

Facts and Figures from World Development Indicators 2008

The attached backgrounders provide regional highlights from the World development Indicators 2008.

Regional summaries

With 1.9 billion people **East Asia and the Pacific** is the largest of the World Bank's six developing regions.

- Between 2005 and 2006, regional GDP grew by 9.4 percent, the highest growth in the developing world and higher than its average of 8.6 percent a year over the period 2000 to 2006.
- Foreign direct investment and exports are the two major drivers of economic growth. FDI reached \$96.9 billion and merchandise trade as share of GDP reached 76 percent in 2006; both were the highest among all regions.
- In 2007, the region also had the highest stock market capitalization, \$7 trillion.
- The region also leads all developing country regions in high-technology exports, which are 34 percent of manufactured exports in 2006.
- Strong economic growth has lowered poverty rates faster than anywhere else in the world.
- In education, over 90 percent of children, both girls and boys are enrolled in primary schools and almost all of them complete primary education. Also, over 90 percent of all adults are literate.
- In health, almost 90 percent of pregnant women receive prenatal care, and 87 percent of the births are attended to by skilled health staff. Infant and under-5 mortality are among the lowest compared with other regions. The fertility rate is at the replacement level reflecting low fertility of a few large countries such as China and Thailand. But in spite of these achievements, inequalities within and among countries remain. In Thailand, 8 children per 1,000 will die before their 5th birthday, while about 100 children (104) per 1,000 die in Myanmar (2006). In Cambodia, 80 percent (81% in 2000) of births among richest women (richest quintile) were assisted by skilled health staff, while only 15 percent of births among poorest women (poorest quintile) were.
- The region lags in infrastructure. At present only 79 percent of its population receives water from an improved source, 51 percent has access to improved sanitation facilities, and approximately a third of its roads are paved.

The developing and transition economies of **Europe and Central Asia** grew at 8 percent in 2006, compared to 5.8 percent a year over the period 2000-2006.

- Foreign direct investment increased from \$3.3 billion in 1990 to \$73.6 billion in 2005.
- Production of electricity in the Europe and Central Asia region has been increasing in the last decade, but is yet to reach its 1990 level which most possibly contributed to a reduction of CO₂ during the same period. However, an important shift in the production of electricity is under way due to: the steep decline in the use of oil and expanded use of nuclear energy.
- Under-five mortality rates remain among the lowest in developing regions: at a rate of 26 deaths per 1,000.
- Adult health has deteriorated in parts of Europe and Central Asia. Adult mortality rates for both sexes increased between 1990 and 2006 (from 281 per thousand to 298 for males, and from 113 per thousand to 122 for females), and life expectancy at birth --sixty-nine years -- has remained unchanged since 1990.
- With about 5 broadband subscribers per 100 it leads all the developing regions in broadband access, with the exception of East Asia and the Pacific.

The **Latin America and the Caribbean** region has the highest gross national income (GNI) per capita of all developing country regions but the lowest average annual growth of 3.1 percent over the period 2000-2006.

- The region as a whole ran a trade surplus for the last three years, reaching \$89 billion in 2006. As a result, many countries in the region were able to reduce their external financing needs and their public debt profiles improved.
- Total debt service was 22.5 percent of exports in 2005, 9 percentage points lower than 2003 and 16 percentage points lower than 2000.
- At 73 days, it takes longer to start a business in the region than in any of the developing regions. But during 1990-2006, the region attracted the most investment in infrastructure with private participation—more than \$400 billion.
- In 2006, investment in telecoms with private participation accounted for about 50 percent, with about 1 percent going to the water & sanitation sector.
- The region has the highest life expectancy at birth, 73 years, and under-5 mortality rate is among the lowest, at a rate of 26 per 1,000 births.
- Most children complete a full course of primary education, and the region has reached the MDG goal of providing universal primary education, for both boys and girls.

Middle East and North Africa at one time had the highest population growth rate in the world, exceeding Sub-Saharan Africa, but then slowed in the 1990s.

- In the period 2000-2006 economic growth was 4.2 percent. In 2006, the growth of output per capita was 3.3 percent.
- With 760 cubic meters of internal freshwater resources per capita, the Middle East and North Africa ranks well below all other regions.
- The region has a well-developed infrastructure. Over 75 percent of its population has access to improved sanitation facilities and about 90 percent to improve sources.
- The region has made some impressive improvements in education—almost 91 percent of its children complete primary education—but there is a gap in educational achievement by gender. Among young adults 15-24 years of age, only 84 percent of the women were literate in 2005 compared to 93 percent for males.
- The region spends heavily on the military. Even though military spending dropped from 4.1 percent of GDP in 2005 to 3.5 percent in 2006, it is still the highest of all developing regions.

South Asia has the lowest GNI per capita (\$770) and one of the lowest levels of child immunization rate for measles, with over one third of children not immunized.

- It has the lowest rate of female literacy among all regions—63 percent for young and 46 percent for adult women.
- Conditions for pregnant women have improved only slightly in South Asia. Maternal mortality is the second highest among the regions (500 per 100,000 live births in 2005), after Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2006, only 66 percent of pregnant women received the prenatal care, the lowest among all regions.
- The region has undergone a major demographic transition in the past 26 years, reducing its total fertility rate from 5.2 births per woman in 1980 to 2.8 in 2006.
- Although not on track to meet the goal of reducing child mortality by two-thirds, the region nevertheless had an impressive decline from around 130 deaths per 1,000 in 1990 to 83 in 2005.
- The economy, which grew by 7 percent a year in the period 2000-2006, is in large part due to growth in India.
- At 18 percent of GDP, South Asia depends more heavily on agriculture than any other region.
- With only about 1 personal computer per 100 in 2005, South Asia lags behind all other regions in access to personal computers.
- South Asia is, however, business-friendly, requiring only 33 days to start a business in 2007, the lowest among developing regions.

In **Sub-Saharan Africa** life expectancy in 2006 is 50 years, the same as 1990 -the lowest of all regions.

- The main reasons for low declining life expectancy are high child mortality rate and unprecedented high adult mortality caused by AIDS. A few countries show the declining trend in national HIV prevalence rate, but the region remains the worst affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Progress has been made in the economy over the past decade. For the third year in a row, GDP grew at over 5 percent, posting 5.6 percent growth in 2006.
- FDI increased thirteen-fold between 1990 and 2005, from \$1.2 billion to \$16.5 billion.
- In 2007 half of the countries in the region made at least one positive reform to make doing business easier, putting Sub-Saharan Africa in fourth place in business reforms.
- And, between 2000 and 2006, fixed line and mobile phone subscribers per 100 people increased from 3 per 100 to 15 per 100. This growth was mainly driven by a seven-fold increase in mobile phone subscribers.

The charts used in this backgrounder are available in electronic format. Please contact Richard Fix at (202) 473-3399 or rfix@worldbank.org.

For more information visit:

www.developmentgoals.org - for a more in depth look at the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

www.developmentgoals.org/atlas-mdg - for the Online Atlas of the MDGs

www.worldbank.org/data - for more information on development data and the World Bank's data work

