

CHINA'S PROGRESS TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2010 REPORT



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China
United Nations System in China



**China's Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals
2010 Report**

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Foreword

In 2000, the United Nations Millennium Summit solemnly adopted the Millennium Declaration and set the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This is the consensus of the international community and a task to all in a bid to narrow the North-South gap and promote common development. It carries the aspiration of the whole human society in their thousands-of-years' fight against hunger, diseases and poverty. Today, the MDGs have become the guideline to boost international cooperation on development and an important indicator to evaluate its progress.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the implementation of the MDGs. In the past decade, the international community, by working together, has made much headway in the implementation of the Goals, but there is no reason to be complacent. The implementation of the MDGs is far from balanced from a global perspective. The international financial crisis further hindered progress in development. There is a long way to go if we are to attain the MDGs targets on time in 2015. Another UN High-level Event on the MDGs will be held from September 20 to 22 this year. It is our hope that the international community could act in the spirit of partnership, mutual-benefit and win-win progress, send out strong signals of solidarity and cooperation, further mobilize political will and give new impetus to the timely achievement of the MDGs.

China has always been dedicating itself to poverty eradication and development. The Chinese government has chosen a development path with Chinese characteristics based on our distinctive national conditions. We have been earnestly following the scientific outlook on development that features comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable development and puts people first, and we have been promoting all-round progress in economy, political affairs, society, culture and eco-environment. Challenged by the impact of the international financial crisis, the Chinese government, decisive in decision-making, mapped out a timely stimulus package plan. The Chinese economy rebounded in a relatively short period of time, the good momentum of the initial progress of MDGs implementation was maintained and a solid foundation was laid for the timely attainment of the MDGs.

As a developing country, China is an active promoter and participant in international development cooperation. After the outbreak of the financial crisis, China believes that the promotion of development should be a major measure in the international fight against the crisis and we have offered other developing countries assistance to the best of our ability within the framework of South-South cooperation. At present, these assistance measures are being implemented earnestly.

This report is a review and summary of China's ten-year work on the MDGs. It is not easy to have a perfect report without errors. But I still wish this report could be helpful to other developing countries in their efforts to pursue the MDGs. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the UN System in China for their participation in the drafting work and their valuable advice.

China will start the implementation of its "12th Five-Year Plan" next year. This five-year period is of crucial importance to China for carrying out all-round implementation of the MDGs. We will continue to act in a pragmatic and pioneering spirit, further improve people's livelihood and maintain social stability, actively carry out international cooperation so as to contribute our share to the timely achievement of the MDGs globally and to the peace and development of the people around the world.



Liu Zhenmin
Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs
The People's Republic of China

Foreword

In September 2000, the Government of China joined the international community of nations in pledging support for the Millennium Declaration that sets out a global agenda for human development. This year, with only five years remaining until the MDGs target date, world leaders are gathering again at UN Headquarters in New York to take stock of progress and to adopt strategies to accelerate results where needed.

This report provides a meaningful account of how China has already achieved many of the internationally agreed MDGs. It once again shows that the right policies and actions, backed by adequate funding and strong political commitment, can yield results. Having integrated the MDGs into its development planning and having put the effort and resources behind its plans, China has made remarkable achievements towards the MDGs, particularly in poverty reduction. Additionally, China's experience and its support to other developing countries have made a significant contribution to international efforts to meet these development goals and targets. In this regard, China emerges as an important contributor to the global partnership for development called for in the eighth MDG.

Meanwhile, the report notes that China still faces challenges in areas such as promoting gender equality, reversing the spreading of HIV/AIDS and stopping the loss of environmental resources. To address this, China has now shifted its focus to structural reforms and set out adjustments of its economic growth strategy to make it more environmentally friendly.

The UN system in China remains committed to its strong partnership with the Government of China in realizing its vision of a harmonious society and achieving all the MDGs. In addition, the UN system in China will continue to support the country in tackling its emerging new development challenges, in supporting its South-South cooperation, and in its compliance with UN standards and norms.

This is the fourth MDGs progress report for China and it is once again a product of collaboration between the UN system in China and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who coordinated inputs from around 30 Government agencies. I would like to appreciate the colleagues from both the Government and the UN without whose efforts this publication would not have been possible.



Renata Lok-Dessallien
UN Resident Coordinator in China

Introduction to the Millennium Development Goals

In September 2000, 189 UN member states adopted the UN Millennium Declaration, formulating a series of specific goals for human development called the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These goals cover the economy, society, the environment and five other sectors. Most goals set 1990 as the baseline year and 2015 as the target year. The MDGs are now the most comprehensive, authoritative and clear-cut set of goals that exist towards the development of the international community.

Broadly recognized and actively supported by a wide range of parties, the MDGs have become an important standard for measuring the progress of global development and organizing international development assistance. Having set detailed targets and indicators for all the goals in the eight different areas, the UN regularly issues global progress reports that track achievements. In addition, the UN system works with member states to draft national MDG progress reports in order to raise awareness, stimulate discussion and promote further action towards implementing all goals. The Chinese Government and the UN Country Team previously drafted national reports on China's Progress towards the MDGs in 2003, 2005 and 2008.

This year is the 10th year since the implementation of the MDGs. The global economy is recovering from the impact of the international financial crisis. In this context, the report summarizes how China has taken measures to strive for the realization of the MDGs against the backdrop of the international financial crisis.

China's development strategy and the MDGs

All countries committed to realizing the MDGs have their own different policies and practices. Since 1980, China has formulated its development goals and indicators, which are aimed at achieving a “Xiaokang society” (a moderately prosperous society). In 2002 the Chinese Government made further advances to its policy of building up a Xiaokang society in an all-inclusive way. In 2007 the Government initiated new approaches for comprehensively building up such a society, whilst integrating the MDGs into the process. It proposed the following strategies:

1. Persistence in expanding domestic demand

The eradication of poverty and hunger are primary MDG targets. China recognizes that sustainable economic growth must be rooted in domestic demand, especially the final consumption demands of households. By increasing household incomes, in particular for low-income groups in both rural and urban areas, strengthening social security, and improving the overall economic environment, China has bolstered domestic demand and helped to boost economic growth. During the process of expanding domestic demand and promoting the stable and speedy development of the economy, China has met the basic needs of over 200 million people and achieved the MDG targets on poverty and hunger ahead of schedule.

2. Persistence in promoting strategic adjustments to the economic structure

Economic growth is the material base for achieving any of the MDGs. China has continuously focused its attention on structural reform, the centerpiece of its economic growth strategy, and has set out the following areas of focus for making adjustments in the industrial sector:

- 1) Consolidating and strengthening the role of agriculture by improving comprehensive productivity, optimizing production structures, developing intensive methods for processing agricultural produce, and improving rural infrastructure;
- 2) Charting a new course for the industrial sector by persisting in market orientation, expanding the role of enterprises, strengthening the capacity for innovation, optimizing industrial structures, promoting product structure and industry deployment, improving the quality of manufacturing equipment, reducing raw material and resource consumption, and improving product quality as a way of stimulating competitiveness;
- 3) Speeding up the development of service industries, breaking monopolies, lowering barriers to entry, continuously developing traditional service industries, making efforts to develop modern and productive industries, and enhancing the proportion and quality of service industries in a comprehensive way.

3. Persistence in resource conservation and environmental protection as basic state policies

Maintaining environmental sustainability is a key part of the MDGs. With such strong economic growth, China needs development strategies for energy conservation and environmental protection, and must work towards realizing fundamental changes in its modes of economic development. China's long-term target is to establish a resource-saving and environmentally-friendly society. The principal means of achieving this are to practice accountability in energy conservation and emissions reductions, to adjust the economic structure, to enhance the proportion of service industries and high-tech industries in the national economy, to eliminate high-energy consumption and high-pollution production in the more undeveloped enterprises, to promote energy-saving and environmental protection technologies, to develop a circular economy, to protect and recover the natural ecology, to strengthen environmental protection and legal systems, to improve price mechanisms and financial and taxation policies, and to enhance public awareness of environmental protection. Government at all levels is required to take the lead in carrying out the afore-mentioned policies and measures.

4. Persistence in addressing climate change under the framework of sustainable development

Promoting a circular economy, developing low-carbon technologies, and advocating green consumption are the chief global goals and measures towards achieving satisfactory solutions to climate change issues. The Chinese Government's commitment to maintaining sustainable development and to transforming China into an energy-saving and environmentally-friendly society fully matches the global agenda.

The Chinese Government will continue to deal with climate change under the framework of sustainable development, and to promote the construction of a resource-saving and environmentally-friendly society by effecting changes in the modes of economic growth, in industrial structure reform, and by promoting energy-saving and emissions reduction, as well as by facilitating the development of a circular economy.

The Chinese Government will approach climate change as a core element of its socio-economic development strategy, embracing it as a major opportunity for economic development and for economic structural reform. It will encourage research and development and application of low-carbon technologies; utilize low-carbon technologies for the purpose of reforming traditional industries; focus its efforts on the development of low-carbon resources, low-carbon architecture and low-carbon transport; promote low-carbon consumption; strive to fulfill greenhouse gas emissions control targets by 2020; create an industrial system and public lifestyle characterized by low-carbon emissions, and ultimately achieve the goal of sustainable development.

5. Persistence in the balanced and coordinated development of urban and rural areas and regions

One key MDG requirement is to balance development across different regions and areas. At the beginning of its reform period, China adopted a coastal development strategy, encouraging some regions to prosper first, as the conditions allowed. The development of the central and western regions has been slower, and this has had the result of creating disparities between rural and urban areas and different regions in terms of income levels, living conditions, and access to public services. In recent years the Chinese Government has prioritized the development of the western regions, along with the traditional industrial bases in the north-east and the central regions. Targeted policies have also been implemented in order to promote a balanced distribution of population as well as fair economic, social and environmental deployment. According to a survey covering 68,000 rural households and migrant workers from 7,100 administrative villages across 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, it is estimated that the number of rural migrant workers in China totaled 145.33 million in 2009. Results of the survey indicate that, though the eastern region is still the destination for most migrant workers, the proportion of migrant workers traveling to central and western regions is increasing. Most migrant workers have graduated from junior high school. Meanwhile the proportion of migrant workers with education of senior high school or above is growing. The Chinese Government is making efforts to build up effective and enduring mechanisms for industries to stimulate agriculture and for urban areas to be able to assist the rural areas to coordinate and promote the industrialization, urbanization and modernization of agriculture. The new patterns of reform should better integrate the economic and social development of urban and rural areas. With a focus on urban and rural planning, the deployment of industries, the construction of infrastructure, and the development of public services, the Government is working hard to overhaul the current system of separating out planning management for urban and rural areas, as well as financial inputting mechanisms. It is planning to build a coordinated market for land, capital and the labor forces as a means of bolstering the free-flow of productive elements between urban and rural areas. The system and mechanism for promoting the rapid and healthy development of cities and towns will be stepped up to include increasing the functionality and comprehensive buoyancy of cities, and for these cities to be able to impact on wider areas. A new round of reform in medical care services will be officially launched, with the overall objective focusing on the establishment of a basic-level medical care system covering both urban and rural areas, one that will ensure that basic medical services are accessible to all members of the public.

6. Persistence in implementing the strategy of developing the country through science and education

Achieving universalization of primary education is a key target of the MDGs. As the most populous developing country,

China attaches great importance to the role played by education in improving the all-round development of the Chinese people, and stimulating socio-economic development. Apart from prioritizing education, the Chinese Government advocates education as an inclusive public undertaking, and it works to ensure that by law, all members of the public are able to receive good education opportunities. The focus of the government-adopted strategy of “National Development Through Science and Education” is on the universalization and consolidation of compulsory education, as well as the rigorous development of vocational training (TVET). The strategy also aims to bring about an enhancement in the quality of China’s higher education system, as a means of helping this most populous country to become a prosperous nation with abundant human capital. China has continuously stepped up its contributions to relevant programs in an effort to maximize the growth of the education sector. On July 31, 2010, the Chinese Government issued the “National Medium and Long Term Education Reform and Development Plan Outline (2010-2020)”, which emphasizes that education will continue to be prioritized over the next 10 years. “Education for all-round development” will be comprehensively launched with reformation and innovation as its driving force, and equal opportunities and quality improvement defined as its core objectives.

The international financial crisis and China's development

The international financial crisis has brought unprecedented difficulties and challenges to China. Among these, China has faced a mounting pressure from the decline in its economy, persistent drops in import and export, a conspicuous decline in industrial production, and the closing-down or threatened closure of some enterprises, or a difficulty in remunerating staff. This crisis took place at the very important moment that China found itself experiencing a critical time in its own development, and just as it was beginning to adjust its own economic structure. The contradictory challenges, old and new, were interlinked, and made the global financial crisis considerably more difficult to deal with.

In order to meet the challenges facing China because of the international financial crisis, starting in the fourth quarter of 2008, the Chinese Government has made timely macro-economic policy adjustments. It has also adopted resolutely various positive financial policies, as well as moderately easy monetary policies. Further, it has made significant efforts to increase financial expenditure and to perform structural tax reductions, and has made several cuts in interest rates, increased the liquidity of the banking system, and stimulated economic growth based on an expansion of domestic consumption demand in particular. In addition, a series of policies and measures have been introduced across a wide spectrum of areas including consumption, foreign trade, agriculture, industry, science, technology, energy-saving and emissions reductions, employment, and social security. Thus China has implemented a systematically-complete stimulus package plan for maintaining stable and comparatively rapid economic development.

With the vigorous promotion of various policies and measures, the Chinese economy has continued to prosper, and there remains the momentum for the economy to continue improving with each passing day. Firstly, China's economic growth has recovered at a relatively fast speed. In 2009, China's GDP increased 9.1percent on the previous year – it rose by 6.2percent in the first quarter, 7.9percent in the second, 9.1percent in the third, and 10.7percent in the fourth. The first half of 2010 saw an increase in national GDP of 11.1percent. Secondly, there have been strong increases in domestic demand. Driven by public investment, China's total investment in fixed assets grew by 30.1percent in 2009, followed by an increase of 25.0percent during the first half of 2010. Thanks to consumption stimulation measures, the total retail sales of consumer goods in China rose by 16.9percent in 2009, and by 18.2percent in the first half of 2010. Thirdly, the foreign trade balance began to even out. In 2009, China received US\$196.07 billion in trade surplus, down by 34.2percent. The figure stood at US\$55.3 billion for the first six months of 2010, down by 42.5percent. Fourthly, employment in Chinese cities and towns took a turn for the better. In 2009, 11.02 million new jobs were created across China, and at the end of 2009 registered unemployment went up by 0.1percent from the previous year, standing at 4.3percent - well within the targeted 4.6percent set out for the year. During the first half of 2010, the unemployment rate in Chinese cities and towns dropped to 4.2percent.

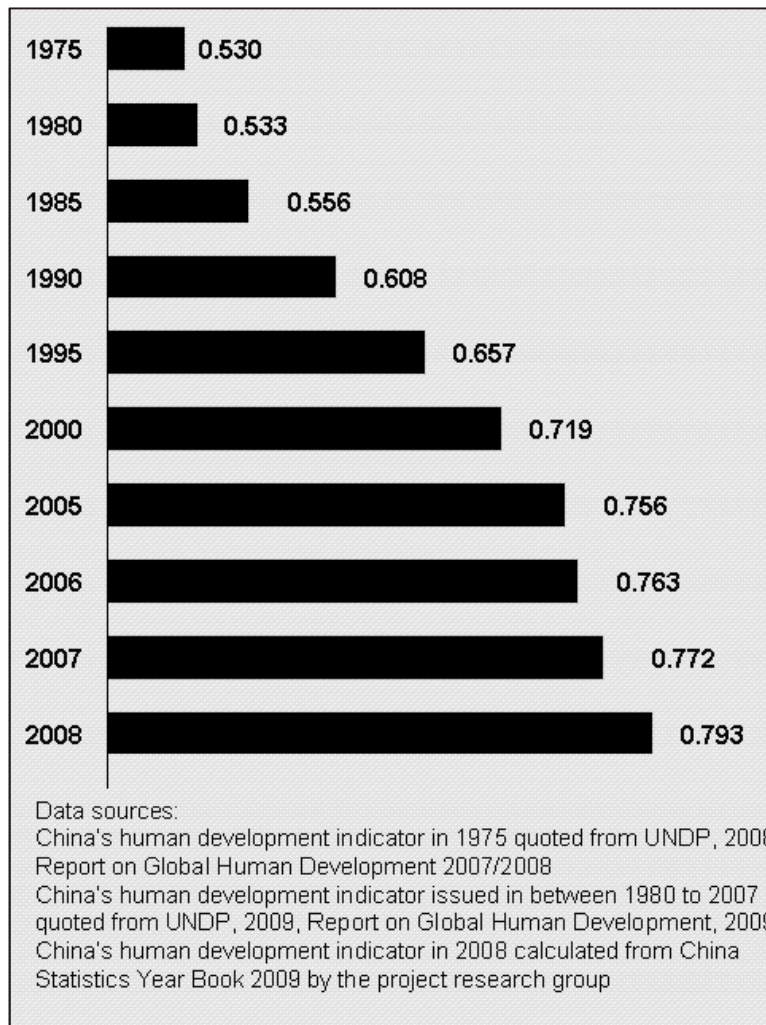
The Chinese Government will continue to strive for stable and rapid economic development, adjusting economic structural reform against managing inflation expectations. It aims to prioritize fast transformations in economic development, to enhance the quality and efficacy of economic growth, and to continue implementation of active financial policies and the moderately easy monetary policy. It also strives to maintain continuity in and stability of macro-level economic policies, and to formulate more targeted and flexible macro-economic control policies in accordance with latest developments.

Assessment of China's MDGs progress

Generally speaking, China has made great progress in achieving the MDGs. Most targets have been either met or have in fact exceeded expectations by achieving realization as far as seven years ahead of schedule. These targets include the eradication of poverty, hunger and illiteracy, and a reduction in the mortality rate of infants and children under the age of five. China is also on track to reduce maternal mortality ratio, and to be able to control and treat AIDS and tuberculosis. All of the MDG targets will hopefully be met by 2015. China's Human Development Indicator (HDI) has risen rapidly.

Chart A

Rising human development indicator in China, 1975 to 2008



Nonetheless, it is clear that China still faces huge challenges in achieving sustainable development. The main difficulties continue to be its considerable environmental pressures, and the regional and rural/urban income gap. China has formulated the 12th Five-Year-Plan (2011-2015), the goals for which far exceed the MDGs. The plan focuses on the disparities that have emerged in China as it has developed, in particular the income gap and the inequality of access to quality medical care and educational services. On the basis of its past successes, experience and the financial and human resources that it has accumulated during its rapid development, China is now poised to move its social development ahead even more rapidly, beyond the original MDG targets and towards more ambitious goals that will make it possible for China to qualify as a middle-income society.

This report now presents detailed discussions of progress on all eight MDGs. Every goal will be introduced in terms of its current situation, government support and challenges.

