tables that permit an evaluation of the countries of the world based on the present situation of the principal indicators of development and their evolution over the last 15 years. At the same time it relates these indicators to the commitments assumed by the world's governments and their obligations under the principal treaties of the international human rights system.

All of the tables present the information available from the sources consulted, with countries listed in alphabetical order.

In the section on Measuring Progress, different types of tables are presented that permit follow-up and monitoring through different tools:

- **The Present Situation of Poverty in the World:** This table presents the latest data available from the sources consulted regarding different indicators of poverty and inequality of income distribution.
- **Trends in Official Development Assistance:** This table presents the assistance given by OECD donor countries as a percentage of their gross national income (GNI) and the evolution of this assistance between 1986 and 2005.
- **Human Rights:** A series of tables track the status of ratification of the main international human rights treaties, fundamental International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, and international treaties mentioned in the Millennium Declaration, as well as the status of official country reports to UN committees. This makes it possible to monitor the extent to which countries are fulfilling their obligations with regard to human rights.
- **Tables by thematic areas:** Each table presents the indicators available from international sources, permitting an evaluation of the current global and country-specific situation in these particular dimensions and their evolution over the past 15 years.

Thematic areas:

- Food security
- Education
- Information, science and technology
- Public expenditure
- Environment
- Health and children's immunization
- Reproductive health
- Gender equity: education, economic activity and empowerment

How to read the thematic area tables

The thematic area tables present the statistical information available for each indicator. But in addition, they include a group of tools – both quantitative and qualitative – aimed at facilitating the analysis and evaluation of the statistical information in the context of the corresponding area of development.

FOOD SECURITY: The governments of the world agreed on...

"The Committee affirms that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfillment of other human rights... The right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement."

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment 12 on the Right to Adequate Food, 1996.

"We consider it intolerable that more than 800 million people throughout the world, and particularly in developing countries, do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs."

World Food Summit Plan of Action, Rome, 1996.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to food is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25
CESCR - Art. 11
CRC - Art. 24 & 27

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Food security is considered in:
Millennium Development Goals - Goal 1
World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 6
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDER-5 MORTALITY			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*			UNDERS-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
		1990/1992	2004/2002	PROGRESS OR REGRESSION	1990/2004 (%)	1990	2004	1990	2004	Progress or regression
		(%)	(%)		(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Albania	76	→	→	→	3	→	→	→	→	→
Algeria	69	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Angola	—	→	→	→	12	→	→	→	→	→
Antigua and Barbuda	—	→	→	→	8	→	→	→	→	→
Argentina	53	<2.5	<2.5	→	8	→	→	→	→	→
Armenia	51	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Australia	28	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Austria	6	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Azerbaijan	103	→	→	→	11	→	→	→	→	→
Bahamas	60	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Bahrain	25	→	→	→	3	→	→	→	→	→
Bangladesh	159	35	30	→	36	→	→	→	→	→
Barbados	37	→	→	→	10	→	→	→	→	→
Belarus	37	→	→	→	5	→	→	→	→	→
Belgium	6	→	→	→	8	→	→	→	→	→
Belize	89	→	→	→	6	→	→	→	→	→
Benin	126	20	15	→	16	→	→	→	→	→
Bhutan	—	→	→	→	15	→	→	→	→	→
Bolivia	110	28	21	→	4	→	→	→	→	→
Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	→	→	→	4	→	→	→	→	→
Botswana	88	23	32	←	10	→	→	→	→	→
Brazil	82	12	9	→	10	→	→	→	→	→
Brexit	47	→	→	→	10	→	→	→	→	→
Bruni Darussalam	41	→	→	→	7	→	→	→	→	→
Bulgaria	104	33	25	→	6	→	→	→	→	→
Burkina Faso	132	21	19	→	19	→	→	→	→	→
Burundi	156	48	68	←	16	→	→	→	→	→
Cambodia	153	43	33	→	11	→	→	→	→	→
Cameroon	134	33	25	→	11	→	→	→	→	→
Canada	28	→	→	→	6	→	→	→	→	→
Cape Verde	89	→	→	→	13	→	→	→	→	→
Central African Republic	—	50	43	→	14	→	→	→	→	→
Chad	162	58	34	→	10	→	→	→	→	→
Chile	22	8	4	→	5	→	→	→	→	→
China	81	16	11	→	9	→	→	→	→	→
Colombia	93	17	13	→	9	→	→	→	→	→

● Countries in better situation
○ Countries above average
○ Countries below average
○ Countries in worse situation
○ Countries with insufficient data

→ Significant progress
→ Slight progress
→ Stagnant
← Slight regression
← Significant regression

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLLMENT RATIO (NET)			CHILDREN READING (PER 1000)			SECONDARY EDUCATION ENROLLMENT RATIO (NET)			TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLLMENT RATIO (NET)					
		1990	2005	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	2003	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression		
		(%)	(%)		(%)	(%)		(%)	(%)	(%)		(%)	(%)		(%)	(%)			
San Marino	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→		
Seychelles	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→		
Sierra Leone	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→		
Singapore	17	99.0	99.8	→	99.1 ¹	99.8 ¹	→	98.7 ²	96.4 ¹	98.3 ¹	→	96.2 ²	85.1 ¹	88.0 ¹	→	82.2 ²	33.0 ¹	36.3 ¹	→
Slovakia	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Slovenia	32	99.8	99.8	→	96.4	96.4 ¹	→	→	91.4 ¹	95.9 ¹	→	23.8	76.1 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Solomon Islands	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Somalia	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
South Africa	96	86.5	92.5	→	95.5	88.8 ¹	→	84.1 ¹	44.7	61.7 ¹	→	12.3	15.3 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Spain	6	99.8	99.8	→	99.8	99.8 ¹	→	→	88.3 ¹	94.8 ¹	→	36.7	63.5 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Sri Lanka	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
St. Kitts and Nevis	86	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
St. Lucia	57	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	83	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Sudan	110	65.0	81.9	→	40.0	43.2 ¹	→	→	91.9	88.3 ¹	→	2.7	6.1 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Suriname	91	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Tajikistan	103	99.8	99.8	→	76.7	97.8	→	→	92.4 ¹	82.3 ¹	→	17.2 ¹	22.1	16.4	←	→	→	→	→
Tanzania	125	83.1	83.1	→	48.4	91.4 ¹	→	→	87.8	4.0 ¹	→	0.3	1.2	→	→	→	→	→	→
Thailand	45	98.1	99.2	→	74.7	86.9	→	→	→	→	→	32.0 ¹	41.0	→	→	→	→	→	→
Timor-Leste	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Togo	135	65.6	80.4	→	64.0	78.8	→	→	76.0	15.3	22.2 ¹	→	2.6	3.6 ¹	→	→	→	→	→
Tonga	79	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Trinidad and Tobago	45	99.6	99.8	→	90.9	92.2	→	→	100.0	72.5 ¹	→	8.7	11.9	→	→	→	→	→	→
Turkmenistan	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Turkey	83	92.7	97.8	→	82.7	89.5 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	12.7	28.0 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Turkmenistan	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Turks and Caicos Islands	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Uganda	146	70.1	82.3	→	88.4	83.9	→	→	83.9 ¹	83.0 ¹	→	1.3	3.4	→	→	→	→	→	→
Ukraine	42	99.8	99.9	→	80.2	85.3	→	→	→	89.3 ¹	→	46.6	65.5	→	→	→	→	→	→
United Arab Emirates	42	84.7	82.6	→	99.0	71.2	←	→	94.7	59.6	62.4	→	7.6	22.9 ¹	→	→	→	→	→
United Kingdom	17	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
United States of America	22	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Uruguay	52	86.7	99.2	→	91.0	90.4 ¹	→	→	92.9 ¹	65.0 ¹	→	39.1	37.8 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Uzbekistan	—	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Venezuela	89	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Venezuela	72	96.0	98.6	→	87.5	92.0	→	→	71.1 ¹	17.3	38.3	→	29.7	39.3 ¹	→	→	→	→	→
Viet Nam	87	94.1	96.0	→	90.2	92.9 ¹	→	→	89.0 ¹	59.1 ¹	→	1.9	10.2 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
West Bank and Gaza	67	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→	→
Yemen	149	50.0	72.4	→	59.3	75.3	→	→	73.2	76.2 ¹	→	10.4 ¹	9.4	←	→	→	→	→	→
Zambia	123	81.2	90.6	→	64.9 ¹	79.8	→	→	98.5 ¹	15.9 ¹	→	2.9 ¹	2.3 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→
Zimbabwe	119	93.9	→	→	81.1 ¹	81.9 ¹	→	→	69.7 ²	39.9 ¹	→	5.2	3.7 ¹	→	→	→	→	→	→

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources: UNESCO Website Database (www.unesco.org), March 2006. Except for (*), source MCG 2006, Rout.

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

● Countries in better situation
○ Countries above average
○ Countries below average
○ Countries in worse situation
○ Countries with insufficient data

→ Significant progress
→ Slight progress
→ Stagnant
← Slight regression
← Significant regression

1. Heading: For each area of social development, the related commitments assumed at the social summits are linked to the corresponding human rights treaties. In both cases, these instruments have the near-unanimous approval of the world's governments, given that the majority have signed and/or ratified them.

2. BCI ranking: Presents a ranking of countries (from 1 to 162) based on their scores on the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI), a measurement designed by Social Watch that evaluates country status with regard to the basic conditions of development. (For more information about the BCI, see Basic Capabilities Index – Methodological Notes in Methodology.) Countries with the highest BCI scores are listed first.

3. Indicator: Each thematic area includes indicators that are pertinent to evaluating the dimension in question and for which information is available from a large number of

countries. This makes it possible to visualize the situation in each country while comparing the distances between them. (The definitions of each indicator can be found in the Glossary.)

4. Present situation: This column presents the latest data available for each country according to the source consulted. These figures allow us to evaluate and compare the present situation in the countries of the world. Given that in many cases, the latest available figures are not up to date, it is important to take into account the time period to which the data correspond (if data do not correspond to the time period listed in the heading, they are identified with a letter that refers to a note at the bottom of the page. See Notes A).

5. Initial data or starting point: This column presents the available information from as close as possible to 1990 (the year that is taken as the starting point in the international commitments that set quantitative goals in different aspects of social development). For

some indicators, the reference year (indicated in the heading) is later because sufficient information for 1990 was not available. (As in Present Situation, data from periods different from those listed in the heading are identified with a letter that refers to a note at the bottom of the page. See Notes A).

6. Progress or regression: Based on current and initial data, the rate of progress or regression over the intervening time period is calculated for each country, taking into consideration the evolution of all of the countries in this indicator (See Measurement of the current situation of countries and the rate of change in Methodology). The result is expressed graphically (See the related note at the bottom of the page), facilitating the reading and evaluation of performance in the indicator during this period. The possible categories are: Significant regression, Stagnant, Slight progress, Significant progress.

7. Category of present situation: This column illustrates the present situation of the countries in the corresponding dimension through a summarizing measurement that evaluates countries based on their performance on the set of indicators included for which information is available (See "Measurement of the current situation of countries and the rate of change" in Methodology). The categories are: Countries in better situation, Countries above average, Countries below average, Countries in worse situation.

8. Sources: The information used for the indicators is obtained from recognized international organizations that compile the statistics produced by the countries (See "Sources and handling of information" in Methodology).

THE PRESENT SITUATION OF POVERTY IN THE WORLD

	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	GINI INDEX		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 1 A DAY		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 2 A DAY		POPULATION BELOW THE NATIONAL POVERTY LINE		SHARE OF POOREST QUINTILE CONSUMPTION/ INCOME	
		YEAR		YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)
Afghanistan	—										
Albania	76	2002	28.2	2002	2.0	2002	11.8	2002	25.4	2002	9.1
Algeria	69	1995	35.3	1995	2.0	1995	15.1	1995	22.6	1995	7.0
Andorra	—										
Angola	—										
Antigua and Barbuda	—										
Argentina	53	2003	52.8	2003	7.0	2003	23.0			2003	3.2
Armenia	51	2003	33.8	2003	2.0	2003	31.1	2001	50.9	2003	8.5
Aruba	—										
Australia	28	1994	35.2							1994	5.9
Austria	6	2000	29.1							2000	8.6
Azerbaijan	103	2002	19.0	2002	2.0	2002	2.0	2001	49.0	2002	12.2
Bahamas	60										
Bahrain	25										
Bangladesh	159	2000	31.8	2000	36.0	2000	82.8	2000	49.8	2000	9.0
Barbados	37										
Belarus	37	2002	29.7	2002	2.0	2002	2.0	2000	41.9	2002	8.5
Belgium	6	2000	33.0							2000	8.5
Belize	89										
Benin	126	2003	36.5	2003	30.9	2003	73.7	1999	29.0	2003	7.4
Bermuda	—										
Bhutan	139										
Bolivia	110	2002	60.1	2002	23.2	2002	42.2	1999	62.7	2002	1.5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	2001	26.2					2002	19.5	2001	9.5
Botswana	88	1993	63.0	1993	23.5	1993	50.1			1993	2.2
Brazil	82	2004	55.9*	2003	7.5	2003	21.2	2004	33.6*	2003	2.6
British Virgin Islands	—										
Brunei Darussalam	47										
Bulgaria	41	2003	29.2	2003	2.0	2003	6.1	2001	12.8	2003	8.7
Burkina Faso	132	2003	39.5	2003	27.2	2003	71.8	2003	46.4	2003	6.9
Burundi	156	1998	42.4	1998	54.6	1998	87.6	1990	36.4	1998	5.1
Cambodia	153	1997	40.4	1997	34.1	1997	77.7	1999	35.9	1997	6.9
Cameroon	134	2001	44.6	2001	17.1	2001	50.6	2001	40.2	2001	5.6
Canada	28	2000	32.6							2000	7.2
Cape Verde	89										
Cayman Islands	—										
Central African Republic	—	1993	61.3	1993	66.6	1993	84.0			1993	2.0
Chad	162							1996	64.0		
Channel Islands	—										
Chile	22	2000	57.1	2000	2.0	2000	9.6	1998	17.0	2000	3.3
China	81	2001	44.7	2001	16.6	2001	46.7	1998	4.6	2001	4.7
Colombia	93	2003	58.6	2003	7.0	2003	17.8	1999	64.0	2003	2.5
Comoros	129										
Congo, Dem. Rep.	—										
Congo, Rep.	—										
Cook Islands	105										
Costa Rica	54	2001	49.9	2001	2.2	2001	7.5	1992	22.0	2001	3.9
Côte d'Ivoire	133	2002	44.6	2002	14.8	2002	48.8			2002	5.2
Croatia	33	2001	29.0	2001	2.0	2001	2.0			2001	8.3
Cuba	28										
Cyprus	17										
Czech Republic	26	1996	25.4	1996	2.0	1996	2.0			1996	10.3
Denmark	6	1997	24.7							1997	8.3
Djibouti	114										
Dominican Republic	100	2003	51.7	2003	2.5	2003	11.0	1998	28.6	2003	3.9
Ecuador	109	1998	43.7	1998	15.8	1998	37.2	1998	46.0	1998	3.3
Egypt	94	2000	34.4	2000	3.1	2000	43.9	2000	16.7	2000	8.6
El Salvador	115	2002	52.4	2002	19.0	2002	40.6	1992	48.3	2002	2.7
Equatorial Guinea	154										
Eritrea	141							1994	53.0		
Estonia	28	2003	35.8	2003	2.0	2003	7.5	1995	8.9	2003	6.7
Ethiopia	161	2000	30.0	2000	23.0	2000	77.8	2000	44.2	2000	9.1
Finland	1	2000	26.9							2000	9.6
France	26	1995	32.7							1995	7.2
French Polynesia	—										
Gabon	106										
Gambia	138	1998	50.2	1998	59.3	1998	82.9	1998	57.6	1998	4.8
Georgia	78	2003	40.4	2003	6.5	2003	25.3	2003	54.5	2003	5.6
Germany	6	2000	28.3							2000	8.5

Source: World Development Indicators 2006, World Bank (www.worldbank.org). Except for the (*) source IBGE, 2006 Brazil.

THE PRESENT SITUATION OF POVERTY IN THE WORLD

	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	GINI INDEX		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 1 A DAY		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 2 A DAY		POPULATION BELOW THE NATIONAL POVERTY LINE		SHARE OF POOREST QUINTILE CONSUMPTION/ INCOME	
		YEAR		YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)
Ghana	142	1999	40.8	1999	44.8	1999	78.5	1999	39.5	1999	5.6
Greece	6	2000	34.3							2000	6.7
Guam	—										
Guatemala	131	2002	55.1	2002	13.5	2002	31.9	2000	56.2	2002	2.9
Guinea	140	1994	40.3					1994	40.0	1994	6.4
Guinea-Bissau	151	1993	47.0							1993	5.2
Guyana	108	1999	43.2	1998	2.0	1998	6.1	1998	35.0	1999	4.5
Haiti	—	2001	59.2	2001	53.9	2001	78.0	1987	65.0	2001	2.4
Honduras	130	2003	53.8	1999	20.7	1999	44.0	1999	48.0	2003	3.4
Hong Kong (China)	—	1996	43.4							1996	5.3
Hungary	35	2002	26.9	2002	2.0	2002	2.0	1997	17.3	2002	9.5
Iceland	1										
India	128	2000	32.5	2000	34.7	2000	79.9	2000	28.6	2000	8.9
Indonesia	102	2002	34.3	2002	7.5	2002	52.4	1999	27.1	2002	8.4
Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	1998	43.0	1998	2.0	1998	7.3			1998	5.1
Iraq	121										
Ireland	17	2000	34.3							2000	7.4
Isle of Man	—										
Israel	17	2001	39.2							2001	5.7
Italy	40	2000	36.0							2000	6.5
Jamaica	73	2000	37.9	2000	2.0	2000	13.3	2000	18.7	2000	6.7
Japan	1	1993	24.9							1993	10.6
Jordan	42	2003	38.8	2003	2.0	2003	7.0	1997	11.7	2003	6.7
Kazakhstan	54	2003	33.9	2003	2.0	2003	16.0	1996	34.6	2003	7.4
Kenya	—	1997	42.5	1997	22.8	1997	58.3	1997	52.0	1997	6.0
Kiribati	—										
Korea, Dem. Rep.	—										
Korea, Rep.	6	1998	31.6	1998	2.0	1998	2.0			1998	7.9
Kuwait	92										
Kyrgyzstan	—	2003	30.3	2003	2.0	2003	21.4	2001	47.6	2003	8.9
Lao PDR	155	2002	34.6	2002	27.0	2002	74.1	1998	38.6	2002	8.1
Latvia	37	2003	37.7	2003	2.0	2003	4.7			2003	6.6
Lebanon	56										
Lesotho	137	1995	63.2	1995	36.4	1995	56.1			1995	1.5
Liberia	145										
Libya	—										
Liechtenstein	—										
Lithuania	35	2003	36.0	2003	2.0	2003	7.8			2003	6.8
Luxembourg	49	2000	30.8							2000	8.4
Macedonia, FYR	62	2003	39.0	2003	2.0	2003	2.0			2003	6.1
Madagascar	144	2001	47.5	2001	61.0	2001	85.1	1999	71.3	2001	4.9
Malawi	148	1997	50.3	1998	41.7	1998	76.1	1998	65.3	1997	4.9
Malaysia	73	1997	49.2	1997	2.0	1997	9.3	1989	15.5	1997	4.4
Maldives	113										
Mali	143	1994	50.5	1994	72.3	1994	90.6	1998	63.8	1994	4.6
Malta	17										
Marshall Islands	95										
Mauritania	120	2000	39.0	2000	25.9	2000	63.1	2000	46.3	2000	6.2
Mauritius	33										
Mayotte	—										
Mexico	85	2002	49.5	2002	4.5	2002	20.4	2002	20.3	2002	4.3
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—										
Moldova	63	2003	33.2	2001	22.0	2001	63.7	2002	48.5	2003	7.8
Monaco	—										
Mongolia	70	1998	30.3	1998	27.0	1998	74.9	1998	35.6	1998	5.6
Morocco	112	1999	39.5	1999	2.0	1999	14.3	1999	19.0	1999	6.5
Mozambique	150	1997	39.6	1996	37.9	1996	78.4	1997	69.4	1997	6.5
Myanmar	136										
Namibia	98	1993	74.3	1993	34.9	1993	55.8			1993	1.4
Nauru	—										
Nepal	157	2004	47.2	2004	24.1	2004	68.5	2003	30.9	2004	6.0
Netherlands	6	1999	30.9							1999	7.6
Netherlands Antilles	—										
New Zealand	6	1997	36.2							1997	6.4
Nicaragua	127	2001	43.1	2001	45.1	2001	79.9	1998	47.9	2001	5.6
Niger	158	1995	50.5	1995	60.6	1995	85.8	1993	63.0	1995	2.6
Nigeria	146	2003	43.7	2003	70.8	2003	92.4	1992	34.1	2003	5.0
Niue	—										
Northern Mariana Islands	—										

Source: World Development Indicators 2006, World Bank (www.worldbank.org). Except for the (*) source IBGE, 2006 Brazil.

THE PRESENT SITUATION OF POVERTY IN THE WORLD

	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	GINI INDEX		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 1 A DAY		POPULATION LIVING WITH LESS THAN USD 2 A DAY		POPULATION BELOW THE NATIONAL POVERTY LINE		SHARE OF POOREST QUINTILE CONSUMPTION/ INCOME	
		YEAR		YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)	YEAR	(%)
Norway	1	2000	25.8							2000	9.6
Oman	48										
Pakistan	152	2002	30.6	2002	17.0	2002	73.6	1998	32.6	2002	9.3
Palau	77										
Panama	86	2002	56.4	2002	6.5	2002	17.1	1997	37.3	2002	2.5
Papua New Guinea	122	1996	50.9					1996	37.5	1996	4.5
Paraguay	107	2002	57.8	2002	16.4	2002	33.2	1991	21.8	2002	2.2
Peru	101	2002	54.6	2002	12.5	2002	31.8	1997	49.0	2002	3.2
Philippines	117	2000	46.1	2000	15.5	2000	47.5	1997	36.8	2000	5.4
Poland	22	2002	34.5	2002	2.0	2002	2.0	1993	23.8	2002	7.5
Portugal	6	1997	38.5	1994	2.0	1994	2.0			1997	5.8
Puerto Rico	—										
Qatar	57										
Romania	65	2003	31.0	2003	2.0	2003	12.9	1994	21.5	2003	8.1
Russian Federation	—	2002	39.9	2002	2.0	2002	12.1	1994	30.9	2002	6.1
Rwanda	160	1985	28.9	2000	51.7	2000	83.7	1999	60.3	1985	9.7
Samoa	50										
San Marino	—										
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116										
Saudi Arabia	67										
Senegal	124	1995	41.3	1995	22.3	1995	63.0	1992	33.4	1995	6.4
Serbia and Montenegro	—										
Seychelles	—										
Sierra Leone	—	1989	62.9	1989	57.0	1989	74.5	2003	70.2	1989	1.1
Singapore	—	1998	42.5							1998	5.0
Slovakia	57	1996	25.8	1996	2.0	1996	2.9			1996	8.8
Slovenia	32	1999	28.4	1998	2.0	1998	2.0			1999	9.1
Solomon Islands	—										
Somalia	—										
South Africa	96	2000	57.8	2000	10.7	2000	34.1			2000	3.5
Spain	6	2000	34.7							2000	7.0
Sri Lanka	—	2000	33.2	2002	5.6	2002	41.6	1995	25.0	2000	8.3
St. Kitts and Nevis	66										
St. Lucia	57	1995	42.6							1995	5.2
St. Vincent and Grenadines	63										
Sudan	110										
Suriname	91										
Swaziland	118	1994	60.9							1994	2.7
Sweden	1	2000	25.0							2000	9.1
Switzerland	6	2000	33.7							2000	7.6
Syrian Arab Republic	97										
Tajikistan	103	2003	32.6	2003	7.4	2003	42.8			2003	7.9
Tanzania	125	2001	34.6	2000	57.8	2000	89.9	2001	35.7	2001	7.3
Thailand	45	2002	42.0	2002	2.0	2002	25.2	1992	13.1	2002	6.3
Timor-Leste	—										
Togo	135							1989	32.3		
Tonga	79										
Trinidad and Tobago	45	1992	40.3	1992	12.4	1992	39.0	1992	21.0	1992	5.5
Tunisia	70	2000	39.8	2000	2.0	2000	6.6	1995	7.6	2000	6.0
Turkey	83	2003	43.6	2003	3.4	2003	18.7	2002	27.0	2003	5.3
Turkmenistan	—	1998	40.8							1998	6.1
Turks and Caicos Islands	—										
Tuvalu	—										
Uganda	146	1999	43.0					2003	37.7	1999	5.9
Ukraine	42	2003	28.1	2003	2.0	2003	4.9	2003	19.5	2003	9.2
United Arab Emirates	42										
United Kingdom	17	1999	36.0							1999	6.1
United States of America	22	2000	40.8							2000	5.4
United States of America	22										
Uruguay	52	2003	44.9	2003	2.0	2003	5.7			2003	5.0
Uzbekistan	—	2000	26.8					2000	27.5	2000	9.2
Vanuatu	99										
Venezuela	72	2000	44.1	2000	8.3	2000	27.6	1989	31.3	2000	4.7
Viet Nam	87	2002	37.0					2002	28.9	2002	7.5
West Bank and Gaza	67										

Source: World Development Indicators 2006, World Bank (www.worldbank.org). Except for the (*) source IBGE, 2006 Brazil.

FOOD SECURITY: The governments of the world agreed on...

"The Committee affirms that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights... The right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement."

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment 12 on the Right to Adequate Food, 1999.

"We consider it intolerable that more than 800 million people throughout the world, and particularly in developing countries, do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs."

World Food Summit Plan of Action. Rome, 1996.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to food is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25

CESCR - Art. 11

CRC - Art. 24 & 27

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Food security is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 1

World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 6

Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	PROGRESS OR REGRESSION	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
—	Albania	76				3			
●	Algeria	69	5	5	"	7	9	6	→
○	Angola	—	58	40	→	12	20	31	←
—	Antigua and Barbuda	—				8			
●	Argentina	53	<2.5	<2.5	"	8		5	
—	Armenia	51				7			
—	Australia	28				7			
—	Austria	6				7			
—	Azerbaijan	103				11			
—	Bahamas	60				7			
—	Bahrain	25				8			
○	Bangladesh	159	35	30	→	36	66	52	→
—	Barbados	37				10			
—	Belarus	37				5			
—	Belgium	6				8			
—	Belize	89				6			
⊕	Benin	126	20	15	→	16	35	23	→
—	Bhutan	139				15			
●	Bolivia	110	28	21	→	7	11	8	→
—	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—				4			
⊕	Botswana	88	23	32	←	10		13	
●	Brazil	82	12	9	→	10	7	6	"
—	Brunei Darussalam	47				10			
—	Bulgaria	41				10			
○	Burkina Faso	132	21	19	"	19	33	38	←
○	Burundi	156	48	68	←	16	38	45	←
○	Cambodia	153	43	33	→	11		45	
⊕	Cameroon	134	33	25	→	11	15	21	←
—	Canada	28				6			
—	Cape Verde	89				13			
○	Central African Republic	—	50	43	→	14		24	
⊕	Chad	162	58	34	→	10	35	28	→
●	Chile	22	8	4	→	5	2	1	"
●	China	81	16	11	→	4	17	10	→
●	Colombia	93	17	13	→	9	10	7	→

- Countries in better situation
- ⊕ Countries above average
- ⊖ Countries below average
- Countries in worse situation
- Countries with insufficient data

- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- " Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
—	Comoros	129				25			
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	32	71	←	12		31	
●	Congo, Rep.	—	54	37	→		24	14	→
—	Cook Islands	105				3			
●	Costa Rica	54	6	4		7	3	5	
●	Côte d'Ivoire	133	18	14	→	17	12	21	←
—	Croatia	33				6			
●	Cuba	28	8	3	→	6		4	
—	Czech Republic	26				7			
—	Denmark	6				5			
—	Dominica	75				10			
●	Dominican Republic	100	27	25		11	10	5	→
●	Ecuador	109	8	4	→	16	17	12	→
●	Egypt	94	4	3		12	10	9	
●	El Salvador	115	12	11		7	15	10	→
—	Equatorial Guinea	154				13			
○	Eritrea	141		73		21	41	40	
—	Estonia	28				4			
○	Ethiopia	161		46		15	48	47	
—	Fiji	61				10			
—	Finland	1				4			
—	France	26				7			
●	Gabon	106	10	6	→	14		12	
●	Gambia	138	22	27	←	17		17	
—	Georgia	78				7			
—	Germany	6				7			
●	Ghana	142	37	13	→	16	30	22	→
—	Greece	6				8			
—	Grenada	83				9			
●	Guatemala	131	16	24	←	12	33	23	→
●	Guinea	140	39	26	→	16		23	
—	Guinea-Bissau	151				22			
○	Guyana	108	21	9	→	12	18	14	→
○	Haiti	—	65	47	→	21	27	17	→
●	Honduras	130	23	22		14	18	17	
—	Hungary	35				9			
—	Iceland	1				4			
○	India	128	25	21	→	30	64	47	→
●	Indonesia	102	9	6	→	9	40	26	→
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	4	4		7		11	
—	Iraq	121				15			
—	Ireland	17				6			
—	Israel	17				8			
—	Italy	40				6			
●	Jamaica	73	14	10	→	10	7	4	→
—	Japan	1				8			
●	Jordan	42	4	7	←	10	6	4	
—	Kazakhstan	54				8			
●	Kenya	—	44	33	→	10	23	20	→
—	Kiribati	—				5			
●	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	18	36	←	7		21	
—	Korea, Rep.	6	<2.5	<2.5		4			

- Countries in better situation
- Countries above average
- Countries below average
- Countries in worse situation
- Countries with insufficient data

- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Kuwait	92	23	5	→	7	11	2	→
—	Kyrgyzstan	—				7			
○	Lao PDR	155	29	22	→	14	44	40	→
—	Latvia	37				5			
●	Lebanon	56	<2.5	3		6		3	
●	Lesotho	137	17	12	→	14	16	18	
○	Liberia	145	34	46	←			27	
●	Libya	—	<2.5	<2.5		7		5	
—	Lithuania	35				4			
—	Luxembourg	49				8			
—	Macedonia, FYR	62				6			
○	Madagascar	144	35	37		17	41	33	→
●	Malawi	148	50	33	→	16	28	22	→
●	Malaysia	73	3	<2.5		9	25	12	→
—	Maldives	113				22			
○	Mali	143	29	29		23	31	33	
—	Malta	17				6			
—	Marshall Islands	95				12			
●	Mauritania	120	15	10	→		48	32	→
●	Mauritius	33	6	6		14	24	15	→
●	Mexico	85	5	5		8	17	8	→
—	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—				18			
—	Moldova	63				5			
●	Mongolia	70	34	28	→	7	12	13	
●	Morocco	112	6	7		11	12	9	→
○	Mozambique	150	66	47	→	15		24	
●	Myanmar	136	10	6	→	15	32	35	←
●	Namibia	98	35	22	→	14	26	24	
○	Nepal	157	20	17	→	21		48	
—	New Zealand	6				6			
●	Nicaragua	127	30	27	→	12	11	10	
○	Niger	158	41	34	→	13	43	40	→
●	Nigeria	146	13	9	→	14	35	29	→
—	Niue	—				0			
—	Norway	1				5			
—	Oman	48				8			
○	Pakistan	152	24	20	→	19	40	38	
—	Palau	77				9			
●	Panama	86	21	26	←	10	6	7	
—	Papua New Guinea	122				11			
●	Paraguay	107	18	14	→	9	4	5	
●	Peru	101	42	13	→	11	11	7	→
○	Philippines	117	26	22	→	20	34	31	→
—	Poland	22				6			
—	Portugal	6				8			
—	Qatar	57				10			
—	Romania	65				9			
—	Russian Federation	—				6			
●	Rwanda	160	44	37	→	9	29	27	
—	Samoa	50				4			
—	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116				20			
●	Saudi Arabia	67	4	3		11		14	

- Countries in better situation
- Countries above average
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- Significant progress
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- ← Significant regression

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	UNDERNOURISHMENT			ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT*	UNDER-5 CHILDREN MALNUTRITION (WEIGHT FOR AGE)		
			1990/1992 (%)	2000/2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1998/2004 (%)	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Senegal	124	23	24		18	22	23	
—	Serbia and Montenegro	—				4			
○	Sierra Leone	—	46	50	←	23	29	27	
—	Singapore	—				8			
—	Slovakia	57				7			
—	Slovenia	32				6			
—	Solomon Islands	—				13			
—	South Africa	96				15			
—	Spain	6				6			
○	Sri Lanka	—	28	22	→	22	37	29	→
—	St. Kitts and Nevis	66				9			
—	St. Lucia	57				8			
—	St. Vincent and Grenadines	63				10			
○	Sudan	110	32	27	→	31	34	41	←
●	Suriname	91	13	11		13		13	
●	Swaziland	118	14	19	←	9		10	
—	Sweden	1				4			
—	Switzerland	6				6			
●	Syrian Arab Republic	97	5	4		6	12	7	→
—	Tajikistan	103				15			
○	Tanzania	125	37	44	←	13	29	29	
●	Thailand	45	28	20	→	9	25	18	→
—	Timor-Leste	—				12			
○	Togo	135	33	26	→	18	25	25	
—	Tonga	79				0			
●	Trinidad and Tobago	45	13	12		23	7	6	
●	Tunisia	70	<2.5	<2.5		7	10	4	→
●	Turkey	83	<2.5	3		16	10	8	
—	Turkmenistan	—				6			
—	Tuvalu	—				5			
●	Uganda	146	24	19	→	12	23	23	
—	Ukraine	42				5			
●	United Arab Emirates	42	4	<2.5		15		7	
—	United Kingdom	17				8			
—	United States of America	22				8			
●	Uruguay	52	6	4		8	6		
—	Uzbekistan	—				7			
—	Vanuatu	99				6			
●	Venezuela	72	11	17	←	9	8	4	→
●	Viet Nam	87	31	19	→	9	45	33	→
—	West Bank and Gaza	67				9			
○	Yemen	149	34	36		32	30	46	←
○	Zambia	123	48	49		12	25	28	←
●	Zimbabwe	119	45	44		11	12	13	

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:
Undernourishment: The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005, FAO (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/a0200e/a0200e03.pdf>).
Estimated low birth weight: The State of the World's Children 2006, UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc06).
Under-5 children malnutrition: The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005, FAO (<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/a0200e/a0200e03.pdf>).

- Countries in better situation
- Countries above average
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- Countries in worse situation
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- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Note: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

EDUCATION: The governments of the world agreed on...

"Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free... Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding [and] tolerance..."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26, 1948.

"To ensure that [by 2015] children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education."

Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 19, 2000.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to universal education is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 26 CEDAW - Art. 5, 10 & 14
CERD - Art. 5 CRC - Art. 28 & 29
CESCR - Art. 13 & 14

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Education is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 2
World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 1
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE*	SECONDARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (GROSS)		
			1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression		2003 (%)	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)
—	Afghanistan	—													1.1
●	Albania	76	94.8	98.6	→	95.1	95.6 ^R			69.7 ^N	73.9 ^R	→	6.9	16.4 ^R	→
●	Algeria	69	77.3	92.0	→	88.8	97.1	→	96.2	53.4	66.2	→	11.3	19.6	→
●	Andorra	—				90.0 ^D	88.5	←		68.9 ^D	71.4	→	7.5 ^D	9.4	→
—	Angola	—				50.3	52.8 ^M	→					0.7	0.9 ^R	
●	Argentina	53	98.2	98.7			100.0 ^N		92.2 ^P	73.9 ^M	80.8 ^Q	→	38.1	61.1 ^Q	→
●	Armenia	51	99.5	99.8		81.3 ^D	96.8	→		84.7 ^D	88.7	→	23.7 ^N	26.2	→
●	Aruba	—				97.8 ^N	97.7		96.3	79.3 ^N	74.3	←	26.3 ^N	28.6	→
●	Australia	28				99.1	94.8 ^R	←	98.7 ^Q	79.3	85.3 ^R	→	39.2	74.0 ^R	→
—	Austria	6				87.7							34.0	48.7 ^R	→
●	Azerbaijan	103				88.8	83.8	←		73.2 ^N	76.7 ^R	→	23.6	14.8	←
●	Bahamas	60	96.5	97.5		89.7	83.7	←		77.1 ^Q	73.8	←			
●	Bahrain	25	95.6	99.0	→	99.0	96.8		99.8	85.0	89.9	→	17.6	34.4	→
○	Bangladesh	159	42.0	51.5	→				52.6 ^Q	42.7 ^M	48.0 ^R	→	5.8 ^N	6.5 ^R	
●	Barbados	37	99.8	99.8		80.1	99.6	→	96.8	88.2 ^N	95.1	→	27.2	37.7 ^P	→
●	Belarus	37	99.8	99.8		86.2	95.3	→		79.1 ^P	87.3	→	50.2	60.5	→
●	Belgium	6				96.2	99.9 ^R	→		86.7	96.9 ^R	→	39.3	60.7 ^R	→
●	Belize	89	96.0	98.6		94.0	99.4	→	91.0 ^D	30.7	71.4	→		2.6	
○	Benin	126	40.4	59.0	→	41.0	82.6	→	69.4	15.9 ^N	17.1 ^P	→	2.4	3.0 ^P	
●	Bermuda	—							96.3 ^P		86.1 ^Q			62.3 ^D	
—	Bhutan	139							91.0 ^D						
●	Bolivia	110	92.6	97.0	→	95.9 ^M	95.3		86.4	67.7 ^P	73.6	→	21.5	40.6	→
●	Botswana	88	83.3	90.4	→	83.4	82.0 ^R		89.3 ^D	35.0	59.9 ^R	→	3.7	6.2	
●	Brazil	82	91.8	96.1	→	84.7	97.3 ^Q	→	83.0 ^{AD}	17.4	74.5 ^Q	→	11.3	20.1 ^Q	→
—	British Virgin Islands	—				95.6 ^N	94.7			79.8 ^N	79.5				
●	Brunei Darussalam	47	97.9	99.6		92.0			93.0 ^D	71.0			9.7 ^N	14.7 ^T	→
●	Bulgaria	41	99.4	99.7		86.1	94.2 ^R	→		63.3	88.3 ^R	→	31.1	40.8 ^R	→
○	Burkina Faso	132	24.9	40.3	→	29.2	40.5	→	75.8	9.1 ^N	9.5		0.7	1.5 ^R	
○	Burundi	156	51.6	69.4	→	52.9	57.0	→	63.0		8.3		0.7	2.3	
●	Cambodia	153	73.5	81.9	→	69.3	98.0	→	59.7	16.1 ^M	24.8 ^R	→	0.7	2.9	
○	Cameroon	134	81.1	92.8	→	73.6			63.7 ^Q				3.2	5.3	
●	Canada	28				97.7	99.5 ^P			88.8	94.1 ^N	→	95.2	57.2 ^Q	←
●	Cape Verde	89	81.5	90.7	→	91.1	91.8		91.2	54.1 ^Q	55.0	→	3.4 ^Q	5.6	→
●	Cayman Islands	—				97.4 ^D	87.2	←	93.4 ^N	88.9 ^D	90.9	→		18.8 ^P	
—	Central African Republic	—	52.1	74.0	→	51.9							1.5	1.8 ^D	
○	Chad	162	48.0	74.4	→	34.7	56.9 ^R	→	45.8	7.1 ^N	10.8 ^R	→		0.8 ^P	
●	Chile	22	98.1	99.2		89.3	85.9 ^R	←	99.2 ^D	55.4	77.8 ^R	→	21.3	43.2 ^R	→
●	China	81	95.3	98.6	→	97.4			99.0 ^D				3.0	15.4 ^R	→

- Countries in better situation
- Countries above average
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- Countries in worse situation
- Countries with insufficient data

- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Notes: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.
Data source year: M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003; T: 2005.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE*	SECONDARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (GROSS)			
			1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression		2003 (%)	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Colombia	93	94.9	97.6	▬	68.6	83.2	→	77.5	34.4	54.9	→	14.0	26.9	→	
○	Comoros	129	56.7	59.5	▬	56.7	55.1 ^O	▬	62.7				1.0 ^N	2.3	→	
—	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	68.9	86.4	→	54.1							2.3	1.3 ^N	▬	
—	Congo, Rep.	—	92.5	98.5	→	79.4			66.3 ^O				4.7	3.7 ^R	▬	
○	Cook Islands	105					84.8 ^N		51.5 ^M	60.1 ^M	57.2 ^O	←				
●	Costa Rica	54	97.4	98.6	▬	87.5	91.8	→	92.4	37.8	50.2	→	27.9	19.0 ^R	←	
○	Côte d'Ivoire	133	52.6	66.3	→	44.7	56.0 ^R	→	69.1 ^N	17.7 ^N	20.0 ^O	→		6.5 ^N		
○	Croatia	33	99.6	99.8	▬	78.8	87.3 ^R	→		63.2	85.0 ^R	→	23.9	38.7 ^R	→	
●	Cuba	28	99.3	99.8	▬	93.2	96.2	→	97.7	69.6	86.6	→	21.0	53.6	→	
●	Cyprus	17	99.7	99.8	▬	86.9	96.1 ^R	→	99.3 ^O	69.0	92.8 ^R	→	12.8	32.0 ^R	→	
●	Czech Republic	26				86.7	86.7 ^R	▬	97.7 ^O	88.3 ^P	90.4 ^R	→	16.0	36.9 ^R	→	
●	Denmark	6				98.3	99.9 ^R	▬	99.7 ^O	86.8	94.6 ^R	→	36.5	66.8 ^R	→	
○	Djibouti	114	73.2	87.9	→	28.7	32.8	→	87.7 ^P	14.6 ^P	18.7	→	0.3 ^N	1.6	→	
●	Dominica	75					87.7		84.3		90.4					
○	Dominican Republic	100	87.5	92.5	→	57.4	86.0	→	59.2	18.7 ^M	49.3	→		33.0		
○	Ecuador	109	95.5	97.9	▬	97.7	99.5	▬	76.3	44.8 ^M	52.2	→	20.0			
○	Egypt	94	61.3	73.5	→	84.1	94.3 ^R	→	98.0 ^O		79.1 ^O		15.8	28.5 ^R	→	
○	El Salvador	115	83.8	90.0	→	80.6 ^M	90.9	→	68.2	39.3 ^M	48.1 ^R	→	16.8	17.7	▬	
○	Equatorial Guinea	154	92.7	98.1	→	90.6	59.3	←	32.6 ^P		23.6 ^P		1.8	2.6 ^O	▬	
○	Eritrea	141	60.9	74.5	→	15.5	47.8	→	80.3	19.2 ^N	19.2	▬	1.1 ^N	1.1	▬	
○	Estonia	28	99.8	99.7	▬	99.4	94.6 ^R	←	98.4 ^O	83.4 ^O	87.9 ^R	→	26.3	64.5 ^R	→	
○	Ethiopia	161	43.0	61.0	→	22.0	56.3 ^T	→	57.0 ^P	14.3 ^N	27.8 ^T	→	0.7	2.5	▬	
○	Fiji	61	97.8	99.5	▬	99.4 ^M	96.2	←	89.8 ^O	76.5 ^M	77.9 ^O	→	11.9	15.3	→	
●	Finland	1				98.3	99.9 ^R	▬	99.9 ^O	93.0	94.0 ^R	▬	48.9	86.9 ^R	→	
●	France	26				100.0	99.9 ^R	▬	98.0 ^N	94.1 ^N	95.3 ^R	→	39.6	55.3 ^R	→	
●	Gabon	106				85.5	76.8 ^P	←	69.3 ^O					6.6 ^N		
○	Gambia	138	42.2	64.4	→	48.0	72.8 ^P	→		25.9 ^N	32.7 ^R	→	1.1 ^N	1.2	▬	
○	Georgia	78				97.1	92.8	←		77.0 ^N	69.2	←	36.7	41.5	→	
—	Germany	6				84.3							33.8	50.1 ^R	→	
○	Ghana	142	81.8	93.8	→	53.7	65.0 ^T	→	63.3 ^O	31.5 ^N	37.0 ^T	→	1.0	3.1	▬	
●	Greece	6	99.5	99.8	▬	94.6	97.7 ^R	→		83.2	84.5 ^R	▬	36.3	72.2 ^R	→	
—	Grenada	83							79.0 ^O							
○	Guatemala	131	73.4	81.6	→	77.8 ^M	93.0	→	77.9	21.7 ^M	33.7	→		9.6 ^O		
○	Guinea	140				27.2	63.8	→	82.0	12.5 ^N	21.2	→	1.0	2.2	▬	
○	Guinea-Bissau	151	44.1	65.0	→	38.1	45.2 ^P	→			8.7 ^P		0.4 ^N	0.4 ^P	▬	
○	Guyana	108	99.8	99.8	▬	89.0	99.5	→	64.3 ^P	66.6				9.1		
—	Haiti	—	54.8	68.8	→	22.1										
○	Honduras	130	79.7	87.3	→	89.4	90.7	▬	66.0	20.6			8.9	16.4	→	
●	Hong Kong (China)	—	98.2	99.5	▬	97.8 ^P	97.3	▬	99.9	73.6 ^P	77.7	→	29.5 ^P	32.1	→	
●	Hungary	35	99.7	99.8	▬	91.3	89.0 ^R	▬		74.8	91.6 ^R	→	14.0	51.9 ^R	→	
●	Iceland	1				99.6	99.0 ^R	▬	99.7 ^O	84.7 ^N	86.3 ^R	→	24.9	61.7 ^R	→	
○	India	128	64.3	76.3	→	83.3 ^O	87.4 ^R	→	83.8 ^O				6.0	11.5 ^R	→	
○	Indonesia	102	95.0	98.5	→	96.6	96.1 ^R	▬	89.1 ^O	39.1	55.0 ^R	→	9.2	16.2 ^R	→	
○	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	86.3	95.9	→	92.4	88.6	←	93.7 ^P		78.1		10.2	22.5	→	
○	Iraq	121	41.0	46.5	→	94.0	87.7	←	65.6 ^N	29.6 ^N	37.9	→	11.5 ^N	15.4	→	
●	Ireland	17				90.4	96.0 ^R	→	99.2 ^O	79.7	85.2 ^R	→	29.2	55.3 ^R	→	
●	Israel	17	98.7	99.7	▬	91.9	99.1 ^R	→	99.4 ^O	86.2 ^N	88.6 ^R	→	34.6	57.0 ^R	→	
●	Italy	40	99.8	99.8	▬	99.8	99.3 ^R	▬	96.5 ^P	84.8 ^N	91.2 ^R	→	32.3	59.0 ^R	→	
○	Jamaica	73	91.2	95.1	→	95.7	88.5 ^R	←	89.7 ^O	63.6	75.0 ^R	→	6.9	19.0 ^R	→	
●	Japan	1				99.7	99.9 ^R	▬		96.8	99.8 ^R	→	29.6	52.1 ^R	→	
●	Jordan	42	96.7	99.6	▬	94.1	92.8 ^R	▬	97.1 ^O	79.2 ^N	82.1 ^R	→	22.9	35.0 ^R	→	
●	Kazakhstan	54	99.8	99.8	▬	89.3	98.3	→		85.3 ^O	92.1	→	41.5	48.0	→	
—	Kenya	—	89.8	96.7	→	57.2 ^M	76.4	→								
—	Kiribati	—					92.2 ^O									
●	Korea, Rep.	6	99.8	99.8	▬	99.7	99.8	▬	99.9	85.8	88.3	▬	38.6	88.5	→	
○	Kuwait	92	87.5	94.0	→	49.0	86.0	→		88.7 ^N	77.6 ^O	←	23.2 ^N	22.3	▬	

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PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY (15-24 YEARS OLD)			PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE*	SECONDARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (NET)			TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATIO (GROSS)			
			1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression		1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	
—	Kyrgyzstan	—				92.3	90.1							14.3	39.7	→
○	Lao PDR	155	70.1	81.4	→	62.6	84.4	→	62.6	26.7 ^N	37.1	→	2.5 ^N	5.9	→	
●	Latvia	37	99.8	99.8		92.1	86.6 ^R	←		85.2 ^N	87.4 ^R	→	25.6	71.0 ^R	→	
●	Lebanon	56	92.1	96.3	→	72.6	93.2	→	97.6				36.3 ^N	47.6	→	
○	Lesotho	137	87.2	92.0	→	71.5	85.9	→	63.4	14.7	23.1	→	1.4	2.8 ^R		
○	Liberia	145	57.2	74.0	→		65.7 ^O				17.1 ^O			15.5 ^O		
—	Libya	—	91.0	97.7	→	95.9							14.5	56.2 ^R	→	
●	Lithuania	35	99.8	99.8		96.0 ^N	92.4 ^R	←		91.2 ^N	94.1 ^R	→	33.5	69.0 ^R	→	
●	Luxembourg	49				96.0 ^N	90.3 ^R	←	92.0 ^O	79.5 ^N	80.0 ^R		10.5 ^N	12.4 ^R	→	
●	Macao (China)	—	97.2	99.3		81.1	89.2	→	99.7 ^O	62.0 ^N	76.8	→	25.4	68.8	→	
●	Macedonia, FYR	62				94.4	91.8 ^R	←		79.2 ^N	81.1 ^O	→	16.8	27.4 ^R	→	
○	Madagascar	144	72.2	83.4	→	64.2	88.8	→	57.0		11.3 ^N		3.2	2.5		
●	Malawi	148	63.2	74.5	→	48.4	95.3	→	43.8 ^P	25.9 ^M	24.7		0.6	0.4		
●	Malaysia	73	94.8	98.3	→	97.4 ^M	93.2 ^O	←	87.1 ^P	68.9 ^M	69.9 ^O	→	8.2	28.8 ^O	→	
●	Maldives	113	98.1	99.4		98.3 ^M	89.7 ^O	←		31.7 ^N	51.3 ^O	→		0.2 ^R		
○	Mali	143	27.6	40.8	→	20.9	46.5	→	78.6	5.1			0.6	2.1		
●	Malta	17	97.5	98.9		97.0	94.3 ^R	←	99.3 ^O	78.3	85.9 ^R	→	12.7	29.9 ^R	→	
●	Marshall Islands	95					84.4 ^O				64.9 ^O			17.0 ^O		
○	Mauritania	120	45.8	50.7	→	35.3	74.3	→	81.6	14.5 ^P	14.1		2.8	3.5		
●	Mauritius	33	91.1	94.9	→	91.3	95.1	→	98.9 ^P	64.5 ^M	74.6	→	4.1	17.2	→	
●	Mexico	85	95.2	97.7		97.8	100.0 ^R		93.0 ^O	43.8	62.4 ^R	→	14.4	22.5 ^R	→	
—	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—												14.1 ^N		
●	Moldova	63	99.8	99.8		88.8	77.5	←		68.8 ^N	68.7		35.5	31.7	←	
●	Mongolia	70	98.9	99.2		90.1	84.2	←		55.4 ^N	82.3	→	14.0	38.9	→	
●	Morocco	112	55.3	72.8	→	55.9	86.8 ^R	→	81.2 ^O	30.7 ^O	35.1 ^R	→	10.6	10.6		
○	Mozambique	150	48.8	66.3	→	42.8	71.0	→	49.2 ^P	2.4 ^M	4.0	→	0.6 ^N	1.2		
●	Myanmar	136	88.2	92.0	→	97.8	85.1 ^R	←	64.6 ^O	30.7 ^N	34.2 ^R	→	4.2	11.3 ^O	→	
●	Namibia	98	87.4	93.2	→	74.4 ^M	73.7 ^R		88.1 ^O	29.9 ^M	37.5 ^R	→	3.0	6.1 ^R	→	
○	Nepal	157	46.6	66.0	→		65.7 ^O		64.9 ^O				5.6	5.6		
●	Netherlands	6				95.3	99.2 ^R	→	99.8 ^O	83.6	88.9 ^R	→	39.8	58.0 ^R	→	
●	Netherlands Antilles	—	97.5	98.5					88.5 ^P	81.6 ^O	76.9 ^R	←	23.2 ^N	23.6 ^O		
●	New Zealand	6				97.5	100.0 ^R	→		85.1	92.3 ^R	→	45.2	71.6 ^R	→	
○	Nicaragua	127	68.2	73.2	→	72.6	87.9	→	56.5	35.1 ^O	40.7	→	7.9	17.9 ^R	→	
○	Niger	158	17.0	26.7	→	22.3	39.2	→	73.6	5.1	6.8		0.6	0.8		
●	Nigeria	146	73.6	91.1	→		87.8				28.3 ^R			10.2		
—	Niue	—							75.8 ^M							
●	Norway	1				100.0	99.5 ^R		99.5 ^O	87.7	95.4 ^R	→	42.3	80.3 ^R	→	
○	Oman	48	85.6	99.4	→	69.2	77.9	→	97.6	64.8 ^N	74.7	→	4.1	12.9	→	
○	Pakistan	152	47.4	61.3	→	33.4	66.2	→					3.4	3.0		
●	Palau	77				96.8 ^N	96.5 ^P		84.2 ^N				32.7 ^O	40.9 ^O	→	
●	Panama	86	95.3	97.4		96.5 ^M	99.8	→	84.3	60.1 ^M	63.7	→	22.8	45.8	→	
○	Papua New Guinea	122	68.6	78.8	→				69.4 ^P					2.1 ^M		
●	Paraguay	107	95.6	97.6		94.3	89.3 ^O	←	69.7 ^P	26.4	51.1 ^O	→	13.1 ^N	25.9 ^O	→	
●	Peru	101	94.5	97.6	→	99.8 ^M	99.7 ^O		83.6 ^P	62.2 ^M	69.2 ^O	→	31.9	31.5 ^P		
●	Philippines	117	97.3	99.2		96.5	93.8 ^R	←	76.0 ^O	49.3 ^M	59.2 ^R	→	27.1	29.4 ^R		
●	Poland	22	99.8	99.8		96.7	97.9 ^R		99.3 ^O	75.9	91.5 ^R	→	21.7	59.5 ^R	→	
●	Portugal	6	99.5	99.8		98.4				82.9 ^N	82.3 ^R		23.0	55.5 ^R	→	
—	Puerto Rico	—	96.1	98.0												
●	Qatar	57	90.3	96.1	→	89.4	89.8			69.6	87.2	→	23.2	18.3	←	
●	Romania	65	99.3	99.7		81.2	90.0 ^R	→		74.7 ^N	81.1 ^R	→	9.7	36.3 ^R	→	
—	Russian Federation	—	99.8	99.8		98.6							52.1	65.2 ^R	→	
○	Rwanda	160	72.7	87.2	→	66.0	73.2	→	45.8	7.3			0.9 ^N	2.7	→	
●	Samoa	50	99.0	99.5		95.3 ^M	93.8 ^O	←	93.8 ^O	70.6 ^M	65.5 ^O	←	8.9 ^M	7.5 ^P	←	
○	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116					84.8 ^N				28.5 ^O		1.0 ^O	1.0 ^O		
●	Saudi Arabia	67	85.4	94.9	→	59.3	53.1	←	93.6	30.9	52.4	→	10.3	27.7	→	
○	Senegal	124	40.1	56.2	→	43.5	66.1	→	78.2		15.3		2.9	5.0		

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			1990 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression		2003 (%)	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)
—	Serbia and Montenegro	—				69.4	95.8 ^P	→		62.2			33.9 ^N	36.3 ^P	→
●	Seychelles	—				99.1 ^M	99.6 ^Q		98.7 ^Q	99.4 ^M	98.3 ^R	←			
—	Sierra Leone	—				43.3							1.3	2.1 ^Q	
—	Singapore	—	99.0	99.8									20.5		
⊖	Slovakia	57				89.3 ^P	85.1 ^R	←		85.1 ^P	88.0 ^R	→	26.2 ^N	34.0 ^R	→
●	Slovenia	32	99.8	99.8		96.4	96.4 ^R			91.4 ^N	95.3 ^R	→	23.8	70.1 ^R	→
—	Solomon Islands	—					79.6				17.7 ^Q	26.6 ^Q	→		
—	Somalia	—				9.0									
⊖	South Africa	96	88.5	92.5	→	89.5	88.8 ^R		84.1 ^Q	44.7	61.7 ^Q	→	12.3	15.3 ^R	→
●	Spain	6	99.6	99.8		99.8	99.6 ^R			88.3 ^N	94.8 ^R	→	36.7	63.5 ^R	→
—	Sri Lanka	—	95.1	97.4			98.6 ^R						4.3		
—	St. Kitts and Nevis	66							86.5 ^Q						
⊖	St. Lucia	57				95.2	97.6		90.1	61.3 ^N	62.6	→	4.9	14.4	→
⊖	St. Vincent and Grenadines	63				90.5 ^Q	93.9	→	88.0 ^Q	57.9 ^Q	62.3	→			
⊖	Sudan	110	65.0	81.9	→	40.0	43.2 ^Q	→	91.9				2.7	6.1 ^Q	→
⊖	Suriname	91				81.2	92.4 ^R	→		63.7 ^P	63.2 ^R	←		12.4 ^Q	
⊖	Swaziland	118	85.1	92.5	→	74.7	76.7 ^R		76.8 ^Q	30.1	29.0 ^R		3.7	4.4 ^R	
●	Sweden	1				99.8	99.7 ^R			85.3	98.3 ^R	→	32.0	81.8 ^R	→
⊖	Switzerland	6				83.7	94.3 ^R	→		79.8	82.6 ^R	→	25.7	45.0 ^R	→
⊖	Syrian Arab Republic	97	79.9	90.0	→	90.9	98.1	→	92.4 ^P	42.7	58.1	→	17.7		
⊖	Tajikistan	103	99.8	99.8		76.7	97.8	→		62.6 ^N	79.4	→	22.1	16.4	←
⊖	Tanzania	125	83.1	93.1	→	49.4	91.4 ^T	→	87.8		4.6 ^M		0.3	1.2	
●	Thailand	45	98.1	99.2		75.8	86.9	→					32.5 ^N	41.0	→
—	Timor-Leste	—									20.1 ^P			10.2 ^Q	
⊖	Togo	135	63.5	80.4	→	64.0	78.8	→	76.0	15.3	22.2 ^Q	→	2.6	3.6 ^P	
⊖	Tonga	79				92.0 ^M	97.9	→	92.5 ^Q	67.4 ^M	71.3 ^P	→	3.3 ^N	3.4 ^P	
⊖	Trinidad and Tobago	45	99.6	99.8		90.9	92.2		100.0	72.5 ^N	71.9		6.7	11.9	→
●	Tunisia	70	84.1	95.7	→	94.1	97.2 ^R	→	96.2 ^Q	69.3 ^P	64.0 ^R	←	8.5	26.2 ^R	→
●	Turkey	83	92.7	97.6	→	89.2	89.5 ^R			42.0			12.7	28.0 ^R	→
—	Turkmenistan	—											21.7		
⊖	Turks and Caicos Islands	—				88.0 ^Q	81.5	←	45.9 ^Q	86.0 ^Q	77.7	←		0.4	
●	Uganda	146	70.1	82.3	→		98.4		63.6 ^P	7.8 ^N	13.0 ^T	→	1.3	3.4	
●	Ukraine	42	99.8	99.9		80.2	86.3	→		89.3 ^Q	83.5	←	46.6	65.5	→
⊖	United Arab Emirates	42	84.7	92.6	→	99.0	71.2	←	94.7	59.6	62.4	→	7.6	22.5 ^R	→
●	United Kingdom	17				98.3	100.0 ^R			81.4	95.5 ^R	→	31.0	62.8 ^R	→
●	United States of America	22				97.0	93.9 ^R	←		84.6	88.7 ^R	→	73.6	82.6 ^R	→
⊖	Uruguay	52	98.7	99.2		91.0	90.4 ^Q		92.9 ^P	65.6 ^M	73.2 ^Q	→	30.1	37.8 ^Q	→
⊖	Uzbekistan	—	99.6	99.7		78.2							30.4	15.3 ^R	←
⊖	Vanuatu	99				91.2 ^M	93.9	→	72.1 ^N	17.3	39.3	→	4.0 ^N	5.0	
⊖	Venezuela	72	96.0	98.6		87.5	92.0	→	91.0	18.4	61.0	→	28.7	39.3 ^R	→
⊖	Viet Nam	87	94.1	96.0		90.2	92.9 ^Q	→	89.0 ^P	59.1 ^N	62.0 ^P	→	1.9	10.2 ^R	→
⊖	West Bank and Gaza	67				97.5 ^N	86.3	←		76.2 ^N	89.4	→	11.0 ^M	37.9	→
⊖	Yemen	149	50.0	72.4	→	50.9	75.3	→	73.2		33.7 ^Q		10.4 ^N	9.4	←
⊖	Zambia	123	81.2	90.6	→	64.9 ^M	79.8	→	98.5 ^P	15.5 ^M	23.7	→	2.3 ^M	2.3 ^Q	
⊖	Zimbabwe	119	93.9			81.1 ^M	81.9 ^R		69.7 ^Q	39.9 ^M	33.9 ^R	←	5.2	3.7 ^R	

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:
 UNESCO Website Database (www.unesco.org), March 2006. Except for (*), source MEC 2006, Brazil.

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- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Notes: * Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.
Data source year: M: 1998; N: 1999; Q: 2000; P: 2001; R: 2002; R: 2003; T: 2005.

INFORMATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: The governments of the world agreed on...

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 19, 1948.

"We recognize that education, knowledge, information and communication are at the core of human progress, endeavour and well-being... The rapid progress of these technologies opens completely new opportunities to attain higher levels of development."

World Summit on the Information Society, 2003.

HUMAN RIGHTS:
The right to information, research and professional training is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 19 & 27 **CEDAW** - Art. 10 & 14
CERD - Art. 5 **CRC** - Art. 17 & 28
CESCR - Art. 13 & 15

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS:
Information, communication and research are considered in:

World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 6
Millennium Development Goals - Goal 8

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)			PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)			TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)			SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (per million people)			INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)			RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)		
		1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	1990	Progress or regression	1990	1990	Progress or regression	2000	1990	Progress or regression	1996	2003	Progress or regression
—	—	0 ^Q	1	→				2	2										
○	76	0 ^J	24	→	2 ^K	12 ^Q	→	12	90	→									
○	69	0 ^I	26	→	1	9	→	32	71	→									
—	—	96 ^R																	
○	—	0 ^K	11	→	1 ^L	3	→	7	6										
—	—	21 ^J	250	→				254	474	→									
●	53	0 ^G	133	→	7	96	→	93	227	→	350 ^C	720 ^R	→	4.3	5.6	→	0.4	0.4	←
●	51	0 ^I	50	→	3 ^L	66	→	158	192	→	1747 ^L	1537 ^R	←				0.2 ^L	0.3 ^Q	
●	28	6	646	→	150	682	→	456	541	→	3361 ^K	3670 ^D	→	6.9	5.4	←	1.7	1.6 ^Q	←
●	6	1	477	→	65	418	→	418	460	→	2313 ^M	2968 ^D	→	5.9	5.1	←	1.6	2.2	
○	103	0 ^I	49	→		18		87	118	→	1363 ^L	1236 ^D	←				0.2	0.3 ^Q	
—	60	10 ^J	292	→				274	439	→									
○	25	3 ^J	213	→	50 ^J	169	→	191	268	→									
○	159	0 ^L	2	→	0 ^L	12	→	2	6	→	50 ^H	51 ^J		2.1	2.9	→			
●	37	0 ^J	558	→	57 ^J	126	→	281	505	→									
●	37	0 ^I	163	→				154	329	→	2283 ^K	1871 ^D	←				1.0	0.6 ^Q	←
●	6	0	403	→	88	348	→	393	456	→	2470 ^K	3478	→	6.1	5.3	←	1.8	2.3	
○	89	0 ^J	124	→	28 ^J	132 ^Q	→	92	119	→									
○	126	0 ^K	12	→	0 ^J	4	→	3	9	→	174 ^D								
○	—	68 ^J	609	→	324 ^J	529 ^D	→	617	871 ^Q	→									
○	139	1 ^N	22	→	3 ^M	12	→	3	33	→									
○	110	1 ^J	39	→	2 ^F	36	→	27	69	→	74 ^M	120 ^Q	→	4.4	5.6	→	0.3	0.3 ^Q	←
●	—	0 ^K	58	→		45 ^Q		152 ^G	239 ^R	→									
○	88	1 ^J	34	→	6 ^I	45	→	18	77	→									
●	82	0 ^F	120	→	3	105	→	63	230	→		344 ^D		5.6	6.3	→	0.8	1.0	
●	47	10 ^J	153	→	11 ^G	85	→	136	252 ^R	→	283 ^Q	274 ^R	←						
●	41	0 ^H	283	→	11 ^G	59	→	250	357	→	1793 ^K	1263	←	3.9	3.8		0.5	0.5	←
○	132	0 ^K	4	→	0	2		2	6	→	16 ^K	17 ^L							0.2 ^L
○	156	0 ^K	3	→	1 ^O	5	→	1	3 ^R		21 ^D								
○	153	0 ^L	3	→	0 ^J	3	→	0	3 ^R										
○	134	0 ^L	10	→	2 ^J	10	→	3	7	→				4.7	5.1				
●	28	4	626	→	104	700	→	550	634 ^R	→	3059 ^K	3597 ^D	→	6.2	5.4	←	1.7	1.9	
○	89	2 ^L	50	→	4 ^L	97	→	23	148	→	47 ^O	127 ^Q	→						
○	—	0 ^K	2	→	1 ^M	3	→	2	3		55	47 ^K							
○	162	0 ^L	6	→	1 ^M	2		1	1										
○	22	0 ^G	267	→	9	133	→	66	206	→	310 ^D	444 ^R	→	6.0	5.8		0.6	0.6	

- Countries in better situation
 - Countries above average
 - Countries below average
 - Countries in worse situation
 - Countries with insufficient data
- Significant progress
→ Slight progress
|| Stagnant
← Slight regression
← Significant regression

Note: Figure 0 means a value under 0.5
Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003; S: 2004.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)			PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)			TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)			SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (per million people)			INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)			RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)		
			1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2000	2004	Progress or regression	1996	2003	Progress or regression
●	China	81	0 ^H	73	→	0	41	→	6	241	→	445 ^K	663 ^R	→	3.7	4.4	→	0.6	1.3	→
○	Colombia	93	1 ^I	80	→	9 ^G	67	→	69	195	→	83 ^K	109 ^R	→	8.5	8.3	→	0.3	0.2 ^P	←
○	Comoros	129	0 ^M	14	→	0	9	→	8	23 ^R	→			→			→			→
—	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	0 ^K	1 ^O	→			→	1	0	→			→			→			→
○	Congo, Rep.	—	0 ^K	9	→			→	6	4	←	47 ^K	30 ^O	←			→			→
○	Costa Rica	54	0 ^G	235	→	68 ^L	238	→	92	316	→	530 ^C	368 ^N	←	6.9	7.8	→	0.3	0.4 ^O	→
○	Côte d'Ivoire	133	0 ^J	17	→	1 ^K	15	→	6	13	→			→			→			→
○	Croatia	33	1 ^H	293	→	16 ^F	190	→	172	425	→	1036 ^M	1296 ^R	→			→	1.0 ^N	1.1	→
○	Cuba	28	0 ^J	13	→	5 ^L	27	→	32	68	→	1145 ^D	537 ^R	←			→	0.4	0.6	→
○	Cyprus	17	1 ^G	361	→	7	301	→	361	507	→	309 ^M	563 ^R	→			→	0.2 ^M	0.3 ^P	→
○	Czech Republic	26	6 ^H	470	→	12	240	→	157	338	→	1256 ^K	1594	→	7.6	6.0	←	1.0	1.3	→
○	Denmark	6	1	696	→	115	656	→	566	643	→	3181 ^K	5016	→	6.2	5.6	←	1.9	2.5 ^O	→
○	Djibouti	114	0 ^J	12	→	2	27	→	10	14	→			→			→			→
○	Dominica	75	5 ^J	259	→	70 ^N	126	→	161	293	→			→			→			→
○	Dominican Republic	100	0 ^J	91	→	0 ^O		→	48	107	→			→			→			→
○	Ecuador	109	0 ^G	48	→	2 ^F	56	→	48	124	→	85 ^K	50 ^R	←	2.9	3.6	→	0.1	0.1	←
○	Egypt	94	0 ^H	54	→	3 ^I	32	→	29	130	→	469	493 ^F	→	1.0	1.4	→	0.2	0.2 ^O	←
○	El Salvador	115	1 ^K	87	→	16 ^N	44	→	24	131	→	15 ^K	47 ^O	→			→		0.1 ^M	→
○	Equatorial Guinea	154	0 ^L	10	→	2 ^M	14	→	4	20 ^R	→			→			→			→
○	Eritrea	141	0 ^L	12	→	2 ^N	4	→	4 ^G	9	→			→			→			→
○	Estonia	28	1 ^G	497	→	71 ^K	921	→	204	329	→	2140 ^K	2523	→			→	0.5	0.8	→
—	Ethiopia	161	0 ^J	2	→	1 ^M	3	→	2	6 ^R	→			→			→			→
—	Faeroe Island	—		646	→			→		419 ^R	→			→			→			→
○	Fiji	61	0 ^H	73	→	40 ^M	52	→	59	122 ^R	→	50 ^A		→			→			→
○	Finland	1	4	629	→	100	481	→	535	453	←	5153 ^L	7992 ^R	→	7.5	6.6	←	2.5	3.5	→
○	France	26	1	414	→	71	487	→	495	561	→	2649 ^K	3213 ^R	→	6.4	5.6	←	2.3	2.2	←
○	French Polynesia	—	1 ^K	241	→	222 ^N	309	→	195	215 ^R	→			→			→			→
○	Gabon	106	0 ^L	29	→	1 ^H	29	→	22	28	→			→			→			→
○	Gambia	138	0 ^J	33	→	0 ^I	16	→	7	27 ^O	→			→			→			→
○	Georgia	78	0 ^J	39	→	21 ^N	42	→	99	151	→	3336 ^K	2600 ^O	←			→	0.3	0.3 ^O	←
○	Germany	6	1	500	→	82	561	→	401	661	→	2810 ^K	3261	→	6.1	5.5	←	2.2	2.5	→
○	Ghana	142	0 ^F	17	→	0	5	→	3	14	→			→			→			→
○	Greece	6	0 ^J	177	→	17	89	→	389	466	→	1014 ^L	1413	→	4.5	4.2	→	0.5 ^L	0.6 ^P	→
○	Greenland	—	1 ^I	667	→	108 ^J		→	302 ^F	448 ^O	→			→			→			→
○	Grenada	83	3 ^K	76	→	100 ^M	151	→	162	309	→			→			→			→
—	Guam	—	3 ^I	474	→			→	292	506 ^P	→	167 ^F		→			→			→
○	Guatemala	131	0 ^J	61	→	1 ^H	19	→	21	92	→	103 ^C		→			→			→
○	Guinea	140	0 ^I	5	→	1 ^J	5	→	2	3 ^R	→		251 ^O	→			→			→
—	Guinea-Bissau	151	0 ^L	17	→			→	6	7 ^R	→			→			→			→
○	Guyana	108	1 ^K	193	→	27 ^M	36	→	22	137	→			→			→			→
—	Haiti	—	0 ^K	59	→			→	7	17	→			→			→			→
○	Honduras	130	0 ^J	32	→	3 ^L	16	→	18	53	→	75 ^O	78 ^R	→	4.2	4.7	→	0.1 ^O	0.0	←
○	Hong Kong (China)	—	1 ^F	506	→	46	608	→	434	549	→	93 ^J	1564 ^O	→	7.2	8.7	→	0.4 ^M	0.6 ^O	→
○	Hungary	35	0 ^F	267	→	10	146	→	96	354	→	1009 ^K	1472	→	7.3	5.9	←	0.7	0.9	→
○	Iceland	1	5 ^F	772	→	39	472	→	512	652	→	4914 ^L	6807	→			→	1.9 ^L	3.1	→
○	India	128	0 ^G	32	→	0	12	→	6	41	→	157 ^K	119 ^M	←	3.6	3.8	→	0.5	0.8 ^O	→
○	Indonesia	102	0 ^I	67	→	1	14	→	6	46	→	130 ^A		→	2.5	3.1	→			→
○	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	0 ^I	82	→	14 ^I	110	→	40	219 ^R	→	590 ^I	467 ^P	←	1.5	2.2	→			→
○	Iraq	121	0 ^P	1	→		8 ^O	→	38	37	→			→			→			→
○	Ireland	17	1 ^F	265	→	86	494	→	280	496	→	1765 ^K	2674	→	5.7	3.7	←	1.3	1.1 ^O	←
○	Israel	17	1	471	→	64	741	→	349	441	→	1431 ^K	1613 ^L	→	8.2	7.8	→	2.9	4.9	→
○	Italy	40	0	501	→	37	315	→	394	451	→	1332 ^K	1213 ^R	←	4.8	4.0	←	1.0	1.2 ^O	→
○	Jamaica	73	0 ^I	403	→	3 ^I	63	→	44	189	→	8 ^A		→	10.3	11.8	→		0.1 ^O	→
○	Japan	1	0	587	→	60	542	→	441	460	→	4907 ^K	5287 ^R	→	8.4	7.6	←	2.8	3.1	→
○	Jordan	42	0 ^J	110	→	7 ^I	55	→	78	113	→	1927 ^M		→	8.8	8.4	→			→
○	Kazakhstan	54	0 ^I	27	→			→	82	167	→	931 ^K	629 ^O	←			→	0.3 ^L	0.2 ^P	←
○	Kenya	—	0 ^J	45	→	0	13	→	7	9	→			→	2.8	2.9	→			→
○	Kiribati	—	6 ^M	20	→	7 ^M	10	→	17	47 ^O	→			→			→			→

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			1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2000	2004	Progress or regression	1996	2003	Progress or regression
—	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—																		
●	Korea, Rep.	6	0	657	→	37	545	→	25	44 ^R	→	2190 ^K	3187 ^R	→	6.8	6.5	→	2.4	2.6	→
●	Kuwait	92	2 ^J	244	→	4	183	→	156	202	→	109 ^L	69 ^Q	←	1.7	1.5	→	0.2 ^L	0.2 ^Q	←
○	Kyrgyzstan	—	1 ^M	52	→	5 ^O	17	→	71	79 ^R	→	566 ^K	406 ^Q	←				0.2 ^L	0.2 ^Q	→
○	Lao PDR	155	0 ^M	4	→	1 ^K	4	→	2	13	→									
○	Latvia	37	8 ^K	350	→	3 ^I	217	→	232	273	→	1154 ^K	1434	→				0.4	0.4	←
○	Lebanon	56	1 ^J	169	→	13 ^I	113	→	144	178	→									
○	Lesotho	137	0 ^K	24	→				8	21	→		42 ^Q							0.0 ^Q
○	Liberia	145	0 ^L	0 ^P	→				4	2 ^Q	→									
○	Libya	—	1 ^N	36	→		24 ^Q		51	133 ^R	→		361 ^Q							
○	Liechtenstein	—		647	→					588	→									
○	Lithuania	35	3 ^K	282	→	5 ^I	155	→	211	239	→	2091 ^K	2136	→				0.5	0.7	→
●	Luxembourg	49	2 ^G	597	→	373 ^K	653	→	481	800 ^R	→	3781 ^Q	4301 ^R	→				1.7 ^Q	1.8	→
○	Macao (China)	—	0 ^I	328	→	137 ^N	284	→	250	380	→	27 ^N	41 ^Q	→						
○	Macedonia, FYR	62	0 ^J	78	→	36 ^P	69	→	150	308	→	1333 ^J						0.4 ^L	0.3 ^Q	←
○	Madagascar	144	0 ^K	5	→	1 ^L	5	→	3	3 ^R	→	14 ^M	15 ^Q	→				0.2 ^L	0.1 ^Q	←
○	Malawi	148	0 ^L	4	→	1 ^M	2	→	3	7	→									
○	Malaysia	73	0 ^G	397	→	8	197	→	89	179	→	91 ^K	299 ^Q	→	7.5	6.7	←	0.2	0.7 ^Q	→
○	Maldives	113	2 ^K	59	→	12 ^J	112	→	29	98	→									
○	Mali	143	0 ^K	4	→	0 ^J	3	→	1	6	→									
○	Malta	17	2 ^J	750	→	14	314	→	356	522 ^R	→	96 ^C	694 ^R	→				0.1 ^N	0.3	→
○	Marshall Islands	95	0 ^K	33	→	0	82	→	11	76 ^R	→									
○	Mauritania	120	0 ^L	5	→	6 ^K	14	→	3	13 ^R	→									
○	Mauritius	33	2 ^K	146	→	4	279	→	53	287	→	184 ^D	201 ^L	→				0.3 ^L	0.4	→
○	Mexico	85	0 ^F	135	→	8	108	→	64	174	→	211 ^K	268 ^Q	→	3.1	3.0	→	0.3	0.4 ^Q	→
○	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—	3 ^K	109	→				25	109	→									
○	Moldova	63	0 ^I	96	→	2 ^J	27	→	106	205	→	253 ^K	172 ^Q	←					0.8 ^L	
○	Monaco	—			→							676 ^M								
○	Mongolia	70	0 ^J	80	→	3 ^J	124	→	32	56 ^R	→	598 ^K	681 ^Q	→				0.2 ^L	0.3 ^Q	→
○	Morocco	112	0 ^J	117	→	2 ^H	21	→	17	44	→	872 ^M	782 ^Q	←	5.4	5.5	→	0.3 ^M	0.6 ^Q	→
○	Mozambique	150	0 ^K	7	→	1 ^K	6	→	4	4 ^R	→									
○	Myanmar	136	0 ^N	1	→	1 ^N	6	→	2	8	→									
○	Namibia	98	0 ^J	37	→	12 ^K	109	→	38	64	→									
○	Nepal	157	0 ^J	7	→	0 ^H	4	→	3	15	→		59 ^Q							0.7 ^Q
●	Netherlands	6	3	614	→	94	682	→	464	483	→	2285 ^K	2482	→	6.9	6.2	←	2.0	1.8 ^Q	←
—	Netherlands Antilles	—	3 ^K	11 ^N	→				247	461 ^P	→									
—	New Caledonia	—	0 ^J	304	→				169	232	→		503 ^A							
●	New Zealand	6	3 ^G	788	→	95 ^F	474	→	426	443	→	1419 ^D	3405 ^P	→	11.4	9.3	←	1.1 ^L	1.2	→
○	Nicaragua	127	0 ^I	23	→	7 ^H	37	→	12	40	→	203 ^B	44 ^Q	←				0.1 ^L	0.0 ^Q	←
○	Niger	158	0 ^K	2	→	0 ^L	1	→	1	2	→									
○	Nigeria	146	0 ^K	14	→	4 ^H	7	→	3	8	→	15 ^B								
●	Norway	1	7	390	→	145 ^F	573	→	503	669	→	2876 ^D	4587 ^R	→	5.7	5.0	←	1.6 ^L	1.7	→
○	Oman	48	4 ^L	97	→	2	47	→	57	95	→									
○	Pakistan	152	0 ^J	13	→	1	5 ^R	→	8	30	→	65 ^C	86 ^Q	→	6.6	7.1	→	0.2 ^L	0.2 ^Q	→
○	Panama	86	0 ^I	94	→	26 ^M	41	→	90	118	→	115 ^K	97 ^R	←	9.0	9.3	→	0.3	0.3	→
○	Papua New Guinea	122	0 ^K	29	→	40 ^M	64	→	7	12	→									
○	Paraguay	107	0 ^K	25	→	10 ^M	59	→	27	50	→	86 ^P	79 ^Q	←						0.1 ^Q
○	Peru	101	0 ^I	117	→	15 ^J	98	→	26	74	→	229 ^K	226 ^L	←	6.9	6.7	→	0.1 ^L	0.1	→
○	Philippines	117	0 ^I	54	→	3	45	→	10	42	→	156 ^G			4.5	6.4	→			
○	Poland	22	0 ^F	236	→	8	193	→	86	322 ^R	→	1358 ^K	1581	→	4.2	4.3	→	0.7	0.6	←
○	Portugal	6	1 ^F	281	→	26	133	→	240	404	→	1255 ^K	1949 ^R	→	4.4	4.3	→	0.6	0.9 ^Q	→
—	Puerto Rico	—	0 ^I	221	→				278	285	→									
○	Qatar	57	2 ^J	212	→	49 ^I	171	→	197	246	→	591 ^A								
○	Romania	65	0 ^H	208	→	2	113	→	102	202	→	2577 ^D	976	←	3.1	2.6	←	0.7	0.4	←
○	Russian Federation	—	0 ^G	111	→	3	132	→	140	256 ^R	→	3799 ^K	3319	←	3.5	3.3	→	1.0	1.3	→
—	Rwanda	160	0 ^K	4	→				1	3	→	30 ^A								
○	Samoa	50	2 ^L	33	→	1 ^J	7 ^Q	→	25	73 ^R	→									
●	San Marino	—		536	→		857	→		739 ^R	→									

● Countries in better situation
 ○ Countries above average
 ○ Countries below average
 ○ Countries in worse situation
 — Countries with insufficient data

→ Significant progress
 → Slight progress
 → Stagnant
 → Slight regression
 → Significant regression

Note: Figure 0 means a value under 0.5
Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003; S: 2004.

