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Community Channel: Introduction to the Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Review Summit will convene during 20 – 22 September in New York. The summit is an opportunity to remind the United Nations member states of the effort still required to achieve these goals by the year 2015, and to re-energise the global campaigns to reduce extreme poverty, child mortality rates, fight disease epidemics such as AIDS, and develop a global partnership for development.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are eight international development goals that 192 United Nations member states and 23 international organizations have agreed to achieve by the year 2015.

- Goal 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2:** Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3:** Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4:** Reduce Child Mortality Rate
- Goal 5:** Improve maternal health
- Goal 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- Goal 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8:** Develop a global partnership for development

Progress

Progress towards reaching the goals has been uneven. Some countries have achieved many of the goals while others are not on track to realize any. Fundamental issues will determine whether or not the MDGs are achieved, namely gender, the divide between the humanitarian and development agendas and economic growth, according to the Overseas Development Institute.

If you would like to know how you could help increase awareness of the need to achieve these goals here is a list of UK organisations and some of the goals they are working towards.

Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Micah Challenge UK

Micah Challenge UK is a coalition of Christian organisations and churches in Britain, united in their concern to fight global poverty. The international Micah Challenge movement of churches and Christian agencies unite to hold their governments to account for the promises they made towards the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015.

Address: 186 Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4BT

Tel: 020 7207 2130

Fax: 020 7207 2150

Email: ukco-ordinator@micahchallenge.org.uk

Website: www.micahchallenge.org.uk

Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

Oxfam International

Oxfam is an international confederation of 14 organizations working together in 99 countries and with partners and allies around the world to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice. Oxfam GB's call to action re: MDG 2:

Actions

- Invite your MP to school, show them how important you think education is and ask them to support MDG 2
- Make internet connection with another school & share lessons, this could be in the UK or in another country.
- Present an assembly to the rest of the year/school about what you have learnt about MDG 2
- Peer education, use what you have learnt to teach another class about MDG 2

Fundraisers

- Go on a sponsored read – set a target of how many books you think you could read in a week. It must be challenging to make it worthwhile.

NB Please remember to pass on stories of any actions you or your pupils take to education@oxfam.org.uk

For more resources on Education for all try:

www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/developing_rights

www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/bring_on_the_world

Address: Oxfam Youth & Schools Team, Oxfam House, John Smith Drive, Oxford OX4 2JY

Tel: 0300 200 1300

Email: education@oxfam.org.uk

Website: www.oxfam.org.uk

Right to Education Project

In partnership with the Global Campaign for Education, The Right to Education Project aims to promote social mobilisation and legal accountability, looking to focus on the legal challenges to the right to education. To ensure continued relevance and engagement with activists and the academic community the Project also undertakes comparative research to advance an understanding of the right to education. **Education and the 4 As** - for education to be a meaningful right it must be available, accessible, acceptable and adaptable.

Address: ActionAid International, Hamlyn House, Macdonald Rd, London N19 5PG

Tel: 020 7561 7561

Fax: 020 7272 0899

Email: info@right-to-education.org

Project Coordinator: Peter Hyll-Larsen

Tel: 020 7561 7678

Email: peter.hyll-larsen@actionaid.org

Website: www.right-to-education.org

Save the Children UK

This organization advocates education as a way for individuals to escape poverty. **Rewrite the Future**, Save the Children's first global campaign, is focused on securing quality education for the millions of children out of school due to war and armed conflict. Today, they have helped over 10 million children receive a better education and have succeeded in enrolling 1.4 million children into school, which is equivalent to opening two schools every day. Together, they have shown that change is possible.

Address: 1 St. John's Lane, London, EC1M 4AR

Tel: 020 7012 6400

Fax: 020 7716 2339

E-Mail: supporter.care@savethechildren.org.uk

Website: www.savethechildren.org.uk

Send My Friend to School

Send My Friend to School is a campaign that has brought together hundreds of thousands of students and teachers in the UK who want the government to keep its promise and make sure that every child can go to school, no matter where they live in the world. Send My Friend is run by lots of organisations, including charities and teaching unions, who all believe that education is really important.

For enquiries about your free schools pack and extra posters or stickers:

Email: schools@actionaid.org.uk

Phone: 01460 238000

Website: www.sendmyfriend.org

Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality Rate & Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health

BirthLink

BirthLink is a UK-based charity supporting maternal and neonatal healthcare in developing countries, in response to MDGs 4 and 5. BirthLink workshops are centred on key care principles embedded in The UN Millennium Project.

Address: 101 Leather Lane, London EC1N 7TS

Tel: 07768 464300

Fax: 0207 405 8877

Email: Kathy Mellor kathy@birthlinkuk.org ethel@birthlinkuk.org

Website: www.birthlinkuk.org

FIGO (International Federation of Gynaecology & Obstetrics)

FIGO is the only organisation that brings together professional societies of obstetricians and gynecologists on a global basis. FIGO's advocacy work towards the achievement of MDG 5 is in tandem with their work for MDG 4. FIGO's undertaking of the Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health project in ten countries is directed in large part towards achieving progress in both MDGs 4 and 5. FIGO members participate in a number of partnerships including the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) and the Countdown to 2015.