Key indicators: regional data from the WDI database

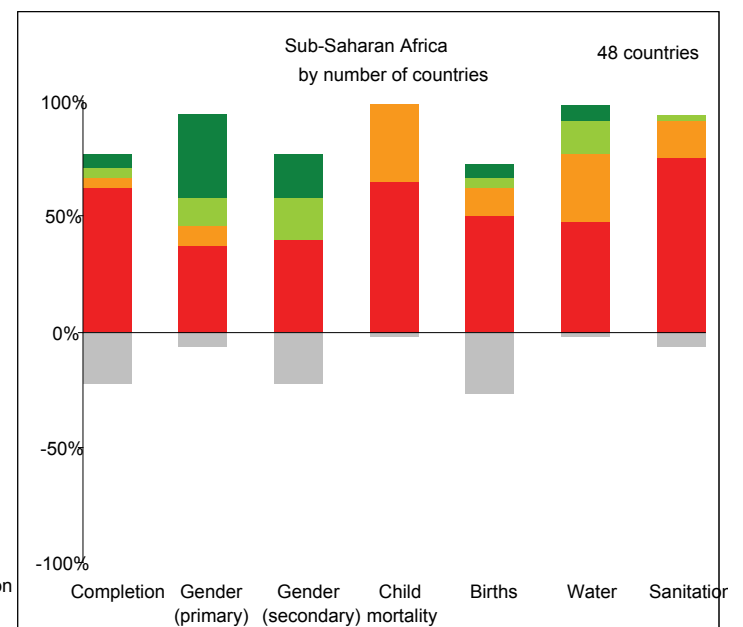
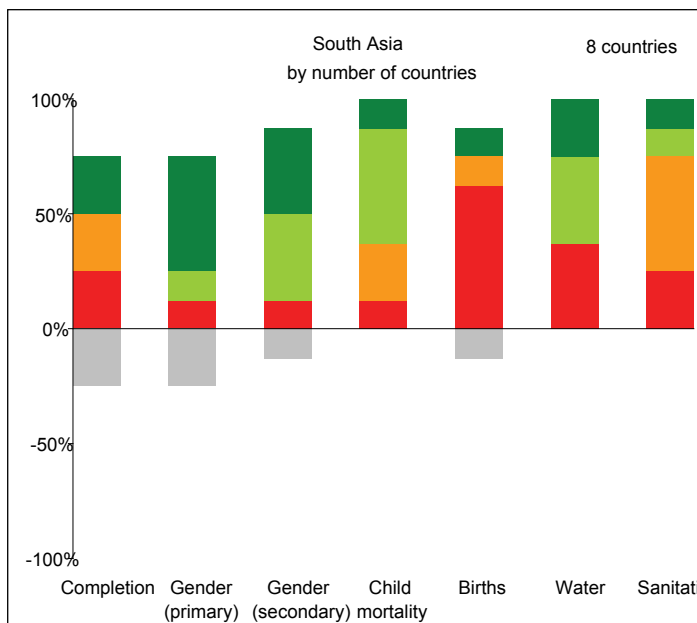
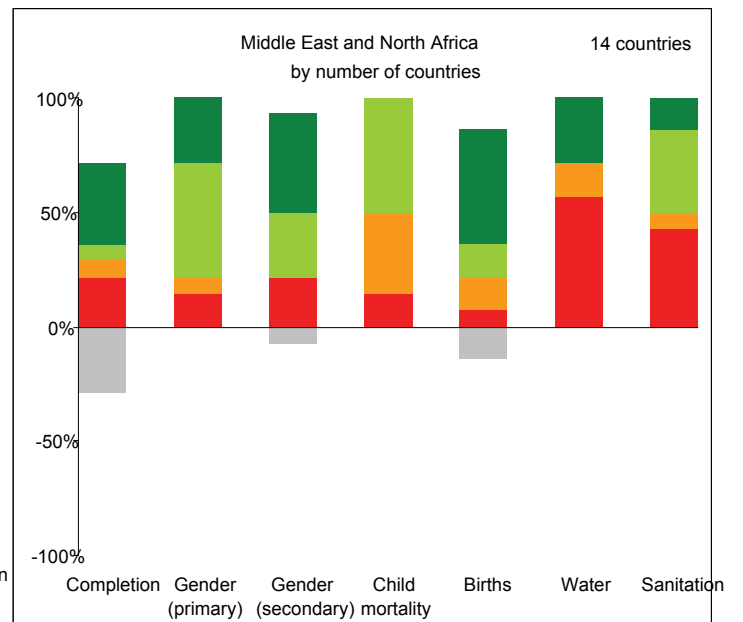
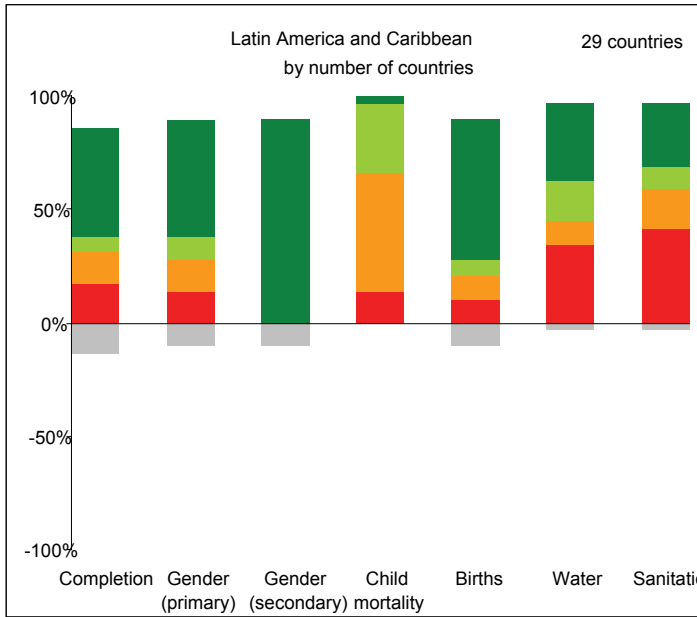
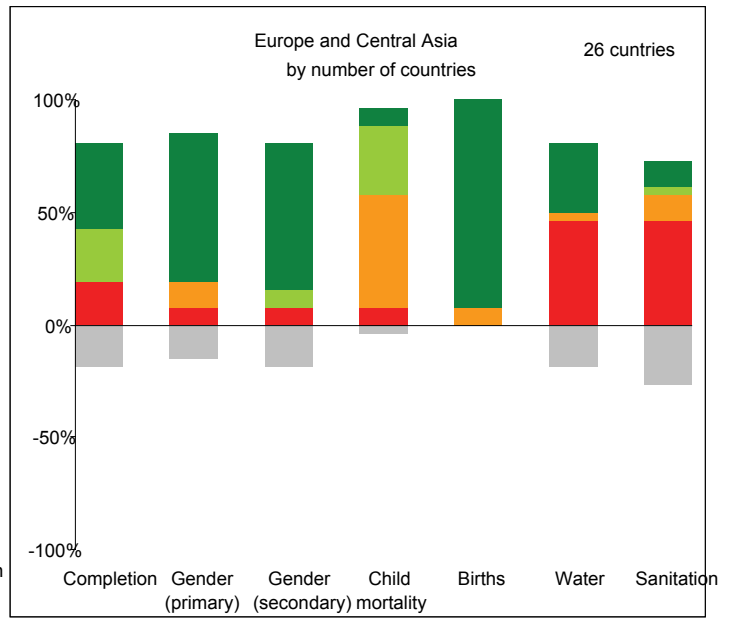
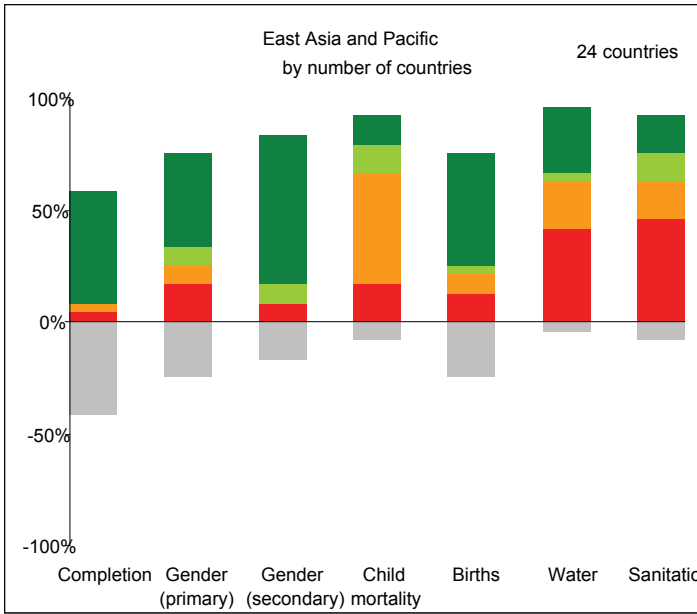
People								
	Population		Life expectancy at birth	Under-5 mortality rate	Youth literacy rate		Child malnutrition	Prevalence of HIV, adults
	millions	average annual growth %	years	per 1,000	Male % ages 15-24	Female % ages 15-24	% under-weight	% ages 15-49
	2006	1980-2006	2006	2006	2005	2005	2000-06	2005
East Asia & Pacific	1,899	1.3	71	29	98	98	13	0.2
Europe & Central Asia	461	0.5	69	26	99	98	..	0.6
Latin America & Caribbean	556	1.7	73	26	96	96	5	0.6
Middle East & North Africa	311	2.4	70	42	93	84	..	0.1
South Asia	1,499	1.9	64	83	81	65	41	0.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	782	2.7	50	157	76	64	27	5.8
Environment								
	Surface area	Freshwater resources	Forest area	Average annual deforestation	Energy use per capita	CO ₂ emissions	Access to improved water source	Access to improved sanitation facilities
	thousand sq. km	cubic meters per capita	% of total land area	%	kg of oil equivalent	per capita metric tons	%	%
	2006	2005	2005	1990-2005	2005	2004	2004	2004
East Asia & Pacific	16,300	5,022	28.4	-0.2	1,182	3.3	79	51
Europe & Central Asia	24,114	11,473	38.3	0.0	2,826	7.1	92	85
Latin America & Caribbean	20,421	24,471	45.4	0.4	1,198	2.6	91	77
Middle East & North Africa	9,087	757	2.4	-0.5	1,270	3.9	89	76
South Asia	5,140	1,230	16.8	-0.2	453	1.1	84	37
Sub-Saharan Africa	24,270	5,093	26.5	0.6	681	0.9	56	37
Economy								
	GNI	GNI per capita		GDP per capita	Services	Gross capital formation	Exports of goods and services	Total Debt service to exports
	Atlas method ^b \$ billions	Atlas ^b \$	PPP ^c \$	Average annual real growth %	% of GDP	% of GDP	\$ billions	%
	2006	2006	2006	2005-06	2006	2006	2006	2006
East Asia & Pacific	3,525	1,860	4,360	8.6	41	39	1,632	1,316
Europe & Central Asia	2,217	4,810	9,790	6.7	60	23	1,014	583
Latin America & Caribbean	2,661	4,790	8,680	4.2	62	21	761	313
Middle East & North Africa	779	2,510	6,710	3.3	48	26	..	256
South Asia	1,151	770	2,290	7.0	54	32	244	220
Sub-Saharan Africa	648	830	1,680	3.0	55	21	230	118
States and Markets								
	Starting a business	Stock market capitalization	Military expenditures	Paved roads	Fixed line and mobile phone subscribers	PCs	High-technology exports	Expenditures for R&D
	Time required days	\$ millions	% of GDP	% of total	per 100 people	per 100 people	% of manufactured exports	% of GDP
	June	2007	2007	2006	2000-06	2006	2006	2000-05
East Asia & Pacific	47.2	8,204,600	1.8	11.4	57.8	4.1	33	1.30
Europe & Central Asia	26.0	1,209,894	2.9	..	88.1	10.2	9	0.90
Latin America & Caribbean	73.0	771,636	1.3	24.3	72.8	11.3	12	0.60
Middle East & North Africa	39.2	103,857	3.5	70.2	52.6	5.6	5	..
South Asia	33.4	1,213,754	2.7	56.9	18.6	1.4	4	0.60
Sub-Saharan Africa	56.3	445,420	1.3	11.9	14.5	1.8	..	..
Global Links								
	Merchandise trade	Trade in services	Total external debt	Short term debt	Foreign direct investment	Worker remittances	Net aid received	
	% of GDP	% of GDP	\$ millions	% of total reserves	net inflows \$ billions	received \$ billions	Total \$ billions	per capita \$
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006
East Asia & Pacific	75.7	9.9	660	18.7	105.0	52.8	7.9	4.2
Europe & Central Asia	66.2	11.5	1,047	38.1	124.6	35.4	6.2	13.5
Latin America & Caribbean	43.1	6.2	734	34.0	70.5	56.9	6.9	12.4
Middle East & North Africa	59.8	..	141	8.3	27.5	26.7	16.8	54.0
South Asia	34.4	14.1	227	7.7	22.9	39.8	9.3	6.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	60.8	13.7	174	34.6	17.1	10.3	40.5	51.8

