

## Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

### Snapshots

- Despite the global financial crisis, a majority of the region's economies achieved declining poverty rates, but the latest poverty headcount ratios remain over 20% in eight economies, including three of the region's most populous ones.
- The depth of poverty also declined significantly. While many poor people are moving out of extreme poverty, a lot remain moderately poor.
- While most economies are able to significantly lower their proportions of working poor, many still have working poverty rates above 10% and vulnerability rates above 50%.
- A majority of the economies reduced their proportions of underweight or malnourished children and undernourished populations, although the most recent rates of child malnourishment and undernourished remain high in many economies—above 20% and above 10%, respectively.

### Introduction

Goal 1 has three targets:

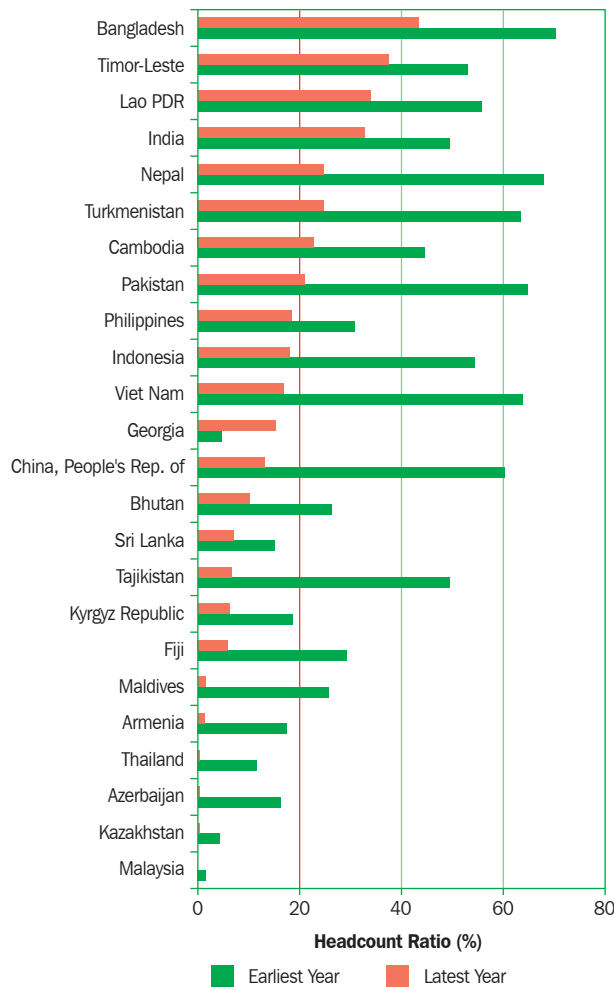
- 1.A: *Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.* The “dollar-a-day” poverty threshold is a purchasing power parity (PPP) adjusted dollar that has the same purchasing power in all countries. The threshold was reviewed and increased to \$1.25 (PPP) at 2005 prices. For convenience it is still referred to by its old name.
- 1.B: *Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.* Measures for this target are the employment-to-population ratio, the percentage of workers living on less than \$1.25 a day, and the proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment. The first indicator is a measure of the ability to provide employment and the other two are indicators of decent work.
- 1.C: *Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.* Hunger and malnutrition are measured by the percentage of children under 5 years of age who are underweight (malnourished) and the proportion of population consuming less than the daily minimum energy requirement (undernourished).

### Key Trends

**Extreme poverty continued to decline despite the global financial crisis, but remained over 20% in some large economies.** People living on less than \$1.25 a day are considered to be extremely poor. Based on the latest estimates (Figure 1.1) the share of people under the \$1.25-a-day poverty line declined in all economies except Georgia. However, eight of the region's economies still had rates of extreme poverty that were over 20%, including three of the most populous—Bangladesh (43.3%), India (32.7%), and Pakistan (21.0%). While Asia and the Pacific has achieved a significant reduction in extreme poverty, the region remains home to about two-thirds of the world's extremely poor.

Figure 1.2 shows the annualized percentage point change in the proportion of population that is extremely poor. Turkmenistan's progress was the most impressive, with a 7.7 percentage point reduction per year. Bhutan, Fiji, the Maldives, Nepal, Tajikistan, and Viet Nam also made significant annual reductions. The extreme poverty rate declined by 2.6 percentage points annually in the People's Republic of China (PRC), the region's most populous economy; and in Pakistan, the rate declined by 2.6 percentage points; Indonesia, by 1.8; Bangladesh, by 1.5; and India, by 1.0. The PRC had the largest decline in the total number of extremely poor people, with annual reductions of 28.3 million extreme poor during

Figure 1.1 Proportion of Population Living on Less than \$1.25 a Day, Earliest (1990–2003) and Latest (1996–2010) Years (%)

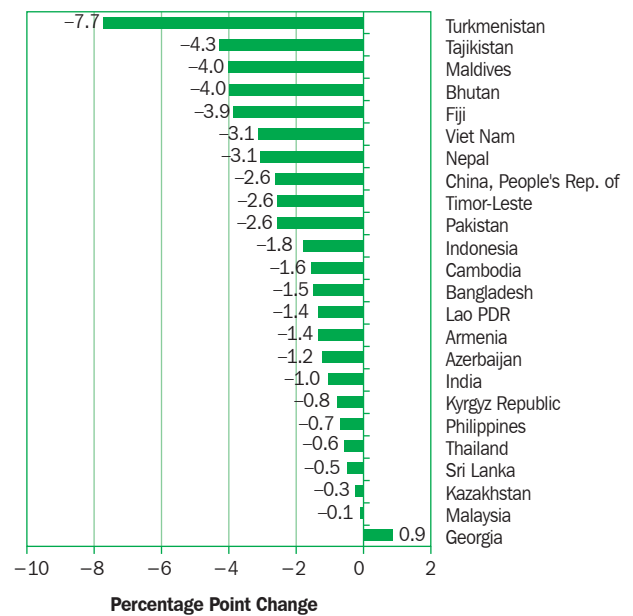


Source: Table 1.1.

1990–2008; next was India, with annual decreases of 4.2 million during 1994–2010. The annual reduction in Sri Lanka’s extreme poverty rate is smaller than that in other South Asian countries, but its rate for the latest year (2007) is much lower than that in large countries such as Bangladesh and India.

Sustained growth despite the global financial crisis was one of the main drivers of poverty reduction in the region and most of its economies with declining extreme poverty rates. Nepal presents an interesting case. During 1996–2010, its extreme poverty declined from 68.0% to 24.8%. This is equivalent to a 3 percentage point decline per year, but annual growth in per capita gross domestic product (GDP) was roughly 2% in the same period, raising the question: What could have accounted for the declining poverty? The Nepal 2010 MDG Report may provide an answer, as it indicates that remittances played an important role (Government of Nepal 2010). Remittances increase per capita income, and the

Figure 1.2 Annual Percentage Point Change in Proportion of Population Living on Less than \$1.25 a Day (percentage points)



Source: Table 1.1.

report indicates that even the remote areas and the poorest received remittances. About 1.4 million households (or about 30%) received remittances in 2008. Inequality in Nepal also declined by 2.4 percentage points during the same period, which could have a positive effect on poverty.

