

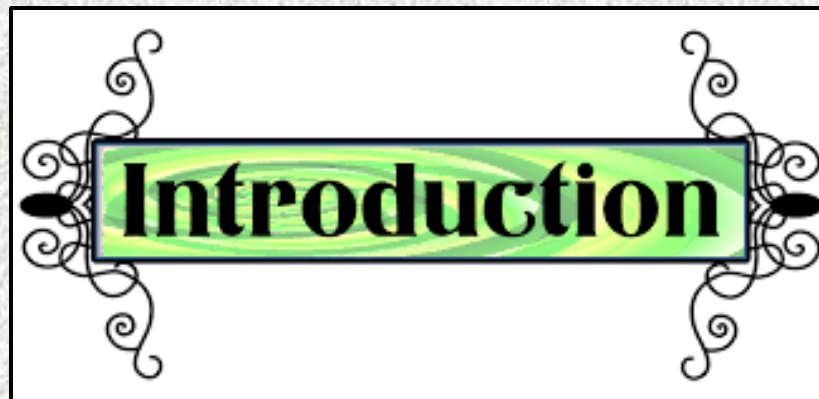


# THE MULTIPLE INDICATOR CLUSTER SURVEYS PROGRAM

*The Role of Household  
Surveys in Support of the  
Sustainable Development  
Agenda*

Attila Hancioglu  
**UNICEF**

Side Event at the 4<sup>th</sup> IAEG-SDG Meeting | *Geneva, 17 November 2016*

A decorative graphic element consisting of a white rectangular frame with a black border. Inside the frame, the word "Introduction" is written in a bold, black, serif font. The text is centered within a horizontal rectangular area that has a green-to-yellow gradient and a subtle wavy pattern. This central area is flanked by ornate, black, scroll-like flourishes on both sides, extending towards the corners of the frame.

**Introduction**

# SDGs and Household Surveys

- SDG monitoring will need to be based on a diverse set of data sources
- For certain ambitions of SDG monitoring, household surveys have known weaknesses, some real, some not.....
  - Cost
  - Frequency
  - Resolution
  - Technology
  - Real time
  - Out of household populations

# SDGs and Household Surveys

Household surveys produce data, for the intended population, that is/can be:

- Robust
- Representative
- High quality
- Disaggregated for diverse set of stratifiers

*for various types of indicators - factual, attitudinal, behavioral*

All at the same time

.... which makes them indispensable for the purposes of SDG monitoring, *in all settings*

The background of the slide is a light-colored marbled paper with a complex, organic pattern of veins in shades of grey and white. A solid brown horizontal band is positioned in the center of the slide, containing the title text.

# The MICS Program - Basics

# Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys

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Developed by  
UNICEF in the 1990s

To assist countries in  
filling data gaps on  
children's and  
women's well-being  
for tracking progress  
toward World Summit  
for Children Goals, in  
1995 and 2000

- Based on joint data gaps assessment with the governments, as part of UNICEF-government cooperation
- UNICEF provides standard tools, developed with partners, researchers
- Customized at country level with technical support – in-country, off-site, regional workshops
- All survey activities carried out by NSOs
- Nationally needed & relevant, globally comparable data