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Since reform and opening up, China has scored noteworthy achievements in poverty alleviation, becoming the earliest developing country to fulfill its poverty alleviation targets as set out in the UN MDGs. Over the past three decades, China has managed to feed a population that accounts for 22percent of the population of the world out of 9percent of the world's arable land and 6percent of the world's fresh water. In 2009, China adopted per capita net income RMB1,196 as the new national poverty line, upon which basis its rural poor population dropped from 0.25 billion in 1978 to 35.79 million in 2009.

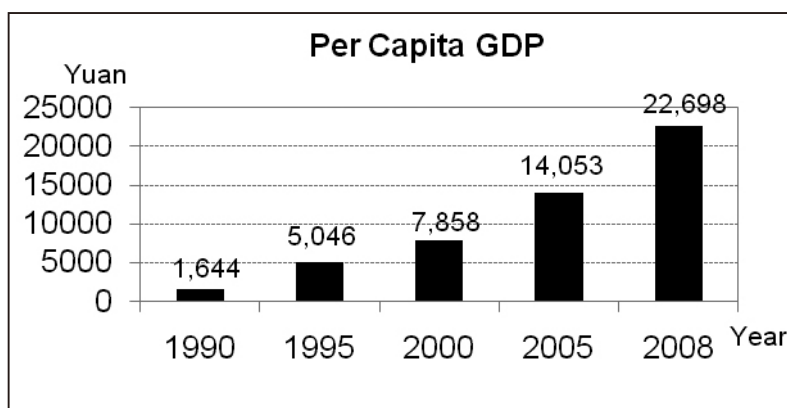
The rural reform that was kick-started in 1978 laid a good foundation for rural poverty alleviation. The extensive poverty reduction and development programs began in 1986 in a well-planned and organized way, and the basic needs of the rural poor have gradually been met over the intervening time. Since 2002, the Chinese Government has coordinated its planning for urban and rural development within a poverty-reduction framework that includes industrial, regional and social policies. In 2007, the Chinese Government made preparations for the establishment of a minimum living standard allowance system, and institutional arrangements were made to meet the basic needs of the rural poor. In October 2008, the resolution of the 3rd Plenary Session of the 17th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China clearly specified the implementation of new standards for helping the poor, including policies that offered support for low-income earners. In March 2009, Premier Wen Jiabao confirmed in his report on government work that the new standards for poverty relief would be implemented, as well as the policies for helping all low-income people in rural areas. This marks a new stage in poverty alleviation in China.

Target 1A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$ 1 a day

1. Current Situation

Using the poverty line set by the Chinese Government, the number of the poor people in China's rural areas fell from 85 million people in 1990 (9.6percent of the total rural population) to 35.97 million people in 2009 (3.8percent of the total rural population). China is the first developing country to achieve the MDG poverty reduction target before its proposed deadline. Measured against the international poverty line of less than US\$ 1 a day, the share of China's rural population living in poverty was reduced from 46percent in 1990 to 10.4percent in 2005, which also meets the MDG target well ahead of schedule. Another indicator used for Target 1A is the poverty gap ratio, which reflects not only the number of poor people, but also how far below the poverty line are their incomes. China has achieved good results against this indicator, with the ratio falling by 75percent between 2005 and 2000.

Chart 1.1



Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, *China Statistical Yearbook 2009*

China's advances have made a significant contribution to global progress on poverty alleviation as a whole. From 1990 to 2005, the number of people worldwide living on less than US \$1 per day fell by 418 million, or 23percent, to 1.4 billion. The data released by the World Bank shows that in the past 25 years, 70percent of people who had been lifted out of

poverty were Chinese. When China is taken out of the equation, the global poor population actually rose by 58 million people. Looking at the global situation in 2009, as the international financial crisis hit, 100 million people returned to poverty, and the number of people without sufficient food amounted to 1 billion. China, however, has achieved remarkable progress by addressing the financial crisis with active financial policies and a moderately loose monetary policy, as well as a stimulus plan that focuses on the expansion of domestic demand. Employment opportunities, the price of agricultural products, and the operation and management of enterprises, are all basically stable. What deserves most attention is the fact that, following the introduction of the minimum subsistence guarantee system for urban and rural residents, the basic needs of poor groups in both urban and rural areas can be largely met (see Table 1.1). The net income of farmers nationwide has increased by 8.5percent, of which the key areas launching work to support the poor have witnessed an increase of 9.2percent. The poverty alleviation situation appears to be smooth and stable.

Table 1.1

Per Capita Annual Income and Engel's Coefficient of Urban and Rural Households (Unit: Yuan; percent)

Year	Per Capita Annual Disposable Income of Urban Households	Per Capita Annual Net Income of Rural Households	Engel's Coefficient of Urban Households	Engel's Coefficient of Rural Households
1990	1510	686	54.2	58.8
1995	4283	1578	50.1	58.6
2000	6280	2253	39.4	49.1
2005	10493	3255	36.7	45.5
2006	11760	3587	35.8	43.0
2007	13786	4140	36.3	43.1
2008	15781	4761	37.9	43.7

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009

China has also actively participated in global poverty reduction outside its borders, by providing assistance, comparing notes with the international community on poverty reduction and social development, and promoting international cooperation. China is trying its best to give whatever it is able to provide towards assisting other developing countries and regions. While the picture may change slightly according to different standards of measurement, the conclusion remains the same: China's marked achievements in poverty alleviation have laid a solid foundation for achieving the MDG.

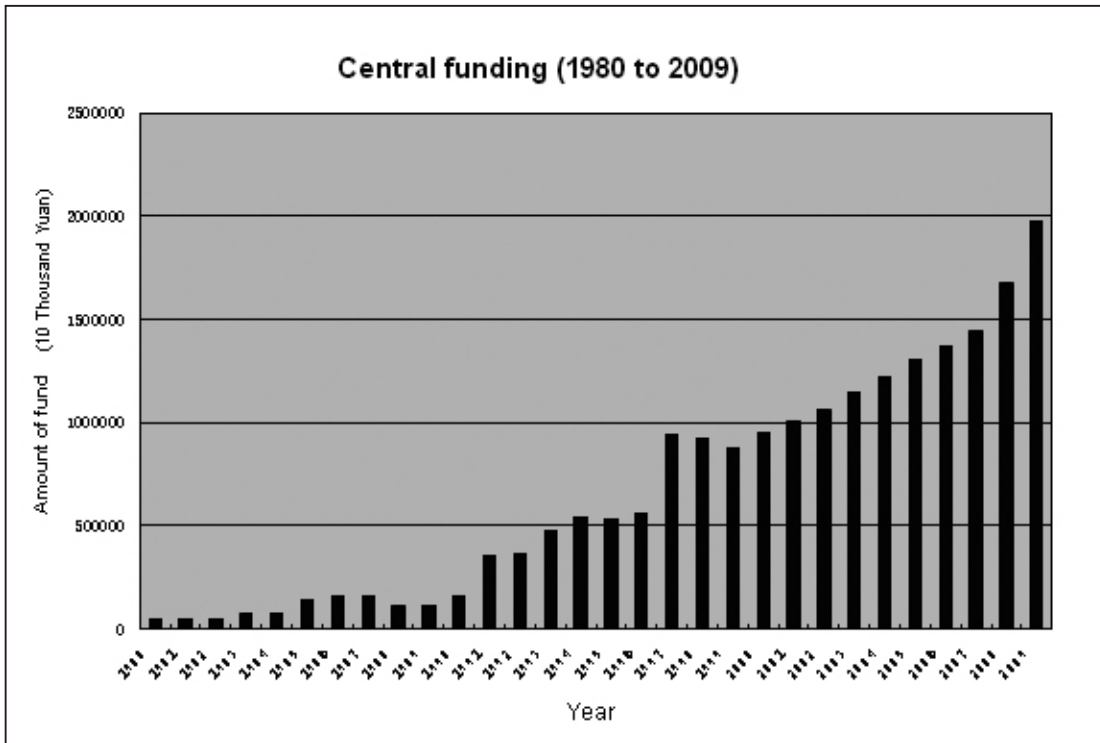
2. Government Support

China's sustained economic growth is a major reason for its progress in reducing poverty. From 1978 to 2009, China maintained an average annual GDP growth rate of 9.9percent, with GDP per capita rising from RMB381 to RMB25,188. While, this has provided the requisite supportive environment and material conditions to promote pro-poor development.

The Government has always prioritized rural poverty reduction when planning for the mid- and long-term national economy and social development. Leading Groups for Poverty Reduction with the broad multi-sectoral participation are well in place at different levels of governments, responsible for mobilizing and coordinating poverty reduction resources and implementation of poverty reduction programs. National poverty reduction standards have been adjusted according to levels of economic development and the national financial situation and the levels of basic living costs in rural areas, while the key areas targeted for support have been determined according to the distribution of the poor. The Chinese Government has also routinely increased funding for poverty reduction. Between 1980 and 2009 it earmarked over RMB198 billion for its special poverty alleviation fund, with average annual increases of 16.5percent. It also arranged

discount funding for poverty reduction loans and actively guided financial capital to support the poverty alleviation and development cause. Funding from local governments has continually expanded. See the following Chart 1.2, which shows central funding from 1980 to 2009:

Chart 1.2



Broad social participation and active international cooperation have also been important factors. Party and governmental organs, mass organizations and large state-owned companies have assisted 481 key targeted counties. The better-developed provinces and cities in eastern China have helped 11 poorer western provinces and cities. Private sector enterprises and social organizations have also been active in poverty reduction. Relevant international organizations, various bilateral agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have conducted cooperative projects or activities of various forms in China for the purpose of poverty alleviation.

Since the 1990s, China has actively pursued a participatory poverty reduction. The participatory approach engages the poor in poverty reduction programs and decisions relating to the allocation of funds, and encourages them to build and increase their own capacity for self-development. Effective methods have also been adopted to help poor groups with particular needs, such as women, children and the disabled. NGOs and civil society participation in poverty reduction have been one component of China's community-driven development for poverty reduction.



3. Challenges

At present, China is still in the initial stages of socialism. The general level of economic-social development is still not very high. There remain deep-rooted contradictions that restrict the development of poor people in poor areas:

- 1) China still has a large number of poor people. The degree of poverty remains high.
- 2) Development is not balanced. Development in poor areas still lags behind that of the wealthier parts of the country, and there remain significant problems for those poor groups with particular needs. Urban

poverty has become an emerging issue. The country needs to have systematic plans, strategies or policies to address this challenge.

3) Poverty-causing factors are increasing with each passing day. The international financial crisis as well as more frequent natural disasters highlights the vulnerability of the poor to external factors that can cause some to fall back into poverty.

4) The strengthening of public services and social security systems is still in its early stages, and as yet still wanting. With the impact of the financial crisis on poor areas still present, the pressure to prevent people from sliding back into poverty is especially high.

5) The income gap continues to widen between urban and rural areas and among different regions. .

6) More pro-poor fiscal policies are needed to enable people to have equal access to public services. Financial policies should ensure the poor population to access to financial services in rural areas. Land policies should be more protective of farmers' rights.

7) Disaggregated data collection and analysis should be strengthened to better monitor the poverty situation, to inform more responsive policy development with better targeting mechanisms.

The Chinese Government has made it clear that in order to reach the goal of building a Xiaokang society in a comprehensive way by 2020, the extent of support for the poor must be increased in order to help poor areas and poor people to speed up the pace of development. In the near future, the guiding principles for work supporting the poor are: to continue strengthening the fight against poverty, with the objective of eliminating poverty and reducing development gaps; to take social relief as a basic system to solve the problem of food and clothing; to take development for the poor as an important approach to poverty reduction; to satisfy the basic needs of targeted poor people and, as a primary task, to help lift those people out of poverty and help them onto the road of enrichment within the shortest possible time; to prioritize traditional revolutionary bases, minority areas and frontier areas; to focus on enhancing the capacity of the rural poor for self-development; and to ensure policy support, coordination between different departments, and mobilization of social resources as important back-ups.

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

1. Current Situation

In 2008 the global international financial crisis had an unprecedented impact on the employment situation in China. Addressing this impact, the Chinese Government spared no time in adopting a RMB 4 trillion stimulus package and formulating a series of policies and measures aimed at stabilizing and expanding employment, alleviating the burden on enterprises, and stabilizing existing employment. Meanwhile, active policies for employment have been enacted, focusing on developing employment channels for college graduates, migrant workers, and laid-off people in urban areas, and on increasing the number of jobs available, as well as helping men and women job seekers to become employed. The Central Government also increased funding; in the 2009 budget, RMB42 billion was allocated to the employment fund to strengthen public employment services and provide training, an increase of 66.7percent on the previous year. With joint efforts and a real commitment, the employment situation in 2009 was stable as a whole.

By the end of 2008, a total of 775 million people throughout the country were employed (see Table 1.2), of whom 45.4percent were women. In 2009 another 11.02 million people in urban areas found jobs; 5.14 million laid-off workers were re-employed; 1.64 million people who had previously experienced difficulty in finding jobs became employed. The number of China's migrant workers from rural areas was 145.33 million, of whom 34.9percent were women. Employed women in rural areas accounted for nearly half of the total employed population in those areas. By the end of 2009 the registered unemployment rate in urban areas was 4.3percent, representing an increase of 0.1percent on the end of 2008. The employment situation for college graduates and migrant workers was also basically stable. By the end of December 2009 the employment rate for 2009 college graduates was 87.4percent.

Table 1.2
Employed Persons in Urban and Rural Areas (Unit: 10,000 persons; percent)

Year	Population involved in Economic Activities	Number of Employed Persons			Percentage of Employed Persons	
		National	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1990	65,323	64,749	17,041	47,708	26.32	73.68
1995	68,855	68,065	19,040	49,025	27.97	72.03
2000	73,992	72,085	23,151	48,934	32.12	67.88
2005	77,877	75,825	27,331	48,494	36.04	63.96
2006	78,244	76,400	28,310	48,090	37.05	62.95
2007	78,645	76,990	29,350	47,640	38.12	61.88
2008	79,243	77,480	30,210	47,270	38.99	61.01

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009

2. Government Support

As China is a large country in terms of its population and its labor force, employment for all is naturally a challenge. In 2007, the Chinese Government enacted the Employment Promotion Law and the Labor Contract Law to promote employment and safeguard the rights of workers. This demonstrates the importance the Chinese Government places on the question of employment, maintaining that it is the foundation of people's livelihoods, and an essential policy for the stability of the country. It values employment as an important component in building a socialist harmonious society, and places employment in the foremost position when it comes to social development. It integrates employment with its targets for macro-adjustment and regulation of the national economy, as well as social development, and has adopted an employment guideline that stipulates that laborers choose their own jobs independently. The Chinese Government promotes employment and carries out active employment policies, thus making it easier for job seekers to find work and to maintain basic stability in employment.

The Chinese Government attaches significant importance to women's employment. It has formulated and enacted active employment policies for women, and worked hard towards helping them to secure jobs. The major policies are as follows: 1) Active development of jobs, improvements in employment policies, and the promotion of women's



employment. 2) Strengthening policy support, encouraging women to create self-employed jobs independently. 3) Making active efforts to provide women job-seekers with well-targeted employment services. 4) Carrying out specific projects that help laid-off women to become re-employed. 5) Further developments in the maternity insurance system, improving the employment environment for women. 6) Intensifying the scope of supervision of law enforcement, safeguarding the lawful interests and rights of women.

The Chinese Government sets great store by the employment of college graduates. It has made it clear that it considers this area a priority, and has formulated and

implemented a series of policies and measures to promote the employment of college graduates. The major policies and measures are as follows: 1) Encouraging and guiding college graduates to work in grass-root units in urban and rural areas. 2) Encouraging college graduates to work in medium- and small-sized enterprises and non public-owned

enterprises. 3) Encouraging backbone enterprises and science and technology research projects to admit college graduates. 4) Encouraging and supporting college graduates to start up their own businesses. 5) Strengthening employment services for college graduates. 6) Upgrading the employment capacity of college graduates by organizing internships or fieldwork that ensures them a chance to gain valuable experience before they leave school. 7) Strengthening assistance to college graduates in financial difficulties.

As of July 1, 2009, 68 percent of college/university graduates found their first job prior to their graduation. The employment rate remained the same as the previous year, with an increase in the number of graduates employed before graduation. By the end of December 2009, 87.4 percent of the year's graduates were employed.

The major policies and measures that China has adopted towards stabilizing and expanding employment opportunities in response to the international financial crisis include: 1) Setting up on mechanism for stimulating domestic demand and employment. 2) Stabilizing employment through reducing burdens of enterprises. 3) Encouraging entrepreneurship development to expand employment. 4) Exploring channels for employment for different target groups with difficulties in employment. 5) Strengthening vocational and skills training. 6) Strengthening public employment service to improve quality and efficiency. 7) Building up harmonious labor relations and strengthening the social security system.

3. Challenges:

1) Although the Chinese economy and employment have gradually recovered from the economic crisis, there still exists the issue of labor oversupply and the structural mismatch between labor supply and labor demand. The employment situation is still grave. And employment of rural migrants, university graduates and laid-off workers have posed challenges to achieving the target of full employment.

2) The economic and labor market policies need to be further coordinated to steadily strengthen the pulling effects of economic growth on employment.

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

1. Current Situation

China succeeded in reducing its ratio of underweight children by more than 50 percent between 1990 and 2005. Change is taking place in the dietary structure of the Chinese people. The consumption of grain is decreasing while the average daily intake of fruit, meat (especially from domesticated animals), and milk and eggs indicates an upward trend in dietary consumption, both in terms of quality and nutrition (see Table 1.3).

Table 1.3 Changes in Average Consumption of Major Foods per Year by Urban and Rural Residents

Item	1990	1995	1999	2000	2007	2008
Consumption by Urban Residents						
Grain (kg)	130.72	97.00	84.91	82.31	77.60	
Fresh vegetables (kg)	138.70	116.47	114.94	114.74	117.80	123.15
Fruit (kg)	41.11	44.96	54.21	57.48	59.54	54.48
Edible vegetable oil (kg)	6.40	7.11	7.78	8.16	9.63	10.27
Pork (kg)	18.46	17.24	16.91	16.73	18.21	19.26
Beef/Mutton (kg)	3.28	2.44	3.09	3.33	3.93	3.44
Poultry (kg)	3.42	3.97	4.92	5.44	9.66	8.00
Eggs (kg)	7.25	9.74	10.92	11.21	10.33	10.74
Aquatic products (kg)	7.69	9.20	10.34	11.74	14.20	
Fresh milk (kg)	4.63	4.62	7.88	9.94	17.75	15.19
Consumption by Rural Residents	1990	1995	1999	2000	2007	2008
Grain (Un-husked grain) (kg)	262.08	256.07	250.23	208.85	199.48	199.07

Vegetables (kg)	134.00	104.62	106.74	102.28	98.99	99.72
Fruit and their products (kg)	5.89	13.01	18.31	17.18	19.43	19.37
Nuts and their products (kg)		0.13	0.74	0.81	1.04	0.93
Edible oil (kg)	5.17	5.80	7.06	6.01	5.96	6.25
of which: Vegetable oil	3.54	4.25	5.45	4.90	5.06	5.36
Meat & poultry and their products (kg)	12.59	13.42	18.30	22.42	20.54	20.15
of which Pork	10.54	10.58	13.28	15.62	13.37	12.65
Beef	0.40	0.36	0.52	0.64	0.68	0.56
Mutton	0.40	0.35	0.61	0.83	0.83	0.73
Poultry	1.25	1.83	2.81	3.67	3.86	4.36
Eggs & their products (kg)	2.41	3.22	4.77	4.71	4.72	5.43
Milk & its products	1.10	0.60	1.06	2.86	3.52	3.43
Aquatic products (kg)	2.13	3.36	3.92	4.94	5.36	5.25
Sugar (kg)	1.50	1.28	1.28	1.13	1.07	1.11

Source: China Statistics Year Book 2009, edited by the National Statistics Bureau of the People's Republic of China, China Statistics Publishing House

Since 2004, China has had bumper harvests of grain for six successive years (see Table 1.4). The grain output has remained at and above 0.5 billion tons. China is becoming increasingly competent in grain provision. Per capita production of major agricultural products (see Table 1.5) has risen. These achievements lay a good foundation for further reducing in number the amount of people who currently do not have enough to eat.



