Transitioning from Millennium Development Goal (MDG) to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Monitoring: Lessons Learned

International Seminar on World Statistics: "Sustainable Data for Sustainable Development"
Sofitel Xi'an Hotel, Renmin Square, Xi'an China
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Asian Development Bank
Outline

- SDGs – How do they differ from MDGs?
- What the MDGs have accomplished?
- MDG Monitoring – Process
- Lessons from MDGs monitoring
- MDGs to SDGs – The Way Forward
**SDGs – How do they compare with MDGs?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Millennium Development Goals</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sustainable Development Goals</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timeline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Timeline</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goal Setting</strong></td>
<td><strong>Goal Setting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceived as top-down process</td>
<td>Inclusive, Highly participatory, and transparent agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(UN-led dialogues and negotiations)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
<td><strong>Size</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 goals, 21 targets, &amp; 60 indicators</td>
<td>17 goals, 169 targets, &amp; 304 provisional and indicative indicators (under discussion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emphasis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Emphasis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human development and deprivations, environment only partially covered and for developing countries.</td>
<td>Sustainable development – integrating economic, social and environment, ‘Leave no one behind’, universal agenda (all countries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Financing</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largely driven by official development assistance (ODA)</td>
<td>Financing from all sources – public, private and official aid all important</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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What the MDGs have accomplished?
What the MDGs have accomplished?

Significant progress in reducing poverty has been made since 1990.

### Number of Poor (million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Developing Asia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>1,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More than 50% decrease

### Number of out-of-school children in primary age (million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Developing Asia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>101.8</td>
<td>45.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Under-five deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Developing Asia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>12.7 million</td>
<td>7.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>5.9 million</td>
<td>2.5 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Developing Asia is computed for 26 DMCs for $1.25 (2005 PPP).
Sources: ADB estimates using data from PovcalNet (downloaded 12 January 2015); Povcalnet Database Online (World Bank), accessed 2 October 2015.


Significant gains in the number of population with access to improved drinking water sources.

Impressive accomplishment in cutting the incidence of malaria and tuberculosis.

As of 2015, 95 percent of the world’s population is covered by a mobile-cellular signal (UN, 2015).
What the MDGs have accomplished (3)?

While the MDGs have notable successes, insufficient progress is reported across economies.

Progress Distribution of 45 Economies in Developing Asia, by selected MDG Indicators

How the progress on the MDGs being monitored?
International - United Nations MDG Indicators database

Outcome of Inter-Agency Group and Expert Group (IAEG) on MDG indicators
United Nations MDG Indicators database (2)

Global
- UN MDG database
  - United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)
  - International sources (International agencies – WHO, World Bank, UNESCO, etc.)
  - National sources (National Agencies – NSOs, NSIs)

National
- Country Data
- Country Adjusted
- Global monitoring data
- Modeled
- Estimated
- Census
- Surveys
- Administrative sources
- Other sources, nec.
The Progress assessment – regional level

Since 2004, the ESCAP/ADB/UNDP partnership has produced regional reports on the achievements and development challenges of the MDGs.

Asia-Pacific Regional MDGs Report 2014/15 – 9th series

- Three key issues for implementation of SDGs: (i) technology, (ii) finance, and (iii) statistics.
The Progress assessment – national level

→ National MDG progress reports have been prepared periodically by the countries to monitor MDGs at the national level.
What are the lessons of MDG monitoring?
Lessons from the MDG Monitoring

- Global framework – helped rally support around goals in different sectors.
- Simple and time-bound (mostly) quantifiable indicators.
- Reasonably easy to state – printed back to back on an A4 size paper.
- Global, regional, and national MDG progress monitoring reports—improved public attention and support development outflows; and
- Some developing countries utilized the data to improve public programs and incentivize development progress.
Strengthened and improved data availability over time,

- extensive data collection through household surveys - LSMS, MICS, DHS (supported by the WB, UNICEF and USAID), government supported data.
- IAEG–MDGs: improved data collection efforts.
- Many countries prepare national strategies for the development of statistics,
- support to NSS from various international partners (ADB, World Bank, UNDP, EU, etc.)
On Setting Targets...

- *One-size-fits-all targets* – ignored diverse country realities.
- But many countries while adopting the targets customised adapting to national context.
- Emphasis on national averages did not adequately account for inequalities.
- Some countries created additional targets for marginalised populations and/or regions.
Lessons from the MDG Monitoring (4)

On Data Issues

Data gaps - more in small island economies in the Pacific in the region.

