

Expert Group Meeting: Lessons learned from MDG Monitoring (including subnational), and the way forward Statistical Commission 2015 – side events

27 February 2015
United Nations, New York

MDG MONITORING AT REGIONAL LEVEL: SOME ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE- SHARING

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UN DA Project

Title: “Strengthening statistical and inter-institutional capacities for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals through interregional cooperation and knowledge-sharing”

Period: 2010-2014

Implementing partners: Five Regional Commissions (ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA)

It facilitated the implementation of Regional Commissions MDG statistical programs

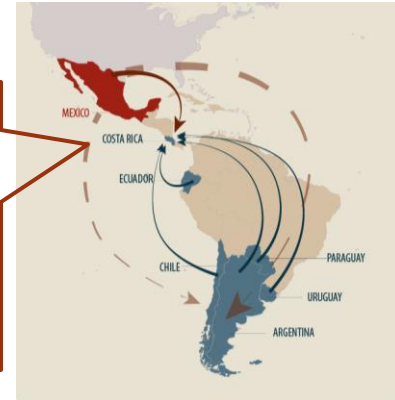
Main objective

*“To increase the availability of up-to-date and comparable MDG data at the national, regional and global level, **improving statistical capacities and institutional coordination** to invigorate the production of MDG indicators, **decreasing statistical discrepancies** between national, regional and global sources on the MDG indicators, and **strengthening regional MDG networks**”*

Strengthening of statistical and institutional capacities

- *More than 25 technical assistance missions to member countries.*
- *Capacity building workshops.*
 - *3 Africa*
 - *3 Europe*
 - *2 Latin America and the Caribbean*
 - *1 Asia and the Pacific*
 - *5 Arab States*
- *Several horizontal cooperation activities among countries.*
- *Workshops with technical staff from International agencies*
 - *Understanding the methodologies used by the IA and the countries for calculating the indicators.*
- *Seminars to strength inter-institutional coordination and regional networks*
 - *3 Latin America and the Caribbean: based on Regional Statistical Subsidiary bodies (Statistical Conference of the Americas) including international/regional specialized agencies.*
 - *1 Inter-regional: 5 RCs and several countries from Africa, Arab States, Asia, Europe and LAC.*

Example: Training of specialists in the use of an electronic death registration system aiming at improving mortality statistics (PAHO/USAID project in alliance with MEASURE-Evaluation)



Methodological publications

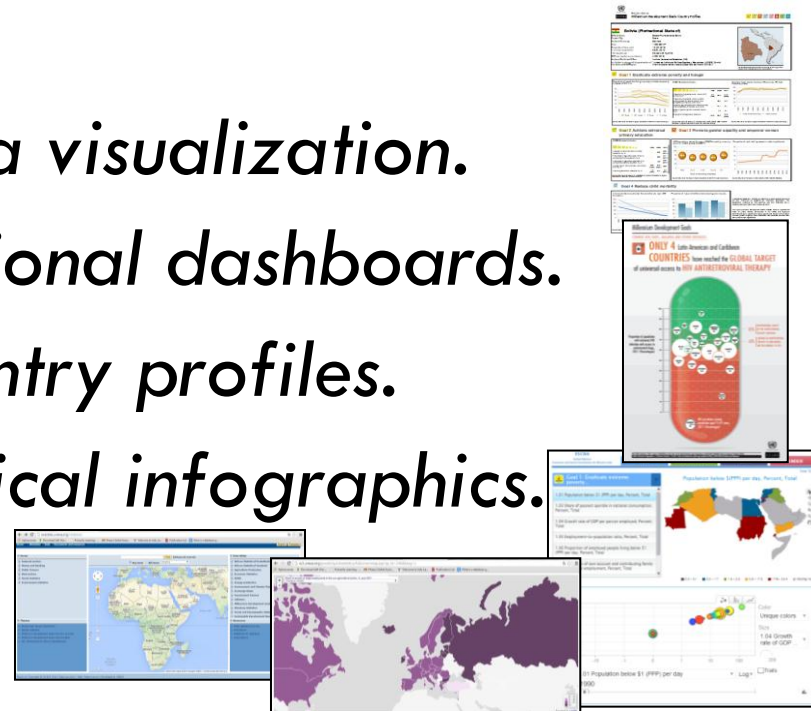
ECA	Development of a statistical training module entitled “Mainstreaming methods of measuring development progress in statistical training programs.” To be used by the Statistical Training Centres in Africa.
ECE	Several studies were produced to support regional workshops. These studies concentrated on methodologies used, best practices and potential additional indicators for monitoring national MDGs in the region. Methodological material, such as the MDG Handbook, was also made available in Russian and Albanian . More methodological material on MDGs will be made available in Russian.
ECLAC	Complementary MDG indicators for monitoring Education, Gender, Environmental and ICT Targets in Latin America and the Caribbean Inequality indicators in Latin America (available only in Spanish: Indicadores de desigualdad de mediano plazo en América Latina). Types of discrepancies in MDG indicator values and measures for statistical reconciliation: Overall framework and implementation in selected thematic areas and indicators.
ESCWA	e- Metadata Handbook for engendered MDG Arab customized framework “GIsIn” MDG Handbook: Metadata for the ESCWA Region. Millennium Development Goals: Data quality and quantity