# Surveys since 1995

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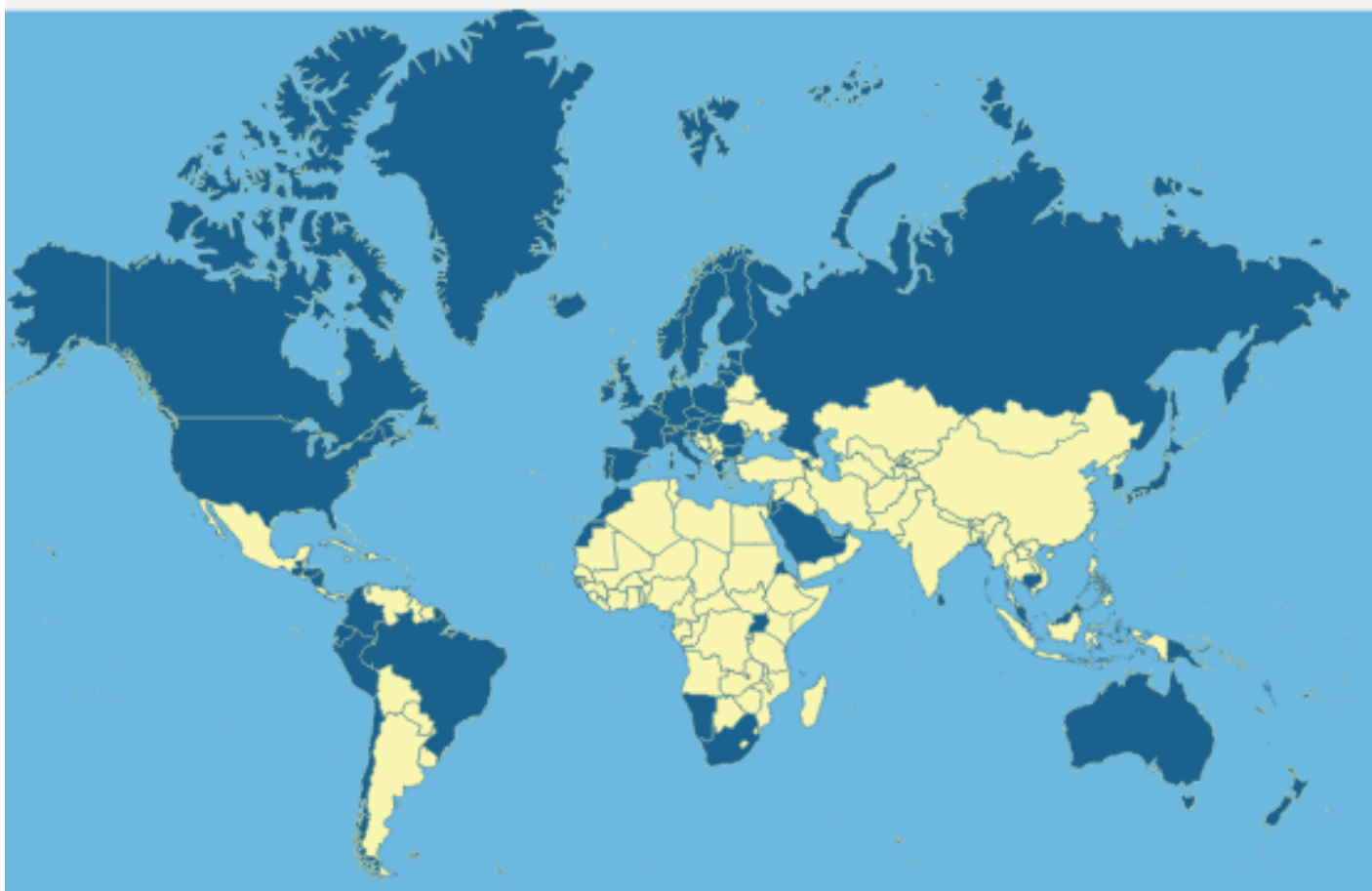
Years

108

Countries

287

Surveys



20% of surveys now in upper middle income and high income countries, many in post-conflict settings