Table 1.4 Output of Major Grain Products (Unit: 10,000 tons)

Year	Grain	Cereals			Beans	Tubers
		Rice	Wheat	Corn		
1990	44624	18933	9823	9682		2743
1995	46662	18523	10221	11199	1788	3263
2000	46218	18791	9964	10600	2010	3685
2005	48402	18059	9745	13937	2158	3469
2006	49804	18172	10847	15160	2004	2701
2007	50160	18603	10930	15230	1720	2808
2008	52871	19190	11246	16591	2043	2980

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009

Table 1.5 Per Capita Output of Major Agricultural Products (Unit: kg)

Year	Grain	Cotton	Oil-bearing Crops	Sugar Crops	Tea	Fruit	Pork, Beef and Mutton	Aquatic Products
1990	393.10	3.97	14.21	63.55	0.48	16.51	22.14	10.90
1995	387.28	3.96	18.68	65.90	0.49	34.98	27.42	20.89
2000	366.04	3.50	23.40	60.47	0.54	49.30	37.57	29.35
2005	371.26	4.38	23.60	72.50	0.72	123.65	41.98	33.90
2006	379.89	5.75	20.14	79.78	0.78	130.45	42.65	34.96
2007	380.61	5.78	19.49	92.48	0.88	137.62	40.09	36.02
2008	399.13	5.66	22.29	101.31	0.95	145.10	42.38	36.96

Data source: National Bureau of Statistics, China Statistical Yearbook, 2009

However, since the second half of 2008, the impact of the international financial crisis on China has gradually made itself felt. The pace of poverty alleviation in poor areas slowed down notably, and the potential for sliding back into poverty increased. Some initial survey indicated that consumption of meat, poultry and eggs by the poor decreased and the nutrition of rural pupils and students became cause for considerable concern. For example, an October 2009 survey of rural boarding schools in Ma Shan County in Guangxi's Nanning Municipality, conducted by the Disease Prevention and Control Center of Guangxi Autonomous Region, indicates that both the average height and weight of secondary school boarding pupils in every age group and primary school pupils aged 6 to 16 in poor towns and villages was lower than the average level for rural students and pupils in the region as a whole. The average height of boys was 5.7 cm lower than the norm, while that of girls 5.5 cm lower. The average weight of boys was 2.4 kg lower than the norm, while that of girls was 2.0 kg lower.

2. Government Support

The Chinese Government continues to prioritize the assurance of grain security in its economic work, and, as it strives to build and modernize its agricultural systems, has positioned the development of grain production as its most important task. The Government is sparing no effort in strengthening its support for and protection of grain production. The National Development and Reform Committee promulgated the "Production Capability Planning (2009–2020) for Another 100 Billion KG of Grain Nationwide", which specifies that by 2020 grain output must reach 545 billion kg in order to maintain a 95percent self-sufficiency rate. The Government is pledging the strictest possible protection systems for arable land, and is committed to achieving no less than 0.12 billion hectares of arable land nationwide by 2020.

The Chinese Government is committed to sustainable growth in agriculture. It has also pledged to guarantee a steady proportionate rise in agricultural output. It is continuously strengthening its funding into agriculture and into the rural areas in order to ensure that government financial expenditure goes first and foremost towards supporting the development of agriculture and the rural areas. It is also looking to strengthen innovation capacities in agricultural science and technology. It has committed to increasing its current 0.5percent input into agricultural science and technology to 1percent as soon as possible, in order to meet average global levels. Agricultural infrastructure will also be strengthened. Emphasis is to be placed on construction and the maintenance of water conservancy facilities, on water collection and water-saving irrigation projects in north-west China, on the development of terraced fields in mountainous areas, and on the construction of raised fields in saline-alkali land in coastal low-lands, etc.



As a means of dealing with the international financial crisis, the Chinese Government has carried out a series of measures that has channeled funding into poverty alleviation, helping returned migrant workers to become re-employed, and encouraging self-employment. Funding for poverty alleviation programs has increased significantly, and the standard of support for the poor has also improved with the introduction of a minimum living standard allowances system that provides relief and support to poor people and people who have slipped back into poverty. The pace of comprehensive address and management of particularly poverty stricken-areas has quickened, as have the restoration and reconstruction projects in poor villages affected by the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake. More social power has been mobilized for poverty alleviation.

the soybean industry and the food processing industry. The focus is on rural areas and the western provinces/regions, and also on the issue of food and nutrition for the three key groups: children and teenagers, women and babies, and the elderly. The Outline aims to help to reduce the rate of illnesses due to undernourishment, bringing the prevalence of illness among underweight children under the age of five down to 5percent. It also aims to encourage breastfeeding of children under the age of 4 months, and to introduce supplementary food for infants above the age of 4 months. “The Outline for the Development of Food and Nutrition in China (2011-2020)” is currently under formulation. Based on the development targets for food and nutrition for 2020, as set out in the Xiaokang Society, the new Outline proposes several policies, technologies and input assurances for the promotion of the development of food and nutrition.

The Chinese Government has formulated an “Outline for the Development of Food and Nutrition in China (2001-2010)”, which prioritizes the development of dairy products,

In April 2010, the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau of the Ministry of Public Health and the UN Children’s Fund initiated a nutrition-enhancing project for infants and babies in the Wenchuan earthquake-stricken area. The project covers 8 counties in Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi Provinces, and will be carried out over 18 months. It targets 23,000 infants aged between 6 and 24 months who will receive nutritional interventions in order to lower the prevalence rate of anemia and other illnesses.



3. Challenges

1) Although at present the total grain output in China guarantees basic self-sufficiency, as people’s livelihoods continue to improve, livestock products increase and the food processing industry develops at a pace, the increasing demand for grain will remain unchanged. In the medium- and long-term, the impact of the international financial situation and the energy market on the Chinese grain market will become more and more apparent. The factors that may cause the grain market to fluctuate are already becoming increasingly complicated. It is a risk to rely on the international grain market to meet the needs of the domestic grain market.

2) Grain production increases are facing more restrictions than ever before. There are a number of compounding factors. Firstly, there are more restrictions on water and soil resources than existed previously. The amount of arable land continues to shrink as industrialization and urbanization accelerate. Secondly, the comparative economic returns of grain-growing have been relatively low for some time now. This is detrimental to the protection of farmers' livelihoods, to mobilizing farmers into action, and to encouraging initiative among farmers. Accordingly, there is a negative influence on the potential for increasing grain production. Low level investment to agriculture and food production is also among the factors restricting grain production increase. Thirdly, the quality of agricultural laborers is decreasing. Most young adults in rural areas have left the countryside to become migrant workers. This inhibits the enhancement of grain-related science and technology. Fourthly, there are more uncertainties because of climate change than ever before. China is often cursed with disasters such as flood and drought, and is also affected by monsoons. Precipitation levels tend to fluctuate. There are a lot of incidents related to the extreme weather. Grain production is hit by serious droughts, floods, and extremes of temperature. In recent years there has been an increased probability of drought and flooding.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Over the last ten years, China has placed equality in education at the core of its education policies. The top priority in public education is to maintain consolidation in and to keep improving China's policy of nine years compulsory education. As a result, the Government has focused on popularization of compulsory education, and on bridging regional differences in education and the education gaps between rural and urban areas. In 2009, the net enrolment rate of school-age children was 99.4percent, up 0.3percent on the year 2000. The primary net enrolment rate of school-age children in western regions was 98.9percent in 2009, up 0.5percent from 2006. As such, there has been a marked bridging of the gap between eastern and central regions in this regard. In 2009, the admission rate of primary school graduates was 99.1percent, up 4.2percent on the year 2000. China has already popularized free primary education, one of the Millennium Development Goals.

As to Education for All and the MDGs progress, the Chinese Government is focusing its efforts on securing disadvantaged people's rights to education, and on redressing imbalances in education between different regions and between the rural and urban areas. It has done this through a series of policies and measures, the aim of which is to prioritize rural areas, the central and western regions, poverty-stricken areas, border areas and minority regions in the allocation of resources for public education. The policy according to which "the government and public-run schools in migrant-receiving areas must take primary responsibility for the education of migrant children" has been successfully implemented. This policy helps to ensure that the children of migrant workers receive the same opportunities for compulsory education as other children. The Chinese Government now offers nationwide exemption of tuition fees to children from families with financial difficulties in order that they also receive compulsory education. They also offer free textbooks, and grant living allowances to children from disadvantaged backgrounds. As such, free compulsory education has been realized. The Chinese Government has been continuously increasing funding to develop education. From 2004 to 2008, the accumulated funds earmarked for education in budgets nationwide amounted to RMB3.18 trillion, a 2.44-fold increase on the previous five years.

Target 2A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

1. Current Situation

China has achieved the overall primary education target of MDG Goal 2 ahead of schedule (see Chart 2.1). By the end of 2009, the primary net school enrolment rate had reached 99.4 percent (99.36percent and 99.44percent for boys and girls respectively). The five-year retention rate of primary schools increased from 95percent in 2000 to 99.3percent

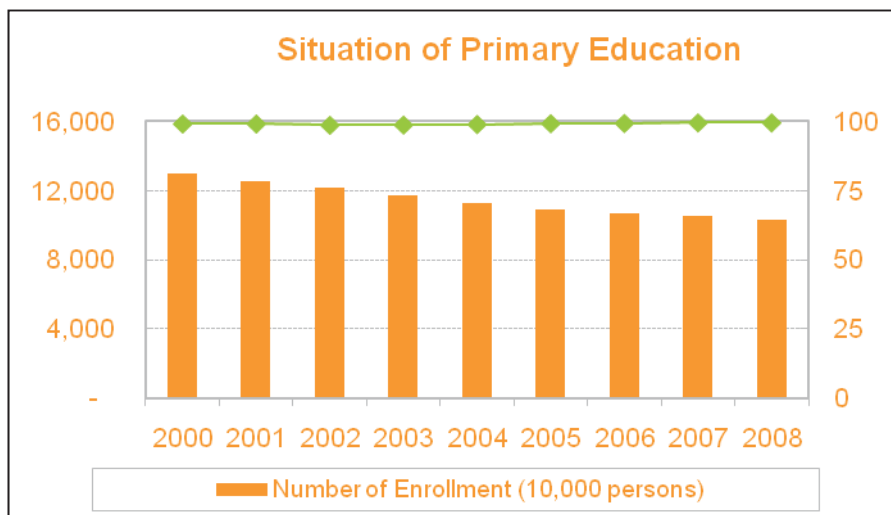


in 2009. With the retention rates for boys and girls standing at 99.4percent and 99.3percent respectively, gender disparities appear to have been eliminated, at least in this regard. In 2009, the gross enrolment rate in junior secondary education reached 99percent, while the coverage of nine-year compulsory education was 99.3percent for the country as a whole. Nine-year compulsory education has already been realized in 25 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, and will be fully universalized across all Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities by 2015. China aims to increase the nine-year compulsory education retention rate from 90.8percent in 2009 to 95percent by 2020.

The Chinese Government is pressing ahead with even higher goals for public education. Universal education of a higher standard is proposed in the "National Medium- and Long-Term Education Reform and Development Plan Outline (2010-2020)". This stipulates that pre-school education should be universalized by 2020; that the quality of nine-year compulsory education will be further improved and consolidated; that high-school education will be universalized, with a target gross enrollment rate of 90percent; that the access to higher education will be further enhanced, with a target

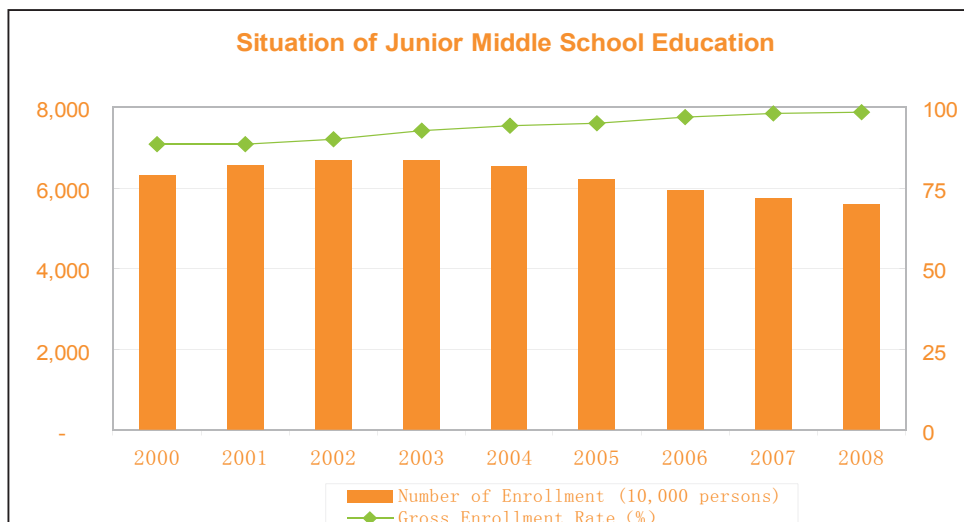
gross enrollment rate of 40percent; and that illiteracy will be eliminated among young and middle-aged people. The average number of years spent in education by those entering the workforce for the first time will increase from 12.4 years to 13.5 years; the average number of years spent in education by those of working age will increase from 9.5 to 11.2 years. Of these people, 20percent will have received higher education, a figure that represents a doubling of the corresponding percentage of 2009.

Chart 2.1



Data source: China Education Statistical Yearbook, 2009

Chart 2.2



Data source: China Education Statistical Yearbook, 2009

Table 2.1 Situation of Senior Middle School Education and University Education

Year	Senior Middle School Education		University Education	
	Number of Enrollment (10,000 persons)	Gross Enrollment Rate (percent)	Number of Enrollment (10,000 persons)	Gross Enrollment Rate (percent)
2000	2447	42.8	586	12.5
2001	2601	42.8	758	13.3
2002	2908	42.8	1600	15.0
2003	3243	43.8	1900	17.0
2004	3649	48.1	2000	19.0
2005	4031	52.7	2300	21.0
2006	4342	59.8	2500	22.0
2007	4529	66.0	2700	23.0
2008	4576	74.0	2907	23.3

Data source: China Education Statistical Yearbook, 2009

2. Government Support

The Chinese Government has made compulsory education, especially rural compulsory education, an important part of the national development strategy. In an effort to bridge the gaps in compulsory education that exist between urban and rural areas, the Chinese Government decided that from 2003, new funds earmarked for education would be used primarily towards implementing compulsory education in rural areas. Starting from 2005, a new system for guaranteeing compulsory education in rural areas was launched nationwide. The system ensures that costs incurred in effecting compulsory rural education are shared between the Central Government and local governments on a pro rata, item-by-item basis. The system also includes an effect-enduring mechanism for school building renovation works in rural areas, and improved salary guarantees for rural primary and middle school teachers. As of 2006, compulsory education tuition fees and additional costs were abolished for all students in rural areas. In 2007, investments in rural compulsory education totaled RMB299.2 billion, an increase of RMB162.7 billion (119percent) on 2003. The growth rate of investment in rural education averaged 21.7percent per year, overtaking the national education growth rate during this period, which stood at 18.3percent.

Since 2000, the Chinese Government has made efforts to encourage developed areas and urban areas to provide assistance to the rural areas. In particular, two projects have been promoted between schools in the eastern developed



regions and the western poor regions, and between urban schools and rural schools in the same province or autonomous region or municipality, both of which are dedicated to providing schools in poor areas with teaching staff and financial assistance. Such efforts have significantly improved conditions for the running of schools. They have also brought about improvements in education and teaching quality, and contributed to the popularization and consolidation of the universal nine-year education program in rural areas of central and west China.

Furthermore, the Chinese Government has also stepped up policy support for migrant workers educating their children away from the rural base. In 2003, the education policy for migrant children was expanded, based on the principle that “the government of migrant-receiving areas must take primary responsibility for the education of migrant children” and that “full-time public primary schools and secondary schools should be

open to migrant children". In 2009, the Central Government allocated RMB2 billion towards funding the compulsory education of the children of migrant workers. This went towards covering the costs incurred by migrant-receiving cities in providing compulsory education for migrant children, as well as improving school-running conditions. At present, the vast majority of children who migrate with their parents have access to compulsory education. At the same time, governments at all levels have also enhanced the education system for and supervision of children who remain in rural schools after their parents migrate.

3. Challenges

While the MDG Goal 2 has been achieved, the Chinese Government is making efforts to address some existing issues:

1) It has improved the overall quality of compulsory education. To this end, in strict compliance with the standards for implementing compulsory education in schools as well as the national curriculum standards and teacher qualification criteria, it has started formulating basic national standards for compulsory education and also begun to draw up relevant monitoring and assessment regulations. As such, it is ensuring that the overall quality of education will be improved. Further, high quality education will help to prevent incidences of students from dropping out because of learning difficulties.

2) It has promoted education equality and a balanced development of compulsory education. However, at present, disparities still exist between urban and rural areas, between regions, and between people of different social classes, in terms of compulsory education enrollment rates, retention rates and education quality. In view of this, the Chinese Government plans to continue promoting education equality and a balanced development of compulsory education through education resource allocation that favors rural and underdeveloped areas, whilst ensuring that all school-age children, including children with disabilities and migrant children, have access to quality education.

3) Education budgeting: In a bid to further enhance and improve the quality of education provided and received, the Chinese Government must continue to increase the proportion allocated in the national GDP and financial expenditures to the education budget. The Chinese Government has promised that the total amount of funds earmarked for education will account for 4 percent of the national GDP by 2012, and that investment in education from public finances will grow noticeably faster than returning incomes. The Chinese Government will continue increasing funding in education targeting rural and remote areas, poverty-stricken areas and minority regions.

4) Education statistics: China has established a vast and comprehensive education statistics system. However, education equality and quality as measured by the statistical indicator system, still require further improvement, as do education methods. This includes the development and use of the "cohort" method to track school attendance. Indicators reflecting education-related gaps between different regions and social groups will be refined, further resolving shortcomings in the statistics system because of the cross-region migration of students.



Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to gender equality and women's development, and has made equality between men and women a basic national policy. This includes women's development as part of the Government's general plans for national economic and social development. It has formulated various economic, judicial, administrative and media measures in order to guarantee that women enjoy equal rights in political, economic and cultural spheres, as well as in social and family life. It consistently promotes the all-round development of women.

The 1995, UN Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, passed the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. This has had a significant influence on the promotion of gender equality and women's development. For its part, the Chinese Government promulgated the Program for the Development of Chinese Women (2001-2010) in 2001, a pledge with 34 major objectives and 100 strategies and measures in the following six areas: women and the economy; women in decision-making and management; women and education; women and health; women and the law; and women and the environment. In May 2007, the National Working Committee on Children and Women, under the State Council, published a mid-term evaluation report on the implementation of the Program. It demonstrated that implementation of that which had been laid down in the program had been relatively satisfactory.

Target 3A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

1. Current Situation

China is making remarkable progress in achieving gender equality in primary and junior secondary education. In 2009, the primary school net enrolment rate was 100percent, the gender parity index for the five-year retention rate of primary schools reached 99.9percent, and the gender parity index for the three-year retention rate of junior middle schools was 102percent. This indicates that gender disparities in primary and junior secondary education have been effectively eliminated in China. The number of girls in senior middle school reached 46.4091 million, accounting for 46.94percent of the total number of senior middle school students. The number of women students attending college/university was

10.8255 million, accounting for 50.48percent of the total. In terms of schooling years, the gap between men and women has decreased to approximately one year. China is on track to achieve the goal of "eliminating gender disparities at all levels of education no later than 2015".



At present, the biggest challenge facing China in terms of gender disparity elimination is eradication of illiteracy. Despite the fact that the gender parity index for the literacy rate of Chinese people aged 15 and above rose from 88.8percent in 2001 to 92.2percent in 2008, the literacy rate of female adults in China remains significantly lower than that of adult men. Women account for 70percent of illiterate adults in China, highlighting the continued need to eradicate illiteracy among Chinese women.

Table 3.1

Gender Composition of Students Receiving Various Levels of Education						
Levels of Education	2000		2005		2008	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Higher Education	59.0	41.0	52.9	47.1	50.1	49.9
Senior Middle School Education	58.1	41.9	53.6	46.4	52.2	47.8
Junior Middle School Education	53.0	47.0	52.7	47.3	52.6	47.4
Primary School Education	52.4	47.6	53.2	46.8	53.6	46.4
Special Education	64.1	35.9	64.5	35.5	65.6	34.4
Preschool Education	53.9	46.1	54.9	45.1	55.1	44.9

Unit: %

Data source: China Education Statistical Yearbook, 2009

The number of women in employment is constantly on the rise. The All-China Women's Federation and the Ministry of Human resources and Social Security, as well as other relevant departments, have carried out a series of activities in over 200 municipalities and cities that are designed to provide employment-related assistance to women in order to help them to secure jobs. Professions including household services, knitting by hand, and export processing have been developed vigorously in order to spur cooperation in projects, labor and markets between the central and western areas and the coastal provinces of the east, in order to create more employment opportunities.

The participation of women in politics is important as a means of ensuring that women's rights and interests are protected and upheld. In 2008, 21.3percent of representatives at the National People's Congress (NPC) were women (see Table 3.2), a 1.1percent increase on the previous Congress. Of these women, 16.1percent were also members of the Standing Committee, a 2.9percent increase on the previous Congress. However, since the MDG target is for women to occupy 30percent of national parliament positions, action needs to be taken to further increase the number of women in the NPC. In 2008, out of the 27 candidates approved by the 11th National People's Congress as ministers and chairpersons of ministries and committees under the State Council, three were women, accounting for 11.1 percent of the candidates. This marks an improvement on the previous administration under which there were no female ministers or chairwomen at all. By 2008, 39percent of the cadres nationwide were women.

Table 3.2

Number and Composition of NPC Members				
Frequency and Time for Convocation	Number of Members (Person)		Gender Composition (%)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
The First (1954)	1,079	147	88.01	11.99
The Second (1959)	1,076	150	87.77	12.23
The Third (1964)	2,492	542	82.14	17.86
The Fourth (1975)	2,232	653	77.37	22.63
The Fifth (1978)	2,755	742	78.78	21.22
The Sixth (1983)	2,346	632	78.78	21.22
The Seventh (1988)	2,344	634	78.71	21.29
The Eighth (1993)	2,352	626	78.98	21.02
The Ninth (1998)	2,329	650	78.18	21.82
The Tenth (2003)	2,381	604	79.77	20.23
The Eleventh (2008)	2,349	638	78.64	21.36

Data source: statistics from the National People's Congress (NPC), 2009

2. Government Support

China ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1979 and has complied with its obligations. It has made the promotion of gender equality an important objective in educational development.

In 2001, the Chinese Government promulgated the “Program for the Development of Chinese Women (2001-2010)”. This Program emphasizes that the school enrollment rate for girls be guaranteed, and that assistance be provided to help girls who are deprived of education or who have stopped schooling to complete their nine years of compulsory education. The “Program for the Development of Chinese Children”, issued in the same year, also paid specific attention to protecting the rights of female children to receive an education. Preferential measures to support girls include the famous “Spring Bud Plan”, which successfully helped girls from poor families who had dropped out of school to resume their education. In the twenty years from 1989 to 2009, this plan received over RMB800 million in donations, and assisted over 1.8 million girls. The relief scope has now expanded from primary education and junior secondary education to senior secondary education and higher education.



Since 2007, the Chinese Government has earmarked RMB50 million (US\$7.4 million) per year for the support of literacy projects. These are focused on ethnic groups in western areas, and also on women. It has launched the “Women’s Illiteracy Eradication Campaign”, which it combines with women’s vocational

training. By 2007, over 20 million women had become literate through this initiative. In 2008, the illiteracy rate of Chinese female adults aged 15 or above had dropped to 11.5 percent. This marks the achievement of the goal of “bringing down the illiteracy rate of adult women to 12 percent” two years ahead of schedule. It is planned that, in the next ten years, the Chinese Government will speed up illiteracy eradication among women with the introduction of yet more

literacy and education initiatives for women.

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to the re-employment of women, working conscientiously to create more jobs for women, to expand opportunities for the employment of women, to provide well-targeted and highly-individualized employment services and vocational training, and to help laid-off female workers find new jobs. Special support is provided by government departments in the area of women's education and training. For example, the requirement that "women should account for at least 40percent of the trainees" is expressly stipulated in a wide variety of training programs, e.g. the Green Certificate Scheme, the New Self-employment Training Program for Peasants, the Sunshine Project, and the Spark Science and Technology Special Campaign, and so on.

3. Challenges

1) Discrimination based on gender, age and religion still exists in the labor market. The possibilities for re-employment for middle-aged and elderly women are almost non-existent. Female college graduates and young women face more employment difficulties than their male peers. Employment quality and the structure of employment for women must also be improved further. Attention should also be paid to the issue of women having an earlier retirement age than men.

2) The participation of women in public affairs and political life should be bolstered even further. This requires a favorable political, social and cultural environment at all levels of society. In 2010, the All China Women's Federation will receive US\$2.4 million from the United Nations Fund for Gender Equality towards implementing a program that will help to increase women's political profiles between 2010 and 2013. This program should result in noticeable gains in the participation of women in institutions of governance at both the national and local levels.

3) Gender-based violence has serious consequences for women's health and significantly limits women's potential to participate fully in society. In July 2008, "Several Opinions Concerning Domestic Violence Prevention and Suppression" was promulgated jointly by seven ministries and commissions including the Supreme People's Procuratorate, the Ministry of Public Security, and the Ministry of Civil Affairs. It clarified the functions of the various different government departments in domestic violence prevention and in dealing with relevant cases. By September 2009, local regulations for domestic violence prevention and suppression were formulated by people's congresses in a total of 25 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. The "China Anti Women and Children Trafficking Action Plan (2008-2012)" was approved by the State Council in December 2007, and the "Implementing Rules for the China Anti Women and Children Trafficking Action Plan (2008-2012)" was issued by the Ministry of Public Security in March 2009, in collaboration with another 28 ministries and commissions. Also in 2009, a special campaign was relaunched by public security organs all across the country, cracking down on women and children trafficking activities.

4) Rates of female suicide are high compared to those of men. As such, more commitment and action is needed to address this problem.

5) China's sex ratio at birth (SRB) remains unbalanced, although this situation has improved in certain parts of the country during the recent years. Starting in mid 1980s, the Chinese Government adopted a series of policies, laws and strategic actions to address the situation. Nonetheless, long-term effort is still required in order to overcome the traditional stereotypes relating to the roles and responsibilities of men and women in the family and in society, and the bias in favor of boys. This can be achieved by optimizing social and economic measures so that they help to improve the situation of reliance on sons to support the elderly, and by improving the legal system in order to prevent sex-selective abortions for non-medical purposes.



Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Over the past 30 years, since the reform and opening up, the Chinese Government has worked continuously to improve the efficiency of the legal system for women and children, and to strengthen the legislation around women and children's health. Further, the Government has employed legislation to effect a service network for maternal and child health (MCH) and strengthened the management and implementation of MCH projects in an effort to ensure constant improvements in the health status of women and children.

In 1994, the Chinese Government promulgated the People's Republic of China Law on Maternal and Infant Healthcare, which was the first law to protect the rights and interests of women and children in healthcare. The Law also provides a legal basis for MCH services. In 2001, the Government promulgated the "National Programs for Women's Development (2001-2010)" and the "National Programs for Children's Development (2001-2010)". It has also made public the Implementation Regulations for the "Law on Maternal and Infant Healthcare". Maternal and child care is now based in a complete legal and regulatory system that provides support to the protection of women's and children's health. There are now over 3,000 MCH centers nationwide, employing 500,000 health workers across a three-tiered network of county, township and village-level services that provide women and children all over the country with comprehensive MCH care. The mortality rate of children under the age of five has decreased from approximately 61 per 1,000 live births in 1991 to 17.2 in 2009.

Target 4A: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

Table 4.1 Infant Mortality Rate and Under 5 Mortality Rate

Year	Infant Mortality Rate (%)			Under 5 Mortality Rate		
	Total	Urban Areas	Rural Areas	Total	Urban Areas	Rural Areas
1991	50.2	17.3	58.0	61.0	20.9	71.1
1995	36.4	14.2	41.6	44.5	16.4	51.1
2000	32.2	11.8	37.0	39.7	13.8	45.7
2001	30.0	13.6	33.8	35.9	16.3	40.4
2002	29.2	12.2	33.1	34.9	14.6	39.6
2003	25.5	11.3	28.7	29.9	14.8	33.4
2004	21.5	10.1	24.5	25.0	12.0	28.5
2005	19.0	9.1	21.6	22.5	10.7	25.7
2006	17.2	8.0	19.7	20.6	9.6	23.6
2007	15.3	7.7	18.6	18.1	9.0	21.8
2008	14.9	6.5	18.4	18.5	7.9	22.7

Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

1. Current Situation

Since 1990, China has made steady progress in reducing mortality rates of children under the age of five. Infant mortality rates have come down from 50.2 per 1,000 live births in 1991 (see Table 4.1) to 13.8 in 2009. Similarly, the mortality rate of children under the age of 5 has dropped from 61 per 1,000 live births in 1991 to 17.2 in 2009. This indicates that China has achieved this MDG ahead of schedule.

However, there are still huge disparities in child mortality rates across different regions and populations in China. The rates vary according to socio-economic status, urban-rural residency and geographic location. Although the mortality gaps have decreased numerically, mortality in the poor western provinces and regions remains higher than that of the wealthy eastern provinces.

In 2009, over 80percent of child deaths occurred in infancy, with some 60percent occurring among newborns (chiefly

due to neonatal asphyxia, premature delivery or low birth weight, severe infection, and congenital malformations). Beyond infancy, the main causes of child mortality are, in rural areas, pneumonia, injury and diarrhea, and, in urban areas, injury and pneumonia. Nutrition remains a significant contributing factor for child mortality, particularly in poverty-stricken areas. Micronutrient deficiency is common in these areas.



The Chinese Government attaches great importance to the issue of immunization coverage, and has expanded its national immunization program. It is aiming to rid China of polio, to eradicate measles, to contain hepatitis B, and to tighten up on the control of diseases that can be prevented through vaccination. According to the Communicable Diseases Targeted Vaccination Report in 2009, there was a noticeable decrease in the incidence of diseases preventable through vaccination (including measles, meningococcal meningitis and hepatitis A) as compared with 2008.

2. Government Support

Improving child health and reducing child mortality are priority tasks of the Chinese Government. Since 2003, the Government has also implemented a new cooperative medical scheme (NCMS). Currently, this covers 94.2 percent of the rural population. Universal coverage is expected by the end of 2010. In addition, a system of medical financial aid to fund and subsidize the poor to participate in the NCMS has also been introduced. It is anticipated that both the urban and rural population will be able to enjoy basic healthcare services by 2010.

In 2003, the Chinese Government introduced a systematic social project, Showing Care and Love to Girls, an initiative aimed at eliminating existing gender discrimination and addressing the problem of the rising male to female birth sex ratio. The Government formulated a socio-economic policy that is beneficial to girls and families who practice family planning, and comes down hard on those who practice gender selection from embryos for non-medical purposes, on those who carry out abortions for sex-selection purposes, on those who engage in female infanticide, and on the abandonment and criminal cases involving the abduction and trafficking of girls.



The Chinese Government has also made a significant effort to improve MCH services (see Table 4.2). Healthcare facilities at various levels have seen the introduction of prompt and effective healthcare practices including the “green channel” system, which helps to prevent maternal and infant death due to delayed referral or first-aid, and which works to ensure the safety of mothers and infants. Further, healthcare service conditions in poor areas of central and western China have been significantly improved through the implementation of projects such as “Reducing maternal mortality rates and eliminating neonatal tetanus”, “Birth defect interventions” and “Preventing mother-to-child transmission of AIDS”, as well as other cooperative projects with international organizations. These initiatives have been rolled out over practically all underdeveloped areas in the region. Mortality rates among mothers and infants have decreased accordingly.

Table 4.2 Children's Health Care (Unit: percent)

Year	Rate of Infants with Birth Weight<2500g (percent)	Rate of Newborns Visited by Health Workers after Birth	Rate of Systematic Management for Children below Ages 3 (percent)	Rate of Health Care Management for Children below Ages 7(percent)
1990	3.74	...	46.3	...
1995	2.01	82.3	53.3	...
2000	2.40	85.8	73.8	73.4
2001	2.35	86.3	74.7	74.5
2002	2.39	86.1	73.9	74.0
2003	2.26	84.7	72.8	72.7
2004	2.20	85.0	73.7	74.4
2005	2.21	85.0	73.9	74.8
2006	2.22	84.7	73.9	75.0
2007	2.26	85.6	74.4	75.9
2008	2.35	85.4	75.0	77.4

Note: "... " means no data available.

Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

China has relatively complete information systems. Nevertheless, it could still improve its international standardized data on essential high-impact interventions for child survival. Data concerning the nursing care of pneumonia patients needs to be further clarified, for example. The Chinese Government is making effective efforts to improve its information data system in close collaboration with the WHO, focusing on indicators and survey methods.

Since 2007, the Child Immunization Program was further expanded to provide 12 types of vaccines to all children: oral polio, diphtheria, tetanus, diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus, BCG for tuberculosis, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, Japanese encephalitis, meningococcal meningitis and hepatitis A. The central Government is overseeing the purchase of all the vaccines and syringes, and the central and provincial governments are offering subsidies to health workers who carry out this inoculation work.

From 2009 to 2011 China will give hepatitis B vaccines to all children under the age of 15 who have not yet received this vaccine. Again, the Central Government will be responsible for funding the purchase of vaccines and syringes.

In order to effectively reduce maternal and child mortality in poor areas of central and western China, the Chinese Government implemented the "Reducing Maternal Mortality Rates and Eliminating Neonatal Tetanus" project. Accordingly, between 2000 and 2010, the Central Government allocated funds totaling RMB2.12 billion. In 2008, the Central Government earmarked RMB1.9 billion for the "Hospital Delivery Subsidy to Rural Women in Central and West China" program, and from 2009 onwards, the Hospital Delivery Subsidy to Rural Women project has been welcomed across the country as a major national public healthcare program. A total of RMB5.1 billion has so far been invested in this program over 2009 and 2010. The local as well as Central Government also assigned funds for the immunization program and the support of healthcare for mothers and children.

3. Challenges

- 1) Insufficient funding in public health has resulted in incomplete preventive health services and incomplete coverage.
- 2) The NCMS and urban health insurance schemes need to be further strengthened so that children, in particular newborns and migrant children, can be covered by health insurance schemes.
- 3) There are still differences in the quality of accessible healthcare services available. Sub-standard services tend to affect rural and poor populations, the floating population, and children of ethnic minority families.

4) In China, there is a traditional preference for men and boys over women and girls. This problem, taken together with the need for improvements to the Government's socio-economic policies, contributes in part to the higher female infant mortality rate. Particular attention needs to be given to the higher female infant mortality rate in rural areas.

5) Although the national monitoring system for maternal and child mortality has been improved markedly in recent years, accounting for child mortality rates and immunization coverage among unregistered and floating populations remains a challenge.



Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Over the past 30 years, the process of reform and opening up in China has brought economic prosperity to the country, and also helped to improve women's healthcare and reproductive health. The Chinese Government has attached great importance to maternal health and reproductive health, and has incorporated these issues into national development strategies. It has also promulgated a series of relevant laws, statutes, regulations and policies, and has gradually established a legal system that provides solid legal guarantees for the protection of Chinese women's rights and interests and for the enhancement of the reproductive health status of women. This system includes a Law on Maternal and Infant Healthcare, a Law on the Protection of Women's Rights and Interests, a Population and Family Planning Law, Management Regulations for Technical Services in Family Planning, a Program for the Development of Chinese Women, and a Program for the Development of Chinese Children.

Over recent years, China has continuously focused on intensifying reform in medical care, striving to establish a basic healthcare system that addresses maternal healthcare and reproductive health in both urban and rural areas. The Government has also actively stepped up funding in healthcare, and mobilized a range of social resources towards building an effective healthcare network for women nationwide. It has been working unceasingly to improve the quality of maternal and reproductive healthcare services provided. Further, it has also carried out public campaigns aimed at improving people's understanding of science and enhancing their awareness of maternal and reproductive healthcare rights and needs. These measures have significantly improved the maternal and reproductive health environment, as well as helping to bring down rates of maternal mortality. The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) dropped drastically from 80 per 100,000 live births in 1991 to 31.9 per 100,000 in 2009. At the same time, the popularization of reproductive healthcare services is constantly on the rise. As such, the livelihoods and health of Chinese women have improved remarkably.

Target 5A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

1. Current Situation

China's efforts to reduce its maternal mortality ratio (see Table 5.1) have turned in some good results. It looks possible that by 2015 China may indeed reach its target of reducing its MMR by 75 percent. However, regional differences remain, with the MMR in western provinces and regions remaining far higher than that of the eastern provinces. The top three causes of maternal mortality are maternal hemorrhage, high blood pressure during pregnancy, and amniotic fluid embolisms. Maternal mortality among the floating population has emerged as a new phenomenon.