PRESENT SITUATION		INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)			PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)			TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)			SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (per million people)			INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)			RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)			
		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2000	2004	Progress or regression	1996	2003	Progress or regression
○	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116	3 ^M	131	→															
○	Saudi Arabia	67	0 ^J	66	→	23	354	→	19	47 ^R	→									
○	Senegal	124	0 ^J	42	→	2	21	→	6	21 ^R	→				2.4	2.2				
○	Serbia and Montenegro	—	2 ^K	147	→	12 ^H	48	→	160	330	→	1337 ^F	1031 ^O	←	7.2	7.5				
○	Seychelles	—	7 ^K	239	→	120 ^M	179	→	124	253	→		19 ^O							
○	Sierra Leone	—	0 ^K	2	→				3	5										
●	Singapore	—	2 ^F	571	→	66	763 ^R	→	346	440	→	1211 ^B	4745 ^R	→	9.9	9.9		1.4	2.2 ^O	→
○	Slovakia	57	1 ^H	423	→	28 ^I	296	→	135	232	→	1862 ^K	1984	→	5.9	5.0	←	0.9	0.6	←
○	Slovenia	32	4 ^H	476	→	32 ^F	353	→	211	407 ^R	→	2282 ^K	2543	→				1.4	1.5 ^O	
○	Solomon Islands	—	0 ^J	6	→	23 ^L	43	→	15	14 ^R										
○	Somalia	—	0 ^K	25	→	2 ^O	6	→	2	25	→									
○	South Africa	96	0 ^F	78	→	7	82	→	94	105 ^R	→	337 ^F	307 ^P	←	7.9	7.3	←		0.8 ^P	
○	Spain	6	0	336	→	28	257	→	325	416	→	1290 ^K	2195 ^R	→	4.0	3.5	←	0.8	1.1	
○	Sri Lanka	—	0 ^I	14	→	0	27	→	7	51	→	176 ^A	181 ^K		5.0	5.9	→		0.2 ^K	
○	St. Kitts and Nevis	66	21 ^K	214 ^O	→	125 ^M	234	→	231	532	→									
○	St. Lucia	57	3 ^J	336	→	0 ^H	159	→	127	321 ^O	→	493 ^M	483 ^N	←						
○	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	63	1 ^J	68	→	87 ^M	135	→	120	161	→	172 ^P	179 ^O	→					0.2 ^O	
○	Sudan	110	0 ^L	32	→	0 ^I	17	→	2	29	→	227 ^N	263	→				0.5 ^N	0.3	←
○	Suriname	91	1 ^J	67	→	46 ^P		→	91	182	→									
○	Swaziland	118	0 ^J	32	→	11 ^O	32	→	18	42 ^R	→									
●	Sweden	1	6	756	→	105	763	→	683	708	→	4163 ^L	5416	→	7.5	6.7	←	3.5 ^L	4.0	
○	Switzerland	6	6	474	→	89	826	→	587	710	→	2452 ^D	3601 ^O	→	7.8	7.0	←	2.7	2.6 ^O	←
○	Syrian Arab Republic	97	0 ^L	43	→	6 ^I	32	→	39	143	→	29 ^L								
○	Tajikistan	103	0 ^N	1					45	39 ^R	←	713 ^G	660 ^H	←						
○	Tanzania	125	0 ^K	9	→	2 ^L	7	→	3	4 ^R										
○	Thailand	45	0 ^G	109	→	4	58	→	24	107	→	102 ^K	286 ^P	→	3.5	3.6		0.1	0.2 ^O	
○	Togo	135	0 ^K	37	→	3 ^J	29	→	3	10 ^R	→	82 ^D	102 ^I	→						
○	Tonga	79	1 ^J	29	→	6 ^L	49	→	46	111 ^O	→	45454 ^J								
○	Trinidad and Tobago	45	2 ^J	123	→	4 ^F	105	→	136	247	→	300 ^L	399 ^R	→				0.1	0.1	
○	Tunisia	70	0 ^I	84	→	3	48	→	37	121	→	703 ^M	1013 ^O	→	4.8	5.3	→	0.3	0.6 ^O	
○	Turkey	83	0 ^H	142	→	5	52	→	122	267	→	284 ^K	341 ^O	→	7.9	6.9	←	0.5	0.7 ^O	
—	Turkmenistan	—	0 ^N	8	→				60	80 ^R	→									
○	Uganda	146	0 ^J	7	→	0 ^J	4	→	2	3		18 ^K	24 ^P					0.5	0.8 ^P	
○	Ukraine	42	0 ^H	79	→	2	28	→	135	256	→	2887 ^K	1774 ^O	←	7.9	6.1	←	1.4 ^L	1.2 ^O	←
○	United Arab Emirates	42	1 ^J	321	→	30 ^G	116	→	224	275	→									
○	United Kingdom	17	1	628	→	108	599	→	441	563	→	2501 ^K	2706 ^M	→	8.1	6.9	←	1.9	1.9	
○	United States of America	22	8	630	→	217	749	→	545	606	→	3882 ^C	4484 ^N	→	9.5	9.0	←	2.5	2.6	
○	Uruguay	52	1 ^I	198	→	22 ^J	125	→	134	291	→	218 ^N	366 ^O	→	6.0	6.7	→	0.3	0.3 ^I	←
—	Uzbekistan	—	0 ^J	34	→				68	66 ^R		1754 ^G								
○	Vanuatu	99	1 ^K	36	→	7 ^L	14	→	17	33	→									
○	Venezuela	72	0 ^G	89	→	10	82	→	75	128	→	185 ^N	236 ^R	→	3.7	4.5	→	0.4	0.3	←
○	Viet Nam	87	0 ^K	71	→	0 ^G	13	→	1	70	→	274 ^J								
—	Virgin Islands (USA)	—	9 ^I	272 ^O	→				453	627	→									
○	West Bank and Gaza	67	12 ^O	46	→	39 ^O	48	→	34 ^G	102	→									
○	Yemen	149	0 ^K	9	→	1 ^K	15	→	10	39	→									
○	Zambia	123	0 ^I	20	→	6 ^M	10	→	8	8		45 ^K	51 ^N						0.0 ^L	
○	Zimbabwe	119	0 ^I	63	→	0	77	→	12	25	→				4.1	16.0	→			

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Source:
World Development Indicators 2006,
World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

- Countries in better situation
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PUBLIC EXPENDITURE: The governments of the world agreed on...

"Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality."

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 22, 1948.

"We call on the industrialized countries... to implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction."

Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 15, 2000.

HUMAN RIGHTS:

The right to health services, education and social security is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 22, 25 & 26

CERD - Art. 6

CESCR - Art. 9, 12 & 13

CEDAW - Art. 11 & 14

CRC - Art. 24, 26 & 28

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Public expenditure and debt are considered in:

Millennium Development Goals

World Summit for Social Development

Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform

for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			PUBLIC EDUCATION EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			TOTAL DEBT SERVICE (% OF GNI)			MILITARY EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			
		1998 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	
●	Albania	76	2.5	2.7			2.8 ^D		0.3 ^F	1.0		5.9	1.2	→
●	Algeria	69	3.0	3.3		5.1		14.7	7.1	→	1.5	3.3	←	
—	Andorra	—	7.2	4.9	←									
○	Angola	—	1.2	2.4	→		3.0 ^P	4.0	11.9	←	16.9	9.1	→	
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—	3.3	3.2			3.8 ^D							
●	Argentina	53	4.6	4.3		3.3	4.0 ^D		4.6	8.6	←	1.2	1.0	
●	Armenia	51	1.4	1.2			3.2 ^D		0.2 ^H	3.4	←	2.1 ^G	2.9	
—	Aruba	—				4.9	4.6							
●	Australia	28	5.8	6.4	→	4.9	4.9 ^D					2.1	1.8	
●	Austria	6	5.1	5.1		5.5	5.7 ^D					1.0	0.7	
●	Azerbaijan	103	0.9	0.9		7.7	3.3	←	0.0 ^H	3.0	←	3.3 ^G	1.8	→
●	Bahamas	60	3.1	3.0		3.7	3.7 ^D							
●	Bahrain	25	3.5	2.8	←	3.9						5.1	4.3	
●	Bangladesh	159	1.0	1.1		1.5	2.2		2.4	1.1		1.1	1.2	
●	Barbados	37	3.9	4.8	→	7.8	7.3		8.3	3.3	→			
●	Belarus	37	4.9	4.9		5.7	5.8		0.1 ^H	1.4	←	1.5 ^G	1.2	
●	Belgium	6	5.9	6.3		5.0	6.3 ^D	→				2.4	1.4	
●	Belize	89	2.3	2.2		4.6	5.1		4.5	31.3	←	1.2	1.4 ^L	
●	Benin	126	2.2	1.9			3.3 ^D		2.1	1.6		1.8		
—	Bermuda	—				3.3								
●	Bhutan	139	3.7	2.6	←		5.2 ^P		2.0	1.8				
●	Bolivia	110	3.1	4.3	→	2.4	6.4	→	8.3	6.1	→	2.4	1.6	
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	1.8	4.8	→				3.4 ^N	2.0	→	4.3 ^Q	2.4	→
●	Botswana	88	2.6	3.3	→	6.2	2.2 ^P	←	2.9	0.6	→	4.1	3.6	
●	Brazil	82	3.3	3.4			4.2 ^P		1.8	9.2	←	2.4	1.4	
—	Brunei Darussalam	47	3.0	2.8		3.5								
●	Bulgaria	41	3.5	4.1	→	5.4	3.6 ^D	←	2.8 ^F	10.4	←	3.5	2.4	
●	Burkina Faso	132	2.0	2.6	→	2.6			1.1	1.2		2.7	1.4	
○	Burundi	156	0.6	0.7		3.5	5.2	→	3.8	13.7	←	3.5	5.8	←
●	Cambodia	153	1.1	2.1	→		2.0		2.7	0.6	→	3.1	2.2	
●	Cameroon	134	0.7	1.2		3.2	3.8		4.9	4.6		1.5	1.5	
●	Canada	28	6.5	6.9		6.5	5.2 ^P	←				2.0	1.2	
●	Cape Verde	89	3.8	3.4		3.6	7.3	→	1.7	2.7		1.7 ^C	0.7	
●	Central African Republic	—	1.2	1.5		2.2			2.0	1.4		1.5 ^F	1.1 ^R	

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Note: Data source year: D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			PUBLIC EDUCATION EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			TOTAL DEBT SERVICE (% OF GNI)			MILITARY EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)		
			1998 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Chad	162	1.7	2.6	→	1.6	2.0 ^N		0.7	1.7		2.7 ^H	1.1	→
●	Chile	22	2.6	3.0		2.5	4.1 ^R	→	9.7	10.4		4.3	3.9	
●	China	81	2.0	2.0		2.2	2.1 ^N		2.0	1.2		2.7	1.9	
●	Colombia	93	6.7	6.4		2.4	4.9	→	10.2	8.2	→	2.2	4.3	←
●	Comoros	129	2.2	1.5	←		3.9 ^O		0.4	0.9			20.4 ^R	
●	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	0.2	0.7					4.1	1.9	→	1.5 ^K	1.0 ^O	→
●	Congo, Rep.	—	1.7	1.3		7.4	3.2 ^O	←	22.9	10.7	→		1.4 ^R	
●	Costa Rica	54	4.8	5.8	→	3.4	4.9	→	9.2	3.8	→			
●	Côte d'Ivoire	133	1.0	1.0			4.6 ^P		13.7	3.7	→	1.3	1.6 ^R	
●	Croatia	33	6.7	6.5		5.5	4.5 ^O		3.0 ^H	15.8	←	7.4 ^G	1.7	→
●	Cuba	28	5.7	6.3	→	9.7	9.0 ^P							
●	Cyprus	17	2.3	3.1	→	3.7	6.1 ^O	→				5.0	1.5	→
●	Czech Republic	26	6.1	6.8	→		4.4 ^O		4.1 ^H	8.2	←	2.4 ^H	1.8	
●	Denmark	6	6.9	7.5	→	6.9	8.5 ^O	→				2.0	1.5	
●	Djibouti	114	2.5	3.8	→	3.5	6.1	→	2.3 ^J	2.5		6.3	4.3 ^O	→
●	Dominica	75	4.3	4.5			5.0 ^N		3.6	7.3	←			
●	Dominican Republic	100	1.8	2.3			1.1		3.4	4.4				
○	Ecuador	109	1.7	2.0		3.4	1.0 ^P	←	11.9	13.0		2.0	1.9	
●	Egypt	94	2.1 ^J	2.2		3.9			7.3	2.9	→	4.5	2.8	→
●	El Salvador	115	3.5	3.7		1.8	2.8		4.4	4.0		2.3	0.7	→
●	Equatorial Guinea	154	2.6	1.0	←		0.6 ^R		4.1	1.0	→		2.1 ^J	
●	Eritrea	141	2.6	2.0	←		3.8		0.0 ^I	2.1	←	22.0 ^H	19.4 ^R	→
●	Estonia	28	4.8	4.1	←		5.7 ^O		0.1 ^G	13.8	←	0.5 ^G	1.8	←
●	Ethiopia	161	2.5	3.4	→	3.4	6.1	→	2.8	1.2	→	9.1	4.3	→
●	Fiji	61	2.6	2.3		5.1	6.4		8.2	0.6	→	2.3	1.2	
●	Finland	1	5.3	5.7		6.5	6.4 ^O					1.6	1.2	
●	France	26	7.1	7.7	→	5.6	5.6 ^O					3.4	2.5	
●	Gabon	106	3.4	2.9			3.9 ^O		3.3	3.6			0.3 ^M	
●	Gambia	138	1.7	3.2	→	3.8	1.9	←	12.9	8.6	→	1.1	0.4	
●	Georgia	78	1.2	1.0			2.9		0.0 ^G	4.1	←	2.2 ^K	1.4	→
●	Germany	6	8.3	8.7			4.8 ^O					2.5	1.4	
●	Ghana	142	1.9	1.4			4.1 ^N		6.3	2.7	→	0.5	0.8	
●	Greece	6	4.9	5.1		2.3	4.0 ^O	→				4.6	4.1 ^R	
●	Grenada	83	3.2	4.9	→	4.9	5.2 ^R		1.6	7.6	←			
●	Guatemala	131	2.1	2.1		1.3			3.1	2.0		1.5	0.4	
●	Guinea	140	0.6	0.9		2.0	1.8 ^O		6.3	4.5	→	2.4 ^F	2.9 ^O	
○	Guinea-Bissau	151	2.2	2.6			2.1 ^N		3.6	16.7	←	2.1 ^D	3.1 ^P	
●	Guyana	108	4.0	4.0		2.2	5.5	→	107.4	6.5	→	0.9	0.8 ^K	
●	Haiti	—	2.5	2.9		1.4			1.3	3.7	←			
●	Honduras	130	2.9	4.0	→	3.8			13.7	4.7	→	0.6 ^O	0.7	
—	Hong Kong (China)	—				2.8	4.7	→						
●	Hungary	35	5.5	6.1	→	6.1	5.5 ^O		13.4	18.1	←	2.8	1.7	
●	Iceland	1	7.1	8.8	→		7.6 ^O					0.0	0.0	
●	India	128	1.3	1.2		3.7	4.1 ^O		2.6	2.8		2.7	2.3	
●	Indonesia	102	0.7	1.1		1.0	1.1 ^O		9.1	8.2		1.8	1.4	
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	2.6	3.1		4.1	4.8		0.5	1.2		2.8	3.4	
—	Iraq	121	1.2	1.4										
●	Ireland	17	4.6	5.8	→	5.0	4.3 ^O					1.2	0.6	
●	Israel	17	5.9	6.1		6.5	7.5 ^O					12.4	9.3	→
●	Italy	40	5.5	6.3	→	3.0	4.7 ^O	→				2.1	1.9	
●	Jamaica	73	3.3	2.7	←	4.5	5.3 ^R		15.9	9.9	→			

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			1998 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Japan	1	5.8	6.4	→		3.6 ^D					0.9	1.0	
●	Jordan	42	4.9	4.2	←	8.0	5.0 ^M	←	16.5	6.0	→	9.9	7.6	→
○	Kazakhstan	54	2.1	2.0		3.9	2.4	←	0.0 ^G	23.1	←	1.0 ^H	1.0	
●	Kenya	—	2.2	1.7	←	6.7	7.0		9.6	2.3	→	2.9	1.6	
●	Kiribati	—	8.2	12.1	→		16.0 ^D							
—	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	3.8	5.3	→									
●	Korea, Rep.	6	2.0	2.8	→	3.8	4.2 ^D					3.6	2.5	
●	Kuwait	92	3.4	2.7	←	4.8	8.2	→				48.7	7.5	→
●	Kyrgyzstan	—	2.8 ^J	2.2		6.0	4.6	←	0.0 ^G	7.6	←	0.7 ^G	2.9	←
●	Lao PDR	155	1.2	1.2			2.3		1.1	2.2		2.9 ^K	2.1 ^P	→
●	Latvia	37	3.8	3.3		4.1	5.8 ^D	→	0.0 ^G	10.0	←	0.8 ^H	1.7	
○	Lebanon	56	3.4	3.0			2.6		2.9	21.0	←	7.6	3.8	→
●	Lesotho	137	4.7	4.1	←	6.2	9.0 ^D	→	2.3	3.2		4.5	2.6	→
●	Liberia	145	4.3	2.7	←				1.0 ^D	0.2		7.4	7.5 ^Q	
●	Libya	—	1.8	2.6	→		2.7 ^N					4.1 ^L	1.9	→
●	Lithuania	35	4.7	5.0		5.5	5.9 ^D		0.0 ^G	8.2	←	0.7 ^H	1.7	
●	Luxembourg	49	5.4	6.2	→	3.0	3.6 ^M					0.9	0.9	
—	Macao (China)	—				2.0	2.9 ^B							
●	Macedonia, FYR	62	6.8	6.0	←		3.5 ^D		0.6 ^H	4.6	←	3.0 ^K	2.5	
●	Madagascar	144	1.2	1.7		2.5	3.3		7.5	1.9	→	6.2	7.2 ^P	
●	Malawi	148	3.2	3.3		3.2	6.0 ^B	→	7.2	3.3	→	1.3	0.8 ^P	
●	Malaysia	73	1.6	2.2	→	5.1	8.1 ^Q	→	10.3	8.2	→	2.6	2.3	
●	Maldives	113	4.7	5.5	→	7.0	8.1		4.5	4.5				
●	Mali	143	1.9	2.8	→		3.0 ^M		2.8	2.2		2.2	1.9	
●	Malta	17	5.8	7.4	→	4.4	4.6 ^D					0.9	0.8	
●	Marshall Islands	95	18.1	12.7	←		14.8							
●	Mauritania	120	1.7	3.2	→	4.6	3.4		13.5	3.5	→	3.9	1.2	→
●	Mauritius	33	2.0	2.2		3.8	4.7		6.6	4.3	→	0.4	0.2	
●	Mexico	85	2.5	2.9		3.8	5.3 ^D	→	4.5	7.7	←	0.4	0.4	
●	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—	6.2	5.6	←		7.3 ^D							
○	Moldova	63	4.4	3.9		5.3	4.9 ^B		0.2 ^G	8.5	←	0.5 ^H	0.4	
—	Monaco	—	6.7	7.4	→									
●	Mongolia	70	3.9	4.3		11.5	7.5	←	5.1 ^H	2.6	→	6.1	2.1 ^Q	→
●	Morocco	112	1.3	1.7		5.0	6.3	→	7.2	6.1		4.1	4.5	
●	Mozambique	150	2.3	2.9	→		2.4 ^N		3.4	1.4	→	3.4	1.2	→
○	Myanmar	136	0.2	0.5			1.3 ^P					3.4	1.9 ^P	→
●	Namibia	98	4.9	4.7		7.9	7.2 ^B					5.8 ^F	2.4	→
●	Nepal	157	1.6	1.5		2.0	3.4 ^B	→	1.9	1.7		1.1	1.7	
●	Netherlands	6	5.3	6.1	→	5.6	5.1 ^D					2.5	1.6	
●	New Zealand	6	6.0	6.3		6.1	6.7 ^B					1.8	1.0	
●	Nicaragua	127	3.6	3.7		3.4	3.1 ^B		1.6	2.9		102.9	0.7	→
●	Niger	158	1.6	2.5	→	3.3	2.3		4.1	1.7	→	1.1 ^I	0.9 ^Q	
●	Nigeria	146	1.4	1.3		0.9			13.0	4.0	→	0.9	0.8	
●	Norway	1	7.6	8.6	→	7.1	7.6 ^D					2.9	1.9	
●	Oman	48	3.0	2.7		3.4	4.6 ^D	→	6.5	4.2	→	16.5	10.4	→
○	Pakistan	152	1.1	0.7		2.6	2.0		4.6	4.6		6.9	4.1	→
●	Palau	77	7.8	8.4	→		10.1 ^D							
●	Panama	86	4.7	5.0		4.6	3.9		6.8	11.0	←	1.4	1.0 ^N	
●	Papua New Guinea	122	3.2	3.0					17.9	13.6	→	2.1	0.6 ^R	→
●	Paraguay	107	3.0	2.3	←	1.9	4.4 ^D	→	6.0	6.8		1.0	0.7	
●	Peru	101	2.4	2.1		2.8	3.0 ^D		1.9	4.2	←	0.1	1.2	

- Countries in better situation
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- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

Note: Data source year: D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			PUBLIC EDUCATION EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			TOTAL DEBT SERVICE (% OF GNI)			MILITARY EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)		
			1998 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Philippines	117	1.5	1.4		3.0	3.2 ^D		8.1	12.8	←	1.4	0.9	
●	Poland	22	3.9	4.5	→	5.2	5.6 ^D		1.7	14.5	←	2.7	1.9	
●	Portugal	6	5.6	6.7	→	4.6	5.8 ^D	→				2.6	2.1	
—	Qatar	57	3.1	2.0	←	3.5								
●	Romania	65	2.8	3.8	→	3.5	3.5 ^D		0.0	6.6	←	4.6	2.2	→
●	Russian Federation	—	3.7	3.3		3.6	3.8 ^D		0.3 ^G	3.7	←	19.1	3.9	→
●	Rwanda	160	2.7	1.6	←		2.8 ^D		0.8	1.3		3.7	2.1	→
●	Samoa	50	4.3	4.3			4.3 ^D		3.3	5.6	←			
—	San Marino	—	5.4	5.9										
●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116	7.2	7.2					5.3	16.2	←			
●	Saudi Arabia	67	4.6	2.5	←	5.8						11.4	7.7	→
●	Senegal	124	1.5	2.1	→	3.9	4.0		5.9	4.4	→	2.0	1.4	
●	Serbia and Montenegro	—	6.4	7.2	→		3.3 ^D		0.3 ^L	4.1	←	5.3 ^K	3.4	→
●	Seychelles	—	4.4	4.3		6.5	5.4		6.1	7.7	←	4.0	1.9	→
●	Sierra Leone	—	1.0	2.0	→		3.7 ^D		3.7	2.5		1.4	1.6	
○	Singapore	—	1.7	1.6		3.1	3.7 ^P					4.9	4.7	
○	Slovakia	57	5.2	5.2		5.6	4.3 ^D	←	4.8 ^H	12.4	←	2.0 ^H	1.7	
●	Slovenia	32	5.9	6.7	→	4.8	6.0 ^D	→				2.2 ^G	1.6	
●	Solomon Islands	—	4.2	4.5		3.8	3.3 ^N		5.6	6.5				
—	Somalia	—	1.2	1.2 ^P					1.3			0.8 ^D		
●	South Africa	96	3.7	3.2		5.9	5.4		2.2 ^J	1.8		3.8	1.5	→
●	Spain	6	5.4	5.5		4.3	4.5 ^D					1.7	1.0	
○	Sri Lanka	—	1.7	1.6		3.2			4.9	4.0		2.1	2.8	
○	St. Kitts and Nevis	66	3.3	3.4		2.7	4.4	→	1.9	13.4	←			
●	St. Lucia	57	3.0	3.4			5.0		1.7	3.9	←			
●	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	63	3.4	4.1	→	5.9	11.1	→	2.3	5.5	←			
●	Sudan	110	1.3	1.9	→	6.0			0.4	1.6		3.3	2.2 ^R	
—	Suriname	91	3.9	3.6										
●	Swaziland	118	4.0	3.3	←	5.8	6.2		4.9	1.8	→	1.9	1.7 ^P	
●	Sweden	1	7.1	8.0	→	7.1	7.7 ^D					2.6	1.7	
●	Switzerland	6	5.7	6.7	→	5.3	5.8 ^D					1.8	1.0	
●	Syrian Arab Republic	97	2.1	2.5		3.9			9.9	1.4	→	6.9	7.0 ^R	
●	Tajikistan	103	1.1	0.9			2.8		0.0 ^G	5.1	←	0.4 ^G	2.2	←
●	Tanzania	125	1.4	2.4	→	2.8	2.2 ^N		4.4	1.1	→	2.0 ^F	3.0	
●	Thailand	45	2.0	2.0		3.1	4.2		6.3	7.8	←	2.6	1.2	→
—	Timor-Leste	—	6.3 ^D	7.3	→									
●	Togo	135	1.9	1.4	←		2.6 ^D		5.4	1.0	→	3.1	1.5	→
●	Tonga	79	5.1	5.5			4.8		1.6	1.4				
●	Trinidad and Tobago	45	2.0	1.5	←	4.1	4.3 ^D		9.6	3.4	→			
●	Tunisia	70	2.8 ^E	2.8		6.0	6.4 ^D		12.0	7.5	→	2.0	1.5	
●	Turkey	83	3.5	5.4	→	2.4	3.6 ^D	→	4.9	11.3	←	3.5	3.9	
●	Turkmenistan	—	3.1	2.6	←	3.9						1.8 ^I	2.9 ^N	←
●	Uganda	146	1.5	2.2	→	1.5	5.2	→	3.4	1.5	→	3.5	2.5	
●	Ukraine	42	3.5	3.8		6.2	4.6	←	0.0 ^G	6.7	←	0.5 ^H	2.6	←
●	United Arab Emirates	42	3.2	2.5	←	1.9	1.6 ^D					6.2	2.8 ^R	→
●	United Kingdom	17	5.5	6.9	→	4.8	5.3 ^D					4.0	2.6	→
●	United States of America	22	5.8	6.8	→	5.1	5.7 ^D					5.3	4.0	
●	Uruguay	52	4.0	2.7	←	2.5	2.6 ^D		11.0	12.2		2.5	1.4	
●	Uzbekistan	—	3.2	2.4	←	9.4			0.0 ^G	7.1	←	1.5 ^I	0.5 ^R	→
●	Vanuatu	99	2.6	2.9		4.6	9.6 ^B	→	1.5	1.1				
●	Venezuela	72	3.1	2.0	←	4.5			10.8	6.2	→	1.9 ^F	1.2	

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PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			PUBLIC EDUCATION EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)			TOTAL DEBT SERVICE (% OF GNI)			MILITARY EXPENDITURE (% OF GDP)		
			1998 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Viet Nam	87	1.6	1.5		1.8	4.4 ^D	→	2.9	1.8		7.9	2.6 ^I	→
●	Yemen	149	2.0	2.2			9.6 ^P		3.5	1.9	→	7.7	6.6	
●	Zambia	123	4.1	2.8	←	2.8	2.8		6.7	8.3	←	3.7	0.6 ^O	→
●	Zimbabwe	119	6.4	2.8	←	7.7	4.7 ^O	←	5.5	2.0	→	4.4	3.4	

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Source:
 World Development Indicators 2006 website
 (www.worldbank.org).

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TRENDS IN OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (% OF GNI)^A

Net Official Development Assistance from DAC Countries to Developing Countries and Multilateral Organizations

	1986-1987 average	1991-1992 average ^B	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 preliminary
Australia	0.40	0.37	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25
Austria	0.19	0.14	0.22	0.24	0.23	0.29	0.26	0.20	0.24	0.52
Belgium	0.48	0.40	0.35	0.30	0.36	0.37	0.43	0.60	0.41	0.53
Canada	0.48	0.46	0.30	0.28	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.24	0.26	0.34
Denmark	0.88	0.99	0.99	1.01	1.06	1.03	0.96	0.84	0.84	0.81
Finland	0.48	0.72	0.31	0.33	0.31	0.32	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.47
France	0.58	0.62	0.40	0.39	0.32	0.32	0.38	0.41	0.42	0.47
Germany	0.41	0.38	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.35
Greece			0.15	0.15	0.20	0.17	0.21	0.21	0.23	0.24
Ireland	0.23	0.18	0.30	0.31	0.29	0.33	0.40	0.39	0.39	0.41
Italy	0.37	0.32	0.20	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.17	0.15	0.29
Japan	0.30	0.31	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.23	0.23	0.20	0.19	0.28
Luxembourg	0.17	0.29	0.65	0.66	0.71	0.76	0.77	0.81	0.85	0.87
Netherlands	0.99	0.87	0.80	0.79	0.84	0.82	0.81	0.80	0.74	0.82
New Zealand	0.28	0.25	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.27
Norway	1.13	1.15	0.89	0.88	0.76	0.80	0.89	0.92	0.87	0.93
Portugal	0.10	0.32	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.22	0.63	0.21
Spain	0.08	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.26	0.29
Sweden	0.87	0.96	0.72	0.70	0.80	0.77	0.83	0.79	0.77	0.92
Switzerland	0.30	0.41	0.32	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.39	0.37	0.44
United Kingdom	0.29	0.32	0.27	0.24	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.48
United States	0.21	0.20	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.16	0.22

Notes:

- A:** Net disbursements at current prices and exchange rates.
B: Including debt forgiveness of non-ODA claims in 1991 and 1992, except for total DAC.

Source:

OECD, Website Database 2006
 (http://www.oecd.org).

ENVIRONMENT: The governments of the world agreed on...

"... (We) recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for him(her)self and his(her) family, including adequate food, clothing and housing..."

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 11, 1966.

"We resolve... to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people... who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water... By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers as proposed in the 'Cities Without Slums' initiative."

Millennium Declaration, Paragraph 19, 2000.

HUMAN RIGHTS:

The right to an adequate environment is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25 CEDAW - Art. 14
CESCR - Art. 11

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Environment is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 7
World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 12
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION			POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES			PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION			POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES			
			1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression				1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression	
○	Afghanistan	—		8		13		●	Cook Islands	105	95	100	→	94	95	▬		
●	Albania	76		89		97	97	●	Costa Rica	54		92			97			
●	Algeria	69	88	92	→	95	87	←	●	Côte d'Ivoire	133	31	40	→	69	84	→	
●	Andorra	—	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	●	Cuba	28	98	98	▬		91		
○	Angola	—	30	30	▬	32	50	→	●	Cyprus	17	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—		95			91		●	Denmark	6				100	100	▬	
—	Argentina	53		82			94		○	Djibouti	114	48	50	▬	78	80	▬	
—	Armenia	51		84			92		●	Dominica	75		83			97		
●	Aruba	—				100	100	▬	○	Dominican Republic	100	48	57	→	86	93	→	
●	Australia	28	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	○	Ecuador	109	56	72	→	69	86	→	
●	Austria	6	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	○	Egypt	94	54	68	→	94	98	→	
○	Azerbaijan	103		55		66	77	→	○	El Salvador	115	51	63	→	67	82	→	
●	Bahamas	60	100	100	▬		97		○	Equatorial Guinea	154		53			44		
○	Bangladesh	159	23	48	→	71	75	→	○	Eritrea	141	8	9	▬	40	57	→	
●	Barbados	37	100	99	▬	100	100	▬	○	Ethiopia	161	4	6	▬	25	22	←	
●	Belarus	37				100	100	▬	●	Fiji	61	98	98	▬				
○	Belize	89		47			91		●	Finland	1	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	
○	Benin	126	11	32	→	60	68	→	●	French Polynesia	—	98	98	▬	100	100	▬	
○	Bhutan	139		70			62		○	Gabon	106		36			87		
○	Bolivia	110	33	45	→	72	85	→	○	Gambia	138		53			82		
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—		93			98	98	▬	○	Georgia	78		83			76	
○	Botswana	88	38	41	→	93	95	▬	●	Germany	6				100	100	▬	
○	Brazil	82	70	75	→	83	89	→	●	Ghana	142	43	58	→	54	79	→	
●	British Virgin Islands	—	100	100	▬		98	98	▬	●	Grenada	83	97	97	▬		95	
●	Bulgaria	41	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	○	Guadeloupe	—		64			98		
○	Burkina Faso	132	13	12	▬	39	51	→	○	Guam	—	99	99	▬	100	100	▬	
○	Burundi	156	44	36	←	69	79	→	○	Guatemala	131	50	61	→	77	95	→	
○	Cambodia	153		16			34		○	Guinea	140	17	13	←	42	51	→	
●	Cameroon	134	21	48	→	50	63	→	○	Guinea-Bissau	151		34			59		
●	Canada	28	100	100	▬	100	100	▬	○	Guyana	108		70			83		
○	Cape Verde	89		42			80		○	Haiti	—	15	34	→	53	71	→	
○	Central African Republic	—	23	27	→	48	75	→	○	Honduras	130	49	68	→	83	90	→	
○	Chad	162	6	8	▬	20	34	→	●	Hungary	35		95			99	99	▬
○	Chile	22	85	92	→	90	95	→	○	Iceland	1				100	100	▬	
○	China	81	23	44	→	70	77	→	○	India	128	12	30	→	68	86	→	
○	Colombia	93	82	86	→	92	92	▬	○	Indonesia	102	46	52	→	71	78	→	
○	Comoros	129	23	23	▬	89	94	→	○	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	83	84	▬	91	93	▬	
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	18	29	→	43	46	→	○	Iraq	121	81	80	▬	83	81	▬	
○	Congo, Rep.	—		9			46		○	Israel	17				100	100	▬	

●	Countries in better situation	→	Significant progress
○	Countries above average	→	Slight progress
○	Countries below average	▬	Stagnant
○	Countries in worse situation	▬	Slight regression
—	Countries with insufficient data	←	Significant regression

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION			POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES			PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION			POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES		
			1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression				1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2002 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Jamaica	73	75	80	→	92	93		●	Qatar	57	100	100		100	100	
●	Japan	1	100	100		100	100		○	Romania	65		51				57
●	Jordan	42		93		98	91	←	●	Russian Federation	—	87	87		94	96	
●	Kazakhstan	54	72	72		86	86		○	Rwanda	160	37	41	→	58	73	→
○	Kenya	—	42	48	→	45	62	→	●	Samoa	50	98	100		91	88	←
○	Kiribati	—	25	39	→	48	64	→	○	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116		24				79
○	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—		59		100	100		—	Saudi Arabia	67						90
○	Korea, Rep.	6						92	○	Senegal	124	35	52	→	66	72	→
○	Kyrgyzstan	—		60				76	○	Serbia and Montenegro	—	87	87		93	93	
○	Lao PDR	155		24				43	○	Seychelles	—						87
●	Lebanon	56		98		100	100		○	Sierra Leone	—		39				57
○	Lesotho	137	37	37				76	●	Slovakia	57	100	100		100	100	
○	Liberia	145	38	26	←	56	62	→	○	Solomon Islands	—		31				70
○	Libya	—	97	97		71	72		○	Somalia	—		25				29
○	Luxembourg	49				100	100		○	South Africa	96	63	67	→	83	87	→
○	Madagascar	144	12	33	→	40	45	→	○	Sri Lanka	—	70	91	→	68	78	→
○	Malawi	148	36	46	→	41	67	→	●	St. Kitts and Nevis	66	96	96		99	99	
●	Malaysia	73		96				95	●	St. Lucia	57		89		98	98	
○	Maldives	113		58		99	84	←	○	Sudan	110	33	34		64	69	→
○	Mali	143	36	45	→	34	48	→	●	Suriname	91		93				92
●	Malta	17				100	100		○	Swaziland	118		52				52
○	Marshall Islands	95	75	82	→	96	85	←	●	Sweden	1	100	100		100	100	
○	Mauritania	120	28	42	→	41	56	→	●	Switzerland	6	100	100		100	100	
●	Mauritius	33	99	99		100	100		○	Syrian Arab Republic	97	76	77		79	79	
○	Mexico	85	66	77	→	80	91	→	○	Tajikistan	103		53				58
○	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—	30	28		87	94	→	○	Tanzania	125	47	46		38	73	→
○	Moldova	63		68				92	●	Thailand	45	80	99	→	81	85	→
○	Mongolia	70		59		62	62		○	Timor-Leste	—		33				52
○	Morocco	112	57	61	→	75	80	→	○	Togo	135	37	34	←	49	51	
○	Mozambique	150		27				42	○	Tonga	79	97	97		100	100	
○	Myanmar	136	21	73	→	48	80	→	●	Trinidad and Tobago	45	100	100		92	91	
○	Namibia	98	24	30	→	58	80	→	○	Tunisia	70	75	80	→	77	82	→
○	Nepal	157	12	27	→	69	84	→	○	Turkey	83	84	83		81	93	→
●	Netherlands	6	100	100		100	100		○	Turkmenistan	—		62				71
—	New Zealand	6						97	●	Turks and Caicos Islands	—		96				100
○	Nicaragua	127	47	66	→	69	81	→	○	Tuvalu	—	78	88	→	91	93	
○	Niger	158	7	12	→	40	46	→	○	Uganda	146	43	41		44	56	→
○	Nigeria	146	39	38		49	60	→	○	Ukraine	42	99	99			98	
●	Niue	—	100	100		100	100		●	United Arab Emirates	42	100	100				
●	Northern Mariana Islands	—	84	94	→	98	98		●	United States of America	22	100	100		100	100	
●	Norway	1				100	100		●	Uruguay	52		94				98
○	Oman	48	83	89	→	77	79		○	Uzbekistan	—	58	57		89	89	
○	Pakistan	152	38	54	→	83	90	→	○	Vanuatu	99		50		60	60	
○	Palau	77	66	83	→	80	84	→	○	Venezuela	72		68				83
○	Panama	86		72				91	○	Viet Nam	87	22	41	→	72	73	
○	Papua New Guinea	122	45	45		39	39		●	West Bank and Gaza	67		76				94
○	Paraguay	107	58	78	→	62	83	→	○	Yemen	149	21	30	→	69	69	
○	Peru	101	52	62	→	74	81	→	○	Zambia	123	41	45	→	50	55	→
○	Philippines	117	54	73	→	87	85		○	Zimbabwe	119	49	57	→	77	83	→

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 CESC: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Sources:
 Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply & Sanitation, UNICEF and WHO, (www.wssinfo.org/).

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HEALTH: The governments of the world agreed on...

"(We) recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health... The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child... The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases..."

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 12, 1966.

"...take specific measures for closing the gender gaps in morbidity and mortality where girls are disadvantaged, while achieving internationally approved goals for the reduction of infant and child mortality."

