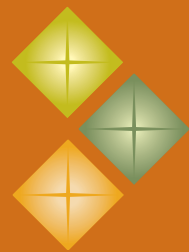
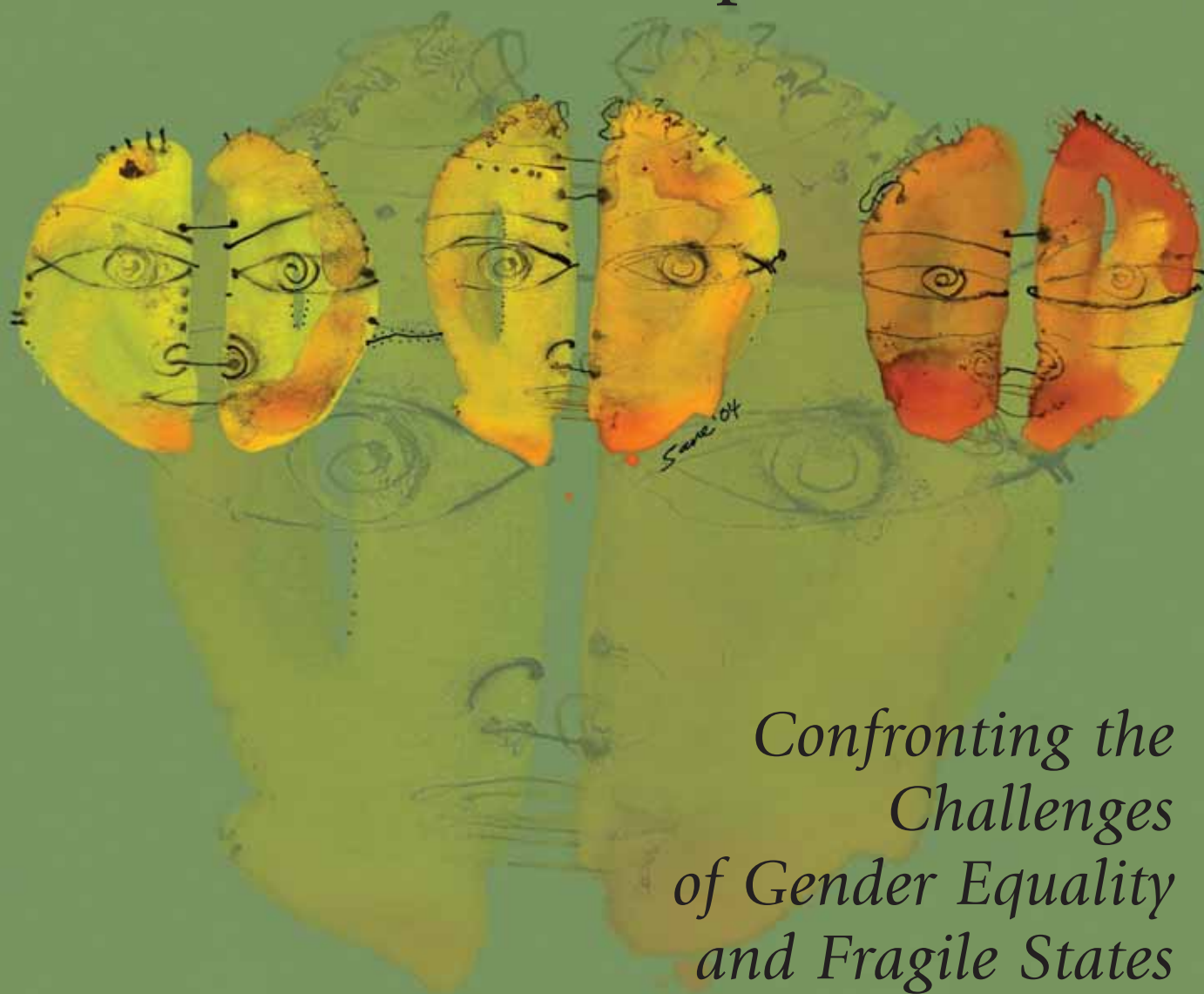