The "Subsidies for Rural Women Delivering in Hospitals in Key Central and Western Areas" project has been implemented since 2008. The project was expanded in 2009 to include all rural areas. The rate of rural women delivering in hospitals rose from 46 percent in 1990 to 94.7 percent in 2009.

Table 5.1

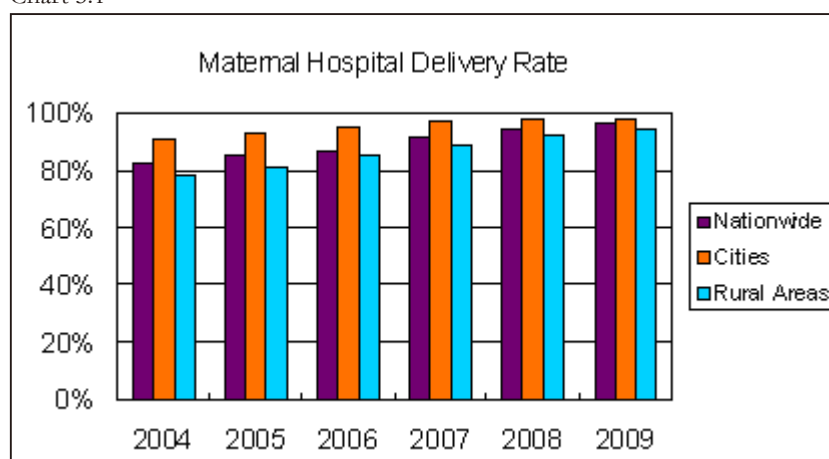
Maternal Mortality Ratio (death/100,000 live birth)				
Year	Nationwide	Eastern	Central	Western
2000	53.0	21.2	52.1	114.9
2001	50.2	29.3	53.2	85.7
2002	43.2	19.7	53.8	71.6
2003	51.3	16.2	60.0	93.5
2004	48.3	13.1	56.7	93.7
2005	47.7	21.2	50.9	87.3
2006	41.1	26.7	39.2	77.0
2007	36.6	22.4	34.5	58.6
2008	34.2	19.3	34.4	51.1

Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

2. Government Support

The Chinese Government has incorporated the improvement of maternal healthcare into its national development strategies. It has also implemented relevant policies and a legal framework. A range of practical measures have been introduced in order to fulfill the specific goals of reducing maternal mortality rates and raising hospital delivery rates (see Chart 5.1). The Government has increased funding, particularly in the area of maternal healthcare. China has established a three-tiered MCH service network (village, township and county) and strengthened the national monitoring system for maternal and child sanitation. It has also begun to submit annual statistical reports.

Chart 5.1



Key indicators of health among migrant populations have been included in the annual MCH reports since 2003. A large number of provinces and cities have developed policies at the local level to help to ensure that migrant workers also have access to local health services. China began to incorporate maternal healthcare (see Table 5.2) into basic national public health services in 2009. Today, all pregnant women are entitled to receive free antenatal care at least five times during their pregnancies, and postpartum women are entitled to two free postnatal visits. In addition, the following vital components of the national public health project are implemented nationwide: subsidies towards the hospital deliveries of rural pregnant and postpartum women, and provision of free folic acid supplements during the pre-conception and early pregnancy periods in order to help prevent birth defects.

The central Government has increased the amount of public funds dedicated to the new cooperative medical scheme in rural areas. Today this system benefits 833 million people, or 94.2percent of the rural population, covering all the counties with rural population.

3. Challenges

1) Disparities in access remain fairly considerable. As far as poor populations, floating populations and ethnic minority people are concerned, there are big differences in terms of access to services, not to mention quality of services. In rural areas in particular, the knowledge and skills of midwives and obstetric personnel must be upgraded with a focus on delivery care, emergencies and referral services.

2) Medical costs remain relatively high. The medical care system in rural areas must be further reformed, with an emphasis on cost reduction, improved service quality and alleviation of personal financial burdens.

3) Some traditional and new methods that have proved effective in reducing maternal mortality rates, for example pregnancy counseling and prenatal care, have not yet been popularized nationwide, particularly in rural areas.

Target 5B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health

1. Current situation

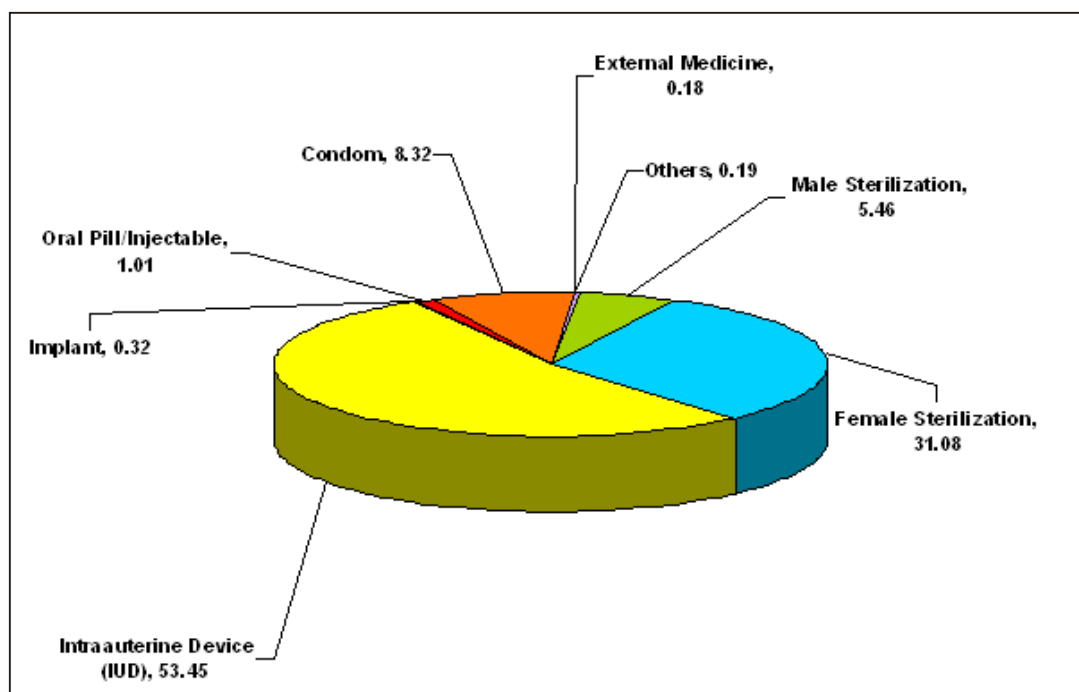
The overall percentage of married women using some form of contraceptive in 2009 (see Chart 5.2) was 89.0percent. According to estimates by the United Nations Population Division, the unmet need for family planning is 2.3percent. Data from the 2008 National Demographic Change Sampling Survey showed that birth rate of adolescents (15-19) is 5.26 per thousand.

Table 5.2 Maternal Health Care (Unit: percent)

Year	Percentage of High-risk Pregnant Women	Rate of Registration for Services	Rate of Systematic Management	Rate of Prenatal Examination	Rate of Being Visited by Health Workers after Delivery
1996	7.3	82.4	65.5	83.7	80.1
2000	10.0	88.6	77.2	89.4	86.2
2001	11.1	89.4	78.6	90.3	87.2
2002	11.9	89.2	78.2	90.1	86.7
2003	11.8	87.6	75.5	88.9	85.4
2004	12.4	88.3	76.4	89.7	85.9
2005	12.8	88.5	76.7	89.8	86.0
2006	13.0	88.2	76.5	89.7	85.7
2007	13.7	89.3	77.3	90.9	86.7
2008	15.7	89.3	78.1	91.0	87.0

Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

Chart 5.2: Contraceptive methods used by married women of reproductive age (percent)



Source: National Population and Family Planning Commission, 2009

2. Government support

China has been pushing for the standardization of family planning and reproductive health services and is gradually computerizing them. Efforts have been made to improve the quality of family planning public health care. Currently in eastern China, local health services can provide coverage of quality reproductive health and family planning services to almost 80percent of the population in the region. With the promotion of these services to the whole country, more and more women of reproductive age can enjoy quality reproductive health and family planning services

The State Council announced its “Regulations on Provision of Family Planning Services to the Migrant Population” in May 2009 which aimed to provide family planning services for migrant populations. In recent years, local family planning services delivery points under the National Population and Family Planning Commission have been promoting equal access to basic health services and free family planning services for the migrants a program called “Love and Care.” There has been a big improvement in these services.

The National Population and Family Planning Commission and the Ministry of Health, have been implementing a reproductive health/family planning project supported by the United Nations Population Fund in 30 counties with one each in the 30 provinces (municipalities and regions). One of the components of the project is to promote adolescent reproductive health, emphasizing reproductive health and sex education for teenagers and piloting in providing youth friendly services at the county service delivery points for maternal and children health care under the Ministry of Health.

In recent years, there have been increasingly more unwanted teenage pregnancies. In cooperation with local family planning and public health departments, the National Population and Family Planning Commission has adopted several measures to promote sexuality and reproductive health education for young people.

Families at the town and village levels have also been promoting educational material on the prevention of birth defects. The materials provided have been both scientific and standardized, meanwhile family planning organizations have been trying to provide individualized prenatal services to families.

3. Challenges

- 1) There is still no standardized system in place to provide young people, or the unmarried with reproductive health information, services and education; strategies for such information, education and services need to be formulated and implemented.
- 2) Reproductive health and family planning services for migrant populations are inadequate; equal access to family

planning services for migrant populations must be further promoted.

3) Relatively large regional disparities still exist in the quality of reproductive health and family planning services. More efforts must be made to improve these services especially in central and western parts of China in order to improve these services in the whole country.



Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Marked progress has been achieved in infectious disease prevention and treatment in China during the past three decades of reform and opening-up. In the 1950s, the top causes of death in China were infectious diseases and verminosis. By 2005, these had declined to ninth place. China was the first of the developing countries to eliminate some of the most serious infectious diseases, such as smallpox and poliomyelitis.

After China's first Aids case was reported in 1985, the country introduced policy support and began investing into the prevention and treatment of HIV. It created a national mechanism, involving many government agencies, to encourage society's participation in HIV prevention. Marked progress has been reported in this area.

The number of malaria sufferers declined from 24 million in the 1970s to a few hundred thousand by the end of 2009. The area of the country affected by malaria has also significantly shrunk.

Although China suffers frequent natural disasters, there have been no outbreaks of infectious diseases following a disaster for many years because of effective disaster relief and epidemic prevention efforts. China responded to the outbreak of SARS in 2003 and prevented the spread of avian flu to humans in 2004. It also ensured that no outbreak of infectious diseases occurred after the earthquakes in Wenchuan in Sichuan (2008) and in Yushu, Qinghai (2010). Disease prevention and control bodies have been established at the central, provincial, city and county levels, along with prevention, control and treatment systems for serious infectious diseases, such as HIV/Aids, TB, malaria, schistosomiasis and hepatitis B.

Target 6A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS & Target 6B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

1. Current Situation

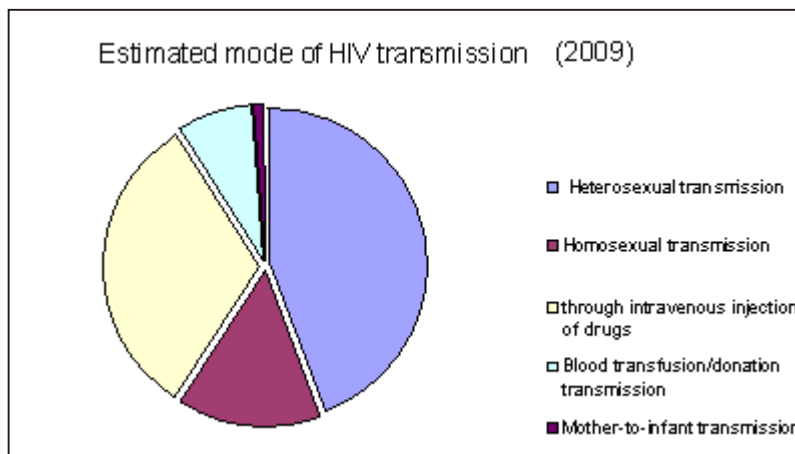
The situation is still uncertain and there are a number of difficult challenges ahead. However, China is pursuing the country's 2015 target for the prevention and treatment of HIV/Aids as laid down in the UN MDGs.

China's HIV/Aids epidemic continues to evolve. There are four main characteristics: firstly, the rate of increase in the epidemic's growth has slowed down; secondly, sexual transmission continues to be the primary mode of HIV transmission, with homosexual transmission taking an obviously increasing share; thirdly, a national level rates of infection are not high but the disease is serious in specific regions; fourthly, the number of people infected is increasing and modes of transmission are diversifying.

According to the 2009 HIV estimation conducted by the Ministry of Health, UNAIDS and the World Health Organization, there are approximately 740,000 people living with HIV and AIDS in China, of whom 44.3percent were infected by heterosexual transmission; 14.7percent by homosexual transmission; 32.2percent from intravenous drug use; 7.8percent by former plasma /blood donation or blood transfusion /use of blood products; and 1percent from mother-to-child transmission. Prevalence among the total population as a whole was 0.057percent (see Chart 6.1).



Chart 6.1

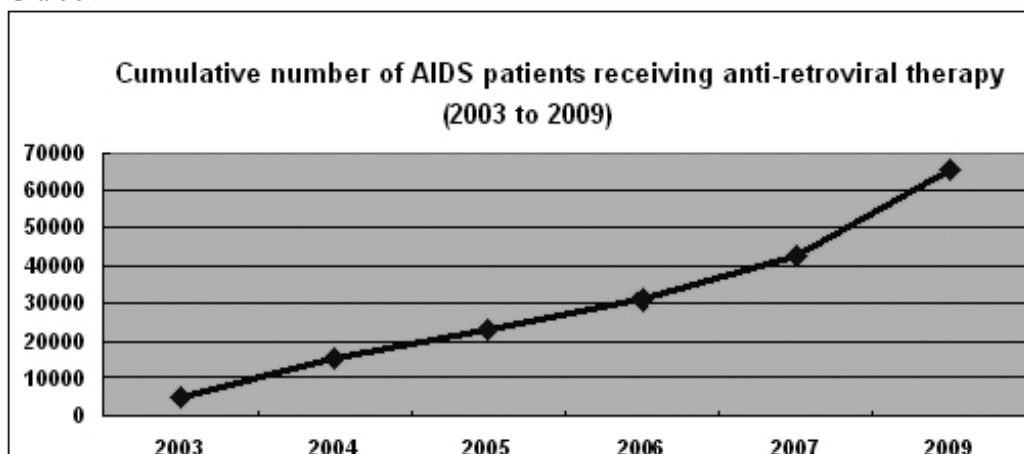


Mother-to-child transmissions accounted for 1.4 percent of cases of HIV according to the 2009 Direct Network Report. The report also found that the proportion of female HIV/AIDS sufferers had increased from 15.3 percent in 1998 to 30.9 percent in 2009. The central government has expanded preventative action for mother-to-child transmission from 271 regions and municipalities in 2007 to 453 in 2009. The number of pregnant women screened every year for HIV has increased from 1.96 million to 4 million in 2009. In 2009, 75.3 percent of pregnant women suffering from Aids were receiving medication aimed at preventing mother-to-child transmission.

Knowledge of HIV/AIDS is growing among the young. Some 85 percent of 15 to 24 year old in full-time education and 82 percent of the same age group not enrolled in full-time education showed a proper understanding of HIV/Aids prevention and treatment.

By the end of December 2009, the total number of people nationwide who had received HIV antiretroviral treatment had increased from 42,576 in 2007 to 81,739 in 2009. There are currently 65,481 people receiving treatment (see Chart 6.2).

Chart 6.2



2. Government support

In 2008 and 2009, in accordance with the “Regulations on the Prevention and Treatment of Aids”, and China’s “National Action Plan (2006-2010) for Reducing and Preventing the Spread of HIV/AIDS,” China enhanced its policy framework on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Responsible departments were ordered to implement relevant regulations and plans. A new session of the State Council Working Committee to Combat AIDS was held in 2008, which clarified departmental duties and the next key areas.

On the back of its “Four Free and One Care” policy, China launched other policies aimed at improving nine areas

in Aids orphan care (including the field of education) and encouraged families to adopt Aids orphans. In 2009, the Ministry of Civil Affairs launched several policies and earmarked funds to set up a center for Aids orphans. The Chinese Government is also working on strengthening the rights and interests of HIV/Aids sufferers and fighting



discrimination. “Insurance Regulations for Special Groups,” which was introduced in 2008, stipulated that medical expenses for Aids sufferers should be included in basic medical insurance. In April 2010, China revised its “Rules for the Implementation of Frontier Health and Quarantine Law” and “Rules for the Implementation of the Law of the PRC on Control of Entry and Exit of Foreigners,” by lifting the ban on HIV/Aids sufferers from entering the country.

In recent years, the number of social organizations and community groups working on the prevention and treatment of HIV/Aids has grown and they are playing an increasingly bigger role. The number of people volunteering for help groups, women’s groups, and helping people in high-risk categories continues to grow. These groups assist the Government in many

areas, particularly in the fields of public education, intervention, treatment and care.

China has increased its investment into HIV/Aids prevention in recent years. In 2007, the central government provided RMB940 million in funding, increasing it to RMB1.07 billion in 2008 and RMB1.22 billion in 2009. Local governments have also boosted their funding.

China has also been actively cooperating with international organizations. It has formed a close partnership with the United Nations and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and a good cooperative relationship with the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Australia. Many international NGO’s have also been actively engaged in Aids prevention and treatment in China, including the Clinton Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. International projects have covered 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.



3. Challenges

- 1) The AIDS epidemic is becoming increasingly complex, with serious epidemics in some regions and among some populations, and it has not been possible to effectively bring new infections under control. At the same time, some people living with HIV have not yet been diagnosed.
- 2) The risk factors promoting the spread of the AIDS epidemic still exist.
- 3) Intervention directed at high-risk groups lack effectiveness, making this work very challenging.
- 4) Implementation of the “Four Free and One Care” policy is uneven. The coverage of Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and antiretroviral treatment is insufficient.
- 5) There is scope for increased participation from civil society organizations in the AIDS response. Social stigma against people living with HIV still exists to a large degree.

Target 6C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

1. Current Situation

During the past three decades of reform and opening-up, China has made significant progress in the prevention and treatment of serious infectious diseases. China is among the 22 nations listed as high-burden countries for tuberculosis. It is also one of the 27 high-burden countries for drug resistant TB strains. According to estimates by the WHO, China ranks second in the world in new TB cases and also in multi-drug resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) cases. Since 1981, China has launched three national ten-year plans on the prevention and treatment of TB. Since 2001, China has launched the comprehensive modern TB control strategy and governments at all levels have actively fulfilled their pledges. China



has achieved its commitments on TB control at this stage to the international community. So far, governments at various levels, from the central government to county government, have set up organs for preventing and controlling the disease and a relatively efficient system of prevention and control.