World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action, Paragraph 106, 1995.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to health and health services is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25 CEDAW - Art. 11 & 14
 CERD - Art. 5 CRC - Art. 24
 CESC - Art. 12

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Health is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goals 4 & 6
 World Summit for Social Development - Commitments 8 & 10
 Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION	COUNTRY	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	MALARIA (cases per 100,000 people)			TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)			PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old)			INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)			UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)		
			1990	2003	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2001 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression
○	Afghanistan	—	23.0	46.0	←	826	661	→				168	165	→	260	257	→
●	Albania	76				41	31	→				37	17	→	45	19	→
●	Algeria	69	<0.1	<0.1 ^Q		43	54	←	<0.1	0.1		54	35	→	69	40	→
●	Andorra	—				32	17	→					6			7	
●	Angola	—	26.1	24.7 ^Q		520	310	→	3.7	3.9		154	154		260	260	
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—				14	10	→					11			12	
●	Argentina	53	0.1	47.7	←	118	53	→	0.7	0.7		26	16	→	29	18	→
●	Armenia	51	0.0	5.3	←	43	98	←	0.1	0.1		52	29	→	60	32	→
●	Australia	28				7	6		0.1	0.1		8	5	→	10	6	→
●	Austria	6				16	11	→	0.2	0.3		8	5	→	10	5	→
○	Azerbaijan	103	<0.1	83.1	←	57	90	←		<0.1		84	75	→	105	90	→
●	Bahamas	60				94	50	→	3.0	3.0		24	10	→	29	13	→
○	Bahrain	25				108	50	→	0.1	0.2		15	9	→	19	11	→
●	Bangladesh	159	0.5	274.0	←	640	435	→				100	56	→	149	77	→
●	Barbados	37				29	12	→	1.5	1.5		14	10	→	16	12	→
●	Belarus	37				63	68	←				13	9	→	17	11	→
●	Belgium	6				15	10	→	0.2	0.2		8	4	→	10	5	→
●	Belize	89	16.3	5.1 ^Q	→	77	59	→	2.1	2.4		39	32	→	49	39	→
●	Benin	126	20.0	66.8 ^P	←	146	142	→	1.9	1.9		111	90	→	185	152	→
—	Bermuda	—				9	7										
●	Bhutan	139	5.6	8.0		371	184	→				107	67	→	166	80	→
●	Bolivia	110	3.0	7.2	←	453	290	→	0.1	0.1		89	54	→	125	69	→
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—				160	53	→		<0.1		18	13	→	22	15	→
●	Botswana	88	7.9	3.9	→	303	553	←	38.0	37.3	→	45	84	←	58	116	←
●	Brazil	82	3.8	17.4	←	148	77	→	0.6	0.7		50	32	→	60	34	→
—	British Virgin Islands	—						0 ^R									
●	Brunei Darussalam	47				114	63	→	<0.1	<0.1		10	8		11	9	
●	Bulgaria	41				44	36	→		<0.1		15	12	→	18	15	→
○	Burkina Faso	132	55.7	393.5 ^Q	←	322	365	←	4.2	4.2		113	97	→	210	192	→
○	Burundi	156	16.6	^Q		235	564	←	6.2	6.0		114	114		190	190	
○	Cambodia	153	12.7	<0.1	→	947	709	→	2.7	2.6		80	97	←	115	141	←
○	Cameroon	134	74.5	477.9 ^M	←	163	227	←	7.0	6.9		85	87		139	149	←
●	Canada	28				7	4	→	0.3	0.3		7	5		8	6	
●	Cape Verde	89	0.2	106.9 ^Q	←	404	314	→				45	27	→	60	36	→
—	Cayman Islands	—				9	6	→									
○	Central African Republic	—	59.3	102.1	←	262	549	←	13.5	13.5		102	115	←	168	193	←
○	Chad	162	36.5	2.5 ^P	→	209	566	←	4.9	4.8		117	117		203	200	→
●	Chile	22				62	16	→	0.3	0.3		17	8	→	21	8	→
●	China	81	0.1	2.4 ^Q		327	221	→	0.1	0.1		38	26	→	49	31	→
●	Colombia	93	2.8	0.0	→	99	75	→	0.5	0.7		30	18	→	36	21	→

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Notes: Children immunization status is included among the indicators used to build the ranking.
 Data source year: G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003.

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	MALARIA (cases per 100,000 people)			TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)			PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old)			INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)			UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)			
		1990	2003	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2001 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	
○	Comoros	129	20.9 ^H	<0.1 ^P	→	193	95	→				88	52	→	120	70	→
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	4.4 ^K	289.7	←	226	551	←	4.2	4.2		129	129		205	205	
○	Congo, Rep.	—	13.0	<0.1 ^M	→	208	464	←	5.3	4.9		83	81		110	108	
○	Cook Islands	105				117	51	→				26	18	→	32	21	→
●	Costa Rica	54	0.4	12.6	←	38	15	→	0.6	0.6		16	11	→	18	13	→
○	Côte d'Ivoire	133	40.9	91.8 ^P	←	262	651	←	6.7	7.0		103	117	←	157	194	←
●	Croatia	33				126	65	→		<0.1		11	6	→	12	7	→
●	Cuba	28				40	12	→	0.1	0.1		11	6	→	13	7	→
●	Cyprus	17				10	4	→				10	5	→	12	5	→
●	Czech Republic	26				38	11	→	<0.1	0.1		11	4	→	13	4	→
●	Denmark	6				12	6	→	0.2	0.2		8	4	→	9	5	→
○	Djibouti	114	6.1	121.5	←	1553	1137	→	2.8	2.9		122	101	→	163	126	→
○	Dominica	75				32	23	→				15	13		17	14	→
○	Dominican Republic	100	0.1	240.4	←	237	118	→	1.8	1.7		50	27	→	65	32	→
○	Ecuador	109	7.0	269.7	←	353	196	→	0.3	0.3		43	23	→	57	26	→
○	Egypt	94	<0.1	223.4	←	53	35	→	<0.1	<0.1		76	26	→	104	36	→
○	El Salvador	115	1.8	71.9	←	163	74	→	0.6	0.7		47	24	→	60	28	→
○	Equatorial Guinea	154	72.3	100.5		150	322	←				103	122	←	170	204	←
○	Eritrea	141	25.3 ^J	0.3	→	580	437	→	2.8	2.7		88	52	→	147	82	→
●	Estonia	28				53	49	→	0.7	1.1	←	12	6	→	16	8	→
○	Ethiopia	161	4.0 ^G	34.0	←	256	533	←	4.1	4.4		131	110	→	204	166	→
●	Fiji	61				85	41	→	0.1	0.1		25	16	→	31	20	→
●	Finland	1				14	7	→	0.1	0.1		6	3	→	7	4	→
●	France	26				23	10	→	0.4	0.4		7	4	→	9	5	→
—	French Polynesia	—				117	56	→									
○	Gabon	106	60.3	190.2 ^M	←	355	339	→	6.9	8.1	←	60	60		92	91	
○	Gambia	138	237.7	0.3 ^N	→	365	329	→	1.2	1.2		103	89	→	154	122	→
○	Georgia	78	0.0	97.6	←	52	89	←	<0.1	0.1		43	41		47	45	
●	Germany	6				20	6	→	0.1	0.1		7	4	→	9	5	→
○	Ghana	142	94.2	122.0	←	516	376	→	3.1	3.1		75	68	→	122	112	→
●	Greece	6				28	17	→	0.2	0.2		10	4	→	11	5	→
●	Grenada	83				10	8					30	18	→	37	21	→
—	Guam	—				303	91	→									
○	Guatemala	131	4.8	169.8	←	144	107	→	1.1	1.1		60	33	→	82	45	→
○	Guinea	140	3.6	114.9 ^O	←	254	410	←	2.8	3.2	←	145	101	→	240	155	→
○	Guinea-Bissau	151	80.5	24.9 ^O	→	424	306	→				153	126	→	253	203	→
○	Guyana	108	31.0	134.6	←	67	185	←	2.5	2.5		64	48	→	88	64	→
○	Haiti	—	0.7	62.2	←	719	387	→	5.5	5.6		102	74	→	150	117	→
○	Honduras	130	10.9	301.5	←	194	97	→	1.6	1.8		44	31	→	59	41	→
—	Hong Kong (China)	—							0.1	0.1							
●	Hungary	35				67	30	→		0.1		15	7	→	17	8	→
●	Iceland	1				5	2	→	0.2	0.2		6	2	→	7	3	→
○	India	128	2.4	59.1	←	570	312	→	0.8	0.9		84	62	→	123	85	→
○	Indonesia	102	0.9	59.6 ^O	←	443	275	→	0.1	0.1		60	30	→	91	38	→
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	1.4	21.0	←	57	35	→	0.1	0.1		54	32	→	72	38	→
○	Iraq	121	0.2	119.3	←	223	200	→		<0.1		40	102	←	50	125	←
●	Ireland	17				20	9	→	0.1	0.1		8	5	→	10	6	→
●	Israel	17				15	7	→		0.1		10	5	→	12	6	→
●	Italy	40				11	6	→	0.5	0.5		9	4	→	9	5	→
○	Jamaica	73				13	9	→	0.8	1.2		17	17		20	20	
●	Japan	1				71	39	→	<0.1	<0.1		5	3		6	4	
●	Jordan	42				12	5	→	<0.1	<0.1		33	23	→	40	27	→
○	Kazakhstan	54				96	160	←	0.1	0.2		53	63	←	63	73	←
○	Kenya	—	228.9 ^I	95.4 ^O	→	167	888	←	8.0	6.7	→	64	79	←	97	120	←
○	Kiribati	—				303	59	→				65	49	→	88	65	→
○	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—		5.0		424	178	→				42	42		55	55	
●	Korea, Rep.	6	0.0	0.1		130	125	→	<0.1	<0.1		8	5	→	9	6	→
○	Kuwait	92				80	30	→				14	10	→	16	12.0	→
○	Kyrgyzstan	—	0.0	92.1	←	90	137	←	<0.1	0.1		68	58	→	80	68	→

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●	Lao PDR	155	5.3	0.1	→	474	318	→	<0.1	0.1		120	65	→	163	83	→
●	Latvia	37				55	71	←	0.5	0.6		14	10	→	18	12	→
●	Lebanon	56				46	12	→	0.1	0.1		32	27	→	37	31	→
○	Lesotho	137				248	544	←	29.6	28.9	→	84	61	→	120	82	→
●	Liberia	145	209.1 ^H	0.1 ^M	→	265	447	←	5.1	5.9	←	157	157		235	235	
●	Libya	—				47	20	→		0.3		35	18	→	41	20	→
—	Liechtenstein	—										9	4	→	10	5	→
●	Lithuania	35				65	67		0.1	0.1		10	8		13	8	→
●	Luxembourg	49				19	9	→	0.2	0.2		7	5		10	6	→
●	Macedonia, FYR	62				91	34	→	<0.1	<0.1		33	13	→	38	14	→
●	Madagascar	144	14.2 ^J	<0.1	→	398	351	→	1.3	1.7		103	76	→	168	123	→
○	Malawi	148	409.3	<0.1 ^O	→	424	501	←	14.3	14.2		146	110	→	241	175	→
●	Malaysia	73	2.8	0.1	→	197	133	→	0.4	0.4		16	10	→	22	12	→
●	Maldives	113				155	57	→				79	35	→	111	46	→
●	Mali	143	27.5	0.2	→	706	578	→	1.9	1.9		140	121	→	250	219	→
●	Malta	17				10	5	→	0.1	0.2		9	5	→	11	6	→
●	Marshall Islands	95				303	59	→				63	52	→	92	59	→
●	Mauritania	120	13.3	0.8 ^O	→	607	502	→	0.5	0.6		85	78	→	133	125	→
●	Mauritius	33	0.1	<0.1 ^O		157	135	→				21	14	→	23	15	→
●	Mexico	85	0.5	24.7	←	83	43	→	0.3	0.3		37	23	→	46	28	→
●	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—				218	59	→				26	19	→	31	23	→
○	Moldova	63				104	214	←		0.2		30	23	→	40	28	→
●	Monaco	—				4	2					7	4	→	9	5	→
●	Mongolia	70				574	209	→	<0.1	<0.1		78	41	→	108	52	→
●	Morocco	112	<0.1	<0.1		117	105	→		0.1		69	38	→	89	43	→
○	Mozambique	150	0.8 ^K	<0.1		275	635	←	12.1	12.2		158	104	→	235	152	→
●	Myanmar	136	24.4	<0.1	→	419	180	→	1.0	1.2		91	76	→	130	106	→
●	Namibia	98	245.2 ^H	13.2	→	585	586		21.3	21.3		60	47	→	86	63	→
●	Nauru	—				117	35	→				25			30		
●	Nepal	157	1.2	1.7		616	257	→	0.4	0.5		100	59	→	145	76	→
—	Netherlands	6				10	6	→	0.2	0.2		7	5		9	6	→
—	Netherlands Antilles	—				24	18	→									
—	New Caledonia	—				243	117	→									
●	New Zealand	6				11	11		0.1	0.1		8	5	→	11	6	→
●	Nicaragua	127	9.4	0.7	→	198	80	→	0.2	0.2		52	31	→	68	38	→
●	Niger	158	152.0	0.4 ^O	→	332	288	→	1.1	1.2		191	152	→	320	259	→
●	Nigeria	146	13.0	1.7	→	231	531	←	5.5	5.4		120	101	→	230	197	→
—	Niue	—				117	57	→									
—	Northern Mariana Islands	—				303	68	→									
●	Norway	1				9	4	→	0.1	0.1		7	4	→	9	4	→
●	Oman	48	17.7	1.0	→	24	12	→	0.1	0.1		25	10	→	32	13	→
●	Pakistan	152	0.7	14.5	←	430	329	→	0.1	0.1		100	80	→	130	101	→
●	Palau	77				169	91	→				28	22	→	34	27	→
●	Panama	86	0.2	0.4		117	45	→	0.7	0.9		27	19	→	34	24	→
●	Papua New Guinea	122	25.5	40.9	←	843	448	→	0.4	0.6		74	68	→	101	93	→
●	Paraguay	107	0.7	<0.1		117	107	→	0.4	0.5		33	21	→	41	24	→
●	Peru	101	1.3	0.6		508	216	→	0.4	0.5		60	24	→	80	29	→
●	Philippines	117	1.4	0.6		893	463	→	<0.1	<0.1		41	26	→	62	34	→
●	Poland	22				88	32	→		0.1		19	7	→	18	8	→
●	Portugal	6				57	35	→	0.4	0.4		11	4	→	14	5	→
—	Puerto Rico	—				36	6	→									
●	Qatar	57				74	77	←				21	18	→	26	21	→
●	Romania	65				121	188	←		<0.1		27	17	→	31	20	→
●	Russian Federation	—				82	160	←	0.7	1.1	←	23	17	→	29	21	→
●	Rwanda	160	189.2	3.3	→	252	660	←	5.1	5.1		103	118	←	173	203	←
●	Samoa	50				28.3 ^I	15 ^R	→				40	25	→	50	30	→
●	San Marino	—				10	5	→				13	3	→	14	4	→
●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116	396.3 ^J	3.7	→	345	253	→				75	75		118	118	
●	Saudi Arabia	67	0.9	0.2		86	55	→				35	21	→	44	27	→

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Notes: Children immunization status is included among the indicators used to build the ranking.
Data source year: G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003.

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	MALARIA (cases per 100,000 people)			TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)			PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old)			INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)			UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)		
			1990	2003	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	2001 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression	1990	2004	Progress or regression
			●	Senegal	124	55.3 ^I	0.5 ^O	→	401	451	←	0.8	0.8		90	78	→
●	Serbia and Montenegro	—				101	50	→	0.2	0.2		24	13	→	28	15	→
●	Seychelles	—				113	83	→				17	12	→	19	14	→
○	Sierra Leone	—	2.4 ^H	189.9 ^N	←	512	847	←				175	165	→	302	283	→
●	Singapore	—				62	41	→	0.2	0.2		7	3	→	9	3	→
●	Slovakia	57				54	23	→		<0.1		12	6	→	14	9	→
●	Slovenia	32				71	17	→	<0.1	<0.1		8	4	→	10	4	→
○	Solomon Islands	—	365.7	<0.1	→	303	59	→				38	34	→	63	56	→
○	Somalia	—	0.4 ^H	0.5		808	673	→				133	133		225	225	
○	South Africa	96	0.2	2.9	←	229.7 ^I	505 ^R	←	20.9	21.5	←	45	54	←	60	67	←
●	Spain	6				52	20	→	0.6	0.7		8	3	→	9	5	→
●	Sri Lanka	—	17.1	0.9	→	109	91	→	<0.1	<0.1		26	12	→	32	14	→
●	St. Kitts and Nevis	66				22	15	→				30	18	→	36	21	→
●	St. Lucia	57				34	21	→				20	13	→	21	14	→
●	St. Vincent and Grenadines	63				11.9 ^J	12 ^R					22	18	→	25	22	→
○	Sudan	110	301.2	12.3	→	443	370	→	1.9	2.3		74	63	→	120	91	→
○	Suriname	91	4.0	0.2	→	167	98	→	1.3	1.7		35	30	→	48	39	→
○	Swaziland	118	14.6 ^J	0.1	→	620	1120	←	38.2	38.8	←	78	108	←	110	156	←
●	Sweden	1				6	3	→	0.1	0.1		6	3	→	7	4	→
●	Switzerland	6				13	6	→	0.4	0.4		7	5		9	5	→
●	Syrian Arab Republic	97	<0.1	<0.1		108	51	→		<0.1		35	15	→	44	16	→
○	Tajikistan	103	<0.1	<0.1		195	277	←		<0.1		99	91	→	128	118	→
○	Tanzania	125	411.1	2.3	→	116.3 ^I	167 ^R	←	9.0	8.8		102	78	→	161	126	→
○	Thailand	45	5.0	1.5	→	360	208	→	1.7	1.5		31	18	→	37	21	→
○	Timor-Leste	—		2.9		1186	692	→				130	64	→	172	80	→
○	Togo	135	234.6	1.2 ^P	→	839	718	→	4.3	4.1		88	78	→	152	140	→
●	Tonga	79				92	42	→				26	20	→	32	25	→
○	Trinidad and Tobago	45				22	12	→	3.0	3.2		28	18	→	33	20	→
●	Tunisia	70				51	24	→	<0.1	<0.1		41	21	→	52	25	→
●	Turkey	83	0.2	<0.1		37.4 ^I	26 ^O	→				67	28	→	82	32	→
○	Turkmenistan	—	0.0	1.2		106	83	→		<0.1		80	80		97	103	←
—	Turks and Caicos Islands	—				41	31	→									
○	Tuvalu	—				203.3 ^I	283 ^R	←				40	36	→	56	51	→
○	Uganda	146	132.1 ^G	2.1	→	138.3 ^I	162 ^R	←	5.1	4.1	→	93	80	→	160	138	→
●	Ukraine	42				39.9 ^I	0 ^R	→	1.2	1.4		19	14	→	26	18	→
●	United Arab Emirates	42				42	26	→				12	7	→	14	8	→
●	United Kingdom	17				9	9					8	5	→	10	6	→
●	United States of America	22				9.2 ^I	5 ^R	→	0.6	0.6		9	7		12	8	→
○	Uruguay	52				20.8 ^I	19 ^R	→	0.3	0.3		20	15	→	25	17	→
○	Uzbekistan	—	<0.1	3.7	←	66.6 ^I	80 ^O	←	<0.1	0.1		65	57	→	79	69	→
○	Vanuatu	99	192.7	36.1	→	90.8 ^I	49 ^R	→				48	32	→	62	40	→
●	Venezuela	72	2.4	4.0		22.8 ^I	26 ^R	←	0.6	0.7		24	16	→	27	19	→
○	Viet Nam	87	1.9	21.5	←	72.3 ^I	114 ^R	←	0.3	0.4		38	17	→	53	23	→
—	Virgin Islands (USA)	—				8.9 ^I	8 ^K	→									
●	West Bank and Gaza	67				57	36	→				34	22	→	40	24	→
○	Yemen	149	1.0	0.2		96.9 ^I	52 ^R	→		0.1		98	82	→	142	111	→
○	Zambia	123	235.8	33.7 ^P	→	392.2 ^I	499 ^R	←	16.7	16.5		101	102		180	182	
○	Zimbabwe	119	63.3	1.2 ^O	→	213.1 ^I	413 ^R	←	24.9	24.6		53	79	←	80	129	←

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:

Malaria: World Malaria Report 2005, UNICEF and WHO (www.rbm.who.int/wmr2005/).

Tuberculosis: Communicable Disease Global Atlas Database, WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAtlas).

People living with HIV/AIDS: 2004 Report on the global AIDS epidemic, UNAIDS.

Infant mortality: The State of the World's Children 2006, UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc06).

Under-5 mortality: The State of the World's Children 2006, UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc06).

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CHILDREN'S IMMUNIZATION: The governments of the world agreed on...

"States Parties recognize the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health."

Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 24, 1989.

"Each day, 40,000 children die from malnutrition and disease, including acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), from the lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation and from the effects of the drug problem... These are challenges that we, as political leaders, must meet."

World Summit for Children, 1990.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to health and health services for children is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25 CESCR - Art. 12
CERD - Art. 5 CRC - Art. 24 & 25

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Children's health is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goals 4 & 6
World Summit for Social Development - Commitments 8 & 10
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	*DPT IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			POLIO IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			MEASLES IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			TUBERCULOSIS IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN		
			1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Afghanistan	—	18	66	→	18	66	→	40	61	→	44	78	→
●	Albania	76	96	97		97	98		81	96	→	81	97	→
○	Algeria	69	72	86	→	72	86	→	65	81	→	92	98	→
●	Andorra	—	99	99		99	99		98	98				
○	Angola	—	27	59	→	28	57	→	44	64	→	48	72	→
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—	97	97		97	97		97	97				
●	Argentina	53	97	90	←	84	95	→	95	95		100	99	
○	Armenia	51	83	91	→	92	93		95	92	←	83	96	→
○	Australia	28	95	92	←	72	92	→	86	93	→			
○	Austria	6	90	83	←	90	83	←	60	74	→			
●	Azerbaijan	103	90	96	→	94	97	→	91	98	→	50	99	→
○	Bahamas	60	93	93		92	92		89	89				
○	Bahrain	25	98	98		98	98		99	99		70	70	
○	Bangladesh	159	94	85	←	94	85	←	95	77	←	95	95	
●	Barbados	37	93	93		93	93		98	98				
●	Belarus	37	92	99	→	93	99	→	97	99		93	99	→
●	Belgium	6	85	95	→	100	96	←	67	82	→			
●	Belize	89	95	95		95	95		95	95		99	99	
○	Benin	126	81	83		81	89	→	75	85	→	90	99	→
○	Bhutan	139	86	89	→	84	90	→	81	87	→	96	92	←
○	Bolivia	110	80	81		86	79	←	86	64	←	91	93	
○	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	38	84	→	45	87	→	48	88	→	24	95	→
●	Botswana	88	78	97	→	78	97	→	71	90	→	92	99	→
●	Brazil	82	73	96	→	68	98	→	76	99	→	92	99	→
●	Brunei Darussalam	47	92	92		92	92		99	99		99	99	
●	Bulgaria	41	98	95	←	97	94	←	87	95	→	98	98	
●	Burkina Faso	132	41	88	→	45	83	→	45	78	→	63	99	→
○	Burundi	156	48	74	→	50	69	→	43	75	→	62	84	→
○	Cambodia	153	53	85	→	54	86	→	53	80	→	78	95	→
○	Cameroon	134	31	73	→	31	72	→	31	64	→	46	83	→
●	Canada	28	93	91		89	88		98	95	←			
○	Cape Verde	89	75	75		76	76		69	69		79	79	
○	Central African Republic	—	31	40	→	29	40	→	44	35	←	82	70	←
○	Chad	162	18	50	→	18	47	→	23	56	→	43	38	←
○	Chile	22	92	94		92	94		96	95		96	96	
○	China	81	93	91		94	92		89	84	←	94	94	
○	Colombia	93	91	89		95	89	←	87	92	→	99	92	←

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Note:

*DPT: Diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	*DPT IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			POLIO IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			MEASLES IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			TUBERCULOSIS IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN		
			1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Comoros	129		76			73			73			79	
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	29	64	→	29	63	→	33	64	→	43	78	→
○	Congo, Rep.	—	79	67	←	79	67	←	70	65	←	94	85	←
●	Cook Islands	105		99			99			99			99	
○	Costa Rica	54	88	90		88	90		88	88		97	90	←
○	Côte d'Ivoire	133	44	50	→	44	50	→	49	49		49	51	
●	Croatia	33	85	96	→	85	98	→	90	96	→	92	98	→
●	Cuba	28	100	88	←		98			99		99	99	
●	Cyprus	17		98			98			86				
●	Czech Republic	26	98	98		98	96		97	97		98	99	
○	Denmark	6	88	95	→	95	95		81	96	→			
○	Djibouti	114		64			64			60			78	
●	Dominica	75		99			99			99			99	
○	Dominican Republic	100	83	71	←	98	57	←	87	79	←	64	97	→
●	Ecuador	109	80	90	→	78	93	→	100	99		100	99	
●	Egypt	94	90	97	→	91	97	→	90	97	→	95	98	→
○	El Salvador	115	92	90		92	90		81	93	→	83	94	→
○	Equatorial Guinea	154		33			39			51			73	
○	Eritrea	141	36	83	→	36	83	→	27	84	→	46	91	→
●	Estonia	28	79	94	→	87	95	→	76	96	→	99	99	
○	Ethiopia	161	37	80	→	36	80	→	29	71	→	50	82	→
○	Fiji	61		71			76			62			93	
●	Finland	1	99	98		100	96	←	99	97		99	98	
○	France	26	89	97	→	92	97	→	76	86	→	78	85	→
○	Gabon	106	66	38	←	66	31	←	65	55	←	97	89	←
○	Gambia	138	90	92		92	90		87	90	→	98	95	←
○	Georgia	78	58	78	→	69	66	←	16	86	→	67	91	→
●	Germany	6	70	97	→	90	94	→	75	92	→			
○	Ghana	142	48	80	→	48	81	→	49	83	→	61	92	→
○	Greece	6	78	88	→	95	87	←	72	88	→	50	88	→
○	Grenada	83		83			84			74				
○	Guatemala	131	71	84	→	73	84	→	66	75	→	70	98	→
○	Guinea	140	70	69		70	68		70	73	→	75	71	←
○	Guinea-Bissau	151	74	80	→	68	80	→	65	80	→	95	80	←
○	Guyana	108		91			91			88			94	
○	Haiti	—	41	43		40	43	→	24	54	→	42	71	→
○	Honduras	130	95	89	←	95	90	←	94	92		95	93	
—	Hong Kong (China)	—	83			81			77			99		
●	Hungary	35	99	99		99	99		99	99		100	99	
●	Iceland	1		99			99			93				
○	India	128	91	64	←	91	70	←	86	56	←	96	73	←
○	Indonesia	102	94	70	←	93	70	←	92	72	←	100	82	←
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80	95	99	→	95	98	→	97	96		100	99	
○	Iraq	121	67	81	→	67	87	→	98	90	←	90	93	→
○	Ireland	17	65	89	→	63	89	→	78	81	→		90	
●	Israel	17	92	96	→	93	92		95	96				
●	Italy	40	98	96		50	97	→	50	84	→			
○	Jamaica	73	93	77	←	93	71	←	82	80		100	85	←
●	Japan	1	87	99	→	94	97	→	69	99	→	93		
○	Jordan	42	96	95		96	95		91	99	→		58	
○	Kazakhstan	54	80	82		75	99	→	72	99	→	87	65	←
○	Kenya	—	84	73	←	84	73	←	73	73		92	87	←
○	Kiribati	—		62			61			56			94	
○	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	99	72	←	100	99		99	95	←	100	95	←
○	Korea, Rep.	6	74	88	→	74	90	→	93	99	→	72	93	→

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PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	*DPT IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			POLIO IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			MEASLES IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			TUBERCULOSIS IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			
		1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	
●	Kuwait	92	98	98		98	98		96	97		97	98	
○	Kyrgyzstan	—	82	99	→	84	98	→	88	99	→	97	98	
○	Lao PDR	155	48	45	←	57	46	←	73	36	←	69	60	←
●	Latvia	37	70	98	→	72	97	→	81	99	→	89	99	→
●	Lebanon	56		92		95	92	←	73	96	→			
●	Lesotho	137	58	78	→	59	78	→	74	70	←	59	83	→
○	Liberia	145	43	31	←	45	33	←	44	42		84	60	←
●	Libya	—	91	97	→	91	97	→	89	99	→	99	99	
●	Lithuania	35	83	94	→	88	90		93	98	→	96	99	→
●	Luxembourg	49		98			98			91				
●	Macedonia, FYR	62	88	94	→	91	95	→	86	96	→	96	94	
○	Madagascar	144	66	61	←	64	63		54	59	→	81	72	←
○	Malawi	148	98	89	←	98	94	←	98	80	←	99	97	
●	Malaysia	73	90	99	→	90	95	→	81	95	→	97	99	
●	Maldives	113		96			96			97			98	
●	Mali	143	39	76	→	39	72	→	46	75	→	67	75	→
○	Malta	17		55			55			87				
○	Marshall Islands	95		64			68			70			91	
○	Mauritania	120	50	70	→	50	68	→	53	64	→	93	86	←
●	Mauritius	33	89	98	→	89	98	→	85	98	→	87	99	→
●	Mexico	85	91	98	→	92	98	→	94	96		98	99	
○	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—		78			82			85			62	
●	Moldova	63	86	98	→	98	98		95	96		97	96	
●	Monaco	—		99			99			99			90	
●	Mongolia	70	78	99	→	77	95	→	80	96	→	90	95	→
●	Morocco	112	87	97	→	87	97	→		95		93	95	
○	Mozambique	150	55	72	→	55	70	→	65	77	→	78	87	→
○	Myanmar	136	77	82	→	77	82	→	77	78		83	85	
○	Namibia	98	79	81		79	81		68	70		100	71	←
○	Nauru	—		80			59			40			95	
●	Nepal	157	63	80	→	62	80	→	57	73	→	61	85	→
●	Netherlands	6	97	98		97	98		95	96				
○	New Zealand	6	81	90	→	68	82	→	82	85	→	20		
○	Nicaragua	127	74	79	→	84	80	←	74	84	→	89	88	
○	Niger	158	20	62	→	20	62	→	19	74	→	32	72	→
○	Nigeria	146	41	25	←	35	39	→	41	35	←	46	48	
●	Niue	—		99			99			99			96	
○	Norway	1	92	91		92	91		93	88	←			
●	Oman	48	97	99		97	99		97	98		96	99	→
○	Pakistan	152	66	65		66	65		65	67		78	80	
●	Palau	77		98			98			99				
●	Panama	86	83	99	→	83	99	→	84	99	→	95	99	→
○	Papua New Guinea	122	66	46	←	66	36	←	39	44	→	91	54	←
○	Paraguay	107	84	76	←	83	75	←	79	89	→	97	82	←
○	Peru	101	87	87		87	87		75	89	→	91	91	
○	Philippines	117	86	79	←	88	80	←	87	80	←	89	91	
●	Poland	22	95	99	→	95	98	→	95	97		95	94	
●	Portugal	6	92	95	→	92	95	→	94	95		92	83	←
●	Qatar	57		96			95			99			99	
●	Romania	65	98	97		94	97	→	91	97	→	100	99	
●	Russian Federation	—	65	97	→	82	98	→	88	98	→	87	96	→
○	Rwanda	160	23	89	→	23	89	→	25	84	→	32	86	→
○	Samoa	50		68			41			25			93	
●	San Marino	—		98			98			98				
●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116		99			99			91			99	

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Note: *DPT: Diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus

PRESENT SITUATION		BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	*DPT IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			POLIO IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			MEASLES IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN			TUBERCULOSIS IMMUNIZED 1-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN		
			1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1992 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Saudi Arabia	67	93	96	→	94	96		92	97	→	94	95	
●	Senegal	124	55	87	→	55	87	→	49	57	→	71	95	→
●	Serbia and Montenegro	—		97			96			96			97	
●	Seychelles	—		99			99			99			99	
○	Sierra Leone	—	43	61	→	43	61	→	46	64	→	60	83	→
●	Singapore	—	92	94		92	94		87	94	→	98	99	
●	Slovakia	57	98	99		98	99		97	98		91	98	→
●	Slovenia	32	98	92	←	98	93	←	90	94	→	96	98	
●	Solomon Islands	—		80			75			72			84	
○	Somalia	—	23	30	→	23	30	→	35	40	→	48	50	
●	South Africa	96	73	93	→	72	94	→	76	81	→	95	97	
●	Spain	6	87	96	→	88	97	→	90	97	→			
●	Sri Lanka	—	88	97	→	88	97	→	84	96	→	86	99	→
●	St. Kitts and Nevis	66		96			96			98			89	
●	St. Lucia	57		91			91			95			99	
●	St. Vincent and Grenadines	63		99			99			99			99	
○	Sudan	110	69	55	←	70	55	←	76	59	←	78	51	←
●	Suriname	91		85			84			86				
●	Swaziland	118		83			82			70			84	
●	Sweden	1	99	99		99	99		95	94			16	
●	Switzerland	6	89	95	→	95	95		83	82				
●	Syrian Arab Republic	97	89	99	→	89	99	→	84	98	→	100	99	
●	Tajikistan	103	82	82		74	84	→	97	89	←	69	97	→
●	Tanzania	125	79	95	→		95		75	94	→	86	91	→
●	Thailand	45	93	98	→	93	98	→	86	96	→	98	99	
○	Timor-Leste	—		57			57			55			72	
●	Togo	135	71	71		71	71		58	70	→	73	91	→
●	Tonga	79		99			99			99			99	
●	Trinidad and Tobago	45	85	94	→	85	94	→	79	95	→			
●	Tunisia	70	97	97		97	97		93	95		80	97	→
●	Turkey	83	81	85	→	81	85	→	76	81	→	72	88	→
●	Turkmenistan	—	71	97	→	92	98	→	84	97	→	94	99	→
●	Tuvalu	—		98			98			98			99	
●	Uganda	146	79	87	→	79	86	→	77	91	→	100	99	
●	Ukraine	42	90	99	→	91	99	→	94	99	→	89	98	→
●	United Arab Emirates	42	90	94	→	90	94	→	90	94	→	98	98	
●	United Kingdom	17	91	90		93	91		92	81	←			
●	United States of America	22	88	96	→	79	92	→	84	93	→			
●	Uruguay	52	88	95	→	88	95	→	80	95	→	99	99	
●	Uzbekistan	—	58	99	→	51	99	→	91	98	→	89	99	→
○	Vanuatu	99		49			53			48			63	
●	Venezuela	72	63	86	→	73	83	→	94	80	←	95	97	
●	Viet Nam	87	94	96		94	96		96	97		95	96	
●	West Bank and Gaza	67		96			96			96			98	
○	Yemen	149	47	78	→	47	78	→	45	76	→	61	63	
●	Zambia	123	85	80	←	88	80	←	88	84	←	100	94	←
●	Zimbabwe	119	80	85	→	80	85	→	77	80	→	90	95	→

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

CERD: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:

The State of the World's Children 1996, UNICEF, for 1992 data, and The State of the World's Children 2006, UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc06), for 2004 data.

- Countries in better situation
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Note: *DPT: Diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus

WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: The governments of the world agreed on...

"... States Parties shall ensure to women appropriate services in connection with pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period, granting free services where necessary, as well as adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation."

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Article 12, 1979.

"Provide more accessible, available and affordable primary health-care services of high quality, including sexual and reproductive health care, which includes family planning information and services, and giving particular attention to maternal and emergency obstetric care..."

Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action, Paragraph 106, 1995.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to women's reproductive health is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 25 CEDAW - Art. 11, 12 & 14
CESCR - Art. 10 & 12 CRC - Art. 24

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Women's reproductive health is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goals 5
World Summit for Social Development - Commitment 8
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			ESTIMATED MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)*		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49			
		Initial data (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1995 Model	2000	1988 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	
○	Afghanistan	—				14 ^R		820	1900		10 ^R		
●	Albania	76				94 ^D		31	55		75 ^D		
●	Algeria	69	79			92		150	140	51 ^G	57 ^D	→	
○	Angola	—	81 ^D			47		1300	1700		6 ^P		
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—			100	100 ^S				53	53 ^M		
●	Argentina	53	82			99 ^S		85	82				
●	Armenia	51				97		29	55		61		
—	Aruba	—	52 ^R										
●	Australia	28				99		6	8	76 ^A			
●	Austria	6						11	4		51 ^K		
○	Azerbaijan	103	70 ^P			84		37	94		55 ^P		
●	Bahamas	60				99 ^R		10	60	62			
●	Bahrain	25	63 ^{±J}			98 ^J	99 ^R	38	28	54	62 ^J	→	
○	Bangladesh	159	26 ^{±K/L}	49 ^{±S}	→	8 ^{±K/L}	13 ^S	→	600	380	40 ^F	59 ^S	→
●	Barbados	37	89 ^P				100 ^R		33	95	55 ^B	55 ^M	
●	Belarus	37					100 ^D		33	35		50 ^J	
—	Belgium	6						8	10	78 ^G			
○	Belize	89				77 ^F	84 ^N	→	140	140	47 ^F	56 ^N	→
○	Benin	126	88 ^P			60 ^K	66 ^P	→	880	850	16 ^K	19 ^P	→
○	Bhutan	139				15 ^I	24	→	500	420	19 ^I	31	→
○	Bolivia	110	45 ^{±D}	79 ^{±R}	→	42 ^{±D}	61 ^S	→	550	420	30 ^D	58 ^R	→
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	99				100		15	31		48	
●	Botswana	88	92 ^{±C}	99 ^{±P}	→	77 ^{±C}	94	→	480	100	33	48	→
●	Brazil	82	84 ^K			88 ^K		→	260	260	66 ^A	77 ^K	→
—	British Virgin Islands	—				100	100 ^S						
●	Brunei Darussalam	47					100 ^D		22	37			
○	Bulgaria	41					99 ^D		23	32		42 ^L	
●	Burkina Faso	132	61 ^{±M/N}	73 ^{±R}	→	31 ^{±M/N}	57 ^R	→	1400	1000	8 ^H	14 ^R	→
○	Burundi	156	93 ^P			19 ^{±B}	25	→	1900	1000	9 ^B	16	→
○	Cambodia	153	44				32		590	450	13 ^J	24	→
●	Cameroon	134	79 ^{±F}	83 ^{±S}	→	64 ^{±F}	62 ^S		720	730	16 ^F	26 ^S	→
●	Canada	28					98 ^P		6	6		75 ^J	
○	Cape Verde	89					89 ^M		190	150		53 ^M	
—	Cayman Islands	—				100	100 ^S						
○	Central African Republic	—					44		1200	1100	15 ^I	28	→
○	Chad	162	32 ^{±K/L}	43 ^{±S}	→	15 ^{±K/L}	14 ^S		1500	1100	4 ^K	3 ^S	
●	Chile	22				100 ^J	100 ^R		33	31	56 ^E		
●	China	81				89 ^J	83 ^S	←	60	56	85 ^G	87 ^P	→
●	Colombia	93	82 ^{±E}	94 ^{±T}	→	81 [±]	91 ^T	→	120	130	66 ^E	77	→
○	Comoros	129	87 ^K				62		570	480	21 ^K	26	→

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PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			ESTIMATED MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)*		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49			
		Initial data (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1995 Model	2000	1988 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	
○	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	72 ^P			61 ^P		940	990		31 ^P		
—	Congo, Rep.	—						1100	510				
—	Cook Islands	105				100 ^M	98 ^P	←					
●	Costa Rica	54				98 ^Q		35	43	75 ^H	80 ^N	→	
●	Côte d'Ivoire	133	84 ^N			47 ^{+MM}	63	→	1200	690	11 ^I	15 ^M	→
●	Croatia	33				100 ^Q		18	8				
●	Cuba	28				100 ^N	100 ^S		24	33	70 ^B	73	→
—	Cyprus	17						0	47				
●	Czech Republic	26					100 ^Q		14	9	69 ^H	72 ^L	→
—	Denmark	6						15	5	78			
○	Djibouti	114					61 ^R		520	730			
●	Dominica	75				100 ^J	100 ^R					50 ^M	
●	Dominican Republic	100	97 ^{+F}	98 ^{+Q}		93 ^{+F}	99 ^Q	→	110	150	56 ^F	70 ^Q	→
○	Ecuador	109	69 ^{+B}	56 ^N	←	61 ^{+B}	69 ^N	→	210	130	53 ^D	66 ^N	→
○	Egypt	94	53 ^{+C}	56 ^{+T}	→	35 ^{+C}	69 ^R	→	170	84	48 ^F	60 ^R	→
○	El Salvador	115				58 ^M	69 ^{Q/R}	→	180	150	47	67 ^R	→
○	Equatorial Guinea	154					65		1400	880			
○	Eritrea	141	70 ^Q				28 ^Q		1100	630	8 ^J	8 ^Q	
●	Estonia	28					100 ^Q		80	63		70 ^I	
○	Ethiopia	161	27				6		1800	850	4 ^E	8	→
○	Fiji	61				100 ^M	99	←	20	75		44 ^L	
●	Finland	1					100 ^Q		6	6	77 ^D		
●	France	26						20	17	80	71 ^I	←	
●	French Polynesia	—					99 ^N		20	20			
○	Gabon	106	94				86		620	420		33	
○	Gambia	138	92				55		1100	540		18 ^P	
●	Georgia	78	91 ^N				96 ^N		22	32		41 ^N	
—	Germany	6						12	8	75 ^G			
○	Ghana	142	82 ^{+C}	92 ^{+R}	→	40 ^{+C}	47 ^R	→	590	540	13	25 ^R	→
—	Greece	6						2	9				
●	Grenada	83				100	100 ^R					54 ^M	
●	Guadeloupe	—					100 ^R		5	5			
●	Guam	—					99 ^P		12	12			
○	Guatemala	131	86 ^N			35 ^{+J}	41 ^Q	→	270	240	23 ^B	43 ^Q	→
○	Guinea	140	74 ^N				35 ^N		1200	740	2 ^G	7 ^R	→
○	Guinea-Bissau	151	89 ^P				35		910	1100		8	
○	Guyana	108	88				86		150	170	31 ^E	37	→
○	Haiti	—	68 ^{+I/J}	80 ^{+T}	→	46 ^{+I/J}	24	←	1100	680	11 ^D	27	→
○	Honduras	130				54 ^K	56 ^P	→	220	110	47 ^F	62 ^P	→
—	Hong Kong (China)	—					100 ^Q				81 ^B		
●	Hungary	35					100 ^Q		23	16	73 ^H		
—	Iceland	1						16	0				
○	India	128	65 ^N				43		440	540	45	47	
○	Indonesia	102	97 ^R			35 ^{+F}	66 ^Q	→	470	230	50 ^F	57 ^S	→
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	80					90		130	76	49 ^F	74	→
○	Iraq	121					72		370	250		44	
●	Ireland	17					100 ^Q		9	5	60 ^E		
—	Israel	17						8	17	68			
●	Italy	40						11	5		60 ^K		
●	Jamaica	73					95 ^L		120	87	55 ^D	65 ^L	→
●	Japan	1				100 ^K		12	10	56	59 ^I	→	
●	Jordan	42	80 ^{+E}	99 ^{+Q}	→	87 ^{+T}	100 ^Q	→	41	41	35 ^E	56 ^Q	→
●	Kazakhstan	54	82 ^N				99 ^N		80	210	59 ^J	66 ^N	→
○	Kenya	—	77 ^{+D}	88 ^{+R}	→	50 ^{+D}	42 ^R	←	1300	1000	27 ^D	39 ^R	→
○	Kiribati	—				85 ^M	89 ^Q	→				21 ^M	
●	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	98				97		35	67	62 ^G		
●	Korea, Rep.	6				100 ^L	100		20	20	77	81 ^L	→
●	Kuwait	92	83 ^K				98 ^J		25	5		50 ^K	
●	Kyrgyzstan	—	88 ^L				98 ^L		80	110		60 ^L	
○	Lao PDR	155	44 ^P				19 ^P		650	650	25 ^I	32	→

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PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			ESTIMATED MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)*		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49		
		Initial data (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1995 Model	2000	1988 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Latvia	37			100 ^J	100 ^Q		70	42		48 ^J	
●	Lebanon	56			88 ^K	93 ^P	→	130	150	61 ^K	63	→
●	Lesotho	137		91 ^P		55 ^S		530	550	23 ^F	30	→
○	Liberia	145	83 ^{±A}		58 ^{±A}	51	←	1000	760	6 ^A	10	→
○	Libya	—			94 ^J			120	97		45 ^J	
●	Lithuania	35				100 ^Q		27	13		47 ^J	
●	Luxembourg	49				100 ^Q		0	28			
—	Macao (China)	—				100 ^R		20				
●	Macedonia, FYR	62				98 ^Q		17	23			
●	Madagascar	144	78 ^{±G}	80 ^{±RS}	57 ^{±G}	51 ^{RS}	←	580	550	17 ^G	27 ^S	→
●	Malawi	148	90 ^{±G}	93 [±]	55 ^{±G}	61 ^Q	→	580	1800	13 ^G	31	→
●	Malaysia	73				97 ^Q		39	41	56	55 ^I	
●	Maldives	113		98 ^P		70 ^P		390	110		39 ^S	
○	Malï	143	31 ^{±B}	57 ^{±P}	26 ^{±B}	41 ^P	→	630	1200	5 ^B	8 ^P	→
—	Malta	17						0	21			
—	Marshall Islands	95			95 ^M	95 ^Q				37 ^I	34	←
○	Mauritania	120		63 ^P	40 ^F	57 ^P	→	870	1000		8 ^P	
●	Mauritius	33				99 ^M		45	24	75 ^F	76 ^Q	
●	Mexico	85	75 ^{±B}		69 ^{±B}	86 ^L	→	65	83	53 ^B	73 ^S	→
○	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—				88 ^P					45 ^M	
●	Moldova	63	99 ^L			99 ^L		65	36	74 ^L	62	←
●	Mongolia	70				99 ^R		65	110		69 ^R	
●	Morocco	112	32 ^{±G}	68 ^{±RS}	31 ^{±G}	63 ^{RS}	→	390	220	42 ^G	63 ^S	→
○	Mozambique	150	71 ^L		44 ^L	48 ^R	→	980	1000	6 ^L	17 ^R	→
●	Myanmar	136				56 ^L		170	360	33 ^L	34 ^R	
○	Namibia	98	87 ^{±G}	91 [±]	68 ^{±G}	76	→	370	300	29 ^G	44	→
○	Nepal	157		49 ^P		11 ^P		830	740	24 ^F	38 ^S	→
●	Netherlands	6			100 ^J			10	16	76	75 ^M	
—	Netherlands Antilles	—	97 ^J					20	20			
—	New Caledonia	—						10	10			
●	New Zealand	6			100 ^J			15	7		75 ^J	
●	Nicaragua	127	82 ^{±LM}	86 ^{±P}	65 ^{±LM}	67 ^P	→	250	230	44 ^G	69 ^P	→
○	Niger	158	30 ^{±G}	39 ^{±M}	15 ^{±G}	16		920	1600	4 ^G	14	→
○	Nigeria	146	59 ^{±E}	60 ^{±R}	33 [±]	35 ^R		1100	800	6 ^E	13 ^R	→
—	Niue	—			100 ^K	100 ^Q						
—	Northern Mariana Islands	—				100						
—	Norway	1						9	16	74 ^D		
●	Oman	48	77 ^J		91 ^J	95	→	120	87	9 ^D	32	→
○	Pakistan	152	26 ^{±EF}	36 ^{±L}	19 ^{±EF}	23 ^{P/Q}	→	200	500	14 ^E	28 ^P	→
○	Palau	77			100 ^M	100 ^Q				47 ^E	17	←
●	Panama	86			90 ^M	93 ^R	→	100	160			
●	Papua New Guinea	122			53 ^K			390	300		26 ^K	
●	Paraguay	107	84 ^{±E}		66 [±]	77 ^S	→	170	170	48 ^E	57 ^M	→
●	Peru	101	66 ^{±G}	83 [±]	80 ^{±G}	71 ^S	←	240	410	55 ^F	69	→
●	Philippines	117	83 ^{±H}	88 ^{±R}	53 ^{±H}	60 ^R	→	240	200	36	49 ^R	→
●	Poland	22				100 ^Q		12	13	49 ^F		
●	Portugal	6				100		12	5			
●	Puerto Rico	—				100 ^R		30	25		78 ^J	
●	Qatar	57		62 ^M		100 ^Q		41	7	32 ^B	43 ^M	→
●	Romania	65		89 ^N		98 ^N		60	49	57 ^H	64 ^N	→
○	Russian Federation	—		96 ^N		99 ^Q		75	67	34 ^G	34 ^I	
○	Rwanda	160	94 ^{±G}	93 ^{±P}	26 ^{±G}	31	→	2300	1400	21 ^G	13	←
○	Samoa	50			100 ^M	100 ^R		15	130		30 ^J	
●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	116		91		79					29	
●	Saudi Arabia	67	77 ^K		91 ^K	93 ^Q	→	23	23	32 ^K	21 ^N	←
●	Senegal	124	74 ^{±G/H}	82 ^{±N}	47 ^{±G/H}	58	→	1200	690	7 ^G	11	→
●	Serbia and Montenegro	—				93 ^P			11		58	
○	Sierra Leone	—		82 ^P		42		2100	2000		4	
○	Singapore	—			100 ^M	100 ^R		9	30			
●	Slovakia	57				99 ^Q		14	3	74 ^F		

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Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003; S: 2004; T: 2005.

PRESENT SITUATION	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL			ESTIMATED MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)*		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49		
		Initial data (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1990 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression	1995 Model	2000	1988 (%)	2000 (%)	Progress or regression
● Slovenia	32					100 ^Q		17	17		74 ^I	
○ Solomon Islands	—					85 ^N		60	130		11 ^K	
○ Somalia	—					34 ^N		1600	1100	1		
● South Africa	96		89 ^M			84 ^M		340	230	57 ^E	56 ^M	⇐
● Spain	6							8	4		81 ^J	
● Sri Lanka	—				94 ^H	97	→	60	92	62 ^B	70	→
— St. Kitts and Nevis	66				100 ^J	100 ^S	⇐					
— St. Lucia	57				100 ^J	99 ^R	⇐			47		
● St. Vincent and the Grenadines	63				100	100 ^S	⇐				58 ^M	
○ Sudan	110	71 ^{±E}			69 [±]	57 ^L	←	1500	590	9 ^E	7	⇐
● Suriname	91		91 ^P			85		230	110		42	
— Swaziland	118					70		370	370		48 ^Q	
— Sweden	1							8	2			
● Switzerland	6							8	7		82 ^J	
● Syrian Arab Republic	97					70 ^Q		200	160	40 ^H	48 ^P	→
● Tajikistan	103		75			71		120	100		34	
○ Tanzania	125	92 ^{±G}			53 ^{±G}	46 ^{S/T}	←	1100	1500	10 ^F	25 ^N	→
● Thailand	45	77 ^{±B}			66 ^{±B}	99	→	44	44	66 ^B	72	→
○ Timor-Leste	—					24 ^Q		850	660		10 ^R	
● Togo	135	65 ^{±C}	78 ^{±M}	→	46 ^{±C}	49	→	980	570	34	26	←
● Tonga	79					91 ^Q				41 ^L	33	←
● Trinidad and Tobago	45	98 ^{±B}	96 ^P	⇐	98 ^{±B}	96	⇐	65	160	53 ^B	38	←
● Tunisia	70	58 ^{±C}			69 ^{±C}	90	→	70	120	50	66	→
● Turkey	83		67 ^M		81 ^M	83 ^R	→	55	70	63	71 ^R	→
● Turkmenistan	—		87			97		65	31		62	
— Turks and Caicos Islands	—					100 ^S						
— Tuvalu	—				99 ^L	100 ^Q	⇐					
○ Uganda	146	87 ^{±C}	92 ^{±O/P}	→	38 ^{±C}	39	⇐	1100	880	5	23 ^P	→
● Ukraine	42		90 ^N			99 ^N		45	35		89	
● United Arab Emirates	42				99 ^J	100 ^R	⇐	30	54		28 ^J	
● United Kingdom	17					99 ^M		10	13	82 ^H		
● United States of America	22				99 ^L	99 ^P	⇐	12	17	76 ^J	64 ^N	←
● Uruguay	52				99 ^J	99 ^Q	⇐	50	27			
● Uzbekistan	—	95 ^K				96		60	24	56 ^K	68 ^Q	→
● Vanuatu	99				89 ^J	87 ^R	←	32	130	15 ^F	28	→
● Venezuela	72				95 ^J	94	⇐	43	96		77 ^M	
● Viet Nam	87		70 ^Q			85 ^Q		95	130	58 ^A	79 ^Q	→
— Virgin Islands (USA)	—				100	98 ^Q	⇐					
● West Bank and Gaza	67					97		120	100		42 ^K	
○ Yemen	149	26 ^{±F/G}	34 ^{±L}	→	34 ^{±F/G}	22 ^L	←	850	570	10 ^F	23 ^R	→
● Zambia	123	92 ^{±G}	93 ^{±P/Q}	⇐	50 ^{±G}	43 ^{P/Q}	←	870	750	15 ^G	34 ^Q	→
● Zimbabwe	119	91 ^{±C}	93 ^{±N}	⇐	70 ^{±C}	73 ^N	→	610	1100	43	54 ^N	→

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:
Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Atlas, WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAtlas), except for (†) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAT compiler (www.measuredhs.com/accesssurveys).
Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.int/reproductive-health/), except for (†) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAT compiler (www.measuredhs.com/accesssurveys).
Maternal mortality ratio: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.int/reproductive-health/).
Contraceptive use: World Development Indicators 2006 website, World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

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Data source year: A: 1986; B: 1987; C: 1988; D: 1989; E: 1990; F: 1991; G: 1992; H: 1993; I: 1994; J: 1995; K: 1996; L: 1997; M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; P: 2001; Q: 2002; R: 2003; S: 2004; T: 2005.

PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET PRIMARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET SECONDARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			GROSS TERTIARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)		
				1990	2005	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression
●	Colombia	15	93	1.01	1.01		1.00 ^M	1.01		1.13 ^M	1.11		1.06	1.09	
○	Comoros	—	129	0.78	0.80	→	0.73	0.85 ^O	→				0.75 ^N	0.77	→
—	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	—	0.72	0.89	→	0.78								
⊖	Congo, Rep.	135	—	0.95	0.99	→							0.21	0.19 ^R	←
⊖	Cook Islands	—	105					0.96 ^N		1.11 ^M	1.09 ^O				
●	Costa Rica	54	54	1.01	1.01		1.01	1.01		1.08	1.07		1.18 ^M	1.16 ^R	
○	Côte d'Ivoire	147	133	0.62	0.79	→	0.71	0.80 ^R	→	0.53 ^N	0.57 ^O	→		0.36 ^N	
●	Croatia	21	33	1.00	1.00		1.00	0.99 ^R		1.10	1.02 ^R		1.16 ^N	1.19 ^R	
●	Cuba	57	28	1.00	1.00		1.01	0.97	←	1.14	1.02		1.40	1.00	
●	Cyprus	57	17	1.00	1.00		1.00	1.00 ^R		1.03	1.03 ^R		1.11	1.03 ^R	
●	Czech Republic	38	26				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.01 ^P	1.03 ^R		0.81	1.07 ^R	→
●	Denmark	4	6				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.03	1.04 ^R		1.14	1.42 ^R	
○	Djibouti	—	114	0.78	0.93	→	0.72	0.81	→	0.64 ^P	0.70	→	0.81 ^O	0.82	→
●	Dominica	—	75					1.01			1.03				
●	Dominican Republic	68	100	1.02	1.02		2.18	1.02		1.37 ^M	1.21			1.64 ^R	
●	Ecuador	74	109	0.99	1.00		1.01	1.01		1.05 ^M	1.01				
⊖	Egypt	124	94	0.72	0.86	→	0.84	0.96 ^R	→		0.94 ^O		0.55		
●	El Salvador	66	115	0.97	0.99		1.17 ^M	1.00		0.99 ^M	1.03 ^R		1.24 ^M	1.19 ^R	
⊖	Equatorial Guinea	130	154	0.92	0.98	→	0.97	0.95					0.14	0.43 ^O	→
○	Eritrea	124	141	0.68	0.79	→	0.98	0.85	←	0.80 ^N	0.70	←	0.15 ^N	0.15	
●	Estonia	15	28	1.00	1.00		0.99	0.99 ^R		1.04 ^O	1.04 ^R		1.05	1.66 ^R	
○	Ethiopia	117	161	0.66	0.86	→	0.75	0.94 ^T	→	0.63 ^N	0.65 ^T	→	0.22	0.34	→
●	Fiji	83	61	1.00	1.00		1.00 ^M	0.99		1.06 ^M	1.08 ^O			1.20	
●	Finland	2	1				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.02	1.01 ^R		1.13	1.20 ^R	
●	France	66	26				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.02 ^N	1.02 ^R		1.17	1.28 ^R	
⊖	Gabon	—	106				1.00	0.99 ^P						0.54 ^N	
○	Gambia	114	138	0.68	0.80	→	0.71	0.92 ^P	→	0.67 ^N	0.68 ^R	→	0.29 ^N	0.23	←
●	Georgia	48	71				1.00	0.99		0.99 ^N	0.99		1.18	1.03	
—	Germany	—	6				1.03						0.92 ^N	1.00 ^R	→
⊖	Ghana	95	142	0.86	0.97	→	0.89	0.99 ^T	→	0.84 ^N	0.90 ^T	→	0.30	0.48	→
●	Greece	60	6	1.00	1.00		0.99	1.00 ^R		1.02	1.05 ^R		0.99	1.14 ^R	
⊖	Guatemala	107	131	0.82	0.86	→	0.91 ^M	0.95	→	0.92 ^M	0.92			0.72 ^O	
○	Guinea	114	140				0.53	0.84	→	0.39 ^N	0.51	→	0.07	0.20	→
○	Guinea-Bissau	124	151	0.43	0.69	→	0.56	0.71 ^P	→		0.55 ^P		0.18 ^N	0.18 ^P	
●	Guyana	87	108	1.00	1.00		1.00	0.99		1.06				1.91	
—	Haiti	—	—	0.96	1.02	→	1.05								
●	Honduras	54	130	1.03	1.04		1.02	1.02					0.81	1.46	→
⊖	Hong Kong (China)	32	—	0.99	1.01		0.96 ^P	0.95	←	0.98 ^P	0.97	←	0.88 ^P	0.97	→
●	Hungary	32	35	1.00	1.00		1.01	0.99 ^R		1.04	1.00 ^R		1.06	1.37 ^R	
●	Iceland	6	1				0.99	0.99 ^R		1.05 ^N	1.04 ^R		1.39	1.78 ^R	
⊖	India	143	128	0.74	0.85	→	0.82 ^O	0.94 ^R	→				0.54	0.67 ^R	→
⊖	Indonesia	107	102	0.97	0.99		0.96	0.98 ^R		0.88	0.99 ^R	→	0.76 ^P	0.80 ^R	→
●	Iran, Islamic Rep.	113	80	0.88	0.97	→	0.92	0.99	→		0.94		0.48	1.11	→
○	Iraq	—	121	0.44	0.51	→	0.88	0.86		0.65 ^N	0.71	→	0.54 ^N	0.59	→
●	Ireland	44	17				1.02	1.00 ^R		1.05	1.07 ^R		0.90	1.31 ^R	→
●	Israel	32	17	0.99	1.00		1.03	1.00 ^R		1.01 ^N	1.00 ^R		1.01	1.33 ^R	
●	Italy	68	40	1.00	1.00		1.00	0.99 ^R		1.01 ^N	1.01 ^R		0.94	1.34 ^R	→
●	Jamaica	60	73	1.09	1.07		1.00	1.01 ^R		1.06	1.04 ^R		0.74	2.29 ^R	→
●	Japan	74	1				1.00	1.00 ^R			1.01 ^O		0.65	0.88 ^R	→
●	Jordan	114	42	0.97	1.00		1.01	1.01 ^R		1.07 ^N	1.03 ^R		1.12	1.10 ^R	
●	Kazakhstan	60	54	1.00	1.00		0.99	0.99		1.02 ^O	0.99		1.16 ^N	1.38	
●	Kenya	72	—	0.93	0.99	→	1.01 ^M	1.00							
—	Kiribati	—	—					1.00 ^O							
●	Korea, Rep.	95	6	1.00	1.00		1.01	0.99		0.98	1.00		0.49	0.61	→
●	Kuwait	124	92	0.99	1.02		0.93	1.03	→	1.01 ^N	1.05 ^O		2.39 ^N	2.72	

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Notes:

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PRESENT SITUATION	GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET PRIMARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET SECONDARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			GROSS TERTIARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)		
			1990	2005	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression
● Kyrgyzstan	83	—				1.00	0.99					1.04 ^N	1.19	
○ Lao PDR	102	155	0.76	0.87	→	0.85	0.94	→	0.79 ^N	0.85	→	0.49 ^N	0.63	→
● Latvia	8	37	1.00	1.00		0.99	0.99 ^R		1.03 ^N	1.01 ^R		1.29	1.67 ^R	
● Lebanon	117	56	0.93	0.97	→	0.97	0.99					1.04 ^N	1.12	
○ Lesotho	98	137	1.26	1.16		1.24	1.06		1.99	1.54		1.30	1.51 ^R	
○ Liberia	—	145	0.51	0.68	→		0.78 ^O			0.57 ^O			0.76 ^O	
● Libya	—	—	0.84	0.96	→	0.96						0.98 ^N	1.09 ^R	→
● Lithuania	8	35	1.00	1.00		0.99 ^N	1.00 ^R		1.01 ^N	1.00 ^R		1.28	1.55 ^R	
● Luxembourg	87	49				1.02 ^N	1.01 ^R		1.04 ^N	1.07 ^R		1.09 ^N	1.18 ^R	
○ Macao (China)	—	—	0.97	0.99		0.98	0.97		1.09 ^N	1.08		0.48	0.65	→
● Macedonia, FYR	44	62				0.99	1.00 ^R		0.97 ^N	0.97 ^O		1.11	1.34 ^R	
● Madagascar	102	144	0.86	0.94	→	1.00	1.00			1.03 ^N		0.82	0.90	→
○ Malawi	117	148	0.68	0.79	→	0.93	1.05	→	0.78 ^M	0.86	→	0.34	0.54	→
● Malaysia	74	73	0.99	1.00		1.00 ^M	1.00 ^O		1.11 ^M	1.11 ^O		1.09 ^M	1.29 ^O	
● Maldives	74	113	1.00	1.00		1.01 ^M	1.01 ^O		1.13 ^N	1.15 ^O			2.37 ^R	
○ Mali	117	143	0.45	0.57	→	0.61	0.85	→	0.57			0.16	0.47	→
● Malta	87	17	1.03	1.02		0.99	0.99 ^R		0.99	1.02 ^R		0.83	1.40 ^R	→
● Marshall Islands	—	95					0.99 ^O			1.04 ^O			1.32 ^O	
○ Mauritania	—	120	0.65	0.75	→	0.74	0.99	→	0.79 ^P	0.82	→	0.16	0.31	→
● Mauritius	98	33	1.00	1.02		1.00	1.02		1.02 ^M	1.08		0.73	1.39	→
● Mexico	74	85	0.98	0.99		0.97	1.00 ^R	→	0.99 ^N	1.03 ^R		0.74	0.97 ^R	→
● Moldova	12	63	1.00	1.00		0.99	0.99		1.03 ^O	1.05		1.28 ^N	1.37	
● Mongolia	26	70	1.00	1.01		1.02	1.01		1.27 ^N	1.14		1.89	1.64	
○ Morocco	130	112	0.62	0.83	→	0.70	0.94 ^R	→	0.83 ^O	0.86 ^R	→	0.59	0.87	→
○ Mozambique	92	150	0.48	0.68	→	0.79	0.90	→	0.73 ^M	0.78	→		0.46	
○ Myanmar	—	136	0.96	1.00	→	0.97	1.01 ^R	→	1.00 ^N	0.94 ^R	←	1.60 ^M	1.76 ^P	
● Namibia	21	98	1.04	1.04		1.08 ^M	1.08 ^R		1.48 ^M	1.35 ^R		1.79	1.15 ^R	
○ Nepal	140	157	0.41	0.63	→		0.82 ^O					0.33	0.40	→
● Netherlands	18	6				1.04	0.99 ^R		1.02	1.01 ^R		0.83	1.09 ^R	→
● Netherlands Antilles	—	—	1.00	1.00					1.12 ^O	1.10 ^R		1.13 ^N	1.49 ^O	
● New Zealand	4	6				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.02	1.03 ^R		1.14	1.47 ^R	
● Nicaragua	98	127	1.01	1.02		1.03	0.99		1.18 ^O	1.13		0.97	1.11 ^R	→
○ Niger	117	158	0.37	0.46	→	0.60	0.71	→	0.46	0.68	→	0.35 ^P	0.40	→
○ Nigeria	135	146	0.82	0.97	→		0.85			0.81 ^R			0.55	
● Norway	2	1				1.00	1.00 ^R		1.02	1.01 ^R		1.19	1.55 ^R	
● Oman	130	48	0.79	0.99	→	0.95	1.02	→	1.03 ^N	1.01		0.97	1.37	→
○ Pakistan	144	152	0.49	0.64	→		0.73					0.58	0.79	→
○ Palau	—	77					0.96 ^O					1.84 ^O	2.15 ^O	
● Panama	38	86	0.99	0.99		0.99 ^M	1.00		1.07 ^M	1.10		1.54 ^M	1.59	
○ Papua New Guinea	—	122	0.84	0.91	→								0.55 ^M	
● Paraguay	57	107	0.99	1.00		0.99	1.00 ^O		1.06	1.06 ^O		1.38 ^N	1.39 ^O	
○ Peru	83	101	0.95	0.98		1.00 ^M	1.00 ^O		0.98 ^M	0.97 ^O	←		0.98 ^P	
● Philippines	18	117	1.00	1.00		0.99	1.02 ^R		1.09 ^M	1.19 ^R		1.42	1.28 ^R	
● Poland	26	22	1.00	1.00		1.00	1.00 ^R		1.08	1.02 ^R		1.34	1.42 ^R	
● Portugal	32	6	1.00	1.00		1.00			1.09 ^N	1.11 ^R		1.29	1.35 ^R	
— Puerto Rico	—	—	1.02	1.01										
● Qatar	—	57	1.05	1.04		0.98	0.99		1.06	0.98		3.34	2.86	
● Romania	41	65	1.00	1.00		1.00	0.99 ^R		1.02 ^N	1.03 ^R		0.93	1.24 ^R	→
● Russian Federation	21	—	1.00	1.00		1.00						1.27	1.35 ^R	
○ Rwanda	21	160	0.86	0.98	→	0.99	1.04		0.76			0.48 ^P	0.62	→
● Samoa	—	50	1.00	1.00		1.04 ^M	1.00 ^O		1.12 ^M	1.14 ^O		0.94 ^M	0.93 ^P	
○ Sao Tomé and Príncipe	—	116					0.99 ^N			0.83 ^O		0.57 ^O	0.56 ^O	←
○ Saudi Arabia	135	67	0.86	0.98	→	0.81	0.98	→	0.80	0.96	→	0.87	1.50	→
○ Senegal	104	124	0.60	0.75	→	0.75	0.95	→		0.72				
● Serbia and Montenegro	—	—				1.02	1.00 ^P		1.03			1.19 ^N	1.20 ^P	

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Notes:

Data source year: M: 1998; N: 1999; O: 2000; Q: 2002; R: 2003; T: 2005.

PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	LITERACY RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET PRIMARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			NET SECONDARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)			GROSS TERTIARY ENROLMENT RATIO GAP (WOMEN/MEN)		
				1990	2005	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression	1991	2004	Progress or regression
●	Seychelles	—	—				0.98 ^M	0.99 ^Q	→	1.01 ^M	0.97 ^R	←			
○	Sierra Leone	146	—				0.73							0.40 ^Q	
—	Singapore	—	—	1.00	1.00								0.71		
●	Slovakia	21	57				1.01 ^P	1.01 ^R		1.01 ^P	1.01 ^R		1.11 ^N	1.18 ^R	
●	Slovenia	32	32	1.00	1.00		1.01	0.99 ^R		1.03 ^N	1.01 ^R		1.32	1.36 ^R	
○	Solomon Islands	104	—					0.99		0.81 ^O	0.86 ^Q	→			
—	Somalia	—	—				0.55								
●	South Africa	50	96	1.00	1.00		1.03	1.01 ^R		1.15	1.12 ^O		0.83	1.17 ^R	
●	Spain	18	6	1.00	1.00		1.00	0.99 ^R		1.03 ^N	1.04 ^R		1.09	1.19 ^R	
●	Sri Lanka	60	—	0.98	1.00			1.00 ^R					0.55		
●	St. Lucia	50	57				0.97	0.97		1.31 ^N	1.00		1.35	3.46	
●	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	—	63				0.95 ^O	0.97		1.14 ^O	1.02				
○	Sudan	139	110	0.71	0.91	→	0.75	0.83 ^O	→				0.88	0.92 ^O	→
●	Suriname	60	91				1.06	1.07 ^R		1.17 ^P	1.38 ^R			1.62 ^Q	
●	Swaziland	74	118	1.01	1.02		1.05	1.01 ^R		1.20	1.24 ^R		0.76	1.16 ^R	→
●	Sweden	1	1				1.00	0.99 ^R		1.01	1.01 ^R		1.22	1.55 ^R	
○	Switzerland	26	6				1.02	1.00 ^R		0.94	0.93 ^R		0.57	0.77 ^R	→
○	Syrian Arab Republic	130	97	0.73	0.86	→	0.91	0.96	→	0.74	0.93	→	0.64		
○	Tajikistan	92	103	1.00	1.00		0.98	0.96		0.91 ^N	0.85	←	0.62	0.33	←
○	Tanzania	54	125	0.87	0.97		1.01	0.98 ^T			0.95 ^M		0.19	0.41	
●	Thailand	41	45	0.99	0.99		0.97	0.97					1.16 ^N	1.17	
—	Timor-Leste	—	—											1.48 ^Q	
○	Togo	141	135	0.60	0.79	→	0.71	0.85	→	0.37	0.48 ^O	→	0.16	0.20 ^P	→
●	Tonga	—	79				1.01 ^M	0.96		1.12 ^M	1.10 ^P			1.27 ^N	
●	Trinidad and Tobago	44	45	1.00	1.00		0.99	0.99		1.07 ^N	1.05		0.80	1.26	
●	Tunisia	109	70	0.81	0.94		0.92	1.00 ^R		1.05 ^P	1.11 ^R		0.66	1.28 ^R	
○	Turkey	117	83	0.91	0.97		0.92	0.94 ^R					0.53	0.75 ^R	
—	Turkmenistan	—	—												
●	Turks and Caicos Islands	—	—				1.00 ^Q	1.08		1.05 ^Q	1.00			3.18 ^R	
○	Uganda	74	146	0.76	0.88		1.00	1.02		0.76 ^N	0.87 ^T		0.38	0.62	
●	Ukraine	32	42	1.00	1.00		1.00	1.00		1.03 ^O	1.00		1.03	1.19	
●	United Arab Emirates	135	42	1.08	1.07		0.98	0.97		1.16	1.06		4.03	3.24 ^R	
●	United Kingdom	15	17				0.97	1.00 ^R	→	0.99	1.04 ^R		0.90	1.30 ^R	→
●	United States of America	12	22				1.00	1.01 ^R		1.02	1.01 ^R		1.25	1.37 ^R	
●	Uruguay	44	52	1.01	1.01		1.01	1.00 ^Q		1.14 ^N	1.10 ^Q		1.84 ^M	1.95 ^Q	
○	Uzbekistan	92	—	1.00	1.00		0.99							0.80 ^R	
○	Vanuatu	—	99				1.00 ^M	0.98		0.82	0.86		0.56 ^Q	0.58	
●	Venezuela	50	72	1.01	1.01		1.03	1.01		1.50	1.15		1.46 ^O	1.08 ^R	
○	Viet Nam	60	87	0.99	1.01		0.92	0.94 ^P					0.76 ^N	0.77 ^R	
●	West Bank and Gaza	109	67				1.01 ^N	1.00		1.04 ^N	1.05		0.84 ^M	1.04	→
○	Yemen	149	149	0.34	0.67		0.38	0.73			0.46 ^O		0.28 ^N	0.38	
○	Zambia	104	123	0.88	0.96		0.97 ^M	1.00		0.84 ^M	0.78		0.46 ^M	0.46 ^O	
○	Zimbabwe	111	119	0.95	0.98		1.01 ^M	1.01 ^R		0.91 ^M	0.93 ^R		0.49	0.63 ^R	

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Sources:

UNESCO Website Database (www.unesco.org), March 2006.

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GENDER EQUITY: The governments of the world agreed on...

Gender gap in economic activity and earned income

"Discrimination against women, denying or limiting as it does their equality of rights with men, is fundamentally unjust and constitutes an offence against human dignity."

Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,
Article 1, 1967.

"We are convinced that... women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society, including participation in the decision-making process and access to power, are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace."

Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action,
Paragraph 13, 1995.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to non discrimination on the basis of sex is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 2 & 26

CEDAW - Art. 7, 10 & 11

CESCR - Art. 3 & 7

CRC - Art. 29

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Gender equity is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 3

World Summit for Social Development

Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (AS % OF TOTAL NON-AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES)			ESTIMATED EARNED INCOME RATIO (WOMEN/MEN)
				1990 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991/2003
—	Afghanistan	—	—	17.8			
●	Albania	95	76	39.6	40.3		0.56
○	Algeria	130	69	8.0	15.5	→	0.31
●	Andorra	—	—	43.1	45.5		
●	Angola	111	—	26.4			0.62
●	Argentina	41	53	35.7	47.6	→	0.37
●	Armenia	74	51	45.5	47.0		0.70
●	Aruba	—	—	39.5	44.7	→	
●	Australia	8	28	44.6	48.9	→	0.72
●	Austria	38	6	40.1	44.5	→	0.35
●	Azerbaijan	68	103	33.7	48.5	→	0.58
●	Bahamas	6	60	48.5	50.1		0.64
○	Bahrain	124	25	7.3	13.4	→	0.31
●	Bangladesh	124	159	17.6	24.2	→	0.54
●	Barbados	8	37	45.5	48.4	→	0.61
●	Belarus	48	37	55.7	55.9		0.65
●	Belgium	26	6	39.9	44.4	→	0.54
●	Belize	72	89	37.6	41.3	→	0.24
●	Benin	117	126	46.0			0.69
●	Bermuda	—	—	48.7	48.9		
—	Bhutan	—	139	12.0			
●	Bolivia	86	110	35.7	36.5		0.45
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	—	35.8			0.46
●	Botswana	26	88	40.7	47.0	→	0.61
●	Brazil	50	82	40.2	46.9	→	0.43
—	British Virgin Islands	—	—	48.3 ^I			
●	Bulgaria	26	41	53.0	52.2		0.67
●	Burkina Faso	141	132	12.5	15.2	→	0.73
●	Burundi	87	156	13.3			0.72
●	Cambodia	74	153	48.0	52.6	→	0.76
●	Cameroon	—	134	20.7			0.45
●	Canada	12	28	46.9	49.2		0.64
●	Cape Verde	98	89	39.1			0.48
●	Cayman Islands	—	—	47.8	50.9	→	
●	Central African Republic	144	—	30.4			0.61
●	Chad	147	162	3.8			0.59

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PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (AS % OF TOTAL NON-AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES)			ESTIMATED EARNED INCOME RATIO (WOMEN/MEN)
				1990 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991/2003
○	Chile	68	22	36.2	37.3		0.39
●	China	87	81	37.7	39.5		0.66
●	Colombia	15	93	42.6	48.8	→	0.51
●	Comoros	—	129	17.0			0.55
●	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	—	25.9			0.55
●	Congo, Rep.	135	—	26.1			0.56
●	Cook Islands	—	105	38.4	39.4		
○	Costa Rica	54	54	37.2	39.5		0.37
○	Côte d'Ivoire	147	133	21.8	20.2		0.37
●	Croatia	21	33	44.2	46.3		0.56
●	Cuba	57	28	37.0	37.7		
●	Cyprus	57	17	37.2	46.3	→	0.47
●	Czech Republic	38	26	51.0	45.8	←	0.64
●	Denmark	4	6	47.1	48.3		0.73
○	Dominican Republic	68	100	35.2	34.9		0.36
●	Ecuador	74	109	37.3	41.1	→	0.30
○	Egypt	124	94	20.5	21.6		0.26
●	El Salvador	66	115	32.3	31.1		0.44
●	Equatorial Guinea	130	154	10.5			0.40
●	Eritrea	124	141	30.0	35.0	→	0.51
●	Estonia	15	28	52.3	51.5		0.64
●	Ethiopia	117	161	39.9 ^F			0.52
○	Fiji	83	61	29.9	35.9	→	0.37
●	Finland	2	1	50.6	50.6		0.72
●	France	66	26	43.9	47.0	→	0.59
●	French Polynesia	—	—	42.7	41.9		
●	Gabon	—	106	37.7			0.59
●	Gambia	114	138	20.9			0.59
●	Georgia	48	78	44.9	45.2		0.42
●	Germany	—	6	40.7	46.4	→	0.54
●	Ghana	95	142	56.5			0.75
●	Greece	60	6	36.5	41.1	→	0.45
●	Grenada	—	83	38.1	42.8	→	
●	Guadeloupe	—	—	46.0	45.8		
—	Guam	—	—	43.6 ^G			
○	Guatemala	107	131	36.8	38.7		0.33
●	Guinea	114	140	30.3			0.68
●	Guinea-Bissau	124	151	10.8			0.49
○	Guyana	87	108	37.4			0.39
●	Haiti	—	—	39.5			0.56
●	Honduras	54	130	48.1	50.5		0.37
●	Hong Kong (China)	32	—	41.2	46.9	→	0.56
●	Hungary	32	35	45.7	47.1		0.62
●	Iceland	6	1	52.9	52.5		0.69
○	India	143	128	12.7	17.5	→	0.38
○	Indonesia	107	102	29.2	30.8		0.52
○	Iran, Islamic Rep.	113	80	17.2			0.28
—	Iraq	—	121	11.9			
●	Ireland	44	17	41.7	47.4	→	0.41
●	Israel	32	17	43.0	48.9	→	0.55
●	Italy	68	40	34.4	41.2	→	0.46
●	Jamaica	60	73	50.6	48.0	←	0.66
●	Japan	74	1	38.0	40.8	→	0.46
○	Jordan	114	42	23.1	24.9		0.31

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PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	WOMEN WAGE EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (AS % OF TOTAL NON-AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYEES)			ESTIMATED EARNED INCOME RATIO (WOMEN/MEN)
				1990 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991/2003
●	Kazakhstan	60	54	50.3	48.7		0.64
○	Kenya	72	—	21.4	38.5	→	0.93
—	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	—	40.7			
○	Korea, Rep.	95	6	38.1	41.2	→	0.48
○	Kuwait	124	92	23.0	24.1		0.35
●	Kyrgyzstan	83	—	47.7	44.1	←	0.65
●	Lao PDR	102	155	42.1			0.65
●	Latvia	8	37	52.3	53.4		0.62
○	Lebanon	117	56	25.9			0.31
○	Lesotho	98	137	24.7			0.39
—	Liberia	—	145	23.6			
—	Libya	—	—	15.0			
●	Lithuania	8	35	57.8	50.0	←	0.68
○	Luxembourg	87	49	34.6	38.4	→	0.39
●	Macao (China)	—	—	42.7	49.3	→	
○	Macedonia, FYR	44	62	38.3	42.2	→	0.56
○	Madagascar	102	144	24.2			0.59
○	Malawi	117	148	10.5	12.5		0.68
○	Malaysia	74	73	37.8	38.0		0.47
○	Maldives	74	113	31.1	36.1	→	
○	Mali	117	143	35.9			0.60
○	Malta	87	17	25.9	33.0	→	0.39
○	Mauritania	—	120	37.0			0.56
○	Mauritius	98	33	36.7	38.5		0.37
○	Mexico	74	85	35.3	37.4		0.38
●	Moldova	12	63	48.9	54.6	→	0.65
●	Mongolia	26	70	47.5	49.4		0.66
○	Morocco	130	112	25.4	26.2		0.40
●	Mozambique	92	150	11.4			0.68
—	Myanmar	—	136	36.4			
○	Namibia	21	98	39.2	50.8	→	0.51
○	Nepal	140	157	11.8			0.51
○	Netherlands	18	6	37.7	45.7	→	0.53
●	Netherlands Antilles	—	—	41.3	49.0	→	
—	New Caledonia	—	—	39.8 ^K			
●	New Zealand	4	6	47.7	51.3	→	0.68
○	Nicaragua	98	127	41.1			0.45
○	Niger	117	158	8.6 ^F			0.57
○	Nigeria	135	146	34.0			0.41
●	Norway	2	1	46.8	49.1		0.75
○	Oman	130	48	18.7	25.6	→	0.19
○	Pakistan	144	152	6.6	8.7		0.34
○	Panama	38	86	43.3	44.0		0.51
○	Papua New Guinea	—	122	20.3	35.4	→	0.57
○	Paraguay	57	107	40.5	42.0		0.33
○	Peru	83	101	28.7	37.2	→	0.27
○	Philippines	18	117	40.4	41.1		0.59
●	Poland	26	22	46.4	47.7		0.62
○	Portugal	32	6	44.4	46.9		0.54
○	Puerto Rico	—	—	46.5	40.1	←	
○	Qatar	—	57	12.0	15.2	→	
○	Romania	41	65	42.7	45.3		0.58
●	Russian Federation	21	—	49.6	50.1		0.64
○	Rwanda	21	160	14.6			0.62

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				1990 (%)	2003 (%)	Progress or regression	1991/2003
●	San Marino	—	—	40.4	41.9		
○	Saudi Arabia	135	67	13.5	14.5		0.21
●	Senegal	104	124	25.7			0.55
●	Serbia and Montenegro	—	—	40.1	44.9	→	
●	Sierra Leone	146	—	21.2			0.42
●	Singapore	—	—	42.5	47.8	→	0.51
●	Slovakia	21	57	48.2	52.1	→	0.65
●	Slovenia	32	32	48.7	47.4		0.62
●	Solomon Islands	104	—	30.8			0.66
—	Somalia	—	—	21.9			
●	South Africa	50	96	39.5 ^H			0.45
●	Spain	18	6	32.6	40.7	→	0.44
●	Sri Lanka	60	—	39.1	43.2	→	0.51
●	St. Lucia	50	57	47.1	48.5		
○	Sudan	139	110	22.2	18.9	←	0.32
●	Suriname	60	91	39.1	32.9	←	
○	Swaziland	74	118	35.4	31.3	←	0.39
●	Sweden	1	1	50.5	50.9		0.69
●	Switzerland	26	6	42.9	46.9	→	0.90
○	Syrian Arab Republic	130	97	16.3	18.2		0.29
●	Tajikistan	92	103	39.7	52.3	→	0.62
●	Tanzania	54	125	28.5			0.71
●	Thailand	41	45	45.3	46.9		0.61
—	Timor-Leste	—	—	19.0			
●	Togo	141	135	41.0			0.47
●	Trinidad and Tobago	44	45	35.6	41.3	→	0.46
○	Tunisia	109	70	23.5	25.3		0.37
○	Turkey	117	83	15.0	20.6	→	0.46
●	Turkmenistan	—	—				0.63
●	Uganda	74	146	35.6			0.67
●	Ukraine	32	42	50.4	53.6	→	0.53
○	United Arab Emirates	135	42	11.6	14.4	→	
●	United Kingdom	15	17	47.8	49.9		0.62
●	United States of America	12	22	47.4	48.8		0.62
●	Uruguay	44	52	43.1	46.3	→	0.53
●	Uzbekistan	92	—	46.2	41.5	←	0.66
●	Venezuela	50	72	35.2	41.5	→	0.42
●	Viet Nam	60	87	45.2	51.8	→	0.68
○	West Bank and Gaza	109	67	10.6	16.8	→	
○	Yemen	149	149	9.3	6.1	←	0.31
●	Zambia	104	123	29.4			0.56
●	Zimbabwe	111	119	15.4	21.8	→	0.58

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Sources:

Women wage employment in non-agricultural sector: The UN Statistics Division Website (unstats.un.org/unsd/), February 2006.

