



**MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION  
OF UKRAINE**

# **Millennium Development Goals UKRAINE**

**KYIV 2003**

# The Millennium Development Goals: Ukraine

In this revised edition of the analytical report on the Millennium Development Goals for Ukraine, special attention has been paid to the formulation of final definitions and estimates for the forecast indicators. The report has been revised as a result of expert discussions and public hearings.

## The Millennium Development Goals for Ukraine are:

1. Poverty reduction
2. Quality life-long education
3. Sustainable environmental development
4. Improved maternal health and reduced child mortality
5. Reducing and slowing down the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB
6. Gender equality

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An electronic version of this report can be found on the Ministry of Economy and European Integration website: [www.me.gov.ua](http://www.me.gov.ua) and on the Economic and Social Development Project (ESDP) of UNDP in Ukraine website: [www.un.kiev.ua/esdp](http://www.un.kiev.ua/esdp)

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## Foreword

The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations defines the Millennium Development Goals that 189 nations, Ukraine among them, made a commitment to reach by 2015.

At this stage, there is an urgent need to adapt the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to Ukraine in a way that reflects the specific nature of this country's national development, to adjust strategic development priorities to the MDGs, and to ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to the formulation of long-term strategies for economic and social development, the national strategy of sustainable development and other strategic government doctrines.

Specialists at the Ministry of Economy and European Integration of Ukraine (MEEI) worked together with their counterparts at the United Nations Development Programme's Economic and Social Development Project (ESDP) to analyze, organize and generalize a basis for this document. Specific research was also undertaken in order to concretize and define more ambitious directions in human development for Ukraine. The MDGs were debated among specialists from the Ministries of Economy and European Integration, Labour and Social Policy, Health, Education and Science, and Environment, as well as specialists from the State Committee for Family and Youth Affairs and the State Statistics Committee, and other government agencies; experts from the National Academy of Science's Council on Productivity, the Institute of Demography and Social Research, and the Institute of Economics; representatives of the World Bank, the UNDP and other UN agencies in Ukraine; NGOs and think-tanks. ESDP and the Ministry also held a series of public and expert debates on the Millennium Development Goals in the regions of Luhansk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi, Chernihiv, L'viv, Donetsk, Odesa, and Vinnytsia.

This analytical report is intended to stimulate further work in formulating realistic goals for all levels of government, and in accumulating the resources to achieve the Goals in accordance with the agreed targets. Special attention was paid to defining specific terms and indicators for the purpose of forecasting. MEEI, along with other Ministries, is putting together a set of indicators to further monitor Ukraine's progress with its MDGs. It is preparing a plan of concrete measures to reach these Goals by including them in all Government programmes. Methodological recommendations are also being prepared to ensure these tasks are taken up at the regional level.

The MDGs must be perceived as national goals, with clear directions and mechanisms of state policy for reaching them. This, in turn, will become the driving force for the further development of human potential in Ukraine.

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## List of abbreviations

AES	atomic energy station (nuclear power plant)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
SSC	The State Statistics Committee
ESDP	Economic and Social Development Project, UNDP
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV/AIDS	Human-Immunodeficiency Virus/Auto-Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ILO	International Labor Organization
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MEEI	Ministry of Economy and European Integration
MENR	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
MES	Ministry of Education and Science
MLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoH	Ministry of Health
NAS	National Academy of Science of Ukraine
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	the Joint UN Programme onHIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	the United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	the United Nations Children's Fund
US	the United States of America
WHO	World Health Organization

## Introduction

The Millennium Development Goals are key goals that were defined and agreed upon as a result of the international conferences and summits of the 1990s. MDGs are guidelines for long-term country development that were generalized and quantified as 8 goals, 18 targets and over 40 indicators.

At the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000, world leaders committed themselves to reaching 2015 having met key goals and targets known today as the Millennium Development Goals. The MDGs represent a commitment to long-term strategy aimed at assisting the most vulnerable groups in each individual nation, as well as the most vulnerable nations in the world. The UN General Assembly, in turn, adopted the MDGs as part of the UN Secretary-General's plan for implementing the UN Millennium Declaration. In his foreword to the Global Human Development Report for 2003, UNDP Administrator Mark Malloch Brown stated, "The Goals are a development manifesto for ordinary citizens around the world: time-bound, measurable, pocketbook issues that they can immediately understand. More importantly, given appropriate data, the Goals promise to hold governments, and the international community as a whole, accountable for their achievement."

### **The UN Millennium Development Goals, identified as achievable between 1990 and 2015, are to:**

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
- Provide all children with a primary education.
- Promote gender equality and empower women.
- Reduce child mortality.
- Improve maternal health.
- Overcome HIV/AIDS, malaria and other dangerous infectious diseases.
- Ensure sustainable environmental development.
- Develop a global partnership for development.

At the start of the new millennium, human development has become a strategic goal for all countries. The signing of the UN Millennium Declaration by the President of Ukraine is not only an acknowledgement of the priority of human development challenges and their importance for the further flourishing of the nation, but acceptance by the state of its responsibility for the state of human development and its future.

In his address to the Ukrainian nation on the 11th anniversary of Independence, the President said, "The pace of solving social problems that directly affect all citizens is too slow and extremely unsatisfactory. As President, I am personally concerned with a number of problems: firstly, the war against poverty; secondly, accessible healthcare; thirdly, pension reform; and fourthly, universal high-quality education, regardless of a person's income level. I consider all these problems my personal responsibility."

The President of Ukraine has declared social re-orientation of economic policy to be one of the four priorities of national strategy till 2011. A low standard of living is considered one of the main obstacles to Ukraine's integration into the European Union.

At the beginning of the 21st century, Ukraine has accumulated a host of acute problems in this sphere, and unless they are tackled, further dynamic development of this society will become impossible.

### **The Government of Ukraine intends to concentrate its efforts on solving these and other urgent issues:**

- Extremely low per capita income and living standards among most of the population, the spread of mass poverty, and the absence of a strong middle class;
- Low level of social security and social guarantees for the general population;
- Depopulation as the result of a mortality rate that is higher than the birth rate;
- Mass emigration of the most talented and qualified professionals;
- Mass hidden and disguised unemployment;
- Deteriorating general health and reduced life expectancy;
- Declining quality in both education and human potential;
- Unsatisfactory environmental conditions;
- Increasing gap with developed countries in key human development indicators;
- Overly centralized social policy.

In working to solve these acute social problems, the Government will be guided by the conceptual principles in the strategy of economic and social development for 2002-2011 as put forward in the President's address to the Verkhovna Rada, in the Cabinet's Plan of Action, in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, in the "Key Social Policy Directions in Ukraine through 2004" document and in other strategic and conceptual economic and social instruments.

The Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada, Volodymyr Lytvyn, has stated, "...One of the most important issues before the government of Ukraine today is to convert the achievement of stable economic growth into a growth in income and a higher standard of living for the average citizen. The Millennium Development Goals, signed by Ukraine along with 189 other countries in 2000, are key directions in the country's national policy today.

These include: setting up an accessible healthcare system, improving the educational system to provide lifelong learning, improving living environments and residential services, protecting and preserving the natural environment for future generations, and combating the spread of HIV/AIDS and tu-

berculosis. The Verkhovna Rada is in the process of reviewing legislation to support the realization of these goals as one of its highest priorities.”

To ensure that this development proceeds quickly, the Government recognizes the need to work closely with all sectors of society, including non-governmental organizations, civil society and business.

On September 23, 2003, during the 58th Session of the General Assembly of the UN, President Leonid Kuchma presented UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan with an analytical report entitled, “Millennium Development Goals: Ukraine.”

**The Millennium Development Goals of Ukraine to be reached during 2001-2015 are:**

- Poverty reduction
- Quality lifelong education
- Sustainable environmental development
- Improved maternal health and reduced child mortality
- Reducing and slowing down the spread of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis
- Gender equality

2001 was selected as the starting point for determining base-line indicators for comparison in 2015. Milestone criteria have been defined for 2004, 2007, 2011 and 2015.



## Goal 1

## Poverty reduction

Target 1	Halve the number of people whose daily consumption is below US \$4.30, measured in average PPP. <sup>1</sup>
Indicator 1	The share of the population whose daily consumption is below US \$4.30, measured as average PPP.

Target 2	Reduce the share of the poor by one third (based on a nationally-defined poverty level <sup>2</sup> ).
Indicator 2	The share of the population below the nationally-defined poverty level.

