

U N IN RUSSIA

Translating economic growth into sustainable human development with human rights

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Dear World leaders. We are still waiting.

'Dear World leaders. We are still waiting.'
This poster by Stefán Einarsson, a graphic designer from Iceland,
is the winner of the 'Unleash Your Creativity' print ad competition / 7



Society /8

The suicide rate among adolescents in Russia is the highest in the world – the average suicide rate among the adolescent population is three times higher than the world average for this age group. These frightful statistics, excluding incidents of attempted suicide, are revealed by the survey 'Adolescent mortality in the Russian Federation'

Highlights /10

Today, Eastern Europe and Central Asia are the only region in the world, where the number of new HIV cases continues growing. As estimated, 1,5 million people live with HIV in the region. Over 90% of HIV cases are registered in Russia and Ukraine. Every day in Russia thirty eight people die from HIV/AIDS related diseases

People /12

Nazar, a former refugee from Oryol is past worrying about obtaining a legal status in Russia; he eventually acquired the RF citizenship over a year ago. However, his story is far from having a happy end. He still has no registration at the place of residence, no access to medical services, and no family life

Contents

UN
Ban Ki-moon: "Let Us Keep the Promise" 2

WORLD BANK
Pursuing More Growth,
Less Poverty and Hunger in an Uncertain World 4

UN / Events
UN 65 Anniversary:
New Partnership with Russia 6

UNIC / Opinion
Horizon 2015 Is Approaching 7

UNICEF / Society
To Help Children Live 8

UNAIDS / Highlights
Photo Exhibition: Time to Act 10

UNHCR / People
Afghani Refugees in Russia: What Is Ahead? 12

UNDP / Regions
Every Drop Matters 14
«It's Not Just a New School.
The Place Is Imbued with the Spirit of Mutual Support...» 16

OHCHR / Interview
Speak up... Stop Discrimination 16

UNESCO / Events
Director-General of UNESCO Visits Russia 18



Ban Ki-moon: "Let Us Keep the Promise"

On 20 September 2010, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addressed to the High Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals. UN in Russia brings forward these remarks to the readers.

Mr. President of the 65th General Assembly,
Distinguished Heads of State and Government,
Mr. President of the 64th General Assembly,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Welcome to the Millennium Development Goals Summit. I thank the world's leaders for being here in such impressive numbers.
We are here because the fight for a more prosperous, stable



and equitable world is at the heart itself of the mission of the United Nations. We are here because ten years ago, meeting here at the highest level, the international community promised to spare no effort to free the entire human race from want. The eight Millennium Development Goals were a breakthrough. Together, we created a blueprint

for ending extreme poverty. We defined achievable targets and timetables. We established a framework that all partners, even those with different views, have been able to embrace. We brought new urgency to an age-old mission. And now, we have real results. New thinking and path-breaking public-private partnerships. Dramatic increases in school enrolment. Expanded access to clean water. Better control of disease.

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The spread of technology – from mobile to green.

We have more development success stories than ever before. The transformative impact of the MDGs is undeniable. This is an achievement we can be proud of.

But we must protect these advances, many of which are still fragile.

And the clock is ticking, with much more to do?

There is more to do for the mother who watches her children go to bed hungry – a scandal played out a billion times each and every night.

There is more to do for the young girl weighed down with wood or water when instead she should be in school.

And more to do for the worker far from home in a city slum, watching jobs and remittances disappear amid global recession.

You all know where we stand - the gaps and the gains, what works and what doesn't work.

The reports we have put before you are filled with statistics, analysis and recommendations – everything we need for effective policies and programmes.

We have led you to the river.

So what are we asking of you today?

To stay true.

True to our identity as an international community built on a foundation of solidarity.

True to our commitment to end the dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty.

That means making the smart investments in infrastructure, small farmers, social services... and above all in women and girls. On Wednesday I will launch a Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health – our best chance for a multiplier effect across the goals.



Being true means supporting the vulnerable despite the economic crisis. We should not balance budgets on the backs of the poor. We must not draw back from official development assistance – a life-line of billions, for billions.

It means truly fair trade and action on climate change. Deferring the tough decisions to future climate conferences... and future generations? only increases the costs. We need to set a course towards sustainable practices.

Being true means addressing inequality, both among and within countries. Even in countries that have registered impressive gains, inequality eats away at social cohesion.

And it means reconsidering conventional wisdom. Recovery from the economic crisis should not mean a return to the flawed and unjust path that got us into trouble in the first place.

Excellencies,

Despite the obstacles, despite the scepticism, despite the fast-approaching deadline of 2015, the Millennium Development Goals are achievable.

This year I visited nearly a dozen countries in Africa and saw for myself what is possible. At the Millennium Village of Mwandama in Malawi, at the Songhai community in Benin, I saw innovation, integrated projects, and perseverance.

We must reward such faith with resolve of our own. By using the tools we have. By delivering the resources we need. And, above all, by exercising political leadership. I urge you to make the Millennium Development Goals your own.

As our Nigerian citizen ambassador said in the short video that was screened as we were taking our seats: "We're waiting on you, world leaders".

And as Mingas of Mozambique sings in the MDG song, "Eight Goals for Africa": "We have the power, at this very hour."

None of us can be truly fulfilled while so many lack the basics for a life in dignity.

None of us should be able to rest easy knowing the fear and despair that pervade the human family.

Let us make this investment in a better future for all. There is no global project more worthwhile.

Let us send a strong message of hope, of fundamental hope. Let us keep the promise.

Thank you very much.





World Bank

Pursuing More Growth, Less Poverty and Hunger in an Uncertain World

By Robert B. Zoellick



The drive to overcome extreme poverty and hunger, the objective of MDG 1, has been at the heart of global efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals since their adoption a decade ago. Up until the food, fuel, and financial crises in the last two years, developing countries were making progress in overcoming poverty.

In 1981, 52 percent of people in developing countries lived in extreme poverty; by 2005, that share had fallen to 25 percent. Country efforts were paying

off right up until the crises, with poverty falling sharply in East Asia, Latin America, and Eastern and Central Europe.

But this progress has not been shared by all. Sub-Saharan Africa continues to lag in overcoming poverty. Hunger and malnutrition rates have been falling, but not fast enough to meet the goal of eradicating hunger by 2015. Too many of the world's people remain hungry, poor, or vulnerable to poverty, with too few jobs and too little access to services and economic opportunity.

The crises only made things worse. The World Bank estimates that 64 million more people were living in extreme poverty (below \$1.25/day) in 2010, and some 40 million more people went hungry in 2009 as a consequence of the food, fuel, and financial crises.