Percent Distribution of 58 MDG Indicators, by Number of data points: 1990–2015 or latest year

Note: FSM= Federated States of Micronesia; PNG= Papua New Guinea. Figures presented in the graph covers 58 MDG indicators for 43 developing economies in Asia and excludes MDG indicators 8.1 to 8.13. Indicators such as (i) Gender parity in primary, secondary, and tertiary education; (ii) Antenatal care coverage for at least one visit and for at least four visits, (iii) Condom use at last high-risk sex 15–24 years by sex, (iv) Proportion of population aged 15–24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS by sex, (v) Incidence and death rates, all ages and 0–4 years associated with malaria, (vi) Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis, (vii) Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course, and (viii) CO2 emissions, total per capita and per $1 GDP (PPP) by CDIAC are monitored separately for ADB developing member economies

On Data Issues... (2)

Timeliness - very old data to assess progress...

| MDG Indicator | Afghanistan | Armenia | Azerbaijan | Bangladesh | Bhutan | Brunei Darussalam | Cambodia | China | Cook Islands | Cambodia | China | Fiji | Georgia | India | Indonesia | Kazakhstan | Kirghizstan | Korea, Republic of | Kyrgyzstan | Laos | Lao PDR | Malaysia | Maldives | Marshall Islands | FSM | Mongolia | Myanmar | Nepal | Nepal | Pakistan | Palau | PNG | Philippines | Samoa | Singapore | Solomon Islands | Sri Lanka | Tajikistan | Timor-Leste | Tonga | Tuvalu | Turkmenistan | Uzbekistan | Vanuatu | Viet Nam |
|---------------|------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|-------------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|-----|---------|------|----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|----|--------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|------|-------|-----------|------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|-------|--------|
| MDG 1 | 2013 | '05 | '10 | '12 | '12 | '12 | '09 | '13 | '11 | '10 | '13 | '12 | '12 | '09 | '10 | '10 | '11 | '12 | '12 | '09 | '10 | '12 | '12 | '09 | '12 | '08 | '10 | '06 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 2 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '14 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '14 | '13 | '11 | '14 | '12 | '06 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '12 | '12 | '12 | '09 | '15 | '15 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 3 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '10 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 4 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '10 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 5 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '10 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 6 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '10 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |
| MDG 7 | 2013 | '10 | '13 | '14 | '12 | '10 | '12 | '04 | '09 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '10 | '14 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 | '13 |

Note: FSM= Federated States of Micronesia; PNG= Papua New Guinea.
On Data Issues... (3)

Almost half of the data in MDG database are adjusted, estimated, or modeled by international agencies.

MDG Indicators by data type, as of October 2015

55.2% Country Data
44.8% Country Adjusted
31.0% Estimated
10.3% Modeled
1.7% Global monitoring data

Differences between international and national data sources – can have different policy implications.

Note: Figures presented in the graph cover 58 MDG indicators for 43 developing economies in Asia and excludes MDG indicators 8.1 to 8.13. Indicators such as (i) Gender parity in primary, secondary, and tertiary education; (ii) Antenatal care coverage for at least one visit and for at least four visits; (iii) Condom use at last high-risk sex 15–24 years by sex, (iv) Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS by sex, (v) Incidence and death rates, all ages and 0–4 years associated with malaria, (vi) Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis, (vii) Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course, and (viii) CO2 emissions, total, per capita and per $1 GDP (PPP) by CDIAC are monitored separately for ADB developing member economies.

MDGs to SDGs – What is the way forward?
Success of SDGs will unequivocally depend on availability of data that are accurate, timely, feasible to collect, and available to public.

Global, regional and national monitoring is essential for delimitation of responsibilities and ownership of the agenda at different levels.

National statistical systems to determine their national priority indicators for sustainable development.
Monitoring of the SDGs – Handling the complexity

- Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDGs indicators (IAEG–SDGs)
  - Developing a proposal for a *global indicator framework* for the goals and targets of the SDGs.
  - Faces challenge of selecting indicators for a very comprehensive agenda than its predecessor MDGs.
  - Many of which are non-traditional areas of statistics not collected (regularly) by statistical agencies.
Difficulty in assessing SDG targets without specific numerical values, or with no internationally agreed definitions.

Only a few targets can be fundamentally assessed quantitatively.

Out of 169 targets, 49 (29%) are considered well developed, 91 targets (54%) could be strengthened by being more specific, and 29 (17%) require significant work. "ICSU, ISSC (2015): Review of the Sustainable Development Goals: The Science Perspective. Paris: International Council for Science (ICSU)"
Needed is strengthening the national statistical systems where the action for data collection lies.

Strong call for inclusion in the SDGs requires dis-aggregated data (sub-national, marginalized, and vulnerable groups).

Strengthening of the administrative data systems and civil registration and vital statistics systems essential.

Requires integration of the national statistical systems – calls for ‘Data Revolution’.
Move from coordination of NSS to integration of National Information Systems:

- In terms of integrating people engaged in statistical work across statistical agencies and private sector,
- In terms of integrating databases of different agencies (population, civil registration, national identification, education, health, firms/institutions),
- Integrating technology and modernization of statistical operations – use of satellite imagery for agriculture and forestry, tablets for data collection and transmission,
- Integrating unstructured data flowing for example through the internet.

IT requires capacity building in data capturing, processing, storage, sharing and integrating and setting uniform standards and protocols.

NSOs will have to take a lead role in managing this change.
5th World Statistics Day 20-10-2030

Hope we will celebrate with the theme ‘We did not Leave Anyone Behind’

Thank You

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