Note: Figures in italics are for years or periods other than those specified.

a. Most recent year available. b. Atlas method; see WDI *Statistical methods*. c. Purchasing power parity; see *About the data* in WDI table 1.1.

Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

Progress toward the MDGs by region



East Asia and Pacific

East Asia & Pacific: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water source	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas ^a \$	PPP ^b \$	years	% of relevant age	%	per capita metric tons	% of exports ^c	per 100 people
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2004	2004	2006	2006
East Asia & Pacific	1,899	1,860	4,360	71	98	79	3.3	5.0	11.1
Europe & Central Asia	461	4,810	9,790	69	95	92	7.1	20.0	19.2
Latin America & Caribbean	556	4,790	8,680	73	99	91	2.5	23.0	18.4
Middle East & North Africa	311	2,510	6,710	70	91	89	3.9	10.4	13.8
South Asia	1,499	770	2,290	64	80	84	1.0	7.5	4.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	782	830	1,680	50	60	56	0.9	8.3	3.8
<i>Selected economies:</i>									
Cambodia	14	490	1,550	59	87	41	0.0	0.6	0.3
China	1,312	2,000	4,660	72	..	77	3.9	2.5	10.4
Indonesia	223	1,420	3,310	68	99	77	1.7	16.6	7.3
Lao PDR	6	500	1,740	64	75	51	0.2	..	0.4
Malaysia	26	5,620	12,160	74	95	99	7.0	4.0	43.2
Mongolia	3	1,000	2,810	67	109	62	3.4	2.2	10.5
Myanmar	48	..	..	62	95	78	0.2	1.7	0.2
Papua New Guinea	6	740	1,630	57	..	39	0.4	10.8	1.8
Philippines	86	1,390	3,430	71	96	85	1.0	19.6	5.5
Thailand	63	3,050	7,440	70	..	99	4.3	9.4	13.3
Vietnam	84	700	2,310	71	92	85	1.2	2.6	17.5

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a. Atlas method; see WDI Statistical methods. b. Purchasing Power Parity; see WDI table 1.1 About the data. c. Exports refer to exports for goods and services, receipts of employee compensation for nonresident workers, investment income, and workers' remittances.

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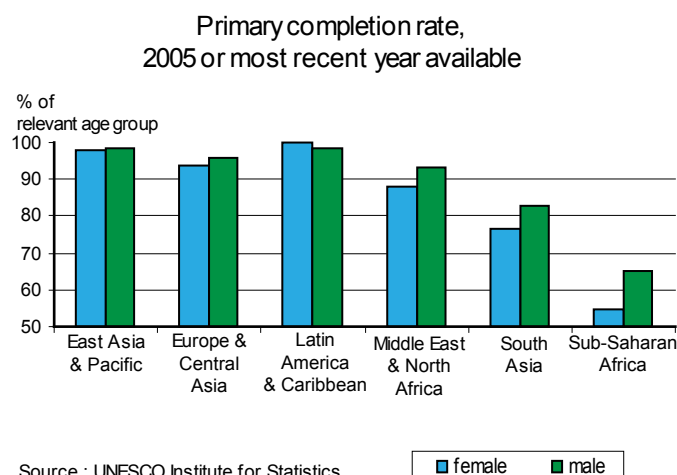
Growth and human development - investing in children

Led by China and Cambodia, the economies of East Asia and Pacific grew by 9.8 percent in 2006. The unemployment rate was low (5 percent in 2005) and output per worker grew by 50 percent from 2000 to 2006 (from \$5,162 per person employed to \$7,788 in 2006, measured in 2005 purchasing parity terms).

East Asia has achieved many of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals. Over 90 percent of girls and boys are enrolled in primary schools and almost all of them complete primary education. Over 90 percent of all adults are literate. About 90 percent of children are immunized against measles, and child mortality rate is among the lowest of developing regions (29 per 1,000 in 2006).

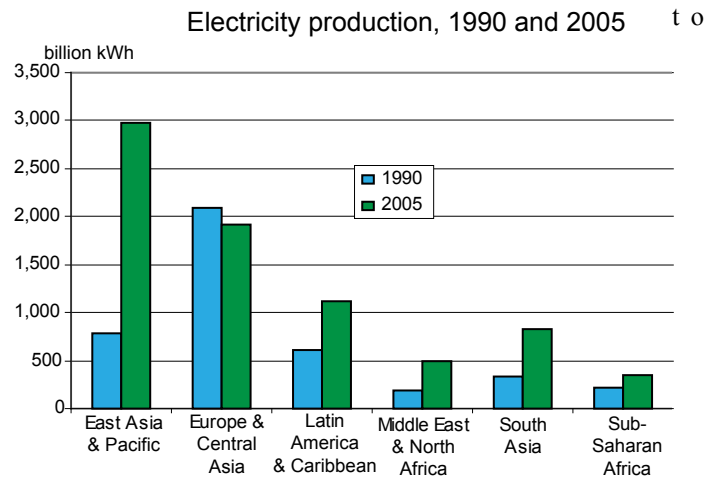
East Asia and Pacific has good reproductive health indicators as well. Contraceptive prevalence rate is the highest of all regions (79 percent in 2006), almost 90 percent of pregnant women receive prenatal care, and 87 percent of births are assisted by skilled health personnel.

In spite of these impressive achievements, large disparities remain. In Thailand, only 8 children per 1,000 will die before their 5th birthday – better than some high-income economies -- while more than 100 children per 1,000 die in Myanmar. In Cambodia in the year 2000, 81 percent of births among richest women were assisted by skilled health staff, while only 15 percent of births among poorest women were.



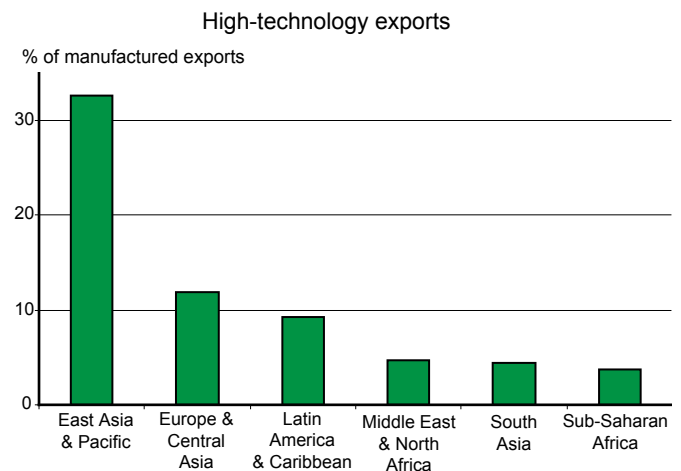
East Asia and the Pacific region produced more electricity—at a cost

In 2005, the East Asia and the Pacific region produced close three trillion kilowatt hours of electricity, a 280 percent increase since 1990. China was the main contributor, quadrupling its electricity production to 2.5 trillion kwh. But no other region uses more coal to generate electricity. And the region’s reliance on coal is increasing. In 2005, coal generated 70 percent of the electricity produced in the region—compared to 61 percent in 1990. In China, coal generates 79 percent. Coal—the cheapest and “dirtiest” source of energy adds to global warming and is linked to other environmental and health issues, including acid rain and asthma, with costly consequences.