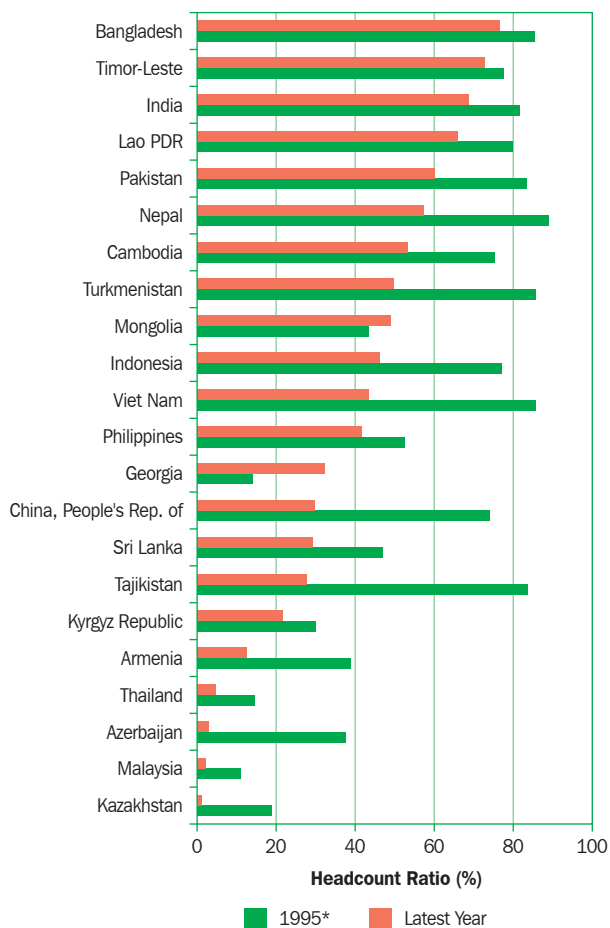
However, in Georgia, growth has not been translated into lower extreme poverty. In fact, the opposite has occurred, despite the government’s efforts to reduce poverty. The Georgia Human Development Report 2008 indicates possible reasons, including (1) shocks such as flooding in rural areas and closure of the Russian market to selected Georgian products, which affected the most vulnerable groups of society more severely than the rest of the population; (2) the declining share in GDP of agriculture, which employs half of the population; (3) social payments that are not well targeted; and (4) taxes and high inflation that reduce the poor’s disposable income for consumption (UNDP 2008).

While growth has been robust in most economies, the gains were not equally distributed across subpopulations. Rising inequality has a negative effect on poverty reduction, a finding that is highlighted in the *Asian Development Outlook 2012* theme chapter on inequality (ADB 2012). To further illustrate, based on estimates in MDG Table 1.1 and Regional Table 1.14, several of the economies that enjoyed an improved income distribution (or reduced inequality as measured by the Gini coefficient) showed significant progress in poverty reduction. These include

the Maldives (4.0 percentage point reduction annually), Fiji (3.9 percentage point), and Viet Nam (3.1 percentage point). Economies that experienced rising inequality could have achieved greater poverty reduction if their inequality had declined or at least remained the same. For example, in Bangladesh, the Gini coefficient increased from 27.6 to 32.1 during 1992–2010, but if the distribution of income had remained as it was in 1992, then extreme poverty could have declined by about 7 percentage points more during the same period, holding all other things constant.

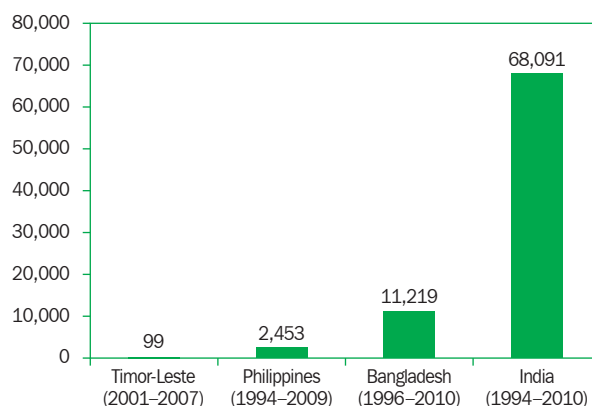
Figure 1.3 presents the proportion of population below the \$2-a-day poverty line. The ratios at this poverty line declined in all economies except Georgia. Interestingly, while these ratios also declined in Bangladesh, India, the Philippines, and Timor-Leste, the number of poor living on less than \$2 a day actually increased (Figure 1.4) because in these countries, population growth outpaced poverty reduction measured at the \$2-a-day poverty line.

Figure 1.3 Proportion of Population Living on Less than \$2 a Day, 1995\* and Latest (1998–2009) Years (%)



Note: \* = refers to 1993–2001.  
Source: Regional Table 1.14.

Figure 1.4 Increase in People (in thousands) Living Below \$2-a-Day Poverty Line in Selected Economies



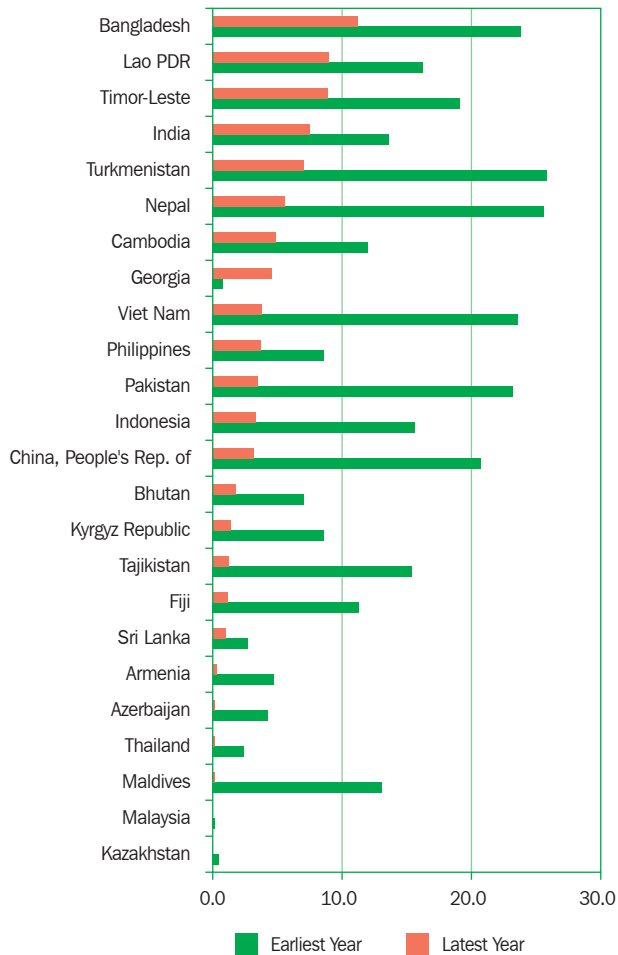
Source: Derived using Regional Table 1.14 and population data from PovcalNet Database.