China has adopted the WHO-recommended DOTS strategy for combating TB. The implementation of this strategy has grown from just a 5percent coverage rate in 1991 to 100percent by 2005 and remained at 100percent since then. The detection rate of smear-positive TB rose from 5percent in 1991 to 70percent in 2009. Since 1994, the cure rate for smear-positive TB has stayed above 85percent.

Malaria epidemics have fallen in recent years in some regions due to stronger control measures in force following the implementation of the “National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Malaria (2006-2015)”. In 2009, 14,140 malaria cases were reported from 31 provinces, regions and municipalities with an incidence rate of 1.1/100,000. That represents a decline of 46.6percent from 2008 when there were 26,478 cases reported (see Table 6.1).

Table 6.1

Incidence Rate, Mortality Rate and Fatality Rate of Malaria			
Year	Incidence Rate of Malaria (1/100,000)	Mortality Rate of Malaria (1/100,000)	Fatality Rate of Malaria (percent)
1990	10.56	0.00	0.03
1995	4.19	0.00	0.07
2000	2.02	0.00	0.16
2001	2.15	0.00	0.11
2002	2.65	0.00	0.14
2003	3.00	0.00	0.14
2004	2.89	0.00	0.09
2005	3.03	0.00	0.11
2006	4.60	0.00	0.06
2007	3.55	0.00	0.03
2008	1.99	0.00	0.08

Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

Life expectancy has risen significantly in China from 35 years before 1949 to 74 years in 2007. By 2035, one quarter

of the Chinese population will be 60 years old or older. Following industrialization and urbanization, the pattern of common diseases has changed. Chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, cancer, respiratory system disease and diabetes have become the main health threats. China is working actively on measures to reduce the chronic disease rate and prevent adults from early death or becoming disabled because of chronic diseases.

2. Government support

In 2001, the State Council drew up its “National TB Control Program (2001-2010)” under which the Ministry of Health made two five-year implementation plans (2001-2005 and 2006-2010) which included targets for controlling the disease. China has expanded its provision of free treatment for TB, while also strengthening epidemic reporting and handling of TB cases. Investment into TB control has risen from RMB210 million in 2001 to RMB530 million in 2009.



Since 2006, the Ministry of Public Health has issued several national plans and standards aimed at controlling malaria. These include its “National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Malaria (2006-2015)”; its “Emergency Plan for the Outbreak of Malaria Epidemics”; its “Standards for Diagnosis of Malaria” and its “Plan for Technological Malaria Prevention and Control.” These are all aimed at standardizing prevention measures and regulations for using anti-malarial drugs. To positively respond the call to eliminate malaria globally at the UN MDGs Summit and in line with the prevalence situation of Malaria in China, China’s Ministry of Health

worked with 12 other bodies including the State Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Finance, to launch an “Action Plan for Eliminating Malaria (2010-2020)” in 2010. Its goals are to eradicate malaria from the whole country but international border regions in Yunnan province by 2015, and to have eradicated malaria from the entire country by 2020.

The Chinese Government has steadily increased its funding for malaria prevention and control. In 2007, China made malaria treatment free and allocated RMB120 million to providing free anti-malarial drugs and insecticides, conducting blood tests for malaria patients, and the training of medical personnel. For the first time in 2003, China was granted funds from the Global Fund for Malaria. Since then, China has received over US\$62 million from this fund. It is estimated that China has received a total of US\$158 million over five years. The country has also been given technological support from international organizations such as the WHO. China has also been collaborating with its neighbors on malaria control and is currently trying to establish a mechanism for information exchange on malaria epidemics and joint prevention and control with Myanmar and Vietnam.

3. Challenges

- 1) The capacity of some grassroots groups working on malaria prevention and control needs to be improved.
- 2) Initiatives on TB control in migrant populations, multi-drug resistant TB, and people living with TB HIV co-infection are still at the pilot stage.
- 3) There have been marked increases in incidences of “imported” malaria from neighboring countries which are struggling to cope with their malaria epidemics. This poses a huge challenge to China’s fight against the disease.



Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

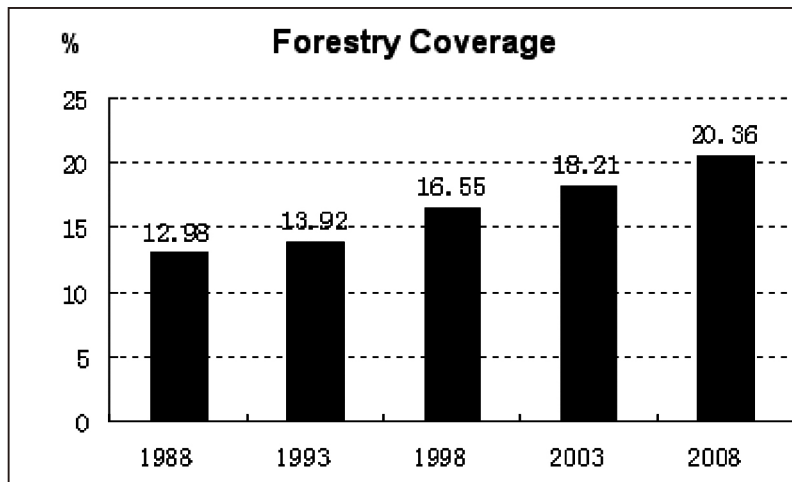
For many years, China's environmental protection has synchronized with its social-economic development. China began to transform itself from a planned economy to a market economy in the 1970s. The extensive economic growth used to be the leading mode. Hence, economic growth was at the expense of deterioration of environment. The turning point of China's environmental protection took place in the 1980s. Environmental protection became a basic national policy. Since then environmental protection related laws and systems have been continuously improved. After the UN Conference on Environment and Development in the 1990s, for the first time China announced that it would alter the traditional development mode by taking the path of sustainability. At the turn of the century, China set the realization of the coordinated development of the economy, population, natural resources, environment and improvement of ecological environment as the important aim of building up a Xiaokang society and regarded the building up of ecological civilization as a strategic task. China will spare no efforts in exploring energy-saving and environmentally friendly industrial structures, growth mode and consumption mode with harmony among people, between man and nature and between man and society as an aim, striving for a path of harmonious development on ecological culture.

Target 7A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources

1. Current Situation

Years of rapid economic growth have taken a toll on both China's resources and environment. In recent years, the Chinese Government has carried out several environmental projects, such as returning farm land to forests, grasslands, lakes and wetlands, water and topsoil conservation efforts, forest protection, pollution control, wildlife protection, creation of nature reserves and surveys of biological resources. By the end of 2009, China had set up 2,541 nature reserves with a total area of 148 million hectares (or 14.72percent of the national territory). This land area encompasses 85percent of China's land, 47percent of its natural wetlands, 20percent of its natural forests, 65percent of the area inhabited by endangered wildlife. China's total artificial forest area takes up about one third of the world total; its average annual growth in area is 53.2percent of the global total, the fastest growth of forest resources in the world (see Chart 7.1).

Chart 7.1



Data source: China Statistical Yearbooks, 2009

In 2009, surface water pollution was a serious problem. Taken in their entirety, China's seven largest river systems are considered mildly polluted; the problem of lake eutrophication is prominent and also taken in their entirety, coastal areas are considered mildly polluted. Since 2005, China has been evaluating surface water pollution. By the end of 2009 it had spent RMB140 million and assessed 430,000 km² of surface water. In 2009, China also checked several projects it has launched to prevent and treat river pollution.

In 2009, air pollution remains a serious problem in some Chinese cities. The acid rain situation is still serious but has remained stable over the past few years. Across the country, 612 cities had begun to monitor ambient air quality. Of these 26 cities (4.2percent) were recorded as level one, 479 (78.3percent) at level two, 99 (16.2percent) at level three, and eight (1.3percent) with a level higher than three. Acid rain monitoring had been conducted in 488 cities and counties. Of these 258 (52.9percent) had recorded acid rain, of these 164 cities (33.6percent) recorded acid rain with a frequency of 25percent while 53 cities (10.9percent) recorded a frequency over 75percent. Acid rain distribution is concentrated in areas south of the Yangtze River and east of the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau.

China has been working on developing household refuse treatment and pollution prevention and treatment. Since “The Law of the People’s Republic of China on the Prevention of Environmental Pollution Caused by Solid Waste,” the country has introduced new laws and regulations such as “Regulations on City Appearance and Environmental Sanitation Management” and “Administrative Measures for Urban Living Garbage.” The Government has issued rules relating to domestic landfill, has begun incinerating garbage, and has launched various management and pollution control endeavors. In some areas, urban households are charged for the handling of their waste, while the Government has been working on the industrialization of household waste treatment. The capacity for local authorities to handle non-hazardous waste has also increased in recent years from 2.3percent in 1991 to nearly 70percent in 2009.



China has made considerable progress towards adopting sustainable energy sources. It has been making efforts to increase energy efficiency and reduce carbon intensity and also in developing renewable resources. China’s energy mix has changed from 76.2percent coal usage in 1990 to 69.6percent in 2009. Oil, natural gas, and hydropower rose from 16.6percent, 2.1percent and 5.1percent in 1990 to 17.5percent, 3.8percent and 7.13percent in 2009. China has developed its production capability on renewable energy technologies and the nation is now one of the major manufacturing countries for solar-powered batteries, solar water heaters and wind-power turbines. In 2009, installed hydropower capacity reached 197 GW, accounting for 22.54percent percent of total national power generation capacity. In 2009 wind energy capacity reached 2268 KW. Solar panels for water heating reached a total area of 145 million m² (above 50percent of the global total). China also generates 15 billion m³ of methane annually. China will continue to gradually increase the ratio of renewable energy within the overall national energy mix. It is expected that the contribution of renewable energy in China’s overall energy mix will reach 10percent by the end of 2010 and 15percent in 2020. Presently, non-fossil fuel energy resources in China, such as hydropower and nuclear power account for around 8percent of total energy produced.

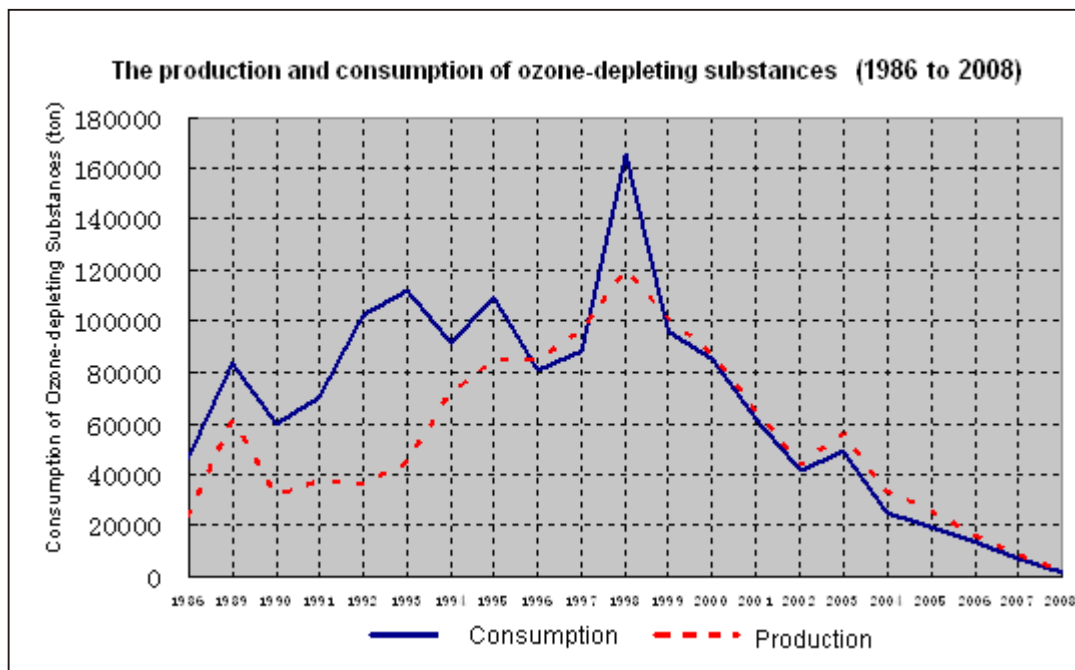


China has also been increasing energy generation and efficiency. It has set a target of reducing GDP energy intensity by 20percent by 2010 relative to 2006 levels (equivalent to 1.5 billion tons of CO².) The national economic stimulus package is likely to have some impact on reducing energy intensity. For a range of reasons, the 20percent reduction target will not be easy to reach by the end of 2010.

China has also strived to eliminate ozone-depleting substances. It is the largest manufacturer and user of ozone-depleting substances in the world. After China signed the “Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer”, it has cut of the amount of ozone-depleting substances by 50percent (see Chart 7.2). In March 2010, the State Council passed in principle “Management Regulations for Ozone-Depleting Substances”, which will play an important role in consolidating the achievements in the Protocol implementation and further reductions of hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC).



Chart 7.2



2. Government support

China has continued to stress environmental protection. After the UNCED in 1992, China drew up the national environmental protection strategy to fulfill the goals laid out in Agenda 21. The National People’s Congress approved “Planning Outlines for the 11th Five-Year Plan on National and Social Development (2006-2010)”, which defined national objectives, tasks, key investment areas and policies during the period of the 11th Five-Year Plan and set binding targets on energy saving and emissions reductions. In 2003, the State Council approved “Outlines for Action on China’s Sustainable Development in the early 21st Century.” In 2007, China announced its “National Program for Dealing with Climate Change,” which stated energy consumption per unit GDP should be cut by 20percent by 2010 compared with 2005 levels. It also stipulated a 10percent increase in renewable energy use and 20percent of land to be covered by forests. China is party to a number of international conventions, including the Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UN Convention on Biodiversity, the UN

Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the World Convention on Heritage, and so on and has strived to meet its obligations.

In recent years, the central funding has been continuously increasing its investments in environmental protection and ecological construction. For the first four years of the 11th Five-Year Plan, central funding earmarked more than RMB300 billion for these projects. The Central Government will continue to further increase its inputs in 2010 to ensure the realization of the total amount of investment in environmental protection.

In response to the international financial crisis, Chinese Government has stressed the need to go



with the notion of green development and pushed for the economic development by adjusting industrial structure and transforming economic growth mode. The Chinese Government allocated incentives in its economic stimulus plan for the development of new energies, improving energy efficiency, environmental protection, and developing a circular and

low-carbon economy with a view to create new economic growth point. They will play a role in achieving sustainable development. In 2009, the Government set a goal of cutting carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by 40-45percent by 2020 from 2005 levels and it will be written into the 12th Five-Year Plan and the medium- and long-term plans for



national economic and social development as binding targets. In the face of the global financial crisis, the Government requested that “targets will not change, demands will not be reduced and measures will not be cut” and continued to push for emission reduction. The yearly levels of sulfur dioxide and chemical oxygen demand (COD) dropped by 4.6percent and 3.27percent respectively in comparison with the previous year and both have continued to decrease. Sulfur dioxide and COD have reduced by 13.14percent and 9.66percent respectively since 2005, therefore achieving the target for reductions in sulfur dioxide emissions outlined in the 11th Five Year Plan one year ahead of schedule.

3. Challenges

- 1) The acceleration of industrialization and urbanization has put enormous pressure on natural resources. This challenges land and forest management and environmental protection.
- 2) China is still struggling to reduce its energy use per unit of GDP and slowing the growth of carbon emissions because of its reliance on coal as an energy source.
- 3) China’s agricultural industry is under pressure from the effects of climate change and the degradation of ecosystems because the country’s arable land per capita is relatively low.
- 4) Water pollution poses a huge threat because China’s water resources per capita are only a quarter of the world average.
- 5) Due to the imbalanced ecological rehabilitation in different regions, the Western part of China, especially Northwest China, faces great challenges in restoring its damaged environment.

Target 7B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss

1. Current Situation

China has one of the richest biodiversities and quite a unique position in the world and is home to some of most globally significant species and ecosystems. However, economic development is seriously threatening China’s biodiversity, posing a serious challenge to environmental sustainability and the realization of the MDGs. China’s biodiversity loss encompasses the following factors: (1) The function of some ecological systems is retrogressing; (2) the number of endangered species is increasing; (3) genetic resources are continually being lost.

According to the newly revised appendix (2010) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 1,999 species - 6percent of listed species - are found in China (see Table 7.1).

Table 7.1 Chinese Species Listed under CITES

Classification	Appendix I	Appendix II	Appendix III	Total
Mammals	45	75	14	134
Birds	33	111	12	156
Reptiles	6	9	18	33
Amphibians	1	1		2
Fish	1	14		15
Invertebrates		343		343
Plants	19	1,293	4	1,316
Total	105	1,846	48	1,999

The Chinese Government has adopted a series of measures to stop biodiversity loss. The Convention on Biodiversity stipulates that the rate of biodiversity loss should be slowed significantly by 2010. In order to achieve this, China established targets and so far has made progress in meeting them (see Table 7.2). Target 1 has already been realized while Targets 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10 have been partly fulfilled; although some progress has been made for Target 6 and 7, they are basically unfulfilled. China's forest resources have increased steadily at the fastest rate in the world. Since 1997, China's marine nutrition indicator has been going upward steadily and the completeness of marine eco-systems steadily improving; the momentum of environmental deterioration has been decelerating under the circumstances of rapid economic growth and ecological situation in some areas improved remarkably.

Table 7.2 China's Biodiversity Targets and Progress as of 2010

Target	Progress
Target 1 Protection of ecosystems and species is promoted	★★★
Target 1.1 At least 10percent of the areas outlined for protection are under effective protection	★★★
Target 1.2 Areas of extreme importance to biodiversity are under protection	★★★
Target 2 Biodiversity protection is promoted	★★
Target 2.1 Species are recovered and their populations are maintained or their rate of loss is slowed	★★
Goal 2.2 The status of threatened species has improved	★★
Target 3 Genetic diversity protection is promoted	★★
Target 3.1 The genetic diversity of crops, livestock, trees, fish, wildlife animals and other rare species are under protection; information on indigenous species is recorded	★★
Target 4 Sustainable consumption is promoted	★★
Target 4.1 Production linked with biodiversity is sustainably managed	★★
Target 4.2 Unsustainable consumption of biological resources is directed away from biodiversity threatened areas	★★
Target 4.3 No wildlife species is threatened by international trade	★★

Target	Progress
Target 5 Loss of ecosystems, change of land use, and the unsustainable use of water are reduced	★★
Target 5.1 The rate of loss and or degradation to ecosystems has been slowed	★★
Target 6 Foreign species are controlled and do not threaten biodiversity	★
Target 6.1 Channels where foreign species enter the country are under control	★
Target 6.2 A management plan is set up to deal with invading species	★★
Target 7 Climate change and pollution no longer threaten biodiversity	★
Target 7.1 Adaptation to climate change is promoted to protect biodiversity	★
Target 7.2 Pollution is reduced and biodiversity is protected from its effects	★★
Target 8 Biodiversity contributes to people's livelihoods	★★
Target 8.1 Ecosystems continue to provide resources and services to human populations	★★
Target 8.2 Biological resources continue to play an important supporting role in sustainable livelihoods, particularly in poverty stricken regions and in local food safety and public healthcare	★★
Target 9 The culture of indigenous communities is protected	★★
Target 9.1 Traditional knowledge and customs are protected	★★
Target 9.2 The right of indigenous peoples to practice and share their knowledge and culture, including the right to benefit from the local environment, is protected	★★
Target 10 Benefits from the exploitation of genetic resources is shared fairly	★★
Target 10.1 All transfers of hereditary resources are in compliance with the Convention on Biodiversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other relevant treaties	★★
Target 10.2 The commercial utilization of genetic resources will be shared with countries supplying genetic resources	★★
Target 11: Ability of all parties to the Convention to perform duties related to financial sources, manpower, science, technology and technological processes has been improved	★★
Target 11.1 New and extra funds to be provided to developing countries according to Article 20 of the Convention so that they can effectively perform their obligations stipulated in the Convention.	Not applicable
Target 11.2 Technologies to be transferred to developing countries according to Item 4 of Article 29 of the Convention so that they can effectively perform their obligations stipulated in the Convention.	Not applicable

Key: ★★★★★ = Total realization; ★★★ = Mostly realized; ★★ = Partly realized; ★ = No progress.

