

# Turks & Caicos Islands

## Updated Status Report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Implementation Effort

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Presented to:

**Millennium Development Goals Regional Workshop 2005**

“Creating a Sustainable Framework for the Monitoring of the Achievements of the  
Millennium Development Goals in the Caribbean”

Caribbean Development Bank’s Conference Centre, Barbados  
November 17 and 18, 2005



Prepared by:  
**Department of Economic Planning & Statistics  
& Department of Social Development**

## UPDATED STATUS REPORT ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS

### Summary

Since the adoption of the MDGs from the Millennium Declaration five years ago (September) and ten years before the goals fall due, the TCI has made some strides in implementing the measurement, monitoring and deliverance of some of the indicators. Of the 8 Goals, 18 Targets and 48 Indicators, 22 of these indicators are currently measured and monitored in order to evaluate whether they can deliver the achievement of the goals to which they refer. (See Table 1). Measurement, in some areas, is not as frequent given the only source of reference is surveys or census. In other instances, measurement is up-to-date, hence making monitoring a much simpler task.

The main areas of success were in: Indicators 6 and 7 and Targets 5 and 6. With these accomplishments, Goals 4 and 5 are completely measured and have already been reached. However, there are some indicators which impede the realization of the goals, for example, Indicator 8 "Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds", which is not currently measured; hence the attainment of Target 3 and Goal 2 are encumbered. Areas which need support are enumerated in the priority list below. This position therefore highlights the extent of the effort that is needed to meet the MDGs in these other areas.

The main problem that is faced in the implementation of some of the MDGs is deciding how to measure and achieve these targets and to set up an accountability mechanism to deliver on the set targets, for example Targets 15 and 17. Measurement of disaggregates is also a problem as it relates to urban/rural classification in the case of Indicator 30. Another challenge faced, is the applicability and relevance of some of these indicators to small-island states such as the TCI, for example, Indicator 25 "proportion of land area covered by forest". The TCI does not have "forest" as defined by UN environment standards but the TCI has "tropical dry forest". Therefore, some of these indicators have to be customized with respect to the country.

As a result of the above challenges and the call by CARICOM and other regional and international organizations, the TCI has formed a National Social Indicators and Millennium Development Goals (SIMDG) Committee to deploy the means at hand in order to make good on the promises of these simple but powerful objectives which are the blueprint for achieving the desired end-goal by 2015.

## **GOAL 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger**

In 1999 (before the Millennium Declaration), a comprehensive poverty assessment survey was conducted and no other since then.

The attainment of this goal requires community capacity building activity. This Department of Social Development has outlined a plan for strengthening and facilitating the establishment of community based organizations with a view to having these organizations serve as conduits for the growth of community economic enterprises.

The support of the CDB would be crucial in at least four areas in relation to this goal:

- (a) The provision of funding to support the continuation and expansion of community capacity building activities in communities and with community based organizations.
- (b) Funding to support the compilation of community profiles. These profiles which focus on some fifteen areas of assessment include poverty assessments
- (c) Funding for business start-up / expansion. This would involve increasing the funds currently available through TCINVEST, for small businesses.
- (d) Institutional capacity building. The Department of Social Development formerly Social Welfare Department / Department of Social Services, has only in the last six months embarked on a broadened mandate that includes community capacity building. Most of the existing staff have not been exposed to *participatory learning and action (PLA)* techniques. In order for the Department to facilitate the community capacity building process, re-orientation training will be necessary. This undertaking may also require employing additional expertise (on a short-term basis) to fast-track the process.

## **GOAL 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education**

TCI has approached universal enrollment which is accompanied by efforts to ensure that all children remain in school and receive a high-quality education. There is free public primary and secondary education and subsidized tertiary education with a significant proportion of the recurrent budget allotted to scholarships for tertiary and further education. The primary survival rate is above 90 percent.

