



Millennium Development Goals Campaign: time to help others!



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Poland
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland
www.onz.org.pl/rozwoj

WHY WE SHOULD HELP

- In spite of serious internal problems encountered by Poland, 150 of over 190 countries of the world are poorer than our country.
- Poland, being a member of the international community, has taken on definite international legal commitments to provide assistance for poorer countries.
- Poland accepted in 2000 the Millennium Development Goals and thus obliged herself to support other countries in the pursuing of the Goals.
- Poland is a responsible member of the international community and bears the joint responsibility for the future and development of the world.
- Poland is in a moral and financial debt. During the recent 15 years of transformation, Poland received development assistance valued at several hundred million to several billion US dollars a year. In 2002, our country received an aid that totaled USD 1.2 billion, which made 0.6% of Polish GDP. Poland used this money for her development and now can begin, using her experience, to help other countries in their development.
- Poland, by being a responsible partner involved in the universal efforts in support of development, boosts her international prestige and good image.
- Thanks to foreign aid, Poland can more effectively pursue her own policy and look after her own national interests.
- The rendering of assistance to poorer countries improves the safety of Poland. If the neighboring countries are better developed then they will ensure Poland a higher level of safety.
- Development assistance intensifies international economic cooperation, creates new opportunities for trade and for obtaining income from investments, and brings mutual benefits for both the recipients and the donors.
- Development assistance builds up understanding of other peoples' cultures and contributes to the elimination of stereotyping. It creates friendly cross-cultural relationships, based on mutual understanding and respect for dissimilarities.
- The total value of Poland's development assistance is anyway far below 1% of GDP and it will never be comparable with the expenditure incurred e.g. for domestic social purposes. It is only a nominal amount and is to express solidarity rather than generosity.
- According to the international commitments taken on as regards human rights, Poland endeavors to ensure equal rights, economic rights inclusive, for all people.

More (in Polish): www.onz.org.pl/rozwoj