The International Labor Organization believes that from 2007-2009 unemployment worldwide rose by 34 million people, 21 million of whom were in developing countries. When growth collapses, the pain is not just in lost jobs. As a result of the

crises, the World Bank estimates that by 2015, 1.2 million more children under five may die, 350,000 more students may not complete primary school, and about 100 million more people may remain without access to safe water.

The food crisis of 2008 may seem to be a distant memory. But it has not gone away. For the first time in history more than one billion people go to bed hungry each night.

We must therefore redouble efforts to target support to the poor and vulnerable.

Investments all along the food chain to increase agricultural productivity and produce will not only help to alleviate hunger. It will also contribute to overcoming poverty because 75% of the world's poor live in rural areas in developing countries. Most depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Low-income countries need to build better safety net programmes to protect their poorest people while also equipping them to develop their skills so as to move out of the poverty trap and into well-paying jobs. We need to address vulnerability by expanding access to quality public services, delivered effectively and efficiently, for all citizens. These services can foster better education and health results for families, especially children and young people, empowering them to pursue jobs and opportunity, and escape poverty and despair.

The world economy is undergoing an uneven and uncertain recovery without the surge in jobs that people need. We must recover lost ground and step up the pace to overcome poverty. In doing so, we need to recognize that grand plans and blueprints have usually been a disappointment. If poverty were so easy to overcome, it would have happened long ago. We need approaches that reflect the practical lessons of the past – from both developing and developed countries – while being open to innovations. We need to be alert to differences – and opportunities – that reflect the rapid changes in the world economy over recent years.

We are now in a new, rapidly evolving multipolar world economy. Developing country growth is not only fundamental to overcoming

poverty and hunger. It is also now an engine of global growth.

Developing countries offer abundant opportunities for investments with healthy returns (including in infrastructure that removes roadblocks to growth) that can create new sources of global demand. Developing countries now contribute about half of global growth. Helping them to grow is not charity – it is self-interest. Every dollar spent on investment goods in developing countries can yield 35 cents worth of demand for capital goods produced in high-income countries, precisely the kind of high-value goods that generate well-paying jobs.

The promotion of multiple poles of growth can contribute to overcoming poverty and hunger, and at the same time to the rebalancing of global growth. The growth potential is not limited to only a few emerging markets. Better policies have improved growth performance and opportunities in many low-income countries, including in Sub-Saharan Africa, which recorded annual growth of six percent in the five years preceding the crisis. These countries offer attractive investment opportunities, not just destinations for aid. Their growth can contribute to overcoming poverty and hunger by creating a virtuous circle of increasing opportunity, jobs, incomes, skill development – and then greater growth.

In creating opportunities for growth, we need policies that support investment where it matters most – in people.

In order to create new and better jobs, updating people's skills is essential to improve their prospects. This is particularly relevant as developing and emerging countries face serious demographic challenges—from a record number of young job-seekers in Africa and the Middle East, to shrinking workforces in Eastern Europe and Central and East Asia.

An effective focus on workers – employing all of them, and employing them to their greatest productivity – is vital.

As a result, countries will need to have skill-building systems that

guide youngsters through early childhood development, emphasizing nutrition, stimulation, and basic cognitive skills; that ensure that once at school, all students learn as a result of clear standards, good teachers, sufficient resources, and a solid emphasis on results and performance in the wider school system; build the relevant skills that employers want through higher education and on-the-job training; and encourage entrepreneurship and innovation by creating an environment that encourages investments in knowledge and creativity.

Recovery will also depend on a private sector rebound. Businesses will invest and create jobs if they can turn a profit. Countries will need to create a more attractive investment climate by establishing clear rules, implementing regulatory reforms to make it easier to do business, and by making financing available to small and medium firms for private investment as well as to poor people themselves. Countries also need to strive for better governance and against the rot of corruption. Governments, working with development partners, need to move quickly to create more opportunity. This includes expanding opportunities for girls and women as economies will not be successful if they discriminate against half of their population.

As the development community takes stock of its MDG progress at the UN this week, we need to look beyond and behind the numbers to see what we can learn from them and our efforts to date. We need to invest in what works and fix what doesn't. We need to mobilize and create incentives for all those that can contribute: developing and developed countries; governments and businesses; NGOs and church groups. And as we do, we always need to keep in mind that this work is ultimately about empowering people, families, and communities. If given a chance, the human spirit can accomplish amazing things. We need to give everyone, wherever they live, that opportunity. Even one person imprisoned in poverty is one too many.

The writer is the President of the World Bank Group.

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United Nations

Events

UN 65 Anniversary: New Partnership with Russia

Remarks by the United Nations Resident Coordinator Russian Federation Frode Mauring at Palace of MFA, 22 October 2010:



First Deputy Minister Denisov, Chairman of the United Nations Association Dr Torkunov, Ambassadors, Members of Parliament, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

It is an honour and a pleasure to welcome you today on behalf of the UN Team in Russia as we mark the 65th Anniversary of the United Nations. The celebration today is co-organised by two additional partners. Let me extend my appreciation to the great cooperation and partnership with the Russian institutions in front of the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs whom we are honoured to have with us today. The courtesy of being able to use MFA spectacular premises is appreciated, and more than any word could do symbolising the relationship between United Nations and Russia.

Let me also present our sincere gratitude to Dr Torkunov in his capacity of the Chairman of the United Nations Association in Russia for his continued support and collaboration towards greater advocacy of the United Nations activities in the Russia Federation. Also worth mentioning is the contribution his educational institution, MGIMO, has given UN through its education of students, a large number of whom has later joined the ranks of United Nations staff.

The second Secretary General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld, once said: "The UN wasn't created to take mankind into paradise, but rather to save humanity from hell." Today, as we celebrate sixty-five years of the United Nations, it is easy to agree to the many achievements of the UN. Nevertheless, we must recognize that the world has become very different from that of our founders. The issues we face have grown much more complex, affecting all of us around the globe. As the world has changed, so has Russia.

We in the United Nations are pleased to note that Russia has always taken the United Nations very seriously. This is visible at the high political level and by the society in general.



We are witnessing tremendous changes and progress of the Russian Federation in the development agenda. It continues to play a visible and active role at the international arena. Historically, the role has been very strong and focused on the political and economic agenda, but a role in the international economic and social arena in the United Nations is also emerging. We trust that the future will see further strengthening of partnerships between Russia and United Nations with a focus on peace, prosperity, and respect for interna-

tional commitments in the best spirit of multilateralism.

