

# Venezuela

## achieves Millennium Goals



2010

Ministry of People's Power for Communication and Information

*“In 2000, Venezuela and the rest of the UN member countries took on the Millennium Development Goals as a commitment of global solidarity to eradicate poverty and improve the standard of living of the world's population. These goals have been an orientation of the Venezuelan domestic development strategies in priority fields that have made it possible to guarantee the exercise of human rights...*

*Since the Bolivarian Government took office, social policies have been aimed at constitutional principles such as social inclusion and people's participation. In this sense, we are not only talking about the universalization of the exercise of rights, but also of the transformation of citizens into agents of their own development process.”*

**Hugo Chávez Frías**

***President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela***

## **PRESENTATION**

### ***The Millennium Summit***

*According to the United Nations, the year 2000 represented a perfect moment to express the future vision that would inspire the Organization in the new era, therefore, the session period on September 5, 2000 was declared as the Millennium Assembly.*

*On the occasion of that period, the Millennium Summit took place from September 6 to 8, 2000. This Summit was a high-ranking conference of the Assembly that gathered 191 countries (189 out of which were Member States by then), including 147 heads of state and government, at the UN.*

*At this Summit, the countries adopted the Millennium Declaration to reaffirm their faith in the UN and its Chart to achieve a more peaceful, prosperous, and fairer world. The most relevant agreements of this Summit are the Millennium Development Goals, which provides the UN system with a framework to work on a common aim.*

*The Millennium Declaration established the 1990-2015 period to achieve most of the goals.*

*In the Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2 of the General Assembly), the leaders of the world committed to “spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty.”*

### ***The Millennium Development Goals***

*The Millennium Development Goals are eight international development goals with 21 targets, measured by a series of indicators. Among others, they include the reduction by half of extreme poverty, the halt of the spread of HIV/AIDS and the completion of primary education by 2015.*

*These goals and targets have been established within the framework of respect towards a number of fundamental values such as freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature and shared responsibility as the guide of international relations by taking into account that “only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable.” (Millennium Declaration, September, 2000).*

### ***Inclusion and welfare in the Bolivarian Government***

*The social policies implemented by the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, headed by President Hugo Chávez Frías since 1999, have contributed to a*

*greater welfare of the population, especially the people traditionally neglected by former governments.*

*In 2000, the Bolivarian Government embraced the Millennium Development Goals to achieve a better standard of living for Venezuelan people. The State gives priority to social investment for development and collective welfare: it is not considered a “cost” as former government did.*

*Ten years later, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reaffirms the commitment to implementing social policies in order to guarantee the improvement and increase of health care, food, education, culture, sports, recreation, labor, social security, science and technology.*

*This publication presents Venezuela's achievements in the Millennium Goals.*



## GOAL 1

# Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

### What should be done?

Between 1990 and 2015, the countries must halve the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day.

They must achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.

They must halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

### Indicators

The proportion of population below \$1 per day.

- Poverty gap ratio [incidence x depth of poverty].
- Share of poorest quintile in national consumption.
- GDP Growth per Employed Person.
- Employment Rate.
- Proportion of employed population below \$1 per day.
- Proportion of family-based workers in employed population.
- Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age.
- Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption.

### General situation

Extreme poverty is still a serious problem affecting over billions of people who live on less than \$1 per day in the world. Hunger and malnutrition affect over 800 million people, whose diet is not enough to meet their daily dietary energy needs.

Regarding children, the lack of food can be dangerous because it retards their physical and mental development and jeopardizes their survival. Over one in four children in the developing world suffer from malnutrition.

## TARGET 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day

### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Before the Bolivarian Government took office, poverty in Venezuela was the result of the negative policies implemented in the country since the late 80s. For instance, the savagely-made macroeconomic adjustments led to the uncontrolled price deregulation of the economy in 1989, produced 24 percent of extreme poverty in the Venezuelan population.

These adjustments resulted in the event known as *El Caracazo*<sup>1</sup>. In order to protest against the increase of the cost of living, people went out the streets, hence they were shot to death by the government of then President Carlos Andrés Pérez. In 1996, under the government of Rafael Caldera, the *Agenda Venezuela*<sup>2</sup> was applied and extreme poverty went up to 42 percent.

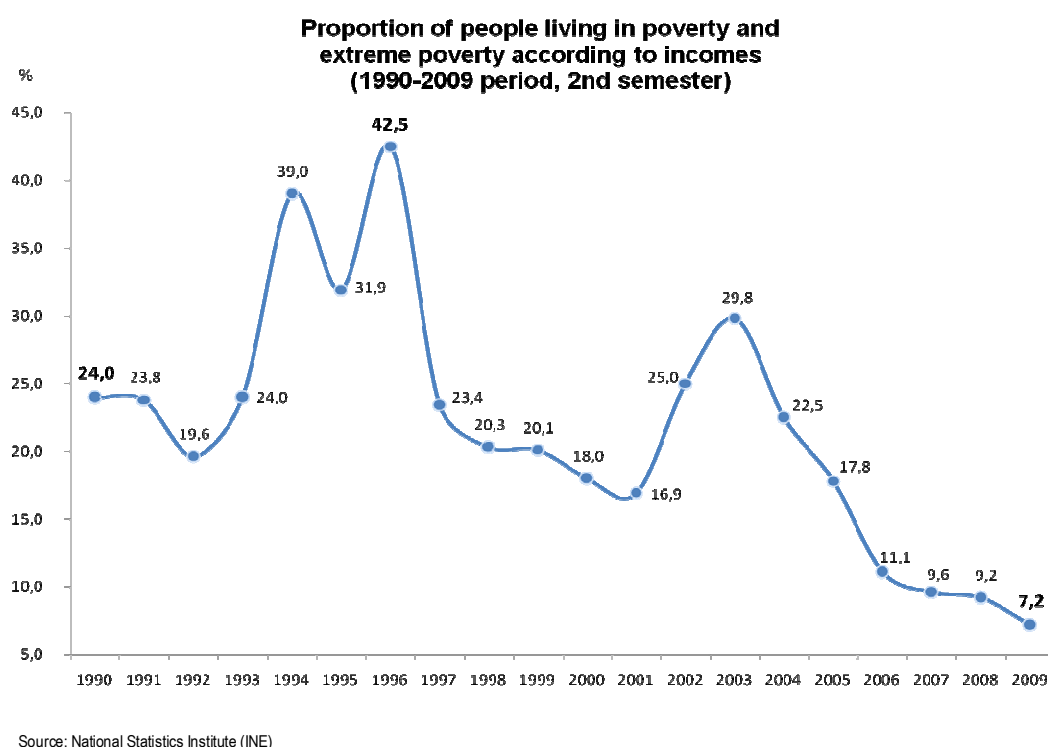
The Bolivarian Government managed to significantly change this terrible situation, thanks to the social policies it started to implement since it took office in 1999. In the first semester of 2006, extreme poverty was reduced to 12.5 percent, thus achieving the most important UN Millennium Goal in record time. In 2009, Venezuela went beyond the UN Millennium Goals as it managed to reduce extreme poverty to 7.2 percent.

In the last decade, important changes have been made in this field. But extreme poverty in Venezuela started to significantly decrease in 2004 as the result of the growth of the population's purchasing power and the boom of the Venezuelan economy. By 2009, the number of poor people is around 2 million.

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1 **Caracazo** is the name given to the wave of spontaneous protests, riots and looting that occurred on February 27, 1989 in the Venezuelan capital Caracas and surrounding towns against free-market reforms proposed by then President of Venezuela Carlos Andrés Pérez, who followed the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

2 **Agenda Venezuela (Venezuela Agenda)** was a program applied by the Government of Rafael Caldera in 1994, with the recommendations of the IMF, which aimed at restoring macroeconomic balance and beating inflation. The measures, labelled as neoliberal, had terrible results for the country. The bolívar was devalued by 70%, the exchange rate regime was imposed, fuel prices were increased by 800%, rates of interest were liberalized, and the process of privatization was continued.



### REDUCTION OF EXTREME POVERTY

**2006**

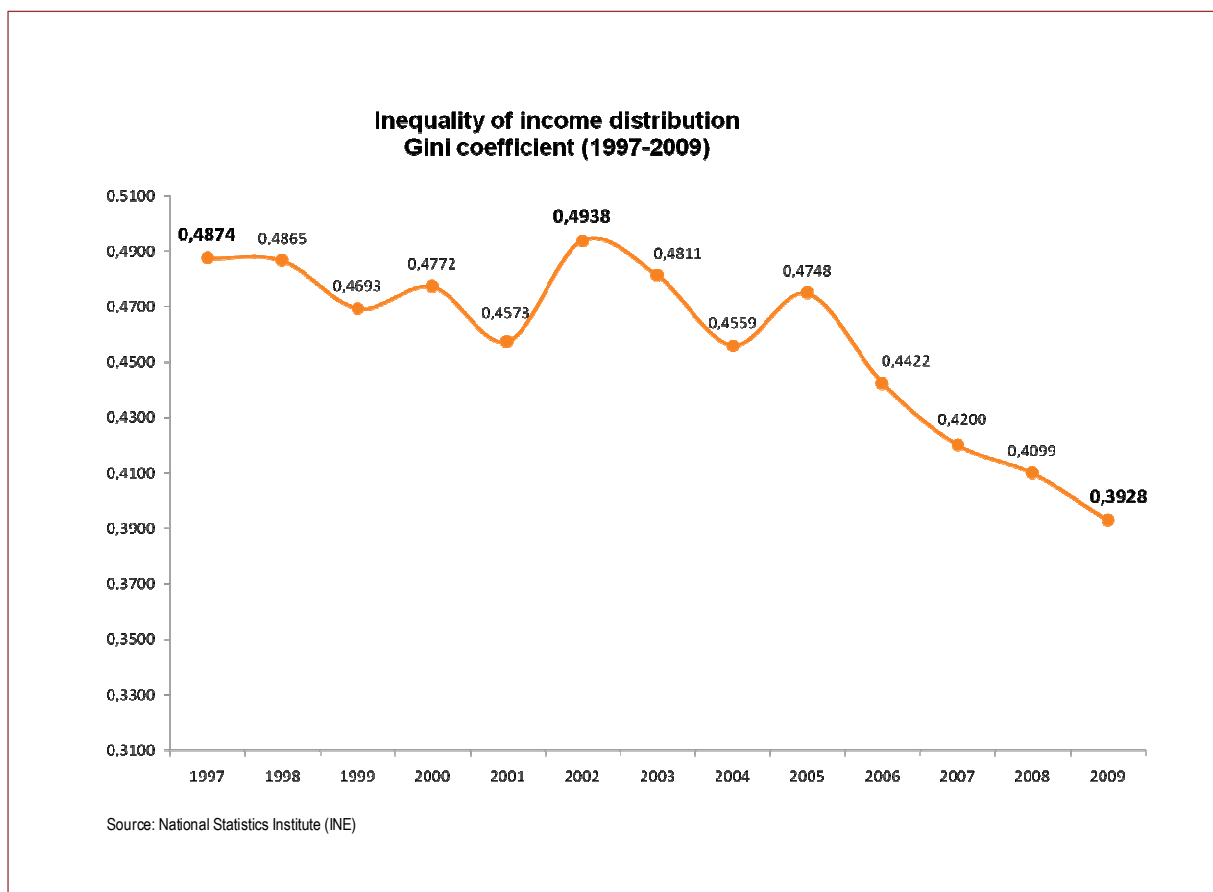
Venezuela achieved this goal in record time, since extreme poverty was reduced to **11.1 percent**. The UN goal is to reduce extreme poverty before 2015.

**2009**

- Venezuela went beyond the UN Millennium Goals since the population living in extreme poverty reached **7.2 percent**.
- Extreme poverty was reduced by **70 percent** from 1990 up to date.

Likewise, the income distribution in Venezuelan households significantly improved as is shown in the table below (country's Gini coefficient<sup>3</sup>). In 2009, inequality of wealth distribution in Venezuela reached 0.3928 (Gini coefficient), Latin America's lowest; while in 1997 it was 0.4874. That is to say, a large part of the country's wealth was possessed by few rich people.