A majority of the economies have already achieved the poverty reduction target. Of the 24 economies for which data are available, 17 have achieved the poverty target and Cambodia is very close to reaching the target by 2015. However, Bangladesh, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), the Philippines, and Timor-Leste are progressing only slowly toward achieving the target, while Georgia is regressing and might not meet the target by 2015.

**Depth of poverty also declined significantly.** Poverty gap ratios, which reflect both the severity and incidence of poverty, declined in all economies for which data are available, except Georgia (Figure 1.5). A low poverty gap means a greater ease of bringing people above the poverty line. Despite significant declines in poverty gaps, they remain relatively high in some countries—Bangladesh (11.2%), the Lao PDR (9%), Timor-Leste (8.9%), India (7.5%), and Turkmenistan (7%) have the highest poverty gaps in the region.

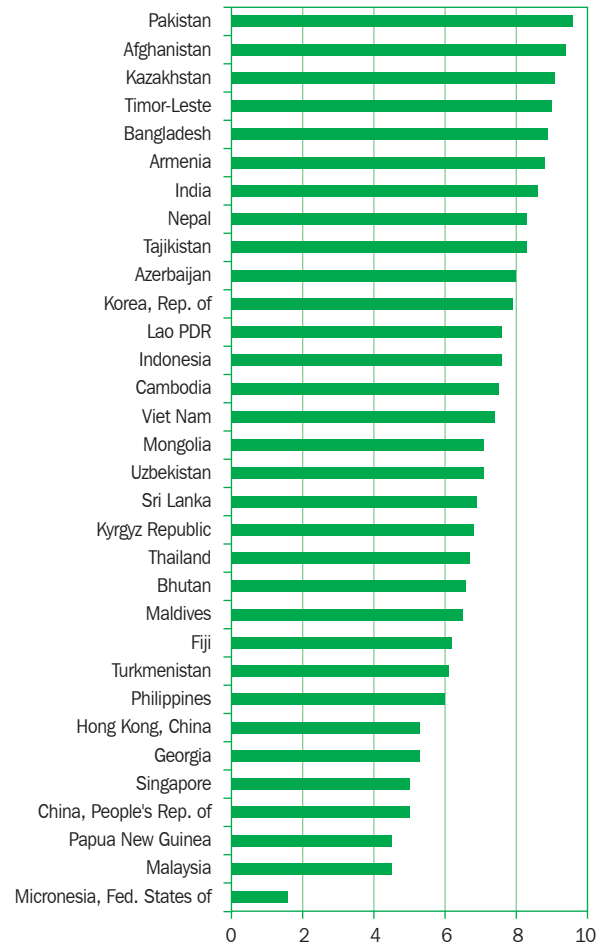
In relation to the poverty gaps, it is easier for countries to lift people over the \$1.25-a-day line of extreme poverty than to continue to move them over the \$2-a-day poverty line. In other words, while people are moving out of extreme poverty, they remain poor. People between the two lines are vulnerable because social payments and poverty reduction efforts are often directed toward the extreme poor and not the moderate poor. Wan and Sebastian (2011) indicate that, during 2005–2008 in Asia and the Pacific, the number of moderate poor (people living between the \$1.25- and \$2-a-day poverty lines) declined by only 18.4 million while the reduction in the extreme poor was 150 million.

Figure 1.5 Poverty Gap Ratios, Earliest (1990–2003) and Latest (1996–2010) Years (%)



Source: Table 1.1.

Figure 1.6 Share of Poorest Quintile in National Income or Consumption, 1996–2010 (%)



Source: Table 1.1.

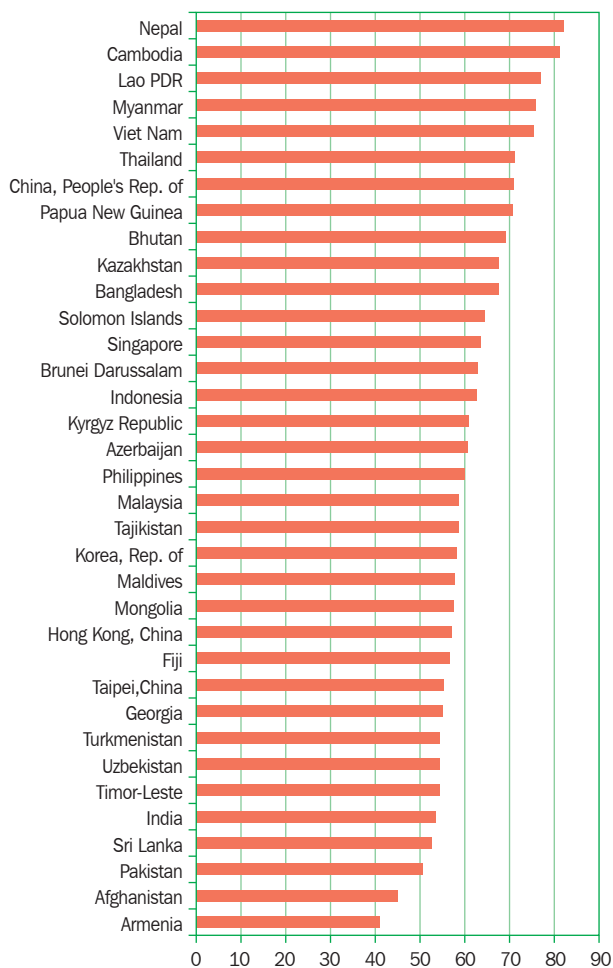
**The poorest quintile's share of national income or consumption remains low.** The share that the bottom 20% of the population has of national income or consumption remains below 10% in all developing economies for which data are available. Figure 1.6 presents the share of the bottom 20% of national income or consumption for the latest available year. It is not surprising that the economies with the lowest ratios also have high inequality or Gini coefficients. The income share of the bottom 20% was only 1.6% in the Federated States of Micronesia in 2000; its Gini coefficient for the same period was 61%. In the PRC and Malaysia, where the poorest quintile's income share was less than 5% of national consumption, the Gini coefficients were 42% and 46%, respectively. In Pakistan, whose bottom quintile income share in national consumption is the highest, the Gini is only 30%.

**Much remains to be done in providing quality employment to the poor.**<sup>1</sup> The employment-to-population ratio, which typically falls between 50% and 75%, is an indicator of the ability to provide employment. Figure 1.7 shows that in 2011 most countries are within this range. At the high end of the range are Cambodia and Nepal, with employment-to-population ratios in 2011 exceeding 80%.<sup>2</sup> At the low end are Armenia (40.9%) and Afghanistan (45.1%). The Maldives put on a striking performance as its ratio expanded sharply, by 12.5 percentage points from 1991

1 Previous Key Indicators issues used the national estimates of employment-to-population ratio as gathered from the UNSD-MDG database. For this issue, the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates from its Trend Estimation Model were used. For the proportion of working poor, ILO direct estimates were used except for economies and years with available poverty estimates from the World Bank's PovcalNet database but for which no national working poverty estimate is available. In such cases, estimates are derived from an ILO econometric model.

