

WATER FOR ALL FROM CITY HALL

Erna Witoelar

UN Special Ambassador for the Millennium
Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific *



VOICES AGAINST POVERTY

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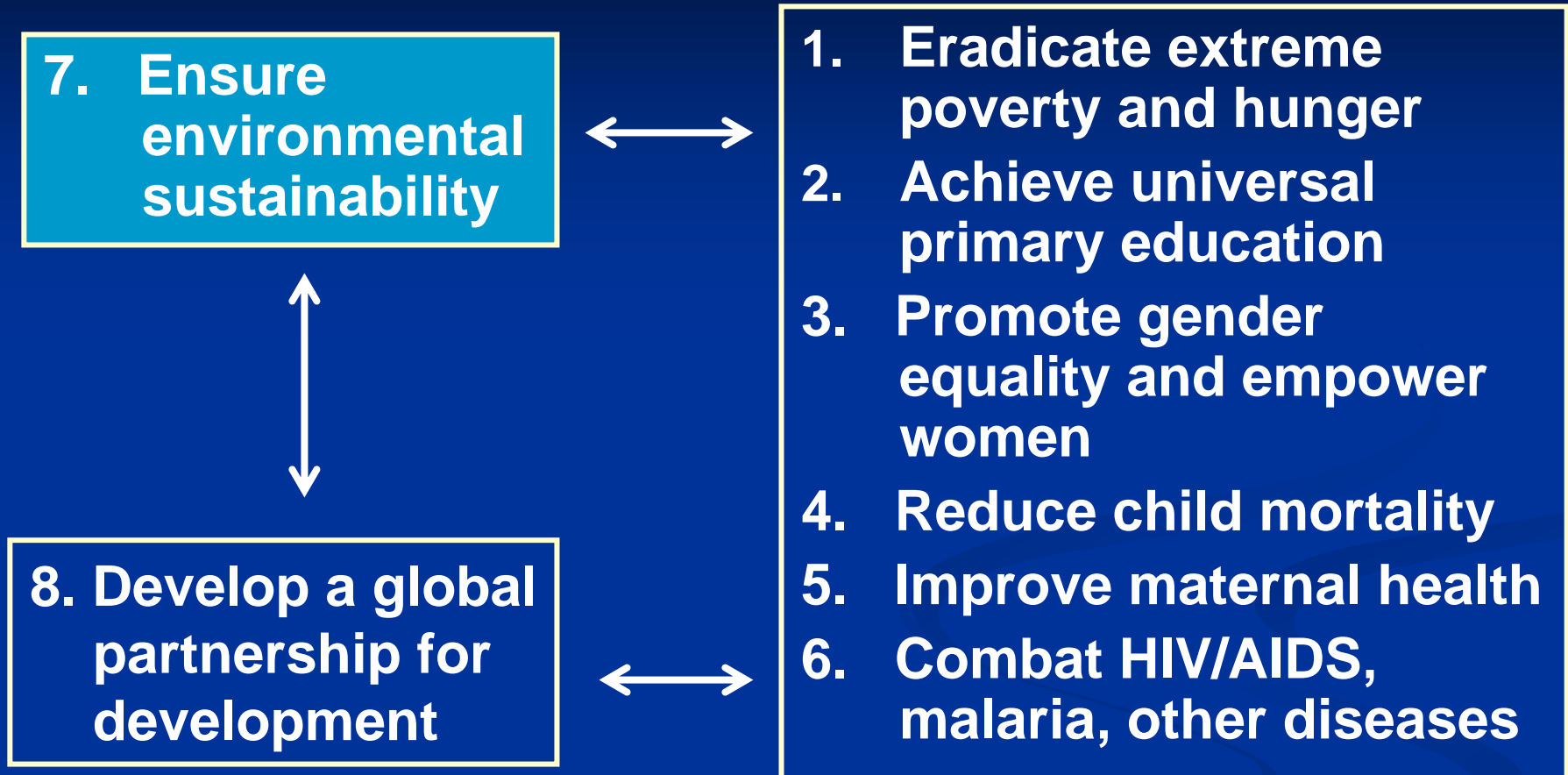
WATER FOR ALL: A Millennium Development Goal Target for Cities

Millennium Declaration:

- At the UN Millennium Summit in Sept 2000, 189 member states adopted the **Millennium Declaration**, to cooperate on : development and poverty reduction; environment; human rights, peace, security, democracy, good governance, etc
- The Declaration is translated into **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** with specific, concrete, time-bound & quantitative targets for action by 2015

→ the ***“Declaration of Interdependence”***

The MDGs are Interdependent



- *environmental sustainability → the root of achieving most MDGs.*

- *working towards achieving environmental sustainability will make us closer to achievements of the rest of the Goals*

Ensure Environmental Sustainability: the targets are Inter-related

Target 9: Integrate principles of sustainable development into country policies & programs, and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Target 11: Have achieved, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

All Goal 7 targets are very relevant to cities, not just in developing countries but also in the developed ones.