GLOBAL MONITORING REPORT



2007

Millennium Development Goals



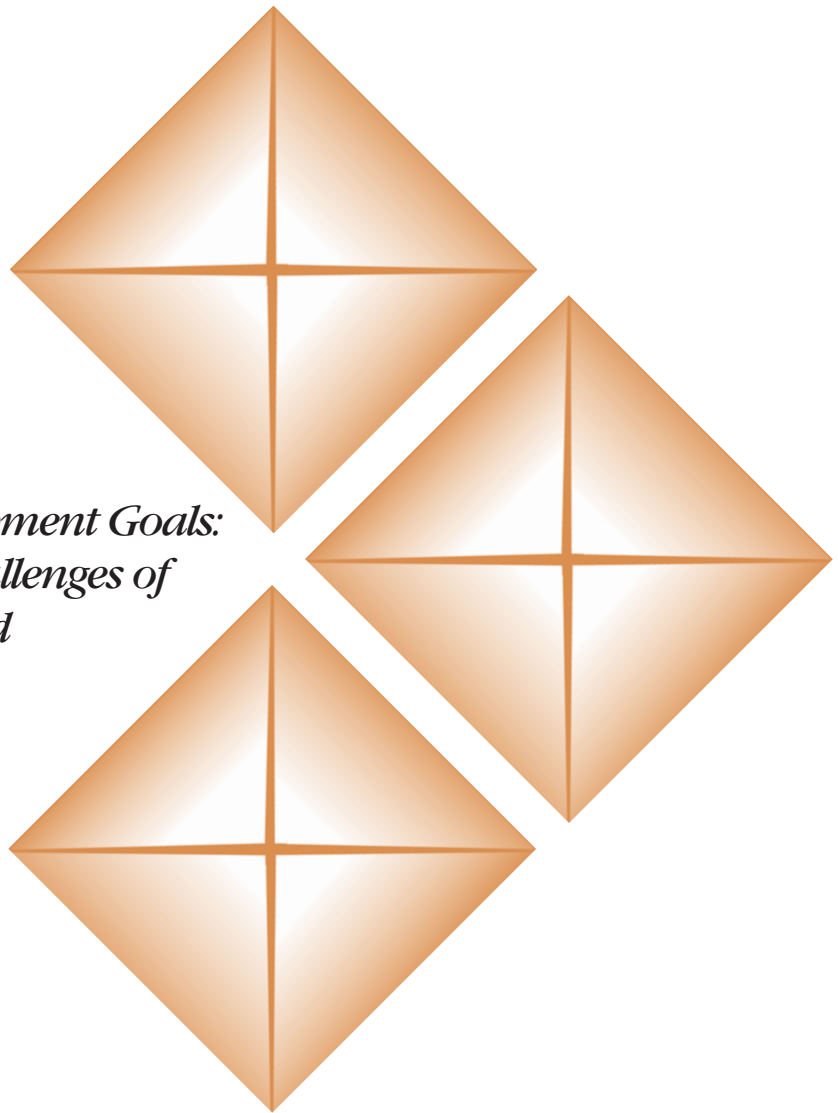
*Confronting the
Challenges
of Gender Equality
and Fragile States*

GLOBAL
MONITORING
REPORT 2007

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*Millennium Development Goals:
Confronting the Challenges of
Gender Equality and
Fragile States*



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1 2 3 4 5 10 09 08 07

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ISBN-10: 0-8213-6975-X
ISBN-13: 978-0-8213-6975-3
eISBN-10: 0-8213-6976-8
eISBN-13: 978-0-8213-6976-0
DOI: 10.1596/978-0-8213-6975-3

Cover art: "Three Faces," 2004, acrylic on paper, 4 1/8" x 11 5/8", by Eria Solomon Nsubuga, Uganda; World Bank Art Program PN: 646517. Courtesy of the artist and the World Bank Art Program.

Cover design: Quantum Think, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States
Typesetting: Precision Graphics, Champaign, Illinois, United States

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Foreword

The 2007 *Global Monitoring Report* takes stock of progress toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals and assesses the contributions of developing countries, donor nations, and the international financial institutions as they work toward meeting commitments under the 2002 Monterrey consensus. This fourth annual GMR finds both areas of progress and gaps where far greater effort is required. This year's special topics—achieving gender equality and addressing the problems of fragile states—highlight two particular areas where serious challenges confront the international community.

The GMR presents striking evidence of real progress on the MDG agenda in several areas. Globally, rapid growth is translating into falling levels of extreme poverty: in the five years between 1999 and 2004 global poverty fell by nearly 4 percentage points, lifting an estimated 135 million people out of destitution. Sub-Saharan Africa's performance has also been encouraging over this period; the share of extreme poor fell by nearly 5 percentage points, although the absolute number of poor has not fallen: Sub-Saharan Africa remains the poorest developing region in the world with about two-fifths of its people living on less than US\$1 a day.

Significant gains are occurring in human development: globally the primary school

completion rate has increased from 78 percent in 2000 to 83 percent in 2005 and the pace of increase has accelerated in all regions (except Latin America and the Caribbean, where levels were already high).

Aid quality and effectiveness are improving: signatories to the 2005 Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness are monitoring progress on harmonization, alignment, and managing for development results. Still, many challenges remain in accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agenda.

