

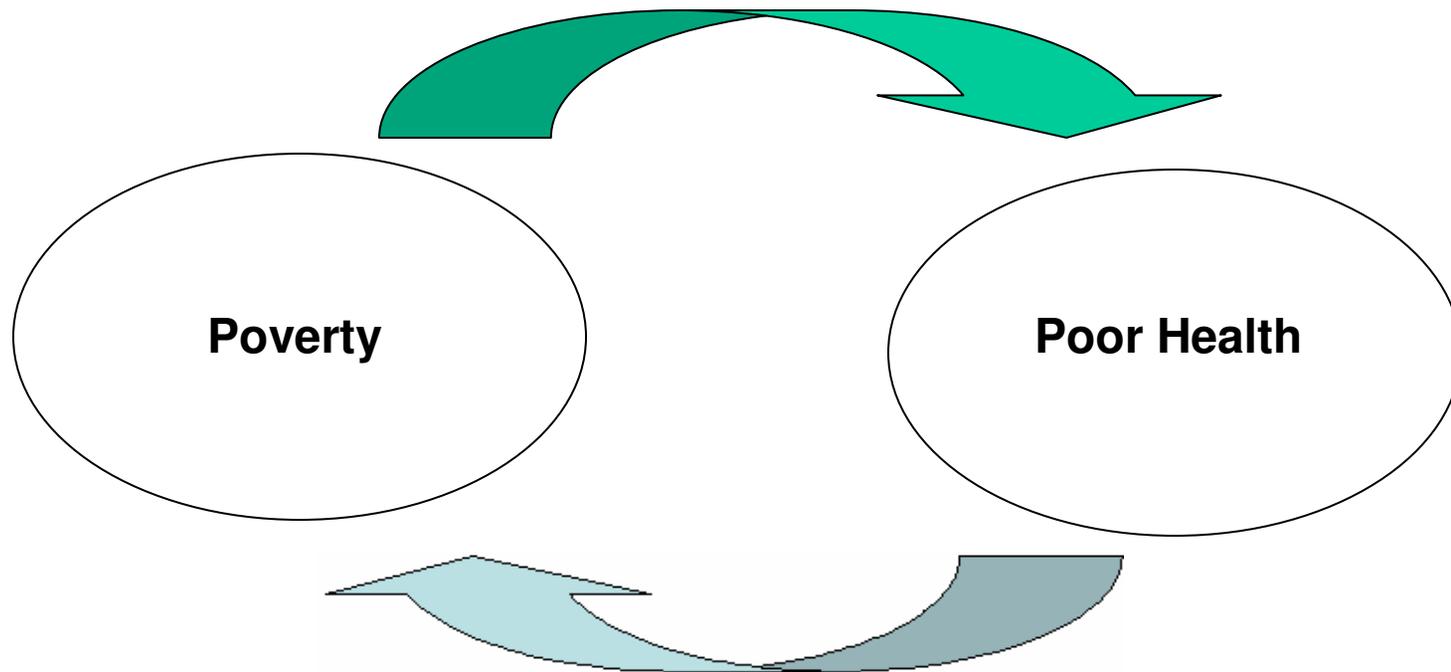
WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health