Address: FIGO Secretariat, FIGO House, Suite 3 - Waterloo Court, 10 Theed Street, London SE1 8ST

Tel: 0207 928 1166

Fax: 0207 928 7099

Website: www.figo.org

Health Poverty Action

Health Poverty Action is a British non-governmental organization that aims to secure health care access for marginalized communities in developing countries. Indigenous women, or those from other cultural minorities, are more likely to die or face complications related to pregnancy. Health Poverty Action's new **Mothers on the Margins** campaign is calling for action to change this – and working in partnership with indigenous communities themselves, innovative solutions can be found. **Write to your MP** and urge them to take action for indigenous mothers. You can also pledge your support for the campaign, read their new report, and [find out more](#).

Address: Ground Floor, 31-33 Bondway, London SW8 1SJ

Tel: 0207 840 3777

Email: general@healthpovertyaction.org

Fax: 0207 840 3770

Website: www.healthunlimited.org

Impact

Impact is a global research initiative whose aim is to promote better health for mothers to be in developing countries. Their objectives are closely linked with global efforts to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals for 2015, especially those related to maternal mortality reduction. Impact researchers have authored two chapters in this recently released book in the RCOG Study Group series: **Maternal and Infant Deaths: Chasing Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5**. Numerous resources on their website include publications, factsheets, policy briefs and their flagship product - the Impact Toolkit: a reference document for those who plan to conduct evaluations and for safe motherhood policymakers.

Address: University of Aberdeen, Health Sciences Building, Foresterhill, Aberdeen AB25 2ZD

Tel: 01224 559736

Fax: 01224 555704

Email: info@impact-international.org

Website: www.impact-international.org

Interact Worldwide/Action for Global Health

Interact Worldwide, the International HIV/AIDS Alliance and TB Alert comprise the UK partners of Action for Global Health, a European-based advocacy movement. The core business of Action for Global Health

is generating awareness, momentum and commitment, both political and financial, from European donors to help developing countries achieve the health Millennium Development Goals (MDGs 4, 5 & 6).

Address: Finsgate, 5-7 Cranwood Street EC1V 9LH

Tel: 0300 777 8500

Fax: 0300 777 9778 (Please clearly mark your fax for INTERACT)

Email: programmes@interactworldwide.org

Website: www.interactworldwide.org

International Planned Parenthood Federation

IPPF is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. As a result of intense advocacy by IPPF, reproductive health is now included as a target within the MDG framework.

Address: 4 Newhams Row, London SE1 3UZ

Tel: 0207 939 8200

Email: info@ippf.org

Website: www.ippf.org

Malaria Consortium

Malaria Consortium is the world's leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to the control of Malaria. They apply their depth of technical expertise and practical experience to develop smart solutions that improve and save lives. Their advocacy work mainly focuses on malaria which accounts for one in five of childhood deaths in Africa. Furthermore, pregnant women are the main adult group at risk of malaria and are four times more likely to suffer malaria than other adults; and pregnancy reduces a woman's immunity to malaria making her more likely to become affected. As a result, their advocacy work has direct relevance to the achievement of MDG 4 and 5.

Address: Development House, 56-64 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4LT

Tel: 020 7549 0210

Fax: 020 7549 0211

Email: info@malariaconsortium.org

Website: www.malariaconsortium.org

Marie Stopes International

Marie Stopes International (MSI) is an international, non-governmental organisation that specialises in sexual and reproductive health. **Going for Goals** publication was a joint production by MSI and seven other international NGOs who are concerned at the slow progress being made in meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals. For more information about the MDGs, please [download Going for Goals \(PDF\)](#). This publication is designed to help you find out more about the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and what you can do to ensure the race to meet them is won.

Telephone: 0845 300 8090 or 020 7636 6200

Fax: 0845 300 1208

Email: info@mariestopes.org.uk

Website: www.mariestopes.org.uk

Royal College of Midwives

The Royal College of Midwives provides support and information to the UK midwifery sector and every midwife working there, NHS and private. The RCM is developing twinning projects with poor countries to support midwives with equipment, and sponsoring them to attend study days, especially the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM). The ICM is a leading agency behind the **Safe Motherhood Initiative**, supporting and contributing to the Initiative's global efforts to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity.

Address: 15 Mansfield St, London W1G 9NH

Tel: 020 7312 3535

Website: www.rcm.org.uk

Reproductive Health Matters

Reproductive Health Matters (RHM) is an independent charity, producing in-depth publications on reproductive and sexual health and rights for an international, multi-disciplinary audience. Maternal morbidity and mortality is an ongoing priority for the publication. RHM also organises international workshops on new, controversial and neglected issues of importance to the field.

