

# IS THE DEVELOPMENT GAP NARROWING OR WIDENING? INTERNET INVESTIGATION

In this investigation you will be using the internet to find out about the development gap. Is the world really becoming a better place or not? What is the evidence for change?

Go to [www.gapminder.org](http://www.gapminder.org)

## SECTION 1

Go to the Downloads page and find the Human Development Trends graphics and click on it. A menu of graphics appears. Click on Income and explore this graphic to find the answers to the following questions.

What percentage of global income do the richest 20% of the population have? 74%

What percentage of global income do the poorest 20% of the population have? 2%

In 2000, how many people lived below the poverty line (on less than \$1 a day)?  
Over 1 billion, 19% population

In 1970, how many people lived below the poverty line? 1.4 billion, 38%

What happened to the poverty rate (% living below the poverty line) between 1970 and 1990?  
Fell to 20%, though global population increased and so actual number of people in poverty increased

What does this data suggest about what happened to the development gap at this time?  
Reducing, some people moving out of poverty, yet because of population growth number in poverty still high and still a problem

What do the graphics suggest might happen to the development gap in the future to 2015?  
Decrease in poverty to 0.7 billion, 10%

What do you think might be some of the problems of using data and graphics like these?  
Based on predictions, not definite, mask huge difference within regions and countries, recent events like the 'credit crunch' not accounted for.

Go back to the menu of graphics for Human Development Trends and click on Regions (Note, OECD countries are the wealthiest countries) and explore this graphic to find the answers to the following questions.

In 2000, which region had the most people living under the poverty line? Africa, 66%

In 2000, what other two regions make up most of the rest the people living under the poverty line?  
South Asia and East Asia

In 2000, what region has the fewest (any?) people living under the poverty line? OECD none

Briefly describe what has happened to the incomes of people living in Africa, Asia and the OECD countries between 1970 and 2000.

Go back to the menu of graphics for Human Development Trends and click on Poverty and explore this graphic to find data to complete the following table:

Region of the World	Percentage of world poverty found in each region		
	In 1970	In 2000	In 2015?
South Asia	30	28	13
East Asia	56	32	14
Eastern Europe	0	1	0
Latin America	3	4	5
Africa	11	35	68

Briefly describe the changes shown in the table.

## SECTION 2

Go to the [Downloads page](#) and find the graphic called [Has the World Become a Better Place?](#) and click on it. Explore this graphic to find the answers to the following questions.

How has the world changed since 1962?

How has Bangladesh changed since 1962?

Choose a country and use this graphic to investigate how it has changed over time.

## SECTION 3

Go to the [Downloads page](#) and find the graphic called [Gapminder worldchart](#) and click on it. Explore this graphic.

What does this chart suggest about a development gap? Is there one? Who is there a gap between?