On setting global targets

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Bonn, 18 January 2010
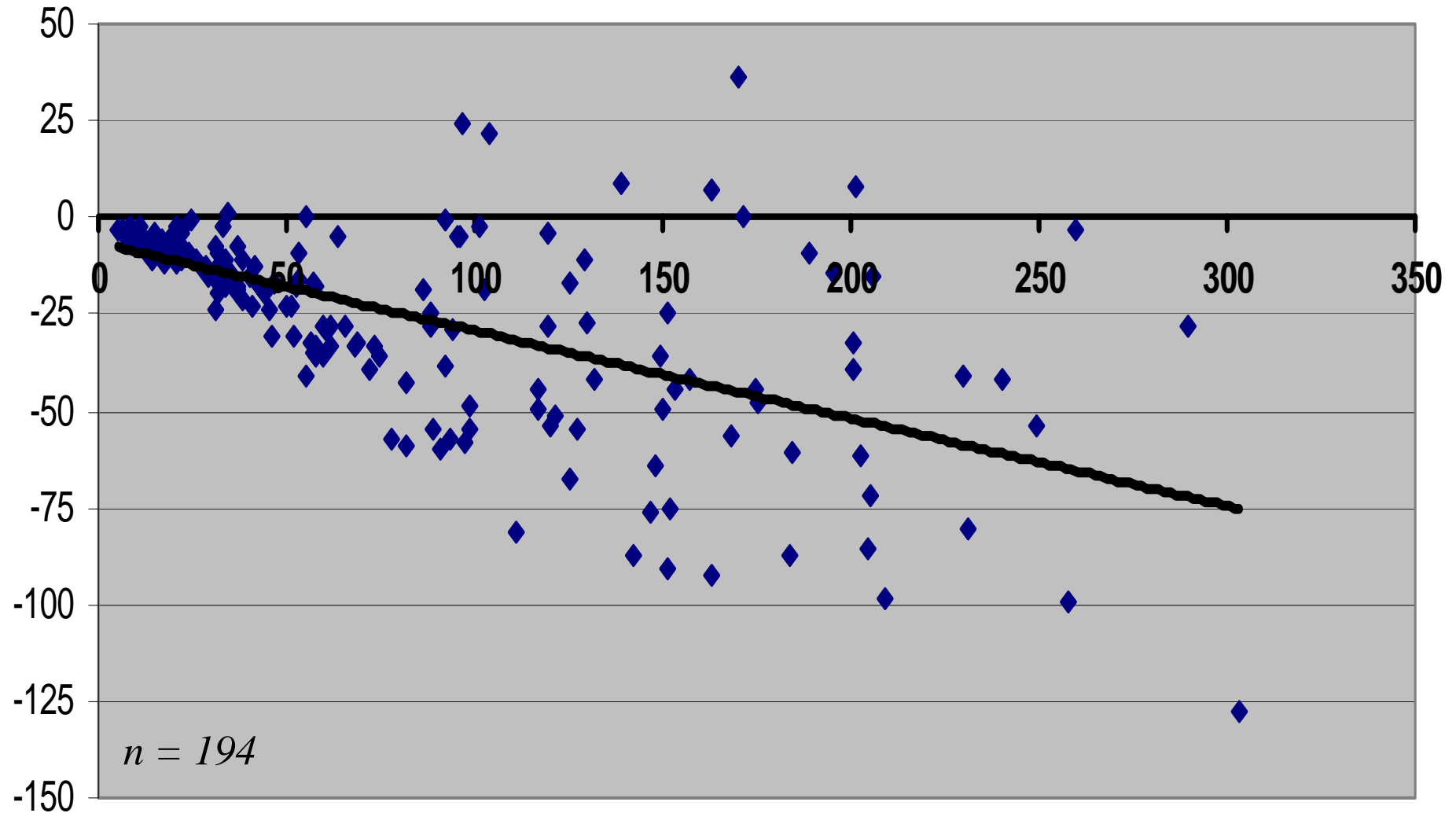
History first; statistics later