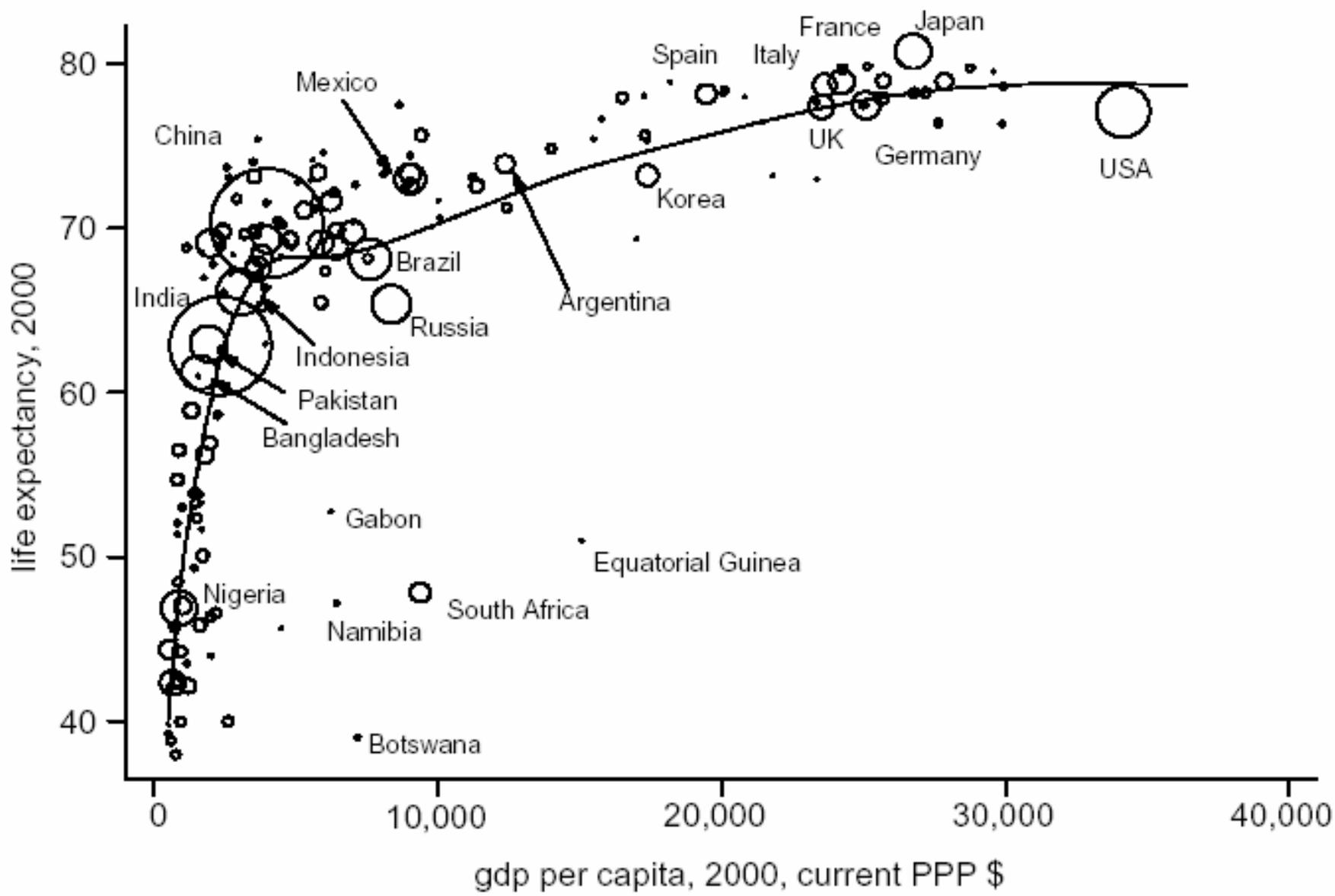


Ichiro Kawachi
Professor of Social Epidemiology
Harvard School of Public Health

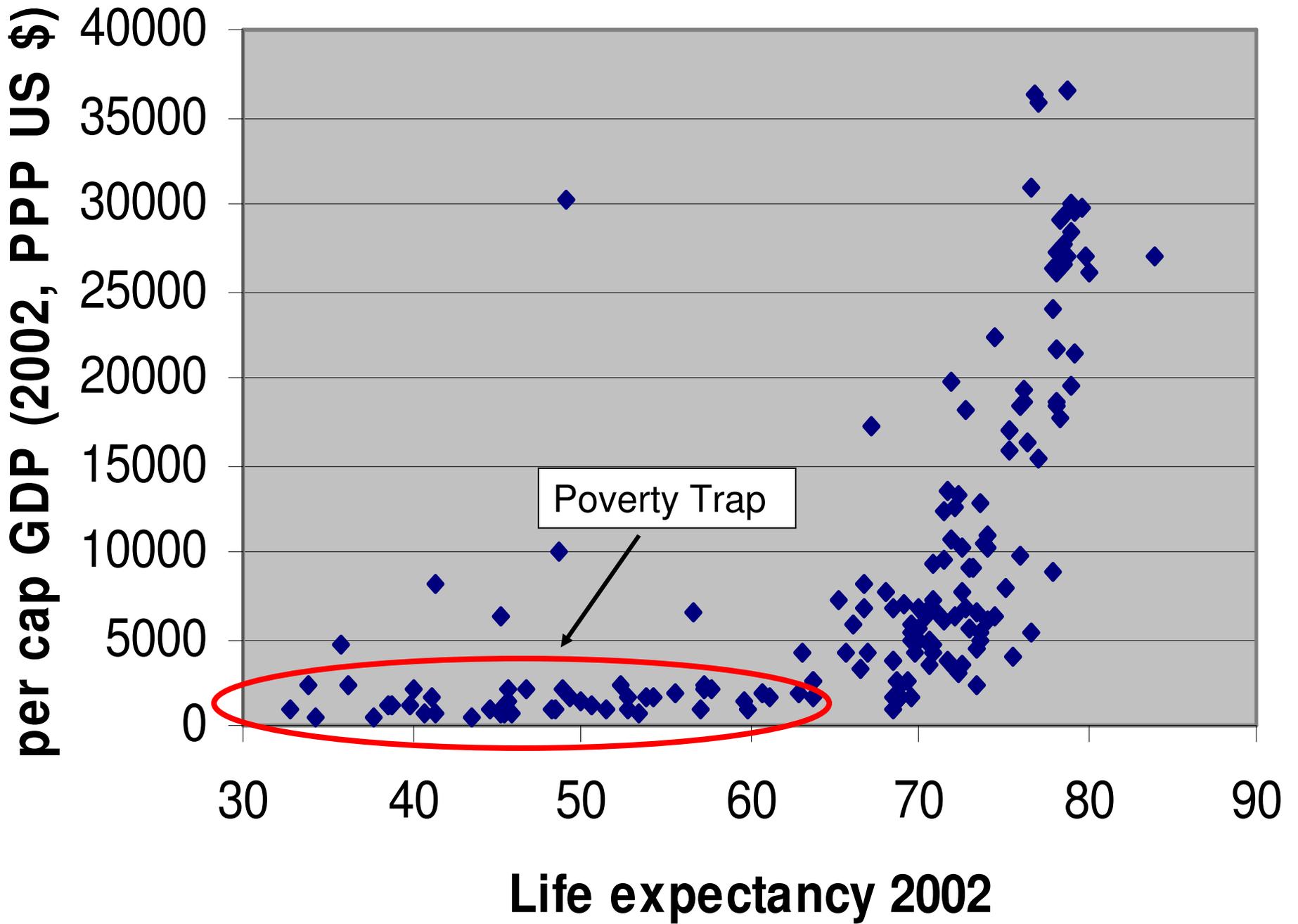
Kellogg Health Scholars Annual Meeting
Washington DC
June 13, 2007

The Reciprocal Relationship between Poverty and Poor Health.





Source: Deaton 2003



Example of Poverty Trap

Malaria

- Kills 3 million people each year, 90% of them kids in Africa.
- A malaria-stricken household spends about 25% of income on treatment.
- A malaria-stricken worker can be incapacitated for 5-20 days.
- 40% reduction in ability to harvest crops.
- Slows economic growth in Africa by about 1.3 % per year.