## **GOAL 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women**

Steps taken included an assessment of the gender situation by producing a report called "TCI Gender Profile" which includes sex-disaggregated data, where available, on a few broad policy areas: Population, Families and Households, Employment, Education, Health, and Empowerment. There is also a Ministry responsible for gender affairs as well as a Women's Desk. These are the first steps toward easing inequalities between the sexes. Nonetheless, many gaps still remain – in coverage of important topics and indicators (such as poverty and HIV/AIDS). The Gender Profile report was a guide for

stimulating work to address these gaps and to call for improved methods for ensuring that gender becomes a mainstream in the data collection process as a step toward appreciating the importance of and improving gender statistics at the national level. It also highlighted that; in general, there are fewer males than females in the population and should be taken into consideration when assessing the existence of a gender gap. Some of the highlights were as follows:

- ✓ Women now comprise an increasing share of the labour force – at least one-third.
- ✓ Women, especially younger women, experience more unemployment than men.
- ✓ Service industries have expanded opportunities for women's participation in the labour force.
- ✓ By law, all students are required to attend school.
- ✓ Women made significant gains in higher/tertiary education – surpassing males.
- ✓ Girls are performing better in Arts and Business than boys, who perform better at the Sciences.
- ✓ Women are significantly under-represented in key decision-making positions in public life and leadership.

#### **GOAL 4: Reduce Child Mortality**

Under-five mortality and infant mortality rates have dropped significantly and stood at zero in 2004. There are programmes in place (hospital and clinics visits for infants, primary school visits, medical exam and immunization of missing vaccines for entry into high school, public and private immunization campaigns) to ensure higher immunization coverage and given the support by the Government, there is no personal cost attached to having an infant or a child immunized against preventable and treatable diseases.

#### **GOAL 5: Improve Maternal Health**

In the most recent 5 years, there was no instance of a woman dying during pregnancy or childbirth. Skilled health personnel attend 100 percent of the births and the Government ensures that this pool is always maintained and provides overseas patient treatment and care if the situation cannot be handled locally.

#### **GOAL 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases**

Prevention efforts are being intensified in order to reach the target. This Goal, however, is an area identified for support as there are problems with measuring the indicators. There are no known deaths to malaria and/or tuberculosis and prevalence of such cases are low (0 in 2004).

## **GOAL 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability**

TCI has committed to the principles of sustainable development and has made efforts to protect its environment. However, rural/urban dis-aggregation remains a problem. Access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation are relatively high (above 90 percent). More than 99 percent of the households in the TCI have secure tenure. These results are for 2001 and need updating with the conduct of surveys.

The increase in the population will result in greater demands on the carrying capacity of the environment. The community capacity building model being used by the Department of Social Development places a strong emphasis on environmental sustainability. Population increases in given locations, resulting from external migration as well as the displacement of persons already resident in the islands, demand that measures be put in place to protect against depletion of the tropical dry forest cover in areas still relatively well covered.

To achieve this, as well as to ensure adequate provisions for waste disposal, community capacity building activity will address issues related to environmental sustainability.

CDB support would therefore be needed for projects related to training in environmental protection targeting persons at all economic levels, but directing the community based training at communities in the lesser populated islands while ensuring legislative enforcement of zoning and building codes across all the islands.

## **GOAL 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development**

TCI has done a lot to ensure its own development by raising revenue locally and sustaining a positive rate of economic growth. This has resulted in less dependence on support through aid.

## LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS REQUIRING SUPPORT IN THE NEXT PHASE OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IMPLEMENTATION

### Summary:

- ✓ Goal 1, Targets 1 and 2, Indicators 1-5
- ✓ Goal 6, Target 7, Indicators 18-20
- ✓ Goal 7, Target 9, Indicators 25-29

Support is mainly needed in building the capacity to measure these indicators.