- MDGs conceived to keep MD alive beyond its usual shelf-life

  $\rightarrow$ *2 criteria*

- Positive impact, albeit non-quantifiable
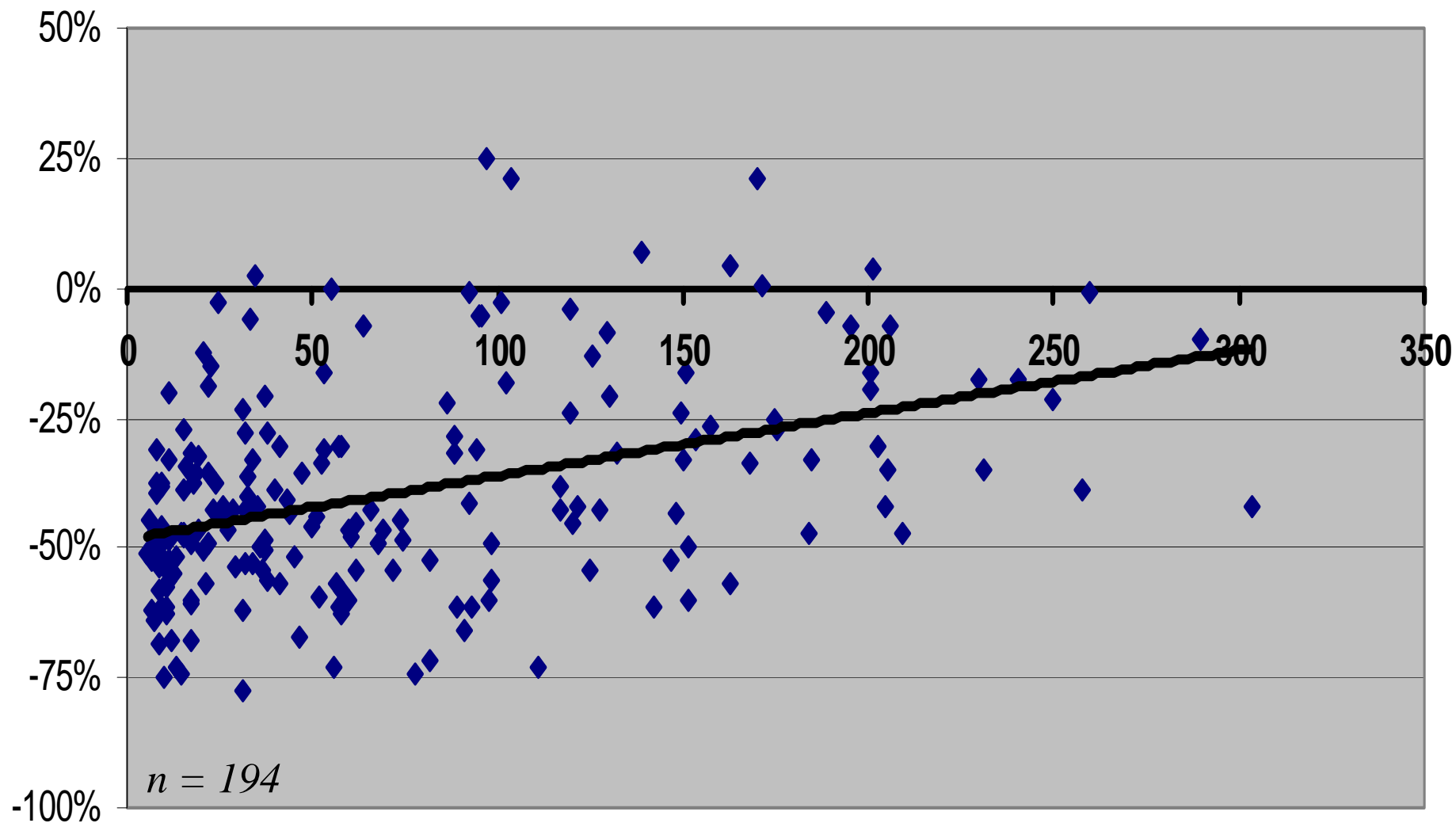
- 3 types of reactions

Target-setting: 7 caveats

1. Time horizon

2. Few targets

3. Quantitative targets

4. Overall structure

5. Benchmarking

U5MR progress in absolute terms
(1990-2007)

n = 194

U5MR progress in relative terms (1990-2007)

