



2010 Ghana Millennium Development Goals Report

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The Republic of Ghana is bordered by the Ivory Coast to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, Togo to the east and the Gulf of Guinea to the south. Ghana has a population of about 24.97 million (2011). The word Ghana means 'Warrior King'.

This is the fifth report on the MDGs progress in Ghana. The first reports were produced in 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008. The report documents steady progress along a number of MDGs. This summary gives a snapshot of the successes and challenges of each of the MDGs.

MDG 1: The country is largely on track to realize the MDG 1 target of reducing by half the proportion of population living in extreme poverty at the national, urban and rural areas. The report notes that the trend in economic growth suggests a further decline in poverty between 2006 and 2010. This is despite the fact that poverty is quite prevalent in the three northern regions to the extent that it would be hard for these regions to reduce extreme poverty.

MDG 2: Available data show that Ghana is also on track to achieve universal primary education in both gross and net enrolment targets by 2015. The report further indicates that the Western, Central and Upper West regions have already achieved the 100 percent GER ahead of the 2015 target, while the Northern region is at the verge of achieving the target.

MDG 3: Gender parity in primary and Junior High School (JHS) is on track, although in primary gender parity has stagnated at 0.96 since 2006/07. In JHS, the parity, which increased marginally from 0.91 in 2006/7 to 0.92 in 2007/8, has also remained constant in 2008/09 and 2009/10. Progress towards increasing women's seats in parliament suffered a setback as the number of women elected into Parliament during the 2008 elections dropped from 25 to 20. Access of women to wage employment in non-agricultural sector has remained quite weak, and this undermines Ghana's pursuit to promoting gender equality and women empowerment.

MDG 4: The report stresses that although there has been significant reduction in both infant and under-five mortality rates in Ghana, the country is unlikely to achieve the target of reducing the child mortality rates by 2015. The report quotes Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) of 2008 which shows that there is a 30 percent decline in the under-five mortality rate. This, according to the report, represents a decline from 111 per 1,000 live births in 2003 to 80 per 1,000 live births in 2008.

MDG 5: The report notes that 'though maternal health care has improved over the past 20 years, the pace has been slow and extra effort is required ... to achieve the target of reducing maternal mortality rate by three quarters.' The report further shows that the institutional maternal mortality rate has reduced from 216 per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 164 per 100,000 live births in 2010, with a distance of 110 to target of 54 per 100,000 in 2015. The report, however, shows some hope that with the full implementation of the recently developed MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF), MMR will further reduce by 2015.



MDG 6: The prevalence of HIV/AIDS has not been stable. The report indicates that after a decline from 3.2 percent in 2006 to 2.2 percent in 2008, the prevalence increased to 2.9 percent in 2009 and dropped to 2.0 in 2010. The report suggests that educational campaign and other HIV/AIDS programs are essential to promote significant behavioral change to sustain the prevalence decline.

MDG 7: The country is on track on achieving the target of halving the proportion of the population without access to safe water. The report, however, notes that critical challenges exist in achieving the targets of reversing the loss of environmental resources, reducing the proportion of people without access to improved sanitation, and achieving significant improvement for people living in slum areas.

MDG 8: Official Development Assistance (ODA) inflows in Ghana has dropped from 13.2 percent of GDP in 2003 to 10.3 percent of GDP in 2008, and rose to 14.6 per cent of GDP in 2009 but declined to 12.8 per cent in 2010. The report notes that project aid has continued to dominate aid portfolio by more than 60%.