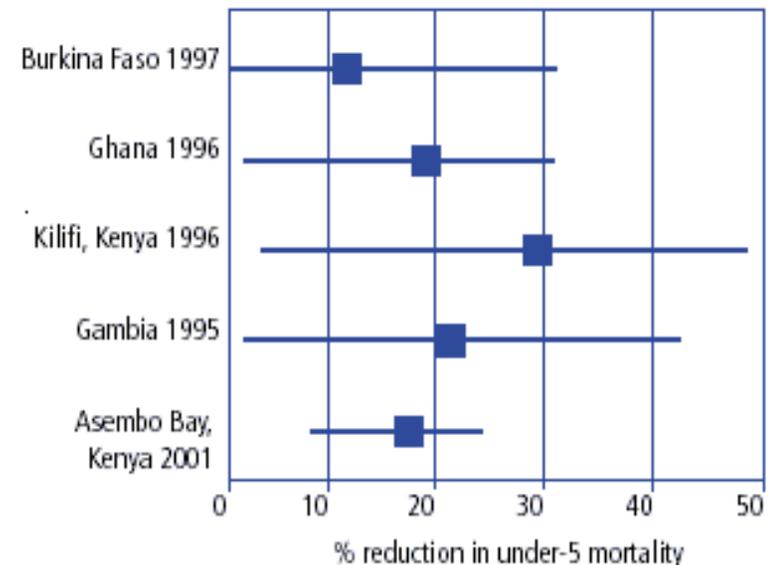
One Solution? Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITN)



- Cost: \$5
- Cost-effectiveness: \$25 per life year saved, incl. non-ITN users living within 300 m of users.

[Wiseman et al. Am J Trop Med Hyg 2003; 68(Suppl 4): 161-7.]

ITNs reduce under-5 mortality



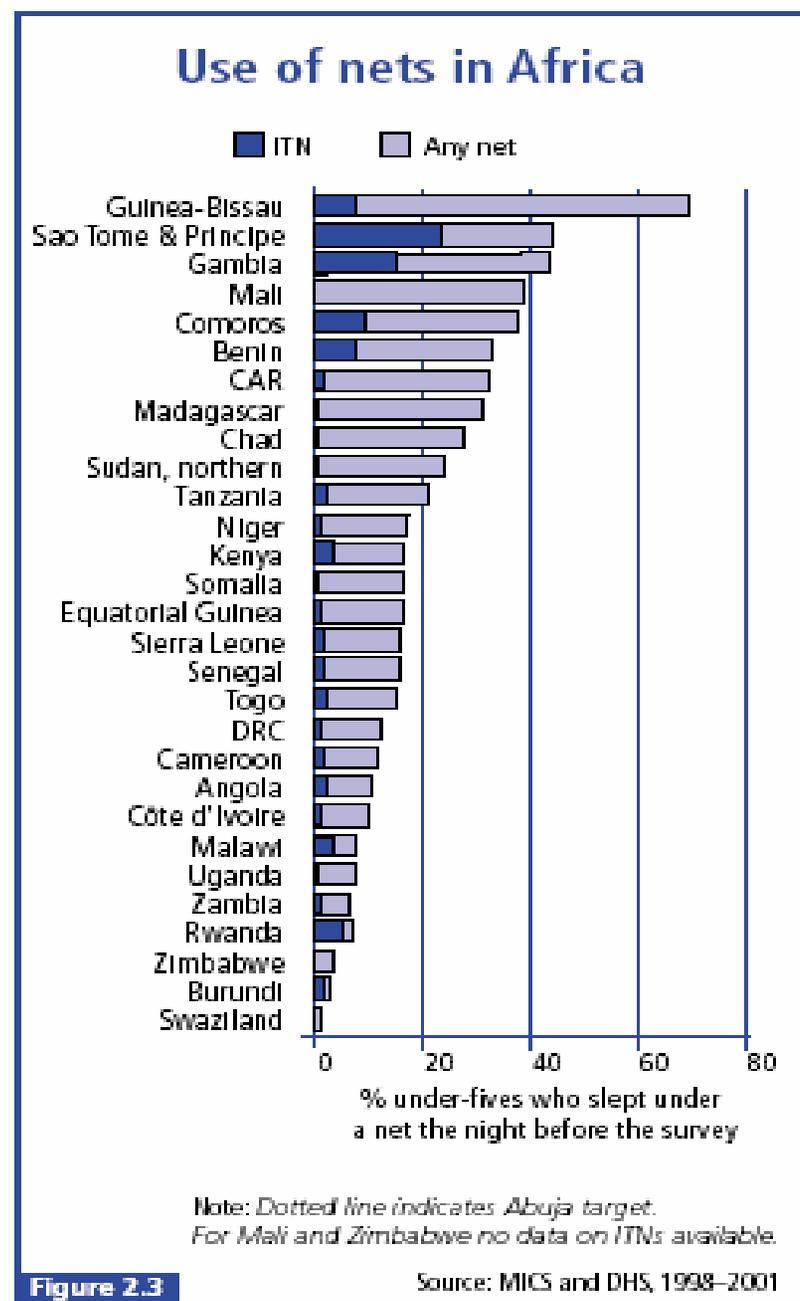
Randomized controlled trials showed an overall under-5 mortality reduction of 17% in communities provided with ITNs compared with communities not provided with ITNs. The impact was similar across a range of malaria endemicities. Impact derives not only from a reduction in malaria deaths, but also from reductions in child deaths due to other causes that are associated with, or exacerbated by, malaria, such as acute respiratory infection, low birth weight, and malnutrition.

