



**The** problems facing our world are staggering: Hundreds of millions of people living in dire poverty and hunger, tens of millions of young people who are not only uneducated but illiterate, entire countries devastated by preventable deaths and debilitating illnesses.

Clearly, these problems are too great and too many for any single agency, foundation, or organization to solve. But through a concerted global collaboration, **meaningful progress is now more possible than ever before.**

Using the 2000 Millennium Development Goals as a framework for action, the global community is working to eradicate extreme poverty, achieve universal education, improve maternal health care, decrease infant mortality, and create a sustainable environment. For the past six years, NGOs and other partners have been working closely together to achieve these objectives. We are sharing knowledge and leveraging one another's particular strengths. Our collective endeavors have borne fruit: real solutions that can be applied worldwide.

So what is AED's particular role in this effort? AED brings multisectoral knowledge rooted in decades of research and experience. We bring on-the-ground relationships and insights that empower people worldwide to achieve their highest potential and contribute to stability. We bring our own innovative, field-proven tools and methodologies for turning resources into results. And we bring a deep capacity to craft new approaches as new problems emerge. AED also advocates on behalf of the issues that drive us through our membership in advocacy coalitions such as the Basic Education Coalition and the U.S. Coalition for Child Survival.

As we go forward with our new strategic plan, we can point to progress over the past year in expanding access to quality education and health services and in strengthening civil society and economic development. Prime examples appear in this report. Each demonstrates what can be done—what is being done—to improve people's lives and develop the foundations for a more peaceful world. I invite you to learn about them now.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Moseley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen F. Moseley  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER