Guidance on the application of the DSD & MSD to the MDG indicators

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Background

UNSD promotes the use of a common structured message in XML known as **Statistical Meta-Data eXchange (SDMX)** to package and share development indicators and associated metadata related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)[1]. The application of SDMX to the MDG indicators is particularly pertinent since so many different agencies in conjunction with countries themselves are involved in their compilation and dissemination. Any tool that assists in the standardization of this process is beneficial. The SDMX implementation for MDGs was developed specifically for the 125 indicators, and 171 time series, collated as part of the coordination process for MDG progress reporting each year by countries and the international community.

Other benefits of using the SDMX standard for MDGs is it brings greater access and therefore visibility of development indicators, greater coherence by using technology to maintain statistical standards in exchange and dissemination across this indicator set and facilitates the entire global community (both country and international agencies) to come together to agree on these standards, code lists and classifications.

This document gives an explanation of the **Data Structure Definition (DSD)** and **Metadata Structure Definition (MSD)** adopted for the MDGs, these concepts are at the core of the SDMX architecture and provide a blue print for how each SDMX message should be structured for the exchange of data and metadata respectively. The document also provides guidance on the application of code lists to describe the data in the case of the DSD, and provides guidance on the content, style and preparation of more detailed textual metadata for the MSD.

UNSD's CountryData project has adopted the DSD and MSD for MDGs as it's standard for exchange of national development indicators with National Statistical Offices. In practice this means the structures are the same, but the project has extended the code lists used for MDGs to exchange a wider range of national development indicators. The details of these expanded code lists and their application are outlined in a separate manual.

[1] See UNSD MDG website: http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/

The DSD Concept for MDGs

The **Data Structure Definition (DSD)** for the Millennium Development Goals indicators[2] was developed by a special task force as part of the regular Inter-Agency Expert Group (IAEG) meetings held each year. The DSD is required as part of the process for **Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX)**. Any SDMX message is essentially a XML-encoded script that uses a DSD to structure and code data exported from a database or other source. The structure is established based on dimensions and attributes. Dimensions (dim) are a mandatory requirement to identify the **time series** of the data while attributes (att) provide additional descriptive or qualitative features of the **observation value**. The set of dimensions and attributes used to define the MDG DSD are presented in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Dimensions and attributes of the MDG Data Structure Definition (DSD)

Type	Name	Type of code used
Dimension	Frequency	i.e. Annual, Quarterly, etc.
Dimension	Series	Indicator title
Dimension	Units of measurement	i.e. Percent, number
Dimension	Location	i.e. Total, Urban, Rural
Dimension	Age group	i.e. 15–49 yr olds, under 5 years old
Dimension	Sex	i.e. Total, male, female
Dimension	Reference Area	Country name
Dimension	Source Type	i.e. Survey, census, admin.
Time	Time Period	i.e. 1990, 1991, etc.
Measure	Observation Value	-
Attribute	Unit multiplier	i.e. per 10,000, per 1,000 etc.
Attribute	Time period details	i.e. 2001 – 2003, Q1 2010 – Q3 2011
Attribute	Nature of data points	i.e. Estimated, Modelled, Adjusted etc.
Attribute	Source details	Source name & date
Attribute	Footnotes	Details of methodology & other notes etc.

[2] UNSD website on MDG indicators (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx) provides further information on the list of indicators, data and metadata.

A separate SDMX message is produced for each observation value exported from a database or other source. The different fields within the database for this observation are mapped to the associated dimension or attribute. Then a further mapping takes place between the value in any field to code list of the associated dimension or attribute (where present) to populate the message. The structure of the message between dimensions and attributes is important. The dimensions are mandatory and should uniquely identify a time series when each dimension holds the same code. Attributes are additional to describing the background to the data but are not necessary for identifying the time series. They can be optional in some instances. The next two sections on dimensions and attributes describe their components parts and the correct application of code lists.

Dimensions

The dimensions within a SDMX message for MDGs are those required to identify the time series of the data. The following subsections provide a brief description of each dimension, their code list and its appropriate application.

FREQuency

The frequency dimension should be used to describe the periodicity of the data.

Figure 2: Code list for the FREQuency dimension

Dimension	**Code**		**Guidance on application to MDG indicators**
	Value	**Description**	
Frequency	A	Annual	The data has a frequency of a year. **This can also serve cases of multi-annual data (data that appear once every 2, 3 or, possibly, 5 years). This is the default value of choice for exchange since MDG indicators tend to have an ad-hoc periodicity.**
Frequency	2A	Two-year average	…
Frequency	3A	Three-year average	…
Frequency	S	Half-yearly, semester	…
Frequency	Q	Quarterly	…
Frequency	M	Monthly	…

SERIES

The series dimension should be used to describe the series name the data represents. A full list of these codes is provided in Annex A. **Note:** the series name should not include any reference to information already contained in any of the other dimensions (i.e. age group, sex, unit of measurement etc.). Fuller details of how the series is defined can be provided in separate textual metadata under the definition category.

UNITS of measurement

The unit of measurement dimension applies at level should be used to describe the measurement method used to present the data. Fuller details of how the indicator is calculated can be provided in separate textual metadata under the method of computation category.

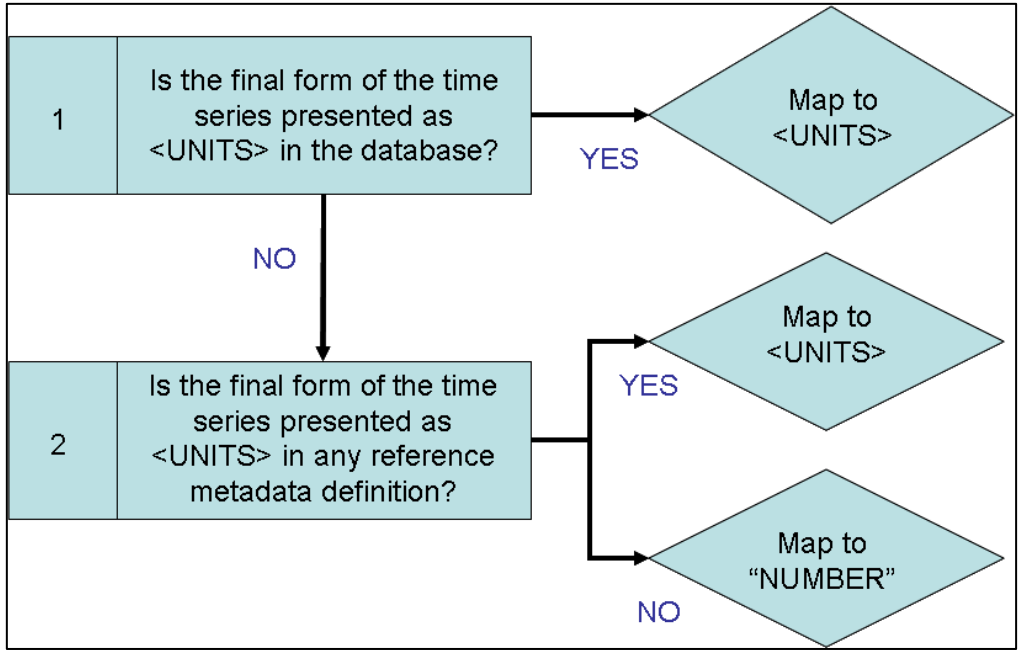
Figure 3: Code list for the UNITS of measurement dimension