### Milestones

Indicators	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
The share of population with daily consumption less than US \$4.30, measured as average PPP.	11.0	9.8	8.6	7.1	5.5
The share of population below the national poverty-level.	27.2	25.0	22.6	21.5	18.4

### Recent trends

Poverty is one of the most painful problems in Ukraine's socio-economic sphere. Having worsened as a result of the transformational crises that were inevitable in the transition to a market economy, the problem of poverty remains acute today, even with positive economic indicators.

The key factor driving poverty in Ukraine is the low level of wages (especially in agriculture and the public sector), of pensions, of social benefits resulting from an ineffective social security system, and also of high unemployment, particularly in certain regions.

Ukrainian legislation officially defined poverty only in 2001, based on data gathered using representative sampling and proper methodology. This was collected through comprehensive household surveys carried out by the State Statistics Committee since 1999. Analysis according to a number of criteria led to the conclusion that the most appropriate measure of poverty level would be a relative one, defined as 75% of median cumulative spending per adult. This takes into account both international practice and the low domestic standard of living.

During 2001-2003, for all intents and purposes, the poverty level in Ukraine was not reduced. Statistics for the end of 2002 showed that the rate of poverty remains around 27.2% and extreme poverty 13.7%, compared to 2001, when the respective figures were 27.2% and 14.9%.

Today, the average hourly wage in developed European countries is Euro 14-22, compared to only Euro 0.65 in Ukraine, i.e. about 22-23 times less. Inequality in income distribution remains high: the ratio of spending by the richest

10% to the poorest 10% of the population in Ukraine is 7.1:1. In reality, there is little difference between the poor and those in extreme poverty. These tend to be families with more than three children, those with children under three, and those with unemployed adults – altogether 56% of the poorest families. One negative trend is the growing number of families with children living in extreme poverty. The likelihood of slipping into such poverty shifts, depending on the person's place of residence: 42% of rural dwellers are poor. A considerable proportion of the poor consists of able-bodied adults who are actually employed, although highly-qualified people and those with a higher education are better protected against poverty.

In the last few years, the proportion of the general population that lives in extreme poverty in Ukraine has shrunk from 14% to 11%. This has come about largely as a result of general economic growth and an active Government policy of raising minimum social guarantees (minimum wage, minimum pension, social benefits, student grants, and so on).

The macroeconomic stabilization achieved in recent years has led to a general increase in the country's standard of living, firstly because of rising real incomes among average Ukrainians and their increased buying power. In 2002, real incomes rose 21.2%, real wages 18.2%, and real pensions 12.1%. This was stimulated by rises in the related minimum norms: the minimum monthly wage (MMW) rose 40%, pensions 20%. In 2003, the indicators for real incomes continued to rise, registering 5.1% in the first nine months. This is a reflection of increased activity in almost every sector of the economy. Forecasts for growth in Ukraine's GDP give reason to believe that individual incomes will also continue to rise steadily. The current policy is to gradually bring minimum state guarantees to the level of the monthly living minimum

<sup>1</sup> Purchasing Power Parity or PPP, calculated by the World Bank, is used to determine the level of poverty, expressed in the national currency according to international standards. In 2001, 1 UAH = USD 0.98.

<sup>2</sup> A Presidential Decree in 2000 presented a Poverty Prevention Strategy which defined the criteria for measuring poverty in Ukraine as 75% of median cumulative spending per adult. Its nominal value in 2001 was UAH 141.81 a month (US \$4.82/day PPP).

## Dynamic between minimal and average wages and monthly living minimum (MLM)

Indicators	2000	2001	2002	2003 (6 mos.)
Average monthly wage, hryvnia	230.13	311.08	376.38	423.98
MMW as % of average	51.3	37.9	43.8	43.6
AMW as % of MLM/able-bodied adult	80.0	99.9	103.1	116.2

(MLM). The MMW was raised from 38.4% of the MLM in January 2002 to 50.7% in January 2003. The minimum monthly pension, together with targeted subsidies, was raised from 29.5% in January 2002 to 32.4% in January 2003, and to 34.3% in July 2003.

In addition, 57.4% of workers who are employed at enterprises with various forms of ownership and in various sectors were paid a wage that was below the MLM for an able-bodied adult. There remains a tremendous gap in earnings in different spheres of the economy. A unified scale for paying government employees has not been set up, nor has a minimum hourly wage been defined.

In 2002, 86% of households spent less money than the monthly living minimum, that is, less than US \$70 or Hr 365 per able-bodied person per month. Results of household surveys carried out from 1999 to 2001 showed that consumption among the poorest 25% of the population shrank even further, from 13.9% to 13.3%. In turn, the level of poverty rose from 23% to 25%.

Poverty largely stems from the low level of wages, inadequate social guarantees (minimum wage, social benefits for impoverished families) and unemployment. The spread of poverty is directly connected to the level of economic development in a region, to low purchasing power, unequal resource allocation, and obstacles in the way of access to quality education, especially for rural youth. The key factors in rural poverty are the abuse by local employers of their monopolistic position, the lack of legal awareness among the population, their general lack of rights, and a lack of mobility. Poverty also limits people's access to healthcare services and education, which is inadmissible if human development is to be ensured.

Ukraine has a considerable shadow economy whose financial impact is not reflected in national and local budget revenues, nor in the financing of social insurance funds. Business operations which remain off the record skew statistics on wages and individual incomes. Individuals working in the shadow economy often bring home wages many times above official statistics and use it only for themselves. As a result, government budgets have limited resources for supporting the most vulnerable elements in the society. This also increases the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

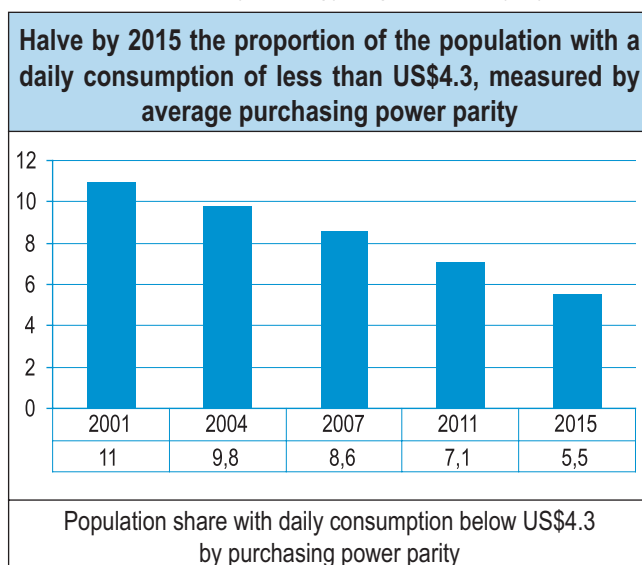
Moreover, household expense surveys do not adequately reflect this factor in determining income levels across the country.

Analysis of the current situation shows that further stratification will lead to a rising share of the population living in extreme poverty and to the emergence of chronic poverty. If these processes continue and there is no clear policy aimed at supporting the formation of a middle class and its base, small and medium enterprises, the relative poverty level will inevitably grow to 45-47%, while the depth of poverty will reach 50-55%.

### Priority goals

The spread of poverty has led to a declining population, low birth rates, and mass emigration of economically-active people. In turn, low domestic consumption limits the growth of domestic markets and slows down the growth of consumer industries. The current level of poverty is also a barrier to integration into the EU. For this reason, the Ukrainian Government considers poverty reduction and prevention a strategic priority and the foundation for achieving all its other strategic goals.

Economic growth makes it possible to concentrate more resources on combating extreme poverty. But unless the benefits of such growth are applied in a timely manner, unless an anti-poverty strategy is given priority by the state,



and unless continuous efforts are applied to the war on poverty, poverty in its extreme forms will not disappear, even with rising economic development.

### Key steps

The task of reducing poverty requires a number of activities to raise living standards among the poor and to eradicate extreme poverty and its causes. Still, while maintaining support for the poor, the major thrust must be to create conditions to improve the income levels of the working population. Social policy must link poverty reduction to technological progress and to increasing the country's competitiveness in the global marketplace as a foundation for raising the living standards of the workforce – and thus the source for increasing social benefits for the unemployed. This will also lead to the development of domestic markets, reduce the sensitivity of the domestic economy to changing external forces, and ensure sustainable growth.