### Detailed in order of goal priority:

GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS FROM THE MILLENNIUM DECLARATION	
<b>GOAL 6:</b>	<b>COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES</b>
<b>TARGET 7:</b>	<i>Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years</li> <li>19. Condom use rate of the contraceptive prevalence rate</li> <li>19A. Condom use at last high-risk sex</li> <li>19B. Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS</li> <li>19C. Contraceptive prevalence rate</li> <li>20. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years</li> </ul>

GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS FROM THE MILLENNIUM DECLARATION	
<b>GOAL 1:</b>	<b>ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY &amp; HUNGER</b>
<b>TARGET 1:</b>	<i>Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.</i>
	<p style="margin: 0;"><b>INDICATORS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day</li> <li>1A. Poverty</li> <li>2. Poverty Gap Ratio [incidence x dept of poverty]</li> <li>3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption</li> </ul>
<b>TARGET 2:</b>	<i>Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age</li> <li>5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption</li> </ul>

GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS FROM THE MILLENNIUM DECLARATION	
<b>GOAL 7:</b>	<b>ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</b>
<b>TARGET 9:</b>	<i>Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25. Proportion of land area covered by forest</li> <li>26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area</li> <li>27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)</li> <li>28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP) ton</li> <li>29. Proportion of population using solid fuels</li> </ul>

The above list is by no means exhaustive but is the priority list. Table 1 (next page) shows the current status on the TCI with respect to the MDGs.

**TABLE 1: AVAILABLE DATA ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Notes to Table:

... indicates 'not available' and, in some cases, for example, 2005, indicates not yet collected.

1i, 1ii, 24a, 26a are substitute indicators from available data.

GOALS, TARGETS AND INDICATORS FROM THE MILLENNIUM DECLARATION		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY &amp; HUNGER</b>									
<b>TARGET 1:</b>	<i>Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.</i>								
	<b>INDICATORS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS:</b>								
	1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day (annual expenditure was less than the cost of meeting their minimal food and other basic requirements or less than US\$2,423.74 – poverty line (879.65; indigence line + 1544.12; per capita non-food expenditure of the two poorest quintiles)	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1i. Foster, Greer, Thorbecke (FGT <sub>2</sub> ) (measure of the severity of poverty; more refined and sensitive measure of the differences among persons below the poverty line and the distribution of these persons. Proportion of the poor who are very poor relatively to the mildly poor).	...	2.6	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1ii. Gini Ratio/Index (measures the inequality in the distribution of income in the population and is reflected diagrammatically by the Lorenz curve. The Gini Ratio, which ranges from 0 to 1, approaches 1, the more skewed is the distribution of expenditure.)	...	0.37	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1A. Poverty Headcount Ratio (percentage of population below the national poverty line)	...	25.9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	2. Poverty Gap Ratio [incidence x dept of poverty]	...	5.7	...	...	...	...	...	...
	3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption (US\$)	...	1,544	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 2:</b>	<i>Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.</i>								
	4. Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

<b>GOAL 2:</b>	<b>ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION</b>								
<b>TARGET 3:</b>	<i>Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.</i>								
	6. Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%)	84.37	91.33	91.44	80.42	66.69	72.03	67.11	...
	7. Proportion of Pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5	86.58	86.54	90.20	84.11	88.68	92.88	90.68	...
	8. Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>GOAL 3:</b>	<b>PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN</b>								
<b>TARGET 4:</b>	<i>Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.</i>								
	9. Ratio of girls to (100) boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education								
	9a. Ratio of girls to (100) boys in primary	101	103	95	89	97	97	99	...
	9b. Ratio of girls to (100) boys in secondary	104	110	114	96	97	96	93	...
	9c. Ratio of girls to (100) boys in tertiary education	...	...	...	194	206	302	...	...
	10. Ratio of literate women to men, 15-24 years old	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	11. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	12. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament	...	15	11.1	11.1	11.1	17.6	22.2	...
<b>GOAL 4:</b>	<b>REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY</b>								
<b>TARGET 5:</b>	<i>Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.</i>								
	13. Under-five mortality rate	3.7	13.7	17.2	18.5	13.1	9.4	0.0	...
	14. Infant mortality rate	3.7	3.4	0.0	7.4	13.1	9.4	0.0	...
	15. Proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles	...	...	...	49.94	31.38	27.92	23.32	...
<b>GOAL 5:</b>	<b>IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH</b>								
<b>TARGET 6:</b>	<i>Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015 the maternal mortality ratio.</i>								