2. Government support

1) China has passed a series of laws and statutes on the protection of biodiversity.

The Chinese Government has drawn up more than 20 laws and statutes related to the protection of biodiversity. Among others, these include “The Law of Environmental Protection,” “The Forests Law,” “The Law of Wild Animals Protection,” “The Quarantine Law for Exit and Entry of Animals and Plants,” “The Grasslands Law,” “The Animal Husbandry Law,” “Regulations for Nature Reserves,” “Regulations for the Protection of Wild Plants,” “Safety Management Regulations for Genetically-Engineered Food,” “Management Regulations for the Import and Export of Wildlife,” and “Management Regulations for the Protection of Wild Medical Herbs.” These have played an important role in protecting China’s rich biodiversity.

2) China has initiated a series of programs for the protection of biodiversity.

China has formulated and implemented successively the National Action Plan for Protection of Biodiversity, the National Outline for Ecological Protection and the National Planning for Ecological Construction, thus providing better protection to biodiversity.

In 2007, the Chinese Government began to revise and update its National Protection Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity, which is due to be passed in 2010. It includes strategic aims and preferential actions for the protection of biodiversity in the coming 20 years (2011-2030). The provincial protection strategy and action plans are either under formulation or already in implementation in key biodiversity areas.

3) Working mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity have been established or improved.

In 1992 a working group was set up to strengthen the country’s performance of its duties and obligations laid down in the Convention on Biodiversity.

4) A foundation for biodiversity protection has been established while a system of nature reserves has been set up.

5) China is working on biodiversity-related surveying and monitoring.

2010 is International Biodiversity Year. The Chinese Government has set up a national committee for this and has already drawn up an action plan.

3. Challenges

1) There is insufficient awareness of the need to protect biodiversity.

2) The pressure to develop resources continues to grow and threaten biodiversity.

3) China’s ability to protect biodiversity is weak and efforts made are insufficient.

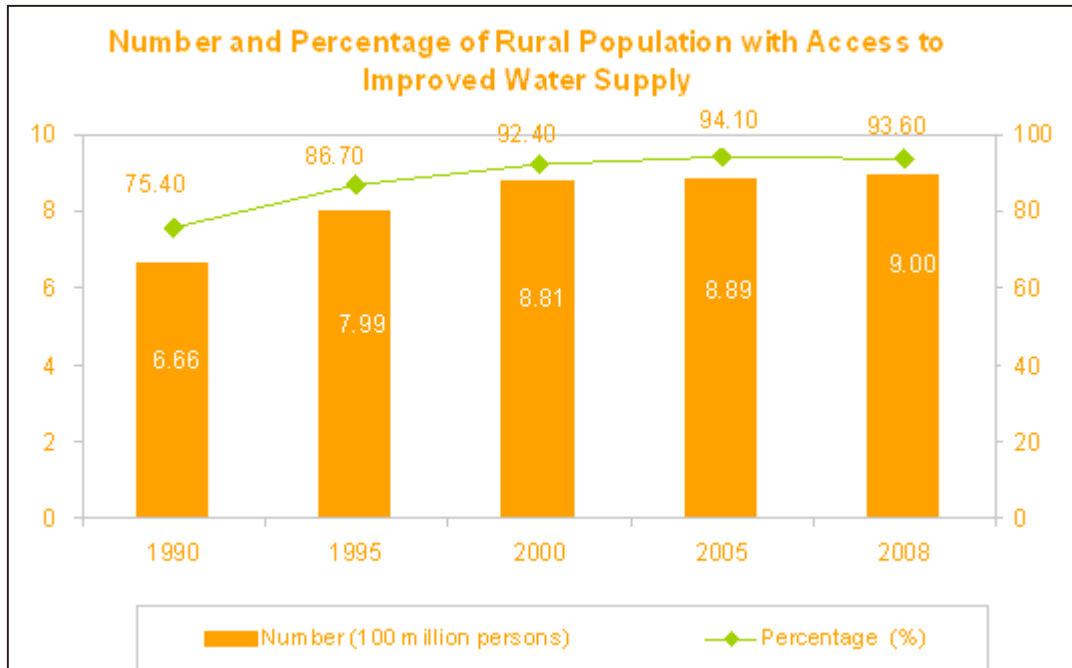
Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation



1. Current Situation

China has made significant progress in improving the quality of drinking water and sanitation. In 2000, 379 million people in rural areas had difficulty accessing safe drinking water. China spent RMB92.4 billion between 2001 and 2009 on projects to provide safe drinking water to rural areas. Out of this, RMB50.7 billion came from the central government, with RMB 41.7 billion coming from local governments and people. Over 200,000 water supply projects have been launched to provide access to safe drinking water for 220 million rural residents (58 percent of those people with no access to safe drinking water as counted in 2000). This means that this MDG target on safe drinking water has been achieved six years ahead of schedule (see Chart 7.4).

Chart 7.3

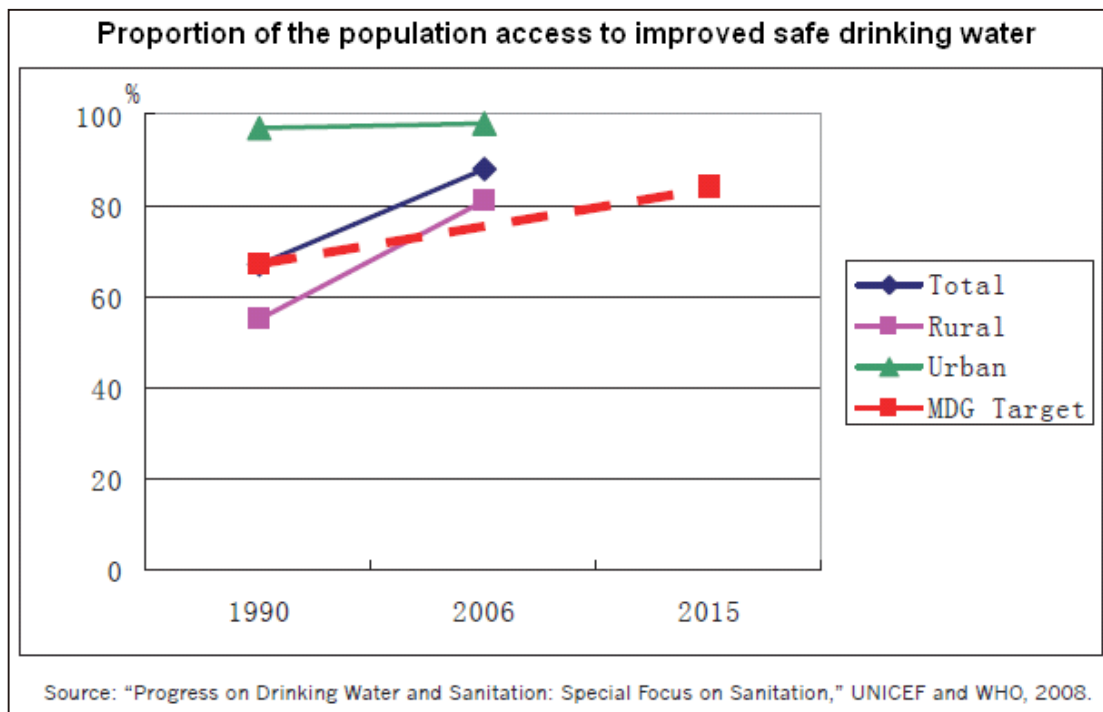


Data source: statistics from the Ministry of Health, 2009

Much progress has been made in the development of facilities for urban waste treatment since the 11th Five Year Plan. Treatment capacity and operational efficiency have both improved. By the end of 2009, urban household refuse treatment capacity reached 355,900 tons per day (that's an increase of 71.3percent in non-hazardous waste treatment). Urban domestic waste water treatment has increased to 105.6 million m³ per day. The loading rate of treatment facilities stood at 76.64percent and the annual cut in chemical oxygen demand (COD) was 7.73 28 million tons.

Because of China's worsening water pollution problem, the Government has launched several water pollution prevention and treatment programs since 1998. These include 'Three Rivers and Three Lakes' (the Hai River, the Liao River, the Huai River, Lake Tai, Lake Chao and Lake Dian), the Three Gorges Project, the Bohai Sea, the East Route of the South to North Water Transfer Project, and pollution control in the waters of the Songhua River. These efforts have shown improvements in the pollution situation for some rivers and lakes such as Lake Tai.

Chart 7.4



2. Government support

The Government has stressed the need to provide both a supply of safe drinking water and environmental sanitation. The 11th Five-Year Plan prioritized the need for safe drinking water and the provision of sanitary latrines in the task of building new rural areas. In 2007, the State Council approved its "National Plan to Guarantee Drinking Water to Cities (2006-2020)." Following a 2005 nationwide survey on drinking water in rural areas, the Chinese Government drew up its "National Plan to Ensure Safe Drinking Water in Rural Areas" during the period of the 11th Five-Year Plan (2006-2010). This plan set a target of providing safe drinking water to 160 million people living in rural areas within five years and to ensure that by 2015 the problem will be basically solved. To achieve this, the Government spent RMB92.4 billion on improving the safety of drinking water in rural areas. These efforts helped to ensure safe drinking water for 220 million rural residents. Since this represents 58percent of those people who had no access to safe drinking water in 2000, China has realized its MDG target on safe drinking water six years ahead of schedule.

The government sets great store by guarantee for environmental sanitation in rural areas. A plan for turning original latrines into sanitary ones during the 11th Five-Year Plan period was formulated and an assessment of progress towards MDGs conducted with formulation of a deadline roadmap for implementation. Since 2009, the construction of sanitary facilities in rural areas has been a part of a program to reform the medical and public health systems. The Government spent RMB2.86 billion on constructing sanitary latrines in rural areas from 2009-2010. The Government also hoped for the active participation of local governments and the public in these endeavors.

3. Challenges

- 1) There is a discrepancy between central and local government investment. More local efforts need to be made.
- 2) There is still a big discrepancy between sanitation levels between the east and the west of the country. The challenge for sustainable use of sanitation facilities is still prominent.
- 3) Training and technical guidance are insufficient.
- 4) The public still needs to cultivate hygienic habits. Also there is need for an efficient mechanism of environmental sanitation market.
- 5) More attention needs to be given to the problem of women and girls' access to safe drinking water, particularly in reference to preferential policies.

Target 7D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

The United Nations Human Settlement Program (UN-HABITAT) defines slums as lacking one or more of the following: access to safe drinking water; access to safe hygiene facilities; durable housing of a permanent nature; sufficient living space; a security of tenure.

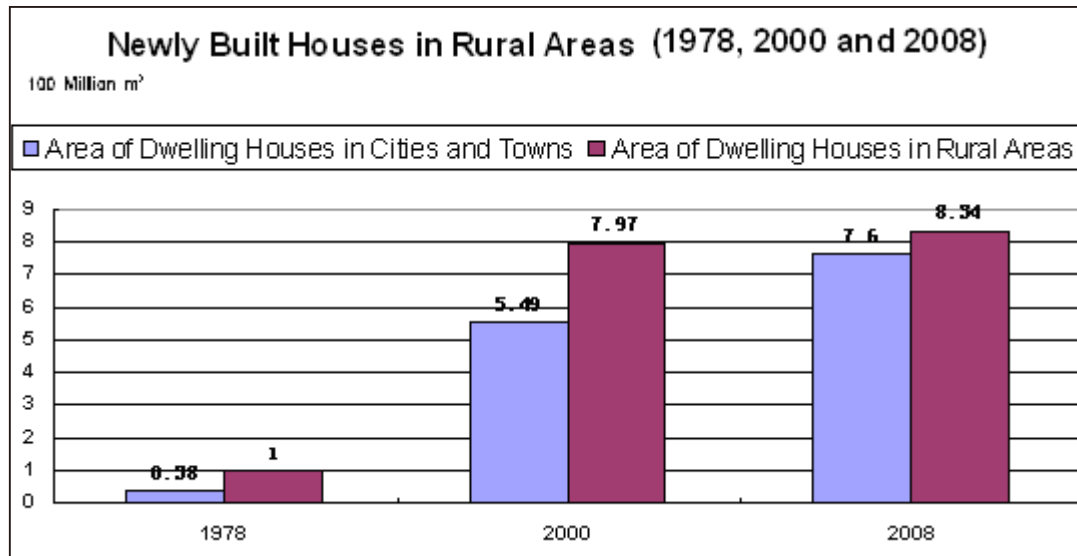
1. Current situation

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to solving the housing problems of low-income families. Since 2000, China has been continuously reforming its policies on housing, and accelerating the construction of new housing. Living conditions for people living in cities and towns have improved greatly.

New housing in cities and towns has grown at a fast rate. From 2000 to 2008, 5.58 billion m² of housing was built in cities and towns representing an investment of RMB11.5 trillion. In 2008, the construction area per capita was over 28 m², a 40percent increase against 2000 (see Chart 7.6). The quality of new housing has also been improving.

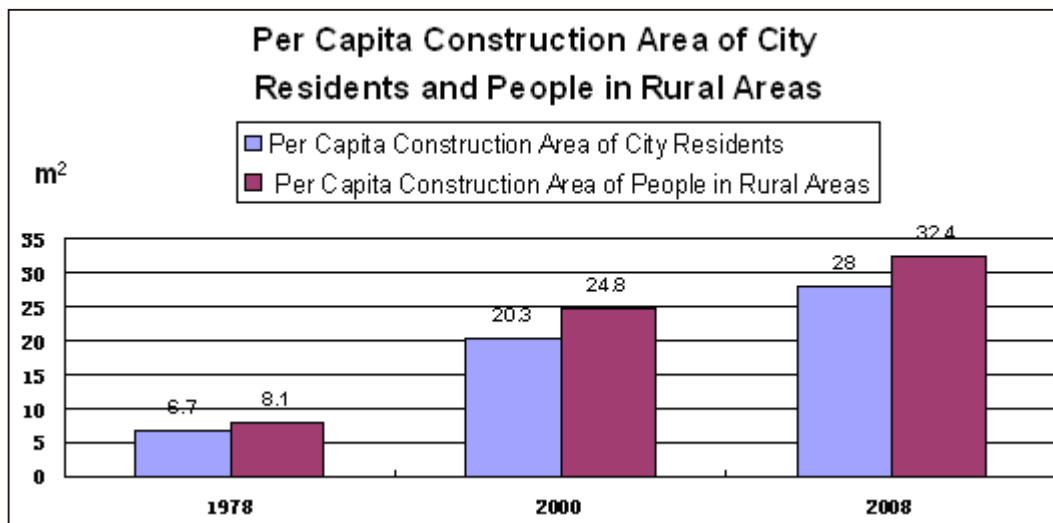
In rural areas, 6.66 billion m² of housing was built from 2000 to 2008, costing RMB2.5 trillion (see Chart 7.5). The per capita area of housing was 32.4 m² (a 30percent increase against 2000). This new housing was of better quality and served to improve rural residents' quality of life.

Chart 7.5



Source: China's State Statistics Bureau, 2009

Chart 7.6



Source: China's State Statistics Bureau, 2009 (the statistics for per capital construction area of city residents in 2008 provided by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development)

China has made efforts to ensure that everyone has access to housing by promoting the systems of low-rent dwelling houses, dwelling houses for medium- and low-income families and housing accumulation fund. By the end of 2009, 4.7 million low-income families had moved into low-rent housing. In total, 18 million households (both low- and medium-income) had found housing through the low-rent housing system. Some 80 million tax payers were paying installments to a Housing Accumulation Fund, with 50 million of them using the fund to improve their living conditions. The Government will pay attention to the needs of women when developing and allocating low-income housing.

The Government has rebuilt many slum areas and is currently planning to rebuild many old residential areas in both villages and cities so as to improve living conditions of low-income families with various means.

2. Government support

In 2007, the Chinese Government set its strategic target of “there must be houses to live in” and announced it would solve the country's housing problem for low-income families and improve living conditions for urban residents. In the same year it published “Several Suggestions Pertaining to the Solution of Living Difficulties of Low-Income Families in Cities,” further illustrating the task, basic principles, funding, policy and measures.

Especially since 2008, to cope with the global financial crisis, the Government accelerated its low-cost housing project

to both improve people's living conditions as well as to stimulate economic growth and social development. This project included the construction of low-cost housing, initiating reconstruction projects, and reclaiming slum areas in state-owned production plants and mines. Pilot projects have been launched to remove dangerous housing in rural areas. By the end of 2012, the Government aims to have housed 15.4 million low-income families.



In order to bring the goal into realization governments of various levels are actively guiding the participation of social financial resources and they themselves have increased their inputs. From 2007 to 2009, the central government increased its funding to low-cost

housing provision to RMB68.9 billion over three years. Funds are also coming from local governments. In three years, more than RMB100 billion was raised for the low-rent housing fund. Over the past three years, another 4.37 million households have moved into low-rent housing and another 2.1 million households have moved into affordable housing.

3. Challenges

The Chinese Government is drawing up its 12th Five-Year Plan (2011 – 2015), which will also include targets for improving the housing situation, China, however, is now in a critical period of rapid urbanization and industrialization and with limited resources, difficulties are sure to arise in housing development.

1) The demand-supply contradiction should not be overlooked. In 2009, China's urbanization rate was 46.6percent. Every increase of 1percent represents approximately 15 million people. But China is short of resources, especially suitable land resources. Therefore, in the near future there will still be a serious conflict between demand and supply. Furthermore, there is significant regional disparity in social-economic development with the east much wealthier than the west, thus attracting many people eastwards and exacerbating the problem.

2) Reasonable housing construction mode and consumption mode have not taken shape yet. At present, construction of dwelling houses is somewhat like "extensive cultivation", energy consumption during the periods of construction and utilization is high and service life short; residents in urban areas lack the concept of "gradient" consumption. Along with China's rapid socio-economic development residents in both urban and rural areas will have more income and great changes will take place in their consumption structure. They will surely have more and higher requirements for living space, functions and environment.

