

**MILLENNIUM
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS** **BAROMETER**
SERBIA 2013

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS BAROMETER – SERBIA 2013

In 2000, as a part of a global process, the Republic of Serbia has adopted the Millennium Development Goals and incorporated it in National Strategy for Poverty Reduction. Very soon MDGs set benchmarks in major areas of human development in Serbia. In 2006 the National progress report on MDGs was prepared and in 2009 a mid-term report was made. Up to that point progress has been recorded in most of the indicators presented. However, after the mid-term report the whole process of MDGs monitoring was neglected.

In 2012 Serbia was selected as one among, then, 56 countries in the World in which national consultations about UN post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals were held. This process is about to set new development path at global level and influence national policies in different sectors. The global post 2015 consultation process is grounded in the achievements and lessons learnt from Millennium Development Goals as a global development policy framework. This process has brought a new approach to the definition of development goals in which citizens were directly influencing the process, parallel to the governments who had to deliver their proposals of new development policy framework to UN Secretary General. Nevertheless, one could suppose that many development goals for post 2015 period will be closely tied to basic MDGs. Now the question arises: what is the state of development in Serbia today, observed through MDG indicators? How much progress was made towards Millennium Development Goals and how much this informs us about tentative new directions of development after 2015, as recognized by citizens of Serbia?

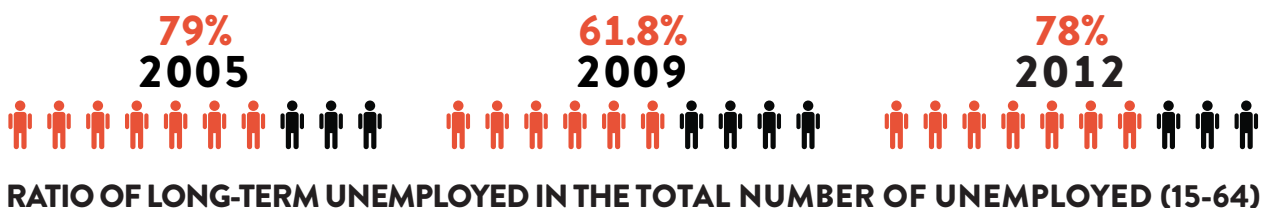
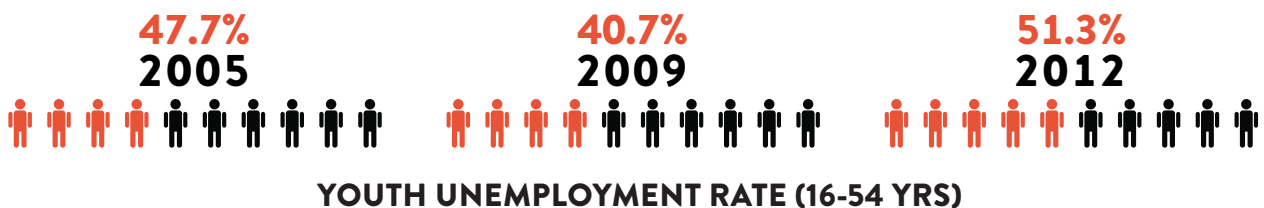
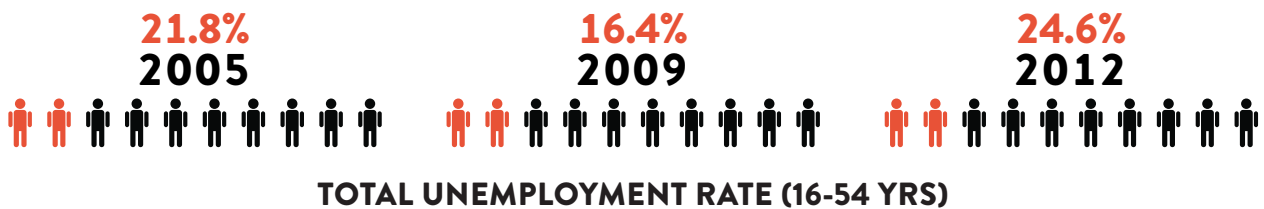
To answer these questions, it is important to reestablish the monitoring of MDGs and check what the level of MDGs achievement in Serbia today is. In this document we want to make quick view on trends of achievement and derive basic and general conclusions on development tendencies in Serbia. In order to do this we present a review of selected indicators for the objectives of all 8 MDGs. For each of the objectives defined under the 8 MDGs we have selected 2-3 major indicators that show trend of change in the respective areas of social and economic life. For each of indicators we try to draw a trend line connecting 3 points in time. Most usually these are years 2005, 2008 and 2012. The values of indicators in the graphs for first two time points have been transferred from midterm MDG report published by UNDP Serbia in 2009 and they present the moments in which the Government of the Republic of Serbia has made reports on progress towards MDGs. The latest time point should help us to establish the trend of change and lead us to base line for new post 2015 development goals. Unfortunately, there is no available new data from reliable sources for all indicators. For some we can present data for year 2012, for some it will be some previous year, but for few the new data is simply missing. Nevertheless, in the plentitude of proposed indicators, there is enough information as to derive conclusions about main development tendencies and about critical gaps in achievement of MDGs. The obtained results should be interpreted in the light of global changes provoked by financial and economic crisis and their influence on fragile Serbian economy and society, which was reflected in official statistics just after the interim report on MDGs achievement was published.

MDG1

HALVE THE POVERTY RATE & ERADICATE HUNGER

Objective 1: By 2015 reduce the unemployment rate by at least 50%

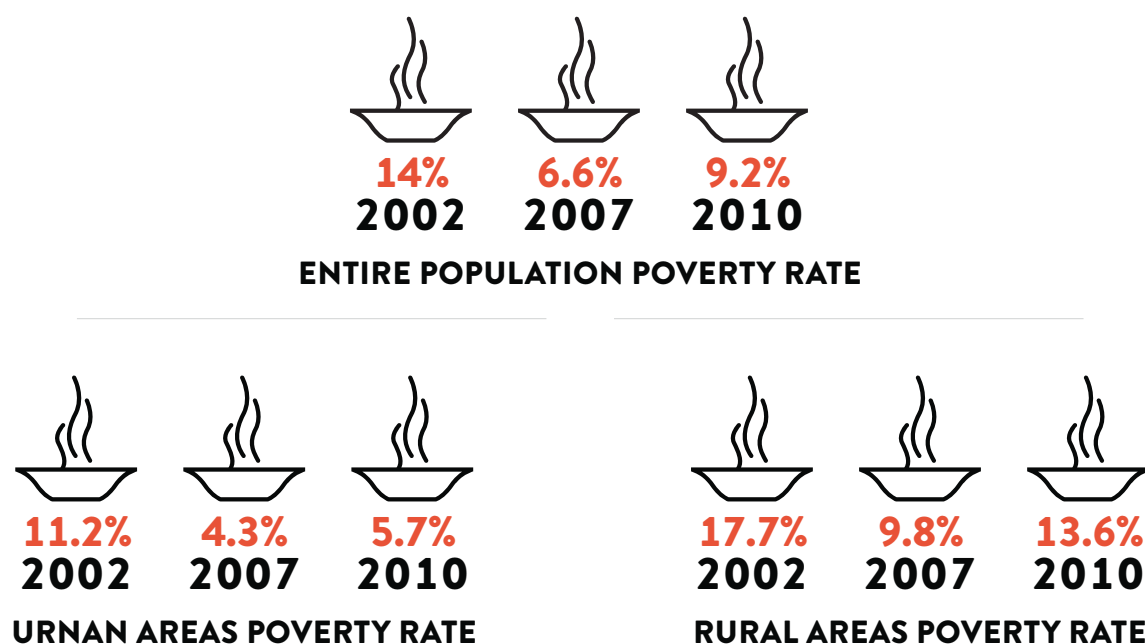
Objective 1 not achieved. An increase in overall unemployment, youth unemployment and long-term unemployment has been registered. Generally higher unemployment than in 2005 is related to the jobless growth of 2005-2008 driven mostly by the increase in consumption. The number of newly employed was extremely low since the beginning of the crisis, and the ratio of long-term unemployed has got back to 2005 value.