Dim-ension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Units	NA	Not applicable	Not applicable to MDG indicators
Units	CUR_LCU	Local currency	The data presents itself in terms of the Local Currency Unit of the Reference Area. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	USD	USD	The data presents itself in terms of the United States Dollar. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	NUMBER	Number	The data presents itself as an absolute number or quantity of the indicator. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	RATIO	Ratio	The data presents itself as the relative size of two other numbers as a result of dividing a number by another number.
Units	PERCENT	Percent	The data presents itself where the ratio is multiplied by a constant, 100 so that the ratio is expressed per 100. Usually labeled as a share, proportion or percentage of a wider population or superset

Dim-ension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
			(i.e. land area, national income or national population).
Units	LCU_PPP_USD	Local currency per USD	The data presents itself in terms of the Local Currency Unit of the Reference Area per US dollars with Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) applied.
Units	PV_USD	USD in end-2006 net present value terms	The data presents itself in terms of US dollars in end-2006 net present value terms. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	PV_USD_2009	USD in end-2009 net present value terms	The data presents itself in terms of US dollars in end-2009 net present value terms. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	KG_CO2_PER_GDP_CON_PPP_USD	kg CO2 equivalent per USD1 constant 2005 PPP GDP	The data presents itself in terms of kilograms per 1 US dollar of Gross Domestic Produce at 2005 constant prices, Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) applied.
Units	KG_OE_PER_GDP_CON_PPP_USD	kg oil equivalent per USD1,000 constant 2005 PPP GDP	The data presents itself in terms of kilograms of oil per 1,000 US dollars of Gross Domestic Produce at 2005 constant prices, Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) applied.
Units	KM2	Square kilometers	The data presents itself in terms of square kilometers. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	T	Metric Tons	The data presents itself in terms of Metric tons. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	USD_GDP_PPP	Per 1 USD GDP (PPP)	The data presents itself in terms of per 1 US Dollar of Gross Domestic Produce with Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) applied. The unit multiplier attribute should be used to further define this unit if expressed in terms of hundreds, thousands etc.
Units	PER_100_LIVE_BIRTHS	Per 100 Live Births	The data presents itself in terms of an event or characteristic occurring on ‘average’ in 100 live births in the population.

Dim-ension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Units	PER_100_POP	Per 100 Population	The data presents itself in terms of an event or characteristic occurring on 'average' in 100 people in the population.
Units	PER_1000_LIVE_BIRTHS	Per 1,000 Live Births	…
Units	PER_1000_POP	Per 1,000 Population	…
Units	PER_100000_LIVE_BIRTHS	Per 100,000 Live Births	…
Units	PER_100000_POP	Per 100,000 Population	…
Units	POP	Population	Unit is superseded by new codes given above
Units	WOMEN	Women	Unit is superseded by new codes given above
Units	LIVE_BIRTHS	Live births	Unit is superseded by new codes given above

Figure 4: Decision tree for the application of the code list to the UNITS dimension



Worked examples from the time series titles of the international MDG database (http://mdgs.un.org):

1. "*Women to men parity index, as ratio of literacy rates, 15-24 years old*" should map to "Ratio" in the UNITS dimension as a ratio is the final form of the time series, despite being composed of literacy rates.

2. "*Notified cases of malaria per 100,000 population*" should map to "Per 100,000 population" in the UNITS dimension as stated in the time series description.

3. *"AIDS orphans (one or both parents)"* should map to "Number" in the UNITS dimension as no other applicable unit is available in the codelist.

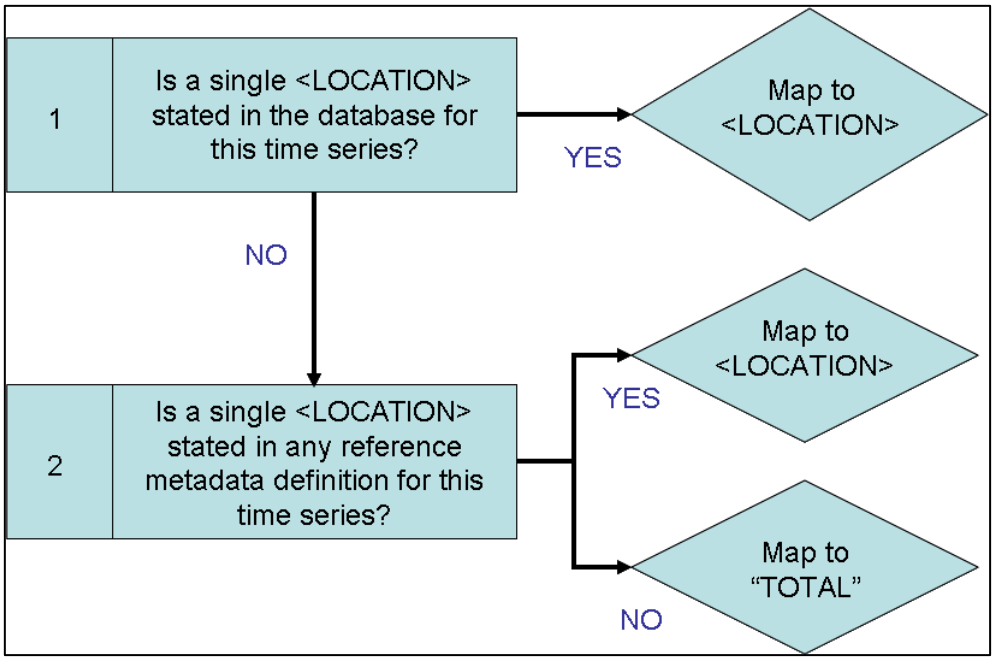
LOCATION

The location dimension should be used in conjunction with the reference area dimension to describe specific coverage or in the case of an indicator even if just the **denominator** (where the numerator is a further subset) is defined as national, urban or rural.