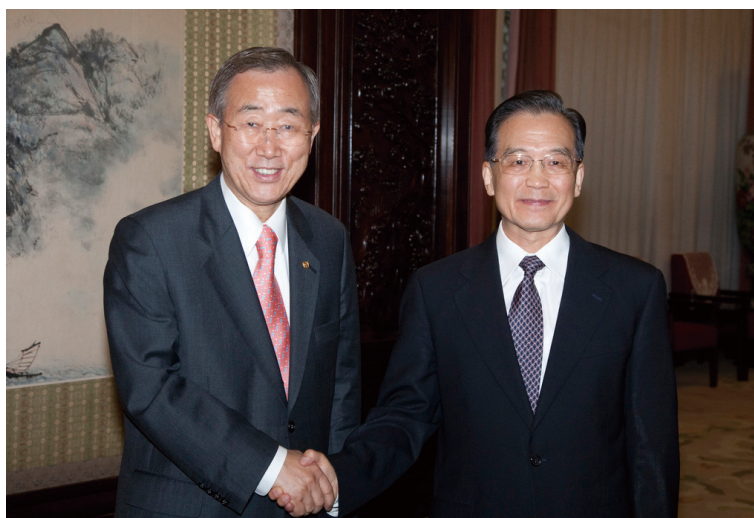
3) It is a hard nut to crack to fulfill the guaranteed housing task. With the strengthened implementation of housing guarantee living conditions of low-income families have gradually improved. However, China has a large population and the absolute demand for dwelling houses is great, plus imbalanced social-economic development in areas, some areas have more difficulties and their guarantee ability is weak. With urbanization at a fast pace the housing problem facing migrant workers and new employers will gradually stand out in time.

4) It is a tremendous job to reconstruct slums areas in cities and state-owned plants and mines throughout the country. According to statistics, by the end of 2009 there were still 500 million m² of slum areas with over 8 million families in cities and state-owned enterprises and mines. Most of them were low-income families and their living conditions poor without guaranteed living safety.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

As a developing country, China is not bound by the obligations under Millennium Development Goal 8. Nevertheless, China has always regarded strengthening cooperation with other developing countries as an important cornerstone of foreign policy. China's South-South cooperation takes diversified forms and covers a wide range of areas, such as trade, investment, and technology. China's relationships with other developing countries constitute an important part of South-South cooperation. Since the 1950s, China has provided economic and technological assistance to other developing countries within the South-South cooperation framework. Since 2008, even though China has also suffered from the effects of the international financial crisis, it continues to widen the scope of its support to the developing world.

2010 marked the 60th anniversary of China's foreign aid. The Chinese Government has made a comprehensive review of the achievements of its foreign aid during the past 60 years and set a vision for its future. The guiding principles for China's foreign aid were summarized as: mutual respect and equality; mutual benefit and common development; working within China's capacity and honoring its commitments; using various forms and focusing on delivering tangible



results. With an aim to improve its foreign aid works under the new situations, the Chinese Government emphasized that, firstly, there needed to be a focus on optimizing the structure of foreign aid. It should favor the least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries, and focus on livelihood projects that were urgently needed and welcomed by local people, such as hospitals, schools, water supplies and clean energy. Secondly, it would be important to continually improve the quality of China's foreign aid, by adhering to scientific proof and using feasibility studies to select the right interventions. Thirdly, the independent development capacity of recipient countries needed to be enhanced. China would further help the recipient countries to develop

their own national industries, create more jobs and improve people's livelihood. China would further open its market to the recipient countries, enhance agricultural cooperation, provide more personnel training and make its foreign aid more focused and effective. Lastly, China would strive to improve the institutional mechanisms of foreign aid, further rationalizing the foreign aid management system and improving decision-making, implementation, supervision and coordination. China would promote international cooperation on foreign aid actively and steadily.

Since 2000, China has carried out over 1,000 projects in more than 120 countries within the South-South cooperation framework. These include providing assistance through grants, interest-free loans, and preferential loans. Assistance is given to sectors ranging from agriculture and animal husbandry, to fisheries, light industry, textiles, communications, transport, broadcasting, telecommunications, hydroelectricity, machinery, public works, culture, education, and public health. In this way, China has made an active contribution to help other developing countries realize the MDGs.

China has assisted other developing countries develop their agricultural sectors to increase grain output and alleviate poverty. Globally, China has set up 17 agricultural technology demonstration centers and sent 104 senior experts in agriculture to 33 African countries. These experts have offered governments and professional agencies advice on agricultural policy planning and provided advice on agricultural practices and technology. Furthermore, China has sent more than 2,000 agricultural personnel to other developing countries to introduce and spread advanced agricultural technology and to guide and train local farmers. Today, 26 cooperative projects in agricultural technology are in progress, covering 23 countries. In addition, training programs for agricultural personnel in developing countries have been created with over 1,000 new trainees every year. China also signed a general agreement in 2009 to donate to United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) US\$30 million over three years to set up a trust fund. Under the agreement, China will send experts and technicians to other developing countries to help improve their food production and rural

people's livelihood within the framework of the FAO's Special Program for Food Security. US\$10 million was donated in 2009 and 2010 respectively. Moreover, China's annual grain export quota has increased from 0.91 million tons to 4.88 million tons. Some RMB1.6 billion worth of aid in the form of grain has been provided to food insecure countries since 2000.

China also helps developing countries to improve their educational systems. Since 2000, China has helped establish over 100 schools in rural areas in other developing countries worldwide. The total number of Chinese scholarships has increased to 14,000 and will rise to 20,000 by 2013. China has run 2,010 terms of training classes for 52,280 people in 150 developing countries.

China helps other developing countries improve medical and sanitary conditions and diagnostic expertise, fight malaria and other diseases and lower child mortality rates. So far China has sent 21,000 person-times of its medical teams to 68 countries and provided 250 million person-times of medical service. Currently, the Ministry of Health has 49 teams of 1,262 medical personnel engaged in medical work in 48 countries. China has provided RMB300 million worth of artemisinin, an anti-malarial drug, to countries where malaria is prevalent. Since 2006, China has helped African countries build 30 hospitals and 30 centers for malaria prevention and control. It will provide medical equipment worth RMB500 million to these institutions over the next three years. Training of medical and managerial personnel in developing countries has also been strengthened. Every year at least 1,000 people receive training.

China is committed to helping other developing countries become environmentally sustainable. It has enhanced cooperation with other developing countries in developing clean energy. Since 2000, China has cooperated with Tunisia, Guinea, Vanuatu and Cuba in bio-gas production. It has helped Burundi, Guinea and other countries to construct hydroelectric power stations and cooperated with Mongolia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea and Kazakhstan on solar and wind energy power. From 2000 to 2009, China held over 100 terms of training classes on renewable energy, solar energy utilization technology and technology for small hydroelectric power stations. Over 2,000 people attended these classes. At the UN High-Level Conference for MDGs in 2008 and at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in 2009, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao emphasized several times that China would strengthen its cooperation with other developing countries and that China would conduct 100 clean-energy projects with developing countries such as small hydroelectric power stations, solar energy and bio-gas development. These projects are under implementation.



In 2009, China signed contracts with African countries worth US\$43.614 billion for new construction projects with a completed turnover of US\$ 28.1 billion. At the end of 2009, China's accumulated direct investment in Africa came to US\$9.33 billion. As the role of trade and investment in South-South cooperation has been rising, there has been a louder call for the participation of private enterprises in social and environmental policy discussions. The Chinese Government and enterprises are rapidly strengthening their participation at these dialogues with the private sector. For example, Chinese business circles attach more and more importance to the Global Compact. Since 2000, a series of Global Compact forums have been organized in China. In 2007 and 2010, Chinese business leaders attended the Global Compact summit meetings, demonstrating a growing awareness of corporate social responsibility and a broader participation in South-South cooperation by Chinese business circles.

China places great emphasis on regional cooperation, in particular within the frameworks of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China-Japan-Korea, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Greater Mekong Sub-region, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. After the global financial crisis in 2008, China further enhanced its coordination and cooperation with each side in order to jointly tackle the crisis. China made an important contribution in protecting financial stability in the region and encouraging healthy and sustainable economic development.

Target 8A: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system

Developing countries have long been calling for the establishment of a fair, inclusive and orderly international financial system for their effective participation in international economic cooperation. China has actively supported the reform of the World Bank, advocating a greater role for developing countries and calling for the implementation of consensus reached at the 2009 G20 Pittsburgh Summit. Along with most other developing countries, China has worked hard to help the World Bank to make essential progress in its second-stage reform. On April 25, 2010, the ministerial meeting of the World Bank-International Monetary Fund (IMF) Development Committee passed the second stage reform plan on voting rights. The voting rights of developing countries increased by 3.13percent to 47.19percent, and China's share rose by 1.65percent to 4.42percent. This successful reform of the World Bank was a historic step for the international financial system. It will encourage the reform of the IMF and other international organizations and it will encourage the broader international financial system to evolve towards greater fairness, rationality and effectiveness.

Trade is an important and indispensable factor in realizing common global development. China has persisted in supporting multilateral trade and has always opposed protectionism. China advocates and is striving towards the construction of a fair and rational international trading system. Since 2001, China has been conscientiously fulfilling the promises it made during negotiations for membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO). China has raised its level of openness, thus contributing not only to its own rapid economic development, but also to the stability and rapid growth of international trade. By 2010, China had carried out the tax-rebate commitment it had made before becoming a member of the WTO; its general tariff level has dropped to 9.8percent, and average agricultural and industrial product tariffs are now 15.2percent and 8.9percent respectively. China has become a major export market for developing countries, including the least-developed countries. China has fully participated in the WTO's Doha Round negotiations and assumed responsibilities matching its abilities. China donated US\$200,000 to developing countries, many of them least-developed nations, between February 2008 and September 2010, as part of the WTO's "Aid for Trade" initiative. The IFC advocated setting up a global trade fund-raising scheme to support the normal operation of global trade with the advent of the global financial crisis. In November 2008 at the G20 Washington Summit, Chinese President Hu Jintao announced that China was ready to take an active part in this IFC-led global trade fund-raising scheme. In April 2009, China bought US\$1.5 billion-worth of IFC bonds to support this scheme.

Target 8B: Address the special needs of the least developed countries

At the UN Summit meeting on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the UN in 2005, President Hu Jintao announced China's five measures for promoting economic operation with developing countries. All these measure have been implemented. These included zero tariffs on some export goods from the least-developed countries that have diplomatic relations with China.

In 2008, at the UN high-level conference on the MDGs, Premier Wen Jiabao announced that 95percent of products exported by the least-developed countries would enjoy zero-tariff treatment, and that exports from the least-developed countries to China would be promoted in order to aid the economic development of these countries. As a first step, China implemented a zero-tariff policy on 60percent of products coming to China (more than 4700 items) from the 33 least-developed countries that have diplomatic relations with China. China will continue to expand the scope of this preferential treatment, with a target of 95percent, in line with its own economic capacity.

Target 8C: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states

Concerned about the difficulties and obstacles landlocked countries encounter in developing their economies and in participating in international trade, China has supported their efforts to develop and has gone to great lengths to provide landlocked countries with transport services. China has also cooperated with other developing countries in developing communications infrastructure. China has built over 6,000 km of highways and built or restored 3,470 km of railways in developing countries. These projects have improved communication and transportation, promoted their participation into global and regional cooperation and stimulated their economic and social development.

Since 2002, China, Mongolia and Russia have engaged in seven rounds of negotiations on a Transit Transport

Agreement between the three countries under the coordination of UNCTAD. The agreement is aimed at standardizing practices of transit goods transportation, making transport more efficient, promoting bilateral trade and investment and stimulating economic development. Meanwhile it serves as a good example of international cooperation. The Chinese government attaches great importance to transit transport that has to do with great interests of transit countries as well as landlocked countries. China is ready to take an active part in negotiations for relevant agreements on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and friendly cooperation and with a serious and responsible attitude.

Since 2003, China has been active in implementing the Almaty Programme of Action. Listed below are the main developments: 1. became a party to the “Greater Mekong Sub-region to Facilitate Cross-boundary Passenger and Freight Transport Agreement”, and several other international conventions on goods transit, which have provided effective legal protections for the convenient transport of goods from landlocked developing countries. 2. Has highlighted the importance of infrastructure development for landlocked developing countries, and helped to construct cross-country transportation networks. 3. Has further developed regional trade cooperation with landlocked developing countries. China will continue to work with landlocked developing countries in implementing the Almaty Programme of Action.

In recent years, China has been strengthening its aid programs to small-island countries with a view to meeting the unique needs of these countries. To boost agricultural production and upgrade the processing of agricultural products, China has carried out cooperative projects on agricultural technology in Dominica, Grenada, Cuba, Samoa, Tonga, Micronesia and Papua New Guinea. It has also conducted fish processing projects in Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea. To help small-island countries improve their ability to deal with natural disasters, such as earthquakes and tsunamis, China has provided assistance in establishing an early warning system for small-island countries and the project of earthquake early warning system in Samoa is being implemented. China has also provided ships to Micronesia and Fiji and planes to Vanuatu.

Target 8D: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

China announced a series of measures for reducing and forgiving debts at the following events: the First Ministerial-level Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in 2000, the 2005 High-level Conference on Financing for Development, the 2006 China-Pacific Island Countries Forum on Economic Development and Cooperation, the 2006 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the 2008 High-level Conference for the MDGs and the 2009 Fourth Ministerial-level Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. China has forgiven 380 interest-free loans due at the end of 2006 owed by 50 of the least-developed countries that have diplomatic relations with China and other poor countries that carry heavy debts. China will continue to forgive government loans that were due at the end of 2008 and 2009 owed by the least-developed countries in Africa and heavily indebted poor countries in line with the measures announced by Premier Wen Jiabao in 2008 at the MDG high-level conference and at the Fourth Ministerial-level Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in 2009.

Meanwhile, as a responsible developing power, China has done its best to fulfill its international obligations during the recent years. In 2007, China pledged US\$30 million to the International Development Association for the 15th fund replenishment (IDA 15). Between 2007 and 2010 China contributed US\$122 million in the 11th Capital Increase for the African Development Fund. Since joining the African Development Bank in 1985, China has contributed a total of US\$486 million to the African Development Fund and provides support to low-income countries and the least-developed countries. In addition, China has made several donations to the



Development Gateway Foundation of the World Bank, the South-South Intellectual-Property Cooperation Foundation and other foundations of the World Bank. After China joined the Asian Development Bank in 1986, it made two donations of US\$65 million to the Asian Development Foundation and US\$20 million to help set up the Foundation for Poverty Alleviation in China and Regional Cooperation. While China accepts aid from the Global Environment Foundation, it also provides assistance in return. By May 2010, China had already pledged US\$53.54 million. By May 2010, China had pledged to donate US\$78.77 million to the Agricultural Development Foundation. China also donated US\$41.2 million to the Special Development Fund of the Caribbean Development Bank. In addition, China has established bilateral technical cooperation funds worth US\$2 million, US\$1 million and US\$1 million with the African Development Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank and the West African Development Bank.

Target 8E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

China has been working on establishing a system for the supply of basic medicines. In April 2009, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council passed “Suggestions on Deepening Reform in the Medical and Public Health System” and “Implementation Plans for Key Near-Term Reform in the Public Health System (2009-2011).” These policies call for the establishment of a national system to provide essential medicines. A system framework will be drawn up by 2011 so that a nationwide system for the supply of essential medicines will be in place by 2020.

China is also calling upon developed countries to provide affordable essential medicines to developing countries and has itself made efforts to help other developing countries improve their medical and hygiene conditions and diagnostic expertise, and to help develop their prevention and treatment capacity for diseases such as malaria and reduce children and infant mortality rates.

Target 8F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to the development of the information and telecommunications industry. It has adopted a far reaching development strategy of striving for industrialization with informationization and stimulating industrialization with information technology. These approaches have achieved positive results.

China has built a national telecommunication infrastructure that covers the entire country and connects to the rest of the world. In terms of both network scale and the number of users, it ranks first in the world. Moreover, in terms of the pace of technological development, China is also among the world leaders. By the end of June 2010, the total number of telephone users in China had reached 1.11 billion people, of which there were 305 million fixed telephone users and 805 million mobile phone users. The fixed phone penetration rate was 22.9% and the mobile phone penetration rate hit 60.5%. The number of Internet users came to 420 million with an Internet penetration rate of 31.8percent. More information telecommunication technologies are applied to each and every sector of national economic development and social development with every passing day. Their role in spurring harmonious and coordinated national socio-economic development is increasingly important.

Stressing the importance of communications in rural areas, the Chinese Government has initiated the policy of “connecting villages with telephones”. By the end of 2009, China had spent over RMB50 billion to set up telephone lines for 150,000 remote villages and administrative villages. Telephones are now available in 99.86percent of administrative villages and 93.4percent of villages with over 20 households. The Internet is available in 99.5percent of small towns and in 91.5 percent of administrative villages. One third of villages and small towns have set up rural information service systems. China is working to support universal telecommunications services in rural areas and to encourage the private sector to invest in improving rural telecommunications.

China has drawn up several tasks related to the development of the information industry in its 11th Five-Year Plan. These focus on stimulating innovation, upgrading competitiveness, and improving conditions for the development of information technology.

Meanwhile, China has also been working hard to improve information technology development in the region. China

has assisted Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar and other countries to complete the first stage of the Greater Mekong Sub-region Information Highway. It has helped countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to train telecommunications managerial personnel and held training sessions for member countries of the Telecommunication Organization in Asia and the Pacific Region.

Within China there are still large disparities between western regions and central and eastern regions in information technology development. There is also a disparity between urban and rural areas. China is still faced with an arduous task in establishing a truly nationwide service.



Conclusion

The table below summarizes China's progress on implementing the Millennium Development Goals.

OALS AND TARGETS	WILL THE GOAL OR TARGET BE MET	STATE OF NATIONAL SUPPORT
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger		
Target 1A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$ 1 a day	Already met	Strong
Target 1B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people	Potentially	Strong
Target 1C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	Already met	Strong
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education		
Target 2A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	Already met	Strong
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women		
Target 3A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015	Likely	Strong
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality		
Target 4A: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	Already met	Strong
Goal 5: Improve maternal health		
Target 5A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	Likely	Strong
Target 5B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health	Potentially	Good
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
Target 6A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	Likely	Strong
Target 6B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it	Potentially	Good

Target 6C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	Likely	Good
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability		
Target 7A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources	Likely	Strong
Target 7B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss	Potentially	Good
Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	Likely	Strong
Target 7D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	Likely	Strong
Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development	--	--

By 2010, it was clear that China's economic development had brought both great opportunities and great challenges to achieving its MDGs. By 2015, China is likely to have fulfilled all of the MDGs, but more attention must be paid to the following three areas: promoting gender equality, reversing the spreading of HIV/Aids and stopping the loss of environmental resources. The Chinese Government is aware of the above issues and has adopted a series of measures to solve them. Particular attention is being paid to the disparity between urban and rural areas and regional disparities, and the competing needs of environment, society and the economy. We believe that by 2015, China will have achieved even greater success in its development and that it will have made even greater contributions to the implementation of the MDGs.