Ensuring continued positive economic growth is key to eradicating poverty in the country, because this will allow social norms to rise at an accelerated pace. Another key condition is targeting and concentrating social assistance and resources on those population groups most in need of such support. This also requires strengthening targeted assistance and setting up registers of recipients.

On August 15, 2001, the President approved a Poverty Prevention Strategy prepared by the Government of Ukraine. The Strategy outlines key policy measures aimed at reducing poverty:

- **Creating an economic and legal environment that will encourage higher incomes and greater commercial activity among the able-bodied.**
  - Firstly, this means supporting the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Over-regulation, monopolist pressures from big business, and excessively high taxes continue to impede SMEs.
  - Secondly, the next round of radical tax, budget and administrative reforms need to be speeded up. The tax burden on personal incomes must be reduced, as well as the number of taxes imposed, and taxable threshold raised to the level of a minimum livable wage.
  - Thirdly, the state must counteract the monopoly in the rural labour market.
  - Fourthly, legalising shadow commerce would release enormous resources that can more productively make use of existing domestic resources to accumulate wealth and develop the economy, thus raising incomes across the board.
- **Preventing inherited poverty**, mostly concentrated in



rural areas, by providing legal support networks, supporting new approaches to agriculture based on changes in property rights, and improving rural infrastructure.

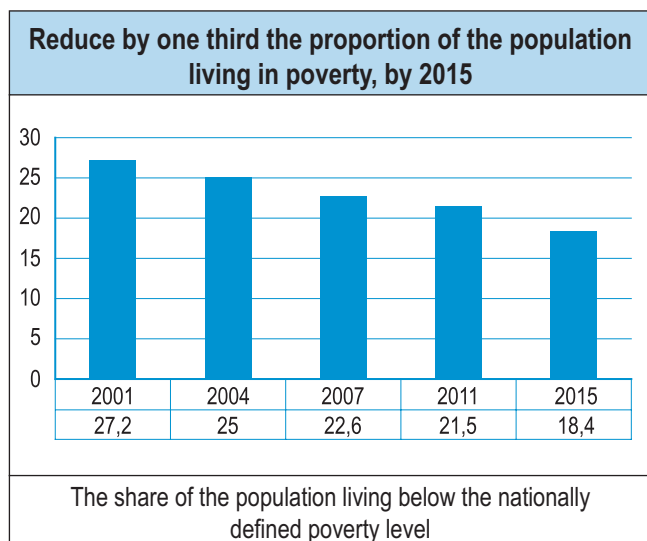
- **Improving social support of vulnerable social groups by reforming the social security system.** Targeted social programmes need to be strengthened, budget transfers better allocated.
- **Replacing blanket benefits with targeted support based on need**, as well as expanding the power of local governments and improving their financial options, with a corresponding re-distribution of responsibility.

Government efforts are being directed at continued reform of the pension system to ensure an adequate standard of living for elderly people. Means also have to be introduced, to ensure employment for handicapped and disabled persons. Poverty statistics also need to be perfected. Poverty reduction policy needs to be combined with policies in support of the middle class as a key factor of economic and social progress. The development of a civil society is critical to the establishment of a middle class. Getting local communities to participate in the decision-making process and introducing effective mechanisms that would allow residents to interact with their local governments will have a positive impact on improving the standard of living of the poorest groups. New conditions mean new approaches to eradicating poverty, and the Government has begun introducing activities that are part of the second phase of its Poverty Reduction Strategy.

### The national legislative environment

#### The Constitution:

- Articles 43, 44, 46, concerning the right to work, the right to protection of economic and social interests, the right to social security.



### Laws on:

- State Social Standards and Social Guarantees
- General Employment
- Payment for Work
- Establishing a Minimum Wage
- The Legislative Basis for Mandatory State Social Insurance
- Mandatory State Social Insurance in the Case of Temporary Loss of Work Capacity and Ensuing Expenses Caused by Births and Funerals
- Universal Mandatory State Unemployment Insurance
- Mandatory State Workers' Compensation Insurance Against Workplace Accidents or Work-related Diseases that Lead to Loss of Work Capacity
- Indexing Cash-based Individual Incomes
- Compensation to Citizens Who have Lost Income Due to Delays in Payment
- Setting a Minimum Living Standard
- Mandatory State Pension Insurance
- Providing Non-state Pensions
- Social Assistance to Families with Children
- Social Assistance to Impoverished Families
- Social Services

### Presidential Decrees on:

- Key Social Policy Directions until 2004
- A Poverty Eradication Strategy
- Key Policy Directions Concerning Individual Incomes
- Concept to Further Reform the System of Compensation for Work

### Cabinet Resolutions:

- Approving a Comprehensive Programme of Measures in the Poverty Eradication Strategy



## Goal 2

## Quality life-long education

*“To create a favourable environment for the development of the individuality and creativity of every citizen of Ukraine; to bring up a generation capable of working well and continuing to learn throughout its life; to safeguard and expand our cultural and social values; to develop and strengthen our sovereign, independent, democratic, social and law-abiding state as an integral part of the European and world communities...”*

*National Doctrine for the Development of Education*

Target 1	Raise enrollment rates by 2015, in comparison with 2001
Indicator 1.1	Net enrollment rate for children aged 3-4 in pre-school programmes
Indicator 1.2	Net enrollment rate for children aged 5 in pre-school programmes
Indicator 1.3	Net enrollment rate for children aged 6-9 in primary programmes
Indicator 1.4	Net enrollment rate for children with a secondary education <sup>1</sup>
Indicator 1.5	Net enrollment rate in post-secondary institutions for those aged 18-22
Indicator 1.6	Number of graduates from post-secondary institutions
Indicator 1.7	Cumulative gross rate of persons undergoing re-training or professional development

Target 2	Raise the quality of education
Indicator 2.1	Proportion of current state education standards that comply with those of the EU (%)

### Milestones

Indicators	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
Net enrollment rate for children aged 3-4 in pre-school programmes	46.4	47.1	48.4	50.7	55.6	57	60	63	65
Net enrollment rate for children aged 5 in pre-school programmes	46.6	46.2	47.6	47.6	50.5	53	55	57	60
Net enrollment rate for children aged 6-9 in primary programmes	n/a	n/a	81.7	96.7	99.2	99.3	99.5	99.8	100
Net enrollment rate for children with a secondary education <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	90	92	95	97	99
Net enrollment rate for those aged 18-22 (I-IV levels)	45.2	47.4	49.9	53.4	57.5	60	63	65	67
Net enrollment rate for III-IV accreditation level	30.7	33.5	35.8	38.8	42.2	45	49	51	65

### Recent trends

Ukraine has a tradition of high standards in education and significant achievements in the development of this sector. General enrollment exceeds levels in many middle-income countries, and some indicators match those of high-income countries. The proportion of the population with higher education reaches or exceeds levels in many countries with a far higher per-capita GDP.

Today, however, the number of children enrolled in pre-schools and middle-schools has declined across the nation, as has the quality of this education. Country schools have fallen far behind modern standards. Higher education, following a period of stagnation in the mid 1990s, has begun to grow once more.

Still, the number of students in post-secondary institutions remains below similar figures in several transitional countries

such as Poland, Bulgaria and Russia. Organizational and financial mechanisms in the post-secondary system need improvement.

### Pre-school

In 2001, only 39% of children below school age were attending pre-school facilities, an 18% drop since 1990. However, the biggest decline took place in the early 1990s, after which this trend slowed and since 1997 levels have ranged between 38% and 40%. The biggest factor in the 1990-1996 decline was the 1992 Law on Public Assistance to Families with Children. It provided financial support for child care to families with limited incomes equal to the legally defined monthly living minimum – but only until the child was three. Another significant factor was rising unemployment among women.

Meanwhile, material and other conditions at pre-schools have stayed at the same level, so the number of children enrolled

<sup>3</sup> Includes those who complete their secondary education in technical-vocational or post-secondary institutions

in pre-school programmes is well below capacity. In 2001, only 90 out of every 100 places available in the nation's pre-schools were filled, showing a reverse tendency compared to a ratio of 107:100 recorded in 1990. This ratio had dropped to 76:100 in 1995 and was about 70:100 in 1996-98. Today, a large number of places are unfilled, while the number of children per teacher remains close to 1990 levels – 8:1 vs 9:1. This implies that the actual teaching load has been reduced.

In 2003, the number of children in pre-school showed growth for the first time in two years. Enrollments rose by 5,000, pushing the proportion of such children up by 4% and making it now 45% of all children in that age group.