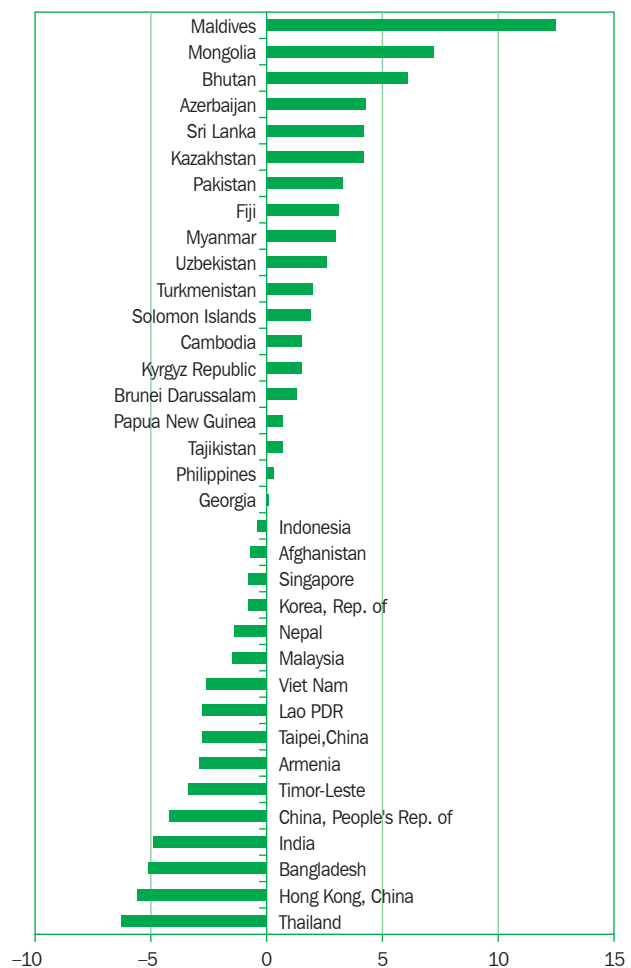
2 No optimal employment-to-population ratio is prescribed. However, the ratio should not be too high or too low. Ratios above 80% often occur in very poor countries and usually indicate an abundance of low quality jobs (ILO 2009).

Figure 1.7 Employment-to-Population Ratio, 2011 (%)



Source: Table 1.2

Figure 1.8 Percentage Point Change in the Employment-to-Population Ratio from 1991 to 2011 (%)



Source: Table 1.2

to 2011 (Figure 1.8). Further investigation reveals that this gain in employment had positive implications for poverty reduction as the proportion of vulnerably employed went up by 16.7 percentage points from 1990 to 2006 accompanied by a 24.8 percentage point drop in the proportion of working poor (Table 1.2).

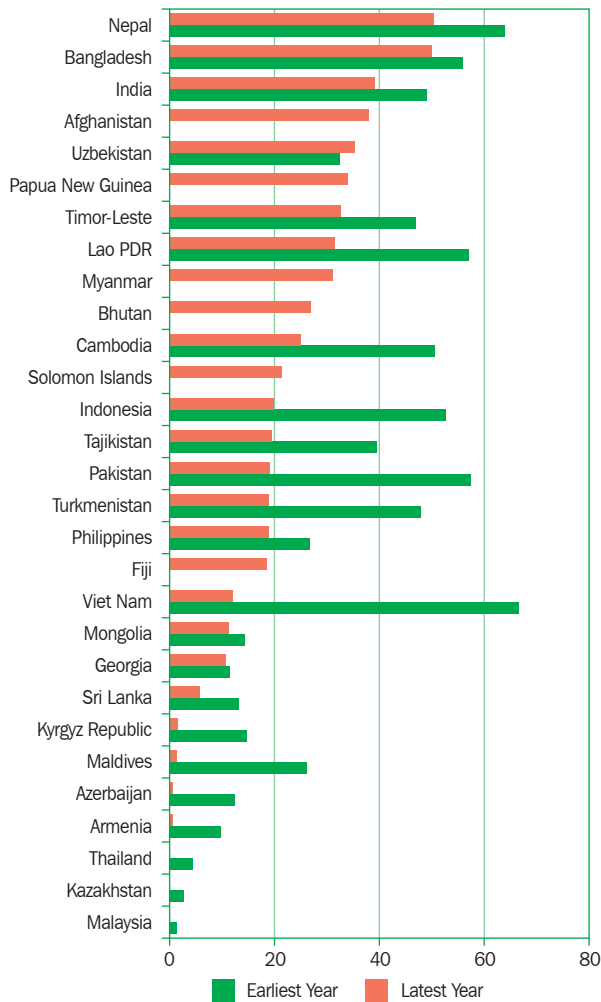
In terms of employment quality, the percentage of employed people living on less than \$1.25-a-day, or the “working poverty rate,” provides an indication of the lack of decent work. Figure 1.9 shows that, except for Uzbekistan, most of the region’s economies (for which data are available) have significantly reduced their proportion of working poor. Most notable are the remarkable declines in Viet Nam (54.7 percentage points from 1993 to 2008), Pakistan (38.2 percentage points from 1991 to 2006), and Indonesia (32.8 percentage points from 1993 to 2005). Thailand, Kazakhstan, and Malaysia achieved a zero working poverty rate in the latest year of available data (2004–2009). Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Maldives, and the Kyrgyz Republic joined the

ranks of achievers as they managed to reduce their working poverty rates to almost zero or to single-digit rates. Despite these gains, 21 economies in the region still have working poverty rates above 10%; three South Asian countries have the highest rates—India (39.2%), Bangladesh (50.1%), and Nepal (50.4%).

