

Asia-Pacific Aspirations

Perspectives for a Post-2015 Development Agenda

Asia-Pacific Regional MDGs Report 2012/13



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Structure

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WHERE ASIA-PACIFIC STANDS: The MDGs, unfinished agenda and emerging issues

THE MDG EXPERIENCE: Lessons learned

GOING FORWARD: Aspirations from Asia and the Pacific



WHERE ASIA-PACIFIC STANDS: The MDGs, unfinished agenda and emerging issues

MR. SYED NURUZZAMAN

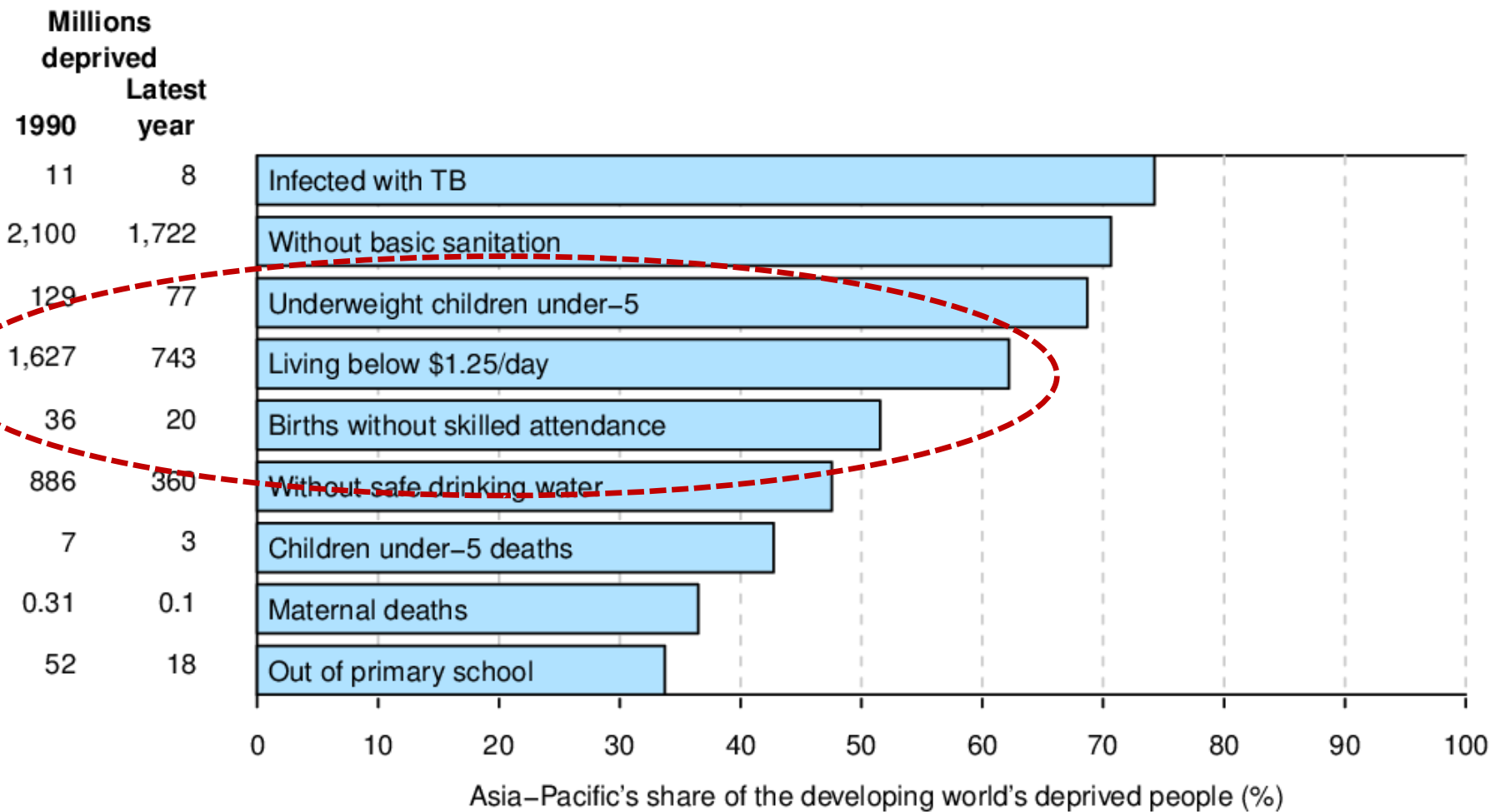
Chief

Countries with Special Needs Section,
Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division
(UN ESCAP)

Goal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	\$1.25 per day poverty Underweight children	Primary enrolment Reaching last grade Primary completion	Gender primary Gender secondary Gender tertiary	Under-5 mortality Infant mortality	Maternal mortality Skilled birth attendance Antenatal care (≥ 1 visit)	HIV prevalence TB incidence TB prevalence	Forest cover Protected area CO2 emissions per GDP Safe drinking water Basic sanitation
Asia-Pacific	● ■	▶ ■ ▶	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	● ● ●
Excluding China and India	● ▶	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	▶ ● ●
South-East Asia	● ▶	● ■ ●	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	▶ ● ●
South Asia	▶ ■	▶ ■ ■	● ▶ ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	● ● ●
Excluding India	● ■	■ ■ ■	▶ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ▶ ●	▶ ● ●
Pacific Islands		■ ■ ■	■ ▶ ■	■ ■ ■	■ ▶ ■	● ● ▶	▶ ● ■
Excluding Papua New Guinea		● ■ ▶	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ▶ ■	● ● ●	● ▶ ■
North and Central Asia	●	● ● ●	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	● ● ■
Excluding Russia	● ●	▶ ● ●	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	▶ ● ●	● ● ■
Asia-Pacific LDCs	▶ ▶	■ ■ ■	● ● ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	▶ ● ■
Asia-Pacific Low Income	▶ ▶	■ ■ ■	● ● ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	▶ ● ■
Asia-Pacific Middle Income	● ■	● ■ ●	● ● ●	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■	● ● ●	● ● ■

