

What could two of the world's most successful sports stars possibly know about poverty? Is it the fact that 1.2 billion people live below the poverty line on less than a dollar a day? Or that we now have the knowledge and the resources to halve world poverty by 2015?

Martina and Jacques are supporting anti-poverty projects in Latin America and Africa as part of the UNDP "Teams to End Poverty" campaign, in order to help halve poverty by 2015 – one of the "Millennium Development Goals" set by world leaders at the UN. Poverty affects everyone, especially the innocent. With no one to look after them, homeless children are neglected by society and denied shelter, food, clothing and education. In sheer desperation they are often forced into a life of crime and prostitution in order to survive. Reducing poverty will help these children get the start in life they deserve, beginning with the basic human rights that we all take for granted.

Halving world poverty by 2015 is now more than a moral imperative, it's a practical possibility. To find out how to help, contact UNDP, the UN's global development network, or log on www.TeamsToEndPoverty.org.

Everyone will be richer without poverty.