Address: 444 Highgate Studios, 53-79 Highgate Road, London NW5 1TL

Tel: 0207 267 6567

Fax: 0207 267 2551

Email: Pathika Martin pmartin@rhjournal.org.uk Marge Berer mberer@rhjournal.org.uk

Website: www.rhjournal.org.uk

SafeHands for Mothers

SafeHands for Mothers' vision is to contribute to a reduction in maternal mortality and morbidity from pregnancy-related causes and to protect and promote health of the newborn in developing countries. They aim to achieve this through the production of high quality films and visual materials to support government and non governmental training and advocacy programmes. SafeHands calls for a renewed effort to combat the unnecessarily high number of women who die during pregnancy and childbirth.

Name: Nancy Durrell McKenna - Executive Director

Address: 23 Fitzjohns Avenue, London NW3 5JY

Tel: 020 7433 0792

Website: www.safehands.org

Save the Children UK

Save the Children UK is part of an international development organization that helps children in need around the world. Improving child health, and thus working towards the achievement of MDG 4, is at the core of their health work. Furthermore, with its global campaign on child survival the organisation as a whole has made a 3-5 year commitment to helping to accelerate the progress towards MDG 4. Recognising the strong links between child and maternal health, Save the Children UK has always addressed MDGs 4 and 5 in a joint manner. Therefore, the organization advocates on local, national, regional and global levels on maternal mortality and morbidity issues. For example, some of the world's most powerful countries have promised to reduce child and maternal mortality. But change isn't happening. 2010's G8 and G20 summits present an unmissable opportunity to get back on track. Find out what they're calling for - download [Save the Children's calls to the G8 and G20 in 2010](#) (PDF 170KB).

Address: St John's Lane, London EC1M 4AR

Tel: 020 7012 6400

Website: www.savethechildren.org.uk

Women and Children First

Women and Children First (UK) is a UK based international development agency set up to address the unacceptably high levels of maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity in poor communities in the developing world. We work to develop and share best healthcare practices to improve maternal and newborn health in poor communities. Our particular focus is on pregnancy and the first 28 days of life.

Address: United House, North Road, London N7 9DP

Tel: 020 7700 6309

Fax: 020 7700 3921

Email: info@wcf-uk.org

Website: www.wcf-uk.org

White Ribbon Alliance

The White Ribbon Alliance is an international coalition bound together by a common goal: to ensure that pregnancy and childbirth are safe for all women and newborns in every country around the world. The coalition is 148 countries strong, with National Alliances in 15. Sarah Brown is the global Patron, and with her support, the WRA is reaching out to a wide and strong network of global leaders. Their global **Maternal Mortality Campaign** was created to build awareness and pressure for action and ensure that the world meets its promise to keep more mothers, and their children, alive. Nearly every minute, a woman dies of pregnancy related complications. The White Ribbon Alliance is here to change that.

Address: 2nd Floor, 138 Portobello Road, London W11 2DZ

Tel: 0207 965 6060

Fax: 0207 243 3874

E-Mail: info-uk@whiteribbonalliance.org

Website: www.whiteribbonalliance.org

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Other Diseases

WaterAid

WaterAid is an international, non-profit organisation dedicated to helping people escape the poverty and disease caused by living without safe water and sanitation. Over a billion people in the world do not have access to safe water and over two billion lack adequate sanitation. Safe drinking water and basic sanitation help prevent water-related diseases, including deadly diarrhoeal diseases. Improved water management also reduces transmission risks of malaria and dengue fever. WaterAid research has revealed that clean water and sanitation assists HIV/AIDS sufferers. People contracting water-related illnesses are very likely to have compromised immune systems, which may cause them to succumb more quickly to the HIV virus and develop AIDS-related illnesses. Conversely, the immune systems of those living with HIV will be less likely to fight or recover from water-related illness.

Address: Supporter Services, WaterAid, 47-49 Durham Street, London SE11 5JD

Tel: 0845 6000 433 or 020 7793 4500

Fax: 020 7793 4545

Website: www.wateraid.org.uk

The Community Channel

Community Channel is broadcast 24 hours a day on Sky 539, Virgin TV 233 and from 6am to 9am on Freeview 87. It is dedicated to engaging people with the charitable and voluntary sector, showcasing stories and issues that inspire action and encourage involvement. The Channel broadcasts original shows, the best of terrestrial TV and showcases the work of new directors and community programme makers. It is the place for real-life stories from communities around the world.

Address: Community Channel, 2nd Floor, Riverwalk House, 157-161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR

Email: feedback@communitychannel.org

Website: www.communitychannel.org

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For more information you can always give us a call on our audience hotline on 08708 505 500.

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