

Berichte aus der Sozialwissenschaft

**Matthias Weiter (Ed.)**

## **Achieving the MDGs - A Multidisciplinary Perspective**

Contributions by international PhD-students  
at Berlin Universities to support reaching  
the Millennium Development Goals

AYUSO AUDRY, Dariela

BRÜGGEMANN, Ingar

ESSIOMLE, Yawa

HINRICHS, Jan

JACOBY, Ana Ximena

JUNGCURT, Stefan

LEGER, Andréanne

NUSSBAUMER, Beatriz

REDDY, Malgi Prasad

SCHOKRY, Abed

SRIGIRI, Srinivasa Reddy

YAGOUB, Kamal Elmahdi

Shaker Verlag  
Aachen 2005

**Bibliographic information published by Die Deutsche Bibliothek**

Die Deutsche Bibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data is available in the internet at <http://dnb.ddb.de>.

Copyright Shaker Verlag 2005

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers.

Printed in Germany.

ISBN 3-8322-4360-7

ISSN 0945-0998

Shaker Verlag GmbH • P.O. BOX 101818 • D-52018 Aachen

Phone: 0049/2407/9596-0 • Telefax: 0049/2407/9596-9

Internet: [www.shaker.de](http://www.shaker.de) • eMail: [info@shaker.de](mailto:info@shaker.de)

The acronym „Emm-Dee-Jee“ (for “Millennium Development Goals”), since it was first pronounced by Kofi Annan at the UN General Assembly in 2001, within a few years period became the most popular catch-word in the international development discussion. In his introduction, editor Matthias WEITER summarises the origins and explains the success of the MDG concept.

The contributions of the other authors of this book are the results of an interdisciplinary seminar on **international structural policy**, held at the Humboldt University of Berlin for PhD students in 2004. The participants (economists, engineers and social scientists from Argentina, Canada, India, Germany, Mexico, Palestine, Sudan, Togo and Turkey) met regularly over a six-month period – including a 10-day excursion to the USA – and discussed aspects of the MDGs and their attainment with politicians, administrators, scientists and practitioners in the field of international development in Berlin, New York and Washington.

When they applied for participation, most of these students only had a vague idea of the UN Millennium Declaration of the year 2000 and the MDGs, though their PhD theses dealt with selected aspects of development. The seminar also provided participants opportunities to reflect their individual positions and roles as young researchers both within the international development debate, and within the political and academic development framework of their home countries. As a result of this, the participants selected specific aspects of their research work with special reference to one or more MDGs and use the chance of this publication to present them to a wider audience.

Consequently, the selected topics cover an extremely wide range of themes: Abed SCHOKRY suggests technical modifications of Palestinian ambulance cars to reduce mother and child mortality, Yawa ESSIOMLE presents some aspects of cooperation between local healers and modern psychologists for reintegration of West African child soldiers, and Andréanne LÉGER shows in a model that modifications to the TRIPs agreement to improve poor countries' access to drugs do not necessarily discourage R&D efforts. Other topics cover the improvement of living conditions of the rural poor in Eastern Europe, Argentina and India (HINRICHS, NUSSBAUMER, SRIGIRI), aspects of market deregulation in Argentina and Sudan (JACOBY, YAGOUB), a model for private sector involvement in overcoming debt crises (AYUSO AUDRY), reducing incoherence in international agreements (JUNGCURT) and the problem of the negative image of the South in the North (REDDY). Finally, Ingar BRÜGGEMANN, former executive director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), contributes an essay on requirements of an effective world population policy, a crucial international topic that some UN members insisted on not being mentioned in the Millennium Declaration or the Millennium Development Goals.