Identifying the causes of discrepancies

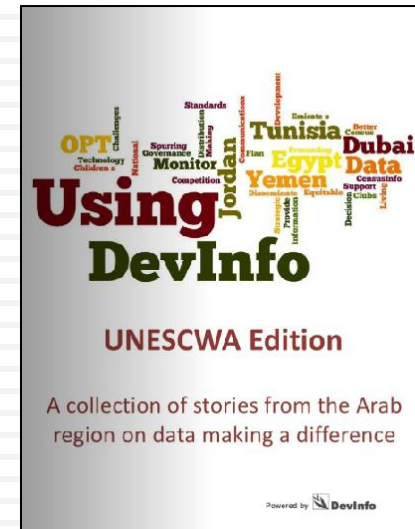
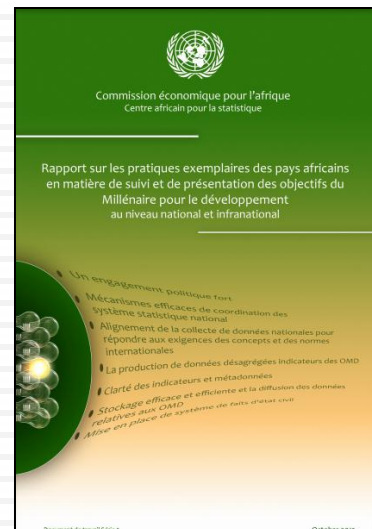
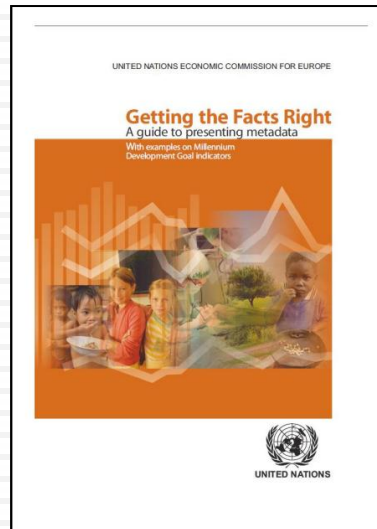
- *RCs have undertaken comparative data studies to identify the causes of discrepancies between national and international sources.*
- *Several reports were published with the results of those studies.*
- *These activities have improved the diagnosis on statistical discrepancies.*

Improvement data dissemination

- *Development or improvement of MDG statistics databases.*
- *Improvement of MDG data visualization.*
- *Development of MDG regional dashboards.*
- *Development of MDG country profiles.*
- *Production of MDG statistical infographics.*



Identification of good practices



IMPACTS OF THE ACTIVITIES

Among the impacts of the activities of the project in support of the MDGs in the different regions, are:

- Wider consciousness among countries of the importance of timely and comprehensive MDG data and metadata reporting;
- More knowledge by national representatives on coordination mechanisms and indicators methodologies used in different countries;
- Better understanding of internationally recommended methodology and of the causes of discrepancies between national and international sources and suggestions of actions to reduce them;
- More knowledge of SDMX as an information exchange mechanism and its benefits;

IMPACTS OF THE ACTIVITIES

- Definition of additional regional indicators relevant for monitoring progress in ECE and ECLAC region;
- Improved MDG data use for evidence-base policy making;
- Improve national capacities to produce MDG disaggregated data;
- Strengthened civil registration and vital statistics systems;
- Increase the availability of methodological documents related to the production of MDG indicators in other languages than English;
- Regional MDG databases that provide: comparative pictures of MDG data coming from national and international sources, countries MDG profiles and complete metadata;
- Awareness on the need to start the discussion on the MDG development framework post 2015.

Moving Forward – Post 2015 Agenda

- The regional dimension has been recognized as a main space for accountability.
- All RC have conducted consultation on the accountability for the post 2015 development agenda (subsidiary bodies as accountability forums in each region)
 - Need to enhance coordination between national, regional and international institutions.
 - Need to strengthen NSS.
 - Need to look for new mechanisms of cooperation among countries (middle income countries)
 - Need to coordinate with existing inter-institutional statistical instances like regional statistical subsidiary bodies, to implement the statistical work plan to monitoring the Post-2015 agenda

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