Figure 5: Code list for the LOCATION dimension

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Location	T	Total (national level)	The data represents national coverage with respect to the reference area dimension. This includes a proportion, share, percentage, rate etc, where the numerator measures rural and the denominator urban coverage, or vice versa.
Location	U	Urban	The data represents rural coverage with respect to the reference area dimension. This includes a proportion, share etc. where the numerator measures rural or urban and the denominator measures national coverage. The definition of rural should be provided in separate textual metadata under the definition category.
Location	R	Rural	…

Figure 6: Decision tree for the application of the code list to the LOCATION dimension



Worked examples from the time series titles of the international MDG database (http://mdgs.un.org):

1. "*Slum population as percentage of urban, percentage*" should map to "Urban" in the LOCATION dimension as both the numerator and denominator measured on an urban coverage.

AGE group and SEX

The age or sex group dimension should be used whenever the indicator describes a population that is directly related to the measurement of a human population, via a characteristic or life event etc; otherwise the code “not applicable” should apply. Note: If sex is coded “not applicable” then so should age group and vice versa.

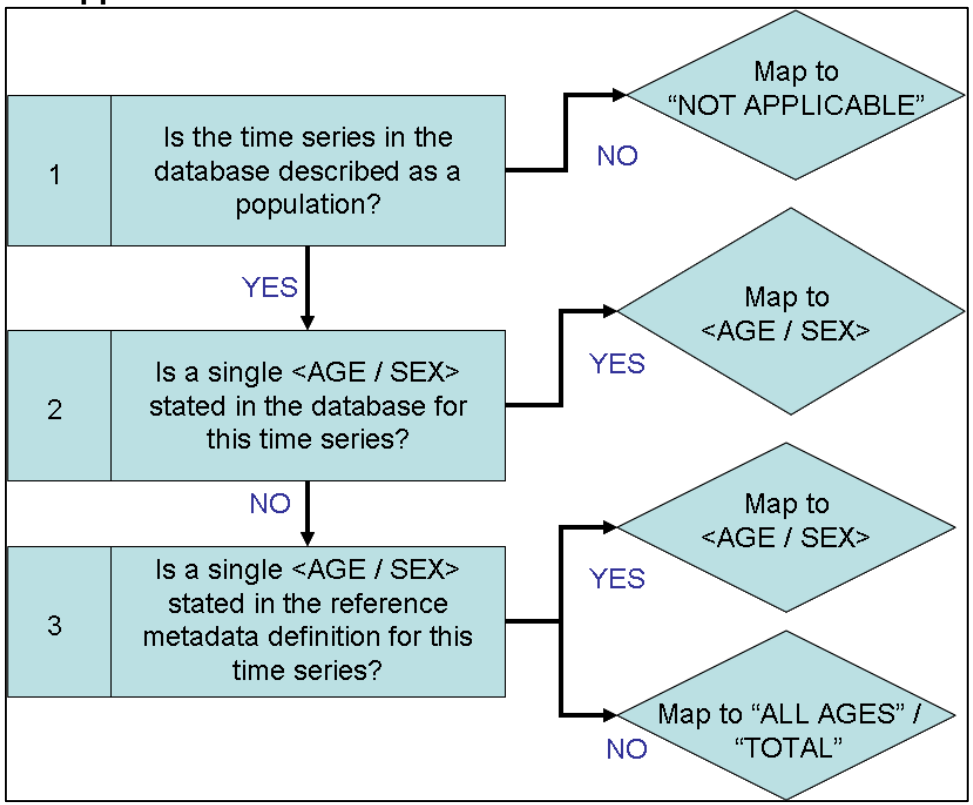
Figure 7: Code list for the AGE group dimension

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Age group	NA	Not applicable	The data does not measure a population.
Age group	000_099_Y	All age ranges	The data measures a population and all ages. This includes a proportion, share etc. where the numerator measures one age group and the denominator another (except all ages).
Age group	000_005_Y	under 5 year olds	The data measures a population and this age group. This includes a proportion, share etc. where just the numerator is defined on this age group and the denominator is the wider population (i.e. all ages).
Age group	000_001_Y	under 1 year olds	…
Age group	000_018_Y	under 18 year olds	…
Age group	010_005_Y	10-14 year olds	…
Age group	015_005_Y	15-19 year olds	…
Age group	015_010_Y	15-24 year olds	…
Age group	015_035_Y	15-49 year olds	…

Figure 8: Code list for the SEX dimension

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Sex	NA	Not applicable	The data does not measure a population.
Sex	F	Female	The data measures a population and this gender. This includes a proportion, share etc. where the numerator measures one gender and the denominator is the wider population (i.e. both sexes).
Sex	M	Male	…
Sex	T	Total	The data measures a population and both genders. This includes a proportion, share, percentage, rate etc, where the numerator measures one gender and the denominator the other.

Figure 9: Decision tree for the application of the code list to AGE / SEX dimension



Worked examples from the time series titles of the international MDG database (http://mdgs.un.org):

1. "*Total number of seats in national parliament"* and "*Seats held by women in national parliament"* should be mapped to "Not Applicable" in the AGE and SEX dimension, as both directly measure 'seats' rather than a population.

2. "*Mobile cellular telephone subscriptions"* should be mapped to "Not Applicable" in the AGE and SEX dimension, while "*Internet users"* should be mapped to "All Ages" and "Total" respectively in those dimensions as the latter directly measures 'user population' while the former 'subscriptions'.

3. "*Births attended by skilled health personnel, percentage"* should be mapped to "Not Applicable" in the AGE and SEX dimension as the time series measures a life event, "births" rather than a population.

4. "*Women to men parity index, as ratio of literacy rates, 15-24 years old"* should be mapped to "15-24" and "Total" for the AGE and SEX dimension as while 15-24 years old are both the subject of the numerator and denominator, but the numerator measures one gender and the denominator the other.

