

Interventions by MDG Target (Prepared by the UN Millennium Project)

Income Poverty (MDG 1 Target 1)	
Agriculture	Increasing agricultural productivity directly raises the incomes of the rural poor and generates rural jobs
Nutrition	Better nutrition contributes to human capital accumulation and improved labor productivity
Education	Education increases human capital
Gender Equality	Education is linked to lower fertility rates, which are in turn linked to increases in economic growth per capita
	Awareness of and access to reproductive health rights and services enable and empower women to plan their families, leading to lower fertility rates and reduced poverty
	Empowerment through access to work, property rights, political representation and safety from violence leads to increased participation of women in economic activity
Health	Improved health has pervasive direct and indirect effects on raising both the level and the growth rate of income
Environment	Many poor people depend on natural resources for their livelihoods. Improving natural resource management can sustain or even raise their incomes
Water and Sanitation	Improved water supply for productive activities can raise economic growth through agriculture and the urban manufacturing and service sectors
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Providing security of tenure can improve labor market participation and access to credit markets
	Urban infrastructure, including transport systems, is necessary for establishing manufacturing and service industries
Science and Technology	Science & technology institutions improve technological learning in society and improve the adoption of technology by the private sector
	Higher education can open new employment opportunities
Energy	Access to electric power and improved thermal energy systems is necessary for manufacturing, service, or cottage industries
Transport	Roads, railroads, and ports lower transport costs and thereby increase the real incomes of the poor
	In urban areas improved transport infrastructure supports manufacturing and service industries, contributing to employment

Hunger (MDG 1 Target 2)	
Agriculture	Increasing agricultural productivity through investments in soil health, water management, extension services, and research increases food availability for subsistence farmers
Rural Incomes and Access to Markets	Improved access to credit, storage facilities, processing and value-added technologies can help raise incomes, together with access to markets, farmers cooperatives/associations and physical market spaces
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions are needed for vulnerable populations and to ensure micronutrient intake
	Direct food assistance in food-scarce areas alleviates short-term hunger
Education	Literacy contributes to better management of nutritional needs and farm production
Gender Equality	Land rights allow women to increase agricultural production
	Increased access to work and higher incomes enable women to purchase adequate food for themselves and their families
	Equal access to productive inputs increases plot yields
Health	Reducing parasitic and infectious disease burden improves nutrition levels. Birth spacing protects maternal and child nutrition and health.

Environment	Improved water resource management and protection of water catchment areas can raise crop yields
Water and Sanitation	Biodiversity protection sustains pollination and seed dispersal mechanisms necessary for agricultural production Safe drinking water reduces incidence of water-borne diseases, which cause malnourishment Drinking water supplied through wells and boreholes can help irrigate fields during unforeseen droughts Access to sanitation reduces incidence of diarrheal disease and thereby increases nutrient uptake Integrated water resources management sustains adequate water supply for agriculture Water storage and water management infrastructure improve water management for agriculture Slum upgrading and accompanying interventions help raise incomes and reduce urban hunger Improved transport infrastructure lowers the cost of food products, further reducing hunger Increased agricultural research is critical for improving seed varieties, cropping systems, pest control, and water management to increase agricultural productivity, thus reducing hunger Increased access to higher education can help increase the number of agricultural extension workers ICT improves farmers' market information, raising agricultural production
Energy	Improved access to electricity and liquid fuels can power diesel pumps for irrigation, facilitate mechanization, and power agroprocessing machinery, thus increasing agricultural output and reducing hunger Improved energy services lower transportation and marketing costs, which reduces food prices Access to improved cooking fuels is necessary to ensure safe cooking of food
Transport	Footpaths and feeder, district and national roads lower the cost of agricultural inputs, increase farmgate prices, and facilitate marketing, which can increase agricultural production Improved transport infrastructure reduces postharvest losses through accelerated transport of products to markets

Primary Education (MDG 2 Target 3)

Education	Increase access to improved primary and secondary schools as well as adult literacy programs through provision of infrastructure; hiring, improved remuneration and training of teachers; provision of learning materials; curriculum reform; and demand-side interventions to retain children in school
Agriculture	Agricultural interventions to improve soils, seeds and water management raise rural incomes and reduce the time young children spend in the field, freeing them to attend school
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions for infants improve cognitive development and improve learning outcomes in the future
Gender Equality	Maternal education contributes strongly to higher primary enrollment
Health	Improved health enhances educational outcomes by improving cognitive abilities and attendance rates AIDS prevention and treatment reduce the disease's impact on teacher attendance and attrition
Environment	AIDS prevention and treatment reduce the number of orphans, who are less likely to complete primary education. Reproductive health services reduce withdrawal of girls from school related to sibling care burdens caused by unplanned pregnancies or due to adolescent pregnancy.
Water and Sanitation	Improved natural resource management can free up children's time and increase school attendance Improved access to water frees up children's time, thus allowing them to attend school

