

***Eliminating World Poverty:
Global Goals and Regional Progress***

***The Global Context:
Progress on the MDGs***



March 2009 Sue Bassett

Lets start with the good
news...



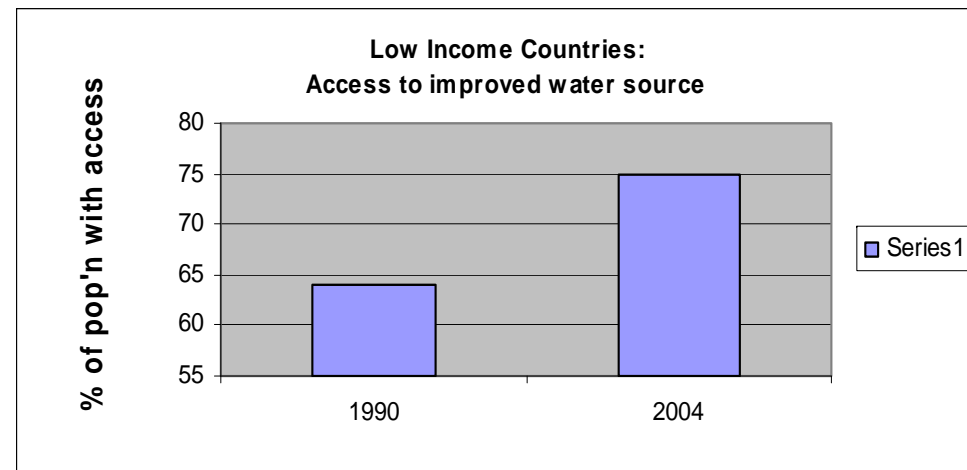
Progress overview:

- Over the last few years there has been remarkable progress in developing countries
- Result of the combined efforts of developing and developed country governments, NGOs, private sector and other international actors
- Profile of development has risen
- Better policy frameworks, centered on achieving the MDGs and backed with increased financial assistance.