With the advancements referred to, the nature of the relationship between UN agencies in Russia and the Russian Federation is changing. This means a move from assistance to partnerships. As Professor Jeffrey Sachs said in an article in *The Economist*: "Despite a decade of criticism and budget cuts, the UN agencies have far more expertise and hands-on experience than any other organizations in the world." More and more will we access Russia's vast knowledge and expertise. The UN agencies present in Russia look forward to building a new framework of our collaboration together with you.

As we welcome and praise your successes, let me express my warm wishes for everlasting collaboration and partnership. I thank all of you and all those present for your commitment to the United Nations and its values, and wish you a splendid celebration.

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UN Information Centre

Opinion

Horizon 2015 Is Approaching

With only five years left until the 2015 deadline to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations has called on the world leaders to attend a summit in New York on 20-22 September 2010 to accelerate



Slovenian Tine Lugarič's work 'Broken promises' won the second prize

advancement towards the globally agreed targets. The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated, "We must not disappoint the billions who expect that the international community will fulfill the promise for a better world made within the Millennium Declaration."

The outcome document of the three-day Summit – 'Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals' – is a global action plan to achieve the eight anti-poverty goals by the target date of 2015. Also, it announces new major commitments for women's and children's health and other initiatives against poverty, hunger and diseases. The statement affirms that, despite setbacks due to the economic and financial crises, remarkable progress has been made in fighting poverty, increasing school enrolment and improving health in many countries, and that the MDGs remain achievable.

On 22 September, the UN Office in the Russian Federation held an event dedicated to the New York MDGs Summit. Opening the meeting, Frode Mauring, the UN Resident Coordinator, stressed that ten years after the Millennium Declaration, global and national MDGs progress reports provided clear evidence of uneven implementation of the Goals among different regions and countries. They reflected growing disparities and

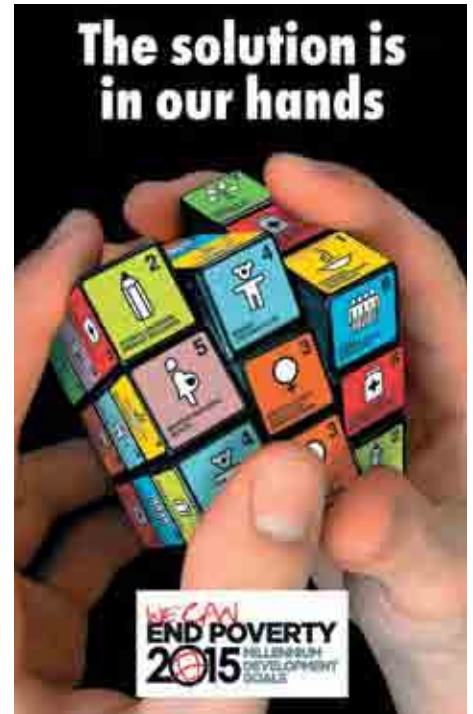
reversed gains due to multiple effects of food, energy, and financial crises. He admitted that important successes have been achieved, but some targets require additional efforts. Mr. Mauring also noted the importance of including MDGs into national development strategies and dwelled on interlinkages and synergies between the MDGs, which need to be addressed as a whole.

Following him, Dmitry Maksimychev, Deputy-Director of the MFA Department of International Organizations, opined that no country could boast of attaining MDGs, and Russia was no exception. He expressed gratitude to the UN, in general, and to the UNDP, in particular, for assisting his country to evaluate challenges and identify appropriate policies of addressing them. He commented on Russia's changing role in the developmental context and its emergence as a net donor country.

The culmination of the soirée was the unveiling of an exhibition of the winners of the 'Unleash Your Creativity' print ad competition, conducted by the UN Regional Information Centre in Brussels with the assistance of the network of Information Centres in Europe and the United Nations Development Programme. The main purpose of the contest was to engage general public in an advocacy campaign supporting the MDGs.



Another Stefán Einarsson's submission 'Poverty Extinct 2015' won the third prize



The special appreciation of the jury got the work by Thierry Debreuve's 'The Solution is in our hands'

The jury of the competition comprised prominent advertising and marketing experts as well as artists, designers, and development experts. Two thousand thirty entries from 34 countries were submitted. This initiative found a broad response worldwide, and its website was quite popular during the competition – 12 000 visitors from 1 May to 30 June.

Stefán Einarsson, a 44 year-old graphic designer from Reykjavik, Iceland, was announced a winner of the competition for his work 'We are still waiting'. Einarsson's entry beat the runner up, Slovenian Tine Lugarič's 'Broken promises', by only one vote. Another Einarsson's submission 'Poverty Extinct 2015' won the third prize. The special appreciation of the jury got the work by Thierry Debreuve's 'The Solution is in our hands'.

The project was implemented by the United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe in cooperation with Metro International. The Russian edition of the newspaper was also involved in promoting the information about the competition.



You can get more information about the contest on the website: www.wecanendpoverty.eu.

The best 30 posters are exhibited at WINZAVOD Centre of Contemporary Art in Moscow in November.

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Society

To Help Children Live

In September 2010, the international conference 'Youth-Friendly Clinics: 10 years. To be continued' took place in St. Petersburg. The conference was organized jointly by UNICEF, the Regional Public Organisation 'Sight at the Future', the City Consulting and Diagnostic Centre 'Yuventa', and Medical Academy of Post-Graduate Education of St. Petersburg. The conference coincided with the 10-th anniversary of UNICEF activities aimed at creating and developing a network of socio-medical services for adolescents and young people in Russia (Youth Friendly Clinics -YFC).

According to the data included in the UNICEF-sponsored survey, 'Adolescent Mortality in the Russian



as well as insufficient efficiency of child health care and welfare systems throughout the whole period of children's upbringing. Another factor is a low availability of resources within the child protection system.

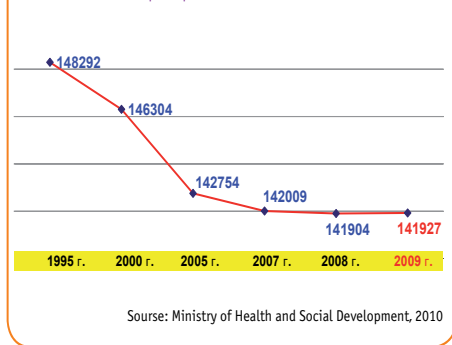
Accidents and other external factors are the most common cause of death among adolescents. According to the research, over 80% of such adolescent deaths could have been prevented! It means that 7,314 out of 8,667 adolescents, who died in 2009, could have survived...