Source for 2012: SORS, LSF 2012

Objective 2: By 2015 halve the poverty rate of entire population and eradicate hunger

Objective 2 not achieved. The goal of the National Strategy for Poverty Reduction to halve the poverty was achieved in 2007, but worsened after Global economic crisis started, with increase in urban-rural disparity ratio. The weight of worsening of economic situation fell much more on the back of inhabitants of rural areas – in 2010 there was almost 3 times more poor people in rural areas than in urban.



Source for 2010: Government of the Rep. of Serbia,
First National report on social inclusion and poverty reduction in Serbia, 2010

MDG 1: HALVE THE POVERTY RATE AND ERADICATE HUNGER.

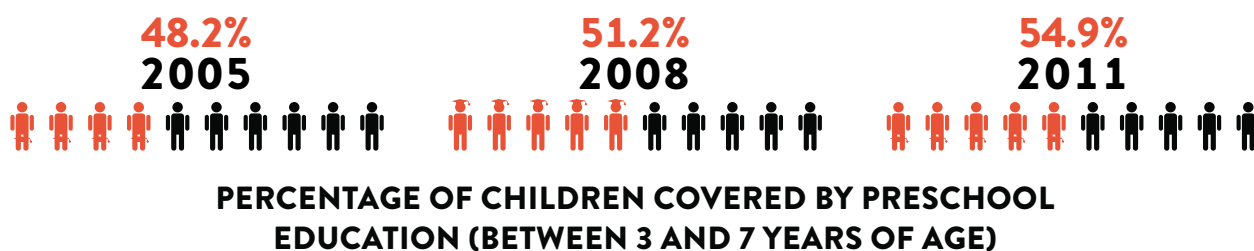
This goal has not been met yet. The unemployment rate is among the highest in Europe and poverty is increasing. The results in this field are heavily dependent on the level of economic growth. Consequently, in couple of years during mid 2000s, when there were repeated moderate rates of economic growth, unemployment and poverty were decreasing, but the Global economic crisis, which brought heavy recession to Serbia, stopped this trend and it is not likely that the trend will be significantly reversed until 2015. It should be stressed, though, that 2013 is bringing first signs of recovery of the economy: there is a modest increase in growth rate, increase in industrial production and sharp decrease in foreign trade deficit. It seems that an important lesson was learnt during recession years: the future economic development policy should be based on sustainable grounds and provide more jobs, since the limits of foreign indebtedness and foreign trade deficit have already been overcome.

MDG2

THAT BY 2015 ALL BOYS & GIRLS COMPLETE A FULL COURSE OF PRIMARY SCHOOLING

Objective 1: Increase of primary schooling coverage

Objective 1 not achieved: Visible achievement was made with regard to pre-school education. There was overall increase in Serbia from 48.2% through 51.2% to 54.9%, (including children in obligatory pre-school education). Among children age 3-5 living in Roma settlements, pre-school attendance rate increased from 3.9% in 2005 to 8.2% in 2010. Among children of same age from rural areas this increase was from 14.4% to 28.7% (MICS3 and MICS4, UNICEF). On the other hand, enrollment in elementary school and completion of elementary school in Serbia in general is slowly decreasing. Behind this trend an important achievement is hidden: thanks to measures introduced since Serbia joined the Decade of Roma Inclusion, coverage of Roma children with basic education has grown significantly. The first grade enrollment rate went over 90% in 2010 and share of those finishing elementary school increased from 28.1% in 2005 to 62.7% in 2010. This means that negative trend on this 2 indicators is concentrated in non-Roma population. In rural areas first grade enrollment rate dropped from 95% in 2005 to 93.2% in 2010. Net primary school completion rate in rural areas dropped from 89.9% in 2005 to 88.1% in 2010 (MICS3 and MICS4, UNICEF).



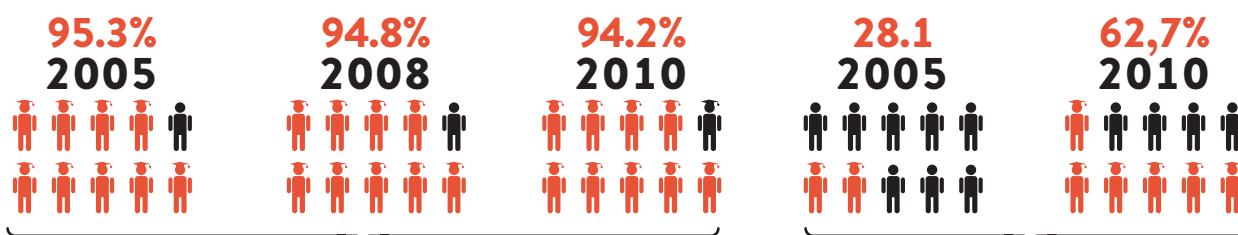
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN COVERED BY PRESCHOOL
EDUCATION (BETWEEN 3 AND 7 YEARS OF AGE)

Source for 2011:
Dev Info, SORS, Statistics of Education



PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN COVERED BY PRESCHOOL EDUCATION (BETWEEN 3 AND 7 YEARS OF AGE)

Source for 2011:
Dev Info, SORS, Statistics of Education

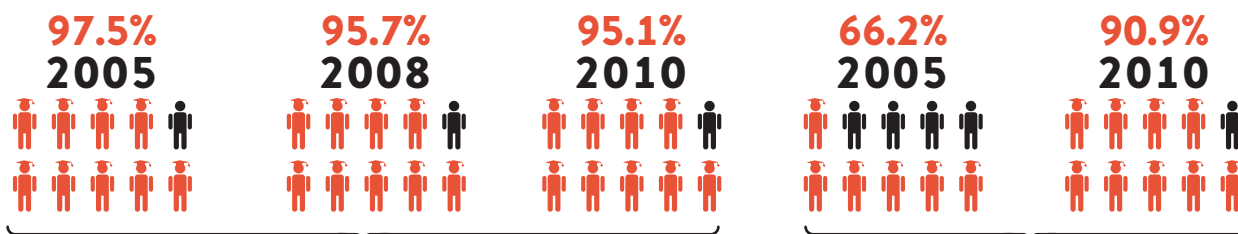


General population

Roma population

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN THAT FINISH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Source for 2010: SORS, Statistical yearbook 2011
Source for Roma: MICS 2005 and MICS 2010, UNICEF



General population

Roma population

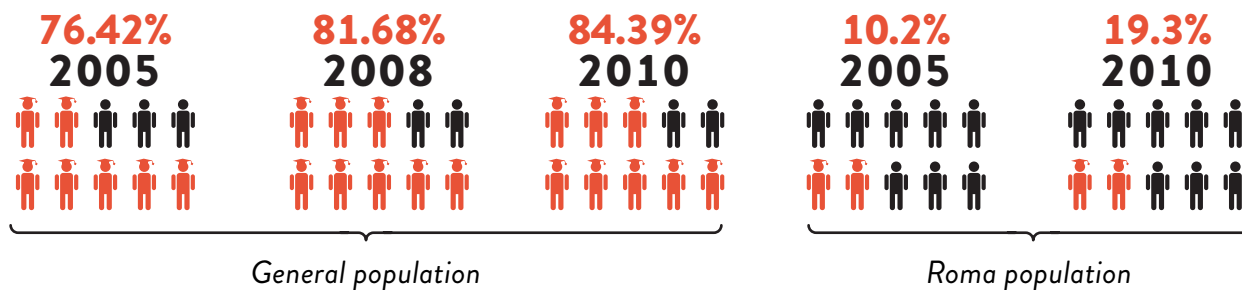
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN ENROLED IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Source for 2010: First National report on social inclusion and povrety reduction in Serbia, Gov. of RS2010
Source for Roma: MICS 2005 and MICS 2010, UNICEF