● Early achiever ▶ On track ■ Slow ▶ Regressing/No progress

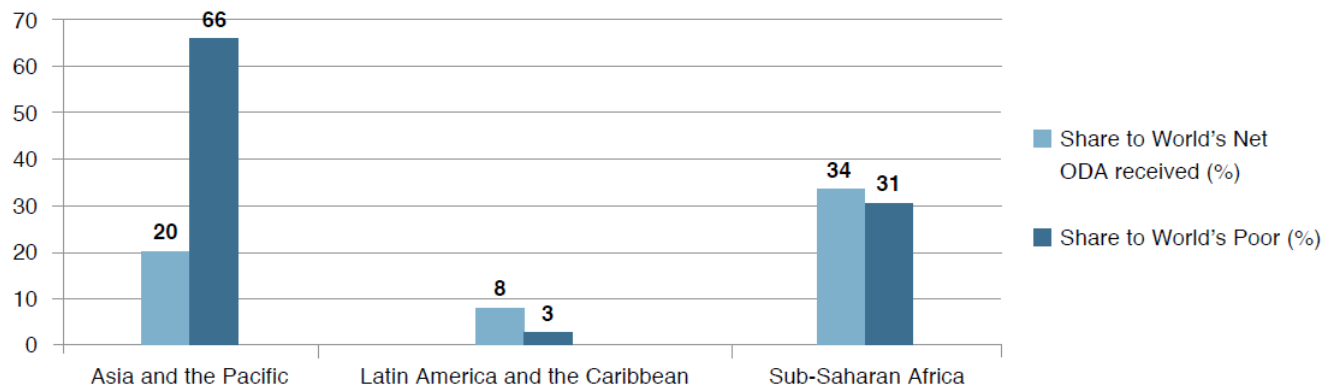
The MDGs are unfinished: Goals 1-7



... and about **1.64 billion** are under \$2 per day

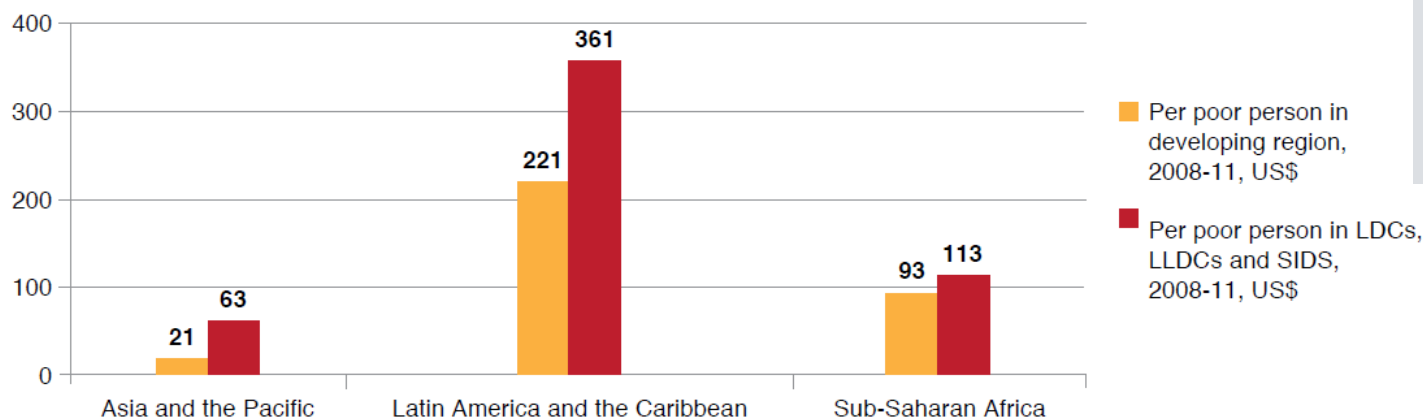
Goal 8 has been less than stellar: The region gets little aid

Share of developing regions in aid and total world population in poverty



Asia-Pacific has 62% of the developing world's poor but receives only 20% of average ODA flows in 2008-2011.

ODA per poor person in the region and countries with special needs



Asia also receives the lowest aid per poor person amongst developing regions.