Look at this in two ways: globally and a developing country - Malawi

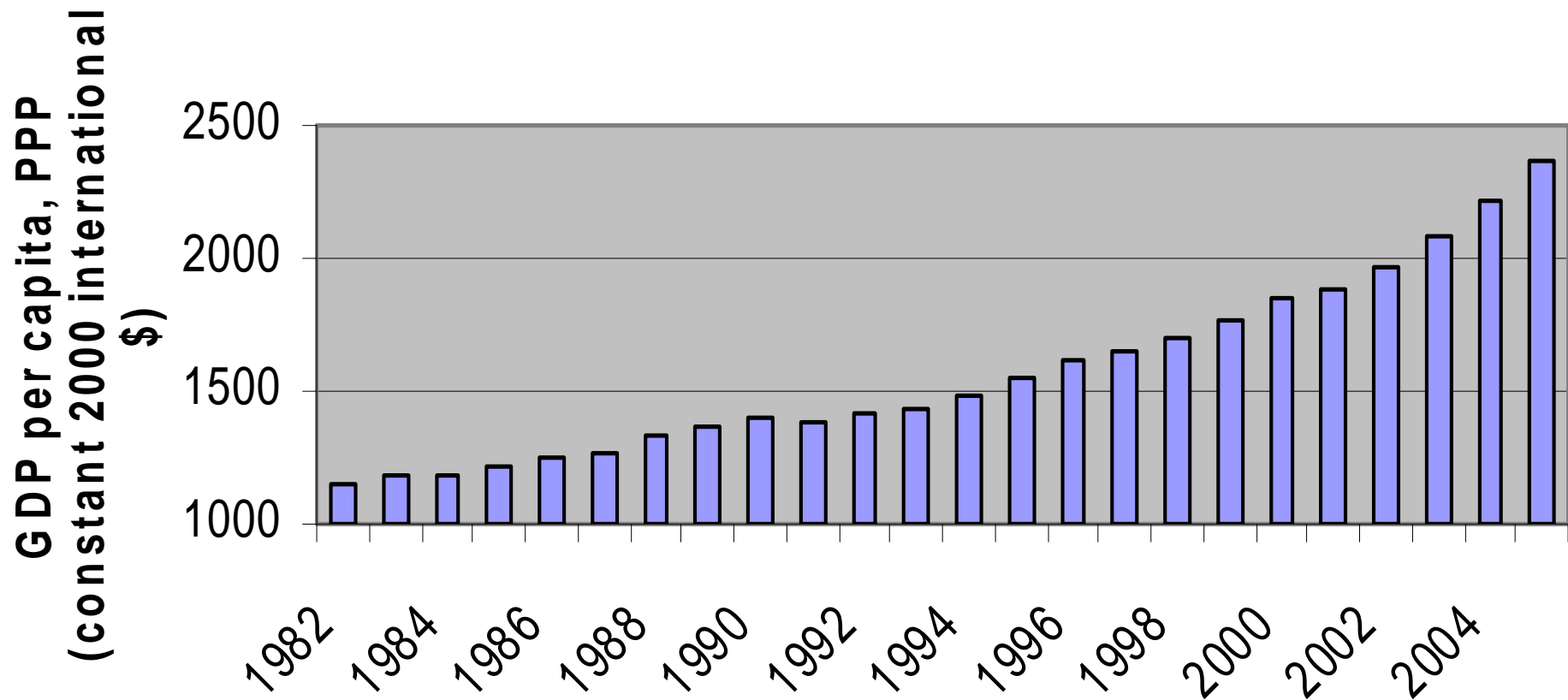
Access to clean water is improving



Progress

In the last decade, real incomes have doubled in poor countries

Low Income Countries: Real Incomes

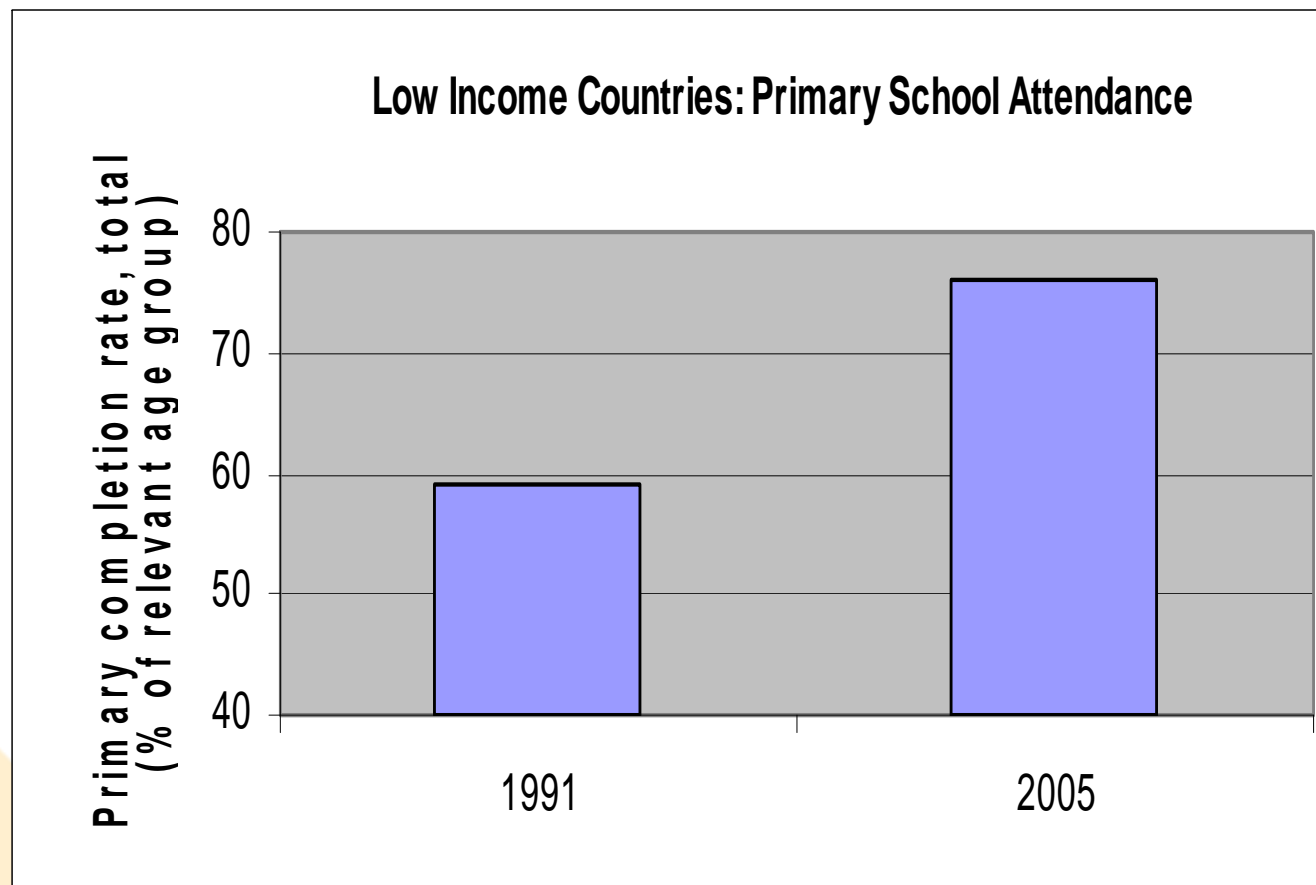


Progress on Killer Diseases

- **Death from measles in Africa has fallen by 75 % since 2000**
- **Nearly 2 million HIV/ AIDS sufferers are now receiving anti-retroviral drug treatment in Africa**