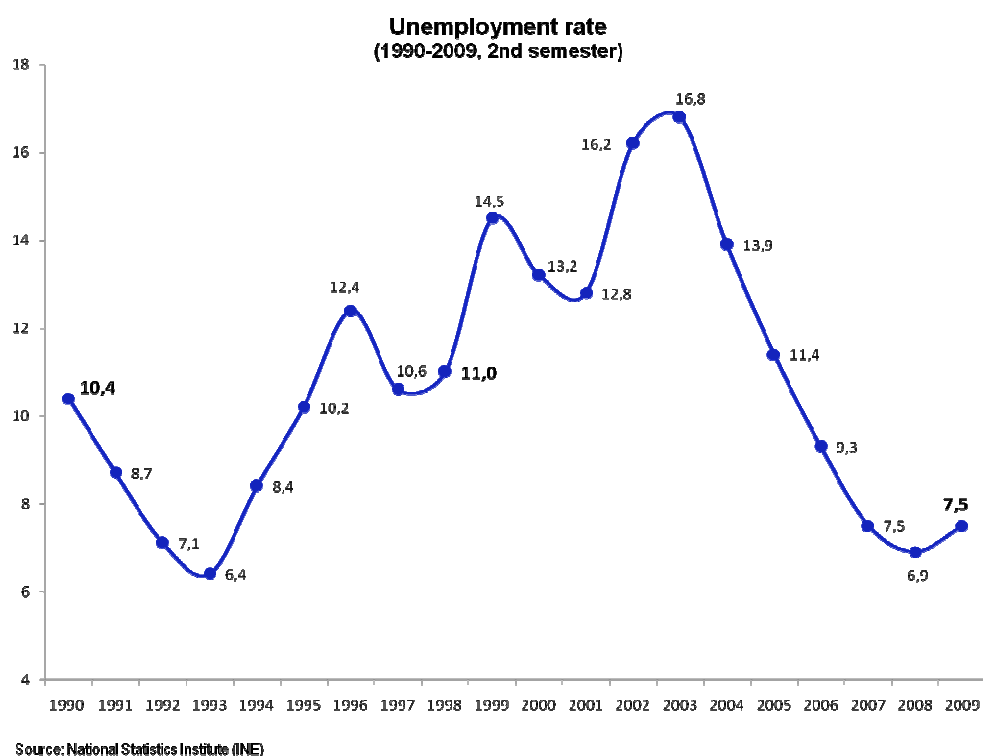
<sup>3</sup> **Gini coefficient** is a measure of the inequality of wealth distribution in a country.



IMPROVEMENT OF INCOME DISTRIBUTION	
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inequality of income distribution in Venezuela reached <b>0.3928</b> (Gini coefficient), Latin America's lowest.</li> <li>Now, wealth is best distributed among the population.</li> <li>Previously, a large part of the country's wealth was possessed by few rich people.</li> </ul>

The labor stability policies of the Revolutionary Government have also contributed to the population's social welfare. As a matter of fact, after the political events staged by the Venezuelan unpatriotic pro-opposition sectors (oil boycott and lockout that harmed the Venezuelan economy in 2003), unemployment started to fall in 2004 and reached 7.5 percent in the second semester of 2009, one of the lowest in the last 16 years.





### UNEMPLOYMENT REDUCTION

<b>2004</b>	Unemployment starts to decline progressively.
<b>2009</b>	Unemployment has been reduced by <b>27 percent</b> from 1990 up to date, and reached <b>7.5 percent</b> .

The Revolutionary Government of President Hugo Chávez Frías launched the socialist “Misiones”, programmes to offer to the less fortunate population a quick and massive access to social goods, thus achieving a broader social inclusion and safeguarding the universal social rights in fields such as food, health, literacy, work training and education at all levels.

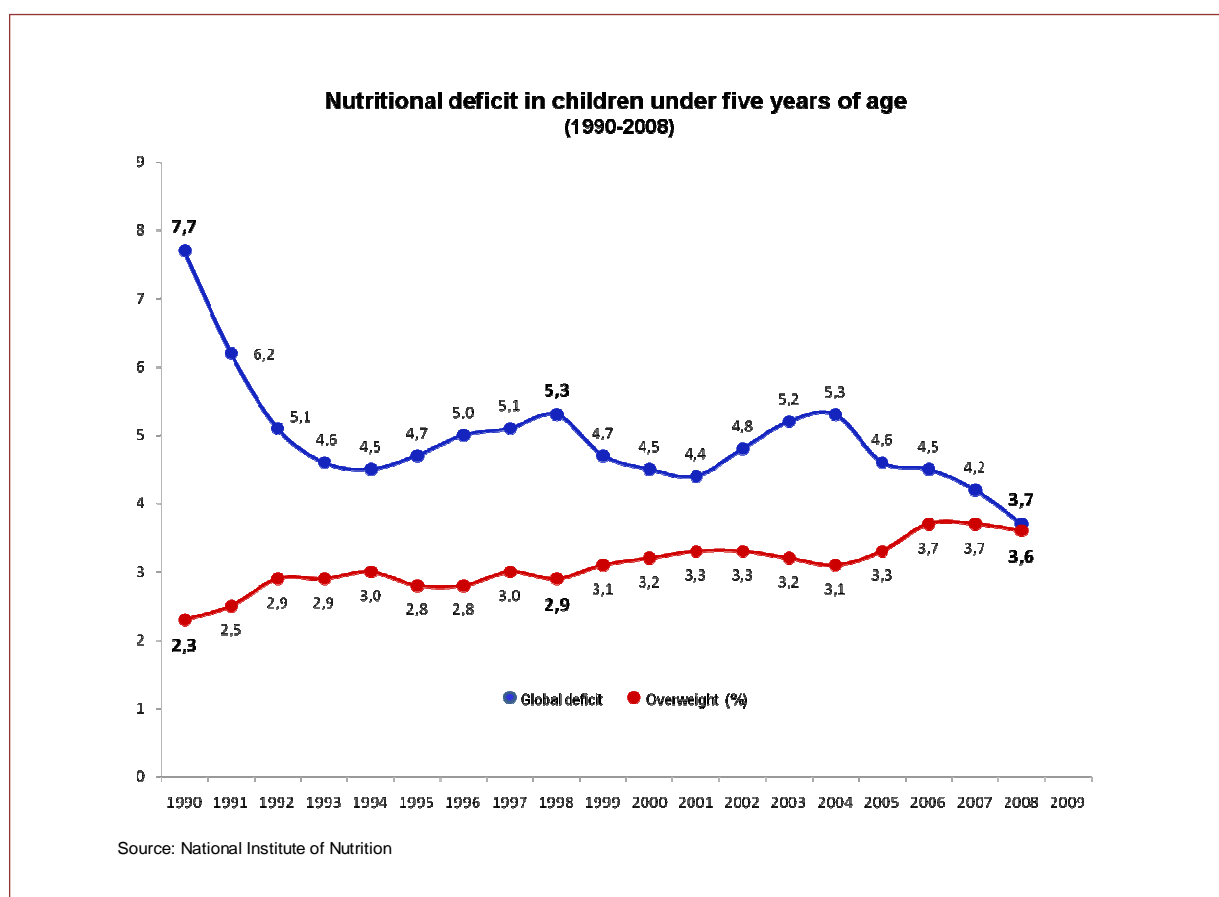
In this sense, social investment has enormously increased. The accumulated social investment during the Revolutionary Government (1999-2009) amounts to around \$ 330.6 billion; that is to say, fivefold the accumulated investment of the previous 11 years (1988-1998) of the Venezuelan Fourth Republic.

## TARGET 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Thanks to the policies implemented by the Venezuelan Government, the country has registered a remarkable reduction in the proportion of people who suffer from hunger; and in the number of children under-five with nutritional deficit. Thus, the country will achieve this goal before 2015.

In Venezuela, the prevalence of underweight children under five years of age reached its lowest number in 2008, when it was halved.



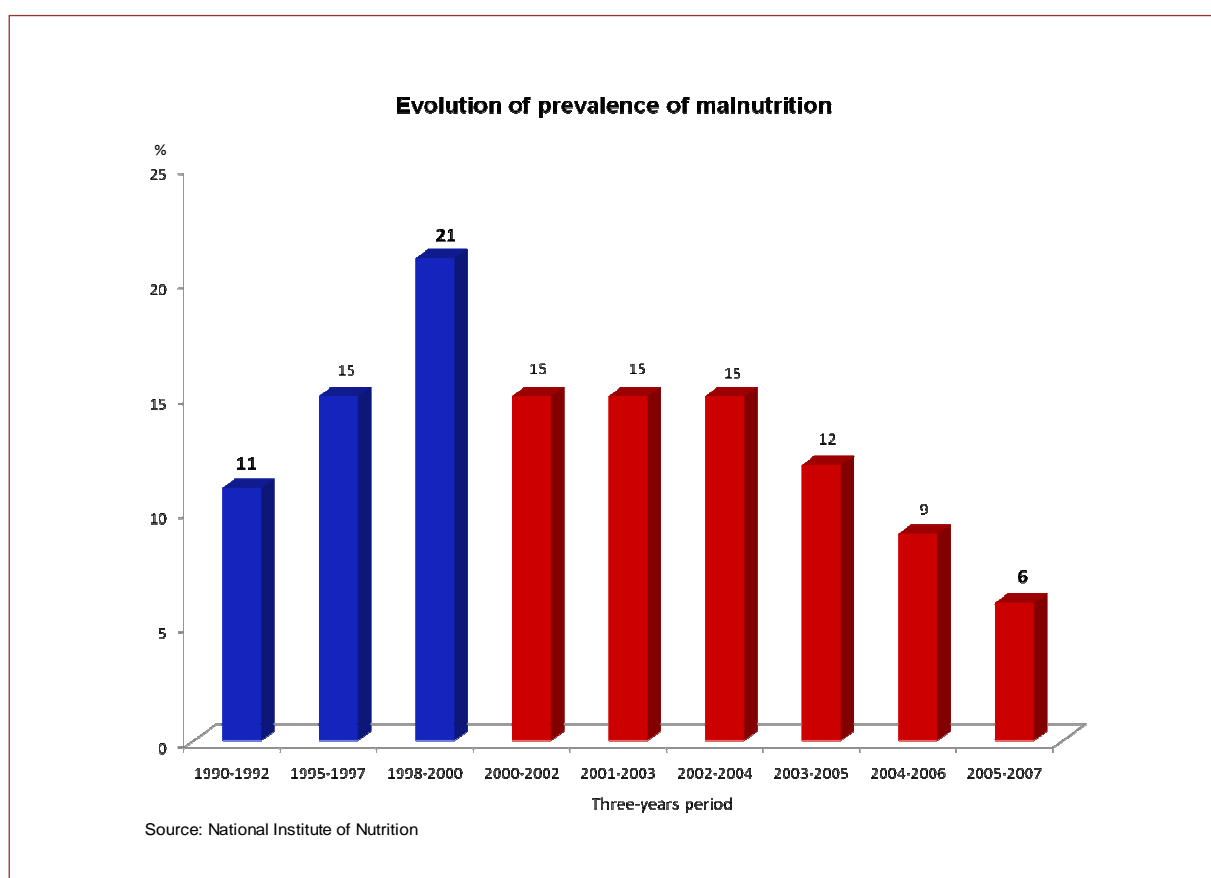
#### REDUCTION OF NUTRITIONAL DEFICIT IN CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE

**2008**

Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age was **halved** (to **3.7 percent**).

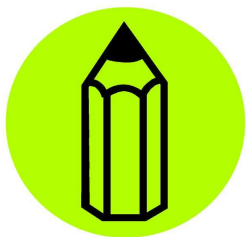
Regarding the prevalence of malnutrition, *Table 5* shows a reduction of 45.5 percent by 2007 in comparison to 1990; it went down from 11 percent in 1990 to 6 percent in 2007.

Food caloric intake per person per day registered a steady increase from 2003, while the proportion of undernourished people in 1990 was 11 percent, a figure that reached 21 percent in 1998.



The Venezuelan State has made huge and constant efforts to improve food availability, food access, food consumption and biological exploitation. By giving precedence to food as an inalienable and basic human right, the Venezuelan Government has developed a set of policies that have significantly improved the nutrition of Venezuelans.

REDUCTION OF MALNUTRITION INDEX	
2009	Malnutrition was reduced by almost <b>50 percent</b> in comparison to the 1990-1992 period and to <b>71 percent</b> in comparison to the 1998-2000 period.
Years 1990-1998	By 1990, undernourished people were <b>11 percent</b> , a figure that reached <b>21</b> percent in 1998.



## GOAL 2

### Achieve universal primary education

#### What should be done?

Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

#### Indicators

- Net enrolment ratio in primary education.
- Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary.
- Literacy of 15-24 year olds, female and male.

#### General situation

Over 115 million children with the age to attend primary school have been deprived from this human right. Most of them are children living in poor households and whose parents frequently have not received a formal education.

In the world, five regions are achieving 100 percent of enrollment in primary education. In order to achieve this goal, it will be necessary to significantly intensify efforts in sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Asia and Oceania.

In these regions, and the rest of the world, the increase of enrollment should incorporate activities focused on preventing children from dropping school, and helping them to receive a good-quality education.