Objective 2: Obtaining of profession, promotion of the concept of life-long learning, availability of higher education

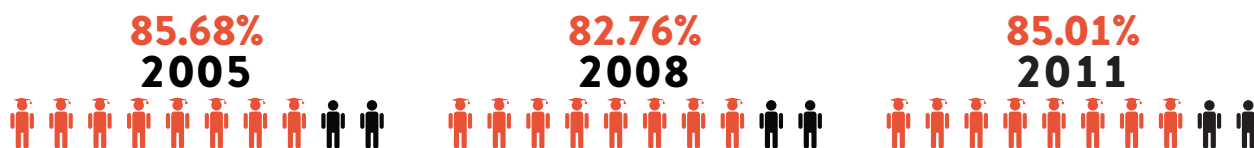
Objective 2 partially achieved. There is a trend of increase of transfer to tertiary education and growth in coverage by secondary education. Here again, the improvement is significant with Roma children whose net attendance almost doubled in 5 years. There was also increase of net attendance of children from rural areas, from 79.5% in 2005 to 85.3% in 2010 (MICS3 and MICS4, UNICEF). However, there is a problem with completion of secondary school and dropout is even higher here than within primary education. After decline in 2008 the percentage of children who finish regular high school did not reach 2005 level yet.

Having in mind that number of children in Serbia is decreasing every year due to low fertility rate, and under presumption that economic growth will turn positive soon, the decrease in completion of secondary school might lead to insufficient volume of qualified labor force in the coming period.



COVERAGE OF CHILDREN BY SECONDARY SCHOOL (GRADES I-IV OF HIGH SCHOOL / 15-18 YRS)

Source for 2010: SORS, Statistical yearbook 2011 Source for Roma: MICS 2005 and MICS 2010, UNICEF, net secondary school attendance ratio

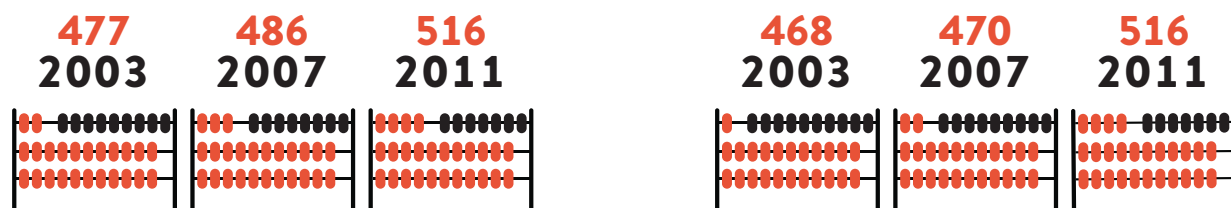


PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN THAT FINISH REGULAR SECONDARY SCHOOL



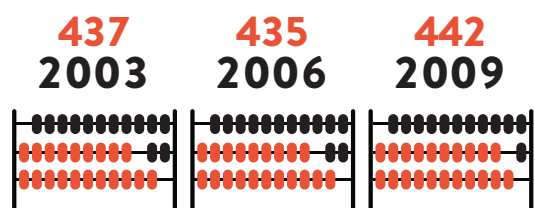
Objective 3: Improvement of education quality

Objective 3 achieved on suboptimal level. Scores in math and science TIMSS tests are increasing and put Serbia among the countries above the scale midpoint (500). PISA scores are still below European average, but the scores have trend of growth in all three areas, and the lagging behind EU countries is decreasing. It is important to continue with efforts invested in achieving excellence and bring Serbian children to European average.



TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE STUDY - MATH (TIMSS)

Source for 2011: Institute for Educational research



PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT - MATH (PISA)



PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT - SCIENCE (PISA)



PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT - READING (PISA)

Source for 2009: Institute of Psychology

MDG 2 : THAT BY 2015 ALL BOYS AND GIRLS COMPLETE A FULL COURSE OF PRIMARY SCHOOLING.

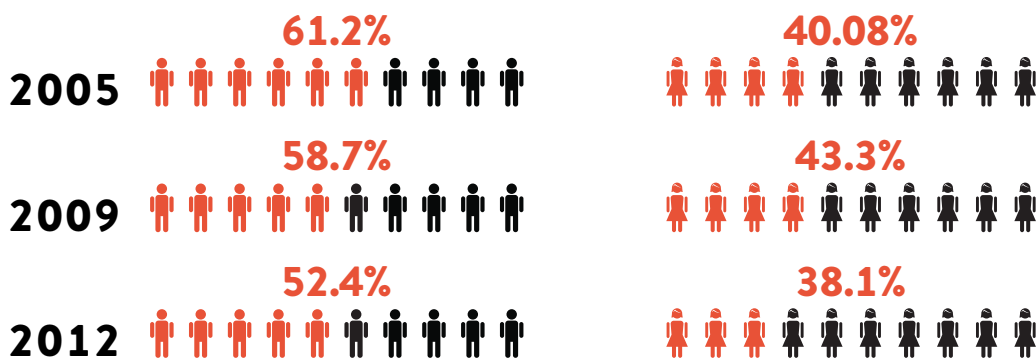
This goal has not been met. The major progress was made in increase of education quality, however Serbia is still below EU average in all indicators, both TIMSS and PISA. On the other hand, there are warning signs that less and less children is completing primary schools. Significant improvements have been made in coverage or Roma children by obligatory education, but situation is worsening in rural areas (supposedly both for non-Roma and Roma children). Apparently, more notice should be paid to support to children to complete at least primary education and to quality in primary and secondary education.

MDG3

GENDER EQUALITY & EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Objective 1: Halve the economic inequalities between men and women
(in poverty, employment, unemployment, participation in trade unions, advancement
at work, payment)

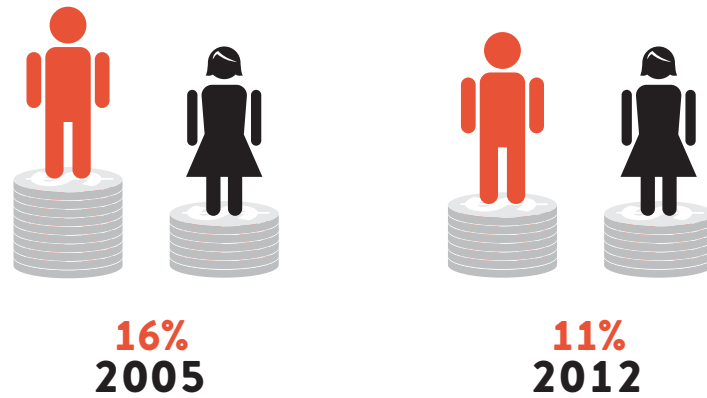
Objective 1 achieved. Gender disparity in employment was almost halved between 2005 and 2012, disparity in unemployment was 7 times smaller in 2012 than in 2005, and salary gap decreased from 16% to 11%. Unfortunately, this was primarily the consequence of comparatively more deteriorated labor market position of men than women after the breakout of economic crisis.