Still, it is unlikely that there will be a significant rise in enrollment, even if women find more employment and personal incomes go up. A new law on pre-school education adopted in 2001 allows families to provide a pre-school education at home. To get a more objective appraisal of the pre-school situation, it makes sense to study 3-, 4- and 5-year old children enrolled in pre-schools.

## Secondary education

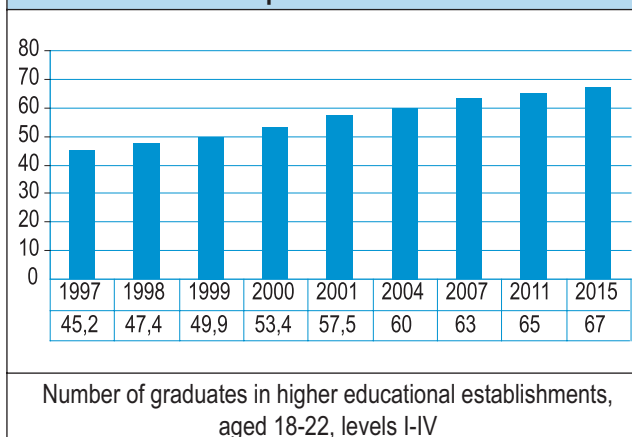
According to State Statistics Committee data, the level of primary enrollment in 2001 was 99.2%, which is typical of the last decade. There is no reason to expect this indicator to rise or fall. Still, it is realistic to expect that, by 2015, 100% enrollment can be achieved.

In 2001-2002, the number of pupils who have completed Grades 10 through 12, that is, those with a general secondary education, was 41.6% higher than in 1990-1991. This is first of all the result of a Constitutional standard introduced in 1996 that makes secondary education obligatory. The proportion of the general population aged 15-17 in Grades 10-12 was 56.9% in 2001-2002.

In order to determine true secondary enrollment, it is important to include technical-vocational training and first-year students in institutions with Level I-II accreditations, that is, junior colleges and technical and vocational schools. Thus, 346,100 students or 66% of the total number enrolled in such colleges or schools were actually completing their secondary education.

Another 86,700 students or 14.8% of total enrollment in post-secondary institutions were also completing their basic secondary education. Once these numbers are included, the total enrollment figure for completing a secondary education in 2001 increases significantly, to almost 90%. Given this, the indicator for completed secondary education should reasonably increase to 99% by 2015.

**Increase by 2015 the level of education coverage in comparison with 2001**



## Post-secondary education

The number of students in post-secondary institutions in Ukraine has grown in recent years. In the 2001-2002 academic year, there were 431 students for every 10,000 in the general population, compared to 316 in the 1990-1991 academic year, reflecting a 36.4% increase. At the start of the 2003-2004 academic year, this indicator stood at about 485.

This proportion is, partly, because the number of such institutions has risen by 10% in that same period. The net enrollment for those 18-22 in 2001 was 57.5%, with 42.2% enrolled in educational institutions with Level III-IV accreditation. In general, this indicator could easily approach EU levels and reach 67% by 2015.

## Post-graduate studies and continuing education

The number of working people who pursue retraining and various kinds of professional development has grown steadily in recent years. According to 2001 figures, the number of Ukrainians studying in post-graduate institutions was 160,000, 5% more than in 2000. The completion and adoption of a new law on post-graduate education should further encourage this kind of enrollment.

Since quality of education is determined by both national educational standards and public opinion of educational services, such indicators as the proportion of current standards in compliance with EU requirements can be used when monitoring the process of improving educational quality in Ukraine.

Based on data published in the global UNDP Human Development Reports for 2002 and 2003, the index for educational levels in Ukraine, which is one of the three key indicators in the Human Development Index, was 0.92 in 2000 and 0.93 in 2001. The average indicator for countries in Eastern Europe

and the CIS is 0.91. The HDI for Ukraine in 2000 was 0.748, placing Ukraine 75th among 173 countries. The index for 2001 inched up to 0.766, but Ukraine fell to 80th place among 175 countries. In 1990, Ukraine's HDI was 0.797.

A number of measures aimed at increasing the quality of education should help raise the level of education in Ukraine to the level of OECD countries, that is, to 0.97 by 2015.

### Priority goals

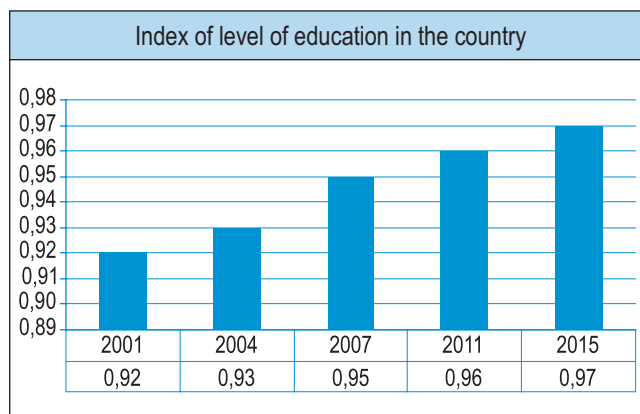
Ensuring access to quality lifelong education will have a significant effect on the further development of Ukraine. In the 21st century, more and more people are feeling the challenge of globalization:

- Firstly, the rapid changes going on in all areas of knowledge mean that working people continuously need to expand their outlook and raise their level of professionalism and skills, since changes in ideas, knowledge and technology are taking place more quickly than generational changes.
- Secondly, inequality among people is continually fed by new sources. People who are not learning and are not regularly or continuously improving their professional skills eventually become unable to compete on the job market. Since job markets contract regularly, workers have to adapt to such trends and continue to learn their entire working lives.
- Thirdly, the value of a given education declines over time, while the value of additional investment in professional development continues to rise. This requires a fresh look at models for financing education.

The experience of developed countries shows that the traditional approach to education is worn out. Today, learning is not so much a preparation for life, as it was 40-50 years ago, but a way of life. A person has to continue to learn all the time, and lifelong education becomes a way of preserving individuality against the uncertain and the unexpected in the modern world.

At a 1996 meeting, OECD Education Ministers declared that lifelong learning would be vitally important to every person in the 21st century and had to be accessible to all. Recognition of this policy direction led to changes in the approach to educational reforms in subsequent years, in particular to fundamental changes in educational programmes and teaching methodology and to the growing role of motivation in continuing education.

Creating a level playing field in education requires an understanding of the potential of the life cycle, with an emphasis on pre-schoolers and adult learners. This means there has to be



diversity in the organization of educational services, and two-way communication among the various levels of public education and between the public system and private systems.

In any country, introducing widespread lifelong learning is limited by available financial resources. Although such an idea was already in circulation in the 1970s, limited state budgets in most countries meant it could not be put into action. Today, the world has understood that introducing such approaches is imperative if they want to maintain the development of knowledge and its influence on science and technology, economic growth and competitiveness. At the forefront is the question of finding financial resources, not only expanding state sources, but reaching out to a wide range of private ones as well.

Providing quality education under tight fiscal conditions raises the question of the efficient use of resources and money management. On the other hand, there is an equally urgent need to ensure widespread access to education for the population in a variety of forms, including through loans and grants.

In Ukraine today, education is in a difficult situation. The system has not been able to avoid the brunt of the economic crisis. The state has cut back education budgets, as a result of which qualified people continue to leave this sphere, and the problem of maintaining and raising standards among teachers has only gotten worse. At all levels in the educational cycle there has been a drop in the quality of teaching.

The issue of access to a quality education has become more burning, especially in post-secondary education, which is moving more and more to a pay-as-you-go system. This means it has become less accessible to most families living in poverty. The greatest problems with access arise for graduates of rural high schools. At the same time, the opportunities for receiving additional knowledge and improving qualifications in modern specializations are fairly limited for most workers. The National Doctrine for the Development of Education contains a wide range of instruments for reviving standard education. At the same time, the innovative structural revival of the economy continues apace and requires

significant shifts in the level of preparedness of workers and specialists and their capacity to apply forward-looking technologies and techniques.

### Key steps

Transforming education in Ukraine requires coordinated actions to improve the educational system both qualitatively and quantitatively so that it corresponds to today's needs. The conceptual basis for this kind of reform has already been formulated in the National Doctrine for the Development of Education. The main task lies in ensuring the priority of education on a real, rather than a token, basis.