Estimated earned income ratio (women/men): Human Development Report 2005, UNDP.

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Women's empowerment

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Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,
Article 1, 1967.

"We are convinced that... women's empowerment and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society, including participation in the decision-making process and access to power, are fundamental for the achievement of equality, development and peace."

Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action, Paragraph 13, 1995.

HUMAN RIGHTS

The right to non discrimination on the basis of sex is enshrined in:

UDHR - Art. 2 & 26 **CEDAW** - Art. 7, 10 & 11
CESCR - Art. 3 & 7 **CRC** - Art. 29

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Gender equity is considered in:

Millennium Development Goals - Goal 3
World Summit for Social Development
Fourth World Conference on Women - Beijing Platform for Action - Critical Areas of Concern

PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	FEMALE PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WORKERS	FEMALE LEGISLATORS, SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MANAGERS	WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL			SEATS IN PARLIAMENT HELD BY WOMEN			
				Latest available data ^A (%)	Latest available data ^A (%)	1995 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1997 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	
—	Afghanistan	—	—								27.3	
○	Albania	95	76			12.3	5.3	←	12.1	7.1	←	
○	Algeria	130	69			2.0	10.5	→	6.6	6.2		
—	Andorra	—	—						3.6	28.6	→	
○	Angola	111	—			6.0	5.7		9.5	15.0	→	
●	Antigua and Barbuda	—	—			30.0	15.4	←	5.3	10.5	→	
●	Argentina	41	53	55	25	3.0	8.3	→	25.3	36.2	→	
○	Armenia	74	51			2.0	0.0		6.3	5.3		
●	Australia	8	28	55	36	23.7	20.0	←	15.5	24.7	→	
●	Austria	38	6	49	27	6.8	35.3	→	26.8	33.9	→	
●	Azerbaijan	68	103			5.3	15.0	→	12.0	13.0		
●	Bahamas	6	60	51	40	34.0	26.7	←	8.2	20.0	→	
○	Bahrain	124	25	19	10	0.0	8.7	→		0.0		
○	Bangladesh	124	159	25	8	3.0	8.3	→	9.1	14.8	→	
●	Barbados	8	37	71	45	23.0	29.4	→	10.7	13.3	→	
●	Belarus	48	37			4.4	10.0	→		29.1		
●	Belgium	26	6	48	31	8.3	21.4	→	12.0	34.7	→	
●	Belize	72	89	52	31	10.0	6.3	←	3.4	6.7	→	
●	Benin	117	126			10.0	19.0	→	7.2	7.2		
○	Bhutan	—	139			5.0	0.0	←	2.0	9.3	→	
●	Bolivia	86	110	40	36	9.0	6.7	←	6.9	16.9	→	
●	Bosnia and Herzegovina	—	—				11.1			16.7		
●	Botswana	26	88	53	31	11.0	26.7	→	8.5	11.1	→	
●	Brazil	50	82	62		13.0	11.4		6.6	8.6	→	
—	Brunei Darussalam	—	47			2.0	9.1	→				
●	Bulgaria	26	41	34	30	8.5	23.8	→	13.3	22.1	→	
●	Burkina Faso	141	132			10.0	14.8	→	3.7	11.7	→	
●	Burundi	87	156			4.0	10.7	→		30.5		
○	Cambodia	74	153	33	14	5.0	7.1	→	5.8	9.8	→	
○	Cameroon	—	134			5.0	11.1	→	12.2	8.9	←	
●	Canada	12	28	54	35	19.1	23.1	→	18.0	21.1	→	
●	Cape Verde	98	89			12.0	18.8	→	11.1	11.1		
○	Central African Republic	144	—			5.0	10.0	→	3.5	10.5	→	
○	Chad	147	162			3.0	11.5	→	17.3	6.5	←	
●	Chile	68	22	52	24	12.0	16.7	→	7.5	15.0	→	
●	China	87	81			4.0	6.3	→	21.0	20.3		
●	Colombia	15	93	50	38	25.0	35.7	→	11.7	12.1		
—	Comoros	—	129			3.0			0.0	3.0	→	

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PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	FEMALE PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WORKERS	FEMALE LEGISLATORS, SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MANAGERS	WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL			SEATS IN PARLIAMENT HELD BY WOMEN			
				Latest available data ^A (%)	Latest available data ^A (%)	1995 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1997 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression	
●	Congo, Dem. Rep.	—	—				12.5					
●	Congo, Rep.	135	—			4.0	14.7	→	1.6	8.5	→	
●	Costa Rica	54	54	40	29	21.0	25.0	→	15.8	35.1	→	
●	Côte d'Ivoire	147	133			3.0	17.1	→	8.3	8.5		
●	Croatia	21	33	52	26		33.3		7.9	21.7	→	
●	Cuba	57	28			8.0	16.2	→	22.8	36.0	→	
○	Cyprus	57	17	47	18	5.0	0.0	←	5.4	16.1	→	
●	Czech Republic	38	26	52	26	1.2	11.1	→	15.0	17.0	→	
○	Denmark	4	6	51	26	19.0	33.3	→	33.0	36.9	→	
○	Djibouti	—	114			1.0	5.3	→	0.0	10.8	→	
○	Dominica	—	75			31.0	0.0	←	9.4	12.9	→	
●	Dominican Republic	68	100	49	31	12.0	14.3	→	11.7	17.3	→	
●	Ecuador	74	109	40	26	10.0	14.3	→		16.0		
○	Egypt	124	94	31	9	2.0	5.9	→	2.0	2.0		
●	El Salvador	66	115	44	32	18.0	35.3	→	10.7	10.7		
●	Equatorial Guinea	130	154			3.0	4.5		8.8	18.0	→	
●	Eritrea	124	141				17.6		21.0	22.0		
●	Estonia	15	28	69	35	10.4	15.4	→	12.9	18.8	→	
●	Ethiopia	117	161			11.0	5.9	←	2.0	21.4	→	
●	Fiji	83	61	9	51	10.0	9.1		4.3	8.5	→	
●	Finland	2	1	53	28	16.3	47.1	→	33.5	37.5	→	
●	France	66	26			8.8	17.6	→	6.4	12.2	→	
●	Gabon	—	106			6.0	11.8	→		9.2		
●	Gambia	114	138			7.0	20.0	→		13.2		
●	Georgia	48	78	63	28	3.3	22.2	→	6.8	9.4	→	
●	Germany	—	6	50	36	6.8	46.2	→	26.2	31.8	→	
●	Ghana	95	142			11.0	11.8			10.9		
●	Greece	60	6	48	26	6.3	5.6		6.3	13.0	→	
●	Grenada	—	83			19.0	40.0	→	20.0	26.7	→	
●	Guatemala	107	131			18.0	25.0	→	12.5	8.2	←	
●	Guinea	114	140			5.0	15.4	→	7.0	19.3	→	
●	Guinea-Bissau	124	151			12.0	37.5	→	10.0	14.0	→	
●	Guyana	87	108			16.0	22.2	→	20.0	30.8	→	
●	Haiti	—	—			14.0	25.0	→	3.6	3.6		
●	Honduras	54	130	36	22	17.0	14.3	←	7.8	23.4	→	
●	Hong Kong (China)	32	—	39	26							
○	Hungary	32	35	61	34	7.7	11.8	→	11.4	9.1	←	
●	Iceland	6	1	55	29	8.1	27.3	→	25.4	33.3	→	
○	India	143	128			6.0	3.4	←	7.2	8.3		
●	Indonesia	107	102			2.0	10.8	→	12.6	11.3		
○	Iran, Islamic Rep.	113	80	33	13	0.0	6.7	→	4.0	4.1		
—	Iraq	—	121			0.0						
●	Ireland	44	17	50	29	11.1	21.4	→	13.9	13.3		
●	Israel	32	17	54	29	9.8	16.7	→	7.5	15.0	→	
●	Italy	68	40	45	21	9.6	8.3		11.1	11.5		
●	Jamaica	60	73			13.0	17.6	→	11.7	11.7		
○	Japan	74	1	46	10	8.3	12.5	→	4.6	9.0	→	
○	Jordan	114	42			7.0	10.7	→	1.3	5.5	→	
●	Kazakhstan	60	54			1.1	17.6	→	13.4	10.4	←	
○	Kenya	72	—			5.0	10.3	→	3.0	7.1	→	
—	Kiribati	—	—						0.0	4.8	→	
—	Korea, Dem. Rep.	—	—						20.1	20.1		
○	Korea, Rep.	95	6	39	6	2.0	5.6	→	3.0	13.4	→	
○	Kuwait	124	92			6.0	0.0	←	0.0	1.5		
○	Kyrgyzstan	83	—			8.0	12.5	→	1.4	0.0		
●	Lao PDR	102	155			3.0	0.0	←	9.4	22.9	→	
●	Latvia	8	37	64	40	15.5	23.5	→	9.0	21.0	→	

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PRESENT SITUATION		GEI RANKING (OUT OF 149 COUNTRIES)	BCI RANKING (OUT OF 162 COUNTRIES)	FEMALE PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WORKERS	FEMALE LEGISLATORS, SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MANAGERS	WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL			SEATS IN PARLIAMENT HELD BY WOMEN		
				Latest available data ^A (%)	Latest available data ^A (%)	1995 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1997 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression
○	Lebanon	117	56			0.0	6.9	→	2.3	4.7	→
●	Lesotho	98	137			14.0	27.8	→	4.6	11.7	→
—	Liberia	—	145						5.7	12.5	→
—	Libya	—	—			0.0				4.7	
—	Liechtenstein	—	—						8.0	24.0	→
●	Lithuania	8	35	70	39	8.6	15.4	→	17.5	22.0	→
●	Luxembourg	87	49			7.7	14.3	→	20.0	23.3	→
●	Macedonia, FYR	44	62	51	27		16.7		3.3	19.2	→
○	Madagascar	102	144			0.0	5.9	→	3.7	6.9	→
●	Malawi	117	148			6.0	14.3	→	5.6	13.6	→
●	Malaysia	74	73	40	23	6.0	9.1	→	7.8	9.1	
○	Maldives	74	113	40	15	10.0	11.8		6.3	12.0	→
●	Mali	117	143			7.0	18.5	→	2.3	10.2	→
—	Malta	87	17	39	18	1.5	15.4	→	5.8	9.2	→
—	Marshall Islands	—	95							3.0	
—	Mauritania	—	120			5.0	9.1	→	1.3		
●	Mauritius	98	33			7.0	8.0		7.6	17.1	→
●	Mexico	74	85	40	25	7.0	9.4	→	14.2	24.2	→
—	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	—	—						0.0	0.0	
●	Moldova	12	63	66	40	3.5	11.1	→	4.8	21.8	→
—	Monaco	—	—						5.6	20.8	→
●	Mongolia	26	70	66	30	5.0	5.9		7.9	6.7	
○	Morocco	130	112			1.0	5.9	→	0.6	10.8	→
●	Mozambique	92	150			13.0	13.0		25.2	34.8	→
—	Myanmar	—	136			0.0					
●	Namibia	21	98	55	30	7.0	19.0	→	18.1	26.9	→
—	Nauru	—	—						5.6	0.0	←
○	Nepal	140	157			0.0	7.4	→	3.4	5.9	→
●	Netherlands	18	6	48	26	19.7	36.0	→	31.3	36.7	→
●	New Zealand	4	6	52	36	16.8	23.1	→	29.2	32.2	→
●	Nicaragua	98	127			11.0	14.3	→	10.8	20.7	→
●	Niger	117	158			9.0	23.1	→		12.4	
○	Nigeria	135	146			4.0	10.0	→		6.4	
●	Norway	2	1	50	30	44.1	44.4		39.4	37.9	
○	Oman	130	48			4.0	10.0	→		2.4	
○	Pakistan	144	152	26	2	2.0	5.6	→		21.3	
—	Palau	—	77						0.0	0.0	
●	Panama	38	86	50	40	11.0	14.3	→	9.7	16.7	→
—	Papua New Guinea	—	122			2.0			0.0	0.9	
—	Paraguay	57	107	54	23	3.0	30.8	→	2.5	10.0	→
●	Peru	83	101	47	23	10.0	11.8		10.8	18.3	→
●	Philippines	18	117	62	58	24.0	25.0		10.8	15.3	→
●	Poland	26	22	61	34	8.0	5.9	←	13.0	20.4	→
●	Portugal	32	6	52	32	17.5	16.7		13.0	21.3	→
—	Qatar	—	57			2.0	7.7	→			
●	Romania	41	65	57	31	3.3	12.5	→	7.0	11.2	→
●	Russian Federation	21	—	64	39	2.1	0.0	←	10.2	9.8	
●	Rwanda	21	160			10.0	35.7	→	17.1	48.8	→
○	Samoa	—	50			7.0	7.7		4.1	6.1	→
—	San Marino	—	—						11.7	16.7	→
●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	—	116			4.0	14.3	→	7.3	9.1	→
○	Saudi Arabia	135	67	6	31	0.0	0.0			0.0	
○	Senegal	104	124			2.0	20.6	→	11.7	19.2	→
—	Serbia and Montenegro	—	—							7.9	
●	Seychelles	—	—			21.0	12.5	←	27.3	29.4	→
●	Sierra Leone	146	—			5.0	13.0	→	6.3	14.5	→
●	Singapore	—	—	45	26	5.0	0.0	←	2.5	16.0	→

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				Latest available data ^A (%)	Latest available data ^A (%)	1995 (%)	2004 (%)	Progress or regression	1997 (%)	2005 (%)	Progress or regression
●	Slovakia	21	57	61	35	12.8	0.0	←	14.7	16.7	→
●	Slovenia	32	32	56	33		6.3		7.8	12.2	→
○	Solomon Islands	104	—			0.0	0.0		2.1	0.0	←
—	Somalia	—	—							8.0	
●	South Africa	50	96			7.0	41.4	→	25.0	32.8	→
●	Spain	18	6	47	30	9.7	50.0	→	24.6	36.0	→
○	Sri Lanka	60	—	46	21	9.0	10.3		5.3	4.9	
○	St. Kitts and Nevis	—	66			21.0	0.0	←	13.3	0.0	←
●	St. Lucia	50	57			5.0	8.3	→	0.0	11.1	→
●	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	—	63			25.0	20.0	←	9.5	18.2	→
○	Sudan	139	110			1.0	2.6		5.3	14.7	→
●	Suriname	60	91	51	28	14.0	11.8	←	15.7	25.5	→
●	Swaziland	74	118	61	24	7.0	13.3	→	3.1	10.8	→
●	Sweden	1	1	51	30	33.3	52.4	→	40.4	45.3	→
●	Switzerland	26	6	45	28	7.0	14.3	→	21.0	25.0	→
●	Syrian Arab Republic	130	97			4.0	6.3	→	9.6	12.0	→
●	Tajikistan	92	103			4.0	3.1		2.8	17.5	→
●	Tanzania	54	125	32	49	9.0	15.4	→	17.5	30.4	→
●	Thailand	41	45	52	26	4.0	7.7	→	5.6	10.6	→
●	Timor-Leste	—	—				22.2			25.3	
●	Togo	141	135			3.0	20.0	→	1.2	7.4	→
—	Tonga	—	79						0.0	3.4	→
●	Trinidad and Tobago	44	45	54	38	14.0	18.2	→	11.1	19.4	→
●	Tunisia	109	70			5.0	7.1	→	6.7	22.8	→
○	Turkey	117	83	30	6	5.0	4.3		2.4	4.4	→
●	Turkmenistan	—	—			3.9	9.5	→	18.0	16.0	←
—	Tuvalu	—	—						7.7	0.0	←
●	Uganda	74	146			10.0	23.4	→	18.1	23.9	→
●	Ukraine	32	42	63	39	1.0	5.6	→	3.8	5.3	
○	United Arab Emirates	135	42	25	8	0.0	5.6	→	0.0	0.0	
●	United Kingdom	15	17	45	33	8.4	28.6	→	9.5	19.7	→
●	United States of America	12	22	55	46		14.3		11.7	15.2	→
●	Uruguay	44	52	53	35	3.0	0.0	←	7.1	11.1	→
●	Uzbekistan	92	—			2.9	3.6		6.0	17.5	→
○	Vanuatu	—	99			0.0	8.3	→		3.8	
●	Venezuela	50	72	61	27	6.0	13.6	→	5.9	29.9	→
●	Viet Nam	60	87			4.0	11.5	→	28.5	27.3	
○	West Bank and Gaza	109	67	34	12						
○	Yemen	149	149	15	4	0.0	2.9	→	0.7	0.3	
●	Zambia	104	123			9.0	25.0	→	9.7	12.7	→
●	Zimbabwe	111	119			11.0	14.7	→	14.7	16.0	

UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
CESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sources:
Female professional and technical workers: Human Development Report 2005, UNDP.
Female legislators, senior officials and managers: Human Development Report 2005, UNDP.
Women in decision-making positions in government at ministerial level: Human Development Report 1997, UNDP and Human Development Report 2005, UNDP.
Seats in parliament held by women: IPU Database, January, 2006. (www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm)

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Status of ratifications of Fundamental ILO Conventions

Up to May 2006

C87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948.

C98: Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.

C100: Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.

C105: Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957.

C111: Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958.

C138: Minimum Age Convention, 1973.

C182: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.

	FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING		ELIMINATION OF FORCED AND COMPULSORY LABOUR	ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION	ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR			FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING		ELIMINATION OF FORCED AND COMPULSORY LABOUR	ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION	ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR			
	C 87	C 98	C 105	C 100	C 111	C 138		C 182	C 87	C 98	C 105	C 100	C 111	C 138	C 182
Afghanistan	□	□	■	■	■	□	□	Dominican Republic	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Albania	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Ecuador	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Algeria	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Egypt	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Angola	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	El Salvador	□	□	■	■	■	■	■
Antigua and Barbuda	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Equatorial Guinea	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Argentina	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Eritrea	■	■	■	■	■	■	□
Armenia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Estonia	■	■	■	■	■	□	■
Australia	■	■	■	■	■	□	□	Ethiopia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Austria	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Fiji	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Azerbaijan	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Finland	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Bahamas	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	France	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Bahrain	□	□	■	□	■	□	■	Gabon	■	■	■	■	■	□	■
Bangladesh	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Gambia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Barbados	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Georgia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Belarus	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Germany	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Belgium	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Ghana	■	■	■	■	■	□	■
Belize	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Greece	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Benin	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Grenada	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Bolivia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Guatemala	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Bosnia and Herzegovina	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Guinea	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Botswana	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Guinea-Bissau	□	■	■	■	■	□	□
Brazil	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Guyana	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Bulgaria	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Haiti	■	■	■	■	■	□	□
Burkina Faso	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Honduras	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Burundi	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Hungary	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Cambodia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Iceland	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Cameroon	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	India	□	□	■	■	■	□	□
Canada	■	□	■	■	■	□	■	Indonesia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Cape Verde	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Iran, Islamic Rep.	□	□	■	■	■	□	■
Central African Republic	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Iraq	□	■	■	■	■	■	■
Chad	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Ireland	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Chile	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Israel	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
China	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	Italy	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Colombia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Jamaica	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Comoros	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Japan	■	■	□	■	□	■	■
Congo, Dem. Rep.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Jordan	□	■	■	■	■	■	■
Congo, Rep.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Kazakhstan	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Costa Rica	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Kenya	□	■	■	■	■	■	■
Côte d'Ivoire	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Kiribati	■	■	■	□	□	□	□
Croatia	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Korea, Rep.	□	□	□	■	■	■	■
Cuba	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	Kuwait	■	□	■	□	■	■	■
Cyprus	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Kyrgyzstan	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Czech Republic	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Lao PDR	□	□	□	□	□	■	■
Denmark	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Latvia	■	■	■	■	■	□	□
Djibouti	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Lebanon	□	■	■	■	■	■	■
Dominica	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Lesotho	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Source: ILOLEX, ILO Website Database (www.ilo.org).

- Convention ratified
- Convention not yet ratified
- Convention denounced

Status of ratifications of International Treaties mentioned in the Millennium Declaration

Up to May 2006

A: Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 1998. Entry into force: 1 July 2002.
B: Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, 1997. Entry into force: 1 March 1999.
C: Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 annexed to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, 1996. Entry into force: 3 December 1998.
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E: Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989. Entry into force: 2 September 1990. See table *Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations*.
F: Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, 2000. Entry into force: 12 February 2002.

G: Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, 2000. Entry into force: 18 January 2002.
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J: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979. Entry into force: 3 September 1981. See table *Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations*.

	A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I		A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I
Afghanistan	•	•			•	•	•	•	Dominica	•	•			•	•	•	•
Albania	•	•	•	•			•	•	Dominican Republic	•	•			•	•	•	•
Algeria	•	•		•			•	•	Ecuador	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Andorra	•	•			•	•	•	•	Egypt	•	•			•	•	•	•
Angola	•	•				•	•	•	El Salvador	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Antigua and Barbuda	•	•		•			•	•	Equatorial Guinea	•	•			•	•	•	•
Argentina	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	Eritrea	•	•			•	•	•	•
Armenia	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Estonia	•	•			•	•	•	•
Australia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ethiopia	•	•			•	•	•	•
Austria	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	European Community	•	•			•	•	•	•
Azerbaijan	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Fiji	•	•			•	•	•	•
Bahamas	•	•		•			•	•	Finland	•	•			•	•	•	•
Bahrain	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bangladesh	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Gabon	•	•			•	•	•	•
Barbados	•	•		•			•	•	Gambia	•	•			•	•	•	•
Belarus	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Georgia	•	•			•	•	•	•
Belgium	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Belize	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Ghana	•	•			•	•	•	•
Benin	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Greece	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bhutan	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Grenada	•	•			•	•	•	•
Bolivia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Guatemala	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bosnia and Herzegovina	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	Guinea	•	•			•	•	•	•
Botswana	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Guinea-Bissau	•	•			•	•	•	•
Brazil	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Guyana	•	•			•	•	•	•
Brunei Darussalam	•	•					•	•	Haiti	•	•			•	•	•	•
Bulgaria	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Holy See	•	•			•	•	•	•
Burkina Faso	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Honduras	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Burundi	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Hungary	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cambodia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Iceland	•	•			•	•	•	•
Cameroon	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	India	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Indonesia	•	•			•	•	•	•
Cape Verde	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Iran, Islamic Rep.	•	•			•	•	•	•
Central African Republic	•	•					•	•	Iraq	•	•			•	•	•	•
Chad	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Ireland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Chile	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Israel	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Italy	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Colombia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jamaica	•	•			•	•	•	•
Comoros	•	•					•	•	Japan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Congo, Dem. Rep.	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Jordan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Congo, Rep.	•	•					•	•	Kazakhstan	•	•			•	•	•	•
Cook Islands	•	•		•			•	•	Kenya	•	•			•	•	•	•
Costa Rica	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kiribati	•	•			•	•	•	•
Côte d'Ivoire	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Korea, Dem. Rep.	•	•			•	•	•	•
Croatia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Korea, Rep.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cuba	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	Kuwait	•	•			•	•	•	•
Cyprus	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kyrgyzstan	•	•			•	•	•	•
Czech Republic	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lao PDR	•	•			•	•	•	•
Denmark	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Latvia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Djibouti	•	•		•			•	•	Lebanon	•	•			•	•	•	•

Source: United Nations Treaty Collection website, Database "Status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General" (<http://untreaty.un.org/>).

- Ratification, accession, approval, notification or succession, acceptance, consent to be bound or definitive signature.
- Signature not yet followed by ratification.

Status of ratifications of International Treaties mentioned in the Millennium Declaration

Up to May 2006

- A:** Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, 1998. Entry into force: 1 July 2002.
- B:** Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, 1997. Entry into force: 1 March 1999.
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- D:** Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1997. Entry into force: 16 February 2005.
- E:** Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989. Entry into force: 2 September 1990. See table *Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations*.
- F:** Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, 2000. Entry into force: 12 February 2002.
- G:** Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, 2000. Entry into force: 18 January 2002.
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	A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I		A	B	C	D	F	G	H	I
Lesotho	●	●			●	●	●	●	San Marino	●	●			○	○	●	●
Liberia	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	Sao Tomé and Príncipe	○	●					●	●
Libya					●	●	●	●	Saudi Arabia				●			●	●
Liechtenstein	●	●	●	●		○	●	●	Senegal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Lithuania	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Serbia and Montenegro	●	●			●	●	●	●
Luxembourg	●	●	●	●		○	●	●	Seychelles	○	●	●	●	○	○	●	●
Macedonia, FYR	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Sierra Leone	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Madagascar	○	●			●	●	●	●	Singapore				●	○		●	●
Malawi	●	●		●	○	○	●	●	Slovakia	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
Malaysia		●		●		●	●	●	Slovenia		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Maldives			●		●	●	●	●	Solomon Islands	○	●					●	●
Mali	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Somalia					○		●	●
Malta	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	South Africa	●	●		●	○	●	●	●
Marshall Islands	●	○		●			●	●	Spain	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mauritania	●	●		●			●	●	Sri Lanka			●	●	●	○	●	●
Mauritius	●	●		●	○	○	●	●	St. Kitts and Nevis		●					●	●
Mexico	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	St. Lucia	○	●		●			●	●
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.				●	○	○	●	●	St. Vincent and Grenadines	●	●				●	●	●
Moldova	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	Sudan	○	●		●	●	●	●	●
Monaco	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	Suriname		●			○	○	●	●
Mongolia	●			●	●	●	●	●	Swaziland		●		●			●	●
Morocco	○		●	●	●	●	●	●	Sweden	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
Mozambique	○	●		●	●	●	●	●	Switzerland	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
Myanmar				●			●	●	Syrian Arab Republic	○	●			●	●	●	●
Namibia	●	●		●			●	●	Tajikistan	●	●	●		●	●	●	●
Nauru	●	●	●		○	○	●	●	Tanzania	●	●			●	●	●	●
Nepal				●	○	●	●	●	Thailand	○	●		●	●	●	○	●
Netherlands	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	Timor-Leste	●	●			●	●	●	●
New Zealand	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	Togo		●		●	●	●	●	●
Nicaragua		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Tonga							●	●
Niger	●	●		●			●	●	Trinidad and Tobago	●	●		●			●	●
Nigeria	●	●		●	○	○	●	●	Tunisia			●	●	●	●	●	●
Niue		●		●			●	●	Turkey		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Norway	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Turkmenistan		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Oman	○			●	●	●	●	●	Tuvalu				●			●	●
Pakistan			●	●	○	○	●	●	Uganda	●	●			●	●	●	●
Palau				●			●	●	Ukraine	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Panama	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	United Arab Emirates	○	●		●			●	●
Papua New Guinea		●		●			●	●	United Kingdom	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●
Paraguay	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	United States of America	○	●	●	○	●	●	○	●
Peru	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Uruguay	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Philippines	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Uzbekistan	○	●					●	●
Poland	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	Vanuatu		●		●	○	○	●	●
Portugal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Venezuela	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Qatar		●		●	●	●	●	●	Viet Nam					●	●	●	●
Romania	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Yemen	○	●		●		●	●	●
Russian Federation	○		●	●	○		●	●	Zambia	●	●		○			●	●
Rwanda				●	●	●	●	●	Zimbabwe	○	●					●	●
Samoa	●	●		●			●	●									

Source: United Nations Treaty Collection website, Database "Status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General" (<http://untreaty.un.org/>).

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Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations

Up to May 2006

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), 1966. Entry into force: 3 January 1976.
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR), 1966. Entry into force: 23 March 1976.
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), 1965. Entry into force: 4 January 1969.
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979. Entry into force: 3 September 1981.

	UN MEMBER SINCE	INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (CESCR)			INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (CCPR)			INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD)			CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)		
		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB
Afghanistan	1946	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Albania	1955	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Algeria	1962	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Andorra	1993		—	—	○			○			●	Overdue	
Angola	1976	●	Overdue		●	Overdue			—	—	●	Not yet due	
Antigua and Barbuda	1981		—	—		—	—	●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Overdue	
Argentina	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Armenia	1992	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Australia	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Austria	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Azerbaijan	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Bahamas	1973		—	—		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Bahrain	1971		—	—		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Bangladesh	1974	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Barbados	1966	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Belarus	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Belgium	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Belize	1981	○			●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Benin	1960	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Bhutan	1971		—	—		—	—	○			●	Not yet due	
Bolivia	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Pending		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Botswana	1966		—	—	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Brazil	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Brunei Darussalam	1984		—	—		—	—		—	—		—	—
Bulgaria	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Burkina Faso	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Burundi	1962	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Cambodia	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Cameroon	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Canada	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Overdue	
Cape Verde	1975	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Central African Republic	1960	●	Overdue		●	Pending	July 2006	●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Chad	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Chile	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Pending		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
China	1945	●	Not yet due		○			●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Colombia	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Comoros	1975		—	—		—	—	●			●	Overdue	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Congo, Rep.	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Costa Rica	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Côte d'Ivoire	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Croatia	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Cuba	1945		—	—		—	—	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Cyprus	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Czech Republic	1993	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Denmark	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Djibouti	1977	●	Overdue		●	Overdue			—	—	●	Overdue	
Dominica	1978	●	Overdue		●	Overdue			—	—	●	Overdue	
Dominican Republic	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Ecuador	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	

REFERENCES

Status of ratification:

Status of ratifications of the main International Human Rights Treaties.

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Status of reports to TB:

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- Overdue
- Not yet due
- Pending

— Countries that have not signed or ratified the Treaty

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Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations

Up to May 2006

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	UN MEMBER SINCE	CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (CAT)			CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)			CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE	CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES (MWC)
		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB			
Afghanistan	1946	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Albania	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Algeria	1962	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Andorra	1993	○			●	Overdue				
Angola	1976		—	—	●	Not yet due			●	
Antigua and Barbuda	1981	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Argentina	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	○
Armenia	1992	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Australia	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Austria	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Azerbaijan	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Bahamas	1973		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Bahrain	1971	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	
Bangladesh	1974	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	○
Barbados	1966		—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	
Belarus	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Belgium	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Belize	1981	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Benin	1960	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Pending	Sept. 2006		●	○
Bhutan	1971		—	—	●	Overdue				
Bolivia	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Botswana	1966	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Brazil	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Brunei Darussalam	1984		—	—	●	Not yet due				
Bulgaria	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	
Burkina Faso	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Burundi	1962	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Overdue		●	●	
Cambodia	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	○
Cameroon	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Canada	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Cape Verde	1975	●	Overdue		●	Overdue				●
Central African Republic	1960		—	—	●	Overdue			●	
Chad	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue			●	
Chile	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007	●	●	●
China	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Colombia	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Comoros	1975	○			●	Overdue		●	●	○
Congo, Dem. Rep.	1960	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	
Congo, Rep.	1960	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Sept. 2006		●	
Costa Rica	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Côte d'Ivoire	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Croatia	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Cuba	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Cyprus	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Czech Republic	1993	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Denmark	1945	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Djibouti	1977	●			●	Overdue			●	
Dominica	1978		—	—	●	Not yet due			●	
Dominican Republic	1945	○			●	Overdue		○	●	
Ecuador	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●

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		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB
Egypt	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
El Salvador	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Equatorial Guinea	1968	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●			●	Not yet due	
Eritrea	1993	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Estonia	1991	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
Ethiopia	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Fiji	1970		—	—		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Finland	1955	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
France	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Gabon	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Gambia	1965	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Georgia	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Germany	1973	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Ghana	1957	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Greece	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Grenada	1974	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		○			●	Overdue	
Guatemala	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Guinea	1958	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Guinea-Bissau	1974	●	Overdue		○			○			●	Overdue	
Guyana	1966	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Haiti	1945		—	—	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Holy See			—	—		—	—	●	Overdue			—	—
Honduras	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Pending	July 2006	●			●	Overdue	
Hungary	1955	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Iceland	1946	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
India	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Indonesia	1950	●			●			●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Iran, Islamic Rep.	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due			—	—
Iraq	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Ireland	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Israel	1949	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	
Italy	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Not yet due	
Jamaica	1962	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Japan	1956	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Jordan	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Kazakhstan	1992	●			●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Kenya	1963	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Kiribati	1999		—	—		—	—		—	—	●		
Korea, Dem. Rep.	1991	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue			—	—	●	Not yet due	
Korea, Rep.	1991	●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Oct. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Kuwait	1963	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Kyrgyzstan	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Lao PDR	1955	○			○			●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Latvia	1991	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Lebanon	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Lesotho	1966	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Liberia	1945	●			●			●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Libya	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Pending		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Liechtenstein	1990	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Pending	
Lithuania	1991	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Luxembourg	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	

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Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations

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		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB			
Egypt	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	●
El Salvador	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Equatorial Guinea	1968	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due			●	
Eritrea	1993		—	—	●	Not yet due				
Estonia	1991	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Ethiopia	1945	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●	●	
Fiji	1970		—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	
Finland	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
France	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Gabon	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	○
Gambia	1965	○			●	Overdue		●	●	
Georgia	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Germany	1973	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Ghana	1957	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Greece	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	
Grenada	1974		—	—	●	Overdue				
Guatemala	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	●
Guinea	1958	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	●
Guinea-Bissau	1974	○			●	Overdue		●	●	○
Guyana	1966	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due				○
Haiti	1945		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Holy See		●	Overdue		●	Overdue			●	
Honduras	1945	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007	●	●	●
Hungary	1955	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Overdue		●	●	
Iceland	1946	●	Pending	May 2008	●	Not yet due		●	●	
India	1945	○			●	Not yet due		●		
Indonesia	1950	●	Pending	May 2008	●	Not yet due				○
Iran, Islamic Rep.	1945		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Iraq	1945		—	—	●	Overdue		●		
Ireland	1955	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●	●	
Israel	1949	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Italy	1955	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Jamaica	1962		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Japan	1956	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Overdue		●	●	
Jordan	1955	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●		
Kazakhstan	1992	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Kenya	1963	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007	●		
Kiribati	1999		—	—	●	Pending	Sept. 2006			
Korea, Dem. Rep.	1991		—	—	●	Not yet due		●		
Korea, Rep.	1991	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Kuwait	1963	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Kyrgyzstan	1992	●	Overdue		●	Pending		●	●	●
Lao PDR	1955		—	—	●	Overdue		●		
Latvia	1991	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Lebanon	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Lesotho	1966	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	●
Liberia	1945	●			●	Not yet due		●	●	○
Libya	1955	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●		●
Liechtenstein	1990	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Lithuania	1991	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Luxembourg	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	

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		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB
Macedonia, FYR	1993	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Not yet due	
Madagascar	1960	●	Overdue		●	Pending		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Malawi	1964	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	
Malaysia	1957	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Pending	
Maldives	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Mali	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Malta	1964	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Marshall Islands	1991	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	
Mauritania	1961	●	—	—	●	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	Pending	May 2007
Mauritius	1968	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Mexico	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	1991	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	
Moldova	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Feb. 2007	●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Monaco	1993	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	—	
Mongolia	1961	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
Morocco	1956	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Mozambique	1975	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	May 2007
Myanmar	1948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Overdue	
Namibia	1990	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Nauru	1999	—	—	—	○	—	—	○	—	—	—	—	—
Nepal	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Netherlands	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
New Zealand	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Nicaragua	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Niger	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	May 2007
Nigeria	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Norway	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Not yet due	
Oman	1971	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	—	
Pakistan	1947	○	—	—	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	Pending	May 2007
Palau	1994	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Panama	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Papua New Guinea	1975	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Paraguay	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	—		●	Not yet due	
Peru	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Philippines	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Poland	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Portugal	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Qatar	1971	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Overdue		—	—	
Romania	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Russian Federation	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Rwanda	1962	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Samoa	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Not yet due	
Marino	1992	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	—	
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	1975	○	—	—	○	—	—	○	—	—	●	—	
Saudi Arabia	1945	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Senegal	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Serbia and Montenegro	2000	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Seychelles	1976	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
Sierra Leone	1961	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Singapore	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	Pending	Jan. 2007

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- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (MWC), 1990. Entry into force: 1 July 2003.

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		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB			
Macedonia, FYR	1993	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Madagascar	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Malawi	1964	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Malaysia	1957	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	
Maldives	1965	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007	●	●	
Mali	1960	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Jan. 2007	●	●	●
Malta	1964	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Marshall Islands	1991	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Mauritania	1961	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Mauritius	1968	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Mexico	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	1991	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	
Moldova	1992	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Monaco	1993	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Mongolia	1961	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Morocco	1956	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Mozambique	1975	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Myanmar	1948	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Namibia	1990	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Nauru	1999	○	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Nepal	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Netherlands	1945	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
New Zealand	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Nicaragua	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Niger	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Nigeria	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Norway	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Oman	1971	—	—	—	●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●	●	
Pakistan	1947	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Palau	1994	—	—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	
Panama	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Papua New Guinea	1975	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Paraguay	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	○
Peru	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Philippines	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Poland	1945	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Portugal	1955	●	Pending	May 2008	●	Overdue		●	●	
Qatar	1971	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	●	
Romania	1955	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Russian Federation	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Rwanda	1962	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Samoa	1976	—	—	—	●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●	●	
San Marino	1992	○	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
São Tomé and Príncipe	1975	○	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	○
Saudi Arabia	1945	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Senegal	1960	●	Overdue		●	Pending	Sept. 2006	●	●	○
Serbia and Montenegro	2000	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	○
Seychelles	1976	●	Pending	Nov. 2006 (non-reporting)	●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Sierra Leone	1961	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	○
Singapore	1965	—	—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	

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Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations

Up to May 2006

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), 1966. Entry into force: 3 January 1976.
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), 1965. Entry into force: 4 January 1969.
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR), 1966. Entry into force: 23 March 1976.
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979. Entry into force: 3 September 1981.