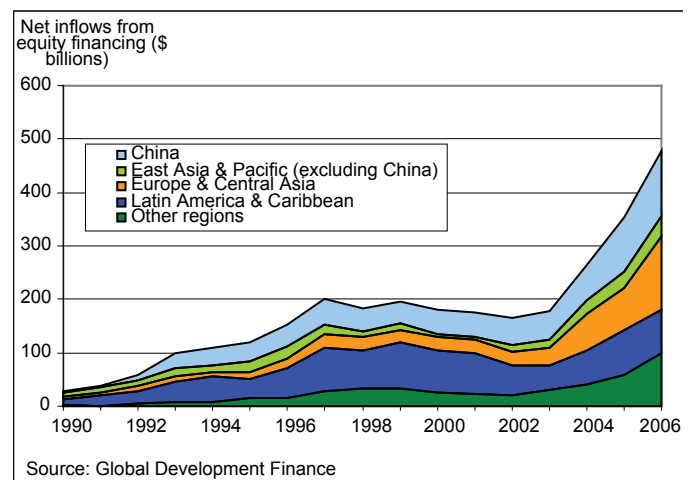
High-technology exports are a third of manufactured exports from East Asia and Pacific

High technology exports, such as aerospace equipment, computers, pharmaceuticals, scientific instruments, and electrical machinery, require intensive research and development. High technology exports made up about 20 percent of developing economies manufactured exports in 2006, lead by East Asia & Pacific with 33 percent.



More investment, less aid, to East Asia and the Pacific

Net flows of equity financing (foreign direct investment and portfolio equity placement) to developing countries have surged since 2002, and equity financing to East Asia and the Pacific has grown faster than other developing regions. Foreign direct investment (FDI) has increased steadily since 2000, reaching \$105 billion in 2006, 2.3 times the level in 2000. China received 75 percent of that. Portfolio equity flows reached \$54 billion in 2006, which accounts for more than half of the flows to all developing countries. China received 78 percent.



Europe and Central Asia

Europe and Central Asia: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water source	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas ^a \$	PPP ^b \$	years	% of relevant age	%	per capita metric tons	% of exports ^c	per 100 people
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2004	2004	2006	2006
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Sub-Saharan Africa	782	830	1,680	50	60	56	0.9	8.3	3.8
Selected economies									
Albania	3	2,930	6,000	76	96	96	1.2	3.5	14.9
Armenia	3	1,920	4,950	72	91	92	1.2	7.6	5.7
Belarus	10	3,470	9,700	69	95	100	6.6	3.3	56.3
Bulgaria	8	3,990	10,270	73	99	99	5.5	12.4	24.3
Croatia	4	9,310	13,850	76	92	100	5.3	33.1	35.5
Czech Republic	10	12,790	20,920	76	102	100	11.5	..	34.5
Estonia	1	11,400	18,090	73	106	100	14.0	..	56.6
Georgia	4	1,580	3,880	71	85	82	0.9	8.8	7.5
Hungary	10	10,870	16,970	73	94	99	5.7	33.1	34.8
Kazakhstan	15	3,870	8,700	66	104	86	13.3	33.7	8.1
Kyrgyz Republic	5	500	1,790	68	99	77	1.1	5.7	5.7
Latvia	2	8,100	14,840	71	92	99	3.1	33.3	46.8
Lithuania	3	7,930	14,550	71	91	..	3.9	22.1	31.9
Macedonia, FYR	2	3,070	7,850	74	97	..	5.1	15.7	13.2
Moldova	4	1,080	2,660	69	90	92	2.0	12.2	19.0
Poland	38	8,210	14,250	75	97	..	8.0	24.7	28.8
Romania	22	4,830	10,150	72	99	57	4.2	18.4	32.4
Russian Federation	143	5,770	12,740	66	94	97	10.6	13.8	18.0
Slovak Republic	5	9,610	17,060	74	94	100	6.7	..	41.8
Tajikistan	7	390	1,560	67	106	59	0.8	5.1	0.3
Turkey	73	5,400	8,410	71	86	96	3.2	33.2	16.8
Ukraine	47	1,940	6,110	68	105	96	6.9	18.1	11.9
Uzbekistan	27	610	2,190	67	..	82	5.3	..	6.4

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a. Atlas method; see WDI Statistical methods. b. Purchasing Power Parity; see WDI table 1.1 About the data. c. Exports refer to exports for goods and services, receipts of employee compensation for nonresident workers, investment income, and workers' remittances.

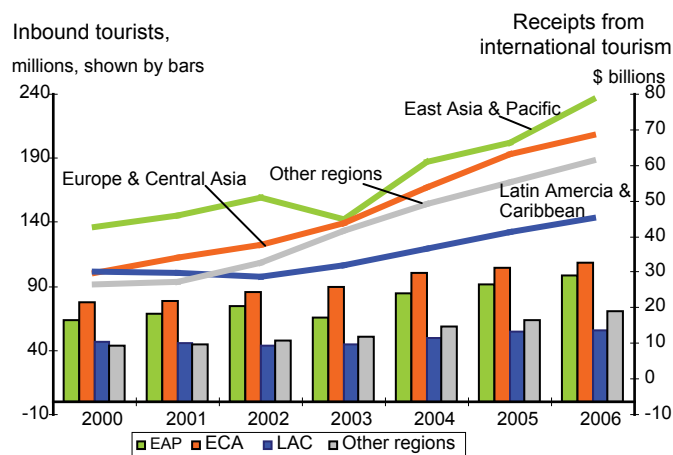
Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

Oil fueled growth

The Europe and Central Asia region grew by 6.8 percent in 2006, underpinned by 6.7 percent growth in Russia. High oil and gas prices helped producers in this region, with 14 countries registering a growth above 7 percent. Azerbaijan led all regional economies with 34.5 percent growth.

More visitors

Europe and Central Asia received the highest number of international tourists of all developing regions in 2006, accounting for 33 percent of the international tourist arrivals in developing countries. Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine are among of the top 15 popular destinations for international tourism, rivaling high-income economies such as France, Spain, the United States, and Italy.



Source: World Development Indicators data files

Lower emissions and higher efficiency

A significant decline in economic activity and energy use in the early 1990s substantially reduced the level of greenhouse gases released by Europe and Central Asia. Carbon dioxide emissions, which were growing at an average annual rate of 2.5 percent between 1970 to 1990, fell by 30 percent, to 3.2 billion metric tons by 2004. But carbon dioxide emissions per capita remain higher than any other developing region. Reductions in other greenhouse gases were even more drastic. Total emissions of methane and nitrous oxide in 2005 were 58 percent lower than their 1990 level. Along with reduced emissions, the region has become a more efficient and uses cleaner energy. Between 1990 and 2005, PPP GDP per unit of energy increased by 35 percent and carbon dioxide emitted in producing each unit of output fell by half, from 1.6 kg per dollar to 0.8 kg per dollar (in 2005 PPP prices).

Unhealthy developments

Adult health has deteriorated in parts of Europe and Central Asia. Adult mortality rates for both sexes increased between 1990 and 2006 (from 281 per thousand to 298 for males, and from 113 per thousand to 122 for females), and life expectancy at birth – sixty-nine years -- has remained unchanged since 1990.

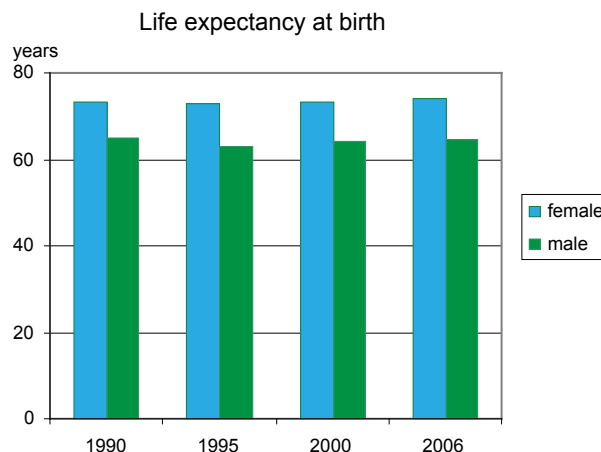
While women generally have longer life expectancies than men, in Europe and Central Asia the gap between women and men is very high. Worldwide, the average difference between female and male life expectancy at birth was 4.3 years in 2006. The difference is more than twice that in Europe and Central Asia--9.5 years--the highest in all regions. Male mortality in Europe and Central Asia is associated with risky behaviors such as smoking, alcoholism, and drug abuse. The region's high male unemployment rate (10 percent) may be a contributing factor to the risky behavior.

Regulatory reform makes doing business easier

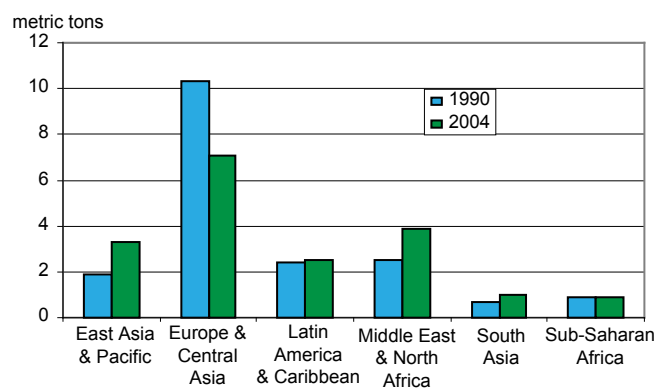
Doing business in some economies of Europe and Central Asia got easier because of innovative business reforms, such as launching one-stop shops for traders at ports and allowing pension and health service registration online, which encouraged greater participation by the private sector. Private sector involvement in the economy promotes job creation, increases the tax revenue base, and contributes to growth. Between 2006 and 2007, 79 percent of the economies of Europe and Central Asia made at least one positive reform to make doing business easier. In South Asia, 63 percent of the economies had some reforms. Latin America and the Caribbean, with 36 percent, had the lowest percentage of economies with positive reforms.