The proportion of vulnerable workers remains high in the region, with 11 economies registering latest year proportions over 60% (Figure 1.10).<sup>3</sup> The “vulnerable

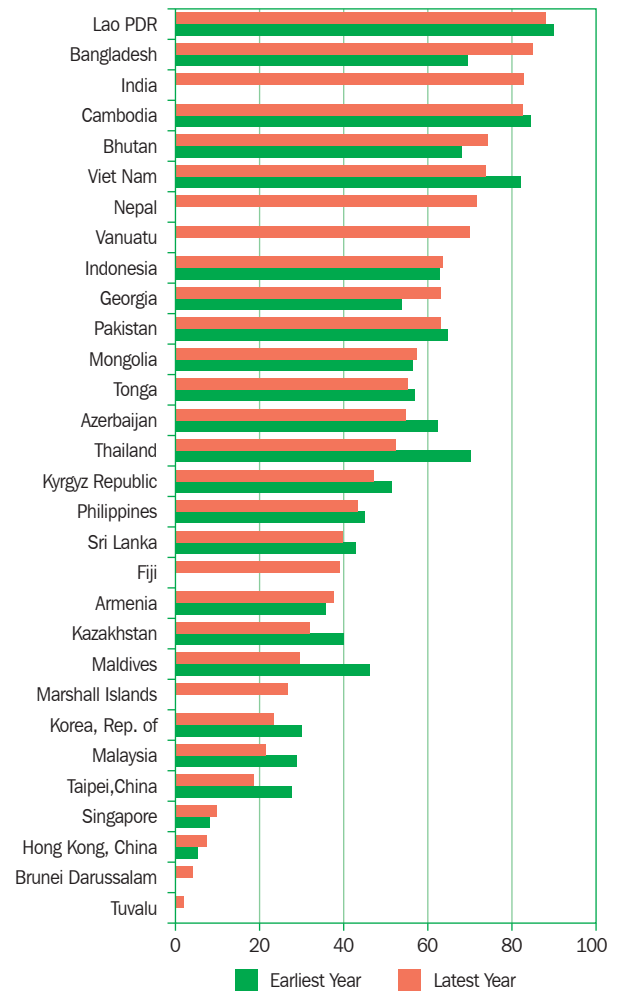
<sup>3</sup> Based on the *UN Millennium Development Goals Report 2011*, the Developing Region’s proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment for 2009 is 60% (UN 2011). “Developing Region” refers to developing countries in Northern Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Caucasus and Central Asia, Eastern Asia, Southern Asia, Southeastern Asia, Western Asia and Oceania. The Report states: “since there is no established convention for the designation of ‘developed’ and ‘developing’ countries or areas in the United Nations system, this distinction is made for the purposes of statistical analysis only.” See [mdgs.un.org](http://mdgs.un.org) for the complete list of countries in the “Developing Region.”

Figure 1.9 Proportion of Employed People Living Below \$1.25 a Day, Earliest (1991–2002) and Latest (1996–2009) Years (%)



Source: Table 1.2.

Figure 1.10 Proportion of Own-Account and Contributing Family Workers in Total Employment, Earliest (1990–2007) and Latest (1991–2009) Years (%)



Source: Table 1.2.

workers” category includes own-account and contributing family workers (ILO 2012b). In Bangladesh, conditions worsened as the share of vulnerably employed people expanded by 15.6 percentage points from 1996 to 2005. Conversely, two countries achieved a double-digit contraction in the share of employed people in vulnerable conditions—the Maldives by 16.7 percentage points from 1990 to 2006, and Thailand by 17.8 percentage points from 1990 to 2009.

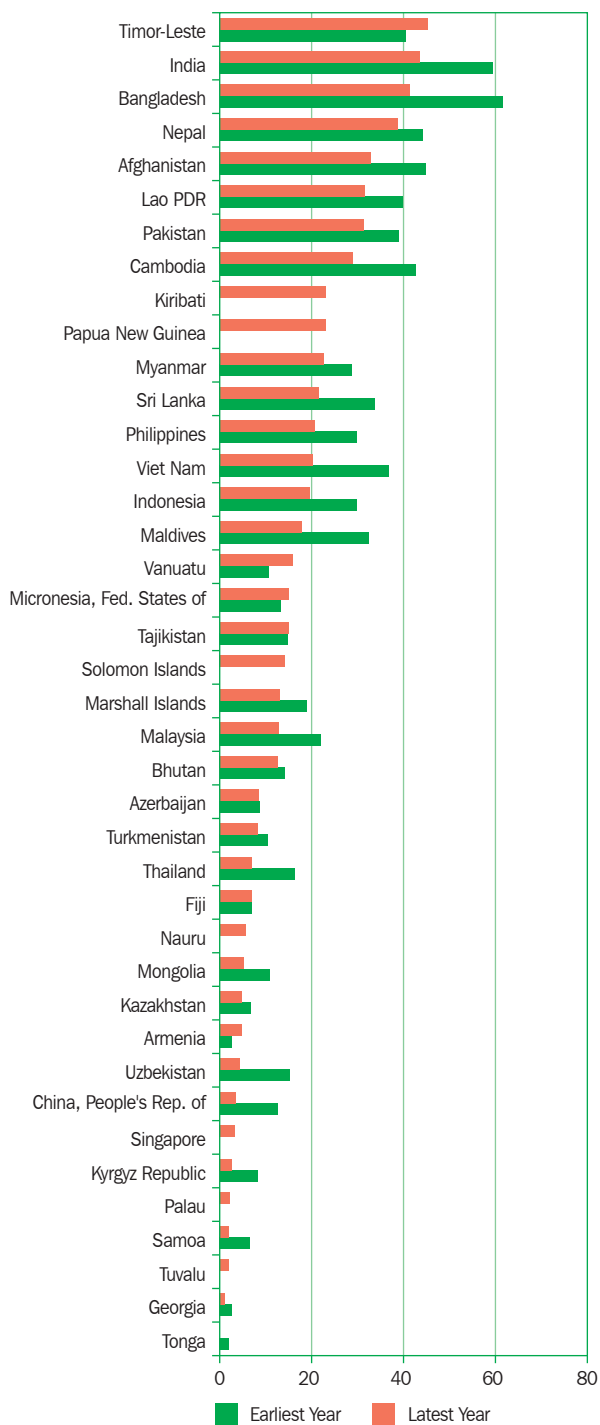
**Decent gains in curbing hunger.** The MDG indicators for hunger and malnutrition are the proportion of under-5 children who are underweight (malnourished) and the proportion of population consuming less than the daily minimum energy requirement (undernourished). Substantial progress is recorded in curbing malnourishment, as the proportion from the earliest to latest years dropped by at least 10 percentage points in nine economies (Figure 1.11

and Table 1.3): Bangladesh (20.2), Viet Nam (16.7), India (16.0), the Maldives (14.7), Cambodia (13.6), Sri Lanka (12.2), Afghanistan (12.0), Uzbekistan (10.9), and Indonesia (10.2). Further, the proportion of malnourished children is generally declining except in Armenia, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu, which registered slight or marginal increases. However, some economies still have over 30%<sup>4</sup> of their children malnourished in the latest year for which data are available (1999–2011), including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, the Lao PDR, Pakistan, and Timor-Leste. Malnutrition among children is a serious concern because it impacts their physical and mental development, and (eventually) their capacity to become productive members of the society.

4 UN (2011) gives the developing region’s proportion of malnourished children in 2009 as 23%.



Figure 1.11 Prevalence of Underweight Children under Five Years of Age, Earliest (1989–2005) and Latest (1999–2011) Years (%)



Source: Table 1.3.