Source: reference 5, 24

Figure 2.1

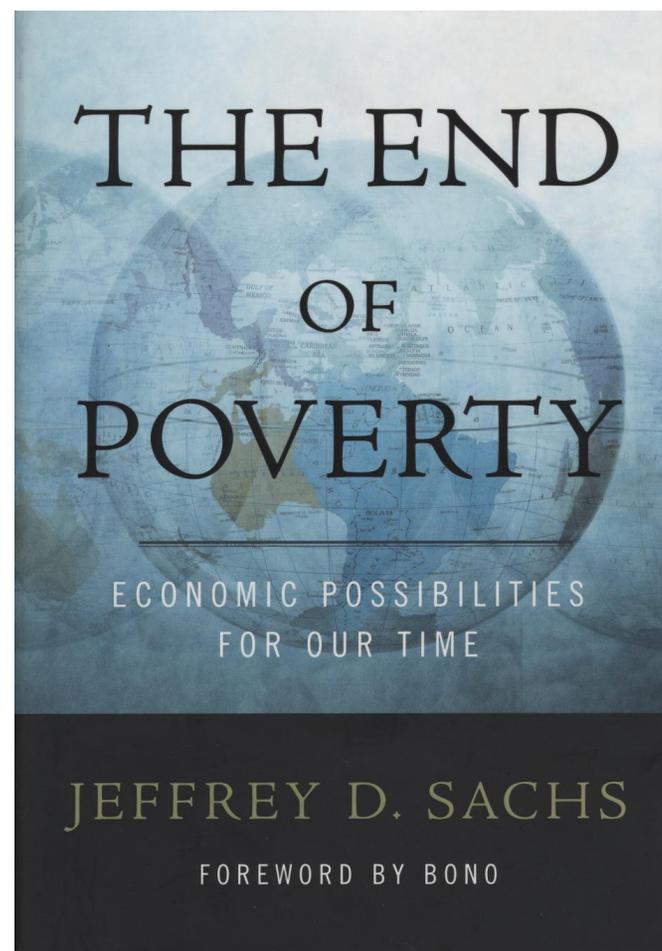
The Problem?

- The poor in most African countries can't afford them.
- Current level of investment in anti-malaria control by international donors \approx \$100-200 million per year.
- Amount needed to scale-up ITN use \approx \$2-3 billion.
- i.e. \$2-3 per person per year from the 1 billion citizens in the developed world.