Strengthening future performance will require greater attention in two important areas. The first relates to gender equality and the empowerment of women. Second is the condition of fragile states, where nearly 500 million people, or nearly one-fifth of all people in low-income countries, reside.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women are important for basic reasons—fairness, equality of opportunity, and economic well-being. Increasing efficiency and achieving the full potential of men and women alike is a precursor to prosperity. Gender equality is also vital to advancing the other millennium goals—halving poverty, achieving primary education for all, and lowering the under-five mortality rate. Achieving equal opportunity for women will require greater accountability among donors, developing countries, and international institutions such

as our own. It will entail moving beyond a general institutional call for attention, toward a concrete strengthening of programs and project implementation. This would in turn allow a focus on outcomes as well as on a longer-term agenda. Such a shift requires improving monitoring systems for tracking progress in gender equality, and evaluating the impact of interventions aimed at attaining equality of opportunity.

Fragile states, with their limited capacity to secure a better life for their citizens, merit special attention because of the enormity of the problems they face. These countries by definition have weak governments and are hard put to deliver basic services to their people. Over one-fourth of extremely poor people in developing countries live in fragile states. These nations face enormous challenges, regarding both how to take action to meet human development needs, and how to stave off a potential downward spiral of conflict, human abuse, and refugee flight. New instruments should be considered to help countries that have turned the corner to quickly stabilize, restore both security and basic services, and bring greater accountability into public service. This will require better coordination and more effective intervention by the international community.

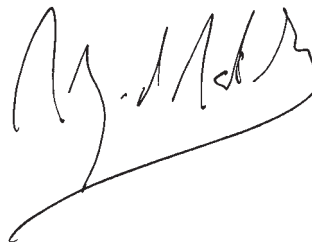
To move both of these crucial agendas forward and to secure faster progress toward meeting the MDGs, international efforts to scale up aid for deserving country programs are vital. We have not made sufficient progress

in delivering on the promises of the Monterrey Summit in 2002, or the 2005 Gleneagles commitments to scale up aid to Africa. Current examples of countries that have received significantly scaled-up aid to help finance sound programs to meet the MDGs are few and far between. This is not for lack of opportunity, which abounds at the project-, sector-, and country-levels. Rather, the dearth of successful scaling-up efforts points to the need for the greater “mutual accountability” called for under the Monterrey consensus. First, we need to identify and fund existing opportunities for scaling up based on current knowledge and capacity, such as in the country and sector areas that the World Bank and the UN have identified. Second, we must work together to develop a dynamic strategy for country-based opportunities to sequentially scale up, including with sufficient technical assistance from our two organizations, working together with other development partners. This will require that donor countries fulfill their pledges to strengthen their development strategies and that they put real resources to work to enact these programs.

Deadlines to deliver on promises in 2010, 2015, and 2030 are looming large and, collectively, we need to speed up investments in projects and reform programs that will save lives, create jobs, and promote growth. The responsibility for this lies with donors, our own and other institutions, and recipients alike.



Paul Wolfowitz
President
World Bank



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Managing Director
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Acknowledgments

This report has been prepared jointly by the staff of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. There was also consultation and collaboration with other partner institutions including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and its Development Assistance Committee, several United Nations agencies, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank. The cooperation and support of staff of these institutions are gratefully acknowledged.

Mark Sundberg was the lead author and manager of the report. The work was carried out under the general guidance of François Bourguignon, Senior Vice-President, and the overall supervision of Alan Gelb, Director, World Bank.

The core team for the report included Peter Fallon (chapter 1); Barbara Bruns (chapter 2); Mayra Buvinic, Elizabeth King, Andrew Morrison, and Nistha Sinha (chapter 3); Punam Chuhan (chapter 4); and Stefano Curto (chapter 5). The Bank core team also included Brendan Fitzpatrick, Julien Gourdon, and Sachin Shahria, who provided research, written inputs, and coordination to the overall report. Other significant contributions were made by Amar Bhattacharya,

Carlos Primo Braga, Kirk Hamilton, Julia Nielson, Bernard Hoekman, Sarah Cliffe, Sima Kanaan, Adam Ross, Giovanni Ruta, and Juan Carlos Guzman.

Many others have made valuable contributions, including the following from the **World Bank:**

Aban Daruwala, Ajay Chhibber, Akihiko Nishio, Alessandro Nicita, Amie Batson, Ana Cristina Torres, Anand Rajaram, Arthur Karlin, Arunima Dhar, Bee Ean Gooi, Bonaventure Mbida-Essama, Brian Levy, Brice Quesnel, Christopher Hall, Claudia Paz Sepulveda, Desmond Bermingham, Dhushyanth Raju, Dianne Garama, Dorte Domeland-Narvaez, Doug Hostland, Eduard Bos, Elizabeth White, Emi Suzuki, Eric Swanson, Robert Francis Rowe, Gauresh Rajadhyaksha, Gary Milante, Gilles Bauche, Gisela Garcia, Hiau Looi Kee, Jessica Lynn Ebbeler, Joseph Naimoli, Joy De Beyer, Kavita Watsa, Louise Cord, Luc-Charles Gacougnolle, Lucia Fort, Martin Ravillion, Mary Hallward-Driemeier, Maureen Lewis, Meera Shekhar, Michael Koch, Monica Das Gupta, Nevin Fahmy, Nina Todorova Budina, Olusoji Adeyi, Pablo Gottret, Patrick Grasso, Prem Sangrula, Rekha Mehra, Rene Bonnel, Reynaldo Martorell, Rifat Hasan, Robert Watson, Robin Horn, Roula Yazigi, Shahrokh Fardoust, Shaohua Chen, Shunalini Sarkar, Soe Lin, Sulekha Patel, Susan Stout, and Waafas Ofosu-Amaah.