	UN MEMBER SINCE	INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (CESCR)			INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (CCPR)			INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD)			CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)		
		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB
Slovakia	1993	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Slovenia	1992	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Solomon Islands	1978	●	Not yet due		●	—	—	●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Somalia	1960	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	—	—
South Africa	1945	○	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
Spain	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Sri Lanka	1955	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
St. Kitts and Nevis	1983		—	—		—	—		—	—	●	Overdue	
St. Lucia	1979		—	—		—	—	●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Pending	
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	1980	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Sudan	1956	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	—	—
Suriname	1975	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Swaziland	1968	●	—		●	—		●	Overdue		●	—	
Sweden	1946	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Switzerland	2002	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Syrian Arab Republic	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	May 2007
Tajikistan	1992	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Jan. 2007
Tanzania	1961	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Thailand	1946	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Timor-Leste	2002	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Togo	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Tonga	1999		—	—		—	—	●	Overdue		●	—	—
Trinidad and Tobago	1962	●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Tunisia	1956	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Turkey	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due	
Turkmenistan	1992	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
Tuvalu	2000		—	—		—	—	●	—	—	●	Overdue	
Uganda	1962	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Ukraine	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Pending		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
United Arab Emirates	1971		—	—		—	—	●	Overdue		●	—	
United Kingdom	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	
United States of America	1945	○	Overdue		●	Pending	July 2006	●	Overdue		○	—	
Uruguay	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	
Uzbekistan	1992	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006
Vanuatu	1981		—	—		—	—	●	—	—	●	Pending	May 2007
Venezuela	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due	
Viet Nam	1977	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue		●	Pending	
Yemen	1947	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	Pending	Aug. 2006	●	Overdue	
Zambia	1964	●	Not yet due		●	Pending		●	Not yet due		●	Overdue	
Zimbabwe	1980	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	Overdue	

Sources:

United Nations Treaty Collection Website, Database "Status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General" (<http://untreaty.un.org/>); Amnesty International website (web.amnesty.org/pages/treaty-countries-reporting-eng) and Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (www.ohchr.org/tbr/Reporting_schedule.pdf).

Note:

This table brings together information contained in various sources of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in order to provide an overview of the status of reporting to the various Committees. For an official reference document please visit the United Nations Human Rights Database website (www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf).

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Human Rights International Treaties: how do countries fulfill their obligations

Up to May 2006

- Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 1984. Entry into force: 26 June 1987.
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989. Entry into force: 2 September 1990.
- Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1948. Entry into force: 12 January 1951.
- Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951. Entry into force: 22 April 1954.
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (MWC), 1990. Entry into force: 1 July 2003.

	UN MEMBER SINCE	CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (CAT)			CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)			CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE	CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES (MWC)
		Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB	Status of ratification	Status of Reports to TB	Scheduled report to TB			
Slovakia	1993	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Slovenia	1992	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Solomon Islands	1978		—	—	●	Not yet due			●	
Somalia	1960	●	Overdue		○				●	
South Africa	1945	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Overdue		●	●	
Spain	1955	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Sri Lanka	1955	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●		●
St. Kitts and Nevis	1983		—	—	●	Overdue			●	
St. Lucia	1979		—	—	●	Not yet due			●	
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	1980	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Sudan	1956	○			●	Not yet due		●	●	
Suriname	1975		—	—	●	Pending	Jan. 2007		●	
Swaziland	1968	●			●	Pending	Sept. 2006		●	
Sweden	1946	●	Pending	May 2008	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Switzerland	2002	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Syrian Arab Republic	1945	●			●	Not yet due		●		●
Tajikistan	1992	●	Pending	Nov. 2006	●	Overdue			●	●
Tanzania	1961		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Thailand	1946		—	—	●	Not yet due				
Timor-Leste	2002	●	Overdue		●	Overdue			●	●
Togo	1960	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	○
Tonga	1999		—	—	●	Overdue		●		
Trinidad and Tobago	1962		—	—	●	Not yet due		●	●	
Tunisia	1956	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	
Turkey	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	●
Turkmenistan	1992	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due			●	
Tuvalu	2000		—	—	●	Overdue			●	
Uganda	1962	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	●
Ukraine	1945	●	Pending	May 2007	●	Not yet due		●	●	
United Arab Emirates	1971		—	—	●	Overdue		●		
United Kingdom	1945	●	Not yet due		●	Not yet due		●	●	
United States of America	1945	●	Not yet due		○			●		
Uruguay	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●	●	●
Uzbekistan	1992	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due		●		
Vanuatu	1981		—	—	●	Overdue				
Venezuela	1945	●	Overdue		●	Overdue		●		
Viet Nam	1977		—	—	●	Not yet due		●		
Yemen	1947	●	Overdue		●	Not yet due		●	●	
Zambia	1964	●	Pending	Nov. 2007	●	Not yet due			●	
Zimbabwe	1980		—	—	●	Overdue		●	●	

Sources:

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Methodology

Sources and handling of information

Social Watch has always geared its efforts to measuring (with objective indicators) governments' compliance with the targets set by the governments themselves at different international forums. This means the Social Watch Reports are a tool that people the world over can use to make their governments, the UN system and international organizations accountable.

Although there has been an increase in the amount of information available on different social development indicators produced regularly by each country and compiled by international organizations, this data is not readily available to the public. Most international statistics databases are accessible only by subscription and at very high cost. The World Bank, the main source of international statistics on development, has a policy of claiming copyright and charging for the use of the information, and this is doubly contradictory since not only is it an inter-governmental institution but also the information it handles is provided by different governments and is therefore public property.

Once the obstacles to obtaining primary data are surmounted there are further difficulties involved in compiling the comparative tables, such as the fact that data are not always available for the same time periods, there may be differences in methodological criteria for the construction of the indicators for each country, and there are considerable discrepancies between the statistics provided for the same year by different sources.

In the light of these problems, in this report Social Watch has maintained the same criteria adopted in earlier editions. The data used are the most recent available from recognized international organizations. For recent statistics from "secondary sources", we opted for the data that regularly showed the highest correlation with those published by recognized sources on the subject in question. When there was a choice between similar sources, we chose the one that covered the most countries.

Measurement of the present situation of countries and the rate of change

In each of the thematic areas the information is displayed using a set of chosen indicators. The data in each indicator are presented in three columns: the first shows the country's initial situation, the second shows the latest available data¹ and the third (progress or regression) shows the rate of change.

In order to assess the evolution of each indicator, two aspects were taken into account: initial and final levels, and the rate of change of progress or regression.

The **situation** a country is in, according to each indicator, is given by the latest available value for that indicator.

Each country is assigned a value from 1 to 4 (1 indicates the worst situation and 4 indicates the best situation) according to the distribution of values on each indicator,² and an average of these values is then given for all the indicators in that area.³ In this way a self-referential ranking is obtained, independent of distance from goals or from specific conceptually-defined levels.

This ranking was only applied to those countries with information available for at least half the indicators that make up each overall thematic area.

To avoid giving a false impression that the data are exact values, the average values were rescaled⁴ to create four country categories:

- *Countries in better situation*
- ◐ *Countries above average*
- ◑ *Countries below average*
- *Countries in worse situation*

Countries for which sufficient data to be included in the ranking are lacking (*Countries with insufficient data to summarize the area*) are also shown.

The **rate of change** for each country is obtained by considering the variation in the values of the indicator over the time period within which the measurements were made. The ratio between the variation in the indicator and the time period reflects the rate of change for the item in question.

In the case of information from a specific period (e.g. 1990-1994) rather than a specific year, the criterion adopted was to use the data for the middle of the interval (e.g. 1992) as a means of calculating the rate of change.

The values for this rate of change have also been rescaled in sections (using a reference scale of 1 to 5), and in the tables these appear in the column "Progress or regression". A series of symbols are used to illustrate changes in order to make the information easier to read (numerical values are not used because they would tend to give the impression that the information is exact, which in this case it is not).

The categories defined in this rescaling are as follows:

- Significant progress
- Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ← Slight regression
- ← Significant regression

"Significant progress" applies to those countries which are progressing at rates above the average for all countries making progress.

"Slight progress" applies to those countries which are progressing at rates below the average for all countries making progress.

"Stagnant" refers to those countries where no changes (or quantitatively insignificant changes) have been recorded over the period in question.

"Slight regression" applies to those countries which are regressing at rates below the average for all countries regressing (i.e. they are regressing more slowly).

"Significant regression" applies to those countries which are regressing at rates above the average for all countries regressing (i.e. they are regressing more rapidly).

1 In some tables there are two extra columns showing the date of the information selected.

2 For this, the variable was normalized (by subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation) and then the mean positive values and the mean negative values for the normalized indicator were calculated. The four categories were established according to the values above and below the mean positive values for the normalized indicator, and the values above and below the mean negative values for the normalized indicator.

3 In the case of the table showing morbidity and mortality rates, the child immunization ranking was included as another indicator in the calculations of the average value for the area. The immunization table is presented separately and countries are ranked according to the average value of their indicators.

4 The possible range for the average of the area was divided into four groups as follows: group 1 (between 4 and 3.26); group 2 (between 3.25 and 2.6); group 3 (between 2.5 and 1.76); group 4 (between 1.75 and 1).

GENDER EQUITY INDEX (GEI) - Methodological Notes

Gender equity is a very complex concept that involves numerous quantitative and qualitative dimensions, for many of which there is no information available.

In 2004 Social Watch produced a Gender Equity Index (GEI), and this has since been revised and improved. The aim is to develop a tool to capture the degree of gender equity prevailing in a country, and the index was built up from information available internationally about dimensions that have a bearing on gender equity.

The first challenge was to assemble the different dimensions in which inequity is measured so as to obtain an overall ranking that was wider than that of the dimensions taken separately or of the indexes traditionally used.

In this way the first version of the GEI was constructed, and this appeared in the 2004 and 2005 Social Watch reports.

We have now produced a new 2006 version of the GEI to meet a further challenge, which is to create a tool to follow up countries' performance over time, and to evaluate this in relation to an "optimum" for each country, regardless of how other countries perform. This dimension was lacking in the 2004 and 2005 version of the GEI.

The most suitable model for this purpose is one that will give a reading for the gaps between women and men in each of the indicators in the index, and thus make it possible to evaluate how far each country currently is from an optimum situation in which there are no gender gaps at all.

The main obstacle to constructing a comprehensive tool based on a selection of indicators and conceptually suitable for measuring gender inequities, is that in many countries basic information is scarce. Different dimensions were selected, bearing in mind the information available that could be used to make comparisons internationally. These dimensions were education, economic activity, and women's representation at decision-making levels in political and economic life ("empowerment").

The information available for these areas was used to construct the GEI indicators. This task involved transforming the data so as to obtain values for the gaps.

The 2006 version of the GEI gives an average of the gaps in the three selected dimensions, and these all have equal weight in the index. The values used in the GEI range from 0 to 1. The lower a value on the index the greater degree of gender inequality

there is in the country in question, and the countries with values nearer to 1 are those that have managed to reduce gender inequity the most. It is important to bear in mind that the values in the index reflect only the dimensions and indicators employed; no index could yield a complete picture of a phenomenon as complex as gender equity, but it is possible to be sensitive to the different situations involved and detect the ways in which these are changing.

This tool is an early prototype of an index to give an overall picture of the different dimensions of gender equity, and we will continue to make adjustments to produce a more refined instrument in the future.

However valuable it may be to build up an index that reflects the different areas in which gender equity is currently measured, what really matters is that the gender perspective should be incorporated into all the analyses of all the dimensions of social development, that it should become an integral part of the concept of development. It is not that a society is "developed" or that it "has gender equity", it is rather that gender equity is a necessary condition for development.

Technical notes: the construction of the GEI

1. Dimensions and indicators

- Empowerment (% of women in technical positions, % of women in management and government positions, % of women in parliaments, % of women in ministerial posts).
- Economic activity (income gaps, % of economically active women (excluding the agriculture sector)).
- Education (literacy rate gap, primary school enrolment rate gap, secondary school enrolment rate gap, tertiary education enrolment rate gap).

2. Gaps

To construct the gaps in the indicators that did not register them originally two transformations were carried out. First the percentages for men were calculated, then the differences for women:

- % of men in technical positions,
- % of men in management and government positions,
- % of men in parliaments,
- % of men in ministerial posts,
- % of economically active men (excluding the agriculture sector).

Secondly, for each country the weight of the female population in relation to the male was calculated for the relevant age ranges (over 19 years old, except for the economically active population indicator, for which over 14 years old was used).

Weight of female population = % female population / % male population

The gap was calculated for each indicator for each country, with the rate for women as the numerator and the rate for men as the denominator, weighted by the inverse of the weight of the female population.¹

% female rate * (weight of female population)⁻¹ / % male rate

3. The construction of the components of the index in each dimension

For each dimension the average of the indicators of the gaps was calculated, but no values were given for countries for which information was available for less than half the indicators of the dimension in question.

4. Construction of the index

The index was calculated as an average of the values obtained in the three dimensions (the average of the gaps in each dimension).

5. Comparison with the 2004 and 2005 version of the GEI

This comparison showed a high degree of correlation (Spearman: 0.937).

¹ The value 0 was re-codified as 0.01 to allow algebraic calculations. At the other end of the scale, values greater than 1 were re-codified as 1, since this is the normative limit employed for the purposes of the index.

BASIC CAPABILITIES INDEX (BCI) - Methodological Notes

For its 2004 Annual Report, Social Watch designed the Basic Capabilities Index (BCI), a summary index which covered the multi-dimensional aspects of development and made it possible to classify countries more easily. This index was based on the methodological approach adopted by Social Watch Philippines in their 2001 Report,⁵ and Social Watch has been using this country evaluation tool since 2004.⁶

The BCI complements the thematic tables included since 1996 in the Social Watch Annual Report, which present the situation of each country in a series of dimensions considered relevant for evaluating social development.

The BCI reflects basic well-being gauged by capabilities⁷ in different aspects of the human condition, and the indicators that make it up yield separate results for each dimension. The index gives an efficient rating for the basic levels of people's well-being on the basis of their state of health (child health and reproductive health) and their performance in primary education. Both these dimensions are of crucial importance in development goals.

The indicators that make up the BCI are as follows:

- Percentage of children in the first grade of primary education who reach the fifth grade.
- Mortality among children under 5 years old.⁸
- Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel.

Low values on the BCI indicate that the country in question is far from satisfying people's basic needs, so the first positions are occupied by countries where improvement is urgently necessary, and indeed essential if a minimum level of well-being is to be reached.

5 Raya, R. (2001). *An alternative measure of poverty and human capability: Introducing the Quality of Life Index*. Social Watch Philippines. Report 2001. The Quality of Life Index, originally developed by the Philippine non-governmental organization Action for Economic Reforms, is derived from the Capability Poverty Index (CPI) developed by Professor Amartya Sen and popularized as the United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Index (HDI).

6 In the 2004 report it featured as the "Quality of Life Index". This title was changed in 2005.

7 One difference between the BCI and the HDI is that the latter combines capability indicators with measures of income.

8 The original indicator used in the Philippines experience was "Malnutrition among children under 5". Social Watch Philippines developed this methodology, and in their own report they note that the infant mortality rate could be used instead because there is more data available on this in different countries' statistical registers, and because there is a high correlation between it and the child malnutrition indicator.

TABLE 1. Categorization of countries by BCI levels

BCI level	Points grouping	Number of countries
Critical	Up to 69 points	26
Very low	70 to 79 points	26
Low	80 to 89 points	18
Medium	90 to 97 points	47
High	98 to 100 points	45

The BCI has comparative advantages in that it is relatively simple to calculate and inexpensive because it does not depend on household surveys to estimate levels of income. It is compatible with the various national and international statistical systems, and it can be calculated easily from indicator data that are regularly issued by governments and agencies. In addition to being an instrument for classifying the relative situation of countries or of particular sectors within a country (population groups or geographical areas, for example), it can also be used to generate time series for monitoring situations connected to poverty. The BCI is closely correlated with the indexes used to summarize the situation of countries in the dimensions studied by Social Watch in the thematic tables (education, morbidity-mortality, reproductive health, science and technology, public expenditure, food security, water and sanitation).⁹ There is also a high degree of correlation with other indicators and indexes that are generally used to measure development or to classify countries according to their levels of well-being: the Human Development Index, the Human Poverty Index, the International Poverty Line, and per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The BCI makes it possible to distinguish between countries in more unfavourable situations, but it is less sensitive when detecting differences between countries that have reached a relatively high level of development. This is because the indicators used relate to basic capabilities that are characteristic of unfavourable development situations. Therefore, as a tool, it is more suitable for identifying critical situations than for detecting slight differences between more developed countries.

While the indicators used in the BCI are basic, are widely used internationally and have comparative advantages over other more expensive or more complex indicators, problems can arise when it comes to obtaining up-to-date information from many countries. It has therefore been necessary to make assumptions about performance and to em-

ploy statistical tools, so as to be able to include more countries in the classification.

BCI values, positions and categories

In this year's report the BCI operates in three different modalities:

First, the BCI values for each country are given in the section entitled "Achievement of basic capabilities is an indispensable task for development".

Second, the countries have been ranked in line with their BCI rating,¹⁰ which means they can be evaluated and compared to each other. This ranking is used in all the tables for the different thematic areas.

Lastly, the BCI makes it possible to place each country in a group of countries that are all in a similar situation as regards their basic capabilities.

The BCI rates countries with theoretical values between 0 and 100. Empirically however the lowest values are around 50 and the distribution of countries is heavily concentrated at the upper end of the scale (values close to 100). Working with this range, countries were categorized in five groups, in accordance with their ranking on the BCI.

As the BCI is an index that only expresses results it is a good tool to use in combination with other tools that include indicators of means (like income). This cross-checking also makes it possible to see how some countries have managed to achieve good BCI performance in spite of having low levels of income.

It should be borne in mind that the BCI is more sensitive to differences between countries that have lower levels of basic capabilities than between those that have risen well above the minimum levels of well-being. ■

9 The BCI explicitly excludes the gender dimension. There is a separate ranking for countries in that dimension, given by the Gender Equity Index (see the section entitled "The long road towards gender equity" in this report).

10 The countries were ranked with a correlating number in accordance with their BCI values. When two or more countries have the same BCI value they share the ranking position and that number of positions are left out.

Technical notes: BCI design in countries

Indicators that make up the BCI:

- Percentage of children in the first grade who reach the fifth grade
- Mortality among children under 5
- Percentage of births assisted by skilled health personnel

In this year's report, the information available (infant mortality for 193 countries, school retention for 124, and assisted childbirth for 175) meant that the BCI could be constructed from data for 103 countries. To increase the number of countries, values were assigned¹ for the indicators where information was lacking. This was done by assigning the average value of that indicator for the group the country was in as defined by its current situation in the thematic area in question. This made it

possible to design an index covering a total of 162 countries.

The BCI was calculated using the non-weighted average of the original values of the three indicators in question (in the case of infant mortality a lineal transformation was previously applied to the indicator). To simplify the calculations all three indicators were given the same weight.

Child health is represented as I1 = $(100 - M)$, where M is the under-5 mortality rate (expressed as a percentage) or the probability of death in the first five years of life expressed as per 1,000 live births.

Education is represented as I2, where I2 is the rate of school retention or the percentage of children enrolled in the first grade who reach the fifth grade in the required number of years.

Reproductive health is shown as I3, where I3 is the percentage of births assisted by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

The Basic Capabilities Index value for a particular country is obtained by taking a simple average of the three components: $BCI = (I1 + I2 + I3) / 3$

¹ No values were assigned in the mortality dimension. Values had to be assigned for 22 countries in the percentage of assisted births, and values were assigned for 48 countries in the percentage of children reaching the fifth grade. The procedures used to assign values were geared to ensuring that the position of countries in the situation ranking would be reflected with as little distortion as possible, on the hypothesis that the indicator would be consistent with the four big ranges defined by area. However, special care should be taken with countries that were assigned values when it comes to analyzing index values over time.

Glossary

Births attended by skilled health personnel (%):

Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Defined by: UNICEF.

Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%):

Percentage of children entering first grade of primary school who eventually reach grade five.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Contraceptive use among currently in-union women aged 15-49 (%):

Percentage of women in union aged 15-49 years currently using contraception.

Defined by: UN Statistics Division and UN Population Information Network.

DPT immunized 1-year-old children (%):

Percentage of children under one year of age who have received at least one dose of DPT vaccine.

DPT: Diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Estimated earned income ratio (women/men):

Ratio of estimated female earned income to estimated male earned income.

Because of the lack of sex-disaggregated income data, female and male earned income are crudely estimated by UNDP on the basis of data on the ratio of the female non-agricultural wage to the male non-agricultural wage, the female and male shares of the economically active population, the total female and male population and GDP per capita (PPP USD). Estimates are based on data for the most recent year available during 1991-2000, unless otherwise specified.

Defined by: UNDP.

Estimated low birth weight (%):

Percentage of newborns weighing less than 2,500 grams, with measurement taken within the first hours of life, before significant postnatal weight loss has occurred.

Defined by: WHO and UNICEF.

Estimated maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births):

Annual number of deaths of women from pregnancy-related causes per 100,000 live births.

Due to changes in the model of estimation, 1995 and 2000 data are not comparable.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Female legislators, senior officials and managers (% of total positions):

Women's share of positions defined according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88) to include legislators, senior government officials, traditional chiefs and heads of villages, senior officials of special interest organisations, corporate managers, directors and chief executives, production and operations department managers and other department and general managers.

Defined by: UN Statistics Division.

Female professional and technical workers (as % of total positions):

Women's share of positions defined according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations to include physical, mathematical and engineering science professionals (and associate professionals), life science and health professionals (and associate professionals), teaching professionals (and associate professionals) and other professionals and associate professionals.

Defined by: UN Statistics Division.

Gini Index:

Measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or, in some cases, consumption expenditure) among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Gini index of zero represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.

Defined by: World Bank.

Gross tertiary enrolment ratio gap (women/men):

Ratio of female gross tertiary enrolment ratio to male gross tertiary enrolment ratio.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births):

Number of infants dying before reaching one year of age, per 1,000 live births in a given year.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Information and communication technology expenditure (% of GDP):

Includes external spending on information technology ("tangible" spending on information technology products purchased by businesses, households, governments, and education institutions from vendors or organisations outside the purchasing entity), internal spending on information technology ("intangible" spending on internally customised software, capital depreciation, and the like), and spending on telecommunications and other office equipment.

Expressed as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Defined by: Digital Planet 2002: The Global Information Economy, World Information Technology and Services Alliance.

Internet users (per 1,000 people):

People with access to the worldwide network, per 1,000 people.

Defined by: International Telecommunication Union.

Literacy (15-24 years old, %):

Percentage of people aged 15-24 who can, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement on their everyday life.

Defined by: UNESCO

Literacy ratio gap (women/men):

Ratio of female literacy ratio (15-24 years old) to male literacy ratio (15-24 years old).

Calculated by Social Watch.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Malaria (cases per 100,000 people):

Total number of malaria cases reported to the World Health Organization by countries in which malaria is endemic, per 100,000 people. Many countries report only laboratory-confirmed cases, but many in Sub-Saharan Africa report clinically diagnosed cases as well.

Defined by: UNDP.

Measles immunized 1-year-old children (%):

Percentage of children under one year of age who have received at least one dose of measles vaccine.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Military expenditure (% of GDP):

(based on the NATO definition) Includes all current and capital expenditures on the armed forces, including peacekeeping forces; defence ministries and other government agencies engaged in defence projects; paramilitary forces, if these are judged to be trained and equipped for military operations; and military space activities. Expressed as percentage of Gross Domestic Product. Such expenditures include military and civil personnel, including retirement pensions of military personnel and social services for personnel; operation and maintenance; procurement; military research and development; and military aid (in the military expenditures of the donor country). Excluded are civil defence and current expenditures for previous military activities, such as for veterans' benefits, demobilisation, conversion, and destruction of weapons.

Defined by: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Net primary enrolment ratio gap (women/men):

Ratio of female net primary enrolment ratio to male net primary enrolment ratio.

Calculated by Social Watch.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Net secondary enrolment ratio gap (women/men):

Ratio of female net secondary enrolment ratio to male net secondary enrolment ratio.

Calculated by Social Watch.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Official Development Assistance (% of GNI):

Grants or loans to countries and territories on Part I of the DAC List of Aid Recipients (developing countries) which are: (a) undertaken by the official sector; (b) with promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective; (c) at concessional financial terms [if a loan, having a Grant Element (q.v.) of at least 25 per cent]. In addition to financial flows, Technical Co-operation (q.v.) is included in aid. Grants, loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. Transfer payments to private individuals (e.g. pensions, reparations or insurance payouts) are in general not counted.

Expressed as percentage of Gross National Income. Defined by: OECD.

People living with HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old, %):

Percentage of adults (15-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS. Defined by: UNAIDS.

Personal computers (per 1,000 people):

Personal computers are self-contained computers designed to be used by a single individual, per 1,000 people.

Defined by: International Telecommunication Union.

Polio immunized 1-year-old children (%):

Percentage of children under one year of age who have received at least one dose of polio vaccine.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Population below the national poverty line (%):

Percentage of the population living below the national poverty line. National estimates are based on population-weighted subgroup estimates from household surveys.

Defined by: World Bank.

Population living with less than USD 1 a day (%):

Percentage of the population living on less than \$1.08 a day at 1993 international prices (equivalent to USD 1 in 1985 prices, adjusted for purchasing power parity).

Defined by: World Bank.

Population with access to improved water sources (%):

Percentage of the population who use any of the following types of water supply for drinking: piped water, public tap, borehole or pump, protected well, protected spring or rainwater. Improved water sources do not include vendor-provided waters, bottled water, tanker trucks or unprotected wells and springs.

Defined by: WHO and UNICEF.

Population with access to sanitation (%):

Percentage of the population with at least adequate excreta disposal facilities (private or shared, but not public) that can effectively prevent human, animal, and insect contact with excreta. Improved facilities range from simple but protected pit latrines to flush toilets with a sewerage connection. To be effective, facilities must be correctly constructed and properly maintained.

Defined by: WHO and UNICEF.

Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %):

Number of children enrolled in primary school who belong to the age group that officially corresponds to primary schooling, as percentage of the total population of the same age group.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Public education expenditure (% of GDP):

Public spending on public education plus subsidies to private education at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels, as percentage of Gross Domestic Product.

World Bank and OECD GDP estimates.

Defined by: World Bank.

Public health expenditure (% of GDP):

Recurrent and capital spending from government (central and local) budgets, external borrowings and grants (including donations from international agencies and non-governmental organisations), and social (or compulsory) health insurance funds, as percentage of Gross Domestic Product.

Defined by: World Bank.

Scientists and engineers in research and development (per million people):

People trained to work in any field of science who are engaged in professional R&D (research and development) activity, per million people. Most such jobs require completion of tertiary education.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Seats in parliament held by women (% of seats):

Seats held by women in a lower or single house or an upper house or senate, where relevant, as percentage of total seats.

Defined by: UN Statistics Division.

Share of poorest quintile consumption**(% of income or consumption):**

The share of the poorest quintile in national consumption/income is share of income or consumption that accrues to the poorest 20 percent of the population. Data on personal or household income or consumption come from nationally representative household surveys.

Defined by: UN Statistics Division.

Telephone mainlines (per 1,000 people):

Telephone lines connecting a customer's equipment to the public switched telephone network. Data are presented per 1,000 people for the entire country.

Defined by: International Telecommunication Union.

Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross, %):

Ratio of total enrolment, regardless of age, to the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the level of education shown. Tertiary education, whether or not to an advanced research qualification, normally requires, as a minimum condition of admission, successful completion of education at secondary level.

Defined by: UNESCO.

Total debt service (% of GNI):

Sum of principal repayments and interest actually paid in foreign currency, goods, or services on long-term debt, interest paid on short-term debt, and repayments (repurchases and charges) to the IMF, as percentage of Gross National Income.

Defined by: World Bank.

Tuberculosis (cases per 100,000 people):

Total number of tuberculosis cases reported to the World Health Organization per 100,000 people. A tuberculosis case is defined as a patient in whom tuberculosis has been bacteriologically confirmed or diagnosed by a clinician.

Defined by: WHO.

Tuberculosis immunized 1-year-old children (%):

Percentage of children under one year of age who have received at least one dose of tuberculosis vaccine.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Under-5 children malnutrition (weight for age, %):

Percentage of children under five whose weight for age is less than minus two standard deviations from the median for the international reference population ages 0 to 59

months. The reference population adopted by the WHO in 1983 is based on children from the United States, who are assumed to be well nourished.

Defined by: WHO.

Under-5 mortality (per 1,000 live births):

Probability of dying between birth and exactly five years of age expressed per 1,000 live births.

Defined by: UNICEF.

Undernourishment (%):

Percentage of undernourished in the total population. Undernourishment is the result of food intake that is insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements continuously. The World Health Organisation recommended that the average person needs to take a minimum of 2300 Kcal per day to maintain body functions, health and normal activity. This global minimum requirement of calories is broken down into country-specific differentials that are a function of the age-specific structure and body mass of the population.

Defined by: FAO.

Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%):

Percentage of women aged 15-49 years attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Defined by: UNICEF.

Women in decision-making positions in government at ministerial level (% of total positions):

Women as percentage of total decision-making positions in government. Data were provided by states based on their definition of national executive and may therefore include women serving as ministers and vice ministers and those holding other ministerial positions, including parliamentary secretaries.

Defined by: UNDP (Human Development Report 2004).

For initial data, the indicator is defined as "Women in government" at ministerial level and sub-ministerial level. Includes elected heads of state and governors of central banks.

Defined by: UNDP (Human Development Report 1997).

Women wage employment in non-agricultural sector (% of total non-agricultural employees):

Share of female workers in the non-agricultural sector expressed as percentage of total employment in the sector.

Defined by: UNDP.

Compilation of articles on human rights mentioned in the statistics tables

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), 1948.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 22

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27

1. Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), 1965.

Article 5

In compliance with the fundamental obligations laid down in article 2 of this Convention, States Parties undertake to prohibit and to eliminate racial discrimination in all its forms and to guarantee the right of everyone, without distinction as to race, colour, or national or ethnic origin, to equality before the law, notably in the enjoyment of the following rights:

- (a) The right to equal treatment before the tribunals and all other organs administering justice;
- (b) The right to security of person and protection by the State against violence or bodily harm, whether inflicted by government officials or by any individual group or institution;
- (c) Political rights, in particular the right to participate in elections - to vote and to stand for election - on the basis of universal and equal suffrage, to take part in the Government as well as in the conduct of public affairs at any level and to have equal access to public service;
- (d) Other civil rights, in particular:
 - (i) The right to freedom of movement and residence within the border of the State;
 - (ii) The right to leave any country, including one's own, and to return to one's country;
 - (iii) The right to nationality;
 - (iv) The right to marriage and choice of spouse;
 - (v) The right to own property alone as well as in association with others;
 - (vi) The right to inherit;
 - (vii) The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;
 - (viii) The right to freedom of opinion and expression;
 - (ix) The right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association;
- (e) Economic, social and cultural rights, in particular:
 - (i) The rights to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work, to protection against unemployment, to equal pay for equal work, to just and favourable remuneration;
 - (ii) The right to form and join trade unions;
 - (iii) The right to housing;
 - (iv) The right to public health, medical care, social security and social services;

(v) The right to education and training;

(vi) The right to equal participation in cultural activities;

(f) The right of access to any place or service intended for use by the general public, such as transport, hotels, restaurants, cafes, theatres and parks.

Article 6

States Parties shall assure to everyone within their jurisdiction effective protection and remedies, through the competent national tribunals and other State institutions, against any acts of racial discrimination which violate his human rights and fundamental freedoms contrary to this Convention, as well as the right to seek from such tribunals just and adequate reparation or satisfaction for any damage suffered as a result of such discrimination.

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), 1966.

Article 3

The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to ensure the equal right of men and women to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the present Covenant.

Article 7

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of just and favourable conditions of work which ensure, in particular:

- (a) Remuneration which provides all workers, as a minimum, with:
 - (i) Fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value without distinction of any kind, in particular women being guaranteed conditions of work not inferior to those enjoyed by men, with equal pay for equal work;
 - (ii) A decent living for themselves and their families in accordance with the provisions of the present Covenant;
 - (b) Safe and healthy working conditions;
 - (c) Equal opportunity for everyone to be promoted in his employment to an appropriate higher level, subject to no considerations other than those of seniority and competence;
- (...)

Article 9

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

- (...)
2. Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

Article 11

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions. The States Parties will take appropriate steps to ensure the realization of this right, recognizing to this effect the essential importance of international co-operation based on free consent.

2. The States Parties to the present Covenant, recognizing the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, shall take, individually and through international co-operation, the measures, including specific programmes, which are needed:

- (a) To improve methods of production, conservation and distribution of food by making full use of technical and scientific knowledge, by disseminating knowledge of the principles of nutrition and by developing or reforming agrarian systems in such a way as to achieve the most efficient development and utilization of natural resources;
- (b) Taking into account the problems of both food-importing and food-exporting countries, to ensure an equitable distribution of world food supplies in relation to need.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:

- (a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;
- (b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;
- (c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;
- (d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They agree that education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity, and shall strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

2. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that, with a view to achieving the full realization of this right:

- (a) Primary education shall be compulsory and available free to all;

(b) Secondary education in its different forms, including technical and vocational secondary education, shall be made generally available and accessible to all by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education;

(c) Higher education shall be made equally accessible to all, on the basis of capacity, by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education;

(d) Fundamental education shall be encouraged or intensified as far as possible for those persons who have not received or completed the whole period of their primary education;

(e) The development of a system of schools at all levels shall be actively pursued, an adequate fellowship system shall be established, and the material conditions of teaching staff shall be continuously improved.

3. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to choose for their children schools, other than those established by the public authorities, which conform to such minimum educational standards as may be laid down or approved by the State and to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

4. No part of this article shall be construed so as to interfere with the liberty of individuals and bodies to establish and direct educational institutions, subject always to the observance of the principles set forth in paragraph 1 of this article and to the requirement that the education given in such institutions shall conform to such minimum standards as may be laid down by the State.

Article 14
Each State Party to the present Covenant which, at the time of becoming a Party, has not been able to secure in its metropolitan territory or other territories under its jurisdiction compulsory primary education, free of charge, undertakes, within two years, to work out and adopt a detailed plan of action for the progressive implementation, within a reasonable number of years, to be fixed in the plan, of the principle of compulsory education free of charge for all.

Article 15
1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone:
(a) To take part in cultural life;
(b) To enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;
(c) To benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for the conservation, the development and the diffusion of science and culture.

3. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research and creative activity.

4. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and co-operation in the scientific and cultural fields.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979.

Article 5
States Parties shall take all appropriate measures:
(...)
(b) To ensure that family education includes a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children, it being understood that the interest of the children is the primordial consideration in all cases.

Article 7
States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country and, in particular, shall ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the right:
(a) To vote in all elections and public referenda and to be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies;
(b) To participate in the formulation of government policy and the implementation thereof and to hold public office and perform all public functions at all levels of government;
(c) To participate in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country.

Article 10
States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in order to ensure to them equal rights with men in the field of education and in particular to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:
(a) The same conditions for career and vocational guidance, for access to studies and for the achievement of diplomas in educational establishments of all categories in rural as well as in urban areas; this equality shall be ensured in pre-school, general, technical, professional and higher technical education, as well as in all types of vocational training;
(b) Access to the same curricula, the same examinations, teaching staff with qualifications of the same standard and school premises and equipment of the same quality;
(c) The elimination of any stereotyped concept of the roles of men and women at all levels and in all forms of education by encouraging coeducation and other types of education which will help to achieve this aim and, in particular, by the revision of textbooks and school programmes and the adaptation of teaching methods;
(d) The same opportunities to benefit from scholarships and other study grants;
(e) The same opportunities for access to programmes of continuing education, including adult and functional literacy programmes, particularly those aimed at reducing, at the earliest possible time, any gap in education existing between men and women;

(f) The reduction of female student drop-out rates and the organization of programmes for girls and women who have left school prematurely;
(...)

Article 11
1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular:
(a) The right to work as an inalienable right of all human beings;
(b) The right to the same employment opportunities, including the application of the same criteria for selection in matters of employment;
(c) The right to free choice of profession and employment, the right to promotion, job security and all benefits and conditions of service and the right to receive vocational training and retraining, including apprenticeships, advanced vocational training and recurrent training;
(d) The right to equal remuneration, including benefits, and to equal treatment in respect of work of equal value, as well as equality of treatment in the evaluation of the quality of work;
(e) The right to social security, particularly in cases of retirement, unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age and other incapacity to work, as well as the right to paid leave;
(f) The right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction.

2. In order to prevent discrimination against women on the grounds of marriage or maternity and to ensure their effective right to work, States Parties shall take appropriate measures:
(a) To prohibit, subject to the imposition of sanctions, dismissal on the grounds of pregnancy or of maternity leave and discrimination in dismissals on the basis of marital status;
(b) To introduce maternity leave with pay or with comparable social benefits without loss of former employment, seniority or social allowances;
(c) To encourage the provision of the necessary supporting social services to enable parents to combine family obligations with work responsibilities and participation in public life, in particular through promoting the establishment and development of a network of child-care facilities;
(d) To provide special protection to women during pregnancy in types of work proved to be harmful to them.

3. Protective legislation relating to matters covered in this article shall be reviewed periodically in the light of scientific and technological knowledge and shall be revised, repealed or extended as necessary.

Article 12
1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, access to health care services, including those related to family planning.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, States Parties shall ensure to women appropriate services in connection with pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period, granting free services where necessary, as well as adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation.

Article 14
(...)
2. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development and, in particular, shall ensure to such women the right:
(a) To participate in the elaboration and implementation of development planning at all levels;
(b) To have access to adequate health care facilities, including information, counselling and services in family planning;
(c) To benefit directly from social security programmes;
(d) To obtain all types of training and education, formal and non-formal, including that relating to functional literacy, as well as, inter-alia, the benefit of all community and extension services, in order to increase their technical proficiency;
(e) To organize self-help groups and co-operatives in order to obtain equal access to economic opportunities through employment or self employment;
(f) To participate in all community activities;
(g) To have access to agricultural credit and loans, marketing facilities, appropriate technology and equal treatment in land and agrarian reform as well as in land resettlement schemes;
(h) To enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and water supply, transport and communications.

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989.

Article 17
States Parties recognize the important function performed by the mass media and shall ensure that the child has access to information and material from a diversity of national and international sources, especially those aimed at the promotion of his or her social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health. To this end, States Parties shall:
(a) Encourage the mass media to disseminate information and material of social and cultural benefit to the child and in accordance with the spirit of article 29;
(b) Encourage international co-operation in the production, exchange and dissemination of such information and material from a diversity of cultural, national and international sources;
(c) Encourage the production and dissemination of children's books;
(d) Encourage the mass media to have particular regard to the linguistic needs of the child who belongs to a minority group or who is indigenous;
(e) Encourage the development of appropriate guidelines for the protection of the child from information and material injurious to his or her well-being, bearing in mind the provisions of articles 13 and 18.

Article 24
1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health. States Parties shall strive to ensure that no child is deprived of his or her right of access to such health care services.

2. States Parties shall pursue full implementation of this right and, in particular, shall take appropriate measures:

- (a) To diminish infant and child mortality;
- (b) To ensure the provision of necessary medical assistance and health care to all children with emphasis on the development of primary health care;
- (c) To combat disease and malnutrition, including within the framework of primary health care, through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking-water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution;
- (d) To ensure appropriate pre-natal and post-natal health care for mothers;
- (e) To ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition, the advantages of breastfeeding, hygiene and environmental sanitation and the prevention of accidents;
- (f) To develop preventive health care, guidance for parents and family planning education and services.

3. States Parties shall take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children.

4. States Parties undertake to promote and encourage international co-operation with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right recognized in the present article. In this regard, particular account shall be taken of the needs of developing countries.

Article 25

States Parties recognize the right of a child who has been placed by the competent authorities for the purposes of care, protection or treatment of his or her physical or mental health, to a periodic review of the treatment provided to the child and all other circumstances relevant to his or her placement.

Article 26

1. States Parties shall recognize for every child the right to benefit from social security, including social insurance, and shall take the necessary measures to achieve the full realization of this right in accordance with their national law.

2. The benefits should, where appropriate, be granted, taking into account the resources and the circumstances of the child and persons having responsibility for the maintenance of the child, as well as any other consideration relevant to an application for benefits made by or on behalf of the child.

