Three key lessons from MDG monitoring

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Effective monitoring of global goals and targets rests on different levels of data work that complement and mutually reinforce each other.

- All data are national data; countries have been leading the revolution in data availability and quality.

- Country level efforts have been supported by coordinated initiatives at regional and global levels.

- A strong foundation for collaboration has developed but arrangements need to be formalized and further strengthened.
The MDGs led to stronger emphasis on monitoring and reporting progress at different levels and resulted in innovations in indicators and methods.

- MDGs put focus on high-quality data, comparable across time and countries.

- The development and refinement of indicators has encouraged groundbreaking work at both the national and international levels.

- Given the broader post-2015 agenda, even greater commitment and innovative work will be needed.
• Monitoring goals and targets well requires a huge level of effort and substantial commitment.

– Adequate resources needed for data collection, compilation, analysis, and reporting at appropriate levels.

– More indicators, more frequently, more disaggregation, more dissemination means more work.

– Trade-offs between quantity and quality of indicators, potential to make better use of existing data.