For undernourishment, Georgia put on a momentous performance as the proportion of its population below the minimum level of dietary energy consumption plummeted by as much as 52 percentage points from the earliest (between 1990 and 1992) to the

latest year (between 2006 and 2008) (Table 1.3). Other economies that have made significant strides in reducing the proportion of undernourished population are Armenia (24 percentage points), Azerbaijan (22–27 percentage points), and Viet Nam (20 percentage points). Given that most economies have managed to lessen their shares of undernourished population, Uzbekistan's situation is rather bleak as its share grew, albeit slightly, by 6 percentage points. Among 31 developing economies with available data in 2006–2008, 20 still have 10% or more of their populations undernourished. Thus, much remains to be done before efforts to help people lead healthy and productive lives have truly paid off.

## Data Issues and Comparability

The \$1.25-a-day test for determining poverty and the calculation of poverty gaps require information on household income or household consumption expenditure, and the PPP dollar conversion rate for 2005. Both the measurement of household income or expenditure in national currencies and the calculation of 2005 PPPs will have relatively high error margins in many countries. Data based on the \$1.25-a-day poverty line are missing for most of the Pacific island countries. The availability of such data will help allow a better comparison of poverty incidence around the region. For the number of poor, population data from the PovcalNet Database of the World Bank were used to maintain consistency.

The computation of labor productivity uses data on the number of persons employed, which does not take into account the actual number of hours worked. Assuming a constant mix of economic activities, the best measure of labor input to be used in the computation of labor productivity would be the “total number of annual hours actually worked by all persons employed.” In addition, differences in the coverage of informal sector activities in the statistics of Asian Development Bank developing members may hamper the comparability of estimates of labor productivity growth.

For the employment-to-population ratio, estimates across countries often are not strictly comparable because nationally reported data differ, mostly in age coverage. However, data presented here are based on the ILO Trends Estimation Model, which are harmonized to account for differences in national data collection and tabulation methodologies.

The proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment may not be able to capture vulnerable employment perfectly because while most own-

account workers are more vulnerable or worse off than salaried workers, this is not universally the case. Some salaried workers are in casual contracts offering little or no social protection. This, however, does not diminish the indicator's usefulness and relevance as high poverty rates are strongly correlated with large shares of vulnerable employment in less developed economies (ILO 2009).

The hunger indicators are based on standards devised by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and World Health Organization (WHO). But while countries attempt to use the same standards, comparability is compromised by lack of regular data collection in many countries. Statistical techniques are typically used to extend data collected from household surveys to the full population. Such estimates may have large error margins.

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## Goal 1 Targets and Indicators

Table 1.1 **Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day**

	1.1 Proportion of Population below the Poverty Line (%)						1.3 Share of Poorest Quintile in National Income or Consumption (%)
	\$1.25 a Day (PPP)		National		1.2 Poverty Gap Ratio		Latest Year
	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Earliest Year	Latest Year	
<b>Developing Member Economies</b>							
<b>Central and West Asia</b>							
Afghanistan	...	...	33.0 (2005)	36.0 (2008)	...	...	9.4 (2008)
Armenia	17.5 (1996)	1.3 (2008)	48.3 (2001)	35.8 (2010)	4.7 (1996)	0.3 (2008)	8.8 (2008)
Azerbaijan	16.3 (1995)	0.4 (2008)	49.6 (2001)	7.6 (2011)	4.3 (1995)	0.1 (2008)	8.0 (2008)
Georgia	4.7 (1996)	15.3 (2008)	28.5 (2003)	23.0 (2011)	0.8 (1996)	4.6 (2008)	5.3 (2008)
Kazakhstan	4.2 (1993)	0.1 (2009)	46.7 (2001)	5.3 (2011)	0.5 (1993)	0.0 (2009)	9.1 (2009)
Kyrgyz Republic	18.6 (1993)	6.2 (2009)	61.0 (2006)	33.7 (2010)	8.6 (1993)	1.4 (2009)	6.8 (2009)
Pakistan	64.7 (1991)	21.0 (2008)	30.6 (1999)	22.3 (2006)	23.2 (1991)	3.5 (2008)	9.6 (2008)
Tajikistan	49.4 (1999)	6.6 (2009)	96.0 (1999)	46.7 (2009)	15.4 (1999)	1.2 (2009)	8.3 (2009)
Turkmenistan	63.5 (1993)	24.8 (1998)	...	29.9 (1998)	25.8 (1993)	7.0 (1998)	6.1 (1998)
Uzbekistan	...	...	27.5 (2001)	25.8 (2005)	...	...	7.1 (2003)
<b>East Asia</b>							
China, People's Rep. of	60.2 <sup>a</sup> (1990)	13.1 <sup>a</sup> (2008)	6.0 (1996)	3.8 <sup>b</sup> (2009)	20.7 <sup>a</sup> (1990)	3.2 <sup>a</sup> (2008)	5.0 <sup>a</sup> (2005)
Hong Kong, China	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.3 (1996)
Korea, Rep. of	...	...	...	5.0 (2004)	...	...	7.9 (1998)
Mongolia	...	...	36.3 (1995)	38.7 (2009)	...	...	7.1 (2008)
Taipei, China	...	...	0.6 <sup>c</sup> (1993)	1.2 <sup>c</sup> (2010)	...	...	...
<b>South Asia</b>							
Bangladesh	70.2 (1992)	43.3 (2010)	56.6 (1992)	31.5 (2010)	23.8 (1992)	11.2 (2010)	8.9 (2010)
Bhutan	26.2 (2003)	10.2 (2007)	31.7 <sup>c</sup> (2003)	23.2 (2007)	7.0 (2003)	1.8 (2007)	6.6 (2007)
India	49.4 <sup>a</sup> (1994)	32.7 <sup>a</sup> (2010)	45.3 <sup>d</sup> (1994)	29.8 <sup>d</sup> (2010)	13.6 <sup>a</sup> (1994)	7.5 <sup>a</sup> (2010)	8.6 <sup>a</sup> (2005)
Maldives	25.6 (1998)	1.5 (2004)	21.0 (2004)	15.0 <sup>e</sup> (2010)	13.1 (1998)	0.1 (2004)	6.5 (2004)
Nepal	68.0 (1996)	24.8 (2010)	41.8 (1996)	25.2 (2011)	25.6 (1996)	5.6 (2010)	8.3 (2010)
Sri Lanka	15.0 (1991)	7.0 (2007)	26.1 (1991)	8.9 (2010)	2.7 (1991)	1.0 (2007)	6.9 (2007)
<b>Southeast Asia</b>							
Brunei Darussalam <sup>f</sup>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cambodia	44.5 (1994)	22.8 (2008)	47.0 (1994)	30.1 (2007)	12.0 (1994)	4.9 (2008)	7.5 (2008)
Indonesia	54.3 <sup>a</sup> (1990)	18.1 <sup>a</sup> (2010)	17.6 (1996)	12.5 (2011)	15.6 <sup>a</sup> (1990)	3.3 <sup>a</sup> (2010)	7.6 <sup>a</sup> (2009)
Lao PDR	55.7 (1992)	33.9 (2008)	45.0 (1992)	27.6 (2008)	16.2 (1992)	9.0 (2008)	7.6 (2008)
Malaysia	1.6 (1992)	0.0 (2009)	5.7 (2004)	3.8 (2009)	0.1 (1992)	0.0 (2009)	4.5 (2009)
Myanmar	...	...	...	25.6 (2010)	...	...	...
Philippines	30.7 (1991)	18.4 (2009)	33.1 (1991)	26.5 (2009)	8.6 (1991)	3.7 (2009)	6.0 (2009)
Singapore	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.0 (1998)
Thailand	11.6 (1990)	0.4 (2009)	33.7 (1990)	7.8 (2010)	2.4 (1990)	0.1 (2009)	6.7 (2009)
Viet Nam	63.7 (1993)	16.9 (2008)	58.1 (1993)	14.5 (2008)	23.6 (1993)	3.8 (2008)	7.4 (2008)
<b>The Pacific</b>							
Cook Islands	...	...	...	28.4 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	...	...	...
Fiji	29.2 (2003)	5.9 (2009)	35.0 <sup>g</sup> (2003)	31.0 <sup>g</sup> (2009)	11.3 (2003)	1.1 (2009)	6.2 (2009)
Kiribati	...	...	...	21.8 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	...	...	...
Marshall Islands	...	...	...	52.7 <sup>g</sup> (2002)	...	...	...
Micronesia, Fed. States of	...	31.2 <sup>h</sup> (2000)	27.9 <sup>g</sup> (1998)	31.4 <sup>g</sup> (2005)	...	16.3 <sup>h</sup> (2000)	1.6 <sup>h</sup> (2000)
Nauru	...	...	...	25.1 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	...	...	...
Palau	...	...	...	24.9 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	...	...	...
Papua New Guinea	...	35.8 (1996)	30.0 <sup>g</sup> (1990)	28.0 <sup>g</sup> (2009)	...	12.3 (1996)	4.5 (1996)
Samoa	...	...	22.9 <sup>g</sup> (2002)	26.9 <sup>g</sup> (2008)	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	...	...	...	22.7 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	...	...	...
Timor-Leste	52.9 (2001)	37.4 (2007)	39.7 <sup>g</sup> (2001)	41.1 <sup>g</sup> (2009)	19.1 (2001)	8.9 (2007)	9.0 (2007)
Tonga	...	...	16.2 <sup>g</sup> (2001)	22.5 <sup>g</sup> (2009)	...	...	...
Tuvalu	...	...	23.2 <sup>g</sup> (1994)	26.3 <sup>g</sup> (2010)	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	13.0 <sup>g</sup> (2006)	12.7 <sup>g</sup> (2010)	...	...	...
<b>Developed Member Economies</b>							
Australia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.9 (1994)
Japan	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.6 (1993)
New Zealand	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.5 (1997)