Article 27

1. States Parties recognize the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

2. The parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, within their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development.

3. States Parties, in accordance with national conditions and within their means, shall take appropriate measures to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement this right and shall in case of need provide material assistance and support programmes, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

(...)

Article 28

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to education, and with a view to achieving this right progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity, they shall, in particular:

- (a) Make primary education compulsory and available free to all;
- (b) Encourage the development of different forms of secondary education, including general and vocational education, make them available and accessible to every child, and take appropriate measures such as the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need;
- (c) Make higher education accessible to all on the basis of capacity by every appropriate means;
- (d) Make educational and vocational information and guidance available and accessible to all children;
- (e) Take measures to encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates.

2. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that school discipline is administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity and in conformity with the present Convention.

3. States Parties shall promote and encourage international cooperation in matters relating to education, in particular with a view to contributing to the elimination of ignorance and illiteracy throughout the world and facilitating access to scientific and technical knowledge and modern teaching methods. In this regard, particular account shall be taken of the needs of developing countries.

Article 29

1. States Parties agree that the education of the child shall be directed to:

- (a) The development of the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential;
- (b) The development of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;
- (c) The development of respect for the child's parents, his or her own cultural identity, language and values, for the national values of the country in which the child is living, the country from which he or she may originate, and for civilizations different from his or her own;
- (d) The preparation of the child for responsible life in a free society, in the spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, equality of sexes, and friendship among all peoples, ethnic, national and religious groups and persons of indigenous origin;
- (e) The development of respect for the natural environment.

Sources and resources

THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations hosts a website which includes general information about the United Nations system, structure and mission. Access to databases, statistics, documents, news and press releases. www.un.org

Since 1990, the United Nations held a series of international conferences and summits. The World Summit for Social Development Declaration and Programme of Action, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Millennium Declaration are available on-line at: www.socialwatch.org

DAW (Division for the Advancement of Women)

Grounded in the vision of equality of the United Nations Charter, DAW advocates the improvement of the status of women of the world and the achievement of their equality with men. Aiming to ensure the participation of women as equal partners with men in all aspects of human endeavour, the Division promotes women as equal participants and beneficiaries of sustainable development, peace and security, governance and human rights. As part of its mandate, it strives to stimulate the mainstreaming of gender perspectives both within and outside the United Nations system. www.un.org/womenwatch/daw

UN DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

The main objective of the Division for Social Policy and Development is to strengthen international cooperation for social development, in the context of the comprehensive and detailed framework of commitments and policies for action by Governments, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations provided by the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, with particular attention to the three core issues of poverty eradication, employment generation and social integration, in contributing to the creation of an international community that enables the building of secure, just, free and harmonious societies offering opportunities and higher standards of living for all. www.un.org/esa/socdev/index.html

DHS (Demographic and Health Surveys)

Since 1984, the MEASURE DHS (Demographic and Health Surveys) project has provided technical assistance to more than 200 surveys in 75 countries, advancing global understanding of health and population trends in developing countries. The strategic objective of MEASURE DHS is to improve and institutionalize the collection and use of data by host countries for program monitoring and evaluation and for policy development decisions. MEASURE DHS is funded by USAID with contributions from other donors.

As a key participant in the MEASURE program, DHS has earned a worldwide reputation for collecting and disseminating accurate, nationally representative data on fertility, family planning, maternal and child health, as well as child survival, HIV/AIDS, malaria, and nutrition. The DHS approach to data collection emphasizes integration, coordination, cost-effectiveness, and capacity building. www.measuredhs.com/accesssurveys

ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)

ECLAC is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. It was founded for the purposes of contributing to the economic development of Latin America, coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries and with the other nations of the world. The promotion of the region's social development was later included among its primary objectives. There are many useful publications available at ECLAC website:

- Statistical Yearbooks
- the Caribbean
- Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean
- Foreign Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Social Panorama of Latin America
- Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy

These and other useful publications and data can be found at: www.eclac.org

ECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa)

Established in 1958, ECA is one of five regional commissions under the administrative direction of United Nations (UN) headquarters. As the regional arm of the UN in Africa, it is mandated to support the economic and social development of its 53 member States, foster regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. It reports to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The Commission is organized around six substantive programme divisions: Development Policy and Management; Economic and Social Policy; Gender and Development; Information for Development; Sustainable Development; and Trade and Regional Integration. Five subregional offices contribute a subregional perspective to the work programme and support outreach. www.uneca.org

FAO (United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation)

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations was founded in 1945 with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agricultural productivity, and to better the condition of rural populations. Today, FAO is one of the largest specialised agencies in the United Nations system and the lead agency for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development.

The State of Food Insecurity in the World Every year FAO publishes *The state of food insecurity in the world*, a report on the global and national efforts to reach the goal set by the 1996 World Food Summit (to reduce by half the number of undernourished people in the world by 2015). www.fao.org

Faostat

Is FAO's online multilingual database currently containing over 3 million time-series records covering statistics on agriculture, nutrition, fisheries, forestry, food aid, land use and population. <http://apps.fao.org/>

FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

The International Conference on Financing for Development was held on 18-22 March 2002 in Monterrey, Mexico. This first United Nations-hosted conference to address key financial and development issues attracted 50 Heads of State or Government, over 200 ministers as well as leaders from the private sector and civil society, and senior officials of all the major intergovernmental financial, trade, economic, and monetary organisations. The Conference also marked the first quadripartite exchange of views between governments, civil society, the business community, and the institutional stakeholders on global economic issues. These global discussions involved over 800 participants in twelve roundtables.

In December 2005 the General Assembly decided to hold a follow-up international conference on financing for development to review the implementation of the Consensus at a date to be determined during the period 2008-2009. The conference will be held in Qatar. www.un.org/esa/ffd/

UN HABITAT-Global Urban Observatory

The GUO was established by UN-HABITAT in response to a decision of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements, which called for a mechanism to monitor global progress in implementing the Habitat Agenda and to monitor and evaluate global urban conditions and trends. The GUO works closely with Best Practices and Local Leadership programme (BLP) which was established to make use of information and networking in support of the Habitat Agenda Implementation. Both programmes operate under the Monitoring Systems Branch, which has the overall mandate to monitor progress on the Habitat Agenda and the Millennium Development Goals. ww2.unhabitat.org/programmes/guo/

ILO (International Labour Organization)

Since its creation in 1919, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has always attached particular importance to its standard-setting activities. Through Its Conventions and Recommendations ILO cover areas that include basic human rights, employment, social policy, labour relations, labour administration, working conditions and social protection. www.ilo.org

Ilolex

Is a trilingual database containing ILO Conventions and Recommendations, ratification information, comments of the Committee of Experts and the Committee on Freedom of Association, representations, complaints, interpretations, General Surveys, and numerous related documents. www.ilo.org/ilolex/

World Employment Report 2004-2005 ILO published the *World Employment Report 2004-2005: Employment, productivity and poverty reduction*. It states that focusing economic policies on creating decent and productive employment opportunities is vital for reducing global poverty as called for in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The World Employment Report 2004-2005 is the fifth in a series of ILO reports that offer a global perspective on current employment issues. www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/strat/wer2004.htm

IPU

The IPU is the international organization of Parliaments of sovereign States. The Union was established in 1889 and is the focal point for world-wide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and co-operation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy. To that end, it fosters contacts, co-ordination, and the exchange of experience among parliaments and parliamentarians of all countries. It also considers questions of international interest and concern and expresses its views on such issues in order to bring about action by parliaments and parliamentarians.

A unique database of bibliographic references on the role, structure and working methods of national parliaments, on electoral systems, constitutional law, history and political science is being maintained and regularly updated by the Union's library. The database includes references to over 7,000 books and studies as well as 30,000 articles taken from 160 periodicals and can be consulted on-line at: www.ipu.org

IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement)

Created in 1944 the IRD is a French public science and technology research institute under the joint authority of the French ministries in charge of research and overseas development. The IRD has three main missions: research, consultancy and training. It conducts scientific programs contributing to the sustainable development of the countries of the South, with an emphasis on the relationship between man and the environment. www.ird.fr

JMP (Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply & Sanitation)

The goals of UNICEF and WHO Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply & Sanitation (JMP) are to report on the status of water-supply and sanitation, and to support countries in their efforts to monitor this sector, which will enable better planning and management. The latest JMP report, *Water for Life: making it happen* (2005), and other documents can be consulted and downloaded from this website.
www.wssinfo.org

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

The eight Millennium Development Goals – which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015 – form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions.

The Millennium Development Goals Report 2006

This publication embodies the collaborative efforts of agencies and organizations within and outside the United Nations system, working through the Inter-agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators. It contains the latest and most comprehensive figures available through improved data collection and monitoring worldwide. Similar data will be collected and presented each year until 2015, the target date for the Millennium Development Goals, in an effort to give further direction and focus to international cooperation and national action.
www.un.org/millenniumgoals/

UN Millennium Campaign

The Millennium Campaign was created to build political will for the achievement of the MDGs and to enable people's actions in holding their government to account to the Millennium Pledge.

The Campaign assumptions are:

- It is the lack of political will that is the biggest stumbling block to the achievement of the MDGs.
- Political leaders are primarily accountable to their electorate, who are local and national.
- The Campaign therefore will focus on the national level and below, while recognizing the need to influence global processes.
- The Campaign will largely catalyse and facilitate campaigning by other actors, particularly CSOs, but also Parliamentarians and Local Authorities.
- Working closely with the media, particularly local and national media, is central to the National Campaigns.
www.millenniumcampaign.org

Millennium Project

The Millennium Project was commissioned by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2002 to develop a concrete action plan for the world to reverse the grinding poverty, hunger and disease affecting billions of people. Headed by Professor Jeffrey Sachs, the Millennium Project is an independent advisory body and presented its final recommendations, *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* to the Secretary-General in January 2005. The Millennium Project has been asked to continue operating in an advisory capacity through the end of 2006.
www.unmillenniumproject.org

NGLS (United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service)

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service is an inter-agency programme with offices in Geneva and New York. It was established in 1975 to strengthen UN-NGO dialogue and cooperation in the fields of development education, information and policy advocacy on global sustainable development, and North-South development issues.
www.un-ngls.org

OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development)

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development produces internationally agreed instruments, decisions and recommendations to promote rules of the game in areas where multilateral agreement is necessary for individual countries to make progress in a globalized economy.

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) is one of the key fora of OECD in which the major bilateral donors work together to increase the effectiveness of their common efforts to support sustainable development. The DAC concentrates on how international development co-operation contributes to the capacity of developing countries to participate in the global economy and the capacity of people to overcome poverty and participate fully in their societies.

Indicators are available and updated online:
www.oecd.org/department/

Global Forum on Development

Seeking to improve its dialogue on development with non-member governments and non-governmental actors, the OECD is launching a new policy-dialogue process in 2006: the OECD Global Forum on Development. The Global Forum process, which will consist of a series of events including informal experts' workshops, policy workshops and annual plenary meetings, will devote its first three-year cycle to "development finance".
www.oecd.org

Development Centre

The Development Centre (DEV) conducts comparative analysis and promotes informal policy dialogue on development issues of mutual interest for OECD member countries and the emerging and developing economies.
www.oecd.org/dev

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The High Commissioner is the principal UN official with responsibility for human rights and is accountable to the Secretary-General. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is guided in its work by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent human rights instruments, and the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. The promotion of Universal ratification and implementation of human rights treaties is at the forefront of OHCHR activities.
www.ohchr.org/english/

POPIN (Population Information Network)

The Population Information Network, founded in May 1979, strives to make international, regional and national population information, particularly information available from United Nations sources, easily available to the international community. Among its publications can be found *World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision*. It presents the nineteenth round of global demographic estimates and projections undertaken by the Population Division since 1950. The information is also available in POPIN's online database: <http://esa.un.org/unpp/>
www.un.org/popin/

UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

The UN Statistics Division compiles statistics from many international sources and produces global updates, including the Statistical Yearbook, World Statistics Pocketbook and yearbooks in specialised fields of statistics. It also provides to countries, specifications of the best methods of compiling information so that data from different sources can be readily compared.
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/>

World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics
The UN Statistics Division Special Report *World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics* provides an overview of country reporting and data sources focusing on sex-disaggregated statistics in such areas as demographics, health, education, work, violence against women, poverty, human rights and decision-making. This report proposes a set of strategies to strengthen national capacity to collect and report statistics and also for improved mainstreaming of gender concerns.
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwvm/>

Millennium Indicators Database

In close collaboration with agencies and organizations within and outside the United Nations system, the United Nations Statistics Division coordinates the preparation of data analysis to assess progress made towards the MDGs and maintains the database containing the data series related to the selected indicators, as well as other background series intended to supplement the basic indicators, for more in-depth analysis. The figures presented in the database are compiled by specialized agencies within their area of expertise. They are drawn from national statistics provided by Governments to the international statistical system-the United Nations Statistics Division and the statistical offices of the various agencies-and usually adjusted for comparability. The information, is available in Chinese, French, Spanish and English:
<http://millenniumindicators.un.org>

UNITED NATIONS TREATY COLLECTION

United Nations Treaty Collection is a website database prepared and updated regularly by the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations. It offers access to over 40,000 treaties and international agreements.
<http://untreaty.un.org/>

UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS)

As the main advocate for global action on HIV/AIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) leads, strengthens and supports an expanded response aimed at preventing the transmission of HIV, bringing together the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations to the global AIDS response.
www.unaids.org

The XVI International Conference on HIV and AIDS takes place in Toronto, Canada from 13 – 18 August 2006. It hosted over 25,000 participants from all over the world.

www.unaids.org/en/Conferences/AIDS2006

2006 Report on the global AIDS epidemic

The 2006 Report on the global AIDS epidemic contains the most comprehensive set of data on the country response to the AIDS epidemic ever compiled. Not only did 126 countries submit full reports, but, for the first time, civil society was actively engaged in the collection, review and analysis of these country data. In addition, UNAIDS received more than 30 separate reports from civil society, allowing for a more comprehensive assessment of political commitment, quality and equity of service coverage, and the effectiveness of efforts to address stigma and discrimination.
www.unaids.org/en/HIV_data/2006GlobalReport/default.asp

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

Since 1990, the United Nations Development Programme has annually published the Human Development Report, which contains the Human Development Index (HDI). The HDI attempts to measure the relative socio-economic progress of nations.

Human Development Report 2005

International cooperation at a crossroads: Aid, trade and security in an unequal world. 2005 Human Development Report takes stock of human development, including progress towards the MDGs. Looking beyond statistics, it highlights the human costs of missed targets and broken promises. Extreme inequality between countries and within countries is identified as one of the main barriers to human development and as a powerful brake on accelerated progress towards the MDGs.
<http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/>

UNDP's public information, as well as UN conference documents are available at:
www.undp.org

UNESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)

The regional arm of the United Nations Secretariat for the Asian and Pacific region is the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). It was created in order to promote economic and social development through regional and sub regional cooperation and integration, but also to formulate and promote development assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs and priorities of the region.
www.unescap.org

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation)
In March 1990, the international community put education on the global agenda during the World Conference on Education for All (EFA) when governments set themselves the challenge of achieving universal primary education by the year 2000. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) publishes every year the EFA Global Monitoring Report, which assesses where the world stands on its commitment to provide a basic education to all children, youth and adults by 2015. Developed by an independent team and published by UNESCO, the report is an authoritative reference that aims to inform, influence and sustain genuine commitment towards education for all.
The 2006 Global Monitoring Report, *Literacy for life*, measures the world's progress towards achieving the six Education For All goals, and especially the neglected one of universal literacy.

The Report is available online:
www.efareport.unesco.org

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics, hosted by the University of Montreal in Canada, develops an online searchable database containing selected indicators.
www.uis.unesco.org

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)
The Children's Summit, held in New York in 1990, yielded an impressive action programme with very concrete objectives to improve the position of children in developing countries. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) publishes annual reports on the progress made by each country in implementing the agreements.

The 2006 *State of the World's Children report* focuses on excluded and invisible children who have no access to essential services, protection and participation.

The complete report (pdf version) can be downloaded from UNICEF's website:
www.unicef.org/sowc06

The UNICEF's key statistical online database has detailed country-specific information that was used for the end-decade assessment. Global and regional summary analyses and graphic presentations of key results of progress over the decade can be found on this web site as can a full set of technical tools for conducting Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS).
www.childinfo.org

World Malaria Report 2005 (UNICEF and WHO)

The World Malaria Report 2005 is the first comprehensive effort by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership to take stock of where the world stands in relation to one of its most devastating diseases. It reveals that the tide may be beginning to turn against malaria as control and prevention programmes start to take effect.
www.rbm.who.int/wmr2005/

UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women)
The United Nations Development Fund for Women is the women's fund at the United Nations. Established in 1976, it provides financial and technical assistance to innovative approaches aimed at fostering women's empowerment and gender equality. Today the organization's work touches the lives of women and girls in more than 100 countries. UNIFEM also helps make the voices of women heard at the United Nations – to highlight critical issues and advocate for the implementation of existing commitments made to women.

Progress of the World's Women 2005: Women, Work & Poverty makes the case for an increased focus on women's informal employment as a key pathway to reducing poverty and strengthening women's economic security. It provides the latest available data on the size and composition of the informal economy and compares national data on average earnings and poverty risk across different segments of the informal and formal workforces in six developing countries and one developed country to show the links between employment, gender and poverty.
www.unifem.org

Women, War and Peace Web Portal

WomenWarPeace.org is intended to address the lack of consolidated data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls as noted by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). By no means exhaustive, this portal is meant to serve as a centralized repository of information from a wide variety of sources, with links to reports and data from the UN system to information and analysis from experts, academics, NGOs and media sources. Views expressed in external sources may not necessarily reflect those of UNIFEM or other UN departments, agencies, programmes or funds.
www.womenwarpeace.org

UNRISD (United Nations Research Institute for Social Development)

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development is an independent research agency subsidised by governments, development organisations and other organisations. Through its research, UNRISD stimulates dialogue and contributes to policy debates on key issues of social development within and outside the United Nations system.
www.unrisd.org

WHO

The World Health Organization is the United Nations specialized agency for health. It was established on 7 April 1948. WHO's objective, as set out in its Constitution, is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.
www.who.int

Communicable Disease Global Atlas

The WHO's Communicable Disease Global Atlas is bringing together for analysis and comparison standardised data and statistics for infectious diseases at country, regional, and global levels. The Atlas specifically acknowledges the broad range of determinants that influence patterns of infectious disease transmission.
The information can be accessed online:
www.who.int/GlobalAtlas

Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR)

The Department of Reproductive Health and Research (RHR) has set itself the mission of helping people to lead healthy sexual and reproductive lives. In pursuit of this mission the Department endeavours to strengthen the capacity of countries to enable people to promote and protect their own health and that of their partners as it relates to sexuality and reproduction, and to have access to and receive quality reproductive health services when needed.

WOMEN WATCH

Women Watch is a joint UN project to create a core Internet space on global women's issues. It was created to monitor the results of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995. It was founded in March 1997 by the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).
www.un.org/womenwatch

WORLD BANK

The World Bank annually publishes the World Development Report (WDR). The **World Development Report 2006: Equity and Development** explores the role of equity in development. It presents evidence on the inequality of opportunity, within and across countries, and illustrates the mechanisms through which it impairs development. The Report advocates taking explicit account of equity in determining development priorities: public action should aim to expand the opportunities of those who, in the absence of policy interventions, have the least resources, voice, and capabilities. Domestically, it makes the case for investing in people, expanding access to justice, land, and infrastructure, and promoting fairness in markets. Internationally, the report considers the functioning of global markets and the rules that govern them, as well as the complementary provision of aid to help poor countries and poor people build greater endowments.

The report is available online:
<http://econ.worldbank.org/wdr/wdr2006/>

World Development Indicators Online (WDI)

The World Development Indicators Online provides direct access to more than 600 development indicators, with time series for 208 countries and 18 country groups from 1960 to 2005, where data are available.

World Development Indicators 2006

World Development Indicators publication is the World Bank's premier annual compilation of data about development. The 2006 WDI includes more than 900 indicators in over 80 tables organized in 6 sections: World View, People, Environment, Economy, States and Markets, and Global Links.

The WDI 2006 (Full Text and Data) and the WDI Online are available at:
www.worldbank.org

International NGOs and network resources

ALOP. The Latin American Association of Development Promotion Organizations

(Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción) is an association of non-governmental development organizations (NGDOs) from 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries. Founded in 1979, ALOP constitutes one of the most enduring efforts at integrating the NGDOs of the region.

Among its goals are: the creation of a meeting place for the NGDOs that constitute its membership; the design of development proposals for different sectors and at the global level that take into account the experience and knowledge of its associates; the establishment of a proactive relationship with the development actors in Latin America and the Caribbean; and improving the effectiveness of the NGOs working in the area of development by promoting the modernization of their management and technologies and promoting their sustainability.

www.alop.or.cr

Amnesty International is a world-wide movement of people acting on the conviction that governments must not deny individuals their basic human rights. Amnesty International's yearly country by country report is available at:

www.amnesty.org

AI Report 2006 This Amnesty International Report documents human rights abuses in 150 countries around the world. It highlights the need for governments, the international community, armed groups and others in positions of power or influence to take responsibility. It also reflects the vitality of human rights activists globally, whether in local initiatives, international summits or mass demonstrations.

<http://web.amnesty.org/report2006>

AI Campaign on Treaty Bodies disseminates information on the activities of treaty bodies and encourages NGOs and individuals to participate in their work. The website presents a general introduction to the main functions of treaty bodies; a consideration of state party's reports and consideration of individual complaints and a section on the role of NGOs in the work of treaty bodies.

www.amnesty.org/treatybodies

ANND. The Arab NGO Network for Development is a democratic, voluntary, civil, independent, non-sectarian, and non-religious organisation consisting of Arab NGOs and national networks active in the fields of social development, human rights, gender, and the environment. The membership of ANND consists of 30 NGOs and 9 national networks from 12 Arab countries. The network has adopted a strategy of advocacy in three main areas; development policies, democracy and reform initiatives, and globalization and trade. In all the aforementioned areas, ANND's objectives are raising awareness and building the capacities of its members and other civil society groups.

www.annd.org

APC and iTeM are developing a joint project to monitor the implementation and follow-up of the platforms for actions by governments, UN agencies and multilateral organizations, in line with agreements made at the WSIS and other international (global and regional) fora. In the framework of this project, an yearly report will be published which is intended to provide a tool for activism at national, regional and global levels by assessing the political will to turn the agreed commitments into concrete programmes, plans and initiatives that the governments are carrying out, and the involvement of civil society in them.

For further information contact project coordinator Pablo Accuosto:

accuosto@item.org.uy

ATD Fourth World is an international NGOs dedicated to overcoming extreme poverty. Its goal is to explore all possibilities of partnership with families living in chronic poverty and to encourage more private citizens and public officials to join this effort.

www.atd-quartmonde.org

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

offers an alternative to the message that we have no choice about the policies that affect our lives. The Centre undertakes and promotes research on issues of social and economic justice. It produces research reports, books, opinion pieces, fact sheets and other publications, including The Monitor, a monthly digest of progressive research and opinion.

www.policyalternatives.ca

Choike is a portal dedicated to improving the visibility of the work done by NGOs from the South. It serves as a platform where NGOs can disseminate their work and at the same time enrich it with information from diverse sources, presented from the perspective of Southern civil society.

Choike offers:

- A directory of NGOs organised in categories and sub-categories. This is not an exhaustive list but a selection of useful and relevant sites. The directory only contains Southern NGO websites; relevant information from other sources can be found in separate sections.
- A search engine that enables you to find information in the directory's websites. It is a tool designed to allow you to search the sites selected by Choike on the basis of their quality and relevance. NGOs that wish to include the Choike search engine on their websites can do so at the Choike portal.
- A selection of materials produced by NGOs which contain information of relevance to civil society and to people who are interested in what NGOs have to say. These materials can be accessed through in depth reports, articles, news, events, books on line, newsletters, or special projects as IFIs Latin American Monitor and WSISpapers.

- In-depth reports on key issues, which provide comprehensive information and reflect different views, in particular highlighting the position adopted by civil society on these issues.
- Dissemination of NGO actions and campaigns.

Choike is hosted by the Third World Institute (iTeM) in Montevideo, Uruguay, an independent non-profit organisation

www.choike.org

CIDSE The International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity is an alliance of 15 Catholic development organisations from Europe and North America. Since 1967, CIDSE member organisations share a common strategy on development projects and programmes, development education and advocacy.

www.cidse.org

Citizens' Network on Essential Services

works to democratise national and global governance by supporting citizens' groups in developing and transition countries that are engaged in influencing policy decisions about basic services: water, power, education, and health care. CNES contends that citizens and their elected representatives should explore substantive policy alternatives to determine the kind of service provision that can best serve their social, environmental, and development goals.

www.servicesforall.org

CLADEM The Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights is a women's organisations network that in all Latin America and the Caribbean are committed to unite our efforts to achieve an effective defence of women's rights in the region.

www.cladem.org

COHRE The Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions promotes and protects the right to housing for everyone, everywhere. Its work involves Housing Rights Training; Research and Publications; Monitoring, Preventing and Documenting Forced Evictions; Fact-finding Missions; Housing and Property Restitution; Women's Housing Rights; Active Participation and Advocacy within the United Nations and Regional Human Rights Bodies and activities in all regions of the South.

www.cohre.org

CONCORD is the European confederation of relief and development NGOs. Its 21 national associations and 19 international networks represent over 1.600 NGOs, which are in turn supported by millions of people across Europe. CONCORD coordinates analysis and debate, organizes political action campaigns, and regularly engages in dialogue with the European Institutions and civil society organizations.

www.concordeurope.org

Corporate Accountability aims to facilitate the flow of information among NGOs and social movements who believe that their governments, private sector and civil society need to make greater efforts to ensure the accountability of business and industry, especially transnational corporations, to society. It contains information about ongoing civil society campaigns on corporate accountability and about NGOs and trade unions who are active in this field. It provides comprehensive material on codes of conduct, multi-stakeholder initiatives and intergovernmental processes, as well as best and worst practice cases of corporate behaviour. Its website makes available documents and publications on corporate accountability and links to relevant research institutes and databases.

www.corporate-accountability.org

DAWN Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era is a network of women scholars and activists from the economic South who engage in feminist research and analysis of the global environment and are committed to working for economic justice, gender justice and democracy.

www.dawnorg.org

Dignity International was created by the Council of Europe's Globalisation without Poverty Campaign 1998-2000. Dignity International was established as an independent NGO in 2003. Its mission is to work with the poor and marginalised communities around the world on education and training (capacity building for human rights) programmes focussed on economic, social and cultural rights in the context of its work to promote and defend all human rights for all.

www.dignityinternational.org

EEPA (Europe External Policy Advisors) is a Brussels-based centre of expertise on EU external policies. EEPA works on a wide variety of subjects, including legal frameworks, the annual budget and programming. It also works on specific policy areas such as children's rights, gender equality and HIV/AIDS. EEPA conducts lobbying and advocacy, does research and analysis, organises conferences and works on information dissemination.

www.eepa.be

ESCR-Net The International Network on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is a collaborative initiative of groups and individuals from around the world working to secure economic and social justice through human rights. ESCR-Net seeks to strengthen the field of all human rights, with a special focus on economic, social and cultural rights, and further develop the tools for achieving their promotion, protection and fulfilment. Through ESCR-Net, groups and individuals can exchange information, and develop a collective voice, amplify their actions, develop new tools and strategies.

www.escr-net.org

EURODAD The European Network on Debt and Development is a network of 48 development NGOs from 15 European countries working for national economic and international financing policies that achieve poverty eradication and the empowerment of the poor.
www.eurodad.org

EUROSTEP European Solidarity Towards Equal Participation of People is a network of autonomous European NGOs working towards peace, justice and equality in a world free of poverty. Its membership, rooted in their own societies, works together to influence Europe's role in the world, particularly in pursuing the eradication of injustice and poverty. It advocates changes in Europe's policies and practice based on the perspectives drawn from direct experiences of an active involvement of its members and their partners in development in over 100 countries across the world.
www.eurostep.org

FES - Dialogue on Globalization As part of the international work of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Dialogue on Globalization contributes worldwide to the debate on globalization and global governance. It is based on the premise that - through an inclusive and responsive global policy approach - globalization can be shaped into a direction that promotes peace, democracy and social justice.

Through conferences, workshops and publications Dialogue on Globalization addresses "movers and shakers" (politicians, trade unionists, representatives from NGOs, international organizations and academia) both in developing countries and in the industrialized parts of the world.
www.fes-globalization.org

GCAP (Global Call to Action against Poverty) is a worldwide alliance committed to making world leaders live up to their promises, and to making a breakthrough on poverty in 2005. It is an alliance between a range of actors around the common cause of ending poverty: existing coalitions, community groups, trade unions, individuals, religious and faith groups, campaigners and more. You can find updated information about the campaigns in different countries all over the world at:
www.whiteband.org

Gender Watch EU The main objective of the project consists in enabling women NGOs/networks in NMS, Accession Countries and EU Neighbouring Countries to cooperate in monitoring and lobbying the EU on its development policies in order to make the EU commitment to advance gender equality and its translation into policy, action, and allocation of resources reflected in EU assistance to countries of the region. For questions contact project coordinator Zofia Lapniewska: zofia@neww.org
www.neww.org

HIC (Habitat International Coalition) is the global movement specialized in human settlements since 1976, which comprises some 450 members in 80 countries, in the North and South. They include NGOs, community-based organizations, social movements, academic and research centres, professional associations and like-minded individuals dedicated to the struggle against deprivation of well-being and for realizing the human right to adequate housing for all. Further information on HIC's mission, members and activities can be found at HIC's Housing and Land Rights Network, Middle East and North Africa:
www.hic-mena.org

Information on the HIC's Latin American Secretariat:
www.hic-al.org

Human Rights Watch is an independent NGO supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. Human Rights Watch is the largest human rights organization based in the United States. Human Rights Watch researchers conduct fact-finding investigations into human rights abuses in all regions of the world. Human Rights Watch then publishes those findings in dozens of books and reports every year, generating extensive coverage in local and international media.
www.hrw.org

ICAE (International Council for Adult Education) is a global partnership of adult learners and adult educators and their organizations, and others who promote the use of adult learning as a tool for informed participation of people and sustainable development. In the emergence of knowledge-society the ICAE promotes lifelong learning as a necessary component for people to contribute creatively to their communities and live in independent and democratic societies.
www.icae.org.uy

ICSW (International Council for Social Welfare) is an international NGO which represents national and local organisations in more than 50 countries throughout the world. ICWS works for the cause of social welfare, social justice and social development. It publishes Social Development Review which focuses on the monitoring of governmental and non-governmental action referred to the World Summit on Social Development.
www.icsw.org

IDS (Institute for Development Studies) is an internationally renowned centre for research and teaching on development, established in 1966. IDS also hosts many innovative information and knowledge management services.
www.ids.ac.uk/ids

IHRIP (International Human Rights Internship Program) works to help strengthen the human rights movement by facilitating the exchange of information and experience among human rights organisations. IHRIP supports professional development and exchange projects for the staff of human rights organisations and activists. Drawing on the experiences of activists in countries around the world, the Program has also produced a number of informational and training resources, most recently on economic, social and cultural rights.
www.ihrip.org

IPS (Inter Press Service) is civil society's leading news agency and an independent voice for development coming from the South. IPS intends to inherit the goals of the former co-operative of journalists and to carry forward its ideals. It is a public-benefit organisation for development co-operation. Its main objective is to contribute to development by promoting free communication and a professional flow of information to reinforce technical and economic co-operation among developing countries.
www.ips.org

Jubilee Research@ NEF is the official successor organisation of Jubilee 2000 UK. Jubilee research maintains contact with the campaigning groups around the world which have taken on the work of the Jubilee 2000 campaign.
www.jubileeresearch.org

KAIROS The Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives unites churches and religious organisations. They deliberate on issues of common concern, advocate for social change and join with people of faith and goodwill in action for social transformation.
www.kairoscanada.org

LDC Watch was established after the Third UN Conference on the LDCs, by civil society activists who took part in the Conference. It is an alliance of well-established regional and national civil society organisations based in the Least Developed Countries with support from development partner countries. LDC Watch monitors the implementation of the BPoA, ensures that civil society is included in this implementation, and acts as a coordinating group for LDC civil society activities, particularly in relation to the key issues of poverty reduction, trade, debt, human rights, good governance and conflict. Its members implement a programme of lobbying, networking and advocacy at national and international levels to ensure that the BPoA is implemented by LDC governments and their development partners.
www.rrn.org.np/ldc_watch/index.htm

Mani Tese is an Italian NGO operating at the national and international level to further justice, solidarity and respect among peoples. Its objectives are to raise public awareness about the causes of poverty in the South, lobbying policy makers and institutions on this issue, and implementing development projects which besides responding to the needs of the poor may initiate a process of self determination and self reliance.
www.manitese.it

MARCOSUR Feminist Articulation Organisations from Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Argentina, Bolivia and Peru, national coordinators and networks, founded this initiative at a meeting in Montevideo in September 2000, with the following three basic objectives: to politically influence the debates and the process of regional integration in a way that broadens citizenship and deepens democracy; to strengthen articulation between social movements and in particular, to use the feminist presence established within these joint spaces to empower and influence the whole of society; and to consolidate the MARCOSUR Feminist Articulation as an active current of thought which will foment organisation at regional level, with a basis in national organising processes, in order to strengthen women's political influence in the processes of regional integration and in defence of economic, social and cultural rights.
www.mujiresdelsur.org.uy

ODI (Overseas Development Institute) is Britain's leading independent think-tank on international development and humanitarian issues. ODI's mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. ODI's work centres on its research and policy groups and programmes.
www.odi.org.uk

OXFAM International is a confederation of 12 organizations working together with over 3,000 partners in more than 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice.
www.oxfaminternational.org

Public Citizen is a national, non-profit consumer advocacy organisation founded by Ralph Nader in 1971 to represent consumer interests in the US Congress, the executive branch and the courts. Public Citizen fights for openness and democratic accountability in government, for the right of consumers to seek redress in the courts; for clean, safe and sustainable energy sources; for social and economic justice in trade policies; for strong health, safety and environmental protections; and for safe, effective and affordable prescription drugs and health care.
www.citizen.org

Reality of Aid Project is a major north/south international non-governmental initiative focusing exclusively on analysis and lobbying for poverty eradication policies and practices in the international aid regime. It brings together more than 40 civil society networks working in the field of international cooperation in the 22 donor countries, in Asia, the Americas and Africa. The Reality of Aid project aims to contribute to more effective international aid and development cooperation strategies to eliminate poverty, based on principles of North/South solidarity and equity.
www.realityofaid.org

REPEM (Women's Popular Education Network) is a non-profit civil society organization founded in 1981. It brings together 140 NGOs and women activists and academics of the Latin American and Caribbean countries. REPEM is the regional representation for Latin America of DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era) and the Management Office of GEO/ICAE (Gender and Education Office of the International Council for Adult Education).
www.repem.org.uy

SAPRIN (Structural Adjustment Participatory Review International Network) is a global network established to expand and legitimise the role of civil society in economic policymaking and to strengthen the organised challenge to structural adjustment programmes by citizens around the globe. The network is working with a broad range of citizens' groups in various countries on four continents to organise public processes to assess the real impact of World Bank and IMF-supported economic-reform programs and to chart a new course for the future.
www.saprin.org

SUNS The South-North Development Monitor is a unique source of information and analysis on international development issues with particular focus on North-South and South-South negotiations. Over the years SUNS has provided unique in-depth coverage of the activities of the Non-Aligned countries, the Group of 77 and other regional and inter-regional groups of the South and the NGOs. The SUNS has been an important source of information, from the Southern perspective, of the processes of negotiations, formal and informal, of GATT and the Uruguay Round, the Mid-Term Review Process, the Brussels Ministerial Session and since then, the UNCTAD Conferences, and of the entire debates and dialogue on environment/development issues, the Earth Summit and other major UN Conferences, as well as their follow-up.
www.sunsonline.org

The **Tax Justice Network** is a global network which arose out of meetings at the European Social Forum in Florence, 2002, and at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, 2003. It is a response to harmful trends in global taxation, which threaten states' ability to tax the wealthy beneficiaries of globalisation.
www.taxjustice.net

The **Third World Network** (TWN) is an independent non-profit international network of organisations and individuals involved in issues relating to development, the Third World and North-South issues. Its objectives are to conduct research on economic, social and environmental issues pertaining to the South; to publish books and magazines; to organise and participate in seminars; and to provide a platform representing broadly Southern interests and perspectives at international fora such as the UN conferences and processes. Its recent and current activities include: the publication of the daily SUNS (South - North Development Monitor) bulletin from Geneva, Switzerland, the fortnightly Third World Economics and the monthly Third World Resurgence; the publication of TWN Features; the publication of books on environment and economic

issues; the organising of various seminars and workshops; and participation in international processes such as UNCED and the World Bank - NGO Committee.

The TWN's international secretariat is based in Penang, Malaysia. It has offices in Montevideo, Uruguay (for South America); Geneva, Switzerland; and Accra, Ghana.
www.twinside.org.sg

Third World Network-Latin America publishes the monthly magazine *Revista del Sur* and *Tercer Mundo Económico*:
www.revistadelsur.org.uy
www.redtercermundo.org.uy

Third World Network -Africa publishes *African Agenda*:
<http://twnafrica.org/>

Tobin Tax Initiative, CEED/IIRP is a proposal to tax currency transactions on foreign exchange markets, through multilateral co-operation, and to utilise the revenue for basic environmental and human needs. Such a tax will tame currency market volatility and restore national economic sovereignty.
www.ceedweb.org/iirp/

Trade Observatory is a joint project between IATP (Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy), Friends of the Earth International, and Centre for International Environmental Law that monitors WTO activity in Geneva in an effort to facilitate advocacy by civil society actors to redress imbalances in the world trading system. WTO Watch has merged with the IATP Trade Observatory to provide the most comprehensive collection of information resources related to trade, globalisation and sustainable development.
www.tradeobservatory.org/

Transparency International is an international non-governmental organisation devoted to combating corruption, bringing civil society, business, and governments together in a powerful global coalition. Through its International Secretariat and more than 90 independent national chapters around the world, it works at the national and international level to curb both the supply and demand of corruption.
www.transparency.org

WEDO (Women's Environment and Development Organisation) is an international advocacy organisation that seeks to increase the power of women worldwide as policymakers at all levels in governments, institutions and forums to achieve economic and social justice, a healthy and peaceful planet, and human rights for all.
www.wedo.org

WEED was founded in 1990 as an independent non-governmental organization with offices in Berlin and Bonn. WEED is campaigning for the globalization of democracy, justice, human rights and environmental sustainability. WEED thinks that this requires a fair world economic system, a fundamental change in international institutions like the IMF, World Bank and WTO and a democratization of our World Order.
www.weed-online.org/themen/english.html

World Council of Churches is a fellowship of 342 churches, in more than 100 countries in all continents from virtually all-Christian traditions.
www.wcc-coe.org

The **World Guide** is a reference book updated every two years. It includes more than 240 countries of the world with their history, maps, statistics and the main challenges they face. The World Guide 2005-2006 contains a round-up of global issues such as the current armed conflicts and human security, the economies of the future, energy (its shortcomings and alternatives), Latin America today, the Information Society and the actual beneficiaries of Official Development Assistance. The World Guide is currently available in Spanish, English and Italian.

The publication is regularly updated in Spanish online:
www.guiadelmundo.org.uy

World Social Forum is an open meeting place where social movements, networks, NGOs and other civil society organizations opposed to neo-liberalism and a world dominated by capital or by any form of imperialism come together to pursue their thinking, to debate ideas democratically, to formulate proposals, share their experiences freely and network for effective action. Since the first world encounter in 2001, it has taken the form of a permanent world process seeking and building alternatives to neo-liberal policies.

In Brazil:
www.forumsocialmundial.org.br

The 7th World Social Forum will be held from January 20 to 25, in Nairobi (Kenya).
www.socialforum.or.ke

WorldWatch Institute is an independent research organization that works for an environmentally sustainable and socially just society, in which the needs of all people are met without threatening the health of the natural environment or the well-being of future generations. By providing accessible and fact-based analysis of critical global issues, Worldwatch informs people around the world about the complex interactions between people, nature, and economies.
www.worldwatch.org

Help Social Watch identify more relevant resources! Please write to:
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www.socialwatch.org