The country's strategic political directions for developing education include:

- to modernize the educational system with the purpose of maintaining high quality, as defined by the latest domestic and international achievements in science and the arts;
- to respond to the needs of the individual for quality lifelong education. The most urgent task before Ukraine, as for other countries, is to build an effective system of continuous lifelong learning;
- to guarantee the Constitutional right of every citizen to accessible and free education;
- to provide adequate financing for all participants in the educational process;
- to set up state and community monitoring systems that recognize decentralization in managing school systems, regionalization in educational programmes, and competition in the field of educational services;
- to introduce modern ICT that can ensure access to high-level knowledge bases, expand the potential of learners to absorb difficult information, and apply innovative teaching approaches on a broad basis;
- to create a contemporary model of education financing that draws on market strategies and multiple funding sources.

Education is a fundamental sector for the transition to an innovative model of economic development and for the creation of a knowledge-based economy. Today, raising the qualifications of the workforce does not end with the completion of a specific professional course. The modern economy and a flexible job market require a new quality of education and professional training.

The first tasks required include:

- creating an effective mechanism to carry out and monitor the provisions of the National Doctrine for the Development of Education and other legal and regulatory acts in this sphere;
- defining standards for infrastructural support to educational institutions;
- provision of free and accessible pre-school and public

education, and equal access to higher education;

- assisting poor families in paying for education;
- updating qualitative and quantitative parameters that determine budgeting standards and to implement a variety of approaches to non-state financing of education.

To carry out these tasks to stimulate enrollment, raise the educational potential of Ukraine to EU standards, and improve the overall quality of education will take a number of measures, among with the most important are:

### Increase enrollment

- optimize the network of educational institutions and increase financial support for learning;
- enforce the state school bus and teacher programmes;
- provide targeted state support to orphans, the disabled, children from poor families, and talented youth.

### Improve quality

- ensure Ukrainian educational legislation complies with EU standards;
- expand integration, partnership and co-operation between Ukraine and the EU in education;
- introduce contemporary informational technologies such as the Internet, particularly in rural areas, use computer technologies to evaluate pupils and students, and develop distance learning;
- introduce a state programme of IS and computerization in tech-voc educational institutions and improve the professional qualifications of teaching staff in the tech-voc system;
- improve the level of post-graduate education, i.e. for candidates and doctors of sciences, in the top educational and research institutions;
- provide incentives to employers to support and develop continuing professional and technical education, and to employ graduates of tech-voc and post-secondary institutions.

The need to raise the quality of education has been recognized by almost all levels of society in Ukraine.

### The national legislative environment

The organizational and legal foundation for the educational system is defined in:

- The Constitution of Ukraine, Article 53
- Law on Education
- Law on Pre-school Education
- Law on Home Schooling
- Law on General Secondary Education
- Law on Technical-Vocational Education
- Law on Higher Education
- The National Doctrine on the Development of Education adopted by Presidential Decree N°347 of 17.04.2002.

## Goal 3 Sustainable environmental development

Target 1	Increase the proportion of people with access to clean drinking water by 12% from 2001 to 2015
Indicator 1.1	Proportion of population drinking water that meets national standards for urban areas, %
Indicator 1.2	Proportion of population drinking well water that meets national standards for rural areas, %

Target 2	Stabilize air pollution from stationary sources
Indicator 2	Volume of harmful emissions into atmosphere from stationary sources of pollution (million tonnes per year)

Target 3	Expand the network of natural and biospheric reserves and national parks to 10.4 % of the overall territory of Ukraine
Indicator 3	Total area of natural and biospheric reserves and national parks, as % of overall territory of Ukraine

### Milestones

Indicators	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
1.1 Proportion of population with access to drinking water that meets national standards for urban areas, %	86	87	88	90	93
1.2 Proportion of population with access to well water that meets national standards for rural areas, % <sup>4</sup>	63	64	66	69	75 <sup>5</sup>
2. Volume of harmful emissions into atmosphere from stationary sources of pollution (million tonnes/year) <sup>6</sup>	4.05	4.15	4.20	4.20	4.10
3. Total area of natural and biospheric reserves and national parks, as % of overall territory of Ukraine <sup>7</sup>	4.2	6.1	7.5	8.6	10.4

### Recent trends

The environmental situation in Ukraine today can be described as a hidden crisis that has developed over the years because the basic laws for safely developing natural resources were largely ignored. The national economy underwent certain structural distortions characterized by a tendency to prefer environmentally damaging sectors, especially resource extraction.

On the other hand, air pollution has tended to go down in recent years. Between 1995 and 2002 emissions from stationary sources were cut 1.4 times. Given the growing volume of industrial output in key economic sectors in the last three years, the decline in pollution clearly reflects the introduction of environmental management, in particular the establishment of standard fees for water consumption and environmental pollution that are pegged to inflation.

The overall emission of pollutants from stationary sources was 4.05mn tonnes in 2001, 4.06mn tonnes in 2002 according to estimates, and is expected to be 4.10mn tonnes in 2003. This trend reflects a gradual increase in industrial production and in the fuel and energy industries, the main culprits in air pollu-

tion. If the current technology is not upgraded, pollution from stationary sources is likely to continue to increase slightly, about 2% a year starting in 2003, that is, about one third the pace of industrial growth.

A number of steps, including improving fuel quality, prohibiting the import and sale of leaded gasoline, and implementing environmentally-friendly alternative technologies, could keep the level of air pollution from moving sources in 2002-2003 on 2000 levels, i.e, 1.95mn tonnes.

A slight drop has also been registered in the volume of water pollution, including sewage and other wastewater. Over 1995-2002, this indicator has declined from 4.65 to 3.05 billion cubic meters. The main sources of water pollution remain the water utilities and distribution systems in non-urban areas, whose filtration systems are in poor technical condition, often with obsolete equipment in need of repair, reconstruction, or even replacement. From 1995-2002, the volume of waste spilled into surface water dropped by almost a third. In the last three years, however, this decline has slowed considerably – from 3.31bn cubic meters in 2000 only to 3.05bn cubic meters in 2002, compared to 4.65bn cubic meters recorded in 1995.

<sup>4</sup> According to data from State Water Economy Committee

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Economy Forecast for 2015

<sup>6</sup> Indicator value can be updated using new methods applying European standards

<sup>7</sup> Report by Ministry of Environmental Resources, Ministry of Economy Forecast

Indeed, a slight rise in the volumes of wastewater dumped into surface water is expected, reaching 3.15bn cubic meters in 2003.

### Priority goals

The unresolved state of a variety and multiplicity of issues regarding the preservation of the environment could complicate sustainable development in the country as a whole. Among such questions, for Ukraine, is the preservation and improvement of the quality of its land and water resources, its atmosphere, the biodiversity of its flora and fauna, industrial energy efficiency, and the reclamation of land that has suffered from radioactive contamination as a result of the Chornobyl AES catastrophe.

In addition to the usual list of environmental protection problems that need immediate attention – such as providing quality drinking water, air pollution, non-rationalized use of arable lands, soil erosion, soil pollution from industrial and other wastes, water pollution, deteriorating coastal areas, and damaged ecological balance in wild areas – Ukraine has to deal with the specific consequences of the Chornobyl accident.

### Key steps

Government activity will be directed at addressing those environmental issues that have the greatest negative impact on people's health and on the living conditions of the poorest sectors of Ukrainian society. First of all, this means improving access to safe drinking water and cleaning up the environment.

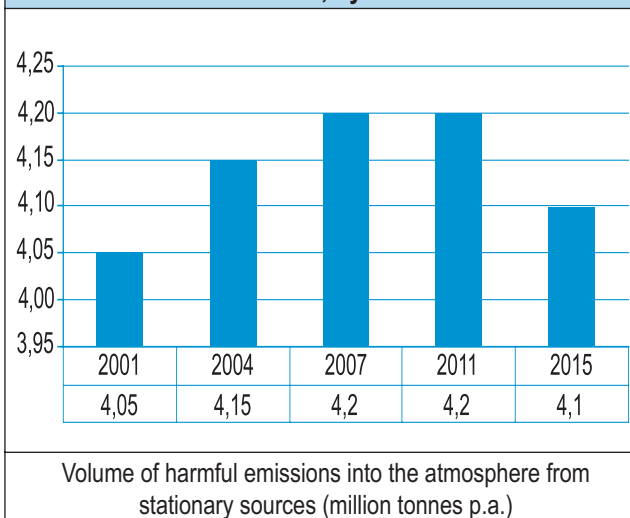
Attention is also needed in the management of natural resources, and in fulfilling Ukraine's key international commitments. Introducing consistent environmental policies will make it possible, by 2015, to increase the share of the population with access to clean drinking water. Moreover, the calculation of this indicator will be based on even stricter standards of water quality than those used in a joint survey by UNICEF and the State Statistics Committee in 1999.