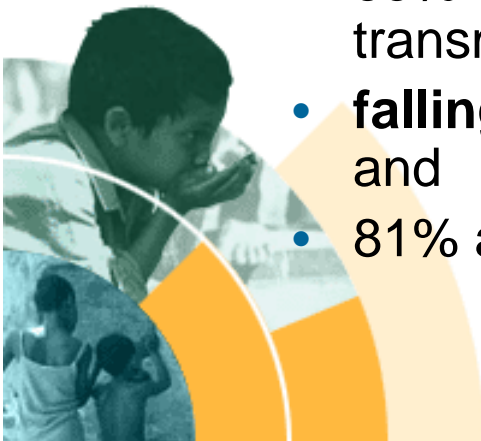


Primary school completion rates are rising



One country's progress: Malawi

- Since 2004 the economy has stabilised from a weak macroeconomic base while spending on **basic services** has increased.
- around 1.5 million households have benefited from the farming inputs subsidy programme each year since 2006, **improving food security and raising agricultural growth;**
 - births attended by skilled health workers has increased from 38% in 2005 to 45% in 2008, contributing to the **decline in maternal mortality ratio;**
 - 83% of health facilities now provide services to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child, up from 7% in 2005;
 - **falling pupil-teacher** ratios from 97:1 in 2007 to 91:1 in 2008; and
 - 81% accessing **safe water**.



But there is still a way to
go....



November 2008 Assessment on progress on the MDGs:

- 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger - poverty on track, hunger lagging
- 2 – Achieve universal primary education - lagging
- 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women – lagging
- 4 – Reduce child mortality – lagging
- 5 – Improve maternal health – off track
- 6 – Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases – lagging
- 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability – water on track, sanitation lagging



So, is future progress at
risk?



Reasons for concern:

- The severity of the global financial crisis may reverse achievements so far
- Longer term challenges are becoming more acute: rising populations, rapid urbanisation, conflict and state fragility and climate change
- Uneven progress across regions - even if all the goals were met there could still be as much as half of the abject poverty there was in 1990



Challenge ahead

Developed countries must keep their commitments to development in terms of:

- levels of development assistance (oda)
- efficiency and effectiveness in delivery (the Paris and Accra Agendas)
- reform of the international system to ensure it is able to respond to today's development needs
- improve the performance of global markets, import and export issues impact profoundly on the poor



Does aid work in meeting the MDGs?

Yes...

- Reduces poverty by increasing economic growth, improving governance and increasing access to public services
- Countries with higher levels of aid generally have higher expenditure on health, education and sanitation, and have lower infant mortality

But...

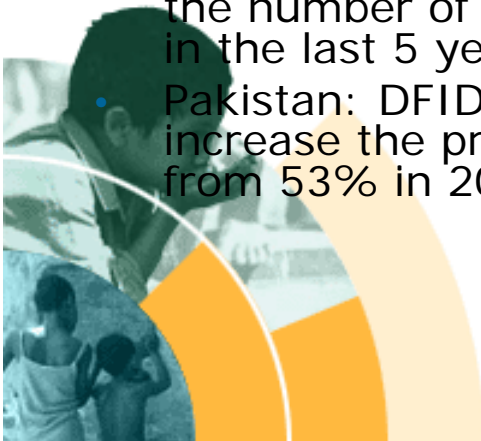
Agricultural policies, trade investment etc also impact on how aid works – need to get all policies working well.



Building public support: Evidence of DFID Impact:

We must tell the success stories in human terms based on impact and results:

- Since 2001 DFID has funded approx 50m bednets, saving an estimated 790,000 lives
- Bangladesh: DFID provided £16m from 2002 to 2006 to an income-generation programme run by the NGO BRAC, reaching 500,000 people. 90% of households reported increased earnings, with incomes rising by 40-56%.
- Afghanistan: DFID's contribution to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund has helped ensure that 5.4 million Afghan children are now gaining an education, over a third of them girls
- Yemen: the enrolment gap between girls and boys in basic education in Yemen has reduced from 30% in 2002 to 19% in 2006.
- Tanzania: Budget support has helped the government treble public spending on education since 2000. As a result 3 million more children are in school, the number of teachers is up by 1/4, and the number of schools is up by 1/5 in the last 5 years.
- Pakistan: DFID funding to seven National Health Programmes has helped increase the proportion of one year olds receiving life saving vaccinations from 53% in 2001 to 71% in 2005.



Final thought:

**A more peaceful, prosperous,
environmentally sustainable and
socially just world brings benefits
for all....**

**....an unequal and divided world
brings conflict over the
distribution and use of natural
resources, money and power.**