National and subnational surveys

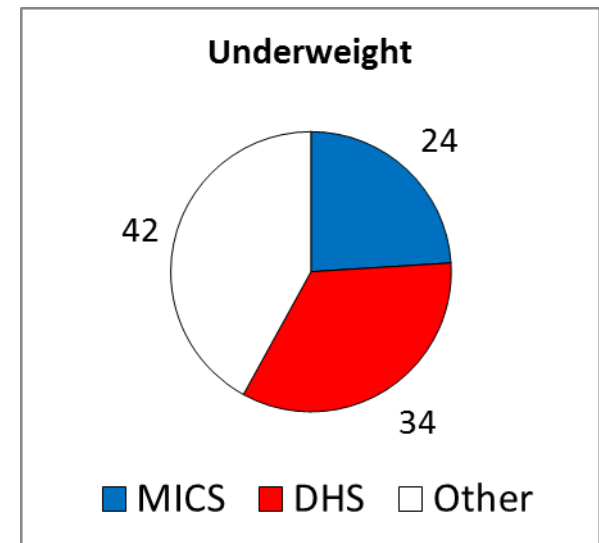
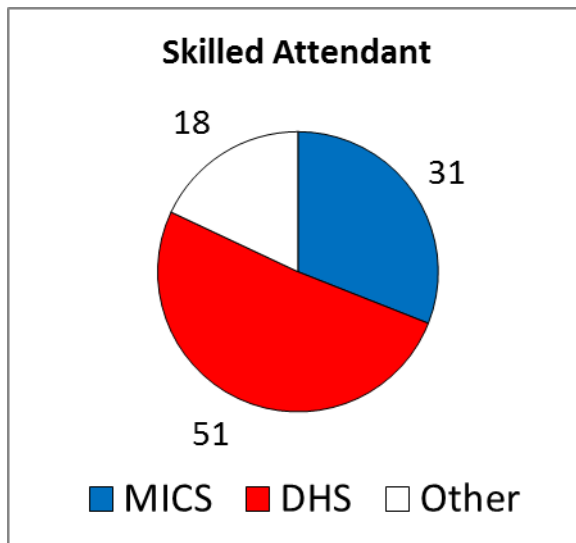
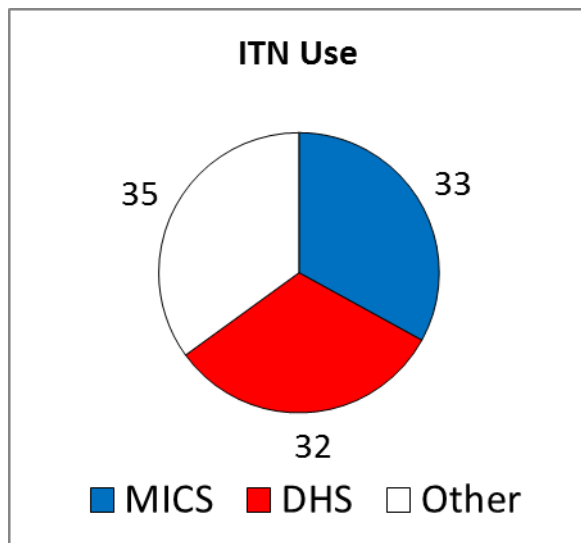