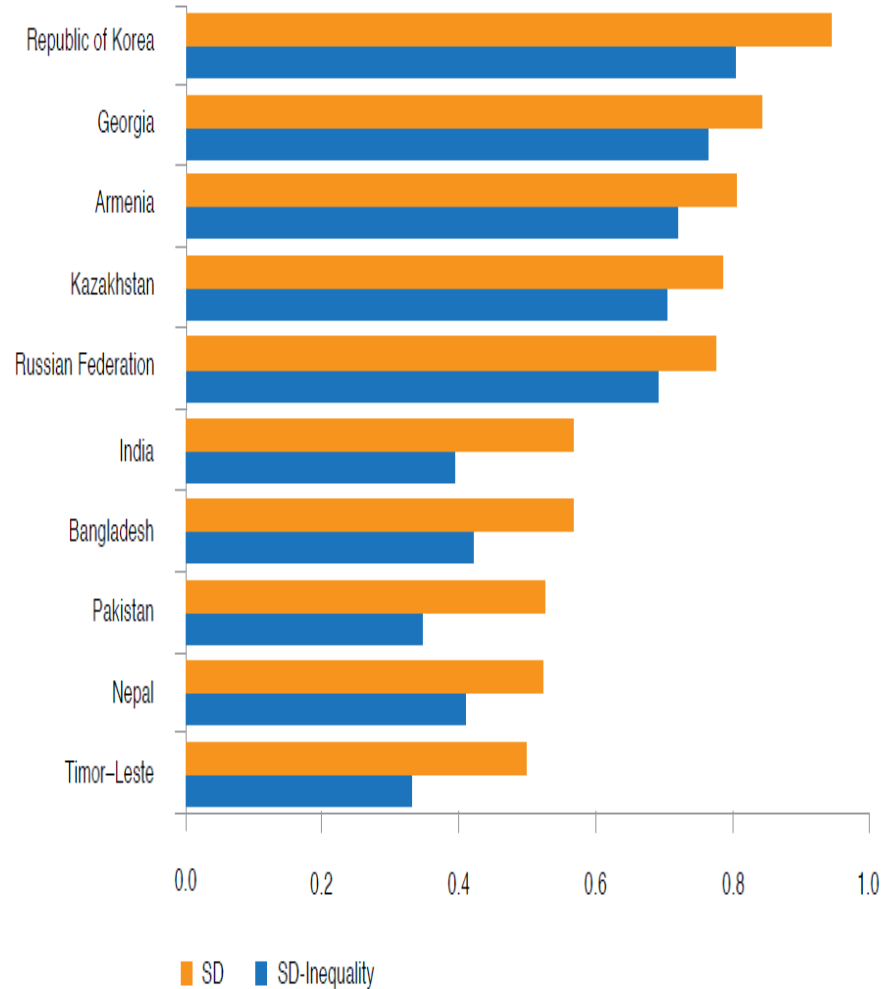
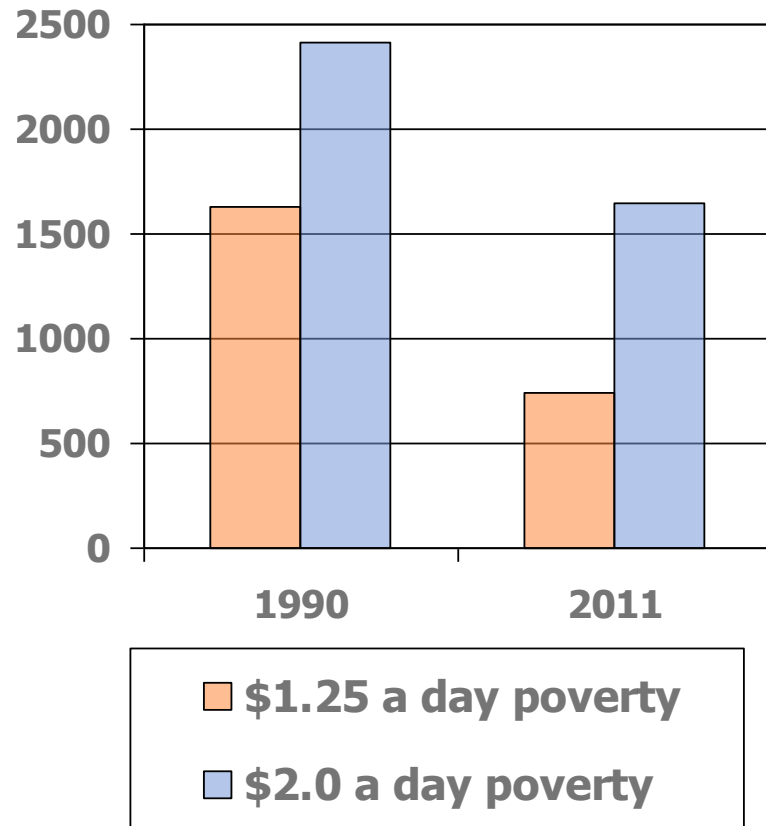
Unfinished agenda and emerging issues: The region's challenges ...