5. "*Antenatal care coverage, at least one visit, percentage"* should be mapped to "15-49" and "Female" to the AGE and SEX dimension as its metadata definition states the time series is based on this population. While *"Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births"* should be mapped "All ages" and "Female" respectively for those same dimensions as its metadata definition states the time series is based on female deaths but does not indicate an age range.

6. "*Primary completion rate, both sexes"* should be mapped to "All Ages" and "Total" in the AGE and SEX dimension as its metadata definition does not state a specific age range and age can be a fluid concept in many educational indicators. The same should apply for "*Ratio of youth unemployment rate to adult unemployment rate, both sexes"* because according to its metadata definition the numerator measures one age group (i.e. 15-24) and the denominator another (i.e. 25+).

REFerence Area

The reference area dimension should be used to describe the country or country grouping the data represents. A full list of these codes is provided in Annex B. The country codes are based on the ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 standard and the different groupings of countries are based on MDG and WB classifications. Note: there are no codes available for sub-country geographical entities or even some of the common geographies as classified under UNSD's M-49 (i.e. combinations of France, her external departments and Monaco).

SOURCE TYPE

The source type dimension should be used to describe the general nature of the source the data was collected from. The source details attribute should be used to state more specific details about the source like the source name and date. Even then a fuller description of the source can be given in separate textual metadata under the process of obtaining data category.

Figure 10: Code list for the SOURCE TYPE dimension

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Source Type	S	Household based surveys	The data is sourced from a household sample survey.
Source Type	R	Administrative records	The data is sourced from nationally representative administrative records maintained by a government ministry, department or agency
Source Type	C	Census	The data is sourced from a national census of population of interest (i.e. people, enterprises etc.)
Source Type	O	Other	The data is sourced from a mix of the source types listed above or some other non-regular source.
Source Type	NA	Not available	The data is sourced from an unknown source.

TIME Period

The time period dimension should be used to describe the four numeral year or nearest equivalent year the data represents. For data collected over a 24 month period or less, if more than 50 per cent of the data falls into a particular year use that year value, otherwise if the data is attributed 50/50 between years take the latest year. For data collected over 24 month period, take the median year (rounded up for even spanning years). This assumes the data was collected evenly over the time period, if this not the case use your own calculation. The time period details attribute should be used to state the specific time period when the data was collected.

Attributes

The attributes within a SDMX message provide additional descriptive or qualitative features of the observation value and can be unique to that particular observation value.

UNIT MULTIPLIER of observation value

The unit multiplier should be used to further describe the magnitude of the units of measurement dimension.

Figure 11: Code list for the UNIT MULTIPLIER attribute

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Units multipliers	0	Units	The data is presented in single units
Units multipliers	1	Tens	The data is presented in tens
Units multipliers	2	Hundreds	…
Units multipliers	3	Thousands	…
Units multipliers	4	Tens of thousands	…
Units multipliers	6	Millions	…
Units multipliers	9	Billions	…
Units multipliers	12	Trillions	…

TIME period DETAILS of observation value

The time period details attribute should be used in conjunction with time period dimension to describe specific time period the data was collected when different from calendar year (January to December). There is no code list and the user is free to enter the time period in a standard format like 2001 – 2003, Q1 2010 – Q3 2011.

NATURE of observation value

The nature of data points attribute should be used to describe how the observation value was calculated.

Figure 12: Code list for the NATURE attribute

Dimension	Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
	Value	Description	
Nature	C	Country Data	The data is the one produced and disseminated by the country (including data adjusted by the country to meet international standards)
Nature	CA	Country Adjusted	**International context only:** the data is the one produced and provided by the country, but adjusted by the international agency for international comparability—that is to comply with internationally agreed standards, definitions and classifications (age group, ISCED, etc)
Nature	E	Estimated	**International context only:** the data is estimated by the international agency, when corresponding country data on a specific year or set of years are not available, or when multiple sources exist, or there are issues of data quality. Estimates are based on national data, such as surveys or administrative records, or other sources but on the same variable being estimated.
Nature	M	Modeled	**International context only:** the figure is by the agency when there is a complete lack of data on the variable being estimated. The model is based on a set of covariates—other variables for which data are available and that can explain the phenomenon (example: maternal mortality or slums, to a certain extent)
Nature	G	Global monitoring data	**International context only:** the data is regularly produced by the designated agency for the global monitoring, based on country data. However, there is no corresponding figure at the country level, because the indicator is defined for international monitoring only (example: population below 1$ a day)
Nature	N	Non-relevant	**International context only:** the data is not available because the indicator—as defined for the global monitoring—does not apply to the circumstances of the specific country, and therefore is not reported
Nature	NA	Not Available	A data was not provided, or the method by which the figure was calculated is unknown

SOURCE DETAILS of observation value

The source details attribute should be used to describe the source in more detail than provided in source type like source name and date. A fuller description of the source can be given in separate textual metadata under the process of obtaining data category.

FOOTNOTES of observation value

The footnotes attribute should be used to record any further details about the data not mentioned in any of the other dimensions and attributes.

The MSD Concept for MDGs

The **Metadata Structure Definition (MSD)** for the Millennium Development Goals indicators is based on the metadata structure developed for the "*Handbook for Monitoring MDGs*"[3] and the MDG indicator reporting system[4]. The MSD is an optional but desirable part of the process for Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX). The MSD has a structure which idenfities the data provider and the series name along with nine concepts presented in the figure below. The structure is applicable to the series level rather than individual time series like the DSD. Therefore instead of code lists, an open text field is available for metadata text. A separate SDMX message is produced for each metadata of a series exported from a database or other source, but will be processed similar to the observation values associated with it and can be matched back together through code.

Figure 13: Concepts of the MDG Metadata Structure Definition (MSD)

ID	Description
DATA_PROVIDER	Country Name (see code list in Annex B or use hyperlink)
SERIES	Indicator Title (see code list in Annex A or use hyperlink)
STAT_CONC_DEF	Definition of the MDG official indicator or background series provided
METHOD_COMP	Method of computation
COMMENTS_LIMITATIONS	Comments and limitations
DISCREPANCIES	Sources of discrepancies between global and national figures
COLL_METHOD	Process of obtaining data
MISSING_VALUES	Treatment of missing values
COVERAGE	Data availability
REGIONAL_GLOBAL	Regional and global estimates
REL_CAL_POLICY	Expected time of release

[3] The Handbook for Monitoring MDGs (see http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Host.aspx?Content=Indicators/Handbook.htm) includes other concepts which are not wholly relevant to the exchange of metadata from MDG data providers (i.e. *gender equality issues*, *rationale and interpretation* and d*isaggregation*). This manual excludes these in preference to the main metadata concepts used by the MDG indicator reporting system.