	Improved health through sanitation and hygiene reduces school absenteeism Girls' toilets in schools can increase their enrollment and completion rates Security of land tenure and a fixed address are often necessary for children to be allowed to attend school
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Higher education is essential to training secondary school teachers and provides additional incentives to complete primary and secondary school ICT infrastructure can improve the quality of education
Science and Technology	Access to electric power and improved cooking fuels lowers time spent by children (especially girls) collecting fuel wood, thus facilitating school attendance Improved access to liquid fuels is necessary to render mechanized school transport more affordable
Energy	Electrification permits children to read and study for longer hours, thus improving school outcomes
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure and services increase incentives for teachers to work in rural areas Feeder roads and footpaths reduce the time it takes for children to reach school and allow them to travel farther, raising enrollment rates Improved roads and footpaths reduce the time required for households to fetch fuel and water and to carry out other tasks, lowering the opportunity cost of children attending school
Gender Equality (MDG 3 Target 4)	
Gender Interventions (not specified elsewhere)	Reduce violence against women, improve their property and other rights, ensure full access to reproductive health services, including contraception, and improve women's participation in decision-making processes
Agriculture	Improved soils, seeds, and water provision can reduce the time girls spend in the field, freeing them to attend school Increased agricultural production increases the incomes of women farmers
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions for girls (infants and children) lead to better health and education outcomes
Education	Education contributes to increased employment opportunities, improved decision-making, and empowerment of women more broadly
Health	Family planning services facilitate employment and social participation opportunities for women, strengthen partner relationships, and provide a greater sense of well-being and agency
Environment	Women benefit disproportionately from improved management of natural resources, including through time saving and reduced transport burden
Water and Sanitation	Improved access to water generates time savings for women and girls Improved access to water reduces the need to carry heavy loads over long distances, thus improving women's health Increasing access to toilets reduces women's exposure to harassment and improves personal hygiene and well-being
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Women benefit disproportionately from slum upgrading, since it reduces their transport burden and time poverty, improves their health, and provides them with additional income generating opportunities
Energy	Improved access to electricity and fuels reduces the time poverty of women and lowers their daily transport burden
Transport	Improved access to energy creates additional employment opportunities for women Improved transport infrastructure reduces women's time poverty and transport burden Roads improve communication and lower transactions costs, thus increasing employment opportunities for women

Child Mortality (MDG 4 Target 5)	
Health Interventions	Provide the neonatal integrated package of interventions, immunization, the integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI), and the range of preventative approaches to public health (such as mass distribution of insecticide-treated bednets). Family planning can delay first births and reduce very short and very long birth intervals, thereby improving child health outcomes. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG.
Agriculture	Increased rural incomes and food availability lead to improved health outcomes
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions for pregnant women lead to higher birth weight, an important determinant of child survival
Education	Micronutrient supplementation and complementary feeding reduce child mortality Secondary education increases the age of marriage, lowers fertility rates, and increases care seeking for child illnesses Adult literacy programs increase awareness of the causes and prevention of child mortality
Gender Equality	Women's empowerment leads in multiple ways to greater awareness of child health issues
Environment	Reducing pollution of water and air can lower child morbidity and mortality
Water and Sanitation	Access to sanitation and improved hygiene reduce incidence of waterborne disease
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Slum upgrading, improved urban infrastructure, and access to basic services (including solid waste disposal) can reduce exposure to pollutants and thereby reduce child mortality rates Road curbing and street lighting can reduce traffic deaths
Science and Technology	ICT improves diffusion of hygiene education and thereby lowers child mortality
Energy	Access to higher education increases the supply of health workers Reducing indoor air pollution through improved cooking fuels and stoves decreases respiratory infections Improved access to energy allows households to boil water, thus reducing incidence of waterborne diseases
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure increases access to health care clinics and services and reduces cost for health care workers to serve rural areas