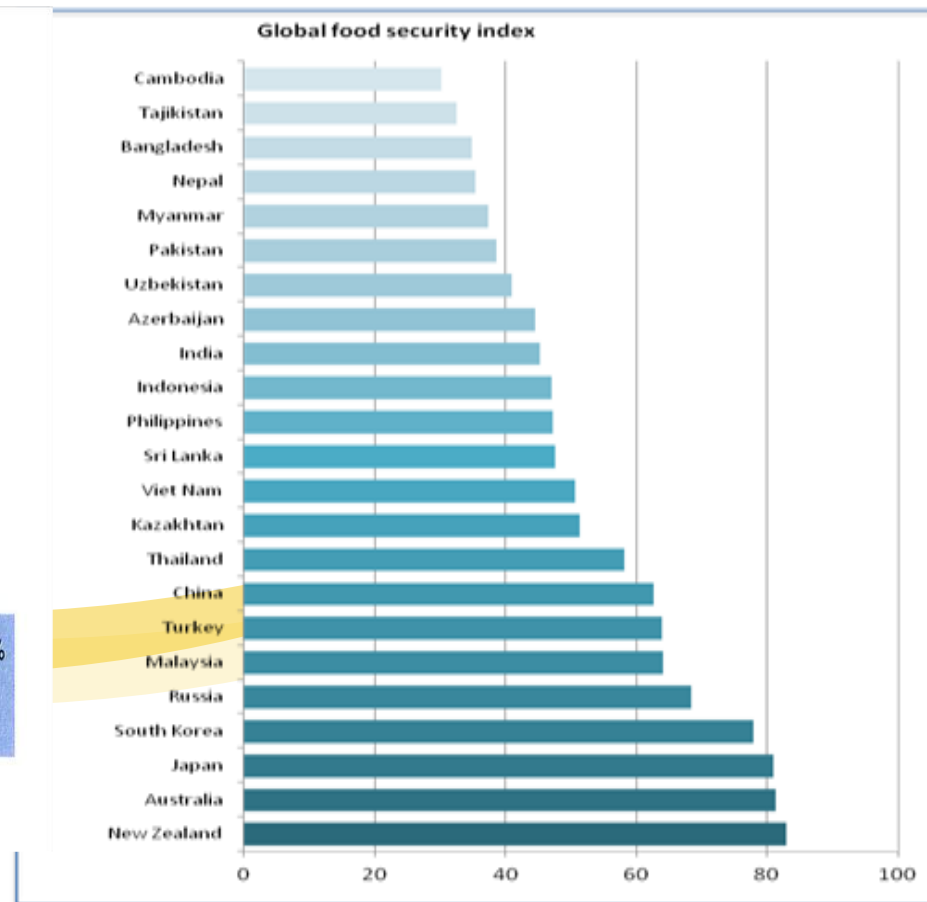
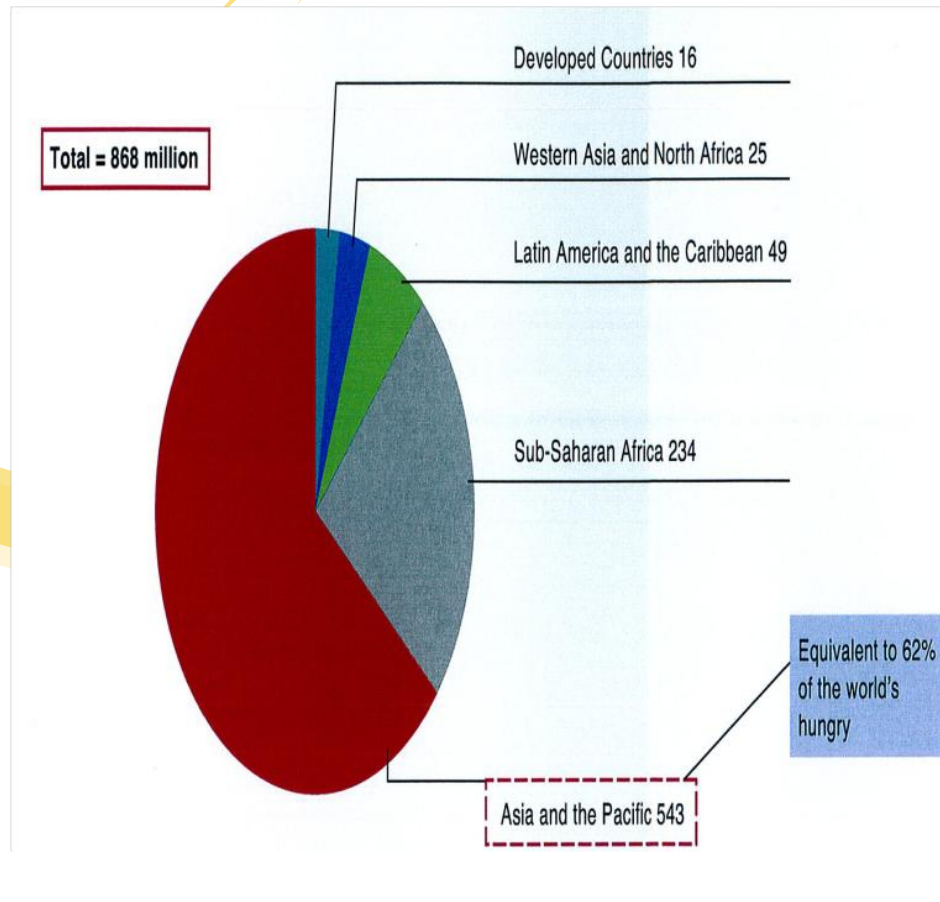
Increasing risks and shocks –
economic, ecological