A suicide rate among adolescents in Russia is the highest in the world – the average suicide rate among the adolescent population is three times higher than the world average for this age group. It should be noted that these frightful statistics does not include incidents of unsuccessful suicide attempts.

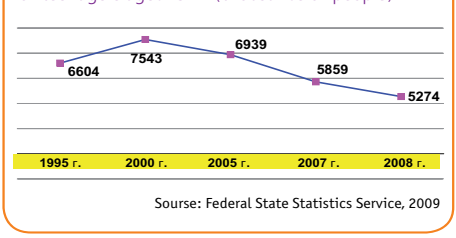
Federation', which was released on the eve of the conference, mortality among Russian adolescents is four times higher than in most European countries.

The high adolescent mortality rate is determined by a fairly wide range of factors, including, first and foremost, a socio-economic situation of the family, social vulnerability of an adolescent and his or her family,

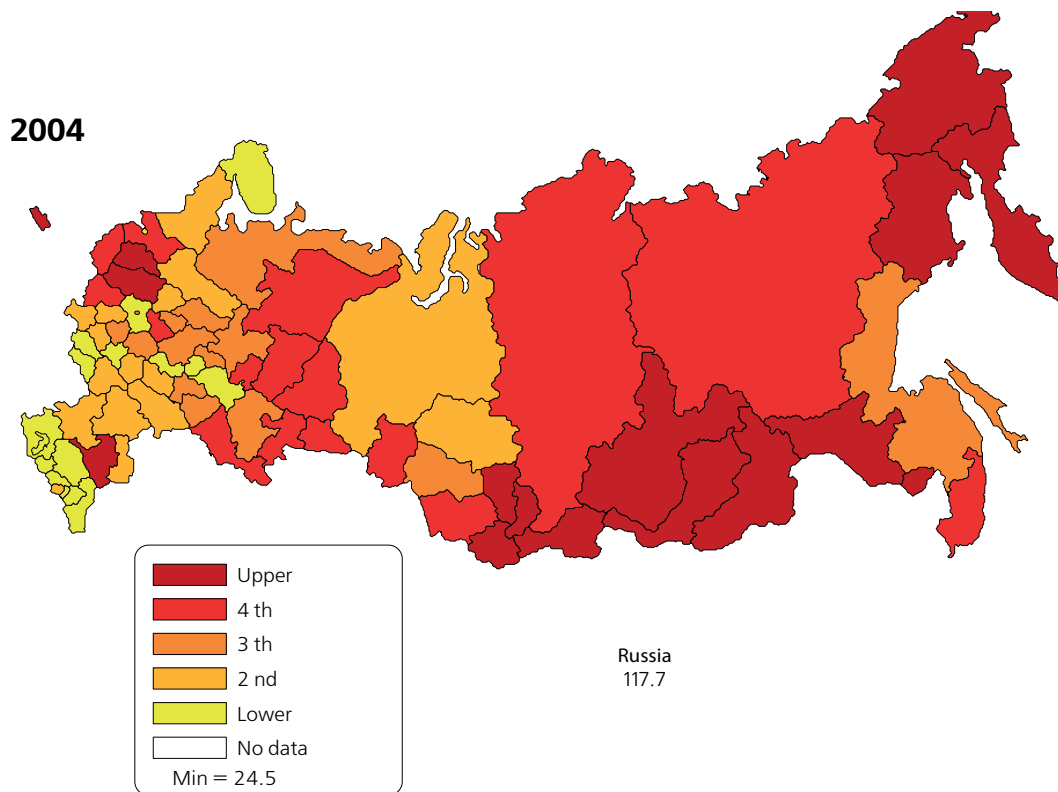
Population of the Russian Federation (thousands of people)



The Russian Federation, numbers of teenagers aged 15-17 (thousands of people)



Mortality of children aged 15-19 of all reasons (for 100 thousand of people)



The survey 'Adolescent mortality in the Russian Federation' provides recommendations on how to reduce the current adolescent mortality rate based on the analysis of its causes over the past 15 years and with consideration of the best international and Russian practices. An integrated approach is needed to address the child mortality problem. According to UNICEF experts, the following factors are most likely to contribute towards reduction of adolescent mortality: higher quality of health care; implementation of a large-scale programme aimed at trauma preven-

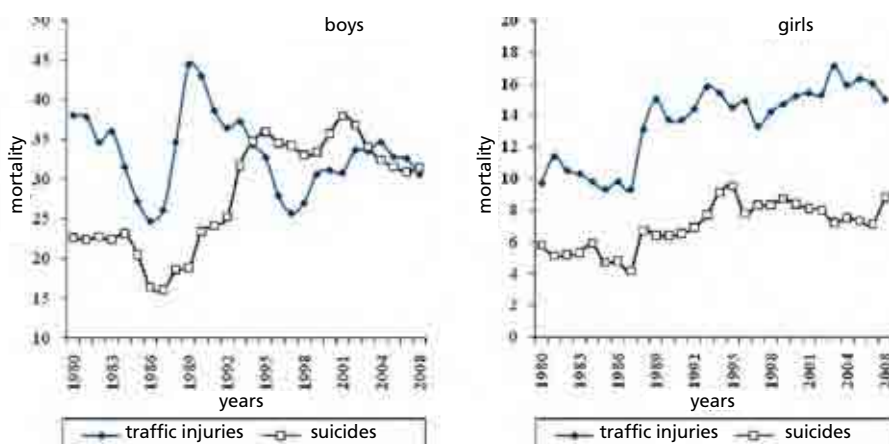
tion in children; early crisis intervention with families at risk in order to prevent suicide among adolescents; prevention of substance abuse among adolescents; and medical and social assistance for children in difficult circumstances.

According to UNICEF experts, the development of a network of youth-friendly clinics is one of the measures needed to improve adolescent health and quality of their lives. Today, 130 youth-friendly clinics created with support of UNICEF are successfully operating in 38 Russian regions.

These clinics provide a wide range of medical and socio-psychological services for adolescents and young people. The activities carried out at such facilities are based on the principles of confidentiality and accessibility. Adolescents visiting youth friendly clinics can receive free counseling and are offered practical assistance with issues, such as family planning, HIV/AIDs prevention, and reproductive health, including testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

More information about the conference materials and the survey 'Adolescent Mortality in the Russian Federation' can be found on UNICEF web-site <http://www.unicef.ru/documents/presentations/kdm/>.