Maternal Mortality (MDG 5 Target 6)	
Health Interventions	Ensure access to emergency obstetrical care, skilled birth attendance and clean delivery, antenatal care and post-partum counseling, as well as safe abortion (where permitted by law). Access to family planning can reduce the number of unwanted and ill-timed pregnancies, reducing the lifetime exposure to the risk of maternal mortality and preventing recourse to abortion. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG.
Agriculture	Increased rural incomes and food intake lead to improved health outcomes
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions such as iron supplementation for women of reproductive age reduce risk during pregnancy and childbirth
Education	Secondary education increases the age of marriage, contraception use, and access to prenatal care and safe delivery, all of which reduce maternal mortality Adult literacy programs increase awareness of the causes and prevention of maternal mortality
Gender Equality	Women's empowerment leads to greater effective demand for prenatal care and safe delivery
Water and Sanitation	Running water and sanitation facilities are essential for provision of prenatal care and emergency obstetric care Access to sanitation and hygienic behavior improve women's health
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Slum upgrading and security of land tenure improve women's access to health systems and emergency obstetric care

Science and Technology	ICT is critical for providing adequate access to emergency obstetric care
Energy	Access to higher education increases the supply of health workers Improved access to energy services improves communication and transport, which are critical for emergency obstetric care Modern energy services reduce cost for health care workers serving in rural areas
Transport	Feeder roads are critical for providing timely access to emergency obstetric care Improved transport infrastructure reduces the cost for health care workers serving in rural areas

HIV/AIDS (MDG 6 Target 7)

Health Interventions	Provide comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programs, orphan support, voluntary counseling and testing, harm reduction for drug users, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, antiretroviral treatment, and treatment of opportunistic infections. Linking Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS program efforts can increase effectiveness, coverage and efficiency of service delivery. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG.
Agriculture	Increased agricultural incomes improve access to prevention services
Nutrition	Adequate nutrition can improve survival and quality of life of patients with HIV/AIDS
Education	Education and literacy programs increase awareness of ways to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS
Gender Equality	Women's empowerment leads to greater effective demand for HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, including the ability to negotiate safe sexual practices
Water and Sanitation	Improving access to clean water and sanitation improves the nutritional status of HIV/AIDS patients
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Slum upgrading and security of land tenure improve access to HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention
Science and Technology	Scientific research can improve diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS
Energy	ICT is critical for media-based HIV/AIDS prevention Access to higher education increases the supply of health workers Electricity and modern energy services support functioning health clinics and hospitals Modern energy services increase incentives for health care workers to work in rural areas
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure facilitates treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS Improved transport infrastructure reduces cost for health workers serving in rural areas

Malaria and other major diseases (MDG 6 Target 8)

Health Interventions	MALARIA: Combine comprehensive use of insecticide-treated bednets, indoor-residual spraying where appropriate, effective malaria treatment (using artemisinin combination therapies where appropriate), and epidemic control measures. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG. TUBERCULOSIS: Contain tuberculosis through promotion of vaccines, Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course (DOTS) protocol, and DOTS-plus for multi-drug resistant tuberculosis. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG.
Agriculture	An increase in agricultural incomes improves access and information to ways of preventing and treating malaria
Education	Education and literacy programs increase awareness of ways to prevent and treat malaria and tuberculosis
Gender Equality	Women's empowerment leads to greater effective demand for insecticide-treated nets and malaria and tuberculosis treatment

Environment	In some instances environmental control can contribute to containing malaria and tuberculosis
Water and Sanitation	In some instances improved water management in urban areas can contribute toward containing mosquito breeding sites and transmission
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Improving housing and urban water management infrastructure can reduce the incidence of malaria and especially tuberculosis (which is transmitted in overcrowded slum conditions)
Science and Technology	Slum upgrading improves access to appropriate malaria and tuberculosis treatment
	Research is necessary to develop new drugs and diagnostics for malaria and tuberculosis
	Access to higher education increases the supply of health workers
Energy	Electricity and modern energy services improve health care
	Modern energy services reduce cost for health care workers serving in rural areas
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure reduces the cost of distributing bednets
	Improved transport infrastructure increases incentives for health care workers to work in rural areas

Access to Essential Medicines (MDG 8 Target 17)

Health Sector	Improve supply and distribution systems for essential medicines together with strengthened quality control, quality assurance, and programs to promote rational use. Strengthening health systems will be critical to achieving this MDG.
Agriculture	An increase in agricultural incomes makes essential medicines more affordable
Education	Education and literacy programs increase access to and appropriate use of essential medicines
Gender Equality	Women's empowerment leads to greater effective demand for essential medicines of good quality, including reproductive health commodities and supplies
Science and Technology	Research increases the total stock and effectiveness of essential medicines
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure lowers the cost of essential medicines and improves access