COMAPRATIVE EMPLOYMENT RATES OF MEN AND WOMEN OF WORKING AGE (15-64)



COMAPRATIVE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF MEN AND WOMEN OF WORKING AGE (15-64)

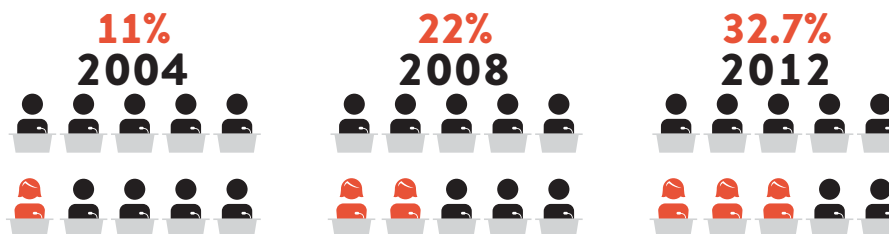


SELARY GAP BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN

Source for 2012: FREN, Gender Pay Gap in the WB countries

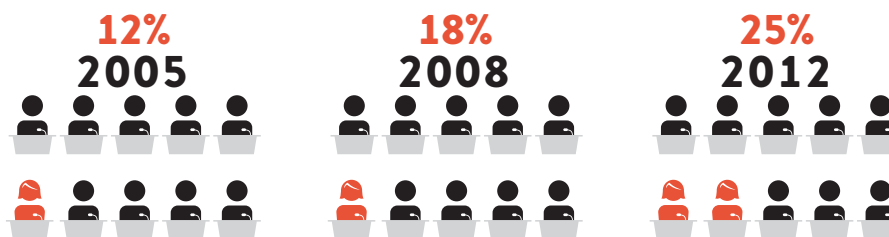
Objective 2: By 2015 increase the participation of women at all levels of political decision-making to at least 30%

Objective 2 partially achieved. There is tendency of rather modest growth in all 3 selected indicators, but it is only the National Assembly of Serbia where there is more than 30% of women MPs. The situation is critical with participation of women in power at local level: the trend is almost stagnant and there is less than 5% of women on the position of mayor.



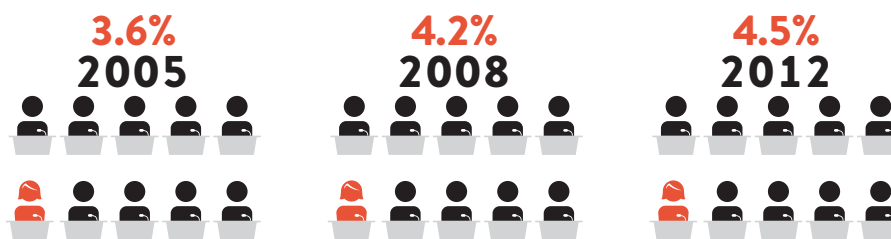
**PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN AMONG MPS
IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SERBIA**

Source for 2012: The National Assembly of Serbia



**PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN AMONG MEMBERS
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

Source for 2012: The Government of the Republic of Serbia

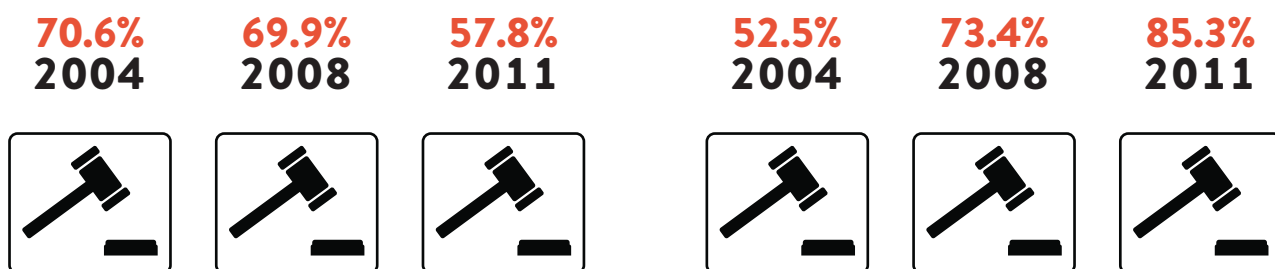


PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN AMONG MUNICIPALITY PRESIDENTS IN SERBIA

Source for 2012: Gender Equality Directorate

Objective 4: By 2015 develop a system of protection for women victims of violence and a system of prevention of violence against women

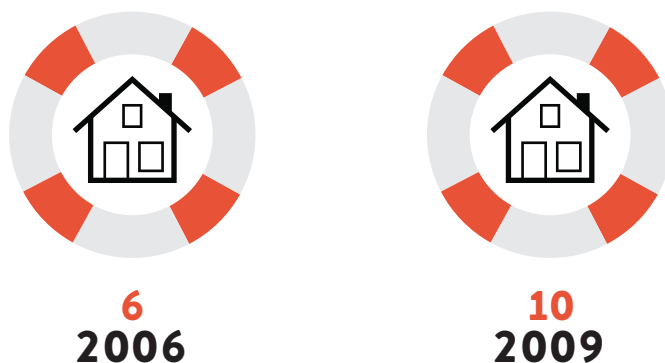
Objective 4 partially achieved. There is less criminal charges raised in cases of domestic violence, but more of them ended with conviction. The trends in both indicators might point to increasing efficiency of protection of women against domestic violence. Number of safe houses is increasing, but it is not known how many of them have been funded from state budget. Here we might propose adding a new indicator on safety of safe houses, i.e. measuring the number of violent incidents in safe houses during a year.



PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINAL CHARGES RAISED IN CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN COMPARISON TO OVERALL NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES

PERCENTAGE OF CONVICTIONS IN CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN COMPARISON TO NUMBER OF PROSECUTED CASES

Source for 2011: SORS, Statistical yearbook, 2012



NUMBER OF SAFEHOUSES FUNDED FROM STATE FUNDS

Information for 2011 not available

MDG 3: GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN.

This goal has been met to a moderate extent. Labor market indicators show decreasing the gap in labour market position of men and women. Gender disparities have been significantly lowered in employment, unemployment and salaries. However, this was mostly the consequence of negative effects of economic crisis. As crisis had stronger impacts on industrial sector with higher male employment, they were more faced with the increase of unemployment. Due to the high share of employment in public sector, women were comparatively more protected during crisis, but it is expected that austerity measures, which will be introduced more firmly will have negative impact on their employment. Decrease of employment in private sector contributed to the narrowing the pay gap, since this gap was traditionally low in the public sector. A lot was achieved in political representation of women and their participation in power – there is more women in the government and National Assembly. It should be stressed, though, that political presentation at local level still suffers from high gender inequality. Concerning the most striking form of gender inequality and that is family violence, it could be said that situation has improved in efficiency. Although the number of criminal charges has dropped, the share of convictions in the case of charges being made has increased. Now that women are being more present in public positions this visibility should be used to eradicate family violence and to improve position of women on labor market.

MDG4

REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

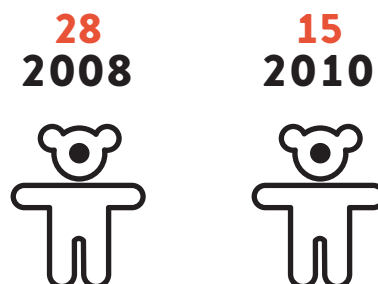
Objective 1: Between 2000 and 2015, reduce mortality of children under the age of five by averagely 50%

Objective 1 not achieved, but has realistic tendency to be achieved until 2015. In 2010 all values on selected indicators were almost double smaller than in 2000 (2005 for Roma children). Among Roma children, the mortality rates of children under the age of five and infants were almost halved in only 5 years. The negative sign is trend of stagnation for selected indicators on national level between 2008 and 2010, so more activities should be oriented towards keeping the trend downward.