The dynamics of teenagers mortality (for 100 thousand of people) of traffic injuries and suicides in Russia, 1980-2007



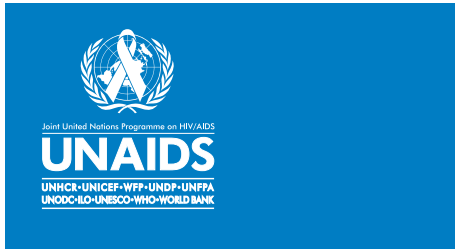
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Highlights

Photo Exhibition: Time to Act



The photo exhibition 'Time to Act. Time to draw a line under HIV epidemic' became a joint project of UNAIDS and Reuters News Agency. HIV epidemic was represented in photographs and numbers at the Faculty of Journalism of Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov.

International photographers from Reuters have been covering HIV/AIDS epidemic in its various manifestations for several years. They reflected all the acute and painful issues related to the epidemic. Some pictures are hurting, others are frightening. Certain things are left behind the scenes... Most importantly is that the works have impartially recorded a growing threat to the society caused by the inaction towards HIV epidemic.

Today, Eastern Europe and Central Asia are the only region in the world, where the number of new HIV cases continues growing. As estimated, 1.5 million people live with HIV in the region. Over 90% of HIV cases are registered in Russia and Ukraine. Thirty eight people die from HIV/AIDS related diseases, and 160 people are registered with HIV positive status every day. The average age, at which HIV infected people die from AIDS or associated diseases, is 32 years.



In Ukraine, more than 50 new HIV cases are registered every day. HIV epidemic is increasing in Central Asia, especially in Uzbekistan. Young people between 25 and 35 are the most affected.

Much is being done in these countries response to the epidemic. Annually, 25 million people undergo HIV test in Russia. A safe blood testing system has been established. Ninety five percent of pregnant women with HIV are provided with antiretroviral (ARV) treatment, which has allowed thousands of children to be born healthy. The number of people receiving ARV therapy has been constantly increasing in both Russia and Ukraine. With continuous treatment, these people can live a long and fulfilling life. Nevertheless, each year, the number of people seeking ARV treatment is growing.

Despite these efforts and measures, the epidemic in the region has been increasing. The main reason for the spread of HIV in Russia and most CIS countries is the use of injection drugs. The 'northern route' of drug trafficking goes to Europe through Central Asia and Eastern Europe from Afghanistan, which is a leading country in the world in terms of heroine production. According to estimations, 3.7 million people use injection drugs in the region. It is believed that about a fourth of them are HIV positive.

In 2009, 58,000 new HIV cases were registered in Russia. This represents an eight percent increase compared to 2008. By mid-2010, the number of HIV cases in the country amounted to 550,000. Over 60% of people got HIV through the use of drugs. Despite all the efforts to combat trafficking and illegal use of drugs, the drugs remain available and continue destroying lives of young people and their families.

The number of HIV transmissions through sexual contacts has increased significantly over the past few years. This was the reason for 40% of newly registered HIV cases in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in 2009.





Extermination of drugs captured from drug dealers

In addition, there has been an increase of HIV prevalence rates among sex workers. In Ukraine, the HIV prevalence rate in this group varies from 13.6% to 31.0%. The HIV prevalence rate among men having sex with men is also growing.

In 2000, United Nations member countries adopted the Millennium Development Goals, which have to be achieved by 2015. The purpose of the Goal 6 is to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Much effort is required to achieve this goal in the current situation.



Life points to one possible solution: a successful and broad HIV prevention campaign alone, especially in relation to drug addiction, can save hundreds of thousands of people. Everyone should have accurate knowledge about the epidemic today and take responsibility over their own health and that of their loved ones.

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Afghan Refugees in Russia: What Is Ahead?

While voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees to their native land is still restricted due to the security situation in Afghanistan, Afghan refugees and asylum-seekers residing in Russia for nearly two decades are facing the dilemma between resettlement and local integration. The latter, though most desirable under the circumstances, is complicated by a variety of factors, primarily the imperfect asylum legislation and xenophobia widely spread in recent years even to small towns.

Verbilki, a little town to the North of Moscow, has hosted refugees and asylum-seekers, primarily from Afghanistan, for 17 years, first in a former sanatorium, now in rented apartments. Men run small businesses in order to support their families, women are mostly homemakers, and children attend a local school, speak fluent Russian and learn local customs and traditions. The local authorities and community have accepted the Afghans and enjoy attending the events they arrange – with traditional dances, embroidered national costumes and pilaw.

The little town of Verbilki remains an oasis of tolerance. The local schoolmaster hopes so and spreads understanding through parent-teacher consultations and communication initiatives. A social worker of Verbilki's UNHCR sponsored com-

munity center, where musical and cultural events are held, also hopes for the better.

Evidently, during the long waiting for a legal status these people have become part of the local community, which increases their chances for integration. However, the dark spots behind the daily routine are that each visit of the UNHCR team ends in their collective complaints, submission of papers with the names and case numbers and pleas for resettlement.

The most common complaint from refugees and asylum-seekers is the difficulty to get a legal status and residence registration, which leads to a limited access to state services and prevented them from realising their rights. Local employers are not always aware about the legislation of the Russian Federation and avoid hiring refugees and asylum seekers. In case of work related accidents or injuries, Afghans run the risk of losing their jobs, which are scarce in the town that maintains itself through a porcelain factory and handicrafts.

According to a Moscow city and Moscow Region authorities decree, all children must have access to education regardless their registration status. UNHCR highly appreciates this decision, which may serve as a model for realisation of refugee's and migrant's rights. However,

free university education remains inaccessible, and the only available option is the UNHCR-supported DAFI scholarship programme implemented by German Academic Foundation named after Albert Einstein. Mustafa, an Afghan refugee of over a decade, pleads for his family to be resettled to a third country and for his kids to receive university education and live a normal life. "If they do not want to take me – OK, I will divorce my wife and stay in Russia, but just give my children a chance!"

Another major problem is aggressive xenophobia, which is present at various levels. Abdul (19 y.o.) says: "Twice a month, we have to travel to Moscow (two hours one way) by a suburban train to do some peddling, purchase expendables, etc., and each time we run a risk. Once, a group of skinheads burst into the carriage shouting: "Russia is for Russians only," – and attacked us. Not a single passenger took our side, and we had to stay locked inside the lavatory all the way to Moscow to avoid the fight. We try to do our business fast in Moscow, not to expose ourselves to public eyes, and leave as soon as possible".

According to the Moscow Bureau for Human Rights, «in the first six months of 2010, 90 attacks motivated by aggressive xenophobia were recorded; 22 people died and 105 were injured». At that, with 11 dead and 37 injured, Moscow and Moscow Region head the list of regions with the highest level of aggressive xenophobia. Though slightly lower than in 2009 (43 died and 168 were injured), these data prove the volatile public atmosphere, which is not conducive for integration.