Reverse loss of environmental resources (MDG 7 Target 9)

Environmental Interventions	Improve management of natural resources through market mechanisms, strengthened regulation and enforcement, and investments in the management of critical ecosystems
Agriculture	Investments in soil health replenish soils and prevent further land degradation
	Intensive agricultural production is an alternative to slash-and-burn and to the deforestation that results
	Small-scale water management can restore water tables and prevent runoff
Gender Equality	Equal access to property rights allows women, as primary users, to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner
Health	Family planning access reduces total fertility rates to levels people desire, thus mitigating population pressures on the environment
Water and Sanitation	Improved sanitation and sewage treatment can reduce environmental pollution
	Integrated water resources management can ensure sufficient "green water" necessary for ecosystem functioning
	Hydrological monitoring systems can help protect aquifers and freshwater ecosystems from excessive withdrawals
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Slum upgrading and improved urban water and waste management infrastructure reduce environmental pollution

Science and Technology	Research can improve natural resource management (including management of freshwater ecosystems and wetlands, biodiversity conservation)
Energy	Access to modern cooking fuels reduces demand for biomass cooking fuels, thus reducing pressure on marginal lands and forests Improved energy services reduce outdoor air pollution Improved energy services can reduce carbon emissions

Water and Sanitation (MDG 7 Target 10)	
Water and Sanitation	Provide, operate, and maintain water and sanitation infrastructure and services in conjunction with behavior change programs to improve household hygiene
Agriculture	Small-scale water management increases water availability for rural farmers
Education	Education and literacy programs improve hygiene
Gender Equality	Political representation allows women to ensure that access to water is a priority in local decision making
Environment	Improved management of wetlands, water catchment areas, and freshwater ecosystems is critical for ensuring access to drinking water Control of industrial pollution improves drinking water quality
Slum upgrading and urban planning	Slum upgrading reduces water pollution and improves drinking water quality Improved urban infrastructure ensures the separation of sewage from drinking water supplies
Science and Technology	Research can help improve sanitation and water management techniques Access to higher education increases the supply of trained workers to design and manage water supply and sewer infrastructure
Energy	Electricity and improved access to modern fuels are necessary to power water supply infrastructure and water treatment systems
Transport	Improved transport infrastructure facilitates provision, operation, and maintenance of water supply and sanitation systems Improved transport systems reduce the costs of providing hygiene education through community workers

Improve lives of slum dwellers (MDG 7 Target 11)	
Urban Investments and Slum-Upgrading Policies	Scale up slum upgrading programs with the support of improved urban planning and investments in core urban infrastructure as well as basic services
Agriculture	Investing in urban agriculture increases agricultural productivity and the incomes of slum dwellers
Nutrition	Nutrition interventions improve the health outcomes of urban populations
Education	Education and literacy programs improve the employment prospects of slum dwellers
Gender Equality	Equal access to property rights, political representation, and security for girls and women allows women living in slums to improve their lives and the lives of their families
Health	Access to health services reduces the burden of ill health for slum dwellers
Environment	Improving solid waste disposal and water treatment can improve health outcomes
Water and Sanitation	Improved access to water supply and sanitation services can reduce household expenditure on water Sewage treatment can further improve health outcomes in urban areas Storm water drainage systems are improved through sanitation infrastructure, thus minimizing the risk of flooding

Science and Technology	Higher education provides new employment opportunities for the urban poor
Energy	ICT reduces the cost of income-generating activities Improving access to electricity and modern fuels lowers indoor air pollution Access to electricity and modern fuels can lower household expenditure on energy services, thus raising incomes Improved energy services lower the cost of urban transport
Transport	Improved rural transport infrastructure reduces cost of food in urban areas, thus increasing real incomes Improved urban transport infrastructure is critical to enhancing income-generating opportunities as well as access to social services Proper sidewalks and curbing are critical to reduce traffic deaths

Information and Communications Technology (MDG 8 Target 18)

Direct Interventions	Strengthen science advisory mechanisms, invest in higher education and research, promote private sector development, and improve access to communications technologies
Agriculture	Increased agricultural incomes improve access to ICT
Education	Secondary education prepares students for ability to provide, use, and manage ICT
Energy	Electricity is necessary to power ICT applications and to operate research institutions