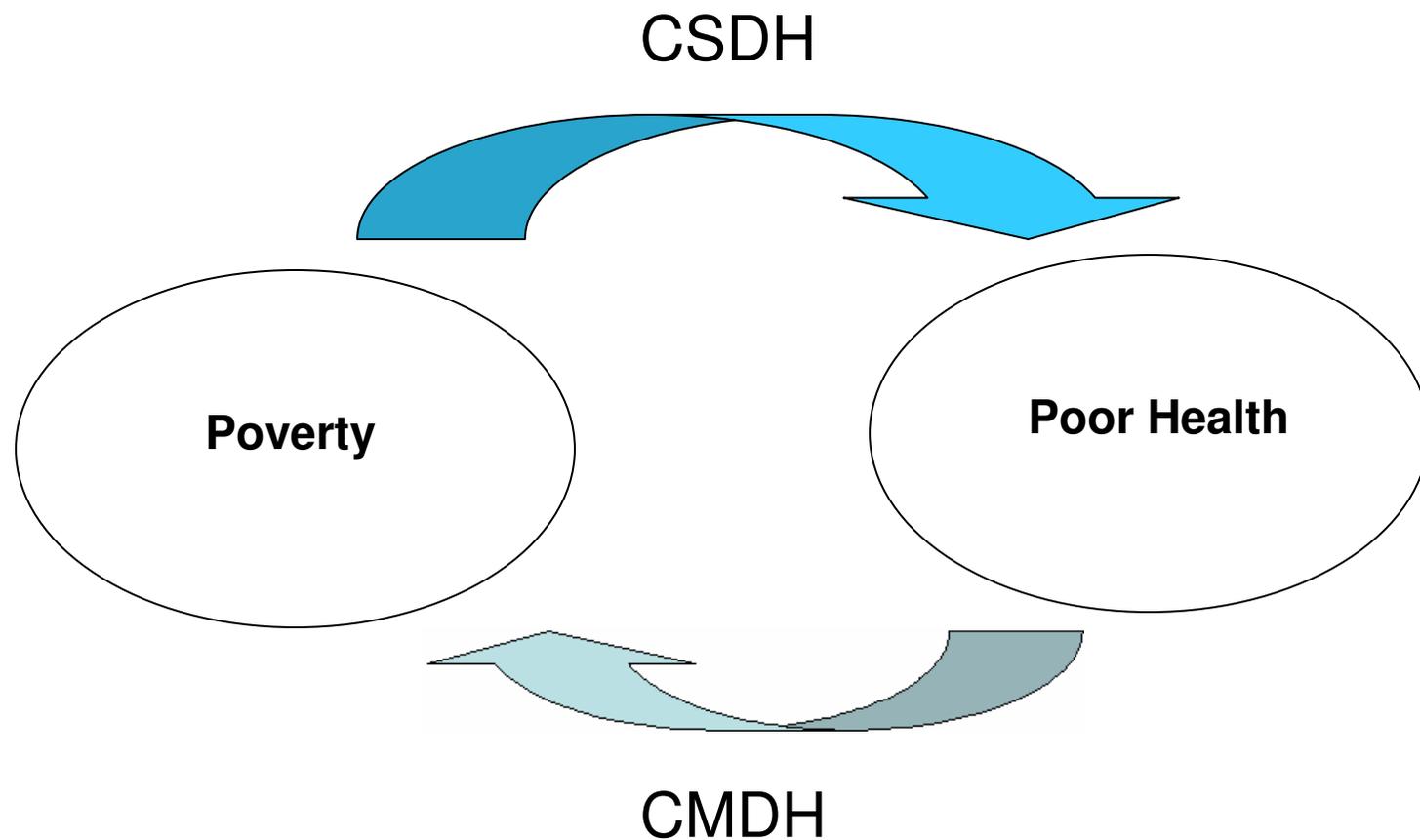


WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health

- Foreign aid should be increased to \$27 billion per year by 2007.
- 8 million lives would be saved from AIDS, malaria, TB, diarrheal disease, acute respiratory infections, vaccine-preventable disease, nutritional deficiencies and unsafe childbirth.
- In Cost-Benefit Analysis, assuming average value of life saved is \approx \$5 million,
- Then \$27 billion expenditure will save \$40 trillion.
i.e. Put in \$1, you get \$1,480 back!



The Reciprocal Relationship between Poverty and Poor Health.