MORTALITY RATE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF FIVE (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)

Source for 2010: Government of the Rep. of Serbia, First National report on social inclusion and poverty reduction in Serbia, 2010



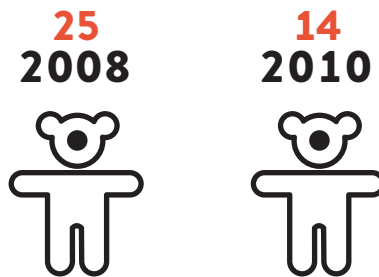
MORTALITY RATE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF FIVE IN ROMA POPULATION (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)

Source for 2005: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2005; Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010



MORTALITY RATE OF INFANTS (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)

Source for 2010: Health statistical yearbook, 2010

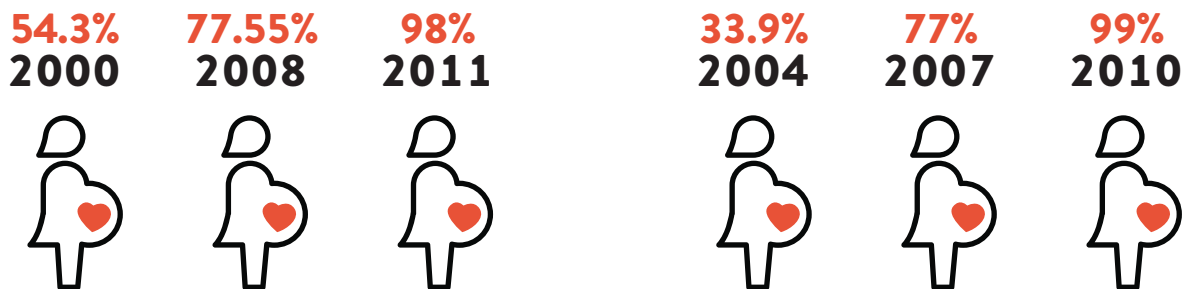


MORTALITY RATE OF INFANTS IN ROMA POPULATION (PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS)

Source for 2005: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2005; Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

Objective 2: Between 2000 and 2015, improve the coverage of women by antenatal and postnatal healthcare by at least one third.

Objective 2 achieved completely. Almost all women were covered by modern health protection and had at least one medical visit during pregnancy in 2011.



COVERAGE OF PREGNANT WOMEN BY MODERN HEALTH PROTECTION

COVERAGE OF WOMEN BY AT LEAST ONE MEDICAL FIELD VISIT DURING PREGNANCY

Source for 2010:
Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2010

Source for 2010:
SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

Objective 3: Between 2000 and 2015, halve the mortality rate of children under the age of 19 from external causes of death.

Objective 3 not achieved, but has realistic tendency to be achieved until 2015.: the specific mortality rate was almost halved by 2011



SPECIFIC MORTALITY RATE UNDER THE AGE OF 19 FROM EXTERNAL CAUSES OF DEATH (PER 100 000 CHILDREN OF THE SAME AGE)

Source for 2011: SORS, Demographic Yearbook in the Republic of Serbia, 2011

Objective 4: Between 2000 and 2015, increase the percentage of exclusively breastfed infants from birth until six months of age to at least 30%

Objective 4 not achieved at all: there is an opposite trend of decrease in percentage of exclusively breastfed infants, especially among Roma population



PERCENTAGE OF EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFED INFANTS FROM BIRTH UNTIL SIX MONTHS OF AGE

Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

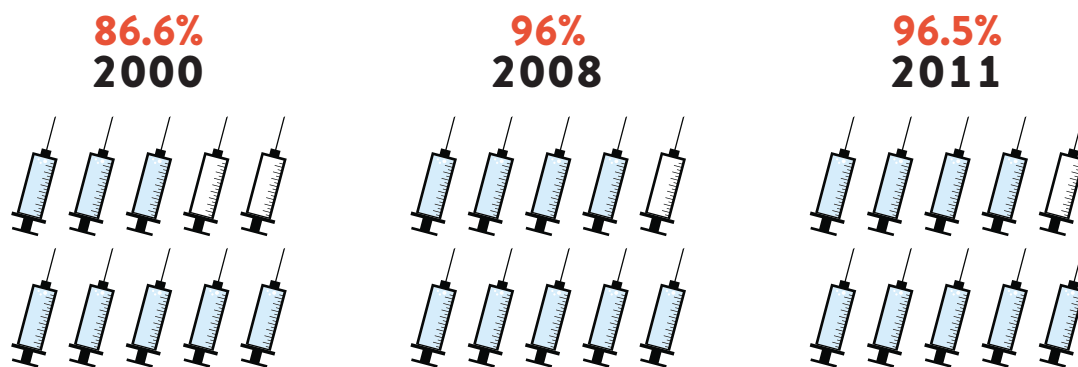


PERCENTAGE OF EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFED INFANTS FROM BIRTH UNTIL SIX MONTHS OF AGE IN ROMA POPULATION

Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

Objective 5: Between 2000 and 2015, improve the coverage of children by mandatory immunizations to 99.0%

Objective 5 not achieved, but it might be achieved by 2015. The increase in coverage by vaccination against measles was significant in period 2000-2008, however it is stagnating now. Additional measures of support should be introduced to achieve the objective until 2015.



PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN VACCINATED AGAINST MEASLES IN FIRST 18 MONTHS OF LIFE

Source for 2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2011

MDG 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY.

This goal has almost been met, but the trend has been turning to stagnation in last couple of years. Child mortality is stagnating and among the Romani children even decreasing. However, on this indicator Serbia could score even lower. Coverage with basic immunization has increased to a very high level, with good prospects for absolute coverage. Here, there are signs of stagnation just before the target has been reached. Pregnant women have been covered by medical care to a great extent. The only indicator showing reverse trend is breast feeding. This gap should be covered through more intensive campaign.

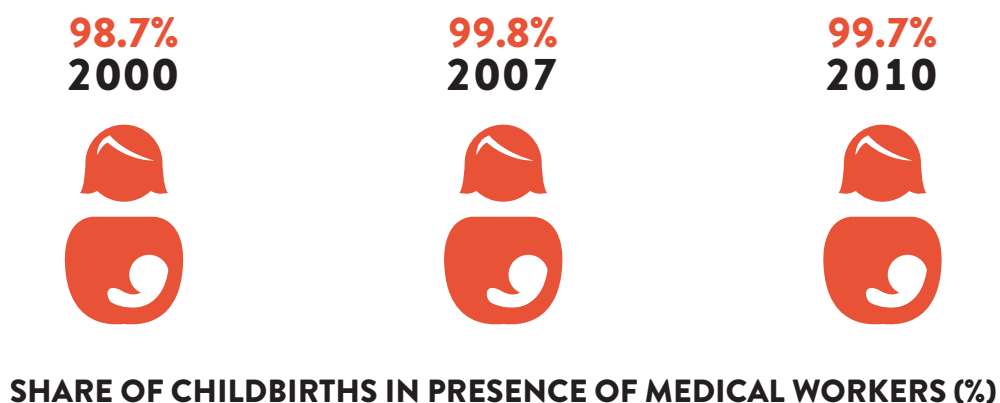
MDG5 IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

Objective 1: By 2015, reduce the share of maternal mortality by one fifth

Objective 1 not achieved: almost complete coverage of childbirths by presence of medical workers was maintained throughout the period of observation. However, more medical support and awareness raising of women are needed to reduce maternal mortality rate which increased in the observed period if measured as 5 years average.



Source for 2007-2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbooks



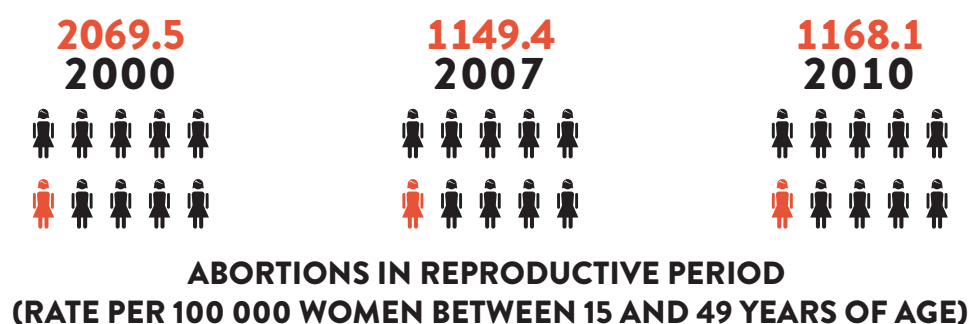
Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

Objective 2: By 2015, preserve and improve the reproductive health of women by maintaining the fertility rate at present level, reducing the rate of abortion by 50%, and doubling the percentage of women who use modern contraceptive methods

Objective 2 not achieved: fertility rate is stagnating at low level, rate of abortions is almost halved, but still very high and usage of modern contraception decreased almost double instead to increase double. The risk for reproductive health of women is still unfavorable and might get even worse in the coming period.