In terms of reducing air pollution, government efforts will be mostly aimed at fixing higher fees for the utilization of natural resources and at conservation. This should spur widespread upgrading of industrial technologies, which are a main source of air pollution. With these measures in place, the levels of air pollution emissions should fall by 2015 to 2001 levels, after a slight tendency to rise until 2011.

Polluting emissions from vehicular traffic can be considerably reduced. The key benchmarks to achieve by 2015 are:

- 2004 – a total ban on ethyl fuels;

**Stabilise air pollution from stationary and mobile sources, by 2015**



- 2007 – mandatory installation of catalytic converters on gasoline engines and testing of permitted emission levels;
- 2011-2015 – wide-scale introduction of alternative fuel engines (electric, gas, gasohol and so on).

The preservation of diversity of flora and fauna is another important prerequisite for sustainable environmental development. This will help not only preserve natural resources and the nation's recreational zones, but also encourage new awareness in the next generation. One indicator of the level of preservation of nature is the proportion of national parks and reserves in the country's total territory.

The Programme for Developing a National Environmental Network adopted by the Verkhovna Rada along with a similarly-named law declares that the share of natural and reserved areas should equal 10.4% of Ukraine's total area by 2015. The interim indicator is 7% by 2005.

To expand the network of national parks and preserves, new national parks should be created in the Carpathian mountains, on the coast and on the banks of particular rivers, and in the forested areas around major cities.

Improved management of the state ecological safety system, especially in reforming local branches of the Ministry of Environmental Resources and structurally re-organizing key enterprises should:

- support protection and effective use of land and improve air quality;
- improve state management of environmental safety and create conditions to support sustainable development;
- optimize the national environmental monitoring system and natural resource management;
- support international co-operation in conservancy.

The key interim criterion is the compliance of national environmental legislation with EU norms, in particular adopting these important laws, on:

- National Environmental Heritage
- Ecological Assessments
- Environmental Insurance
- The National Programme to Develop Minerals and Raw Materials until 2010

### The national legislative environment

In the area of environmental protection, some key legislation has been adopted.

#### Codes on:

- Mineral Resources
- Mining
- Water
- Forestry
- Land

#### Laws on:

- Protecting the Natural Environment
- Protecting the Atmosphere
- The Red Book of Ukraine (database of endangered species)
- The Natural Reserve Fund
- The National Programme to set up a National Ecological Network for 2000-2015
- Fauna
- Flora
- Protecting Flora
- Pesticides and Agricultural Chemicals
- Payment for Land
- Ecological Analysis
- Waste Products
- Using Nuclear Energy and Radiation Safety
- Handling Radioactive Waste
- Protecting Humans from Ionizing Radiation
- Ensuring Sanitary and Epidemiological Health Among the General Population

- Potable Water and its Supply
- Ratifying the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Ratifying Amendments to the Montréal Protocol on Substances that Destroy the Ozone Layer
- Joining the 1979 Convention on Protecting Wild Flora and Fauna and the Natural Habitat in Europe
- Participating in the Convention on Water and Marshes with International Importance, Primarily as a Habitat of Water-fowl
- Ratifying the Convention on Nuclear Safety
- Joining the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- Ratifying the Agreement on Preserving Afro-Euroasian Migratory Marshland Fowl
- Joining the UN Convention on Preventing Desertification in Countries Subject to Severe Drought and/or Desertification, Especially in Africa

#### Ecological programmes:

- Key directions in state policy on environmental protection, the use of natural resources, and the preservation of ecological safety
- National programme to clean up the Dnipro basin and improve the quality of drinking water
- Future development of nature reserves
- To halt the production and use of ozone-depleting substances
- The comprehensive programme to counteract the damaging effects of water in the countryside and farmlands for 2001-2005 and forecasts till 2010
- National programme to protect and restore the ecosystems of the Azov and Black Seas
- National programme for water management development



## Goal 4

## Improved maternal health and reduced child mortality<sup>8</sup>

Target 1	Reduce maternal mortality by 17%
Indicator 1.1	Number of deaths from complications during pregnancy and delivery or post-delivery, per 100,000 live births
Indicator 1.2	Number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age
Target 2	Reduce mortality among under-5's by 17%
Indicator 2.1	Under-5 mortality rate (number of deaths per 1,000 children under 5)
Indicator 2.2	Infant mortality rate (number of deaths per 1,000 children less than one year old)

### Milestones

Indicators	1990	2000	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
1.1 Number of deaths from complications during pregnancy and delivery, or post-delivery, per 100,000 live births	32.4	24.7	23.9	22.0	20.3	20.0	19.8
1.2 Number of abortions per 1,000 women of childbearing age	82.6	34.1	29.1	26.7	26.1	25.3	24.4
2.1 Under-5 mortality rate (number of deaths per 1,000 children under 5)	17.3 <sup>9</sup>	15.6	14.9	14.3	14.3	13.7	12.3
2.2 Infant mortality rate (number of deaths per 1,000 children less than one year old)	12.8	11.9	11.3	10.4	10.4	9.8	9.3

### Recent trends

In the last few years, the government has been working hard to deal with problems in the healthcare system, which have become more acute during the period of severe economic decline. The maternal mortality rate (MMR) declined slightly throughout the 1990s. Thus deaths from complications during pregnancy, delivery and post-delivery have gone from 32.4 per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 24.7 in 2000, a reduction of 23.8%. The number of births handled by qualified medical professionals in Ukraine is nearly 100%.

The level of mortality in children under-five and under-twelve months remains relatively high, despite a slight downward trend in 1990s. In 1990-2000 the number of deaths per year among children under five fell from 17.3 per 1,000 in 1990 to 15.6 per 1,000 in 2000. An even smaller decrease occurred in the mortality rate for infants under one, from 12.8 per 1,000 in 1990 to 11.9 per 1,000 in 2001.

### Priority goals

The health of women is a decisive factor in the health of the next generation. Despite some improvements in this area, maternal mortality in Ukraine is considerably higher than the average rate for Europe. The key factors that lead to a high

level of sickness and death among women are the abortion rate, inadequate medical care, and poor understanding and awareness of reproductive issues.

The health of a nation's children determines its future labour and intellectual potential. Healthy children mean a healthy nation. Infant mortality among those under one remains high – 2.5 times the rate in EU countries. Infant mortality is also one of the key indicators that reduces a country's life expectancy rate. The task of improving the health of women and children is critical, not just for the present day, but for the future of the country's overall development. Reaching this Goal requires particular attention and monitoring on the part of the state.

### Key steps

Government policies aimed at improving the health of mothers and reducing child mortality are being carried out through comprehensive and targeted approaches that ensure the maximum healthcare services possible with the available level of legal, financial, material, technical, and human resources.

A number of tasks are policy priorities:

- to carry out health education campaigns that promote healthy lifestyles, family planning, reproductive health, safe childbirth, and early cancer detection;

<sup>8</sup> An alternative definition of this Goal is "Reduce child mortality and mortality among able-bodied adults, improve maternal health," as the death rate among able-bodied men in Ukraine is extremely high.

<sup>9</sup> UNICEF. Regional Monitoring Report N°7, 2000: "Youth in a Changing Society." Project MONEE, CEE/CIS/Baltics

## Improved maternal health and reduced child mortality



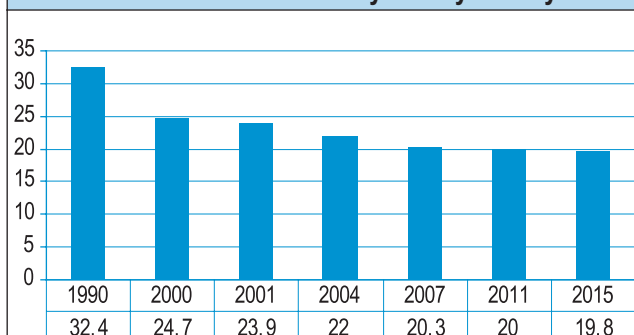
- treat sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs);
- expand the network of reproductive services (family planning centres, safe birth centres, genetic consulting and so on) and provide modern technical support.