[4] The metadata structure adopted by the MDG indicator reporting system (see http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Metadata.aspx) includes the main concepts adopted by the manual but other concepts exist in its structure such as *treatment of missing values*, *data availability* and *regional and global estimates* which are only applicable to international agencies. This manual excludes these concepts from the MSD as a wider set of producers (like countries) will want to submit metadata for their development indicators using this MSD.

Definition

The definition concept describes the basic definition and includes references to standards and classifications and clarification of technical terms included in the definition.

Figure 14: Concept description for the Definition

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
STAT_CONC_DEF	Definition of the MDG official indicator or background series provided	The text should provide descriptive information on the definition of the concepts associated with indicator (i.e. births, disease, etc.) but also associated classifications (i.e. industry, financial, environmental, rural/urban, occupations, age groups etc.) which help define the indicator.

Method of computation

The method of computation concept describes the algorithm used in the calculation of the indicator, providing the mathematical formula (if applicable). Identifies all statistics used to derive the indicator such as normalizing and weighting variables (for instance, the population). List different methods used by country to compute the indicator and includes hyperlinks to references to the international or national methodology adopted.

Figure 15: Concept description for the Method of Computation

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
METHOD_COMP	Method of computation	The text should provide descriptive information on any calculations made with the source data to produce the indicator, including formulas, adjustments and weighting particularly where mixed sources are used or where the calculation has changed over the time (i.e. discontinuities in the series) this process should be described.

Comments and limitations

The comments and limitations concept describes comments and limitations of the indicators including issues such as: comparability, sex disaggregating if applicable, presence of wide confidence intervals (such as for maternal mortality ratios). Provides further details on additional non-official indicators commonly used together with the official MDG indicator.

Figure 16: Concept description for the Comments and Limitations

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
COMMENTS_LIMITATIONS	Comments and limitations	The text should provide descriptive information on any comments or limitations of the indicator where not stated elsewhere in the metadata structure.

Sources of discrepancies

The sources of discrepancies concept describes the main reasons for discrepancy between data and metadata used for national and global monitoring to improve understanding by users of the differences between country-level data disseminated through the MDGs global database and those available in country MDGs databases.

Figure 17: Concept description for the Sources of Discrepancies

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
DISCREPANCIES	Sources of discrepancies between global and national figures	The text should provide descriptive information on the explanation for differences (i.e. discrepancy) between country produced and internationally estimated data on this indicator. This should particularly highlight and summarise sources of discrepancies which may already be mentioned in other metadata fields

Process of obtaining data

The process of obtaining data concept describes the mechanism for gathering data from countries including: (i) the government counterpart at the country level; (ii) description of the existing process of validation and consultation. This includes adjustments such as: to a standard classification, age group or to comply with a specific international or national definition.

Figure 18: Concept description for the Process of Obtaining Data

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
COLL_METHOD	Process of obtaining data	The text should provide descriptive information on the source. For example with a census/ survey source where possible the following should be described; the sample frame used, questions used to collect the data, type of interview conducted, dates/ duration of fieldwork, sample size, response rate, history of the source (including any changes over time); details of denominator (if from a different source) and any other relevant information related to the origin of the source or indicator. Similar details should be given for administrative sources.

Treatment of missing values

The treatment of missing values concept describes the process and provides the mathematical formula to produce the estimates for the indicator when country data are not available.

Figure 19: Concept description for the Treatment of Missing values

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
MISSING_VALUES	Treatment of missing values	**International context only:** The text should provide a description of how missing country or territory values are imputed or otherwise by international agencies for the presentation of the indicator.

Data availability

The data availability concept describes (a) country coverage; (b) universe/population of interest; (c) time lag between reference year and actual production of data series; (d) overview of frequency of data production.

Figure 20: Concept description for the Data availability

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
COVERAGE	Data availability	**International context only:** The text should provide a description of the number of countries or territories submitting data to the international agency on this indicator, the frequency of which these data are submitted and any other time issues related to their availability from their original sources.

Regional and global estimates

The regional and global estimates concept provides the mathematical formula and describes the method used for the calculation of the regional/global aggregates from the country values. Specifies what types of weights are used for aggregating country indicator values to regional level.

Figure 21: Concept description for the Regional and Global estimates

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
REGIONAL_GLOBAL	Regional and global estimates	**International context only:** The text should provide further methodological detail on how the data is assembled by the international agency from countries or territories to provide regional and global/ world aggregates. This is distinct from the method of computation section, which looks at how the indicator is compiled at a national level.

Expected time of release

The expected time of release concept provides the expected calendar of release for new data for each indicator.

Figure 22: Concept description for the Expected time of release

Code		Guidance on application to MDG indicators
ID	**Description**	
REL_CAL_POLICY	Expected time of release	The text should provide at minimum the year or ideally the quarter/month when the next data points associated with the indicator will become available or when the source collection is next planned.

Annex A: Code list for the series dimension

Dim	Code	
	Value	**Description**
Series	SI_POV_DAY1	Population below USD 1 (PPP) per day
Series	SI_POV_NAHC	Population below national poverty line
Series	PA_NUS_PPP	Purchasing power parities (PPP) conversion factor
Series	SI_POV_GAP1	Poverty gap ratio at USD 1 a day (PPP)
Series	SI_DST_1QNT	Poorest quintile's share in national income or consumption
Series	SL_EMP_PCAP	Growth rate of GDP per person employed
Series	SL_EMP_TOTL	Employment-to-population ratio
Series	SL_EMP_1DAY	Employed people living below USD 1 (PPP) per day
Series	SL_EMP_OACF	Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment
Series	SL_UEM_1524	Youth unemployment rate
Series	SL_UEM_YTOA	Ratio of youth unemployment rate to adult unemployment rate
Series	SL_UEM_YTOT	Share of youth unemployed in total unemployed
Series	SL_UEM_YTOY	Share of youth unemployed in youth population
Series	SN_STA_MALN	Children moderately or severely underweight
Series	SN_STA_MALS	Children severely underweight
Series	SN_ITK_DEFC	Population undernourished
Series	SE_PRM_NENR	Total net enrolment ratio in primary education
Series	SE_PRM_PRSL	Pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary
Series	SE_PRM_CMPL	Primary completion rate
Series	SE_ADT_1524	Literacy rate
Series	SE_ADT_GPI	Women to men parity index, as ratio of literacy rates
Series	SE_PRM_GPI	Gender Parity Index in primary level enrolment
Series	SE_SEC_GPI	Gender Parity Index in secondary level enrolment
Series	SE_TER_GPI	Gender Parity Index in tertiary level enrolment
Series	SL_EMP_NAGR	Share women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector
Series	SG_GEN_PARL	Seats in national parliament
Series	SH_DYN_MORT	Under-five mortality rate
Series	SH_DYN_IMRT	Infant mortality rate