Increased financing from private sources

Since 2002, the Europe and Central Asia region raised increasing amount of capital through debt financing (bond issuance and borrowing from commercial banks and other private creditors), reflecting the region's improved creditworthiness. The region issued bonds valued at \$52 billion in 2006, which accounted for 66 percent of the net bond issuance by all developing countries. Eighty seven percent of the net bond flows went to four countries: Russian Federation, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Turkey. The region also received net flow of \$140 billion through commercial bank and other private lending, which accounted for 80 percent of such lending obtained by all developing countries. The top five developing countries with the largest net lending from commercial banks and other private sources in 2006 were all from this region: Poland, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Turkey, and Hungary.



Carbon dioxide emissions per person, 1990 and 2004



Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean: regional data from the WDI database

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Latin America & Caribbean	556	4,790	8,680	73	99	91	2.5	23.0	18.4
East Asia & Pacific	1,899	1,860	4,360	71	98	79	3.3	5.0	11.1
Europe & Central Asia	461	4,810	9,790	69	95	92	7.1	20.0	19.2
Middle East & North Africa	311	2,510	6,710	70	91	89	3.9	10.4	13.8
South Asia	1,499	770	2,290	64	80	84	1.0	7.5	4.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	782	830	1,680	50	60	56	0.9	8.3	3.8
<i>Selected economies:</i>									
Argentina	39	5,150	11,670	75	99	96	3.7	31.6	20.9
Bolivia	9	1,100	3,810	65	101	85	0.8	8.5	6.2
Brazil	189	4,710	8,700	72	105	90	1.8	37.3	22.5
Chile	16	6,810	11,300	78	123	95	3.9	20.0	25.3
Colombia	46	3,120	6,130	73	105	93	1.2	31.3	14.7
Costa Rica	4	4,980	9,220	79	89	97	1.5	5.0	27.6
Cuba	11	..	..	78	92	91	2.3	..	2.1
Dominican Republic	10	2,910	5,550	72	83	95	2.1	9.6	20.8
Ecuador	13	2,910	6,810	75	106	94	2.3	24.1	11.7
El Salvador	7	2,680	5,610	72	88	84	0.9	13.1	9.6
Guatemala	13	2,590	5,120	70	77	95	1.0	4.8	10.1
Haiti	9	430	1,070	60	..	54	0.2	3.2	6.9
Honduras	7	1,270	3,420	70	89	87	1.1	5.1	4.8
Jamaica	3	3,560	7,050	71	82	93	4.0	11.9	46.4
Mexico	104	7,830	11,990	74	103	97	4.3	18.9	17.5
Nicaragua	6	930	2,720	72	73	79	0.7	4.1	2.8
Panama	3	5,000	8,690	75	94	90	1.8	24.7	6.7
Paraguay	6	1,410	4,040	72	94	86	0.7	6.8	4.3
Peru	28	2,980	6,490	71	100	83	1.2	12.9	22.1
Trinidad and Tobago	1	12,500	16,800	70	88	91	24.7	..	12.3
Uruguay	3	5,310	9,940	76	93	100	1.7	87.8	22.8
Venezuela, RB	27	6,070	10,970	74	96	83	6.6	13.3	15.3

Note: Figures in italics are for years or periods other than those specified.

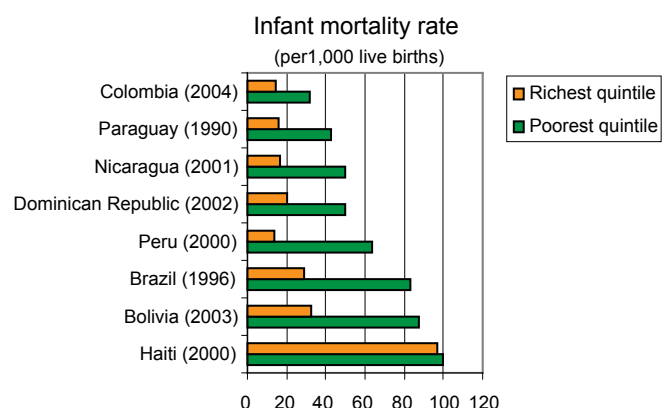
a. Atlas method; see WDI Statistical methods. b. Purchasing Power Parity; see WDI table 1.1 About the data. c. Exports refer to exports for goods and services, receipts of employee compensation for nonresident workers, investment income, and workers' remittances.

Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

Better education and better social indicators

Latin America and Caribbean has shown remarkable improvements in education. In addition to the region's notable achievement in reaching the Millennium Development Goal of providing universal primary education to its children, it has also been successful in creating an environment in which more girls are enrolled in secondary education than boys (101%).

Latin America and the Caribbean economies continue to show good progress on other fronts as well. The region has a low child malnutrition rate (5 percent in 2006) and a high immunization rate against measles (93 percent in 2006). Between 1990 and 2006, under-five mortality more than halved (from 55 in 1990 to 26 in 2006). Reproductive health ranks high among regions as well. Almost 70 percent of married women use contraception, 95 percent of pregnant women receive prenatal care, 88 percent of births are assisted by skilled health staff, and maternal mortality ratios are among the lowest (130 per 100,000 live births in 2005).

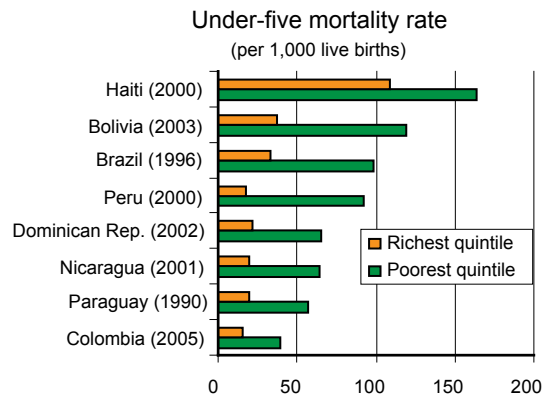


Source: Data are from an analysis of Demographic and Health Surveys by the World Bank and Macro International

Inequality

Latin America and Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa are the world's most unequal region in terms of income distribution. The richest 20 percent receive 57 percent of the total, while the poorest consumes less than 3 percent. Most of inequalities between individuals can be attributed to inequalities observed within countries. In contrast, differences in average per capita incomes or consumption across countries are relatively small.

Inequality manifests itself in other measures of welfare. Under-five mortality rates are much higher among the poor than the rich in most countries. In Haiti, a very poor and fragile state, both rich and poor have high infant mortality.

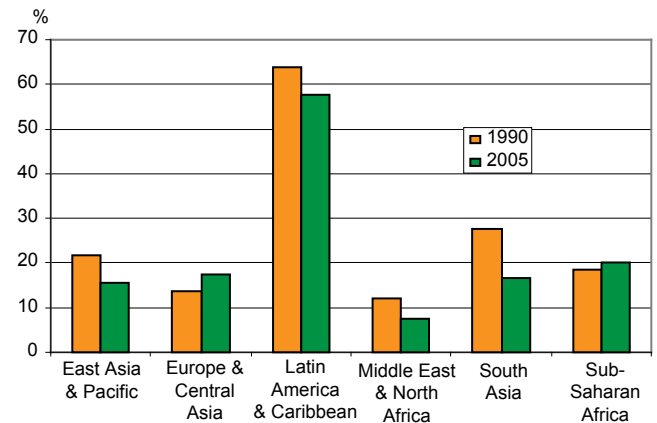


Source: Data are from an analysis of Demographic and Health Surveys by the World Bank and Macro International

Latin America and the Caribbean: hydropower is the biggest source of electricity in a water rich region

Latin America has the greatest water resources per person (24.5 thousand cubic meter) and uses only 2 percent of that each year. Compare that to South Asia, which uses 52 percent of its water resources in a year. Water use in Latin America is also more efficient than other developing regions. The region's water productivity—measured in terms of the output (in 2000 \$) per cubic meter is \$7.8 compared with \$2.3 for all low and middle income economies as a group (the same measure for high income economies is \$28.3). Water plays an important role in generating electricity in the region. In 2005, hydropower generated 58 percent of the region's electricity—higher than any other region. The region's reliance on renewable energy, and a shift from oil to gas to generate electricity, has contributed to slowing the growth of carbon dioxide emissions from an average of 4.1 percent a year in 1970-90 to 1.7 percent a year in 1990-2004.