Source for 2010: SORS, Statistical yearbook 2011



Source for 2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2011



PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED WOMEN OR WOMEN IN STABLE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN 15 AND 49 YEARS OF AGE WHO USE SOME OF THE MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS

Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010

Objective 3: Between 2000 and 2015, reduce the mortality of women of fertile age by one third

Objective 3 completely achieved: mortality rate of women of fertile age reduced by one third, mortality rate from cancer decreasing.



Source for 2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2011



Data for 2012 not available

MDG 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH.

This goal has not been met. There was a major improvement in decreasing mortality rate of women and almost all childbirths are happening in the presence of a medical worker. However, reproductive health of women is still under risk and maternal mortality is getting worse. A lot more effort should be put in raising of awareness of reproductive health risks and adequate health support to mothers.

MDG 5: COMBAT HIV/AIDS TUBERCULOSIS & OTHER DISEASES

Objective 1: By 2015 reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS

Objective 1 achieved: incidence of AIDS significantly decreased, as well as AIDS mortality rate. Although the MDG indicators do not differentiate the sources of infection, it should be stressed that number of newly infected among intravenous drug users has decreased since 2000, as well as number of AIDS related deaths, due to the major medicine available and costs covered by the Health Insurance Fund. However, number of infections among other groups at higher risk varies –it is higher among men who have sex with men, and stable in the population of sexual workers.



INCIDENCE OF PERSONS SUFFERING FROM AIDS PER ONE MILLION PEOPLE

Source for 2012: Batut, *The epidemic of HIV infection in the Republic of Serbia at the end of November 2012*

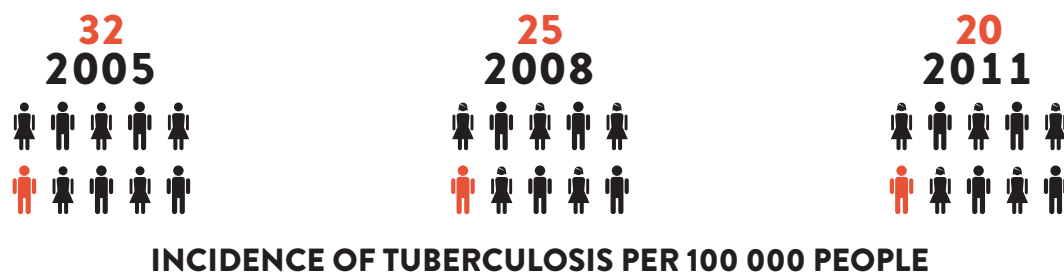


AIDS MORTALITY RATE PER ONE MILLION PEOPLE

Source for 2012: Batut, *The epidemic of HIV infection in the Republic of Serbia at the end of November 2012*

Objective 2: Improve the control of tuberculosis by implementing DOTS strategy and achieving the 95% rate of successfully treated patients

Objective 2 almost achieved: Incidence of tuberculosis has decreased, while number of successfully treated new patients increased to 82% already in 2007, which gives good prospects that it will reach 95% success by 2015.



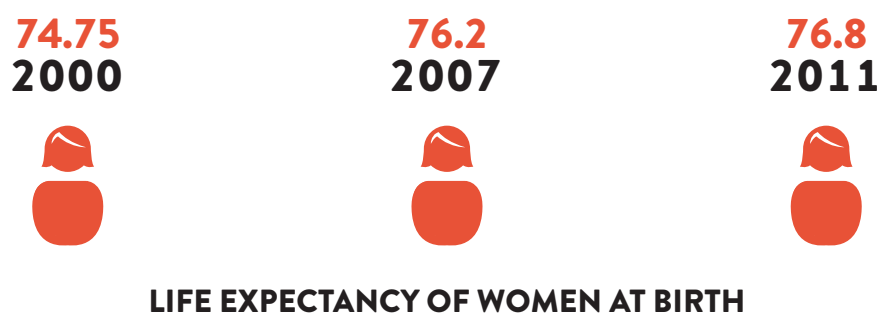
Source for 2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2011



Data for 2012 not available

Objective 3: Increase the life expectancy by an average of two years in the period from 2000 to 2015 and reduce the share of population describing their health as poor and very poor

Objective 3 achieved: already in 2011 life expectancy of both men and women increased for around two years in average. It cannot be established if those who are dissatisfied with their health decreased in number, but the trend between 2000 and 2006 was stagnant.



Source for 2011: SORS, Population statistics

69.9
2000



70.7
2007



71.6
2011



LIFE EXPECTANCY OF MEN AT BIRTH

Source for 2011: SORS, Population statistics

15
2000



15.7
2006



Objective 4: Reduce risky behaviors by 10% from 2000 to 2015

Objective 4 achieved partially already in 2006: significant achievement in reduction of smoking behavior and modest in reduction of alcohol consumption, but increase in trying psychoactive substances. It is hard to predict trends without new data provided by Institute for Public Health

22.9
2000



15.5
2006



PERCENTAGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 19 YEARS OF AGE WHO SMOKE (OCCASIONALLY OR CONSTANTLY)

58.8
2000



63.6
2006



PERCENTAGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 19 YEARS OF AGE WHO DO NOT CONSUME ALCHOCOL BEVERAGES



PERCENTAGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 19 YEARS OF AGE WHO HAVE TRIED PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

Data for 2012 not available

MDG 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER DISEASES.

This goal has been met to a great extent, especially with regard to HIV/AIDS incidence. Number of infections and number of deaths decreased since 2000. The same stands for tuberculosis: the incidence has decreased, while the treatment of new cases has tendency to reach desired 95%. The increase in life expectancy is also important and brings Serbia closer to European average. The issue with young people trying psychoactive substances is serious and demands wide and well coordinated action of awareness raising and prevention.

MDG 7.

ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

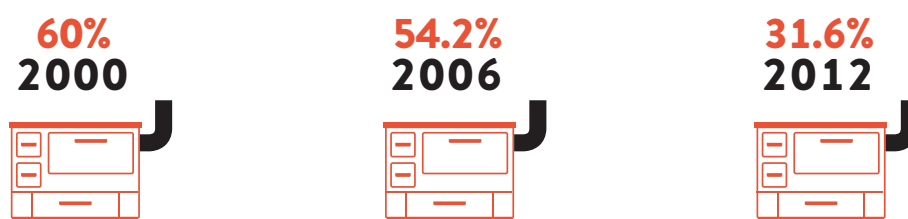
Objective 1: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies, stop the loss of environmental resources and encourage their revitalization

Objective 1 achieved: the share of forested areas is slowly growing, percentage of households that use solid fuel is almost halved and Carbon-dioxide emission decreases again. Besides that, after the National Strategy of Sustainable Development was enacted in 2008, several local Strategies of Sustainable Development were produced in Serbian municipalities. The issue of environmental sustainability is more frequently treated in media, supporting awareness raising among citizens