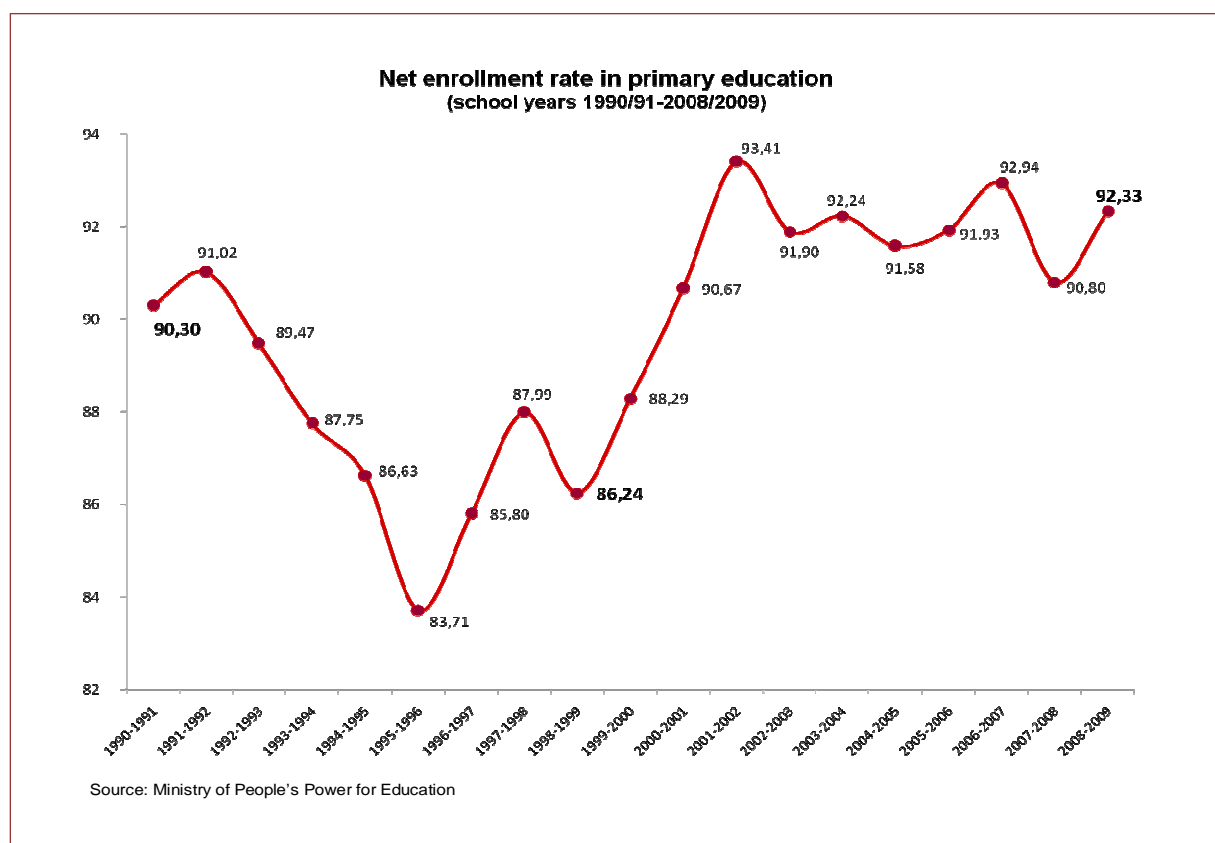
### TARGET 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

#### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The commitment of the Venezuelan Government to improve the standard of living of Venezuelans has been translated into the progressive increase of education. The Venezuelan Government increased the education spending (% of GDP) to 5.4 percent in 2000 and 6.3 percent in 2008.

Venezuela will achieve the universalization of primary education before 2015. The eradication of illiteracy in the young population has been already achieved. Likewise, the universalization of primary education is shown in the increase of the net enrollment rate and the proportion of children in grade 6.

Enrollment in primary education, between the 2000-2001 and 2008-2009 school years, is the highest when compared to 1990. This figure has averaged 91.9 percent; it was 92.3 percent in the 2008-2009 school year and 86.6 percent between the 1993-1994 and 1999-2000 school years.



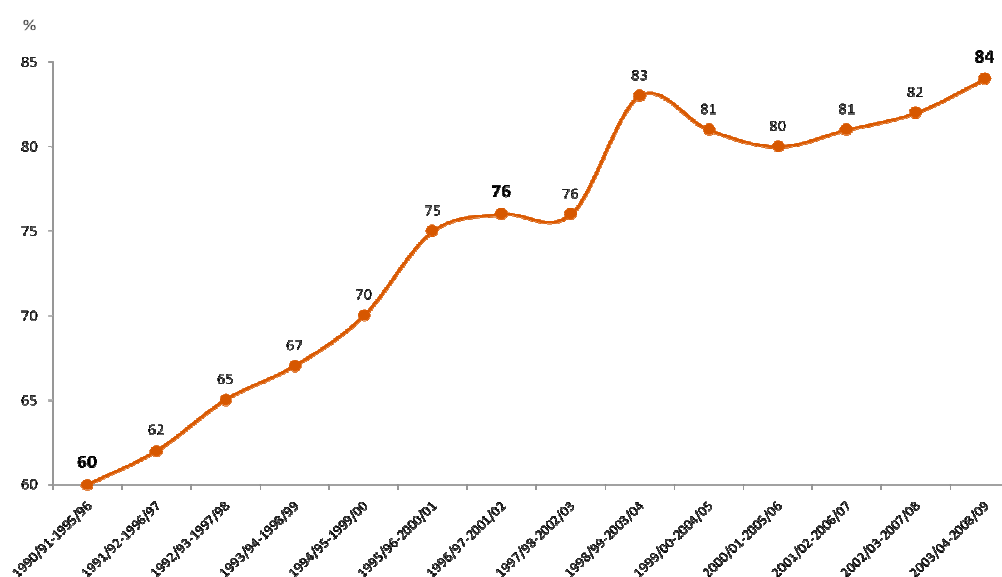
### INCREASE OF NET ENROLLMENT RATE IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

<b>School years 1990/1991 to 2008/2009</b>	<p>During the Bolivarian Government, enrollment in primary education grew to <b>91.9 percent</b>.</p> <p>In the 2008-2009 school year, enrollment was increased to <b>92.33 percent</b>.</p>
<b>School years 1993/1994 to 1999/2000</b>	<p>During this period, enrollment rate averaged <b>86.6 percent</b>.</p>

Regarding the continuation and successful completion of primary education, the proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary was 70 percent when we compare the 1994-1995 and 1999-2000 school years.

With regard to 2003-2004 to 2008-2009 school years, Venezuela shows a 14 percent increase. This means that out of 100 pupils, 84 complete grade 6. Notwithstanding, if we include school repetition, children completing primary school in 7 or 8 years, this figure would exceed 97 percent.

**Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary education**  
(school years 1989/90-2008/09)



Source: Ministry of People's Power for Education

#### MORE PUPILS REACH AND COMPLETE LAST GRADE OF PRIMARY

##### School years

2003/2004 to  
2008/2009

- Currently, out of 100 pupils, **84** complete last grade.
- The number of children completing last grade increased by **40 percent** in comparison to the 1990/91-1995/96 period.

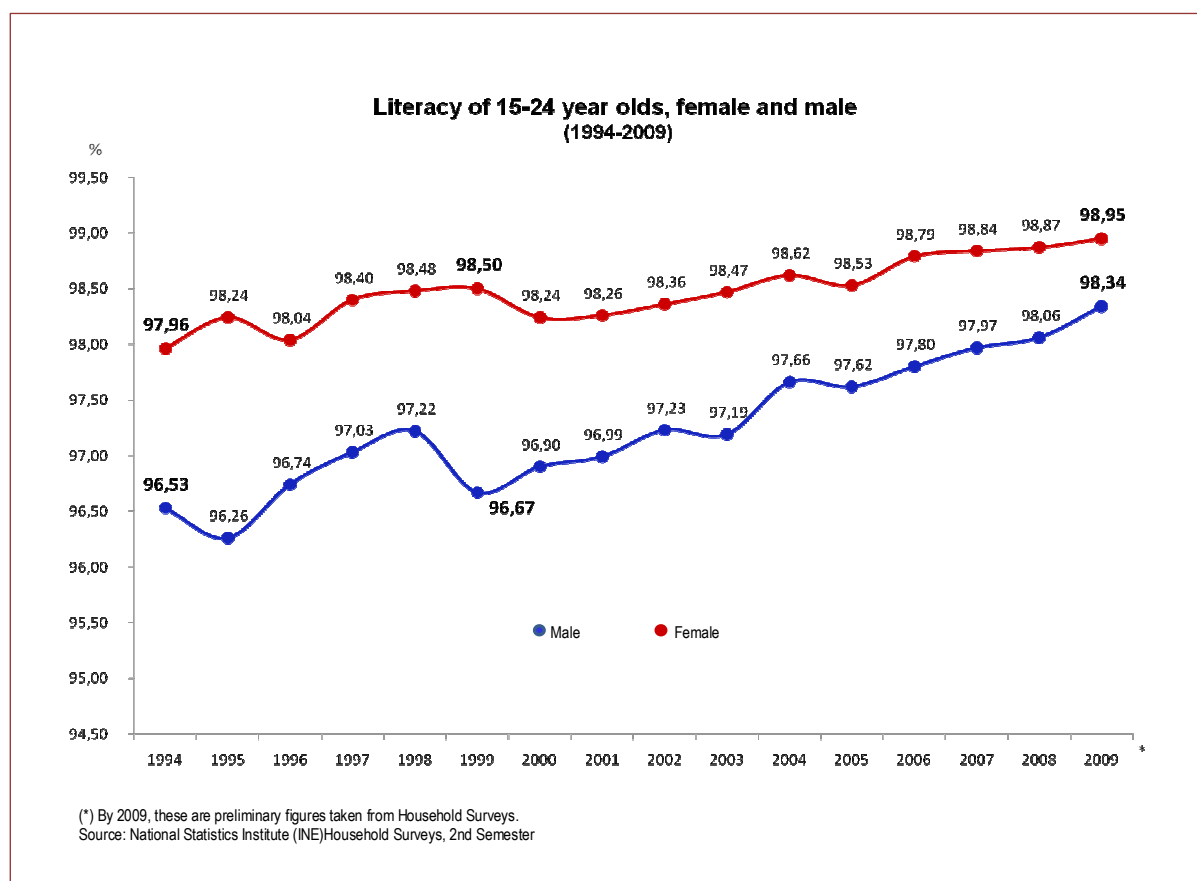
In order to achieve the universalization of primary education, as well as a greater proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade, the Venezuelan Government has launched projects such as the *Simoncitos* (day nurseries), Bolivarian kindergartens, schools and high schools stand out, as well as educative “misiones” which are aimed at achieving everybody’s fast social inclusion in education.

To measure the progress in primary education, school repetition is also taken into account. In Venezuela, this indicator was reduced from 11 percent to 3.5 percent from the 1990-1991 to the 2007-2008 school years.

Regarding school desertion, it has been significantly reduced. In the 1980-1981 school year, it was 7 percent. In the 2007-2008 school year, it was reduced to 1.7 percent; that is to say, a 5.4 percent reduction. The challenge is to keep repetition and desertion to a minimum.

In our country, the literacy rate of 15-24 year olds, female and male, has increased to the extent that illiteracy has been eradicated in this age group thanks to the education policies implemented by the Venezuelan Government in favor of the people who was excluded from the educative system.





### REDUCTION OF SCHOOL REPETITION, DESERTION AND ILLITERACY

- School repetition decreased to **3.5 percent** in the 2007-2008 period. (In 1990-1991, it was **11 percent**.)
- School desertion fell to **1.7 percent** in 2007-2008. (In 1980-1981, it was **7 percent**).
- Illiteracy rate of 15-24 years old, female and male, was eradicated. Literacy rate by 2009: **98.7 percent**.
- There are no meaningful differences between literate women and men, which is registered in less than **1 percent**.

The Venezuelan Government created “Misiones” in Education, as alternative programmes to formal education, aimed at providing access to the population that could not complete school.

Misión Robinson’s aim was to offer a solution to illiteracy. Noteworthy, over 1,880,000 people learned how to read and write between 1980 and 2009. Out of them, Misión Robinson taught 1,678,671 people how to read and write between 2003 and 2009.

Furthermore, Misión Robinson II and III, Misión Ribas (completion of high school), and Misión Sucre (completion of university education) are also very important.



## GOAL 3

### Promote gender equality and empower women

#### What should be done?

Eliminate gender disparity in all levels of education no later than 2015.

#### Indicators

- Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education.
- Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector.
- Proportion of seats held by women in national Parliament.

#### General situation

Gender equality is a human right that includes equality in all levels of education and fields of work, in the control over resources and representation in public and political life. Equality between men and women is fundamental for the progress of human development.

It is crucial to achieve gender equality in education so that women can fully participate in society and the world economy. A key element of the women's empowerment is the exercise of their decision-making power on equal terms with men in fields affecting their lives (from family to the highest levels of government) as a way to promote everybody's prosperity and welfare.

## TARGET 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

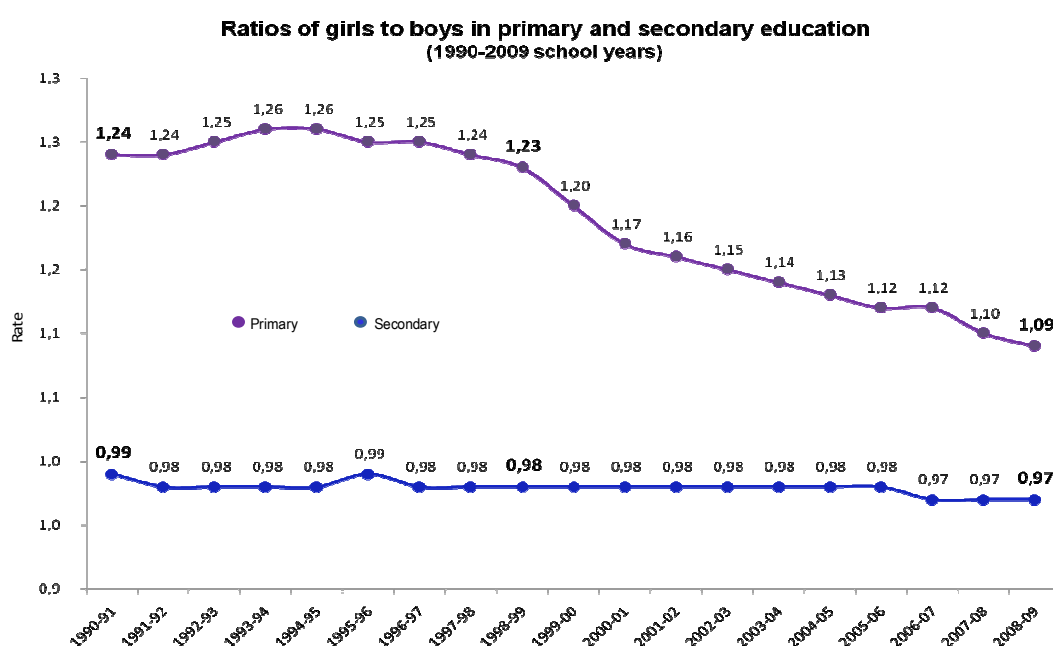
### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The promotion of gender equality and a greater participation of women in economic and social matters in Venezuela were already achieved.