... = Data not available at cutoff date, 0.0 = Magnitude is less than half of unit employed, PPP = purchasing power parity.

- a Weighted average of urban and rural estimates.  
b Refers to rural areas only.  
c Defined as percent of low-income population in total population.  
d Based on the new methodology recommended by the Tendulkar Committee.  
e Based on half the median of Atoll expenditure per person per day (Rufiyah 22).  
f Brunei Darussalam is a regional member of ADB, but it is not classified as a developing member.  
g Refers to percentage of population below the basic needs poverty line.  
h Refers to urban areas only.

Sources: Millennium Indicators Database Online (UNSD 2011), PovcalNet Database (World Bank 2012), Pacific National Minimum Development Indicator Database (PRISM 2012), country sources.

## Goal 1 Targets and Indicators

Table 1.2 **Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people**

	1.4 Growth Rate of GDP per Person Employed (%, at constant 1990 \$ PPP)		1.5 Employment-to-Population Ratio (%, aged 15 years and over)		1.6 Proportion of Employed People Living below \$1.25 per Day (PPP) (%)		1.7 Proportion of Own-Account and Contributing Family Workers in Total Employment (%)	
	1990	2010	1991	2011	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Earliest Year	Latest Year
<b>Developing Member Economies</b>								
<b>Central and West Asia</b>								
Afghanistan	...	...	45.8	45.1	...	38.0 (2005)	...	...
Armenia	-5.1	2.9	43.8	40.9	9.7 (1996)	0.7 (2008)	35.7 (2007)	37.8 (2008)
Azerbaijan	-12.5	2.3	56.4	60.7	12.5 (1995)	0.7 (2008)	62.4 (2003)	54.7 (2008)
Georgia	-15.3	5.1	54.9	55.0	11.4 (2002)	10.7 (2008)	53.9 (1998)	63.2 (2008)
Kazakhstan	-0.7	4.1	63.5	67.7	2.7 (1993)	– (2007)	40.0 (2001)	31.9 (2008)
Kyrgyz Republic	4.3	-5.5	59.4	60.9	14.8 (1993)	1.5 (2007)	51.5 (2002)	47.3 (2006)
Pakistan	0.3	1.9	47.4	50.7	57.4 (1991)	19.2 (2006)	64.9 (1995)	63.1 (2008)
Tajikistan	-7.4	2.7	57.9	58.6	39.6 (1999)	19.5 (2004)	...	...
Turkmenistan	3.0	6.5	52.5	54.5	47.9 (1993)	19.0 (1998)	...	...
Uzbekistan	-4.8	5.4	51.8	54.4	32.4 (2002)	35.3 (2003)	...	...
<b>East Asia</b>								
China, People's Rep. of	1.5	9.1	75.1	70.9	...	...	...	...
Hong Kong, China	3.7	5.1	62.6	57.0	...	...	5.5 (1993)	7.4 (2009)
Korea, Rep. of	6.3	4.9	58.9	58.1	...	...	30.0 (2000)	23.5 (2009)
Mongolia	...	...	50.4	57.6	14.3 (1995)	11.3 (2002)	56.6 (2000)	57.5 (2009)
Taipei, China	5.1	8.6	58.2	55.4	...	...	27.6 (1990)	18.7 (2009)
<b>South Asia</b>								
Bangladesh	4.1	3.4	72.7	67.6	55.9 (1992)	50.1 (2005)	69.4 (1996)	85.0 (2005)
Bhutan	...	...	63.0	69.1	...	26.9 (2003)	68.0 (2006)	74.2 (2009)
India	2.7	5.6	58.5	53.6	49.1 (1994)	39.2 (2005)	...	82.8 (2005)
Maldives	...	...	45.2	57.7	26.1 (1998)	1.3 (2004)	46.3 (1990)	29.6 (2006)
Nepal	...	...	83.5	82.1	63.9 (1996)	50.4 (2003)	...	71.6 (2001)
Sri Lanka	4.5	5.9	48.5	52.7	13.2 (1991)	5.8 (2007)	43.0 (1990)	39.8 (2009)
<b>Southeast Asia</b>								
Brunei Darussalam <sup>a</sup>	...	...	61.6	62.9	...	...	...	4.1 (1991)
Cambodia	-2.2	2.1	79.7	81.2	50.5 (1994)	25.1 (2007)	84.5 (2000)	82.5 (2008)
Indonesia	5.4	3.9	63.1	62.7	52.6 (1993)	19.8 (2005)	62.8 (1997)	63.7 (2009)
Lao PDR	...	...	79.7	76.9	57.1 (1992)	31.5 (2008)	90.1 (1995)	88.0 (2005)
Malaysia	4.7	4.6	60.1	58.6	1.4 (1992)	– (2009)	28.8 (1991)	21.5 (2009)
Myanmar	...	...	72.8	75.8	...	31.1 (2005)	...	...
Philippines	1.4	4.6	59.6	59.9	26.8 (1991)	19.0 (2006)	44.9 (1998)	43.5 (2008)
Singapore	-1.4	13.6	64.4	63.6	...	...	8.1 (1991)	9.8 (2009)
Thailand	13.6	5.7	77.5	71.2	4.4 (1992)	– (2004)	70.3 (1990)	52.5 (2009)
Viet Nam	3.3	4.3	77.9	75.3	66.7 (1993)	12.0 (2008)	82.1 (1996)	73.9 (2004)
<b>The Pacific</b>								
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	...	...	53.6	56.7	...	18.5 (2005)	...	39.0 (2005)
Kiribati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marshall Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26.7 (1999)
Micronesia, Fed. States of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nauru	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Papua New Guinea	...	...	70.0	70.7	...	34.0 (1996)	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	...	...	62.6	64.5	...	21.5 (2005)	...	...
Timor-Leste	...	...	57.7	54.3	47.0 (2001)	32.6 (2007)	...	...
Tonga	...	...	...	...	...	...	57.0 (1996)	55.2 (2003)
Tuvalu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.0 (2002)
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70.0 (2009)
<b>Developed Member Economies</b>								
Australia	2.3	1.0	57.1	62.2	...	...	10.3 (1990)	9.0 (2009)
Japan	3.4	3.9	62.5	57.4	...	...	19.2 (1990)	10.1 (2009)
New Zealand	-0.4	1.6	56.7	63.3	...	...	12.7 (1991)	10.9 (2009)

