

Progress

A STATISTICAL REVIEW

since the World Summit for Children

Good policies and actions for children are built on a base of strong data and the analysis such data make possible.

The World Summit for Children, with its emphasis on goals to drive development and shape actions, and the corresponding need to monitor progress, had many strengths. One was to transform the way the world collected and processed data on children and women, creating a vital base and baseline for progress.

In 2000, an exhaustive and exacting end-decade review of progress towards the Summit goals was undertaken. This publication presents, in data and global trends, the results of this largest-ever effort to survey, extract, measure and analyse information on how well the world has kept its promises to children and women.

The publication has drawn on a range of sources and materials never before available, the result of the efforts governments made to strengthen reporting mechanisms on children and data collection systems over the course of the 1990s. In addition, nearly 150 countries also prepared substantive national progress reports. Adding to the cascade of information were the periodic reports by countries that have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as data from review exercises resulting from other international conferences. A completely new data collection tool, the multiple indicator cluster survey, was also developed (see back page), revolutionizing many countries' ability to document and understand the situation of children and women.

But even with such significant data-related progress, the world's collective ability to protect children's rights and improve their lives is still too weak because of gaps that persist in our knowledge. Subnational data are not available in all countries, for example, and disaggregation of statistics remains a major challenge, hindering efforts to address disparities and identify the most vulnerable children, especially those at risk from armed conflict, HIV/AIDS and other serious abuses.

Good statistics enable us to look more closely, see more clearly and act more conscientiously. Improved statistics are vital to changing the world for and with children.



Inside:

- » Infant and Under-Five Mortality
- » Child Malnutrition
- » Safe Drinking Water
- » Sanitation
- » Guinea Worm Disease
- » Primary Education
- » Adult Literacy
- » Acute Respiratory Infection
- » Maternal Mortality
- » Fertility and Family Planning
- » Maternal Care
- » Vitamin A Deficiency
- » Iodine Deficiency Disorders
- » Breastfeeding
- » Low Birthweight
- » Immunization
- » Measles
- » Neonatal Tetanus
- » Diarrhoeal Disease
- » Polio Eradication
- » HIV/AIDS
- » Working Children
- » Birth Registration
- » IMCI
- » Malaria

Meeting the promises of
the World Summit for
Children – 1990 to 2000