With its inclusive and development policies, the Venezuela state has strengthened the egalitarian training and participation of women. However, many spaces are yet to be conquered so that this participation is linked to all fields in society by highlighting its capabilities and rewarding it.

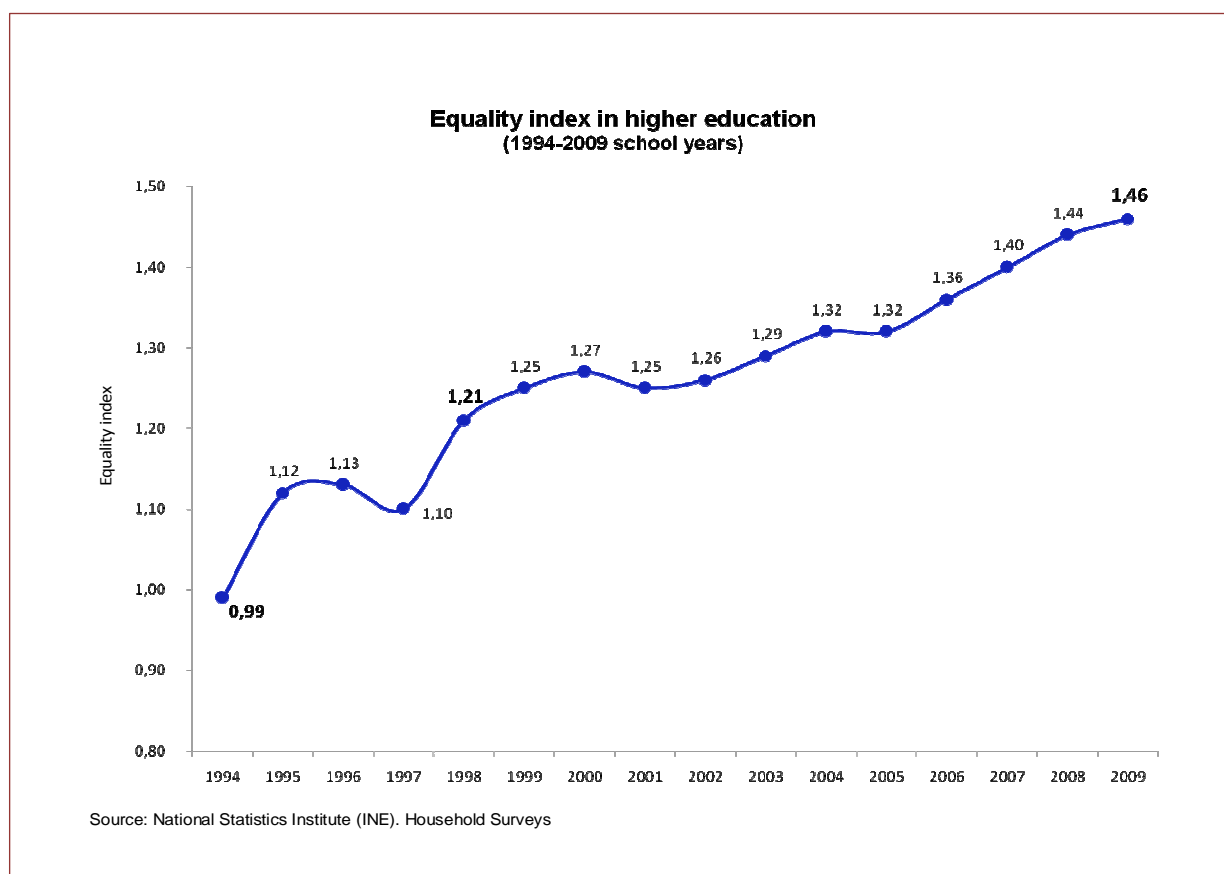
The effort made by the Venezuelan Government is remarkable, especially in the education sector, where we can highlight that there are not elements placing the female population at disadvantage to achieve the full equality of rights and opportunities between both genders.

The greater participation of Venezuelan women in the productive process is determined by its early incorporation into educational activities. The following table, ratios of girls to boys in primary and secondary education, shows equality in this field.



Source: Ministry of People's Power for Education

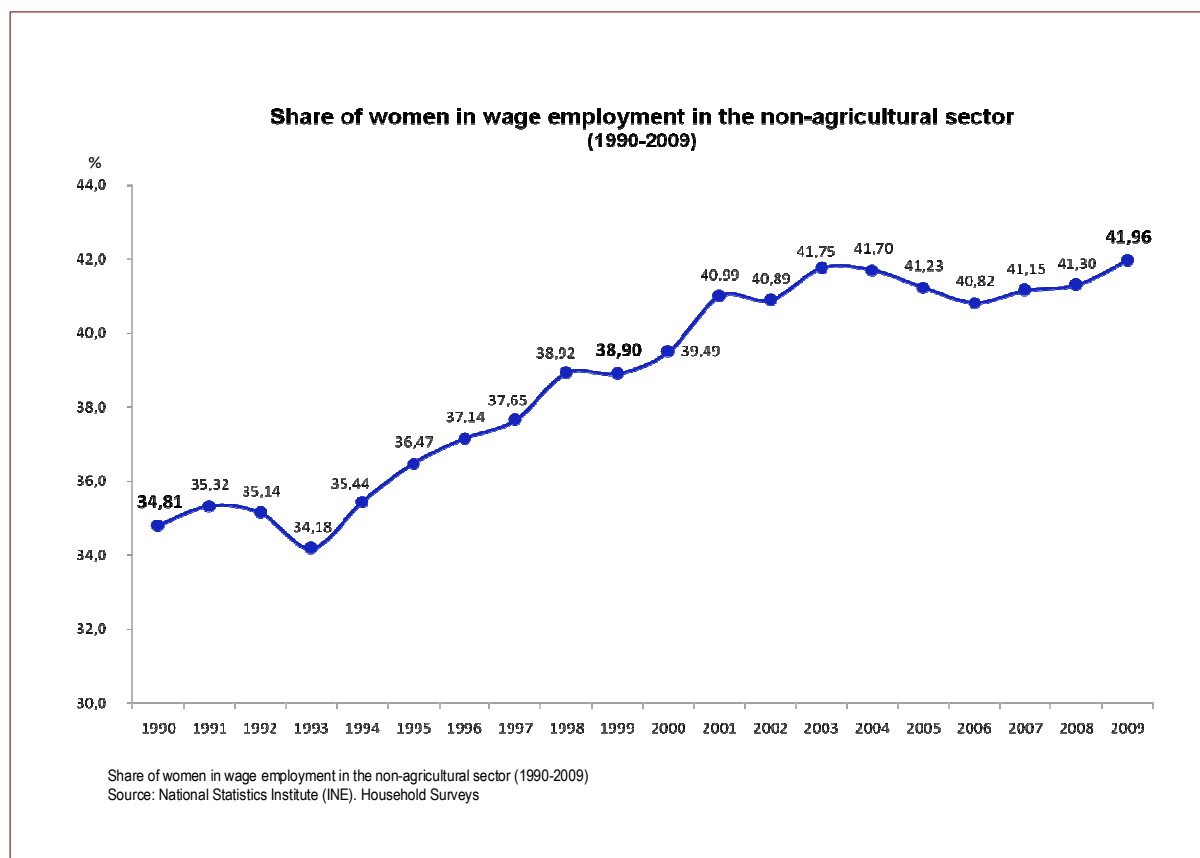
Regarding Higher Education, ratios of girls to boys have been inverted since 2001 in favor of women. By 1994, the women's participation in this sector was 0.99; while it increased to 1.46 in 2009.



### GREATER PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN EDUCATION

- The ratio of girls and boys in school age is low; that is to say, there is not sexual discrimination regarding access to education in Venezuela.
- Regarding higher education, women's participation increased to **1.46** in 2009.

In Venezuela, gender equality in the labor force is evident since 15-year-old and older women are increasingly employed and remunerated in the non-agricultural sector. There is a greater participation of women in the economic activity and an important contribution to the productive process.



### MORE WOMEN IN THE NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVE SECTOR

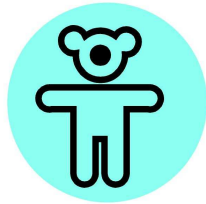
**2009**

Women's participation in the non-agricultural productive sector increased by **20 percent** in comparison to the year 1990, when it was **34.81 percent**. Today, it is **41.96 percent**.

The creation of the Ministry of People's Power for Women and Gender Equality, as well as other organizations attached to it, such as the National Institute of Women and the Women's Development Bank, represents an important step. This Ministry operates in the 24 states of the country, allowing women to make their proposals and discuss their needs as a collective.

The women's movement in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, supported by the Government, introduced in the National Electoral Council an initiative that resulted in a greater participation and election of women, thus allowing them to achieve a greater incorporation of women in directly elected political posts and a greater participation in the Executive Branch of the country.

Today, four of the five Venezuelan state powers are headed by women: the Electoral Power, the Legislative Power, the Judiciary, and the Moral Power.



## GOAL 4

### Reduce the under-five mortality rate

#### What should be done?

Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

#### Indicators

- Under-five mortality rate.
- Infant mortality rate.
- Proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles.

#### General situation

Every year, almost 11 million children (30,000 children per day) die before turning five. Most of them live in developing countries and die as a result of a disease or a combination of diseases that can be prevented.

Sometimes, the cause of death is the lack of antibiotics to treat a pneumonia, or saline solution to combat diarrhea. Malnutrition causes over the half of these deaths.

Infant mortality is closely linked to poverty: The progress in the survival rate of babies and children has been slower in the population of poor countries and in the poorest population of countries with more resources.

The improvement of health public services is a key element, especially the access to drinking water and a better sanitation.

## TARGET 5: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

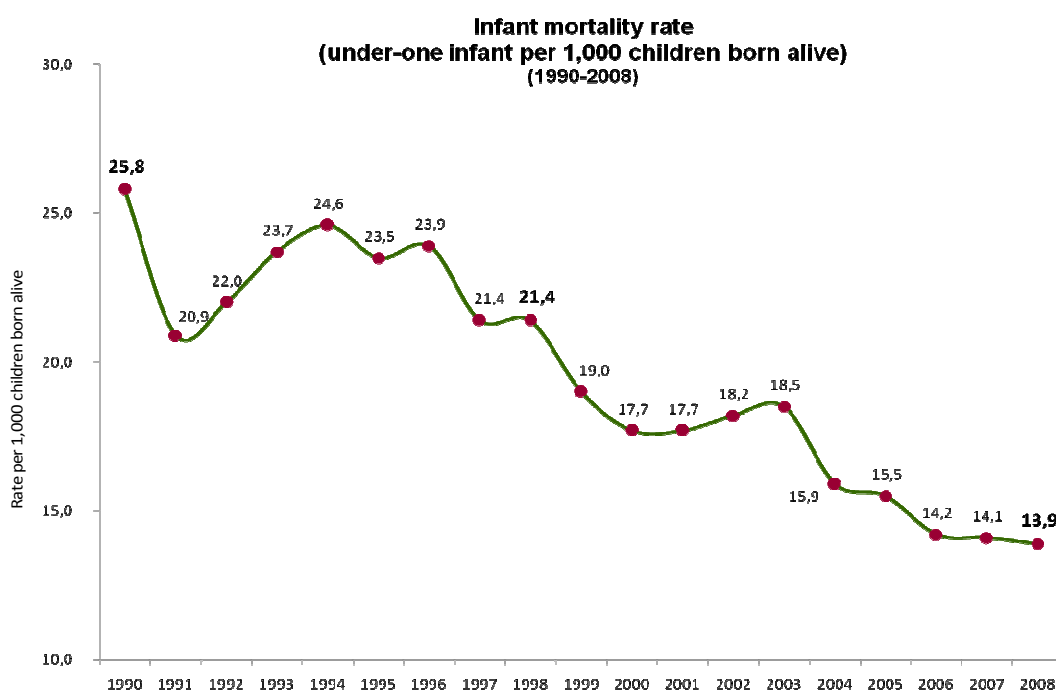
### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Under-five mortality rate should be reduced to 8.6 per 1,000 children born alive by 2015. Venezuela is on the path to achieve this goal.

Regarding under-one mortality rate, between 1990 and 2008, it was reduced by 11.78, which represents a 45.72 percent drop.

The Venezuelan State has carried out policies, such as Misión Barrio Adentro, aimed at the reduction of infant mortality since 2003.