Series	SH_IMM_MEAS	Children immunized against measles
Series	SH_STA_MORT	Maternal mortality ratio
Series	SH_STA_BRTC	Births attended by skilled health personnel
Series	SP_DYN_CONU	Contraceptive use among married women, any method
Series	SP_DYN_CONM	Contraceptive use among married women, modern methods
Series	SP_DYN_CONC	Contraceptive use among married women, condom
Series	SP_DYN_CCON	Condom use to overall contraceptive use among currently married women
Series	SP_DYN_ADKL	Adolescent birth rate
Series	SH_STA_ANV1	Antenatal care coverage, at least one visit
Series	SH_STA_ANV4	Antenatal care coverage, at least four visits
Series	SH_FPL_UNMT	Unmet need for family planning
Series	SH_FPL_UNMS	Unmet need for family planning, spacing
Series	SH_FPL_UNML	Unmet need for family planning, limiting
Series		
Series	SH_HIV_TOTL_LB	People living with HIV (lower bound)
Series	SH_HIV_TOTL	People living with HIV
Series	SH_HIV_TOTL_UB	People living with HIV (upper bound)
Series	SH_HIV_INCD_LB	HIV incidence rate (lower bound)
Series	SH_HIV_INCD	HIV incidence rate
Series	SH_HIV_INCD_UB	HIV incidence rate (upper bound)
Series	SH_DYN_AIDS_LB	AIDS deaths (lower bound)
Series	SH_DYN_AIDS	AIDS deaths
Series	SH_DYN_AIDS_UB	AIDS deaths (upper bound)
Series	SH_CON_HRSX	Condom use at last high-risk sex
Series	SH_HIV_KNOW	Population with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS
Series	SE_ENR_ORPHR	Ratio of school attendance rate of orphans to school attendance rate of non-orphans
Series	SE_ENR_ORPH	School attendance rate of orphans
Series	SE_ENR_NORPH	School attendance rate of children both of whose parents are alive and who live with at least one parent
Series	SH_HIV_ORPH	AIDS orphans
Series	SH_ARV_ACCS_LB	Antiretroviral therapy coverage among people with advanced HIV infection (lower bound)
Series	SH_ARV_ACCS	Antiretroviral therapy coverage among people with advanced HIV infection
Series	SH_ARV_ACCS_UB	Antiretroviral therapy coverage among people with advanced HIV infection (upper bound)

Series	SH_ARV_MTCT_LB	HIV-infected pregnant women who received antiretroviral drugs to reduce the risk for mother-to-child transmission (lower bound)
Series	SH_ARV_MTCT	HIV-infected pregnant women who received antiretroviral drugs to reduce the risk for mother-to-child transmission
Series	SH_ARV_MTCT_UB	HIV-infected pregnant women who received antiretroviral drugs to reduce the risk for mother-to-child transmission (upper bound)
Series	SH_STA_MALR	Notified cases of malaria
Series	SH_MLR_MORT	Malaria death rate
Series	SH_MLR_NETS	Children sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets
Series	SH_MLR_TRET	Children with fever being treated with anti-malarial drugs
Series	SH_TBS_INCD_LB	Tuberculosis incidence rate (lower bound)
Series	SH_TBS_INCD	Tuberculosis incidence rate
Series	SH_TBS_INCD_UB	Tuberculosis incidence rate (upper bound)
Series	SH_TBS_PREV_LB	Tuberculosis prevalence rate (lower bound)
Series	SH_TBS_PREV	Tuberculosis prevalence rate
Series	SH_TBS_PREV_UB	Tuberculosis prevalence rate (upper bound)
Series	SH_TBS_MORT_LB	Tuberculosis death rate (lower bound)
Series	SH_TBS_MORT	Tuberculosis death rate
Series	SH_TBS_MORT_UB	Tuberculosis death rate (upper bound)
Series	SH_TBS_DOTS_LB	Tuberculosis detection rate under DOTS (lower bound)
Series	SH_TBS_DOTS	Tuberculosis detection rate under DOTS
Series	SH_TBS_DOTS_UB	Tuberculosis detection rate under DOTS (upper bound)
Series	SH_TBS_CURE	Tuberculosis treatment success rate under DOTS
Series	AG_LND_FRST	Land area covered by forest
Series	EN_ATM_CO2PC_CDIAC	Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (CDIAC)
Series	EN_ATM_CO2PC	Carbon dioxide emissions per capita
Series	EN_ATM_CO2_CDIAC	Carbon dioxide emissions (CDIAC)
Series	EN_ATM_CO2	Carbon dioxide emissions
Series	EN_ATM_CFC	Consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs
Series	EN_ATM_ODS	Consumption of all ozone-depleting substances
Series	EG_USE_COMM	Energy use
Series	EG_USE_SLFL	Population using solid fuels
Series	ER_H2O_FWTL	Fish stocks within safe biological limits

