



The United Nations today observe the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty as the international community is pursuing twin objectives: intensifying efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals, and formulating the next set of goals to guide our efforts after we reach the MDG target date of 2015.

“This post-2015 agenda must have poverty eradication as its highest priority and sustainable development at its core”, says UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his message on the International Day. “After all, the only way to make poverty eradication irreversible is by putting the world on a sustainable development path.”

Poverty levels in the world have declined significantly in the last two decades but progress has been uneven. Despite remarkable progress more than 1.2 billion people still live in extreme poverty worldwide.

The UN Secretary-General points out that too many - not least women- are be denied access to health care, sanitation, education and decent housing and that Too many young people lack jobs and skills. "Rising inequality in many countries -- both rich and poor -- is fueling exclusion from economic, social and political spheres."

The theme of the International day for the eradication of poverty 2013 is "Working together towards a world without discrimination: Building on the experience and knowledge of people in extreme poverty".

The purpose of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, that has been observed every year since 1993, is to increase awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries. Fighting poverty remains at the core of the [Millennium Development Goals](#) (MDGs) and the [post-2015 development agenda](#)

The World We Want 2015 platform will host an event for its [People's Voices Series](#) , centering on the Day's theme, the MDGs and the Post-2015 Agenda.

From 14 October through 17 October, please join the UN system and its partners in a social media action, #EndPoverty, to raise awareness of the fight against poverty and the need to accelerate action to achieve the MDGs.

Get Involved! You can participate: Join the global conversation on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) using #EndPoverty. Beginning 14 October, share photos and stories of what you and your community are doing to help end poverty.

Learn and help share infographics and new videos about accelerating the [Millennium Development Goals](#)

Follow the World We Want People's Voices event live on 17 October.

Watch persons affected by poverty share their views at the official commemoration at UN headquarters, [live on UN webcast](#) on 17 October.