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Alun Thomas, Ben Umansky, Carlo Sdralovich, Emmanuel Hife, Marie-Helen Le Manchec, Mark Plant, and Scott Brown.

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Guidance received from the Executive Directors of the World Bank and their staff, and the International Monetary Fund during discussions of the draft report is gratefully acknowledged. The report has also benefited from many useful comments and suggestions

received from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund management and staff in the course of the preparation and review of the report.

The World Bank's Office of the Publisher managed the editorial services, design, production, and printing of the book—in particular Susan Graham, Denise Bergeron, Aziz Gökdemir, Nancy Lammers, Stephen McGroarty, Randi Park, Santiago Pombo-Bejarano, and Janice Tuten, along with Kirsten Dennison and associates at Precision Graphics, Candace Roberts and associates at Quantum Think, Gerry Quinn, Bruce Ross-Larson, and Michael Treadway, provided excellent help with publishing this book on a very tight schedule.

Finally, acknowledgments are due to Matthew Burke and Maria Del Carmen Cosu of the World Bank Art Program, who helped us find the artwork for the cover.

Abbreviations

AAP	Africa Action Plan	HIPC	heavily indebted poor country/ countries
ACP	African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
ADB	Asian Development Bank	IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
AfDF	African Development Fund	IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
AsDF	Asian Development Fund	ICS	Investment Climate Surveys
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	IDA	International Development Association (of the World Bank Group)
AMC	Advance Market Commitment	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ART	antiretroviral treatment	IFC	International Finance Corporation (of the World Bank Group)
COMPAS	Common Performance Assessment System	IFFIm	International Finance Facility for Immunization
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment	IFI	international financial institution
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (of the OECD)	IMCI	integrated management of childhood illness
DALY	disability-adjusted life year	IMF	International Monetary Fund
DB	Doing Business (surveys)	LIC	low-income country
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey	LICUS	low-income countries under stress
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	MDB	multilateral development bank
EC	European Commission	MDG	Millennium Development Goal
EFA-FTI	Education for All-Fast Track Initiative	MDRI	Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement	NGO	nongovernmental organization
ES	Enterprise Survey	NTM	nontariff measure
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the UN)	ODA	official development assistance
G-8	Group of Eight	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
GII	Global Integrity Index		
GMR	<i>Global Monitoring Report</i>		
GNI	gross national income		

OOF	other official flow	TRI	trade restrictiveness index
OTRI	overall trade restrictiveness index	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PEFA	Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability	UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
PFM	public financial management	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
PIU	project implementation unit	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
R&R	results and resources	WHO	World Health Organization
SDR	special drawing right	WSS	water supply and sanitation
STD	sexually transmitted disease	WTO	World Trade Organization
SWAp	sectorwide approach		
TB	tuberculosis		

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- 3,404 pounds of solid waste
- 11,159 gallons of water
- 1,846 pounds of greenhouse gases



The 2007 *Global Monitoring Report* examines the responsibilities and accountability of donor countries, developing countries, and the international financial institutions to support attainment of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as agreed by 189 countries in 2000, and monitors recent performance against the MDG targets.

The report examines progress toward the MDGs: while halving of extreme poverty is on track for 2015 globally, there is less progress in the human development MDGs (education, health, access to sanitation, etc.), and regional differences are sharp—both Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia tend to lag further behind. The largest gap in meeting development goals is in *fragile states*—countries with weak governance and capacity—posing major developmental challenges highlighted in the report.

This year's report focuses on gender equality and the empowerment of women, both central development issues. Gender equality is intrinsically fair, and empowering women improves both economic performance and progress in other development goals—including education, nutrition, and reducing child mortality. Some areas have seen rapid progress, such as achieving educational parity for girls in school. But in other dimensions—including political representation and nonagricultural employment—performance falls short. Strengthening performance will require realistic goals, strong leadership, technical expertise, and financing.

To advance the MDG agenda, the international community needs to do more: donors need to provide more and better quality assistance; developing countries need to adopt sound, sequenced development strategies; international institutions should provide more technical support to strengthen strategies; and all need to work toward a more coherent and efficient "aid architecture."



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ISBN 0-8213-6975-X