Due to sad experiences in the past and the lack of prospects, many refugee families are unwilling even to put up window drapes when they move to another tiny but affordable apartment. They claim being 'temporary residents' who are ready to move any time either to a cheaper apartment or a third country for resettlement. Resettlement seems to remain the most favored option and the most repeated word.





Nazar, a former refugee from Oryol, is past worrying about obtaining a legal status in Russia; he eventually acquired the RF citizenship over a year ago. However, his story is far from a happy ending.

It started back in the 1980s, when Soviet troops were withdrawing from Afghanistan, and a group of Soviet soldiers found a small boy in an abandoned village. They boy did not know his parents nor his name. The soldiers called him Nazar and brought him to an orphanage in Kyrgyzstan – then part of the USSR.

When Nazar turned 18, he was sent, together with other Afghan orphans, to a banking college in Oryol (Russia). He still had no family name, no documents and history. The banking college diploma did not help him obtain a steady job and thus brought him to the market. Six years later, due to joint efforts of UNHCR, the Oryol branch of Memorial (a recognized human rights organization and UNHCR implementing partner) and the FMS territorial branch in Oryol region, Nazar became a RF citizen. However, the legal status did not help Nazar's naturalization, as he still has no registration at the place of residence, no access to medical services, and no family life (his common-law wife does not want an official marriage record despite their common daughter aged six years). His employer (an Afghan businessman)

pays just enough wages to maintain the daily subsistence, and there are few chances to earn more through extra work as Nazar does not leave the house in the evening being afraid of skinheads. The previous clash ended with 3 months in hospital.

As Nazar puts it, "I am really frustrated. I still do not have a family name, and it will need a lot of time and efforts to restore. There is no sense in applying to the local FMS – I am a Russian citizen now. I do not see a future here, and I want to be resettled to a third country".

With or without the status, the lives of people hoping to strike roots in Russia – especially people of another ethnic origin – are in no way

easy. Sadly, many spend their days in confined areas hiding from mobs of local youngsters with unclear intentions and do manual labour jobs, but still hope for a better future for their kids. Whether this will happen in Russia or in a third country – depends on many factors, among them, a more conducive asylum system and more tolerant and friendly public attitudes that are promoted by UNHCR and other international and local non-governmental organizations.

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UN Development Programme

Regions

Every Drop Matters

Water is the main source of life on our planet. Water is important not only for maintenance of good health, but also for provision of comfortable life conditions, food security and support of natural ecosystems. The growth of the population, the development of industries, and climate change make water resources more vulnerable and put under threat their quality and distribution. Therefore, sustainable water management and conservation are important tasks of the world society in the 21st century.

The 'Every drop matters' project is part of a five-year partnership initiative of UNDP and the Coca-Cola Company in Europe and NIS countries. The goal of the programme is to provide a long-term and sustainable access to fresh water resources. Starting from 2007, UNDP and Coca-Cola have been supporting innovative projects in 20 countries in three important areas, including community water stewardship and improving water governance; raising awareness to promote environmental resource preservation; and sustainable use of water for industrial and domestic purposes.

One of the projects is 'Every drop matters – Lake Baikal' in Russia. Baikal is included into the UNESCO World Natural Heritage list. Nonetheless, local municipal waste, industries and uncontrolled tourism create a growing threat for the ecosystem of the lake. The project intends



to reduce water pollution of the deepest and cleanest lake of the planet, support local initiatives on sustainable tourism and create educational programmes on water resources for local population.

The official launch of the partnership programme in Russia took place on 28 May at the environmental films festival 'H₂O', which UNDP organized together with '35mm' cinema house. The film forum coincided with International Biodiversity Day, on 22 May, and World Environment Day on 5 June. The all-Russian contest for journalists 'Every drop matters' was announced during the fes-

tival. The contest was arranged in collaboration with *Vokrug Sveta* magazine ('Around the World') and with informational support of *Foto&Video* magazine, the Russian Union of Journalists and the Club of Regional Journalists. The main prize of the contest was a trip to the most pictorial sites of Lake Baikal. Sixty five participants from across Russia submitted 200 works for evaluation by the jury, which included Nadezhda Azhghina (Russian Union of Journalists), Galina Tushinskaya (*Vokrug Sveta* magazine), Vladimir Neskromny (*Foto&Video*), Evgeniya Golovnya ('Zolotaya Lenta' studio of documentary films), experts from UNDP and Coca-Cola. The contest results were announced on 31 August. According to the jury's appraisal, Galina Avtushko from *Delovye Partnery* magazine (Saint-Petersburg) became the winner in the 'Best Article' nomination. Sergey Parfenov from Ekaterinburg, who works for *TEK: Energiya Regionov* magazine won the second prize. Olesya Bauman (*Plus Inform Weekly* magazine, Kyzyl, Tyva Republic) and Yury Eldyshev (*Ekologiya i Zhizn* magazine, Moscow) shared the third prize.

Oleg Pchelov from *Krasnaya Zvezda* newspaper, Rostov-on-Don, won the first prize in the 'Best Photo' nomination. The second prize went to Aleksandre Kovyazin, *Armavirskiy Sobesednik* newspaper (Armavir, Krasnodar krai), and Yury Kim-Serebryakov from Moscow won the third prize.



Julia Dolgova and Mikhail Ovseichik from *Studio FMVideo* Information Agency (Kungur, Perm krai) became the best in the 'Radio and TV report' nomination. The second winner was Natalia Lyubchenko from *RTA-Mezhdurechensk* Broadcasting Company (Mezhdurechensk, Kemerov oblast). The third prize was awarded to Timur Ryazanov, *Parus Media* (Samara).

All contest submissions can be found at UNDP web-site: <http://www.undp.ru/index.php?iso=RU&lid=2&cmd=news&id=776>

The first place winners went to the press-tour to Baikal on 3 September. The winners of the second and third prizes were granted with diplomas and notable awards.

The journalists participated in the environmental campaign, '2010 Meters of Clean Shore', initiated by the Association of Teachers-Researchers, a local non-governmental organization, on Baikal Day on 5 September. Apart from journalists, more than 120 students and teachers of Buryatia State University, employees of Baikal Information Center 'GRAN' and local volunteers took part in the shore cleaning. Over two tons of garbage was collected, including two trailers of plastic, which was sent for recycling. The clean-up campaign was part of



Oleg Pchelov, "Krasnaya zvezda" Newspaper, Rostov-on-Don took the first prize in "The best photo" nomination

the press-tour organized within 'Every drop matters – Lake Baikal' project.