Series	NR_WTR_WITH	Total water resources used
Series	ER_LND_TPA	Terrestrial areas protected
Series	ER_MRN_MPA	Marine areas protected
Series	ER_LND_TMPA	Terrestrial and marine areas protected
Series	ER_SPC_STE	Species threatened with extinction
Series	SH_H2O_IMPR	Population using improved drinking water sources
Series	SH_SAN_IMPR	Population using improved sanitation facilities
Series	EN_LND_SLUM	Urban population living in slums
Series	DC_ODA_TOTL	Net ODA
Series	DC_ODA_TOTG	Net ODA as a percentage of OECD/DAC donors' GNI
Series	DC_ODA_LDCS	Net ODA to LDCs
Series	DC_ODA_LDCG	Net ODA to LDCs as a percentage of OECD/DAC donors' GNI
Series	DC_ODA_SOCL	ODA to basic social services
Series	DC_ODA_SOCP	ODA to basic social services as a percentage of sector-allocable ODA
Series	DC_ODA_UNTD	ODA that is untied
Series	DC_AID_LLDC	ODA received in landlocked developing countries
Series	DC_AID_LLDCG	ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a percentage of their GNI
Series	DC_AID_SIDS	ODA received in small island developing states
Series	DC_AID_SIDSG	ODA received in small island developing states as a percentage of their GNI
Series	TM_VAL_DCDF	Developed country imports from developing countries, admitted duty free
Series	TM_VAL_LDDF	Developed country imports from the LDCs, admitted duty free
Series	TM_TRF_AGRI	Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products from developing countries
Series	TM_TRF_CLOT	Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on clothings from developing countries
Series	TM_TRF_TXTL	Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on textiles from developing countries
Series	TT_ASE_TOTL	Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries
Series	TT_ASE_TOTG	Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their GDP
Series	DC_ODA_TCAP	ODA provided to help build trade capacity
Series	DC_HPC_STTS	Countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and countries that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)
Series	DC_HPC_COMR	Debt relief committed under HIPC Initiative, cumulative
Series	DC_HPC_MDRI	Debt relief delivered in full under MDRI initiative, cumulative
Series	DT_TDS_DECT	Debt service as percentage of exports of goods and services and net income

Series	SH_ACC_DRUG	Population with access to essential drugs
Series	IT_SUB_ii91	Telephone lines
Series	IT_SUB_i911	Mobile cellular telephone subscriptions
Series	IT_USE_ii99	Internet users
Series	IT_CMP_i981	Personal computers

Annex B: Code list for the Reference Area dimension

Dimension	**Code**	
	Value	**Description (based on ISO classification)**
Reference area	CAN	Canada
Reference area	CPV	Cape Verde
Reference area	CYM	Cayman Islands
Reference area	CAF	Central African Republic
Reference area	TCD	Chad
Reference area	830	Channel Islands
Reference area	CHL	Chile
Reference area	CHN	China
Reference area	HKG	Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China
Reference area	MAC	Macao Special Administrative Region of China
Reference area	COL	Colombia
Reference area	COM	Comoros
Reference area	COG	Congo
Reference area	COK	Cook Islands
Reference area	CRI	Costa Rica
Reference area	CIV	Côte d'Ivoire
Reference area	HRV	Croatia
Reference area	CUB	Cuba
Reference area	CYP	Cyprus
Reference area	CZE	Czech Republic
Reference area	PRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Reference area	COD	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Reference area	DNK	Denmark
Reference area	DJI	Djibouti
Reference area	DMA	Dominica
Reference area	DOM	Dominican Republic
Reference area	ECU	Ecuador

Reference area	EGY	Egypt
Reference area	SLV	El Salvador
Reference area	GNQ	Equatorial Guinea
Reference area	ERI	Eritrea
Reference area	EST	Estonia
Reference area	ETH	Ethiopia
Reference area	FRO	Faeroe Islands
Reference area	FLK	Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
Reference area	FJI	Fiji
Reference area	FIN	Finland
Reference area	FRA	France
Reference area	GUF	French Guiana
Reference area	PYF	French Polynesia
Reference area	GAB	Gabon
Reference area	GMB	Gambia
Reference area	GEO	Georgia
Reference area	DEU	Germany
Reference area	GHA	Ghana
Reference area	GIB	Gibraltar
Reference area	GRC	Greece
Reference area	GRL	Greenland
Reference area	GRD	Grenada
Reference area	GLP	Guadeloupe
Reference area	GUM	Guam
Reference area	GTM	Guatemala
Reference area	GGY	Guernsey
Reference area	GIN	Guinea
Reference area	GNB	Guinea-Bissau
Reference area	GUY	Guyana
Reference area	HTI	Haiti
Reference area	VAT	Holy See
Reference area	HND	Honduras
Reference area	HUN	Hungary

Reference area	ISL	Iceland
Reference area	IND	India
Reference area	IDN	Indonesia
Reference area	IRN	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Reference area	IRQ	Iraq
Reference area	IRL	Ireland
Reference area	IMN	Isle of Man
Reference area	ISR	Israel
Reference area	ITA	Italy
Reference area	JAM	Jamaica
Reference area	AFG	Afghanistan
Reference area	ALA	Åland Islands
Reference area	ALB	Albania
Reference area	DZA	Algeria
Reference area	ASM	American Samoa
Reference area	AND	Andorra
Reference area	AGO	Angola
Reference area	AIA	Anguilla
Reference area	ATG	Antigua and Barbuda
Reference area	ARG	Argentina
Reference area	ARM	Armenia
Reference area	ABW	Aruba
Reference area	AUS	Australia
Reference area	AUT	Austria
Reference area	AZE	Azerbaijan
Reference area	BHS	Bahamas
Reference area	BHR	Bahrain
Reference area	BGD	Bangladesh
Reference area	BRB	Barbados
Reference area	BLR	Belarus
Reference area	BEL	Belgium
Reference area	BLZ	Belize
Reference area	BEN	Benin

Reference area	BMU	Bermuda
Reference area	BTN	Bhutan
Reference area	BOL	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Reference area	BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Reference area	BWA	Botswana
Reference area	BRA	Brazil
Reference area	VGB	British Virgin Islands
Reference area	BRN	Brunei Darussalam
Reference area	BGR	Bulgaria
Reference area	BFA	Burkina Faso
Reference area	BDI	Burundi
Reference area	KHM	Cambodia
Reference area	CMR	Cameroon
Reference area	JPN	Japan
Reference area	JEY	Jersey
Reference area	JOR	Jordan
Reference area	KAZ	Kazakhstan
Reference area	KEN	Kenya
Reference area	KIR	Kiribati
Reference area	KWT	Kuwait
Reference area	KGZ	Kyrgyzstan
Reference area	LAO	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Reference area	LVA	Latvia
Reference area	LBN	Lebanon
Reference area	LSO	Lesotho
Reference area	LBR	Liberia
Reference area	LBY	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Reference area	LIE	Liechtenstein
Reference area	LTU	Lithuania
Reference area	LUX	Luxembourg
Reference area	MDG	Madagascar
Reference area	MWI	Malawi
Reference area	MYS	Malaysia