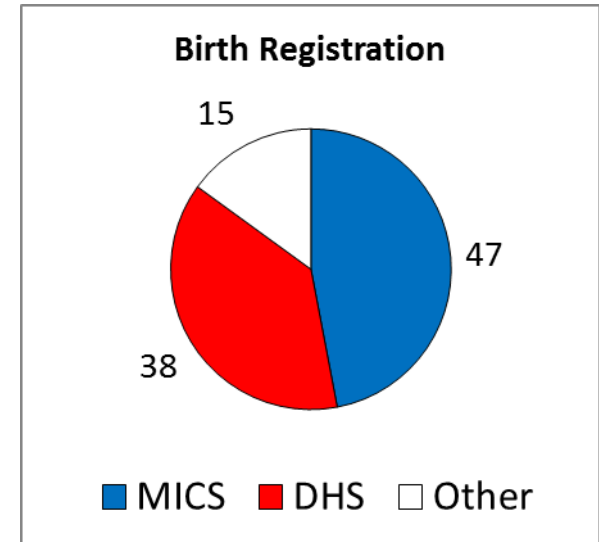
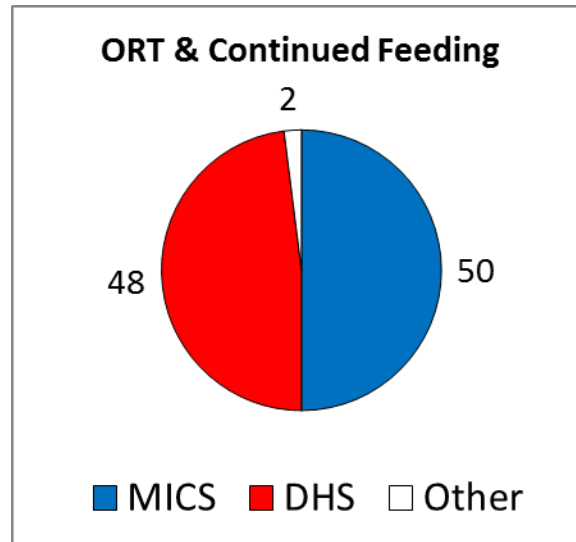
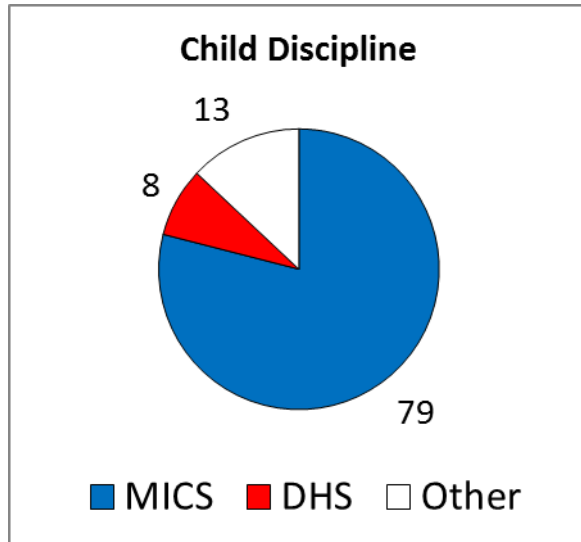
# MICS Since 1995