In addition, journalists had a meeting with the Non-Commercial Partnership 'Bereg', which plans to establish a museum of water, create new jobs and offer services in the recreational zones of the lake. The Partnership aims at reducing the negative impact of unregulated tourism on nature.

"Baikal is such a magical place! You cannot help feeling its energy, to have enough of its fresh air, crystal clean water," said Galina Avtushko, a journalist from St. Petersburg and first prize winner of the competition. "But garbage... it should not be here, the same as on the banks of the Don River, or other rivers and lakes of our country."



Figures and facts

- The number of people dying from polluted water exceeds the number of people dying as a result of wars and other forms of violence.
- According to the United Nations World Water Development Report 47% of population will live under threat of water deficit by 2030.
- UN recognized access to water as one of the fundamental human rights in 2002.
- The period from 2005 to 2015 is announced as the International Decade of Actions "Water for Life".
- Russia possesses the world's second largest fresh water reserves (after Brazil).
- Lake Baikal contains 20% of the world's resources of the surface fresh water.

«It's Not Just a New School. The Place Is Imbued with the Spirit of Mutual Support...»

The opening ceremony of a new sport boarding school named after Ivan Kanidi took place on 6 September in Beslan, Republic of North Ossetia. The school was constructed as a result of a joint project between UNDP and the Government of North Ossetia, which was supported by the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the Hellenic Republic. All parties contributed to the project financially.



Greece in Russian Federation; Mr. Knut Hauge, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway in the Russian Federation; and Mr. Frode Muring, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator in the Russian Federation.

Mr. Mamsumor said in his welcome speech that all Russians would always revere memory of Beslan victims. “We are able to prove that we will always withstand ugliness and abomination of evil”, underlined Mr. Mamsurov.

According to Mr. Espen Barth Eide, people from all over the world were shocked with the terrorist attack in Beslan, which targeted innocent and defenceless children. “We couldn't be indifferent towards this tragedy. It was also very frightening. Therefore we wanted to express some degree of solidarity. The opening of the school is a very important event. We have to look towards the future. Children are our future”.

UNDP, the governments of Norway and Greece combined their efforts to implement the project on the school construction in 2007 in order to support local people and the Government of North Ossetia-Alania in overcoming the consequences of the tragedy in Beslan, which happened on 1–3 September, 2004. The terrorist attack on the secondary school №1 resulted in an enormous number of victims among

children and adults. The aim of UNDP-led project was to improve opportunities for young people in Beslan for education and physical development.

The opening ceremony included a concert by students and was attended by Mr. Taimuraz Mamsurov, Head of the Republic of North Ossetia – Alania; Mr. Espen Barth Eide, State Secretary of the Kingdom of Norway; Mr. Michael Spinellis, Ambassador of the Republic of

Mikhail Spinelis stated on behalf of all Greek people that he was proud about the fact that Greece could take part in the project for construction of the new boarding school in Beslan.





Frode Mauring noted that the past year was very difficult for many countries from the financial point of view. Consequently, there were even more reasons to celebrate the opening of the school. "It's not just a new school. The place is imbued with the spirit of mutual support and this will decidedly play a certain role in strengthening co-operation between Russia and foreign countries."

While the official ceremony was taking place, the students were looking forward to hear the First Bell. They couldn't wait to get into the classrooms sparkling with cleanness, sit at the new desks and meet their teacher at the first 'peace lesson'. Finally, the ribbon was cut, the bell rang and everyone was invited to the building with the spacious halls and bright classrooms

equipped with the state of the art technologies. The dormitory block, educational, administrative and sport buildings are already built, and the football field is currently under construction. The boarding school may become a second home for children from low-income families. Konstantin Kanidi, a son of Ivan Kanidi who was a teacher of the school №1 and died during the terrorist attack while trying to defend his students, will be the director of the school.

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Interview

Speak up... Stop Discrimination

The 10 December is approaching – the date when the whole world celebrates Human Rights Day. On this occasion, the Senior Human Rights Adviser to the UN Country Team in the Russian Federation, Mr. Dirk Hebecker, answered the *UN in Russia* questions.

– Mr. Hebecker, when did the international community start celebrate Human Rights Day, and why it was decided to choose the date of 10 December?

– Human Rights Day was first announced by the UN General Assembly sixty years ago, in 1950, and the date of 10 December was chosen because the first global human rights instrument – the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – was adopted in 1948 on that day.

– Each year, the UN defines a special theme for Human Rights Day. What will it be in 2010?

– This year's Human Rights Day will pay tribute to human rights champions who in their daily lives find ways to ensure that their fellow human beings are not discriminated against. On this occasion, the slogan will be 'Speak Up... Stop Discrimination'. On Human Rights Day and throughout the year, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights will encourage activists everywhere to share what they do to fight all kinds of discrimination so that more people can learn how to become human rights



defenders. This campaign invites us all to play a role in defending against discrimination, and, more broadly, in ensuring respect for human rights.

– What does the UN plan to do in Russia to celebrate Human Rights Day in 2010?

– Traditionally, UN Agencies will participate in the annual Human Rights Film Festival «Stalker», which is conducted around Human Rights Day and is dedicated to protecting human rights. In addition, we urge our partners in the Russian Federation to launch their own antidiscrimination initiatives, and stand ready to support these actions.

Interviewed by
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Director-General of UNESCO Visits Russia

Between 26 and 30 September 2010, UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, paid her first official visit to the Russian Federation, where she opened the first ever World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education (WCECCE) in Moscow on 27 September.

In her address, Irina Bokova urged participants that “this Conference must give a fresh impetus to early childhood care and education worldwide. Every country that is committed to inclusion, growth, and social justice should have strong national early childhood care and education policies in place. They are the bedrock of a prosperous future.” Noting that early childhood care and education programmes yield greater investment returns than any other level of education, she underlined the following: “We are here today to map a course of action that will raise the profile of early childhood programmes on national and international agendas and lead to more and better learning opportunities for young children.”

Also present at the opening of the World Conference were Danny Faure, Vice-President of Seychelles, Mehriban Aliyeva, First Lady of Azerbaijan and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, Andrei Fursenko, Minister of Education of the Russian Federation, Yuri Luzhkov, then Mayor of Moscow, and Eleonora Mitrofanova, Chairperson of UNESCO’s Executive Board.