... = Data not available at cutoff date, – = Magnitude equals zero, PPP = purchasing power parity, GDP = gross domestic product.

a Brunei Darussalam is a regional member of ADB, but it is not classified as a developing member.

Source: Key Indicators of the Labour Market, 7th edition (ILO 2012).

## Goal 1 Targets and Indicators

Table 1.3 Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

	1.8 Prevalence of Underweight Children under 5 Years of Age (%)		1.9 Proportion of Population below Minimum Level of Dietary Energy Consumption (%)		
	Earliest Year	Latest Year	1990–1992 <sup>a</sup>	2000–2002	2006–2008
	Total	Total			
<b>Developing Member Economies</b>					
<b>Central and West Asia</b>					
Afghanistan	44.9 (1997)	32.9 (2004)	...	...	...
Armenia	2.7 (1998)	4.7 (2010)	45	28	21
Azerbaijan	8.8 (1996)	8.4 (2006)	27	11	<5
Georgia	2.7 (1999)	1.1 (2009)	58	12	6
Kazakhstan	6.7 (1995)	4.9 (2006)	<5	8	<5
Kyrgyz Republic	8.2 (1997)	2.7 (2006)	17	17	11
Pakistan	39.0 (1991)	31.3 (2001)	25	24	25
Tajikistan	14.9 (2005)	15.0 (2007)	34	46	26
Turkmenistan	10.5 (2000)	8.2 (2005)	9	9	7
Uzbekistan	15.3 (1996)	4.4 (2006)	5	19	11
<b>East Asia</b>					
China, People's Rep. of	12.6 (1990)	3.4 (2010)	18 <sup>b</sup>	10 <sup>b</sup>	10 <sup>b</sup>
Hong Kong, China	...	...	...	...	...
Korea, Rep. of	...	...	<5	<5	<5
Mongolia	10.8 (1992)	5.3 (2005)	28	27	27
Taipei, China	...	...	...	...	...
<b>South Asia</b>					
Bangladesh	61.5 (1990)	41.3 (2007)	38	30	26
Bhutan	14.1 (1999)	12.7 (2010)	...	...	...
India	59.5 (1990)	43.5 (2006)	20	20	19
Maldives	32.5 (1994)	17.8 (2009)	9	8	10
Nepal	44.1 (1995)	38.8 (2006)	21	18	17
Sri Lanka	33.8 (1993)	21.6 (2009)	28	20	20
<b>Southeast Asia</b>					
Brunei Darussalam <sup>c</sup>	...	...	<5	<5	<5
Cambodia	42.6 (1996)	29.0 (2011)	38	29	25
Indonesia	29.8 (1992)	19.6 (2007)	16	15	13
Lao PDR	39.8 (1993)	31.6 (2006)	31	26	22
Malaysia	22.1 (1990)	12.9 (2006)	<5	<5	<5
Myanmar	28.8 (1990)	22.6 (2010)	...	...	...
Philippines	29.9 (1990)	20.7 (2008)	24	18	13
Singapore	...	3.3 (2000)	...	...	...
Thailand	16.3 (1993)	7.0 (2006)	26	18	16
Viet Nam	36.9 (1993)	20.2 (2008)	31	17	11
<b>The Pacific</b>					
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	6.9 (1993)	7.0 (2008)	8	<5	<5
Kiribati	...	23.1 (2009)	8	5	5
Marshall Islands	19.0 (1991)	13.0 (2007)	...	...	...
Micronesia, Fed. States of	13.3 (1989)	15.0 (2005)	...	...	...
Nauru	...	5.6 (2007)	...	...	...
Palau	...	2.2 (2010)	...	...	...
Papua New Guinea	...	23.0 (2009)	...	...	...
Samoa	6.6 (1990)	1.9 (1999)	9	<5	<5
Solomon Islands	...	14.2 (2007)	21	12	11
Timor-Leste	40.6 (2002)	45.3 (2010)	39	28	31
Tonga	2.0 1999	...	...	<5 <sup>d</sup>	...
Tuvalu	...	1.9 (2007)	...	...	...
Vanuatu	10.6 (1996)	15.9 (2007)	10	8	<5
<b>Developed Member Economies</b>					
Australia	...	...	<5	<5	<5
Japan	...	...	<5	<5	<5
New Zealand	...	...	<5	<5	<5

... = Data not available at cutoff date, < = Less than.

a For Central and West Asia except for Pakistan, data refer to the period 1993–1995.

b Includes Hong Kong, China; Macao, China; and Taipei, China.

c Brunei Darussalam is a regional member of ADB, but it is not classified as a developing member.

d Data for 2004.

Sources: Global Health Observatory Data Repository (WHO 2012); The State of the World's Children (UNICEF 2012); Pacific National Minimum Development Indicator Database (PRISM 2012); Food Security Statistics (FAO 2012); Tonga Department of Statistics.