Round	Year/Period	Emphasis	# of Surveys
MICS1	1995	World Summit for Children Goals	66
MICS2	2000	World Summit for Children Goals	66
MICS3	2005-09	World Fit For Children Goals, MDGs, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks	53
MICS4	2009-13	MDGs, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks	60
MICS5	2013-16	Final MDG Assessment, A Promise Renewed, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks, baseline for post 2015 goals/targets	50
MICS6	2016-19	SDGs, other globally recommended indicators, new topics, emerging issues	30+



# MICS during the MDG Era

Data sources for most recent national data points (2015)



# MICS Indicator List



## MICS Indicators: Numerators and Denominators



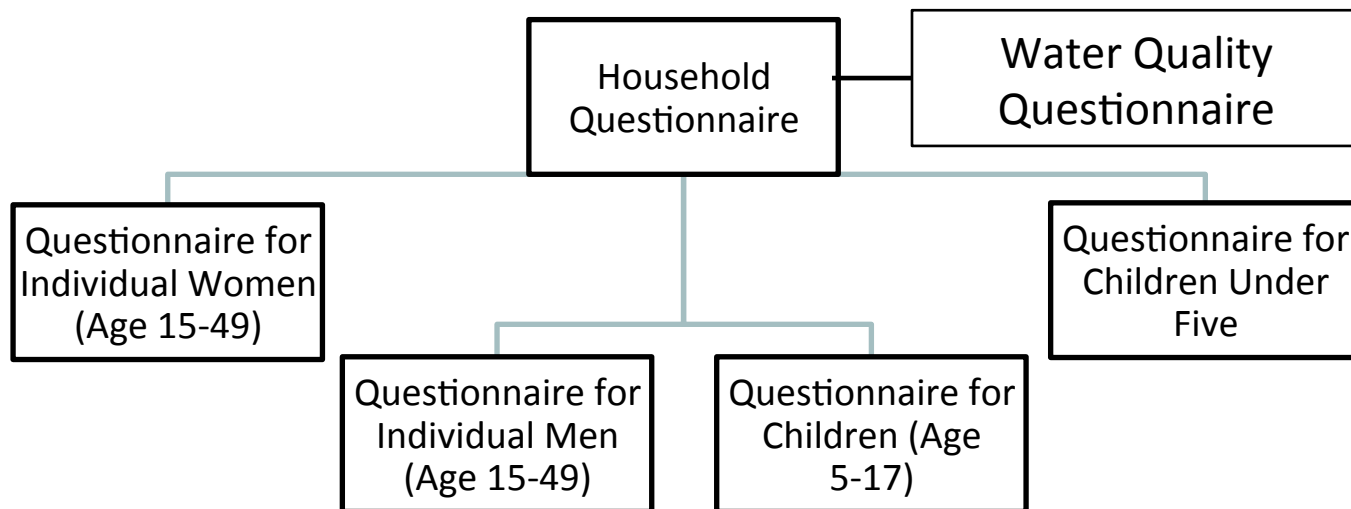
MICS INDICATOR <sup>[M]</sup>	Module <sup>1</sup>	Numerator	Denominator	SDG Reference <sup>2</sup>
<b>MORTALITY <sup>3</sup></b>				
1.1	Neonatal mortality rate	BH	Probability of dying within the first month of life	SDG Indicator 3.2.2
1.2	Infant mortality rate	CM - BH	Probability of dying between birth and the first birthday	
1.3	Post-neonatal mortality rate	BH	Difference between infant and neonatal mortality rates	
1.4	Child mortality rate	BH	Probability of dying between the first and the fifth birthdays	
1.5	Under-five mortality rate	CM - BH	Probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday	SDG Indicator 3.2.1

<b>NUTRITION</b>				
2.1a 2.1b	Underweight prevalence	AN	Number of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe) (b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median weight for age of the WHO standard	Total number of children under age 5

The starting point for each round of MICS is a standard list of MICS indicators  
 Standard questionnaires are designed to generate data on these indicators  
 Methodologies to collect and analyze data for the standard indicators are based on  
 work by partner agencies, interagency groups, researchers...

# Questionnaires

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Use of tablets during interviews now standard

Public sharing of standardized micro data through the NSO and MICS website

Health, nutrition, child protection, HIV, water and sanitation, ECD indicators, modules for adolescents

# Coverage of SDG Indicators

**230** Global SDG indicators

around **30 percent** can be generated  
by household surveys.

Out of all household survey based SDG indicators

**45 percent**  
**(32 indicators)**

are covered by MICS with an exact match or partially

# Sustainable Development Goals



# SDGs and MICS



MICS6 includes indicators under 11 different goals

# SDGs and MICS



Ongoing work to assess the inclusion of Goal 11 indicators in MICS



# SDG Indicators in MICS

1.2.2 Multidimensional poverty

1.3.1 Social protection coverage

2.2.1 *Stunting*

2.2.2 *Wasting & overweight*

3.1.1 Maternal mortality

3.1.2 *Skilled birth attendant*

3.2.1 *Under-5 mortality*

3.2.2 *Neonatal mortality*

3.7.1 Met need

3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate

3.8.1 Tracer interventions

3.8.2 Health insurance

3.a.1 Current tobacco use

4.1.1 Reading/numeracy

4.2.1 *ECD*

4.2.2 Preschool attendance

4.4.1 ICT skills

4.5.1 Parity indices

5.3.1 *Child marriage*

5.3.2 *FGM/C*

5.b.1 Mobile phone ownership

# SDG Indicators in MICS

6.1.1 *Safely managed drinking water*

6.2.1 *Safely managed sanitation + handwashing*

7.1.1 Access to electricity

7.1.2 Clean fuels and technology

8.7.1 *Child labour*

10.3.1 Discrimination

16.1.4 Feeling safe

16.2.1 *Child discipline*

16.3.1 Crime reporting

16.9.1 *Birth registration*

17.8.1 Internet use

UNICEF is the *custodian* or *co-custodian* of less than half of these indicators