The Bolivarian Government has faced the main causes of infant mortality with policies aimed at guaranteeing the population's access to drinking water, the education of parents and access to quality health services. Likewise, the Venezuelan Government is making efforts by investing in state-of-the-art technology and the readjustment of the health service network.



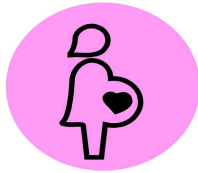
Source: Ministry of People's Power for Health



Neonatal and post neonatal mortality rates (under-one infant) 1990-2008 (Per 1,000 children born alive)			
Year	General	Neonatal	Post-neonatal
1990	25.8	14.0	11.7
1991	20.9	12.4	8.5
1992	22.0	13.5	8.5
1993	23.7	14.7	9.0
1994	24.6	14.0	10.6
1995	23.5	13.4	10.1
1996	23.9	13.8	10.1
1997	21.4	13.0	8.5
1998	21.4	12.4	9.0
1999	19.0	11.8	7.1
2000	17.7	11.5	6.2
2001	17.7	11.0	6.6
2002	18.2	11.9	6.2
2003	18.5	11.2	7.3
2004	15.9	10.1	5.8
2005	15.5	10.8	4.7
2006	14.2	10.0	4.2
2007	14.1	9.9	4.2
<b>2008</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>

Source: Ministry of People's Power for Health

REDUCTION OF CHILD MORTALITY RATE	
<b>2008</b>	Child mortality rate fell to <b>13.9</b> children per 1,000 born alive; that is to say, child mortality rate in the country was reduced by <b>46 percent</b> in comparison to 2009.
<b>1990</b>	Child mortality rate was <b>25.8</b> children per 1,000 born alive.



## GOAL 5

### Improve maternal health

#### What should be done?

Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health.

#### Indicators

- Maternal mortality ratio.
- Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel.
- Contraceptive prevalence rate.
- Adolescent birth rate.
- Antenatal care coverage.
- Unmet need for family planning.

#### General situation

Every year, labor ends up in death for over half a million women, and nearly 20 million of them suffer serious injuries or disabilities that, when not treated, can cause suffering and humiliation for the rest of their lives. The death of a mother can be especially devastating for their children since the risk of falling into poverty and exploitation increases.

Countries whose maternal mortality ratio was low in 1990 have made a new progress, but there is still a lot to do. In order to reduce this ratio in the most affected countries, more resources should be allocated so that labors are attended by skilled doctors, nurses or midwives. It would prevent, detect and treat obstetric complications. When problems arise, women must have the possibility of arriving on time in a fully-equipped medical center.

The universal access to reproductive health care, including family planning, is the starting point for maternal health. It is particularly important to meet the needs of 1,300 million young women who are about to start their reproductive life.

Currently, there are 200 million women who do not count on the safe and efficient contraceptive services they need.

## **TARGET 6: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio**

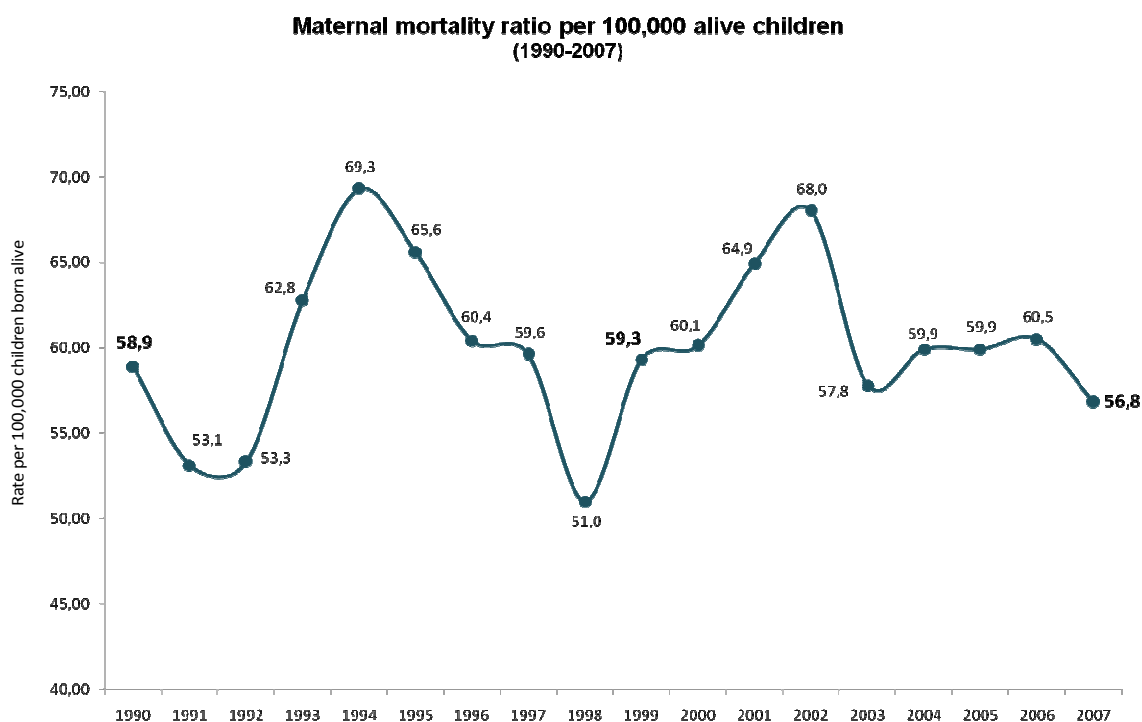
### **Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

The Bolivarian Government, to guarantee maternal health, has been developing strategies in order to overcome pregnancy, labor and afterbirth complications.

Among the implemented governmental policies, *Proyecto Madre* (Mother Project) and the improvement of the country's health care network (*Barrio Adentro I*, *Barrio Adentro II*, *Barrio Adentro III*) stand out. Likewise, Venezuela features a wide network of health care systems, thus making easier the information, knowledge and promotion of contraceptive methods to exercise reproductive rights.

In addition, on December 23, 2009, *Misión Niño Jesús* was launched to improve care for pregnant women and newborns; this is a work that includes the participation of Communal Councils. Furthermore, this programme guarantees that all pregnant women have a worthy labor under appropriate conditions; it also includes the construction of *Casas de Abrigo Maternal* (Maternal Shelters), which provide timely care and supervision to mothers in the days previous to labor.

In Venezuela, the maternal mortality ratio has fluctuated between 1990 and 2008. In 2007, it was 56.8 per 100,000 alive children; this is still a high rate. Therefore, comprehensive care for pregnant women has taken precedence for the Bolivarian Government.



### REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY

- Maternal mortality ratio decreased to **56.8** per 100,000 alive children registered in 2007.
- Since this is still a high rate, comprehensive care for pregnant women has taken precedence for the Bolivarian Government; therefore, the policies implemented by the Government include:
  - *Proyecto Madre* (Mother Project)
  - Improvement of the country's health care network (*Barrio Adentro I, Barrio Adentro II, Barrio Adentro III*)
  - *Misión Niño Jesús* (2009)
  - The National Sexual and Reproductive Health Program, among others.



## GOAL 6

### Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

#### What should be done?

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Have achieved, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

#### Indicators

- HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years.
- Condom use at last high-risk sex.
- Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs.
- Incidence and death rates associated with malaria.
- Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs.
- Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis.
- Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course.

#### General situation

In the 25 years of the first AIDS diagnosis, this disease has become the main cause of premature death in sub-Saharan Africa and the fourth cause of death in the world. Over 20 million people have died in the world since the epidemic began, and, by late 2004, there were 39 million people living with HIV.

Other diseases, which have not received so much attention from the media, are slyly taking away the lives and hopes of people in the developing countries. Every year, malaria causes a million deaths, most of them children, and estimates indicate that it has contributed to reduce the economic growth in African countries by 1.3 percent per year.

Tuberculosis, which was known as being eradicated, surfaced due to the appearance of a strain resistant to drugs and the vulnerability caused by HIV and AIDS.

It is not a surprise that these three diseases are focused on the poorest countries. Noteworthy, they could be fought through education and prevention activities and through treatment and care when outbreaks occur.

## **TARGET 7: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS**

### **Achievement in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

According to the domestic health policies, the Venezuelan State has significantly increased health care to people suffering from HIV/AIDS. Since 1998, the Government has implemented a policy of free and universal supply of antiretroviral drugs to 100 percent of patients.

The Venezuelan Government seeks to reduce the incidence in the different exposed groups so that they, by 2015, do not present HIV prevalence higher than 5 percent, forcing the disease to change from a high to a low epidemiological situation.

In our country, in the last years, women deaths caused by AIDS have increased by 35 percent and men deaths by 20 percent. This shows the growing feminization of this epidemic, although men are the most affected in the country.

By 2003, 1,267 deaths caused by AIDS were registered, and AIDS ranked number 16 in the 25 main causes of death in the country, representing 1.1 percent of the total. In 2007, 1,670 deaths caused by AIDS were registered and the disease ranked number 12 in the 25 main causes of death, representing 1.32 percent of the total.

In 2003, the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan (Penvih, in Spanish) was launched. It focuses on the standard of living and health as an instrument of health and social development to articulate organized responses, and make easier the allocation of financial and human resources to fight HIV/AIDS.

In the last three years, spending on HIV in Venezuela has exceeded US \$ 230 million to widen the coverage of comprehensive care to people infected with HIV and guarantee the free and universal access to antiretroviral drugs.

<b>Pregnant women with HIV attended (2001-2009)</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>N° of Pregnant women</b>
2001	261
2002	138
2003	110
2004	160
2005	147
2006	310
2007	374
2008	335
2009	233
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,068</b>

Source: HIV/AIDS National Programme. Ministry of People's Power for Health

<b>Patients receiving antiretroviral therapy (2002-2009)</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of patients</b>	<b>Number of Patients- Ministry of Health</b>	<b>Number of Patients- IVSS</b>
2002	7,170	7,170	0
2003	9,147	9,147	0
2004	14,263	12,132	2,131
2005	15,756	13,146	2,610
2006	19,082	16,282	2,800
2007	22,265	19,232	3,033
2008	27,266	23,948	3,318
2009	32,302	28,631	3,671

Source: HIV/AIDS National Programme. Ministry of People's Power for Health

The Revolutionary Government has implemented strategies by nationwide to prevent the spread of this epidemic, including: school children's and adolescents' education about HIV, women's prevention, university students' education about HIV, prevention in villages, indigenous communities, in the military and the population, hematological security and HIV prevention in the workplace.

#### **FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS CONTINUES**

- In 2007, 1,670 deaths caused by AIDS were registered and the disease ranked number 12 in the 25 main causes of death, representing **1.32 percent** of the total deaths.
- Spending on HIV in Venezuela has exceeded **US \$ 230 million**.
- In 2003, the Bolivarian Government launched the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan (Penvih, in Spanish).

#### **TARGET 8: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria, tuberculosis and dengue fever**

### **Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

#### ***Malaria***

In Venezuela, malaria has been reduced, thus indicating that this goal will be achieved. According to projections, the incidence of malaria will reveal stabilization in the next four years.

There is a good epidemiological surveillance with an excellent network of laboratories and experience in medical care; this has made possible that lethality in the country is currently below 1 percent.

In 2005, a reduction in malaria cases was registered, and in 2009 cases reached a rate of 128.8



Malaria cases (1990-2009)		
Year	Cases	Rate
1990	46,679	239.4
1991	43,454	217.6
1992	21,524	105.3
1993	12,570	60.1
1994	16,151	75.6
1995	22,056	101.0
1996	20,195	90.5
1997	27,876	122.4
1998	21,863	94.1
1999	15,824	66.7
2000	26,400	109.2
2001	22,803	92.6
2002	27,173	116.9
2003	31,186	60.4
2004	46,244	64.5
2005	45,328	170.6
2006	36,595	135.4
2007	41,749	187.7
2008	32,037	114.7
<b>2009</b>	<b>36,556</b>	<b>128.8</b>

Source: Ministry of People's Power for Health

### ***Dengue fever***

The country has big challenges ahead to achieve this goal, including the strengthening of epidemiological surveillance, the active participation of communities in its prevention and selective control of sources of infection.

Between 1998 and 2000, a gradual reduction of cases was made from 37,586 cases in 1998 to 21,122 in 2000. However, in 2007, there was an increase in the number of cases in comparison to 2006, when 80,646 cases were registered, but only in the second half of the total of epidemiological weeks of the year because there was no increase in comparison to the previous year in the 30 first epidemiological weeks. In 2009, 65,869 cases were registered; this represents a reduction of 22.4 percent in comparison to 2007.

In general, Venezuela features a good epidemiological surveillance with an excellent network of laboratories, experience in medical care and information and precautionary campaigns to reduce vectors and sources of infection.

