

## ***Millennium Development Goals Towards 2020***

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### Abstract

Children make up 30% of our population but represent 100% of our future! Integrated Child Health is essential for the attainment of highest potential in life, thus the ultimate goals should be Child Survival, Child Health and Child Development, Think Globally and act locally and Healthy children for a health world.

9 million children under the age of 5 will die this year. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the period 1990-2015, focus among others in **improving child survival**, i.e. reducing by two thirds the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2015, **maternal health**, i.e. reducing by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio and **combat HIV, AIDS, Malaria and other major diseases**.

As far as under-five-mortality is concerned, figures show a consistent decrease, i.e. from 12.4 million of children in 1990s we had 8.1 million of children in 2010s. This means that a substantial progress has been made to date with a result that millions more children are making it to their fifth birthdays. Unfortunately, this is not the same case with adolescents and young people, where we have a static mortality rate. The question that arises is what pediatricians can do regarding this matter? Focus should be given in working through pediatric societies and academic institutions to define and address child health issues in neighborhoods and countries, becoming effective advocates and advisers to those who control child health and finance policy at country level, identifying and working with country level WHO, UNICEF, donor projects and reaching out to colleagues beyond their own borders regionally and globally.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) beyond 2015, call for leaving no one behind, putting Sustainable Development at the Core, transforming economies for growth and inclusive growth, building peace and effective, open and accountable public institutions and forging a new Global Partnership.