# Aligning MICS with the SDGs

## Methodological work on indicators

- ..recent methodological work on indicators that ended up as SDG indicators
  - ECD
  - Child discipline
  - Hand washing
  - Child labour
  - FGM/C
  - Birth registration
  - Multidimensional poverty
- ...recently completed or ongoing work on SDG indicators or disaggregates
  - Reading/numeracy - children
  - Water quality
  - ECD
  - Child disability
  - Informed decision making on RH

# Aligning MICS with the SDGs

- Innovations in new measurement tools
  - Reading-numeracy tests and water quality testing now a part of MICS
  - New modules added on a range of topics
- Effective dissemination
  - Rapid release (within 6 months) of all survey results is the new target
  - This will be complemented with thematic reports, thematic survey profiles
- Disaggregation, leaving no one behind
  - More dimensions added (migration, disability...)
  - Multidimensional disaggregation (e.g. urban poor)
  - Updated sample frames and under-5 questionnaire for children orphans in an effort to leave no one behind

Data for 188 indicators which can be disaggregated, as appropriate, by:

- Regions, administrative units
- Residence
- Gender
- Education
- Age
- Wealth
- Ethnicity/religion/language
- Migration status
- Disability status
- others
  - and for combinations of the above

# Aligning MICS with the SDGs

- Capacity building
  - Regional workshops
  - E-tools on survey methodology, reaching out to non-MICS household survey audiences
- Open access, transparency
  - MICS Tabulator
  - Recent work with countries for public sharing of data has led to increases in data availability
- Triangulation
  - Combining MICS data with
    - Health facility data
    - Geospatial data
    - Polling data

# Aligning MICS with the SDGs

- Partnerships
  - DHS-MICS-LSMS Collaborative Group
  - ISWGHS
  - Joint support to surveys (Sierra Leone/LSMS, Lao/DHS)
  - Health Data Collaborative
  - Engagement with survey programs in high income countries (e.g. SILC)

# Alternating MICS and DHS

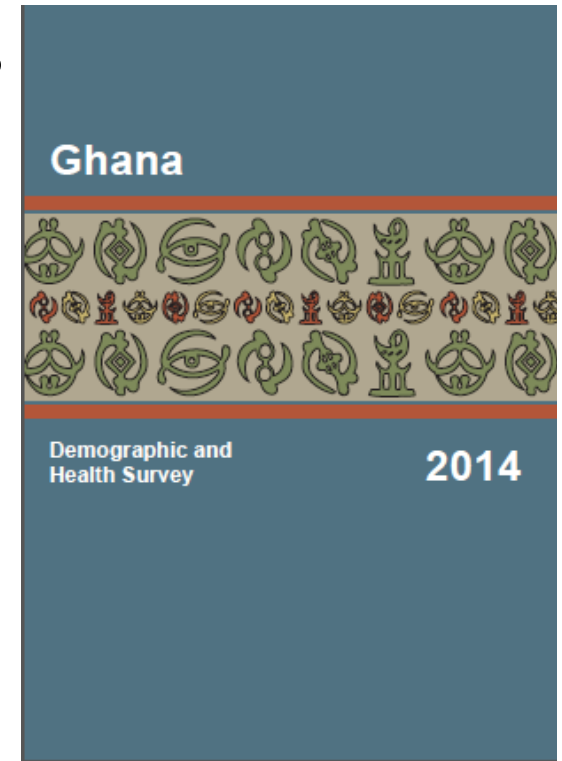


Harmonization of DHS and MICS  
a great model to learn from

In a growing number of  
countries, MICS and DHS have  
been alternating with 2-3 year  
intervals

Comparable trend data,  
frequent availability of new  
information

Examples include Swaziland,  
Zimbabwe, DRC, Ghana,  
Cameroun, Chad, Gambia and  
others





Thank you for your attention!