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And what they saw was daunting. Famines. Drought. Wars. Plagues. Poverty. Not just in some faraway place, but in their own cities and towns and villages.

They knew things didn't have to be this way. They knew we had enough food to feed the world, but that it wasn't getting shared. They knew there were medicines for HIV and other diseases, but they cost a lot. They knew that earthquakes and floods were inevitable, but that the high death tolls were not.

They also knew that billions of people worldwide shared their hope for a better future.

So leaders from these countries created a plan called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This set of 17 goals imagines a future just 15 years off that would be rid of poverty and hunger, and safe from the worst effects of climate change. It's an ambitious plan.

But there's ample evidence that we can succeed. In the past 15 years, the international community cut extreme poverty in half.

Now we can finish the job.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is one of the leading organizations working to fulfil the SDGs by the year 2030. Present in nearly 170 countries and territories, we help nations make the Goals a reality. We also champion the Goals so that people everywhere know how to do their part.

UNDP is proud to continue as a leader in this global movement.

Learn about the Sustainable Development Goals. What's your Goal?