Poverty: The FACTS

Of the 6.5 billion citizens in the world –

- 1.1 billion people living on < \$1/day
- 1.6 billion people living on \$1-2/day
- 40 percent of humanity

The World Distribution of Wealth

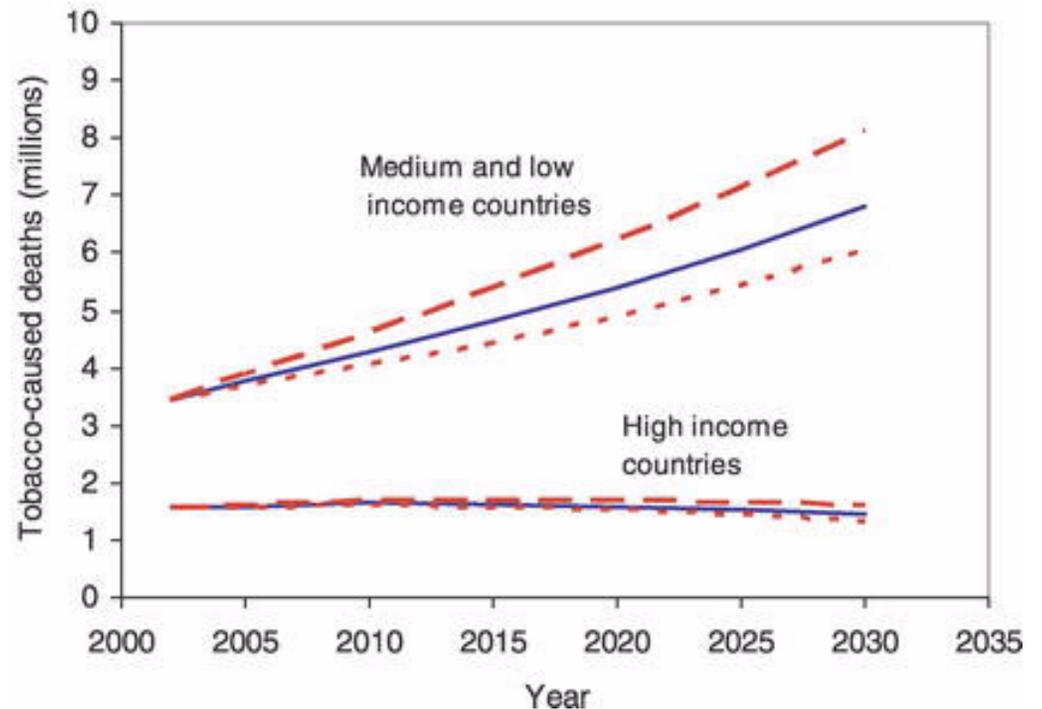
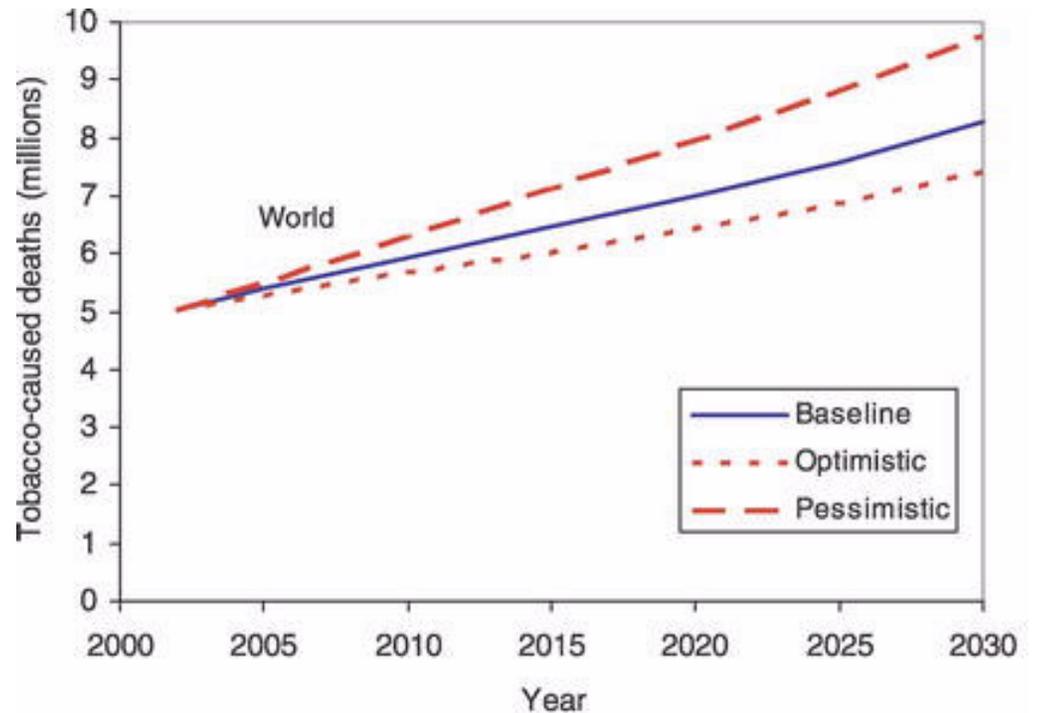
- The top 1 percent of the world's population owns 40 percent of the world's total wealth.
- The bottom 50 percent of the world's population owns just 1.1 percent of the world's total wealth.