Registered dengue cases and rate, 1990-2009			
Year	Cases	Population	Rate
1990	10,962	19,501,854	56.21
1991	6,559	19,972,041	32.84
1992	2,705	20,441,304	13.23
1993	9,059	20,909,739	43.32
1994	15,046	21,377,440	70.38
1995	32,280	21,844,511	147.77
1996	9,282	22,311,125	41.60
1997	33,717	22,777,185	148.03
1998	37,586	23,242,481	161.71
1999	26,652	23,242,481	112.42
2000	21,122	24,169,836	87.39
2001	82,915	24,630,912	336.63
2002	37,544	25,091,088	149.63
2003	26,996	25,550,713	105.66
2004	30,693	26,009,547	118.01
2005	42,217	26,575,708	158.86
2006	42,029	27,028,916	155.50
2007	80,646	27,481,443	293.46
2008	45,678	27,932,992	163.53
2009	65,869	28,384,132	232.06

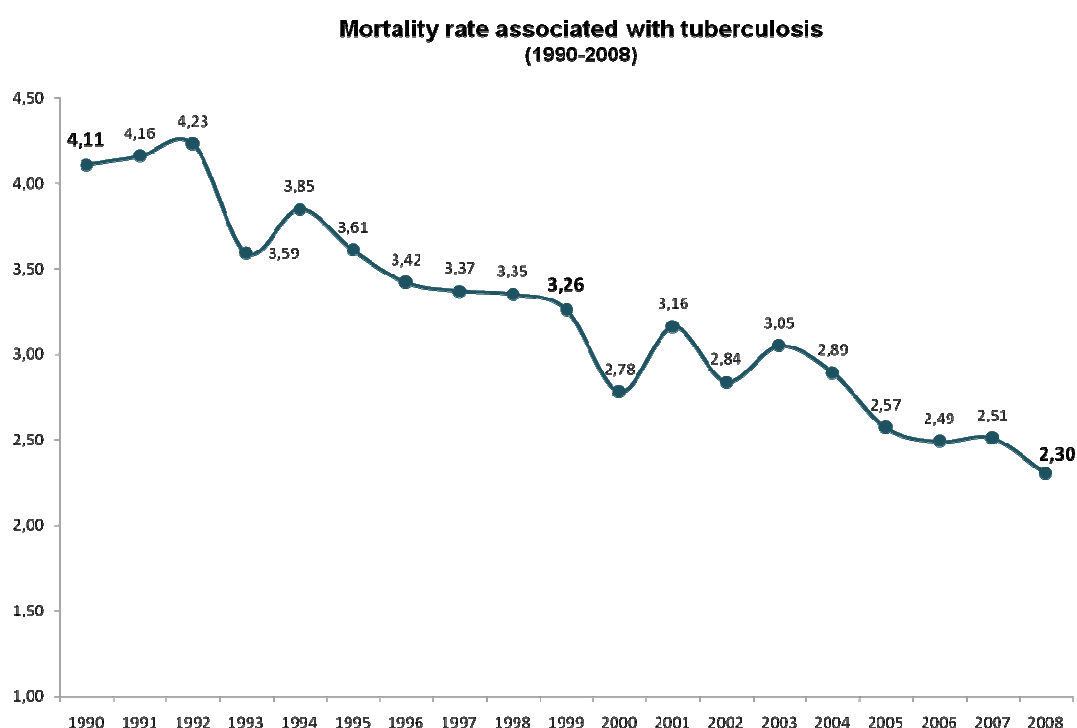
Source: Ministry of People's Power for Health

## ***Tuberculosis***

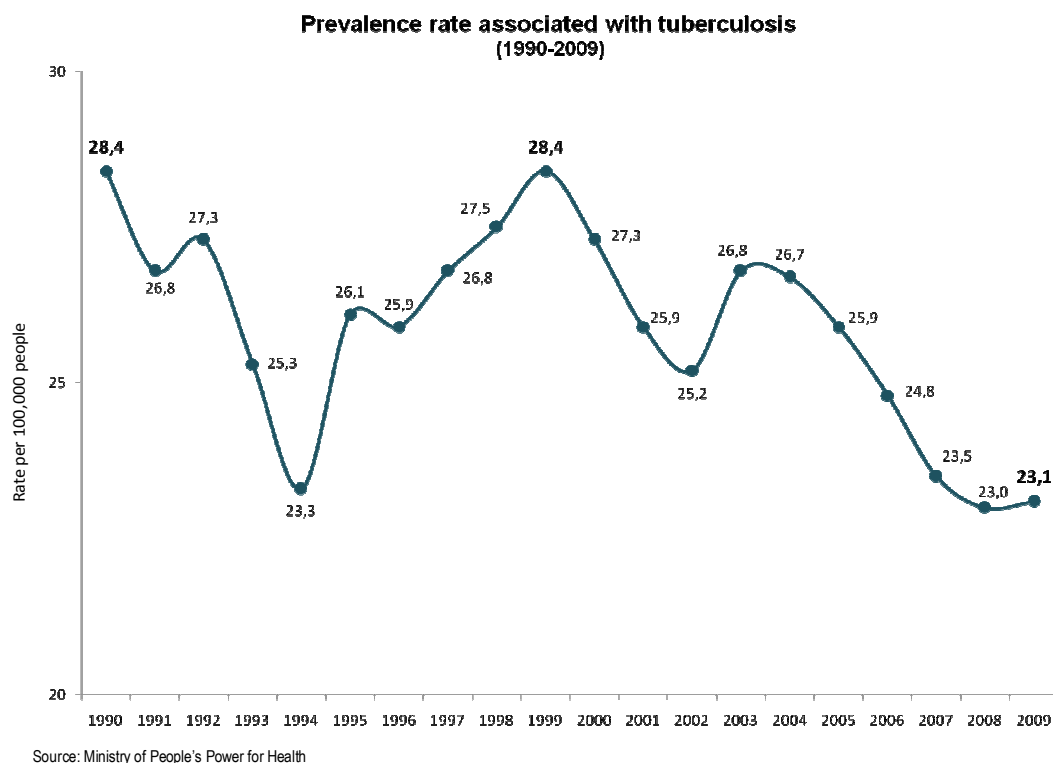
Venezuela has had a tradition of tuberculosis control activities under a tuberculosis national programme since 1962. So far, the country has relied on a programme and domestic norms that have established the necessary policies and actions to control this disease.

The aim of the Comprehensive National Programme to Control Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases is to promote health and the prevention of risk factors of tuberculosis according to the principles, policies, priorities and strategies established by the Venezuelan State to achieve a high-quality comprehensive health care.

The mortality rate of this health problem has been reduced in the country. In Venezuela, the mortality rate was reduced from 4.1 per 100,000 people in 1990 to 2.30 per 100,000 people in 2008. The prevalence associated with tuberculosis was reduced by 22 percent (28 per 100,000 people in 1990 to 23 per 100,000 people in 2009).

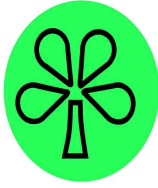


Source: Ministry of People's Power for Health



### DECLINE OF MALARIA, DENGUE FEVER AND TUBERCULOSIS

- Our country features an excellent network of laboratories and experience in medical care; this has made possible that lethality in the country is currently below **1 percent**.
- In 2005, a reduction in malaria cases was registered, and in 2009 cases reached a rate of **128.8**.
- In 2009, 65,869 cases of dengue were registered; this represents a reduction of **18 percent** in comparison to 2007
- Regarding tuberculosis, the mortality rate was reduced from 4.1 per 100,000 people in 1990 to **2.30** per 100,000 people in 2008; this represents a reduction of over **40 percent**.



## GOAL 7

### Ensure environmental sustainability

#### What should be done?

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss.

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

#### Indicators

- Proportion of land area covered by forest.
- CO2 emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP).
- Consumption of ozone-depleting substances.
- Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits.
- Proportion of total water resources used.
- Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected.
- Proportion of species threatened with extinction.
- Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source.

#### General situation

Sustainability will not be achieved with the current consumption models and use of resources. The soils have been degraded at an alarming pace. The vegetal and animal species are disappearing at an unprecedented pace. Climate changes are causing a sea level rise and increasing the danger of droughts and floods. Fishing and other marine resources have been overexploited.

Poor people from rural zones are the most affected by this situation because they depend on natural resources to survive. While immigration to urban zones has reduced the pressure on rural zones, it has also caused an increase in the number of people living packed in inappropriate houses in cities. In both the urban and rural zones, thousand million people lack drinking water and basic sanitation.

## **TARGET 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources**

### **Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

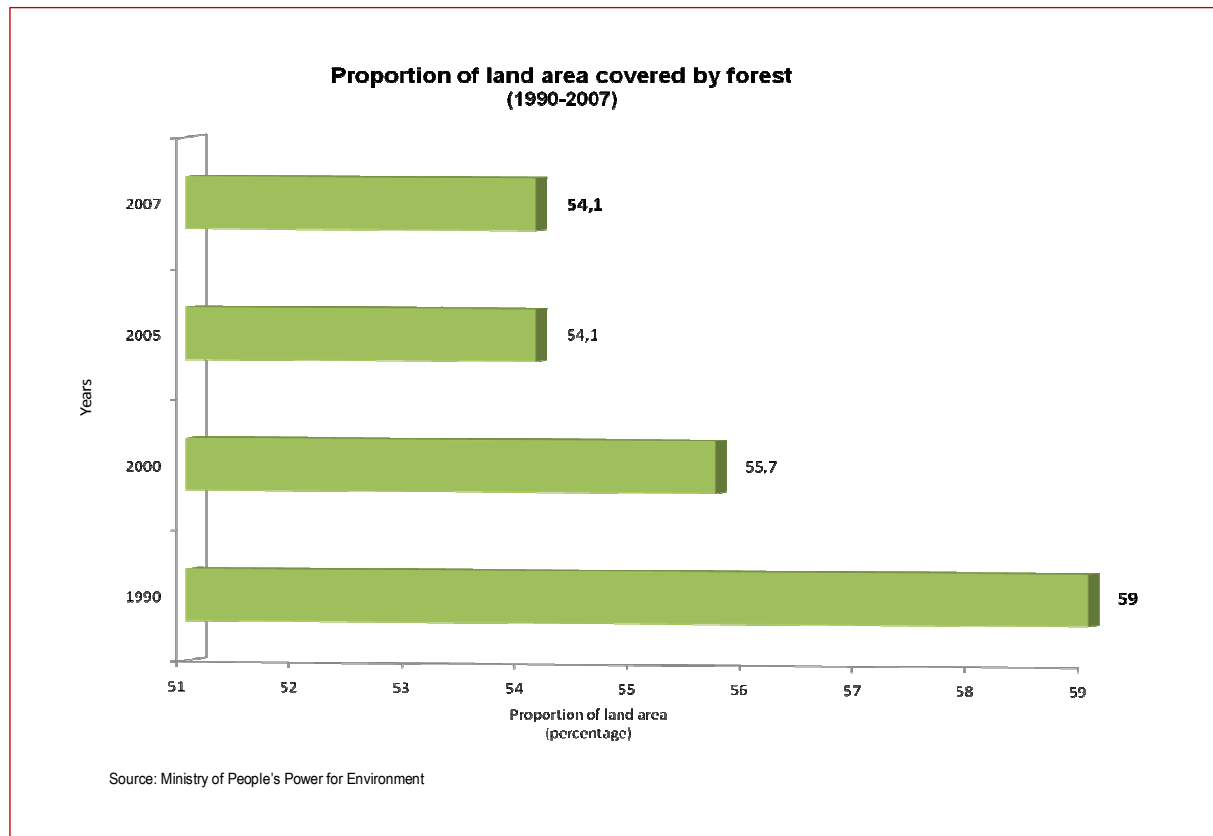
The Bolivarian Constitution of Venezuela establishes the sustainability of the biosphere, the preservation of its basins, water reservoirs, and national parks, among others. Venezuela is the first country in America with a high proportion of protected areas.

The Venezuelan State is committed to encourage an environmentally sustainable production and consumption model, foster the comprehensive treatment of garbage and dangerous waste material, guarantee the preservation and sustainable use of water and bring about the rescue of natural areas.

#### ***Proportion of land area covered by forest***

In Venezuela, the reduction of the proportion of land areas covered by forest has been stopped. It went down from 59.0 percent in 1990 to 54.1 percent in 2005 and 2007. This situation has been changed in the last years thanks to Misión Árbol, which planted over 22,000 acres of trees (15,225 for protection, 6,612 for agro forest use and 526.3 for commercial use).

Our country is among the 17 countries featuring the world's biggest biodiversity and among the 12 countries featuring the biggest number of amphibians, river fish, butterflies and birds. In a land area smaller than 0.6 percent of the global continental area, Venezuela has 14 percent of birds and 7 percent of mammals of the world.