### The national legislative environment

- The Law on the Principles of Public Health Legislation
- The “Children of Ukraine” National Programme adopted by Presidential Decree №63/96 of 18.01.96
- The Targeted Comprehensive Genetic Monitoring Programme for 1999-2003 adopted by Presidential Decree №118/99 of 04.02.99
- The Concept for Developing Public Healthcare adopted by Presidential Decree №1313/2000 of 07.12.2000
- The National Reproductive Health Programme adopted by Presidential Decree №203/2001 of 26.03.01
- The Inter-Branch Comprehensive “Health of the Nation” Programme for 2002-2011 approved by Cabinet Resolution №14 of 10.01.2002
- The Immunization and Health Maintenance Programme for 2002-2006 approved by Cabinet Resolution №1566 of 24.10.2002
- The State “Children’s Vacations and Health” Programme until 2008 approved by Cabinet Resolution №33 of 16.01.03
- The “Safe Motherhood” Concept approved by Cabinet Resolution №161-p of 29.03.02
- Comprehensive Measures for Stimulating the Birth Rate approved by Cabinet Resolution №355-p of 01.07.02
- Measures For Fulfilling the “Safe Motherhood” Concept approved by Cabinet Resolution №583-p of 15.10.02

- organize health awareness campaigns among women that include regular and frequent visits to the doctor, the importance of a timely first visit, and so on;
- introduce mother and child joint stays in maternity wards to not less than 90% of beds, with a simultaneous programme on breast-feeding;
- encourage breast-feeding;
- develop medical and organizational technologies to ensure the delivery and birth of healthy children, to preserve and strengthen their health, and to treat any disabilities;
- improve family planning centres, child and youth gynecological clinics, and genetics services;

### Reduce the maternal mortality rate by 17% by 2015



Number of deaths resulting from birth complications, per 100,000 live births

## Goal 5 Reducing and slowing down the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB

Target 1	Reduce the rate of the spread of HIV/AIDS by 13%
Indicator 1.1	Number of new HIV-infection cases per 100,000
Indicator 1.2	Number of AIDS-related deaths per 100,000
Indicator 1.3	Proportion of HIV-infected children born to HIV-infected mothers (MTCT)

Target 2	Reduce the number of TB cases by 42%
Indicator 2.1	Number of new TB cases (including pulmonary TB) per 100,000
Indicator 2.2	Number of TB-related deaths per 100,000

### Milestones

Indicators	1990	2000	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
1.1 Number of new HIV-infection cases per 100,000	0.08	12.6	14.2	15.4	14.1	13.7	12.4
1.2 Number of AIDS-related deaths per 100,000	0.06	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.5
1.3 Proportion of HIV-infected children born to HIV-infected mothers (MTCT)	n/a	n/a	35.0	30.0	25.0	15.0	5.0
2.1 Number of new TB cases (including pulmonary TB) per 100,000	31.9	60.4	69.5	80.0	56.4	49.0	40.0
2.2 Number of TB-related deaths per 100,000	8.0	22.2	22.4	19.0	17.0	12.0	10.0

### Recent trends

Most of Ukraine's regions have been affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, which broke out in 1987 in a number of individual cases, and then began to spread inexorably. In 1995, the epidemic became especially threatening, spreading predominantly from injecting drug users to other social groups.

According to research by the Ministry of Health Ukrainian AIDS Centre, between 1987 and 2002, the number of HIV-positive persons in Ukraine has reached 52,659, all but 303 of them Ukrainian citizens. During this period, 4,400 people developed AIDS (4,260 adults and 140 children), and 2,377 Ukrainian citizens died of the disease.

In the last two years, a growing number of infections has spread via all three major paths: through infected blood among IDUs sharing needles, from mothers to their children during birth, and through unprotected sex.

A special programme called "Preventing Mother-to-Child-Transmission of HIV for 2000-2003" made it possible, by 2002, to reduce the level of infection among infants born to HIV-infected mothers by two-thirds, from nearly 30% to 10%. The WHO office in Ukraine has been the acknowledged leader in introducing these kinds of campaigns, based on recommendations arising from its extensive experience in other countries with rapidly-spreading HIV/AIDS.

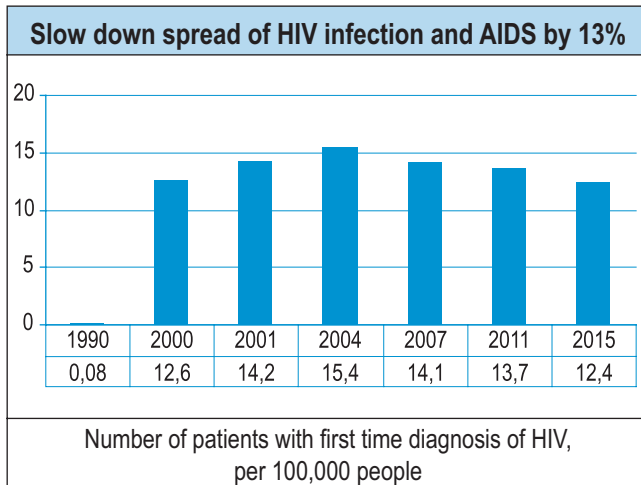
During the last 11 years, the number of people suffering from tuberculosis in Ukraine has more than doubled, from 31.9 per 100,000 in 1990 to 69.5 in 2001. The TB mortality rate has nearly tripled, from 8.1 deaths per 100,000 in 1999 to 22.4 in 2001. As a result of these developments, the number of severe and progressive cases of TB has increased. Completely new, resistant strains of tuberculosis pose additional serious problems.

### Priority goals

In the 20 years since the first case was reported in the world, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has become one of the most dangerous factors which have a negative impact on the development of both the individual and society. The epidemic has touched almost all countries, and its consequences have proved far heavier than had ever been imagined. Analyses of the situation in various countries have shown that this disease reduces life expectancy, increases the need for medical services, and heightens the problems of poverty and social inequality. For Ukraine, as for other countries, the problem of AIDS is not a purely medical problem.

On June 22, 2001, the President of Ukraine signed a decree declaring 2002 the Year of Fighting HIV/AIDS in Ukraine. That same month, a Special Session of the UN General Assembly was dedicated to all aspects of HIV/AIDS. Initiated by Ukraine, it was supported by a majority of UN members.

## Reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB



No single country can consider itself safe from the threat, as long as new infections continue to be registered around the world. In its 20-year history, HIV has infected 55 million people and nearly 21.8 million of them have already died. The HIV/AIDS epidemic knows no limits and recognizes no borders.

In October 2001, at the first forum of the Global Partnership in Washington, a draft Global Plan “Stop Tuberculosis” was approved. It was noted that, at the turn of the new millennium, TB is becoming epidemic, much as it was a thousand years ago. Tuberculosis is an acute and urgent medical and social problem all over the world, but particularly in Europe.

According to WHO criteria, Ukraine is one of the countries with an unresolved epidemic situation.

### Key steps

To counteract these threatening trends, a broad range of coordinated actions must be undertaken. Moreover, these activities must go beyond the merely medical, tackling socio-economic and educational challenges.



The key tasks involved are:

- develop a concept for combating HIV/AIDS;
- introduce a programme to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS;
- reduce the danger of HIV infection among vulnerable groups of population;
- launch public information and education campaigns, especially among the young, to prevent AIDS and TB;
- prevent tuberculosis infection.

To maintain an effective campaign against the spread of HIV/AIDS, it is critical that it be tackled continuously by the entire society.