Reference area	MDV	Maldives
Reference area	MLI	Mali
Reference area	MLT	Malta
Reference area	MHL	Marshall Islands
Reference area	MTQ	Martinique
Reference area	MRT	Mauritania
Reference area	MUS	Mauritius
Reference area	MYT	Mayotte
Reference area	MEX	Mexico
Reference area	FSM	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Reference area	MDA	Republic of Moldova
Reference area	MCO	Monaco
Reference area	MNG	Mongolia
Reference area	MNE	Montenegro
Reference area	MSR	Montserrat
Reference area	MAR	Morocco
Reference area	MOZ	Mozambique
Reference area	MMR	Myanmar
Reference area	NAM	Namibia
Reference area	NRU	Nauru
Reference area	NPL	Nepal
Reference area	NLD	Netherlands
Reference area	ANT	Netherlands Antilles
Reference area	NCL	New Caledonia
Reference area	NZL	New Zealand
Reference area	NIC	Nicaragua
Reference area	NER	Niger
Reference area	NGA	Nigeria
Reference area	NIU	Niue
Reference area	NFK	Norfolk Island
Reference area	MNP	Northern Mariana Islands
Reference area	NOR	Norway
Reference area	PSE	State of Palestine

Reference area	OMN	Oman
Reference area	PAK	Pakistan
Reference area	PLW	Palau
Reference area	PAN	Panama
Reference area	PNG	Papua New Guinea
Reference area	PRY	Paraguay
Reference area	PER	Peru
Reference area	PHL	Philippines
Reference area	PCN	Pitcairn
Reference area	POL	Poland
Reference area	PRT	Portugal
Reference area	PRI	Puerto Rico
Reference area	QAT	Qatar
Reference area	KOR	Republic of Korea
Reference area	REU	Réunion
Reference area	ROU	Romania
Reference area	RUS	Russian Federation
Reference area	RWA	Rwanda
Reference area	BLM	Saint-Barthélemy
Reference area	SHN	Saint Helena
Reference area	KNA	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Reference area	LCA	Saint Lucia
Reference area	MAF	Saint-Martin (French part)
Reference area	SPM	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Reference area	VCT	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Reference area	WSM	Samoa
Reference area	SMR	San Marino
Reference area	STP	Sao Tome and Principe
Reference area	SAU	Saudi Arabia
Reference area	SEN	Senegal
Reference area	SRB	Serbia
Reference area	SYC	Seychelles
Reference area	SLE	Sierra Leone

Reference area	SGP	Singapore
Reference area	SVK	Slovakia
Reference area	SVN	Slovenia
Reference area	SLB	Solomon Islands
Reference area	SOM	Somalia
Reference area	ZAF	South Africa
Reference area	SSD	South Sudan
Reference area	ESP	Spain
Reference area	LKA	Sri Lanka
Reference area	SDN	Sudan
Reference area	SUR	Suriname
Reference area	SJM	Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands
Reference area	SWZ	Swaziland
Reference area	SWE	Sweden
Reference area	CHE	Switzerland
Reference area	SYR	Syrian Arab Republic
Reference area	TJK	Tajikistan
Reference area	THA	Thailand
Reference area	MKD	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Reference area	TLS	Timor-Leste
Reference area	TGO	Togo
Reference area	TKL	Tokelau
Reference area	TON	Tonga
Reference area	TTO	Trinidad and Tobago
Reference area	TUN	Tunisia
Reference area	TUR	Turkey
Reference area	TKM	Turkmenistan
Reference area	TCA	Turks and Caicos Islands
Reference area	TUV	Tuvalu
Reference area	UGA	Uganda
Reference area	UKR	Ukraine
Reference area	ARE	United Arab Emirates
Reference area	GBR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Reference area	TZA	United Republic of Tanzania
Reference area	USA	United States of America
Reference area	VIR	United States Virgin Islands
Reference area	URY	Uruguay
Reference area	UZB	Uzbekistan
Reference area	VUT	Vanuatu
Reference area	VEN	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Reference area	VNM	Viet Nam
Reference area	WLF	Wallis and Futuna Islands
Reference area	ESH	Western Sahara
Reference area	YEM	Yemen
Reference area	ZMB	Zambia
Reference area	ZWE	Zimbabwe
Reference area	MDG_WORLD	MDG_World
Reference area	MDG_DEVELOPED	MDG_Developed regions
Reference area	MDG_TRANS_SEEUR	MDG_Transition countries of south-eastern Europe
Reference area	MDG_CIS	MDG_Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
Reference area	MDG_CIS_ASIA	MDG_Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Asia
Reference area	MDG_CIS_EUROPE	MDG_Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Europe
Reference area	MDG_DEVELOPING	MDG_Developing regions
Reference area	MDG_NAFR	MDG_Northern Africa
Reference area	MDG_SSA	MDG_Sub-Saharan Africa
Reference area	MDG_LAC	MDG_Latin America and the Caribbean
Reference area	MDG_LAC_LA	MDG_Latin America
Reference area	MDG_LAC_CAR	MDG_Caribbean
Reference area	MDG_EAS	MDG_Eastern Asia
Reference area	MDG_EAS_NOCHINA	MDG_Eastern Asia excluding China
Reference area	MDG_SAS	MDG_Southern Asia
Reference area	MDG_SAS_NOINDIA	MDG_Southern Asia excluding India
Reference area	MDG_SEAS	MDG_South-eastern Asia
Reference area	MDG_WAS	MDG_Western Asia
Reference area	MDG_OCE	MDG_Oceania
Reference area	MDG_LLDC	MDG_Landlocked developing countries

Reference area	MDG_SIDS	MDG_Small island developing States
Reference area	MDG_LDC	MDG_Least developed countries
Reference area	WB_WORLD	WB_World
Reference area	WB_EAP	WB_East Asia and Pacific
Reference area	WB_ECA	WB_Europe and Central Asia
Reference area	WB_LAC	WB_Latin America and the Caribbean
Reference area	WB_MNA	WB_Middle East and North Africa
Reference area	WB_SAS	WB_South Asia
Reference area	WB_SSA	WB_Sub-Saharan Africa
Reference area	WB_LIC	WB_Low income
Reference area	WB_LMC	WB_Lower middle income
Reference area	WB_UMC	WB_Upper middle income
Reference area	WB_LMY	WB_Low and middle income economies
Reference area	WB_HIC	WB_High income