	16. Maternal mortality ratio	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
	17. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	...
<b>GOAL 6:</b>	<b>COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES</b>								
<b>TARGET 7:</b>	<i>Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.</i>								
	18. HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19. Condom use rate of the contraceptive prevalence rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19A. Condom use at last high-risk sex	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19B. Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19C. Contraceptive prevalence rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	20. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 8:</b>	<i>Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.</i>								
	21. Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria								
	21a. Prevalence of malaria cases	...	...	...	0	9.57	4.53	0	...
	21b. Death rate associated with malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
	22. Proportion of population in malaria-risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	23. Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis								
	23a. Prevalence of tuberculosis cases	...	...	...	15.09	0	31.74	11.5	...
	23b. Death rate associated with tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
	24. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under DOTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	24a. Number of children immunized against TB	...	...	...	360	308	341	168	...
<b>GOAL 7:</b>	<b>ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</b>								
<b>TARGET 9:</b>	<i>Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</i>								
	25. Proportion of land area covered by forest	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	26a. Ratio of protected marine area to total marine area (km <sup>2</sup> )	...	...	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	...
	27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP) ton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	29. Proportion of population using solid fuels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 10:</b>	<i>Halve by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</i>								
	30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural (%)	...	...	...	95.77	...	...	...	...
	31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural (%)	...	...	...	95.87	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 11:</b>	<i>By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the levels of at least 100 million slum dwellers.</i>								
	32. Proportion of Households with access to secure tenure (Note: No figure available for slum HHs so HHs with access to secure tenure was computed based on type of tenure i.e. HHs' dwelling was either owned, rented-private, rented-government or rented-free).	...	...	...	99.60	...	...	...	...
<b>GOAL 8:</b>	<b>DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>								
	(Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for small island developing states)								
<b>TARGET 12:</b>	<i>Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.</i>								
	Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction - both nationally and internationally.								
<b>TARGET 13:</b>	<i>Address the special needs of the least developed countries.</i>								

<p>Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports, enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction</p>								
<p><b>TARGET 14:</b></p> <p><i>Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly).</i></p>								
<p><b>TARGET 15:</b></p> <p><i>Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.</i></p>								
<p><b>Official development assistance</b></p>								
<p>33. Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as a percentage of OECD/DAC donor's gross national income</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>34. Proportion of total bilateral, sector allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p><b>Market access</b></p>								
<p>35. Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>36. ODA received in landlocked countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>37. ODA received in small island developing States as proportion of their gross national incomes</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>38. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and from the least developed countries, admitted free of duty</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>39. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<p>40. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product</p>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	41. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	<b>Debt sustainability</b>								
	42. Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	43. Debt relief committed under HIPC initiative	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	44. Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 16:</b>	<i>In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth.</i>								
	45. Unemployment rate for young people aged 15-24 years, each sex and total				60.80	...	...	...	...
	45a. Unemployment rate for young people aged 15-24 years (Women)	...	...	...	69.13	...	...	...	...
	45b. Unemployment rate for young people aged 15-24 years (Men)	...	...	...	64.78	...	...	...	...
	45c. Unemployment rate for young people aged 15-24 years (Total)	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 17:</b>	<i>In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.</i>								
	46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TARGET 18:</b>	<i>In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.</i>								
	47. Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	47a. Residential fixed lines per 100 population	15	16	18	19	17	17	14	...
	47b. Cellular subscribers per 100 population	6	8	10	15	43	88	96	...
	48A. Personal computers in use per 100 population and internet users per 100 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	48B. Internet users per 100 population	3	6	8	10	11	12	11	...

Reference for Table:  
United Nations (2003). Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals. Definitions, Rationale, Concepts and Sources. New York.