

# Measuring Progress Towards Goals

**Carola Donner-Reichle**  
**Senior Advisor , Capacity Building and**  
**Social Development**  
**Asian Development Bank**

**International Workshop “The Millennium Development Goals and Beyond:  
Reflections on an International Development Policy Agenda after 2015”  
21-23 November 2011, Bonn, Germany**

**ADB**

# Background

- Key findings in Asia and the Pacific
- Use of statistics
- Capacity in developing countries
- Impact of MDG's for development
- Perspectives and Challenges

# Key Findings

State of progress in achieving the MDG's, in Asia and the Pacific

- impressive regional progress
- uneven progress across sub-regions and across countries
- disparities persists within countries
- large scale of deprivation remains

# MDG Gaps in Asia and the Pacific

## Diversity in the region

13 LDC, (3 in Southeast Asia, 4 in East Asia, 6 in the Pacific)  
least (Tuvalu) and most populated (China) countries in Asia  
Pacific

HDI values from rank 12 (Korea) to Afghanistan (155)

# Rising Income Inequality

Changes in Gini for Income Distribution 1990 vs. 2000

- Sri Lanka
- China
- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- India
- Nepal
- Bangladesh
- Mongolia
- Lao PDR
- Vietnam
- Pakistan

## Expenditures on MDG's (% of GDP)

- Diverse patterns in the region
- Maldives spent 20 percent of GDP on MDG priorities
- China and Pakistan spent less than 1 percent
- Expenditures is increased as percentage of GDP
  - Georgia, Nepal, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Iran and Maldives
- Elsewhere it has remained stable or decreased

# Use of Statistics

- Big difference of national statistics and UN statistics (UNDESA)
- UN agencies collect data in countries for UNDESA
- New data of countries, own definitions
- Law in Cambodia – to use own statistical data only (by the King)

# Capacity in developing countries

- Lack of capacity to collect data (PNG)
- Often old data are used- processes are too slow
- In countries like Thailand: problem to get sub-national data (remote, mountainous areas)
- Lack of technical advice to do reporting
- UN also makes mistakes (India)
- Comparable data on a global level:
  - Training of statistical bureaus in LDCs



# Impact of MDGs for Development

- Countries integrate MDG in national planning
- Some countries set up their own additional goals
  - Cambodia MDG on mining
- PNG decided 2004 own MDG, (15 national and 67 indicators)
- Some countries decide to plan after fulfilling MDG goals next level of developments
- Malaysia on health
- New target for Mongolia in 2008 after achieving health MDGs in 2005

# MDG useful for identifying new areas of action

- Specific measures in health

Indonesia

emergency aid identification

Myanmar

better maternity clinics- lessen mortality

Malaysia

private sector and NGO's should contribute to household under the poverty line

Bangladesh

cultural attitudes hinder MDG 4

- Innovative Approaches

Mongolia

establish livestock insurance

Indonesia

maternal insurance

joint efforts of Ministry of Health, Education and Social Services

## Perspective and Challenges

- Database, statistics and financing
- Role of development state, local media, civil society
- Role of private sector
- Institutions not fully functioning
- Capacities
- Participation and transparency
- Focus on national goals and indicators for Asia
- Not regional but sub-regional goals
- Generate inter-country exchange of experiences
- Global goals

**Thank You**

**ADB**