Target-setting: 7 caveats

1. Time horizon

2. Few targets

3. Quantitative targets

4. Overall structure

5. Benchmarking

6. Capturing equity

7. ***Global*** targets

1. Poverty & hunger – **1/2**

2. Primary education – **full**

3. Gender equality – **full**

4. Child mortality – **2/3**

5. Maternal health – **3/4**

6. HIV/Aids, malaria & TB

7. Environment – **1/2**

8. Global partnership – **0.7%**

Most global targets are based on global trends
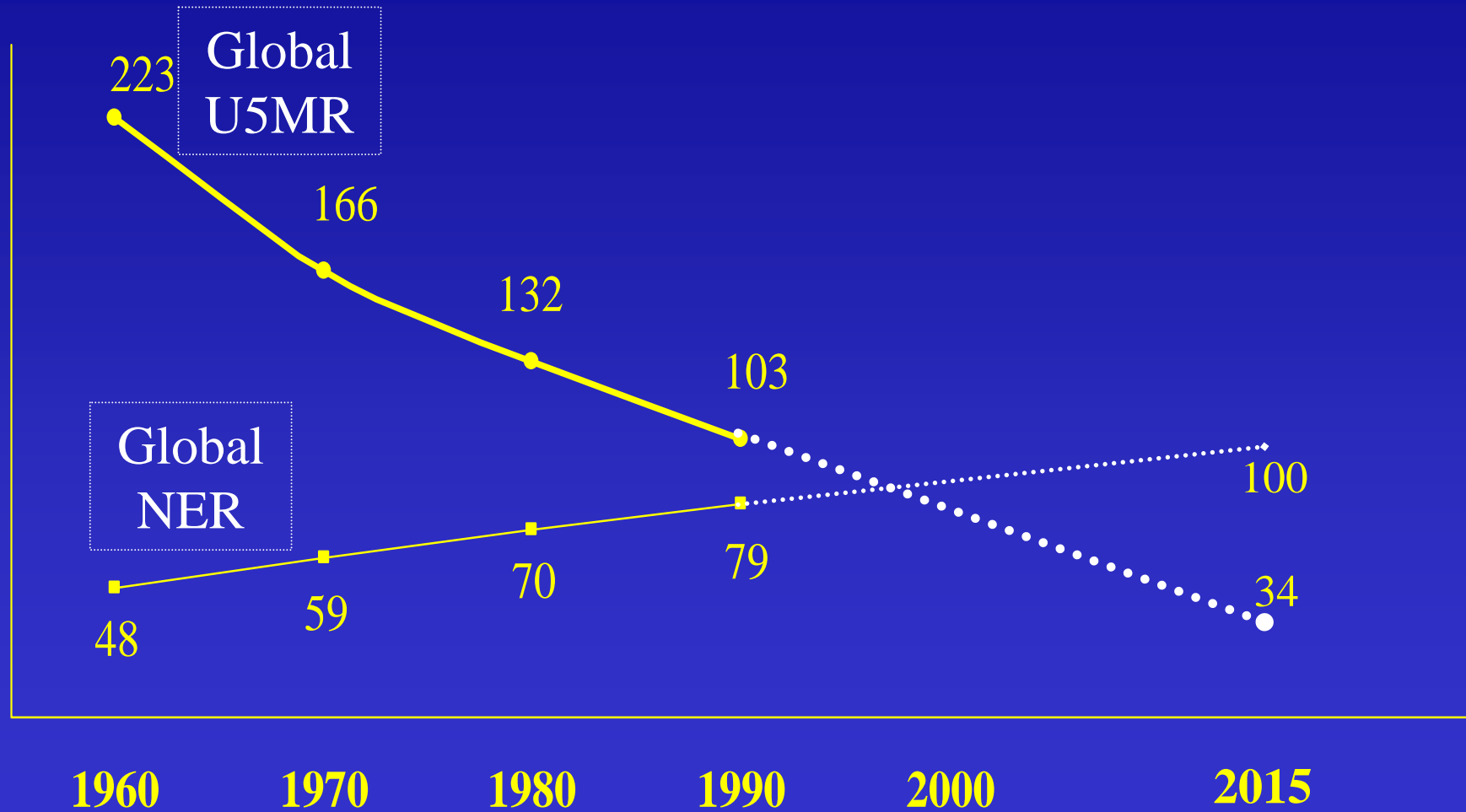
"These goals will first need to be adapted to the specific realities of each country [...]
Such adaptation is of crucial importance to ensure their technical validity, logistical feasibility, financial affordability and to secure political commitment and broad public support"

World Summit for Children 1990

MDGs are <u>collective</u> targets. They do not need to be achieved by all countries for the world to meet them.

Africa is not missing the targets; we are missing the point.