In September 2000, the world committed to tackle poverty in all its forms. The largest-ever gathering of world leaders at the United Nations adopted goals to be reached by 2015. The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represent commitments by all countries to halve poverty and hunger, put every child through primary school, protect women’s rights, limit the spread of disease and preserve our natural resources.

As a UNDP Goodwill Ambassador, Maria Sharapova has invited NBA star LeBron James to team up against poverty and to help build support for the Millennium Development Goals.

Some progress has been made. 15 years ago one in three people lived on less than a dollar a day. We are now at one in five. But with the 2015 target date fast approaching there’s a lot to do.

One billion people still live in extreme poverty. More than one billion people lack access to safe drinking water. 6,000 people die of AIDS each day. 750 million adults cannot read. And those who carry almost zero responsibility for climate change are bearing the brunt of its effects, widening the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

Maria and LeBron are inviting you to team up to learn more about the MDGs and the efforts needed to achieve them.

To learn more about the MDGs and to spread the message, visit www.MDGmonitor.org

United Nations Development Programme
www.undp.org