Irina Bokova addresses the World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education

On the margins of the Conference, the Director-General met with the Minister of Education of the Russian Federation, Andrei Fursenko. Discussions focused on reinforcing the cooperation between the Russian Federation and UNESCO, particularly in the field of education, and on follow-up to WCECCE. Irina Bokova emphasized the importance of giving a greater priority to education on the international agenda. To this end,

she expressed appreciation for support on the part of Russia, notably during the country’s chairmanship of the G8 meeting in 2006. She also reiterated her conviction that education should be included on the G20 agenda.

Following the opening ceremony, the Director-General met with the Russian Federation’s First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andrey Denisov. Also on that day, Irina Bokova signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Government of the Yaroslavl Region. Later on she gave a press conference at ITAR-TASS News Agency, met with chief editors of the Russian printed press, and attended a children’s concert at the Kremlin on the occasion of the Conference.

On 28 September, the Director-General held bilateral meetings with local business leaders, Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and all Russia, and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Zurab Tsereteli. She participated in the Second Russian Congress of UNESCO Chairs at the Russian Academy of Civil Service. There she signed a protocol on the creation of a UNESCO Chair in Modern Innovation and Information Technologies in Higher Professional Education with the rector of the State Tax Academy of the Ministry of Finance.

On 29th of September, Irina Bokova delivered a speech at Moscow State Institute of International Relations – University of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (MGIMO) and received an Honorary Doctor’s Degree from its Rector, Mr Anatoly Torkunov. The Director-General is a graduate of the Institute. On 29 September, Irina Bokova signed a cooperation agreement with the Russian news agency RIA Novosti.



The opening of the World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education

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Summary

You can find the full version of the UN in Russia Bulletin in English at www.undp.ru or www.unrussia.ru (Documents)

UN / Ban Ki-moon:

"Let Us Keep the Promise"

The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addressed the General Assembly during the High Level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals on 20 September 2010. Ban Ki-moon underlined the necessity to keep the commitments for the achievement of MDGs by 2015 despite numerous barriers and the rapidly approaching deadline.

WB / Pursuing More Growth, Less Poverty and Hunger in an Uncertain World

"The World Bank estimates that the number of people living in extreme poverty increased by 64 million in 2010, and 40 million more people were starving in 2009 as a consequence of recent food, energy and financial crises", President of the World Bank Group Robert B. Zoellick writes in his article. "There is a need to create opportunities for growth and step up the pace to overcome poverty through effective socioeconomic policies, which would encourage investing in people."

UN / UN 65 Anniversary: New Partnership with Russia

"With the advancements referred to, the nature of the relationship between UN agencies in Russia and the Russian Federation is changing", Frode Muring, the UN Resident Coordinator in Russia, marks in his speech. "This means a move from assistance to partnerships. More and more will we access Russia's vast knowledge and expertise. The UN agencies present in Russia look forward to building a new framework of our collaboration together with you."

UNIC / Horizon 2015 Is Approaching

On 22 September, the UN Office in the Russian Federation held an event dedicated to the New York MDGs Summit, which discussed the progress towards the globally agreed targets to be met by 2015. The culmination of the event was the opening of the exhibition of the winners of the 'Unleash Your Creativity' Print Ad Competition. The main purpose of the contest was to engage general public and increase their awareness of UN advocacy campaign for MDGs implementation.

UNICEF / To Help Children Live

The youth mortality rates in Russia are four times higher than in most European countries, UNICEF report, 'Youth mortality in Russian Federation' says. The report was published in connection with the International conference on 'Youth Friendly Clinics: 10 years. To be continued' held in September in Saint-Petersburg. It was agreed that the development of a network of clinics, which would offer a wide range of socio-psychological and medical services, is required to improve health and life conditions of youth in Russia.

UNAIDS / Photo Exhibition: Time to Act

Today, Eastern Europe and Central Asia is the only region in the world where the number of new HIV infections continues rising. For several years, Reuters news agency photographers covered HIV/AIDS in all its manifestations. The exhibition of their works opened in Moscow State University in September.

UNHCR / Afghan Refugees in Russia: What Is Ahead?

Afghan refugees and asylum seekers face difficulties while trying to settle and assimilate in Russia. This is related first of all to improper policy frameworks and aggressive xenophobia. Consequently, many refugees have to consider moving to third countries. UNHCR is building capacity for tolerant and positive attitude towards refugees and development of appropriate policy frameworks through the work with local governments and population.

UNDP / Every Drop Matters

'Every drop matters' is the 5-year-program launched jointly by the United Nations Development Programme and Coca-Cola in Europe and CIS countries. The goal of the program is to provide long-term and sustained access to fresh water resources. In Russia, a media contest was conducted on the topic, where 65 authors from across Russia participated with 200 works.

UNDP / «It's Not Just a New School. The Place Is Imbued with the Spirit of Mutual Support...»

The opening ceremony for the new sport boarding school named after Ivan Kanidi took place on 6th of September in Beslan, Republic of North Ossetia. The new school was constructed under a joint project between UNDP and the Government of North Ossetia, supported by the Governments of Norway and Greece.

OHCHR / Speak Up...Stop Discrimination

Mr. Dirk Hebecker, the Senior Human Rights Adviser to the UN Country Team in the Russian Federation, talks about the celebration of Human Rights Day on 10th of December 2010, the day on which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948.

UNESCO / Director General of UNESCO Visits Russia

The official visit of Director General of UNESCO in Russia coincided with the first 'World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education.' In her address, Irina Bokova urged participants that "this Conference must give a fresh impetus to early childhood care and education worldwide and reiterated her conviction that education should be included on the G20 agenda."

*Организация
Объединенных Наций*



Цели развития на пороге тысячелетия

Цели в области развития на пороге тысячелетия представляют собой программу по борьбе с бедностью и повышению уровня жизни, принятую представителями 191 страны-участницы ООН, включая Российскую Федерацию, на Саммите тысячелетия в сентябре 2000 г.

Цели в области развития на пороге тысячелетия (ЦРТ), каждая из которых должна быть достигнута к 2015 г., включают:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Цель 1 | Ликвидацию нищеты и голода |
| Цель 2 | Обеспечение всеобщего начального образования |
| Цель 3 | Поощрение равенства мужчин и женщин и расширение прав и возможностей женщин |
| Цель 4 | Сокращение детской смертности |
| Цель 5 | Улучшение охраны материнства |
| Цель 6 | Борьбу с ВИЧ/СПИДом, туберкулезом и другими заболеваниями |
| Цель 7 | Обеспечение устойчивого развития окружающей среды |
| Цель 8 | Формирование глобального партнерства в целях развития |