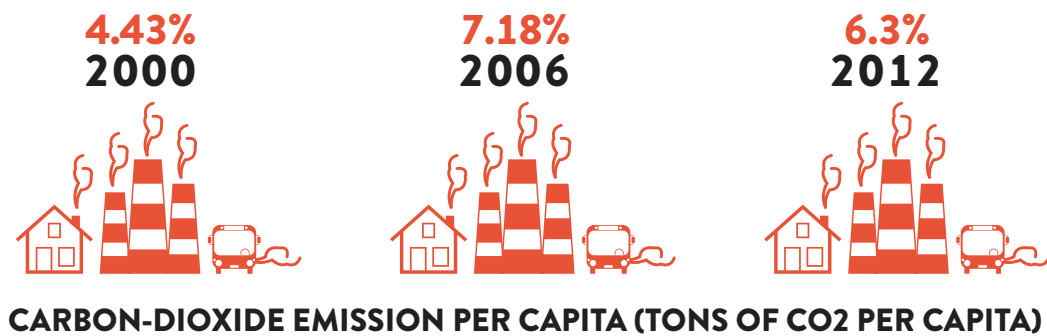
PERCENTAGE OF FORESTED AREAS IN RELATION TO THE TOTAL AREA OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA (%)

Source for 2011: Ministry of Energy, Development and the Environment, Report on the state of the environment in Serbia, 2011



PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS USING SOLID FUEL IN RELATION TO TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (%)

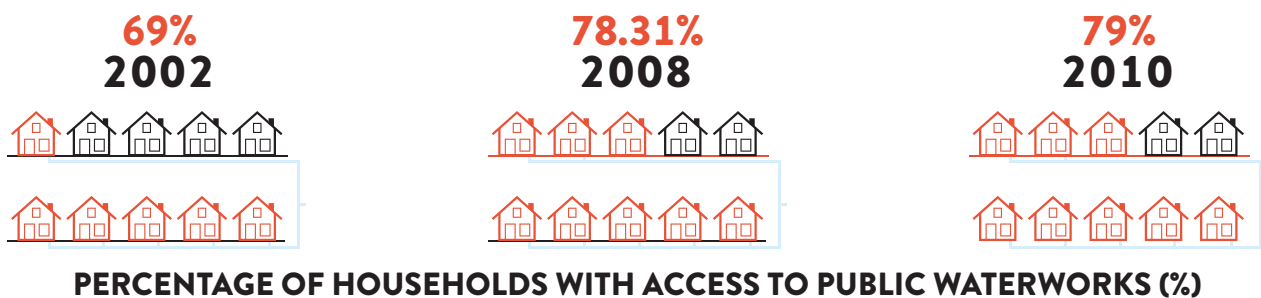
Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010



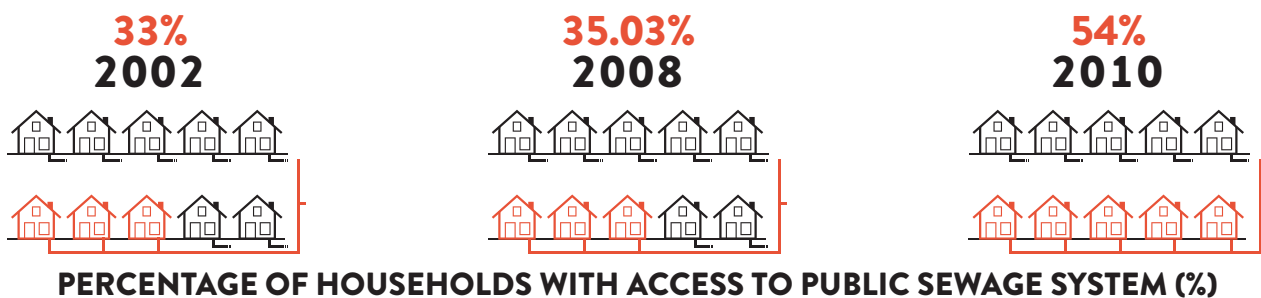
Source for 2009: World Bank

Objective 2: Reduce the percentage of population without appropriate access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation and organized communal waste collection

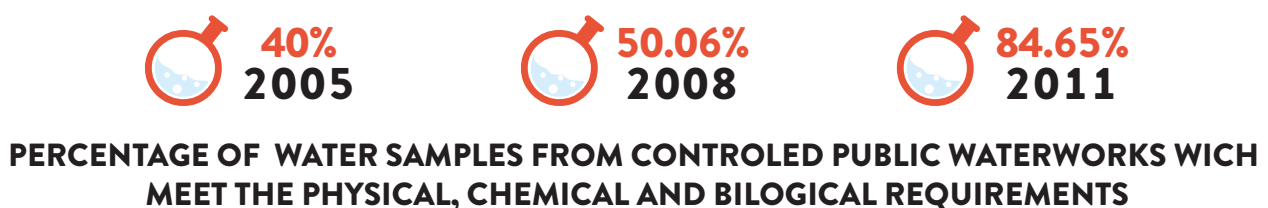
Objective 2 achieved: There is more households attached to public waterworks and the water they are using is of better quality. Also, the number of households attached to the public sewage system is increasing.



Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010



Source for 2010: SORS, UNICEF, MICS, 2010



Source for 2011: Batut, Health statistical yearbook, 2011

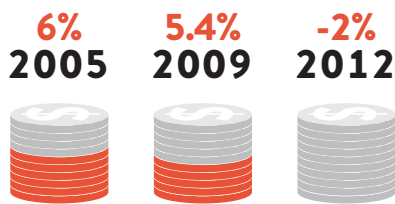
MDG 7. ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

At first impression it seems that this goal has been met to a great extent. Progress has been recorded at all indicators. There is less pollution and more orientation towards cleaner energy. More households have access to clean water. However, it should be stressed first that some of the values on the selected indicators could be improved (decrease of usage of solid fuel, the level of air pollution) and second, that trends in many indicators of environmental sustainability have high variation and that progress in this area is highly sensitive to economic situation and institutional support.

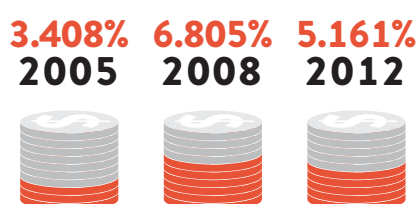
MDG 8. DEVELOP GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR GROWTH

Objective 1: Dynamic and sustainable growth of gross domestic product

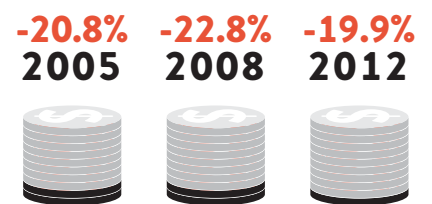
Objective 1 not achieved: after a few years of positive trends, almost all indicators of economic progress worsened. GDP growth was negative in 2012, direct foreign investments are decreasing, share of foreign debt in GDP is above critical limits and share of foreign trade balance only slightly decreasing. There are some signs of recovery in 2013, but it is hard that situation will improve much until 2015.



GDP GROWTH RATE



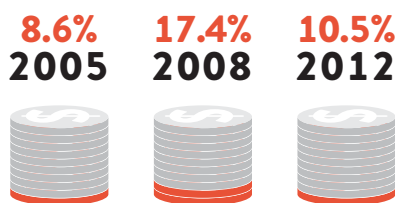
GDP PER CAPITA, USD



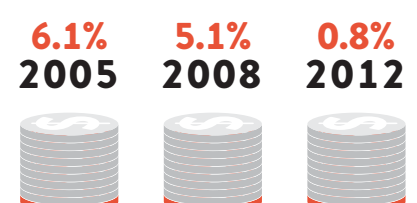
FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE, % GDP

Source for 2012: Ministry of Finance and Economy

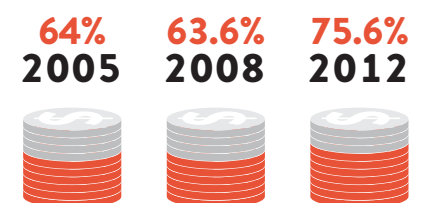
Share of foreign debt in GDP, %



BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS OF
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, % GDP