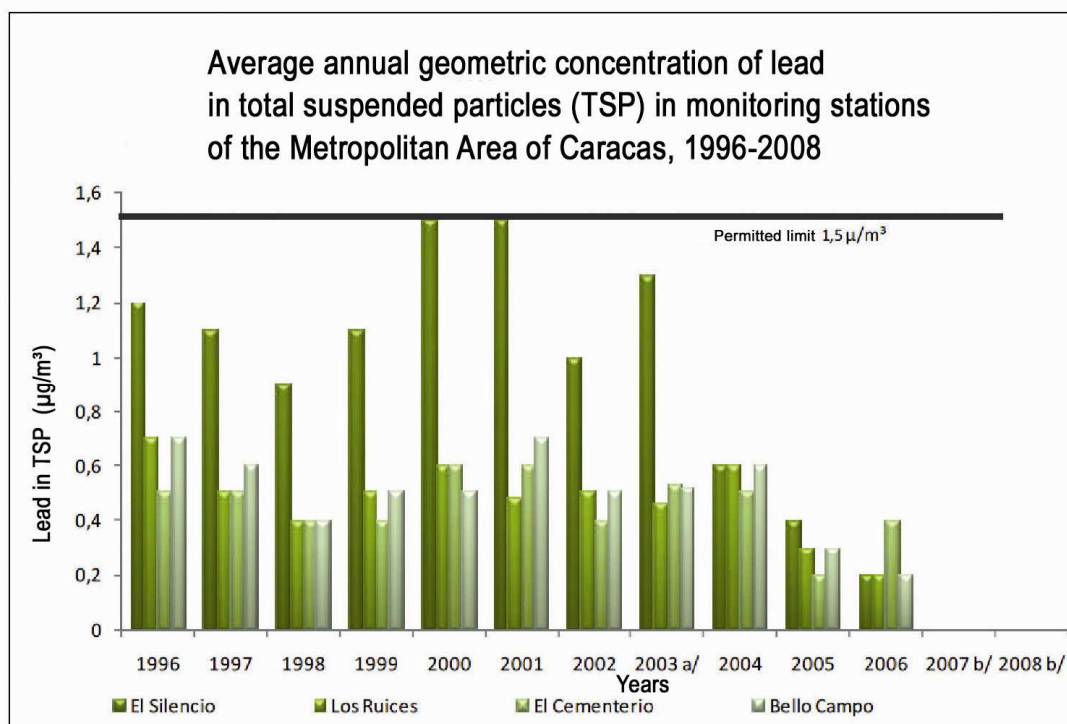


### ***CO2 emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP)***

The relative goal regarding CO2 emissions has been fully achieved since there is evidence of a reduction of total emissions by taking as a reference the capital city of the Republic.

In 2005, the programme for the elimination of tetraethyl lead in gasoline came into force, resulting in the lowest levels of this polluting agent in the Metropolitan Area of Caracas. In 2006, the level of lead reached  $0.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; therefore, record of this polluting agent was no longer kept.



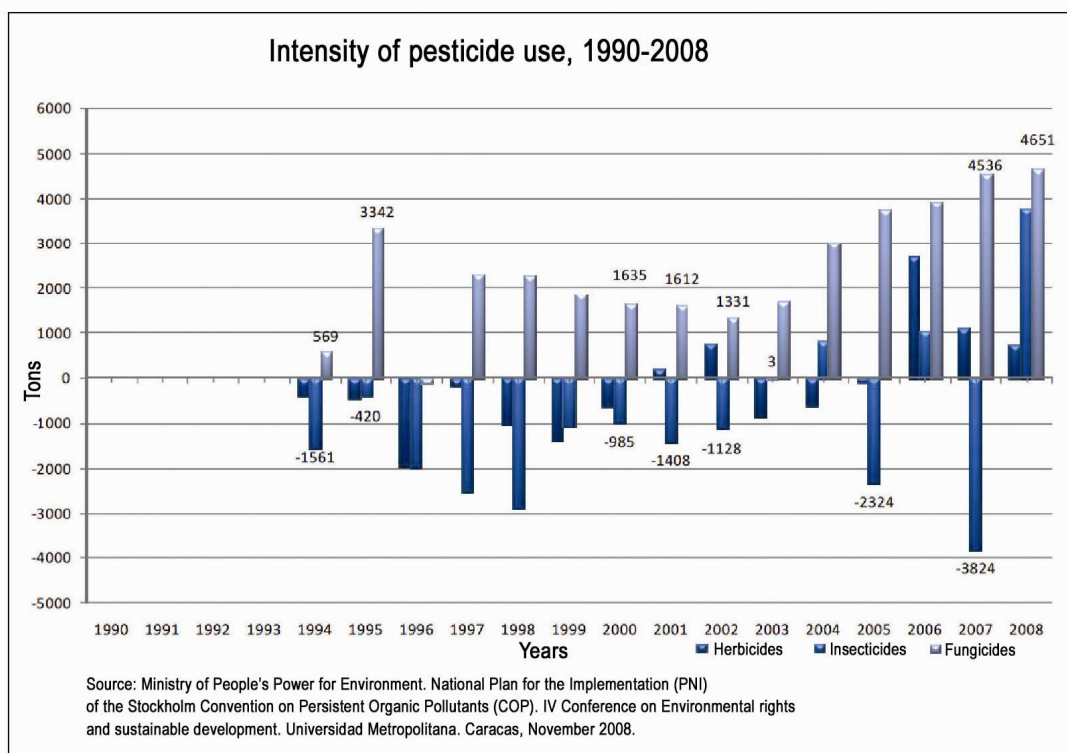


### ***Consumption of ozone-depleting substances***

Since 1998, Venezuela has not imported or produced methyl bromide, and since 2007 chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) has been practically eliminated in the country thanks to the National Plan for the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, which is based on plans and actions to reduce, eliminate, and manage the use of persistent organic pollutant, as well as make people aware of them.

Therefore, herbicides and insecticides have progressively decreased in the last years.

By 2008, Venezuela registered a consumption of 721 tons of herbicides, 3,770 tons of insecticides and 4,651 tons of fungicides.



### EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO INCREASE THE PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- In Venezuela, the reduction of the proportion of land areas covered by forest has been stopped. It went down from 59 percent in 1990 to **54.1 percent** in 2005 and 2007.
- Misión Árbol was launched; over **22,000 acres of trees** were planted.
- The goal regarding CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has been fully achieved since there is evidence of a reduction of total emissions.
- In 2005, the program for the elimination of tetraethyl lead in gasoline came into force, resulting in the lowest levels of this polluting agent.
- Since 1998, Venezuela has not imported or produced methyl bromide, and since 2007 chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) has been practically eliminated in the country.
- In Venezuela, herbicides and insecticides have progressively decreased in the last years.

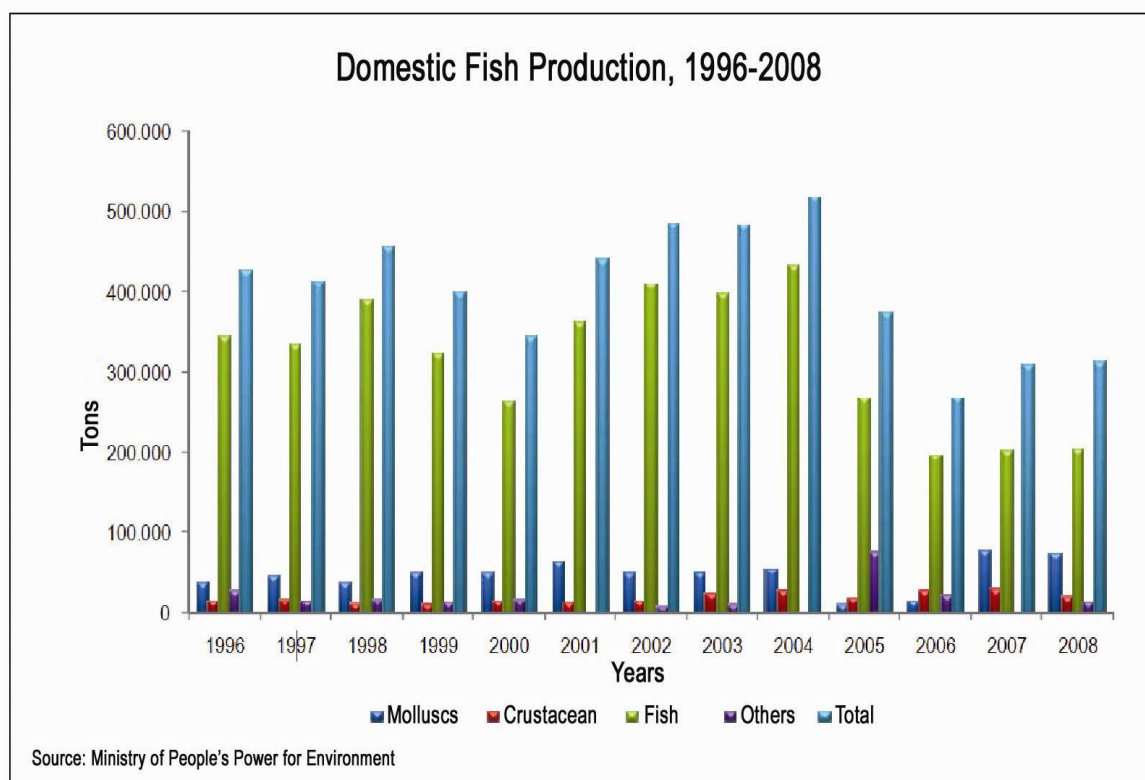
## TARGET 10: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss

### Achievement in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

#### *Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits*

Venezuela is recovering its large fish stock for the benefit of its people thanks to the elimination of industrial trawling, which attempted on the sustainability of different species used for human consumption, thus exceeding the biological safe limits of their natural habitat.

As with domestic production, this activity has fluctuated and it has been reduced since 2005. In 2008, the production reached 204,979 tons.



### ***Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected***

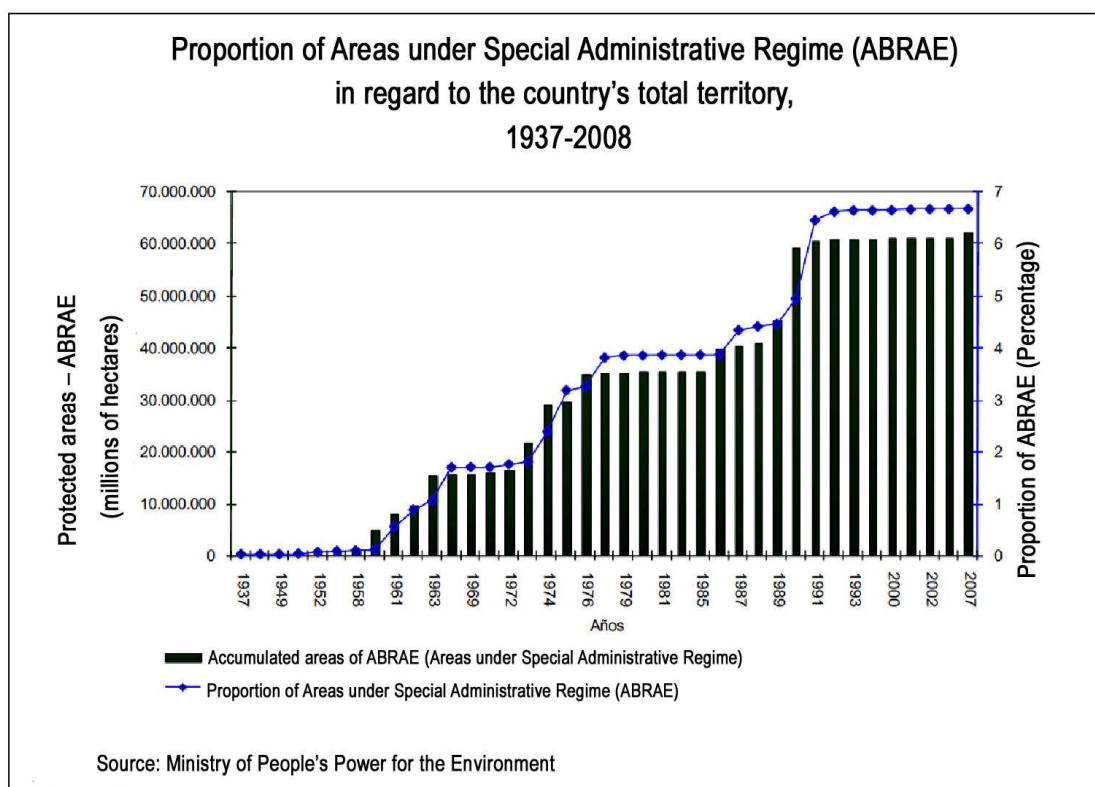
Roughly 73 percent of Venezuela's territory is covered with natural areas under protection, and we can affirm that we have achieved this goal.

In this respect, it is worth stressing the importance attached to the preservation of biodiversity, cultural heritage, scientific research, recreation, preservation of natural resources and other values thanks to the guard incompatible uses in protected areas.

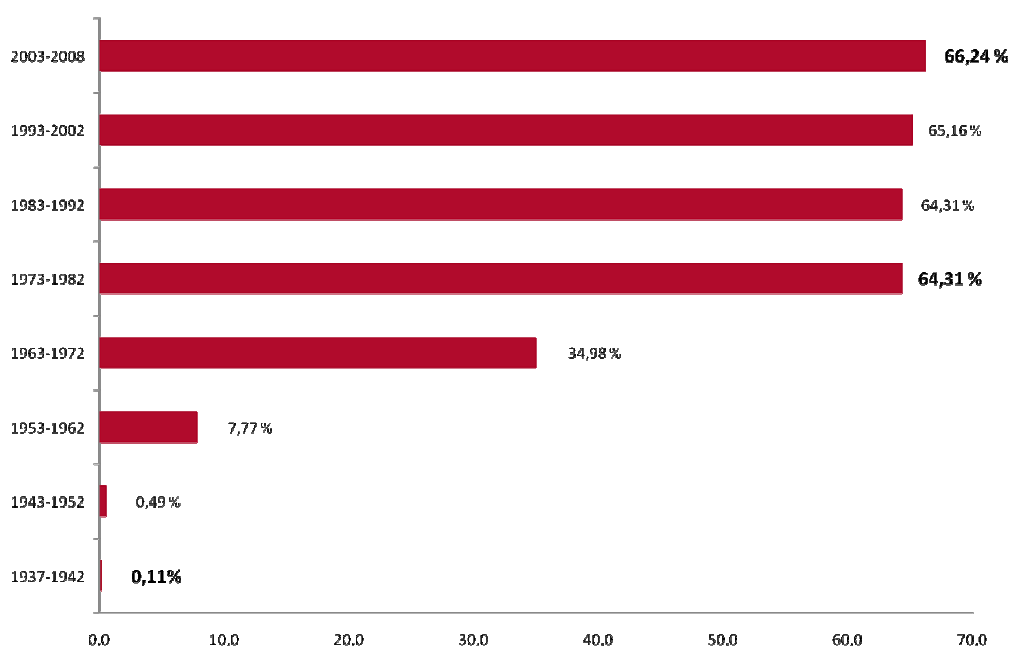
66.2 percent of the Venezuelan territory is under the figure of Areas under Special Administrative Regime (ABRAE), which comprise over 203.5 million acres.