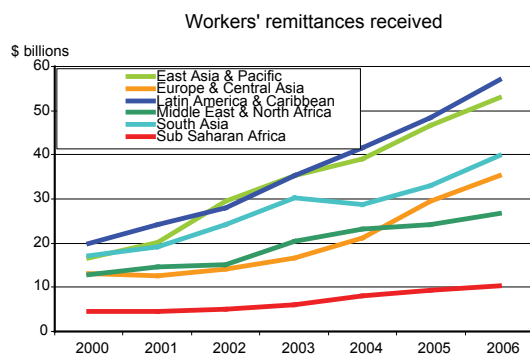
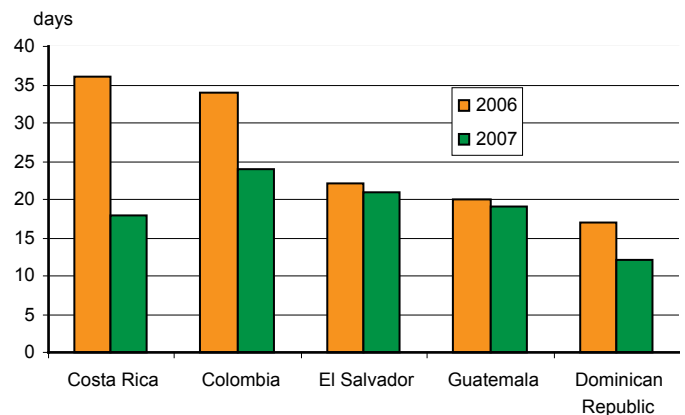
Share of electricity produced by hydropower



Reforms in export procedures reduced delays in getting goods from the factory to the port

Reforms that guarantee faster movement of goods out of the country make doing business easier and produce more foreign exchange earnings. It took an average of only 23 days to export from Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2007, compared with 33 days in South Asia and 36 days in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Costa Rica export time was reduced from 36 days in 2006 to 18 days in 2007; in Colombia from 34 to 24 days; and in the Dominican Republic, from 17 days to 12 days.

Time for export, 2006-2007



Source: World Development Indicators data files

More migrants and more remittances

Latin America and Caribbean had the largest number of migrants of any developing region in 2000-2005. From them it received \$57 billion of workers' remittances, three times the remittances received in 2000.

Middle East and North Africa

Middle East and North Africa: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water source	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas ^a \$	PPP ^b \$	years	% of relevant age	%	per capita metric tons	% of exports ^c	per 100 people
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2004	2004	2006	2006
Middle East & North Africa	311	2,510	6,710	70	91	89	3.9	10.4	13.8
East Asia & Pacific	1,899	1,860	4,360	71	98	79	3.3	5.0	11.1
Europe & Central Asia	461	4,810	9,790	69	95	92	7.1	20.0	19.2
Latin America & Caribbean	556	4,790	8,690	73	99	91	2.5	23.0	18.4
South Asia	1,499	770	2,290	64	80	84	1.0	7.5	4.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	782	830	1,680	50	60	56	0.9	8.3	3.8
<i>Selected economies</i>									
Algeria	33	3,030	5,940	72	85	85	6.0	..	7.4
Egypt, Arab Rep.	74	1,360	4,940	71	98	98	2.2	4.9	8.1
Iran, Islamic Rep.	70	2,930	9,800	71	101	94	6.4	..	25.7
Iraq	29	..	..	59	75	81	3.0	..	0.1
Jordan	6	2,650	4,820	72	100	97	3.1	6.1	14.4
Lebanon	4	5,580	9,600	72	80	100	4.1	21.0	23.4
Libya	6	7,290	11,630	74	..	..	10.3	..	3.9
Morocco	30	2,160	3,860	71	84	81	1.4	12.2	20.0
Oman	3	11,120	19,740	76	94	..	12.5	1.3	12.5
Syrian Arab Republic	19	1,560	4,110	74	115	93	3.7	1.3	7.7
Tunisia	10	2,970	6,490	74	99	93	2.3	14.4	12.8
West Bank and Gaza	4	1,230	3,720	73	89	92	7.0
Yemen, Rep.	22	760	2,090	62	60	67	1.0	2.4	1.2

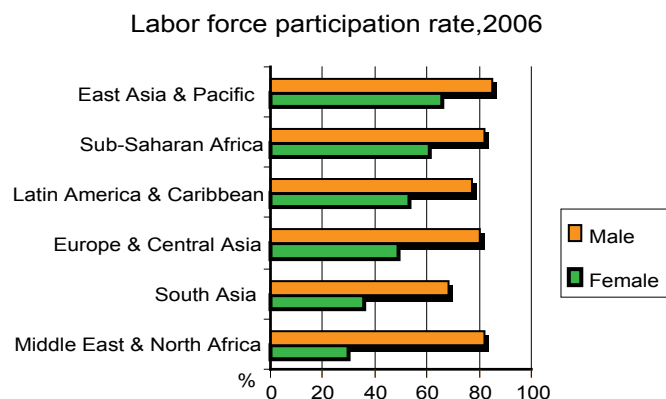
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Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

Better outcomes for women

Higher school enrollment rates and lower life expectancies reflect improved conditions for women in the Middle East and North Africa region. The net primary enrollment rate for girls is now 88 percent of all eligible children. Life expectancy at birth increased from 65.5 to 71.6 years between 1990 and 2006. However, the region's low female labor force participation rate (32 percent) and high female unemployment rate (19 percent) show limited opportunities for women in the labor market. Cultural norms still put low value on women working outside the home, limiting their contribution to the region's output.



Source: International Labour Organization database
Key Indicators of the Labour market, 5th edition

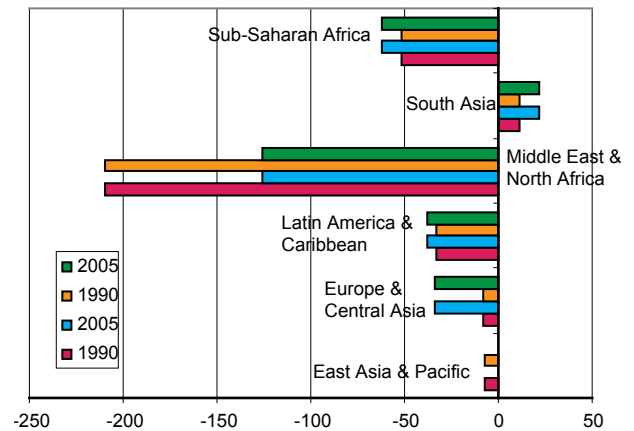
Slow economic growth

At 5.1 percent, economic growth in for the Middle East and North Africa region was the lowest among developing regions in 2006. The top performers in the region were Morocco with 8 percent, and Egypt with 6.8 percent growth in 2006, but Iran, which accounted for 20 percent of the region's output grew at 4.6 percent, and Algeria, which accounted for 16 percent of the region's output, grew by only 3 percent.

Middle East and North Africa produced more energy, but consumed even more

The developing economies of the Middle East and North Africa produced 875 million metric tons of oil equivalent in 2005-- 45 percent more than in 1990. But their energy use almost doubled in the same period, as demand rose and subsidies remained high. Between 1990 and 2005 Iran produced 70 percent more energy (producing more than 300 million metric tons of oil equivalent in 2005), but population and economic growth drove up energy use from 69 million metric ton oil equivalent to 163 million—a jump of 136 percent. In the same period, the regional balance of energy exports over total energy use fell from 210 percent to 126, a cause of concern in a region where 98 percent of energy supplies come from exhaustible fossil fuels.

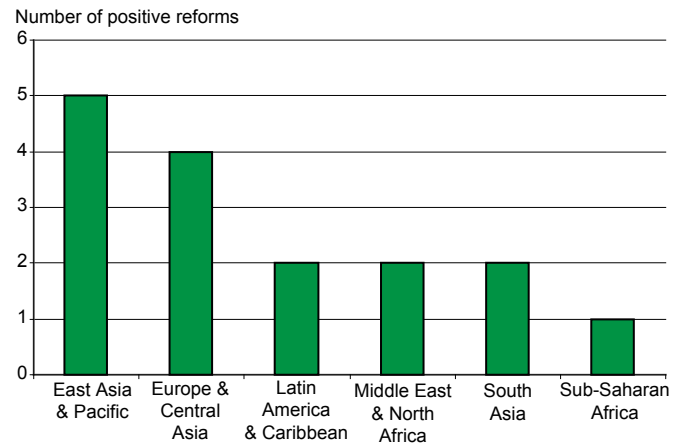
Net imports as percent of total energy use



Credit information reforms

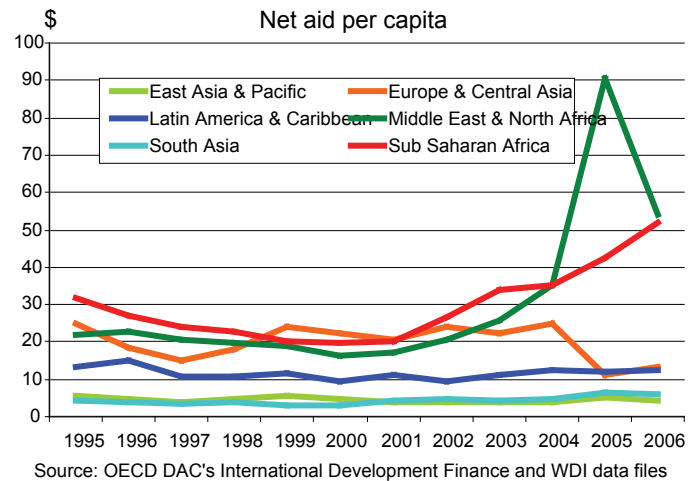
Good credit information reduces risks in the credit markets, improves the confidence of lenders, and provides a mechanism for adjudicating defaults in payment. In 2007 the economies of the Middle East and North Africa region led the way in reforms to credit information systems. Tunisia's credit registries now record all loans, expanding coverage of borrowers by 25 percent, and in Saudi Arabia, private bureau credit coverage increased from 12.5% of adults in 2006 to 23.5% in 2007. Egypt's new private bureau will share data with commercial banks and the central bank, avoiding duplicate investments in data transmission technology.