SHARE OF DIRECT FOREIGN
INVESTMENTS IN GDP, %



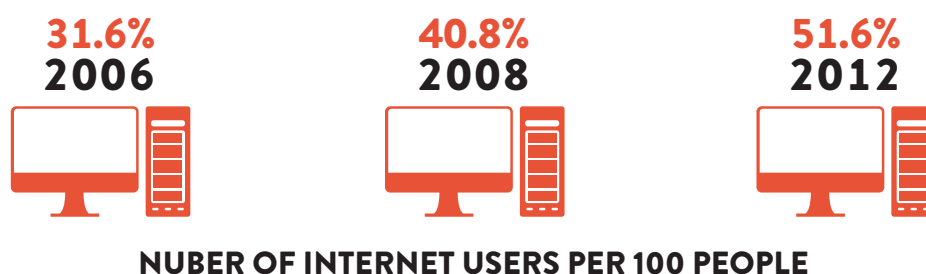
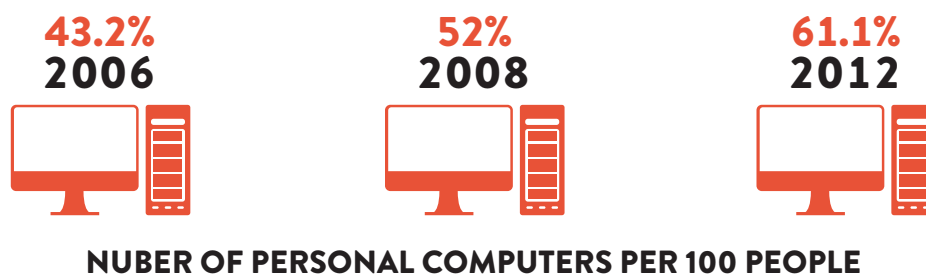
SHARE OF FOREIGN DEBT
IN GDP, %

Source for 2012: Ministry of Finance and Economy

Source for 2012:
Serbian Chamber of Commerce

Objective 2: Increase the accessibility of new technologies to a much larger number of citizens

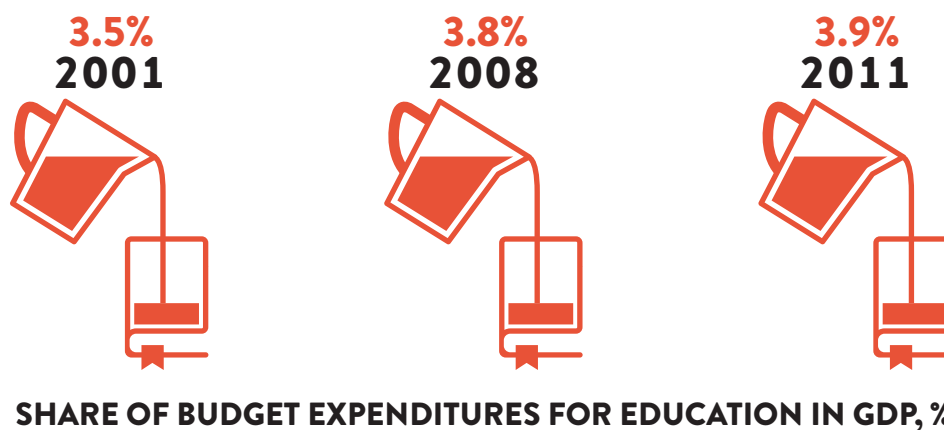
Objective 2 partially achieved: there is a constant growth of both number of computers and number of internet users. However, the number of internet users is still below European average and it cannot be said that the new technologies became accessible to much higher number of citizens.



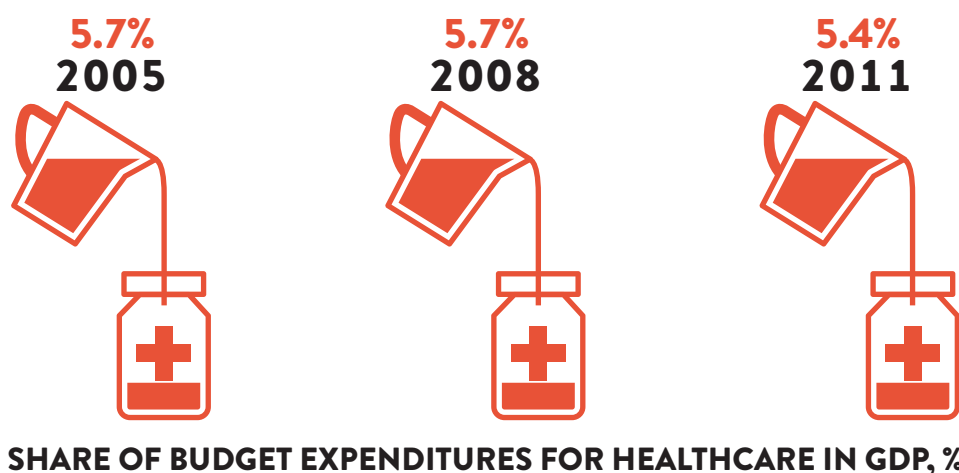
Source for 2012: Dev Info, SORS, Department of Informational - Communicational technologies

Objective 3: Increase the investments in human resources development

Objective 3 not achieved: the share of budget expenditures for education is stagnating, with announced negative trend due to austerity measures. The same will happen with the share for healthcare, which already experienced decrease between 2008 and 2011. These trends are especially worrying since they jeopardize human resources as developmental driver to a great extent.



Source for 2011: Dev Info, Ministry of Finance and Economy



SHARE OF BUDGET EXPENDITURES FOR HEALTHCARE IN GDP, %

Source for 2011: Dev Info, Ministry of Finance and Economy

MDG 8: DEVELOP GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR GROWTH.

This goal has been basically presented through economic indicators. Consequently, the worse score in meeting Millennium Development Goals in Serbia was made with regard to this one. Growth rate is low, GDP is decreasing, direct foreign investments are extremely low, and the share of foreign trade deficit and indebtedness in GDP are above critical limits. Under these circumstances it should be assessed as positive that budget share of public education and public health care remained on more or less same level, although below European average. However, it is worrying that under proposed austerity measures these two important sectors will be jeopardized, which points to necessity of defining socially sustainable model of economic growth for the future.

CONCLUSIONS

In this barometer we presented basic trends in all 8 MDGs based on set of selected indicators. From the results presented above, a general conclusion could be made that recession caused by Global economic crisis has produced delays in completion of the objectives set in 2000. The deterioration of the trends presented in 2009 mid-report did not affect all aspects of development equally. What are the areas of development with largest delays?

Here we can utilize MDG methodology the most. Differentiation of human development into several aspects and setting of goals in different dimensions of development is useful for further analysis and policy planning. Current brief review of MDG achievements shows that Serbia suffers from negative economic performance and this affects directly indicators like poverty or unemployment. Indirectly, some other indicators have been affected, as well, like budget shares for education and health care, but consequences of these aspects of austerity are not fully visible yet. On the contrary, there is noticeable progress in many non-economic dimensions of human development, like gender equality, primary education quality, maternal mortality, HIV and tuberculosis prevention... MDGs showed that despite numerous economic difficulties institutions in Serbia managed to maintain support to basic social functions. The problem is that many of the indicators are maintained at low level: birth rate is still negative, decrease of abortions insufficient, youth employment very low, PISA scores under the average. Another problem is that trends are stagnating in many indicators, which points to risk of worsening in respective dimensions of social and economic life in coming years. The need for new development cycle is evident and definition of new development goals for post 2015 period could be a very useful tool in initiating this process.

It is economic growth and employment that should be put at the top of priorities in order to initiate a new cycle of development. Or rather in different order: employment and growth, to avoid (repeated) risk of jobless growth. Besides that, more efforts should be invested in improving performances of education system and maternal health. It should be stressed, though, that even under circumstances of scarcity and austerity many achievements have been made in overall social development and in protection of vital human resources. This fact tells that Serbia has a vision of modern and just society, as well as institutional capacities to sustain policies directed towards sustainable development. These are important resources to be activated in post 2015 cycle.