### The national legislative environment

**Laws on:**

- Preventing AIDS Infection and on the Social Welfare of the General Population
- Combating Tuberculosis
- Charity and Charitable Organizations
- The National Programme to Combat Tuberculosis adopted by Presidential Decree N°643/2001 of 28.08.01
- Additional Measures for Improving HIV/AIDS Prevention adopted by Presidential Decree N°741 of 28.08.01
- Issues in HIV/AIDS Prevention and the Protection of Population approved by Cabinet Resolution N°2026 of 18.12.98
- Establishing an Inter-Agency Commission to Combat Tuberculosis approved by Cabinet Resolution N°1480 of 28.09.2000
- The HIV/AIDS Care Programme approved by Cabinet Resolution N°790 of 11.07.01
- Some Questions from the Government Commission on Preventing HIV/AIDS approved by Cabinet Resolution N°1401 of 26.10.2001
- Establishing the Ukrainian Fund for Combating HIV/AIDS approved by Cabinet Resolution N°1620 of 29.11.2001

## Goal 6

## Gender equality

Target 1	Achieve a ratio of at least 30:70 for either gender in legislative and executive office
Indicator 1.1	Gender ratio among deputies of the Verkhovna Rada
Indicator 1.2	Gender ratio among deputies in local government
Indicator 1.3	Gender ratio among deputies in oblast governments
Indicator 1.4	Gender ratio among deputies in county (rayon) government
Indicator 1.5	Gender ratio among deputies in municipal governments
Indicator 1.6	Gender ratio among deputies in village government
Indicator 1.7	Gender ratio among deputies in rural office
Indicator 1.8	Gender ratio in the Cabinet of Ministers
Indicator 1.9	Gender ratio among high-ranking state officials (categories 1 and 2)

Target 2	Halve the gap in incomes between men and women
Indicator 2.1	Ratio of average wages between men and women

### Milestones

Indicators (women/men)	1990	2001	2004	2007	2011	2015
Gender ratio among deputies of the Verkhovna Rada	3/97	8/92	5/95	13/87	20/80	30/70
Gender ratio among deputies in local government	38/62	42/58	42/58	43/57	44/56	45/55
Gender ratio among deputies in oblast governments	9/91	11/89	15/85	19/81	20/80	30/70
Gender ratio among deputies in county government	18/82	21/79	24/76	27/73	28/72	30/70
Gender ratio among deputies in municipal governments	21/79	22/78	25/75	28/72	29/71	30/70
Gender ratio among deputies in village government	42/58	47/53	47/53	48/52	48/52	50/50
Gender ratio among deputies in rural office	42/58	47/53	48/52	49/51	50/50	50/50
Gender ratio in the Cabinet of Ministers	n/a	0/100	10/90	15/85	20/80	30/70
Gender ratio among high-ranking state officials (categories 1 and 2)	n/a	15/85	17/83	20/80	25/75	30/70
Ratio of average wages of women as a % of average wages for men	73	71	73	76	85	86

### Recent trends

Despite a high level of education and high professional potential among women – and no evident violations of the UN Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in the country's laws –, the presence of women in the Verkhovna Rada, the Ukrainian legislature, has not grown significantly in the last decade.

Since Ukraine became independent, the share of women in the Verkhovna Rada has remained at a mere 3%. During the transitional period, their share did grow initially, from 5.7% in 1994 to a peak of 8.1% in 1998. But after the last elections, in March 2002, the share of female deputies dropped again to 5.1%.

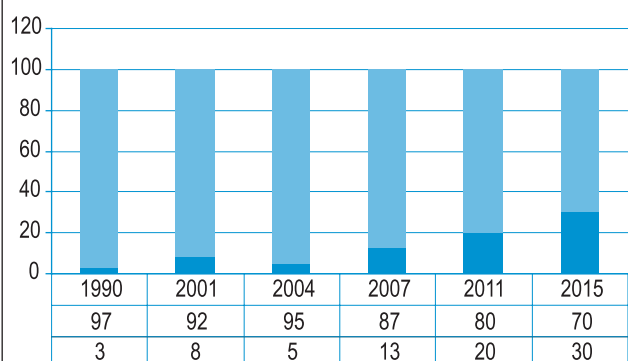
Moreover, during 2002-2003, not one woman was appointed to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. Women account for only 8% of deputy ministers, and only 4% of deputy chairs of state committees are women. A handful of women have been appointed to head state committees. The lower the level of power, however, the more open it is to women.

Although women tend to dominate the civil service both among middle managers and among specialists – 52.5% and 81% respectively –, their presence falls sharply as the category of the post rises. Women are seriously under-represented at top-level posts in the government: only 14.7% among civil servants of the first and second categories – the level at which decisions are actually made.

Unfortunately, current Ukrainian gender statistics only monitor gender representation in top posts in government offices. A system of appropriate gender indicators needs to be developed and trends further studied in order to enable an accurate assessment of gender equality.

Figures for 2000 show that the average monthly salary of working women is only about 71% of that of men. In other words, there is a gender gap of 29% in wages. Since the law prohibits discrimination in salaries in Ukraine and all professionals ostensibly earn equal wages for the same job, the main cause of the gender gap in wages is vertical professional segregation.

### Ensure a gender ratio of at least 30:70 in either sex in representative authorities and at the highest posts of executive power



Gender ratio among deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Although the proportion of working women with higher education is significantly higher than that of men, women are more likely to occupy lower, clerical jobs with lower wages and limited opportunities for professional growth and lucrative salaries.

### Priority goals

The high share of women in local office, about 40%, provides a substantial body of female experience potentially able to work at the national level. Clearly, it is critical that this indicator does not fall.

Insufficient representation of women at the highest levels of decision-making not only contradicts the principles of democratic parity, but also lowers the quality of public administration and the level of attention paid to social policy.

If gender inequality in the workplace and in government offices continues to be ignored, the gender gap in incomes will continue to grow, will leading to the “feminization” of poverty.

### Milestones

Activities to support gender parity in government office, particularly in the legislature, and at the top levels, should include:

- elaborating legislative and institutional mechanisms to support gender equality, including introducing a gender quota if necessary;
- introducing the practice of standard gender analysis of legislative and regulatory documents, and social and economic development programmes;
- formulating a variety of educational programmes targeted at breaking gender stereotypes, as well as the necessary mechanisms to allow gender parity in the electoral nomination process;

- involving mass media in raising public awareness of gender issues in social and political contexts.

Activities to support gender parity in Ukraine on the labour market should include:

- developing practical programmes that will protect the interests of women who have suffered negative economic impact;
- tackling the issue of underemployment among women;
- supporting professional development for women, particularly in post-graduate studies;
- combating gender stereotypes at all levels in the educational system and developing gender neutral educational programmes and textbooks;
- promoting dynamic small business development, family and women’s businesses and establishing lending sources for women who want to start their own businesses;
- developing a household services system and childcare to reduce women’s “dual” employment.

Introducing consistent government policy with regard to employment could help overcome gender inequality in the labour market and eliminate some of the worst forms of gender discrimination with regards to salary levels.

International experts say that gender parity representation (50/50) in the Verkhovna Rada, gender balance in government bodies at all levels, and an increased share of women at the top-level positions in the state hierarchy, that is, categories 1 and 2, to not less than 30%, would already guarantee a visible change in the running of the country. This includes greater balance in adopting decisions and more effective social policy.

The government has been directing its efforts at carrying out the decisions of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly “Women in 2000: Equality between men and women, development and peace in the 21st century.” With the aim of raising the profile of women in Ukrainian society, the Cabinet adopted a National Plan of Action to improve women’s status and introduce social gender equality during 2001-2005.

### The national legislative environment

Article 24 of the Constitution provides for equal rights for women and men. It also guarantees the right for women to combine work with motherhood.

Ukraine supports the World Plan of Action adopted at the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women’s Rights and the Vienna Plan of Action approved at the Fifth Session of the UN General Assembly. It is also carrying out its obligations in accordance with CEDAW - the Convention to Eradicate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

National labour laws and regulations are based on the notion that women shall not be discriminated against. All national legislation regarding women's work has been concorded with international conventions ratified by Ukraine, starting with the ILO Convention and existing Ukrainian laws.

At present, Ukraine has ratified 54 conventions of the International Labour Organization, of the 183 that exist, and a similar number of recommendations for complying with them. Some of these deal with working women. The last convention adopted was N°156, and its associated Recommendation N°165, with regard to workers with family obligations.

Ukrainian trade unions are also making their contribution to solving gender issues in the workplace. In particular, at the Third Congress of the Federation of Ukrainian Trade Unions in October 1997, a special resolution "On The Social and Economic Protection of Women" was adopted. Gender issues were included in the relevant articles of the General Agreement among the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Confederation of Employers of Ukraine, and Ukraine's trade union associations.

On April 25, 2001 the Presidential Decree on "Raising the social status of women in Ukraine" was signed. Its purpose is to create a more level playing field for women to participate equally in the country's political and social life, and to support women in the labour market.

***Ukraine's Millennium Development Goals are an ambitious challenge to improve conditions for harmonious human development, and this requires considerable efforts and cooperation on the part of the government and the people alike.***



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