MDG Indicator 30

UNSD

Workshop on Environment Statistics

(Addis Ababa, 16-20 July 2007)

MDGs

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
- Goal 5: Improve maternal health
- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

MDG Indicators for water and sanitation

- **Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability**
  - Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
    - 30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural
    - 31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural

Note: these indicators are being modified, and will be updated soon…

Internationally suggested changes to MDG Indicator 30

- Recommended the elimination of the term:
  - Sustainable
- Recommended a change in terms from:
  - Access, to
  - Use
- The indicators have not officially been changed yet, but the new definition will probably be:
  - Proportion of the population using improved drinking **water** sources
  - Proportion of the population using improved **sanitation** facilities

Definition

- The *proportion of the population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural*, is the percentage of the population who use any of the following types of water supply for drinking:
  - piped water,
  - public tap,
  - borehole or pump,
  - protected well,
  - protected spring or
  - rainwater.
- Improved water sources do not include:
  - vendor-provided water,
  - bottled water,
  - tanker trucks or
  - unprotected wells and springs.

Rationale

- The indicator monitors access to improved water sources based on the assumption that:
  - improved sources are more likely to provide safe water.
- Unsafe water is the direct cause of many diseases in developing countries.

Methodological Background

- Access to safe water refers to the percentage of the population with reasonable access to an adequate supply of safe water in their dwelling or within a convenient distance of their dwelling.
- The *Global Water Supply and Sanitation Assessment 2000 Report* defines *reasonable access* as
  - "the availability of 20 liters per capita per day at a distance no longer than 1,000 meters".

Methodological Background

- Access to and volume of drinking water are difficult to measure
- Sources of drinking water that are thought to provide safe water are used as a proxy

Methodological Background

- The indicator should be monitored separately for urban and rural areas.
- Because of national differences in characteristics that distinguish urban from rural areas, the distinction between urban and rural population is not amenable to a single definition applicable to all countries.
- National definitions are most commonly based on size of locality, with rural population as the residual of population that is not considered urban.

Estimating MDG Indicator 30

- Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)
  - WHO
  - UNICEF
- JMP annually compile international data and prepare regional and global estimates based on household survey data.
- Regional and global estimates are aggregated from the national estimates, using population-weighted averages.

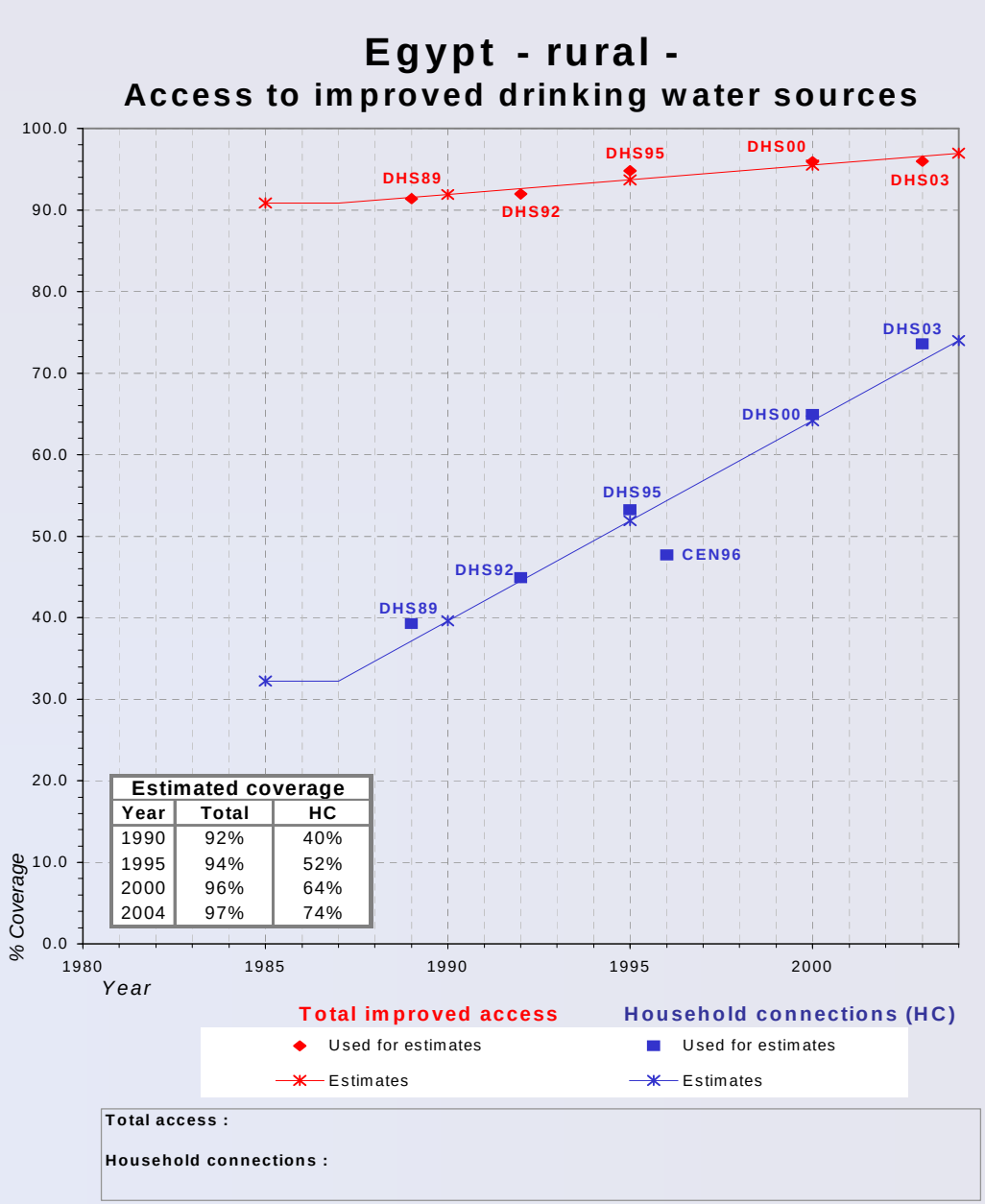
More details are available at http://www.childinfo.org

Estimating MDG Indicator 30

- JMP assess trends in “access to improved drinking water sources”
- Using a regression line through the available household survey and census data for each country

More details are available at http://www.childinfo.org

How are coverage estimates derived from basic survey information?



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Data Sources used Internationally

- Two data sources are common:
  - administrative or infrastructure data
    - Information on new and existing facilities
  - data from household surveys, including:
    - Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys,
    - Demographic and Health Surveys and
    - Living Standards Measurement study surveys.
- Before the household surveys were available, administrative data were used.

Data Sources Reliability

- Evidence suggests that data from surveys are more reliable than administrative records and provide information on facilities actually used by the population.

Limitations of household surveys

- Household surveys indicate what kind of facilities people use…
- They do not address:
  - Water quality
  - Used water quantity per capita
  - Reliability/continuity of service
  - Seasonal variations in use of source
  - How protected an improved facility is
  - Affordability

Source: This slide is from a WHO UNICEF Presentation

Why are JMP figures often different from national figures?

- JMP figures are based on linear regression of all household survey data points, while national figures often cite only the latest HHS or census data, or are based on reported figures from different sources;
- JMP monitors access to “improved” facilities, while some countries use a different definition;
- JMP uses population estimates for urban and rural areas provided by the UN-Population Division, based on medium growth rates.

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