THE MULTIPLE INDICATOR CLUSTER SURVEYS PROGRAM

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

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Introduction
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.....

SDGs and Household Surveys

- Cost
- Frequency
- Resolution
- Technology
- Real time
- Out of household populations
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 MICS Program - Basics
Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys

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

National and subnational surveys
## MICS Since 1995

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Year/Period</th>
<th>Emphasis</th>
<th># of Surveys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MICS1</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>World Summit for Children Goals</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS2</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>World Summit for Children Goals</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS3</td>
<td>2005-09</td>
<td>World Fit For Children Goals, MDGs, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS4</td>
<td>2009-13</td>
<td>MDGs, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS5</td>
<td>2013-16</td>
<td>Final MDG Assessment, A Promise Renewed, Other Global Monitoring Frameworks, baseline for post 2015 goals/targets</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICS6</td>
<td>2016-19</td>
<td>SDGs, other globally recommended indicators, new topics, emerging issues</td>
<td>30+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MICS during the MDG Era
Data sources for most recent national data points (2015)
### MICS Indicator List

#### MICS Indicators: Numerators and Denominators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MICS INDICATOR [B4]</th>
<th>Module¹</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
<th>Denominator</th>
<th>SDG Reference²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MORTALITY¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>BH</td>
<td>Probability of dying within the first month of life</td>
<td></td>
<td>SDG Indicator 3.2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Infant mortality rate</td>
<td>CM - BH</td>
<td>Probability of dying between birth and the first birthday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Post-neonatal mortality rate</td>
<td>BH</td>
<td>Difference between infant and neonatal mortality rates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Child mortality rate</td>
<td>BH</td>
<td>Probability of dying between the first and the fifth birthdays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Under-five mortality rate</td>
<td>CM - BH</td>
<td>Probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday</td>
<td></td>
<td>SDG Indicator 3.2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NUTRITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MICS INDICATOR</th>
<th>Module¹</th>
<th>Numerator</th>
<th>Denominator</th>
<th>SDG Reference²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1a 2.1b Underweight prevalence</td>
<td>AN</td>
<td>Number of children under age 5 who fall below</td>
<td>Total number of children under age 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(b) minus three standard deviations (severe)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>of the median weight for age of the WHO standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Household Questionnaire

Water Quality Questionnaire

- Questionnaire for Individual Women (Age 15-49)
- Questionnaire for Individual Men (Age 15-49)
- Questionnaire for Children (Age 5-17)
- Questionnaire for Children Under Five

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
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.
SDGs and MICS

MICS6 includes indicators under 11 different goals.
Ongoing work to assess the inclusion of Goal 11 indicators in MICS
# SDG Indicators in MICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDG Goal</th>
<th>Specific Indicator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2</td>
<td>Multidimensional poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.1</td>
<td>Social protection coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.1</td>
<td><em>Stunting</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.2</td>
<td><em>Wasting</em> &amp; overweight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1</td>
<td>Maternal mortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.2</td>
<td>Skilled birth attendant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1</td>
<td>Under-5 mortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.2</td>
<td>Neonatal mortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.1</td>
<td>Met need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7.2</td>
<td>Adolescent birth rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8.1</td>
<td>Tracer interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8.2</td>
<td>Health insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8.3</td>
<td>Current tobacco use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1</td>
<td>Reading/numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.1</td>
<td><em>ECD</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.2</td>
<td>Preschool attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.1</td>
<td>ICT skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5.1</td>
<td>Parity indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.1</td>
<td>Child marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.2</td>
<td><em>FGM/C</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3.3</td>
<td>Mobile phone ownership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
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
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 talent!