Credit information reform, 2007



Financial resources: aid, workers' remittances, and increasing FDI net inflows

Although aid fell far from its record high level of \$90 in 2005, the Middle East and North Africa still received the largest amount of aid in per capita terms (\$54) in 2006, rivaling Sub-Saharan Africa (\$52). The reason for the drop: less aid to Iraq, which received \$22.1 billion in 2005 but only \$8.7 billion in 2006. Fifteen out of 22 DAC donors lowered their aid to Iraq; the largest decrease in nominal terms was in aid provided by United States (\$6.4 billions), Japan (\$2.7 billions), and Germany (\$1.6 billions).



Middle East and North Africa also received the largest amount of workers' remittances relative to its GDP during 1990-2006 (with the exception of 2002, when SAS received slightly more). The net flow of FDI in 2006 nearly doubled to \$27.5 billion, which is 5.7 times the value in 2000. The average annual growth rate for FDI net inflows during 1996-2006 was 24.7%--highest growth among all regions. On the other hand, portfolio equity flows declined almost by 25 percent in 2006, and accounted for the least share (2 percent) of portfolio equity flows to all developing countries.

South Asia

South Asia: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water source	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas ^a \$	PPP ^b \$	years	% of relevant age	%	per capita metric tons	% of exports ^c	per 100 people
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2004	2004	2006	2006
South Asia	1,499	770	2,290	64	80	84	1.0	7.5	4.9
East Asia & Pacific	1,899	1,860	4,360	71	98	79	3.3	5.0	11.1
Europe & Central Asia	461	4,810	9,790	69	95	92	7.1	20.0	19.2
Latin America & Caribbean	556	4,790	8,680	73	99	91	2.5	23.0	18.4
Middle East & North Africa	311	2,510	6,710	70	91	89	3.9	10.4	13.8
Sub-Saharan Africa	782	830	1,680	50	60	56	0.9	8.3	3.8
<i>Selected economies</i>									
Bangladesh	156	450	1,230	64	72	74	0.2	3.7	0.3
India	1,110	820	2,460	64	85	86	1.2	7.7	5.5
Nepal	28	320	1,010	63	76	90	0.1	5.1	0.9
Pakistan	159	800	2,410	65	62	91	0.8	8.6	7.5
Sri Lanka	20	1,310	3,730	75	108	79	0.6	8.6	2.2

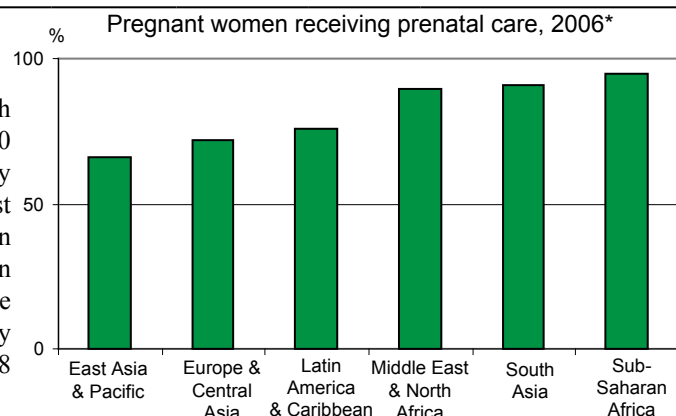
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Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

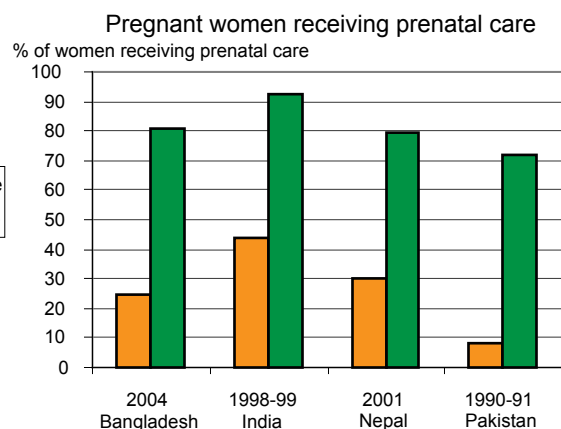
Reproductive health: slow and unequal progress

Conditions for pregnant women have improved only slightly in South Asia. Maternal mortality is the second highest among the regions (500 per 100,000 live births in 2005), after Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2006, only 66 percent of pregnant women received the prenatal care, the lowest among all regions. The disparities within countries are even starker. In Pakistan, women from the richest 20 percent of households were seven times more likely to receive prenatal care compared with women in the poorest households. Around 40 percent of all deliveries were attended by skilled health staff, the lowest among all the regions, and an increase 28 percentage points since 1990.



* Based on country data for most recent year available between 2000 & 2007. Source: UNICEF and Macro International

South Asia's poorest have limited access to reproductive health services



Source: Data are from an analysis of Demographic and Health Surveys by the World Bank and Macro International

Equality between countries, inequality within

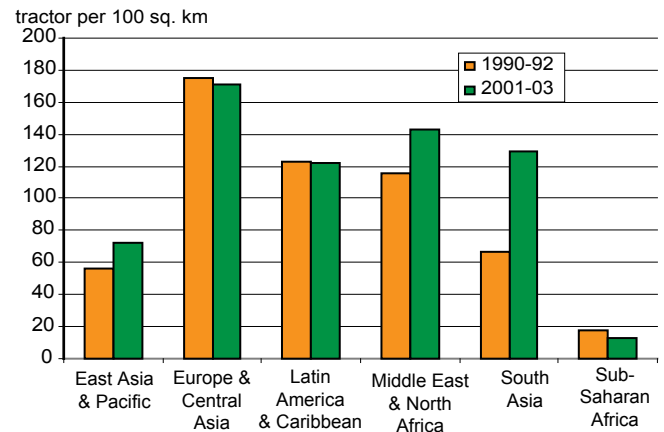
At \$2285 per person, measured at purchasing power parity, the average income of South Asia is lower than all developing regions except Sub Saharan Africa. But it is also one of the most egalitarian in terms of income distribution. The richest 20 percent living in the region consume less than 42 percent of total expenditures. Differences in average income between countries in the region are small. The tiny Maldives is the richest at \$5000 per person; and Nepal is the poorest at \$1000. In South Asia inequalities are mostly within countries, not between them.

Across the globe, differences in per capita food consumption are also relatively small. But most South Asian countries face severe malnutrition problems, in comparison with countries in other regions with similar per capita food consumption levels. Along with food, proper levels of micronutrients, adequate health care, and access to safe water and sanitation services are needed to overcome malnutrition.

Modernizing agriculture

Despite a continuous decline in the share of agriculture in South Asia's GDP -- from 26 percent of its GDP in 1990 to 18 percent in 2006 -- South Asia remains more dependent on agriculture than any other region. More than 70 percent of South Asia's 1.5 billion people live in rural areas, and the rural population is still growing at 1.5 percent annually. Agricultural yields, however, has been improving in recent years. With a substantial increase in use of agricultural machinery (almost doubled between 1990 and 2003) and a 60 percent increase in the use of fertilizers, the region posted a 26 percent increase in cereal yield from 2 tons per hectare in 1990-02 to 2.5 tons between 2004 and 2006.

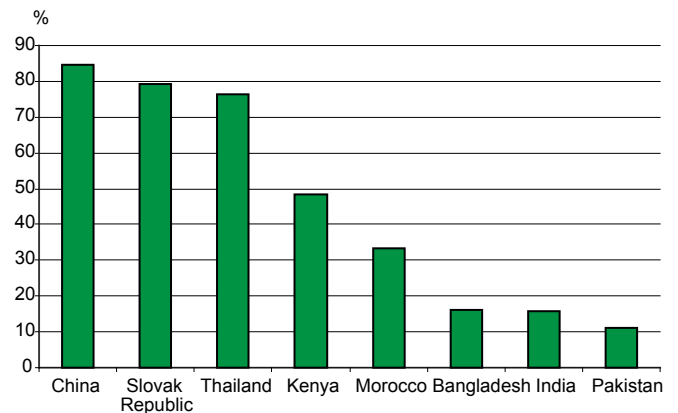
Agricultural machinery



More training needed in South Asian economies to respond to accelerating technological change

Globalization poses challenges and opportunities for developing countries, including those in the South Asia region. A trained labor force enables firms to compete, innovate, and adopt new technologies. Enterprise surveys in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh reveal that few firms provide formal training, placing these countries in the bottom ten of developing countries surveyed. In Bangladesh and India, 16 percent of firms offer formal training, compared with only 11 percent in Pakistan. Countries with the highest levels of firm-provided training include China (85 percent), Slovak Republic (79 percent), and Thailand (76 percent).