Interdependence of MDGs:

- *Holistic approach*: working towards achieving 1 Goal will make us closer to achievements of the rest & would reduce costs of achieving the others.
- *Synergistic relationships*: when a single intervention can achieve advances in multiple goals across sectors, it's much more cost-effective
- *Multi-stakeholder approach*: none of the Goals are achieved by governments alone, private sector & civil society have been engaged in all of them for a long time & should continue to be so.

Water, Environment & Poverty

- ✓ Water scarcity and pollution have complex impacts on income poverty & environmental degradation through:
 - lowering industrial & agricultural productivities;
 - preventing productive activities and income, especially of the poor;
 - increasing burden to get water and diverting women's productive time to fetch water;
 - depleting forests, biodiversities, aquatic ecosystems, etc;
- ✓ Reducing poverty & recovering environmental degradation will improve water availability and accessibility.

Water, Environment and Health

- ✓ More than 3 million children die every year caused by waterborne diseases. This is worsen by disasters with even less access to clean water & sanitation, and more contaminated water;
- ✓ The burden of finding and carrying water is more damaging to women's health and increasing the risk during pregnancy and child birth;
- ✓ Environmentally destroyed watersheds become breeding grounds for mosquitoes and worms, which increase susceptibility to a wide range of diseases, from diarrhea to malaria;
- ✓ An integrated approach to clean up water resources & surrounding environment for better public health will significantly increase access in water services.

MDGs in Asia & Pacific: Access to Improved Drinking Water

	Number of people in region lacking access (millions)	Share of all unserved living in indicated region (percent)
Eastern Asia	303	28%
South Asia	234	22%
Southeast Asia	115	11%
Western Asia	23	2%
Eurasia	20	2%
Oceania	3	<1%
Total	698	65%
Rest of the world	378	35%

MDGs in Asia & Pacific: Access to Improved Sanitation

	Number of people in region lacking access (millions)	Share of all unserved living in indicated region (percent)
Eastern Asia	779	29%
South Asia	938	36%
Southeast Asia	208	8%
Western Asia	38	1%
Eurasia	50	2%
Oceania	3	<1%
Total	2,016	79%
Rest of the world	634	21%

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program 2004



The Role of City Hall: Achieving MDGs in Cities

The Urban Perspective of MDGs

- In 2006, for the first time in human history the world's population will be predominantly urban, as urbanization is an unavoidable process
- Cities are becoming home to half of humankind, with half of the world's challenges tried to be faced through achievements of the MDGs
- By 2015, in Asia alone there will be 267 cities with more than 1 million population & 12 of the world's projected 21 mega-cities.
- Urbanization of poverty: in 2001, a third of the global urban population or 924 million people are poor and living in urban slums, and if no action is taken, it may reach 1,4 billion in 2020.

MDGs: Why it depends on the cities?

- MDGs: a national commitment, but their achievements are at the local level. Urban MDG issues are complex and locally-specific that optimally should be addressed comprehensively at the city level.
- The challenges to achieve the MDGs lies in the responses of city authority. As cities in Asia are growing rapidly in population, there will be an increase in demand for better public services including water and sanitation.
- While *globalization* has facilitated the determining position of cities in global economy, *decentralization* has given the authorities more responsibilities and opportunities to improve local public welfare.

MDGs: Why it benefit the cities?

- MDGs are becoming more relevant basis for decentralized or C2C cooperation, either through town twinning or international associations / networks of local authorities.
- Partnerships among cities are cost-effective and sustainable to strengthening capacities of cities in achieving the MDGs in their local contexts, with participation of stakeholders.
- Moreover, cities benefit directly by taking the initiatives to develop their roles as partners in international policy processes addressing global issues of concerns.

Access to Basic Sanitation need a Comprehensive Approach

- Basic sanitation is strongly linked with health & education achievement and income poverty.
- Develop & implement efficient household sanitation system; promote affordable, socially & culturally acceptable technologies & practices
- Improve sanitation in public institutions, especially schools; promote environment & health education, especially safe hygiene practices
- Promote innovative financing & partnerships mechanism → upscale good practices by NGOs, communities, small scale water providers, etc. through public-private-community-partnerships.

Building Synergy to Achieve Water for All from the City Hall

- Whoever are delivering most basic social services, ultimately it's the local government's responsibility to ensure that these services are accessible & affordable for all the people, especially the poor.
- In the case of increasing access to clean water & sanitation, it's everybody's responsibility too, as everybody contribute to water depletion & pollution
- Wise governments do not do what others (private sector, civil society / local communities) can do, but instead develop a more conducive atmosphere for participation and concentrate resources on areas / communities not reached by others.

Conclusion

Meeting the MDGs targets, especially increasing access to safe and clean water and sanitation, requires actions established and facilitated by the city hall.

It is important to invest in sharing knowledge and information, consolidating trust and ensuring good working relationship among all stakeholders, at all levels of governance

Investing in water is investing in all MDGs, as achieving one Goal will bring us closer to achieving the rest of the Goals.



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THANK YOU

**) Presented at MAPES Conference, Melbourne, Australia, May 9,
2006*