Venezuela relies on:

- 400 Areas under Special Administrative Regime
- 43 National Parks (32,666,600 acres)
- 36 natural monuments (10,690,445 acres)
- 15 forest reserves (30,651,365 acres)
- 64 protective zones (40,651,365 acres)
- 7 wildlife refuges (628,155 acres)
- 7 wildlife reservoirs (733,715 acres)
- 1 wildlife sanctuary (87,5 acres)



### Proportion of protected marine and terrestrial areas (1937-2008)



Source: Ministry of People's Power for the Environment

### REDUCTION OF LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY

- In Venezuela, industrial trawling was eliminated since it was a threat to the sustainability of different species used for human consumption.
- Roughly **73 percent** of Venezuela's territory is covered with natural areas under protection, and we can affirm that we have achieved this goal.

### TARGET 11: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water

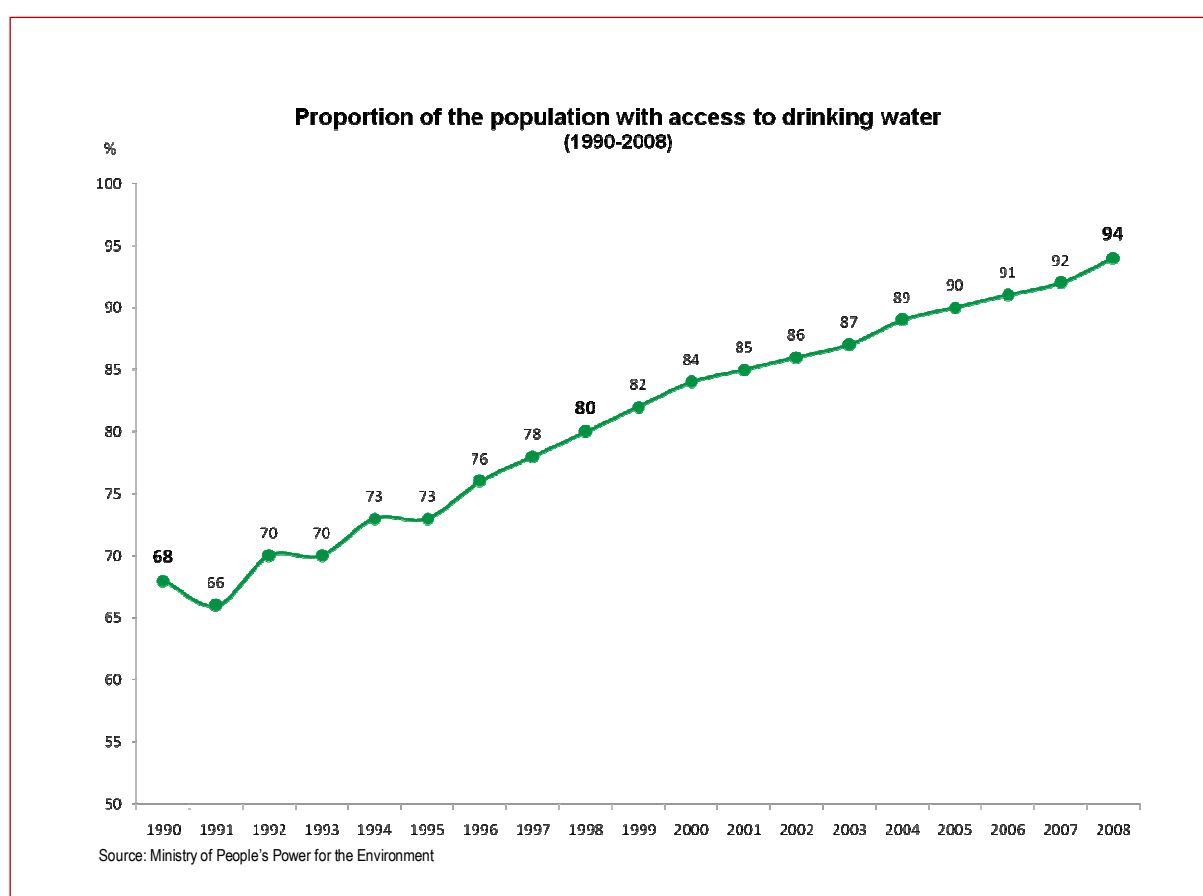
#### *Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source*

Currently, Venezuela relies on an important infrastructure for the collection, potabilization and distribution of drinking water with a total production capability to supply a population of 30 million people. We have also moved forward with the reduction of the deficit level of the needs regarding basic sanitation.

Our Republic achieved the drinking water access goal in 2001, when the deficit rate was 15.2 percent of the population without access to drinking water; that is to say, in 2001, 85 percent of the Venezuelan population had drinking water service at home.

Nevertheless, in 2008, the population with access to this service increased to 94 percent, being evidence that the Bolivarian Government's policies in this field have had positive results for the Venezuelan people.

Moreover, regarding the Millennium Goals, Venezuela also achieved the coverage of sewage water in 2001 with a deficit rate of 21.1 percent of the population that did not have this service.



### ***Proportion of the population using improved sanitation services***

Venezuela achieved an improved sanitation system as 83.9 percent of the population in 2008 had access to it thanks to the National Plan to Widen the Access to Drinking Water and Sanitation. Venezuela also guarantees that water for human consumption fulfils the requirements set in the in force regulation and that it be returned to natural sources by following the parameters established by environmental authorities.

This Plan also places emphasis on the extension of coverage and participation of organized citizens in the development and delivery of drinking water and sanitation services, in the improvement of the water use habits, and treatment of sewage water. In addition, it seeks to guarantee the technical sustainability of services and the quality of water.

Other important element is that the Organic Law on the Delivery of Drinking Water and Sanitation Services (Articles 75, 76 and 77) includes the Water Technical Tables as a community fundamental organization to control and manage drinking water and sanitation services. So far, 5,213 Water Technical Tables have been created all around the country.

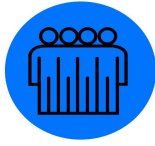
<b>Coverage of drinking water, treatment and collection of sewage water (1998-2008)</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Coverage of drinking water (%)</b>	<b>Coverage of Collection of sewage water (%)</b>	<b>Coverage of treatment of sewage water (%)</b>
1998	80.45	62.3	10.28
1999	82.42	64.0	10.86
2000	83.70	66.4	12.32
2001	84.80	67.7	13.40
2002	85.80	70.5	15.35
2003	87.00	71.7	16.19
2004	89.28	73.0	19.97
2005	90.05	79.0	21.12
2006	90.85	80.6	25.49
2007	91.64	81.4	25.91
2008	94.04	83.9	-

Source: Ministry of People's Power for the Environment

### GREATER ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES

2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The proportion of population with access to this service increased to <b>94.4 percent</b>. This represents an increase over 40 <b>percent</b> in comparison to 1990.</li><li>• The proportion of population with access to sanitation services increased to <b>34 percent</b>.</li></ul>
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Barely <b>62.3 percent</b> of the population had sanitation services.</li></ul>





## GOAL 8

### Develop a global partnership for development

#### What should be done?

Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.

Address the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries and small islands developing States.

Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.

In cooperation with the private sector, make available benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.

#### Indicators

- Net Official Development Assistance (ODA), total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/ Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors' gross national income.
- Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation).
- ODA received in landlocked developing countries and in small islands developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes.
- Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty.
- Telephone lines per 100 population.
- Cellular subscribers per 100 population.
- Internet users per 100 population.

#### General situation

A central element of the Millennium Development Goals is the acceptance that the fight against poverty is a collective endeavor whose results will benefit all the countries. In the Millennium Declaration, the developing countries committed to do their best to keep healthy economies, watch over their own development and meet human and social needs.

On the other hand, the developed countries committed to support the poorest countries with aid, trade and debt relief. Every truly significant alliance between rich and poor must feature the need of the developing countries to rely on technology, medicines, and jobs for their population.

## TARGET 12: Make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications

### Achievements in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

The Venezuelan State is carrying out policies to guarantee the universal access of the population to communication and information. Since 2000, the Venezuelan people's right to the access, use, application and appropriation of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) has been strengthened as tools making possible the active participation of the population in their socioeconomic development, and the decision-making of the people's power.

Likewise, these mechanisms are effective for strengthening domestic security, defense and sovereignty in scientific and technological terms. Therefore, the Bolivarian Government has geared its actions towards the universal access, the training of human talent, sovereignty, security and defense.

Regarding the universal access to fixed lines services, by late 2009, 6,866,626 subscribers were registered nationwide. This represents a significant increase in the number of subscribers by over 200 percent in comparison to 2000.

By late 2009, the number of cellular subscribers in the country grew to 29,625,388, while there were only 5,447,172 subscribers in 2000. The service penetration surpasses 100 cellular lines per 100 population.

Fixed and cellular phone subscribers and Internet users			
Year	Fixed phone subscribers	Cellular phone subscribers	Internet users
2000	2,535,966	5,447,172	273,537
2001	2,704,921	6,472,584	304,769
2002	2,841,698	6,541,894	315,564
2003	2,956,185	7,015,121	322,547
2004	3,346,462	8,420,980	459,471
2005	3,650,501	12,495,721	636,848
2006	4,216,794	18,789,466	759,785
2007	5,195,071	23,820,133	1,003,079
2008	6,417,775	28,212,333	1,472,991
2009 (*)	6,866,626	29,625,388	2,033,858

(\*) Preliminary figures / Source: National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL)

The nationalization of the *Compañía Anónima Nacional Teléfonos de Venezuela* (Cantv), Venezuela's telephone company, by the Venezuelan Government in 2007, has made it possible to enhance the infrastructure of the telecommunication services all around the country and it has allowed Venezuela to rank second in Latin America in the penetration of fixed telephone services.

Penetration of fixed telephone services grew from 55 percent in 2007 to 85 percent in 2009 per 100 households.

Cellular subscribers through Cantv	
Year	Cellular subscribers
2007	9,501,796
2008	11,864,241
2009	13,431,980

Source: Cantv, Venezuela's telephone company

In order to create the conditions increasing the access to the necessary terminals and applications for ICTs, different kinds of connection centers have been developed:

Centers offering access to Information and Communication Technologies		
Government Institution	Centers	Number of Centers
Fundación Infocentro	Infocentros	663
Fundación Infocentro	Infomóvil	14
Fundabit	Centro Bolivarianos de Informática y Telemática	2.152
Fundabit	Superaulas	100
Fundabit	Centros de Producción de Soluciones Educativas Tecnológicas	20
Fundabit	MOVILCBIT	25
PDVSA	Centros de Gestión Parroquial	1.152
CANTV	Centros de Comunicación Comunal	10
Total		4.136

Since 2006, Venezuela has implemented the National Technological Literacy Plan, which provides training to regular and specialized users in the use and management of ICTs under free software. By late 2009, 620,574 people were trained in the use and operation of computers and its tools all around the country.

Likewise, children at schools have been benefitted by a program called *Canaima Educativo*, which equips schools in the country with laptops featuring free software developed in Venezuela. By late 2009:

- 3,229 public schools had joined the program
- 110,000 computers had been delivered
- 208,233 children had been benefitted

Noteworthy, in 2004, the Venezuelan Government started the aerospace national program and managed to put into orbit the first Venezuelan satellite, called Simón Bolívar, which is now transmitting all around the country.

INCREASE OF AVAILABILITY OF NEW INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	
2004	The Bolivarian Government started the aerospace national program and managed to put into orbit the first Venezuelan satellite, called Simón Bolívar, which is now transmitting all around the country
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Venezuela implemented the National Technological Literacy Plan, which provides training to regular and specialized users in the use and management of ICTs under free software.</li> <li>• By late 2009, <b>620,574</b> people were trained in the use and operation of computers and its tools all around the country.</li> </ul>
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>6,866,626</b> people subscribed to fixed lines services Nationwide; this represents an increase over <b>170 percent</b> in comparison to 2000.</li> <li>• The number of cellular subscribers in the country grew to <b>29,625,388</b>, that is to say, it grew more than <b>fourfold</b>.</li> <li>• The number of Internet subscribers grew to <b>2,033,858</b>, while it was barely 273,537 in 2000. The number of Internet subscribers grew more than <b>sixfold</b>.</li> <li>• Since 2009, children at schools have been benefitted by a program called <i>Canaima Educativo</i>, which equips schools in the country with laptops featuring free software developed in Venezuela.</li> </ul>