Firms offering formal training

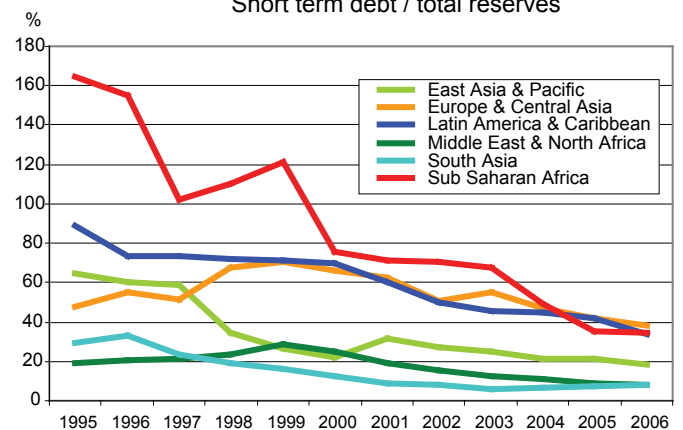


Increasing financial stability

South Asia has the lowest amount of short term debt, both in nominal terms and share of total external debt. It also has the lowest ratio of external debt to GNI among all regions. Since 1998 India and Pakistan have built a high buffer of foreign reserves to reduce their vulnerability to financial crises. The ratio of short-term debt to reserves ratio for the region has declined by 131 percentage points since 1990.

A large part of South Asia's external debt is owed to multilateral agencies. The region has the highest ratio of multilateral debt services to total debt services. Net flows from multilateral sources have been rising since 2003 and reached \$3.6 billion in 2006—highest among all regions

Short term debt / total reserves



Source: Global Development Finance

Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa: regional data from the WDI database

	Population	GNI per capita		Life expectancy at birth	Primary completion rate	Access to improved water source	Carbon dioxide emissions	Total debt service	Internet users
	millions	Atlas ^a \$	PPP ^b \$	years	% of relevant age	%	per capita metric tons	% of exports ^c	per 100 people
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South Asia	1,499	770	2,290	64	80	84	1.0	7.5	4.9
<i>Selected economies</i>									
Angola	17	1,970	3,890	42	..	53	0.5	..	0.5
Benin	9	530	1,250	56	65	67	0.3	7.4	8.0
Botswana	2	5,570	11,730	50	95	95	2.4	0.9	3.3
Burkina Faso	14	440	1,130	52	31	61	0.1	..	0.6
Burundi	8	100	320	49	36	79	0.0	40.4	0.7
Cameroon	18	990	2,060	50	58	66	0.2	15.9	2.0
Cape Verde	1	2,130	2,590	71	92	80	0.6	4.7	5.7
Chad	10	450	1,170	51	31	42	0.0	..	0.6
Congo, Dem. Rep.	61	130	270	46	..	46	0.0	..	0.3
Congo, Rep.	4	1,050	2,420	55	73	58	1.0	2.4	1.9
Côte d'Ivoire	19	880	1,580	48	43	84	0.3	1.4	1.6
Ethiopia	77	170	630	52	49	22	0.1	6.8	0.2
Ghana	23	510	1,240	60	71	75	0.3	4.9	2.7
Kenya	37	580	1,470	53	93	61	0.3	6.5	7.6
Madagascar	19	280	870	59	57	46	0.2	5.7	0.6
Malawi	14	230	690	48	55	73	0.1	..	0.4
Mali	12	460	1,000	54	49	50	0.1	5.6	0.6
Mozambique	21	310	660	42	42	43	0.1	1.9	0.9
Mauritania	3	760	1,970	64	47	53	0.9	..	3.3
Mauritius	1	5,430	10,640	73	92	100	2.6	7.1	14.5
Niger	14	270	630	56	33	46	0.1	5.9	0.3
Nigeria	145	620	1,410	47	76	48	0.8	15.8	5.5
Rwanda	9	250	730	46	35	74	0.1	9.6	0.7
Senegal	12	760	1,560	63	49	76	0.4	11.8	5.4
Sierra Leone	6	240	610	42	..	57	0.2	9.6	0.2
South Africa	47	5,390	8,900	51	100	88	9.4	6.7	10.9
Sudan	38	800	1,780	58	47	70	0.3	4.1	9.3
Tanzania	39	350	980	52	74	62	0.1	3.4	1.0
Uganda	30	300	880	51	54	60	0.1	4.8	2.5
Zambia	12	630	1,140	42	84	58	0.2	3.6	4.3
Zimbabwe	13	340	170	43	..	81	0.8	..	9.2

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Source: 2008 World Development Indicators database, World Bank, 11 April 2008.

A few countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have been successful in gradually containing the impact of tuberculosis

On the whole, progress on social indicators remains stagnant in Sub-Saharan Africa and many countries will not achieve the Millennium Development Goals. But viewed more closely there are many signs of success. For the region, life expectancy at birth has remained unchanged at 50 years since 1990, but 29 countries recorded improvements in life expectancy. Rwanda made the largest gains --14 years (from 32 to 46 years). And while the regional incidence of tuberculosis rose between 1990 and 2006 from 171 to 368 per 100,000 people, incidence rates have declined in a few countries, such as Somalia, Ghana, Mali, and Mauritius, Somalia has made a remarkable success of TB control programs, reaching its nomadic and warring populations. Detection rates increased from 28.9 to 83.0 percent of estimated cases between 1996 and 2006 and treatment success increased from 83.7 to 88.6 percent of registered cases between 1995 and 2005. The success in TB control has contributed to the constant decline in the number of TB cases over the decade.

The sustainability challenge

Sub-Saharan Africa has grown faster in recent years than in 1990s (an average of 4.7 percent a year in 2000-06, compared to 2.5 percent a year in 1990-2000 period). But the loss of natural resources has also accelerated. With 64 percent of its population still living in rural areas—and rural population growing at 1.9 --slush and burn agriculture continues to take its toll. Forests are shrinking at an alarming rate of 7 percent each decade (based on 1990-2005 estimates), and it is drawing down its energy and mineral resources as well. The region's adjusted net savings, an indicator of sustainability, which measures additions to capital through education and losses through the depletion of natural resource and damage to the environment, are negative. Sustainable growth is not possible without savings to increase capital.

Inclusive and equitable social and economic policies

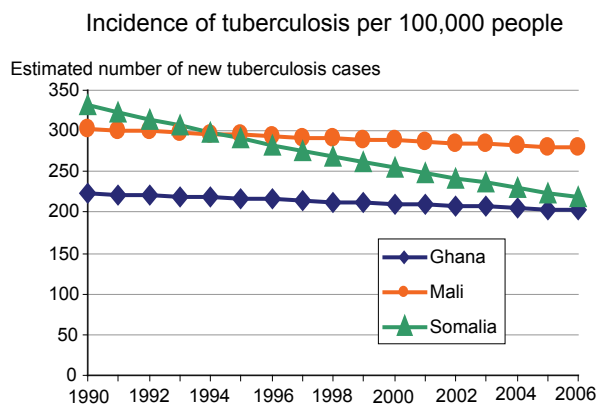
Inequality of opportunity results in wasted resources, less innovation, the risk of civil conflict and ultimately undermines growth and development. Sub-Saharan African countries such as Cape Verde, Ghana, Tanzania and Burkina Faso score well on the World Bank's assessment of social inclusion and equity. But others, such as Zimbabwe, Central African Republic and Sudan, scored much lower.

Expanding trade

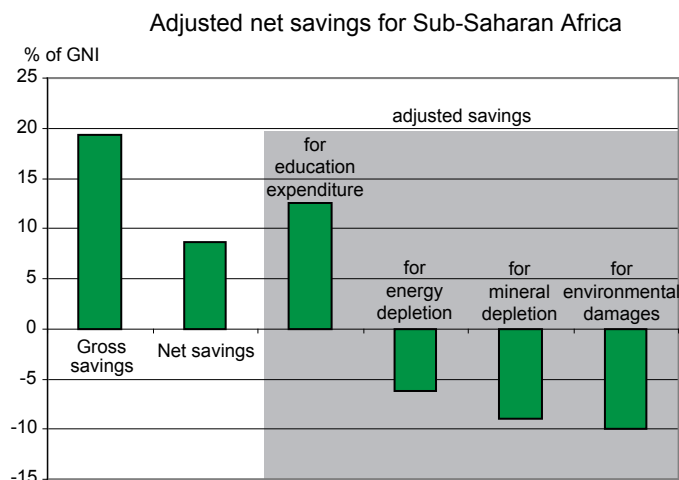
Rising oil, metal, and mineral prices, helped Sub-Saharan Africa to register 5.6 percent growth in 2006. Sixteen countries grew faster than 6 percent, led by Angola, which grew by 18.6 percent.

The boom in commodities has spurred trade. Trade in goods by Sub Saharan African economies (measured in nominal terms) grew at an average annual rate of 18 percent for 2000-2006, a very high growth compared to the average rate of 3.9 percent between 1990 and 2000. This may partly reflect improvements in recording and reporting of trade statistics in Sub Saharan Africa. The economies with the highest average annual growth in merchandise trade were Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Angola, Sudan, and Congo, Dem. Rep.

Sub Saharan Africa's trade in services as a share of GDP is higher than that of other regions, fluctuating around 10-15 percent between 1990 and 2006. The nominal value of trade in services grew at an annual average rate of 16 percent from 2000 to 2006, compared to the 4 percent average growth between 1990 and 2000. Countries with the highest average annual growth were Burundi, Sudan, and Togo. Countries that contributed the most toward the region's total trade in services in 2006 were South Africa and Angola, which accounted for 27 and 9 percents of the region's total trade in services.



Source: World Health Organization



Country Policy and Institutional Assessments (CPIA) scores for social inclusion and equity, 2006