World Institute for Development Economics Research (United Nations University), December 5, 2006.

“What’s the good of fixing up people’s health if they return to same environment?”



Global Projections of Tobacco-Caused Deaths



Obesity in the world

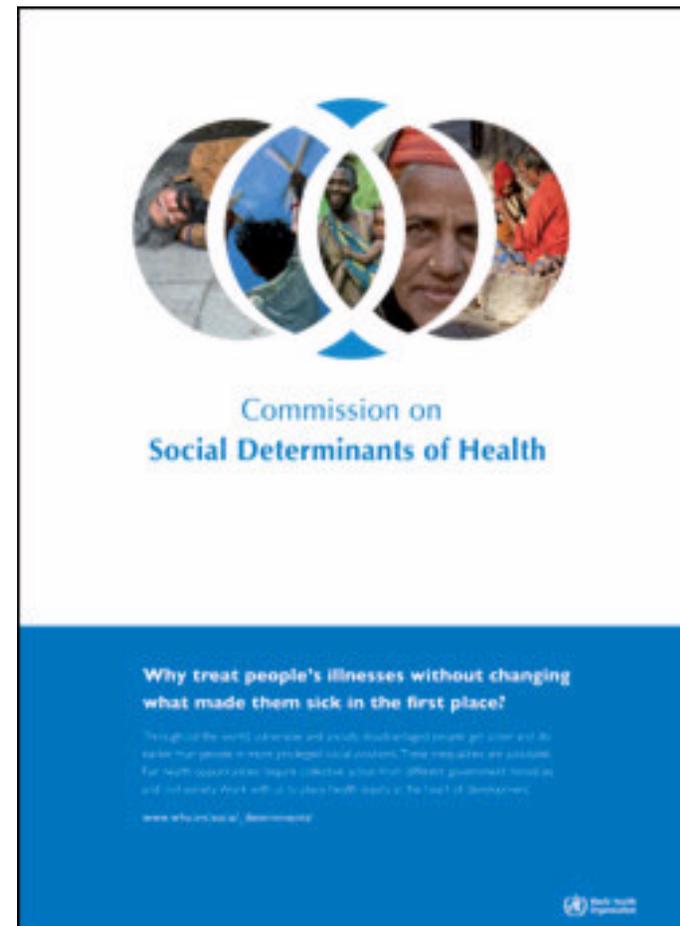


- There are now 1 billion overweight adults in the world.
- Compared to 800 million malnourished people.

WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health

MAIN GOALS

- To support policy change in countries by promoting models and practices that effectively address the social determinants of health.
- To support countries in placing health as a shared goal to which many government departments and sectors of society contribute.
- To help build a sustainable global movement for action on health equity and social determinants, linking governments, international organizations, research institutions, civil society and communities.



Commissioners



Knowledge Networks

- Early child development
- Globalization
- Social exclusion
- Employment conditions
- Health systems
- Urban settings
- Women, gender equity
- Priority health conditions
- Measurement & evidence

Time line

- Launched March 2005
- Interim report July 2007
- Final report May 2008

http://www.who.int/social_determinants/about/en/