Persistent poverty & rising inequality

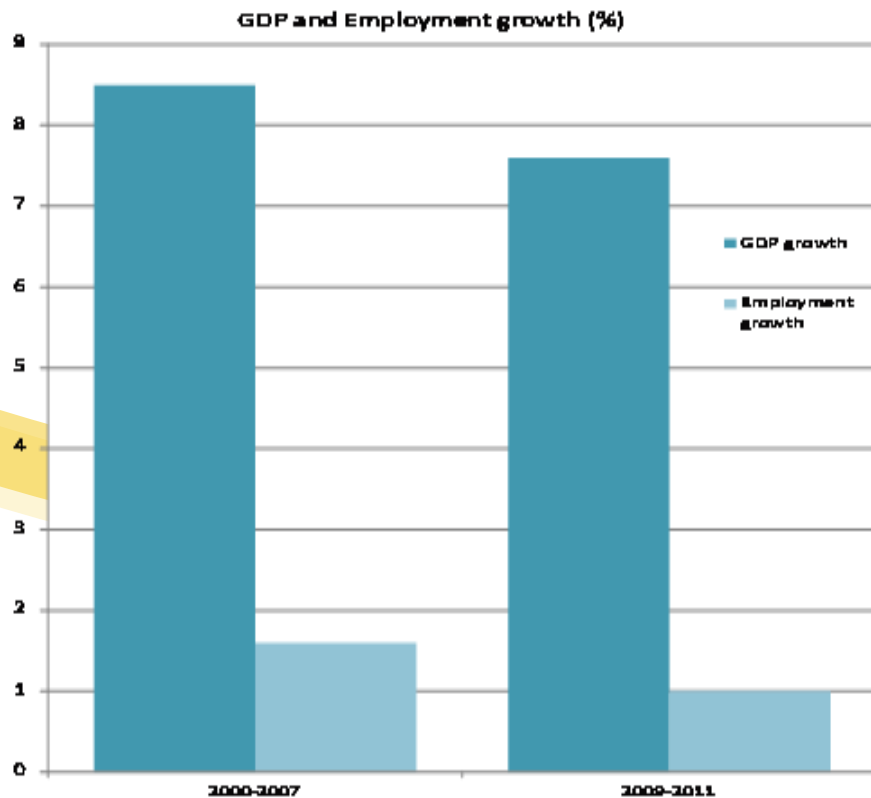
Millions of people in poverty



Malnutrition and food insecurity



Jobless growth & working poor

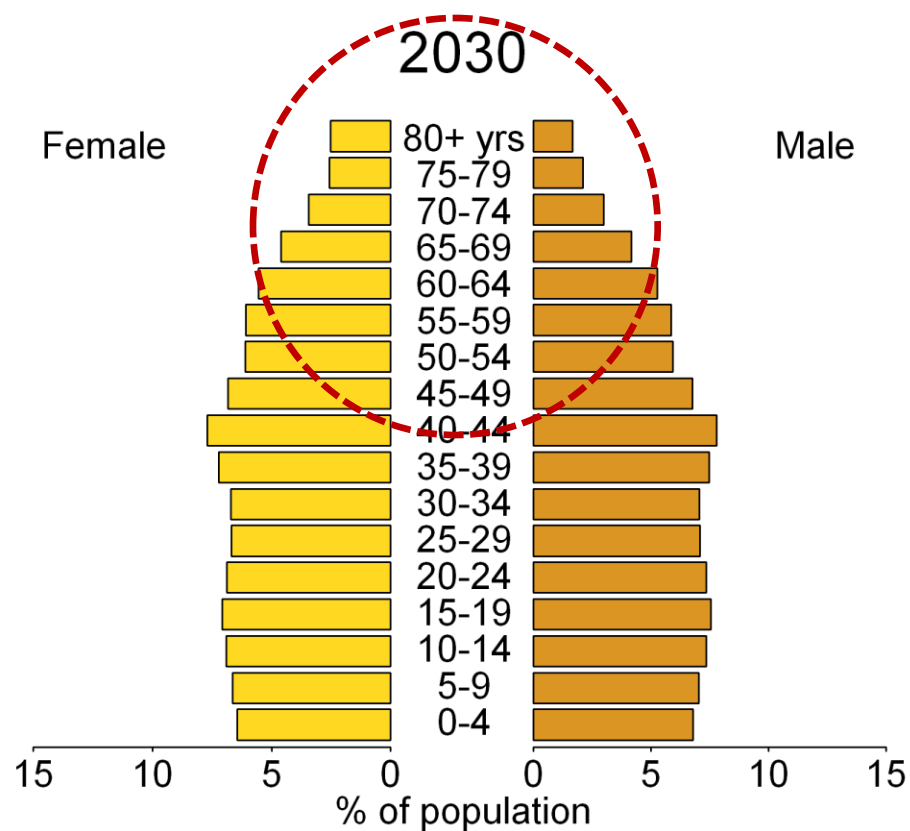


Vulnerable employment:

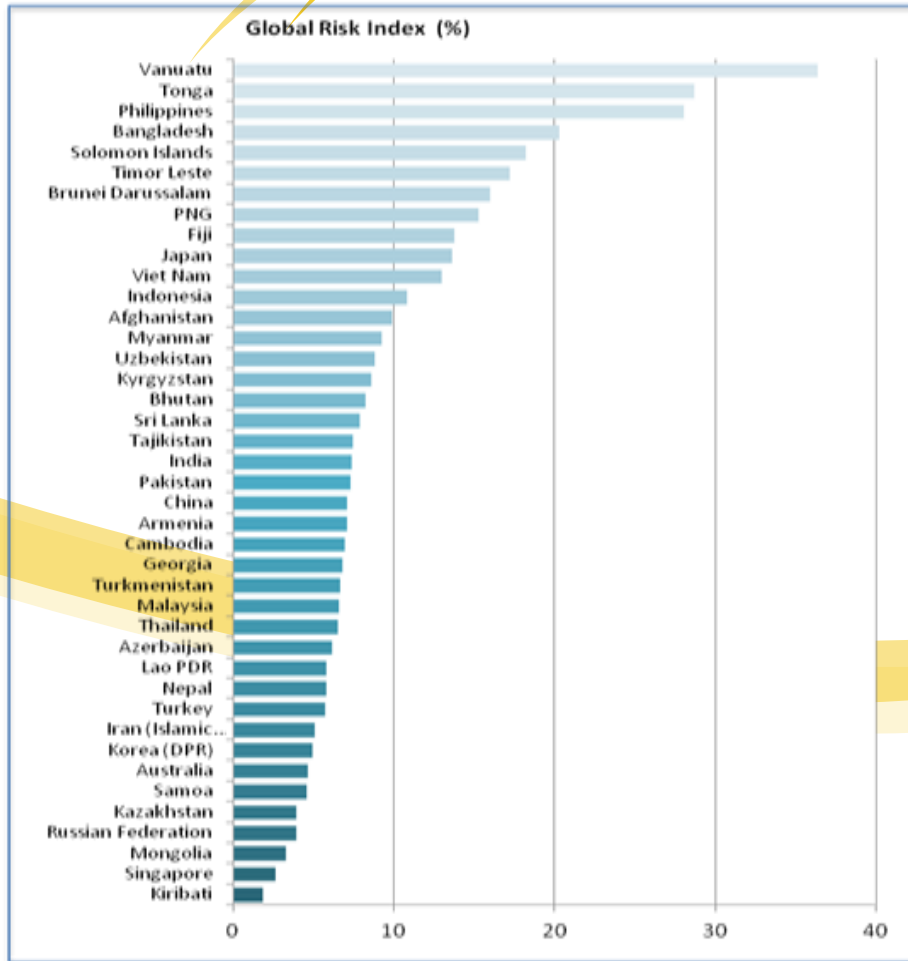
- 60% of Asia-Pacific workforce, 1.1 billion
- 73% of world's working poor, 422 million workers living below \$1.25 a day
- 80% of workers, 486 millions, in South Asia
- 50% of workers in East Asia

Asia and the Pacific is aging rapidly

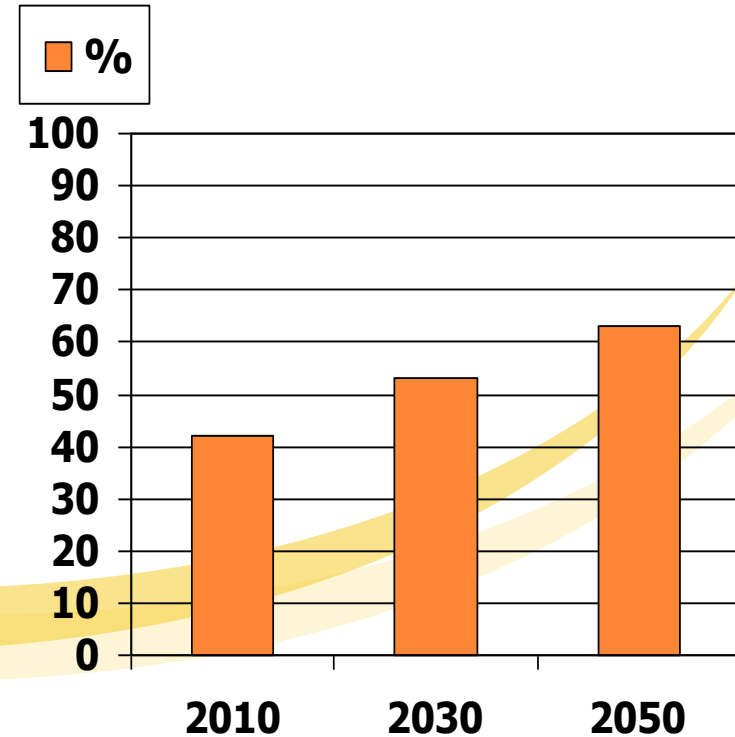
Youth share is also high




Increased disaster risks & rapid urbanization



Proportion of people living in urban areas



Serious data deficits

- Data gaps render MDG performance assessment weak in the Pacific and some LDCs
 - Timeliness, quality, disaggregation are longstanding issues
 - Demand for new indicators and greater disaggregation will further strain country statistical systems
- 



Thank you



THE MDG EXPERIENCE:

The impact of the MDG and lessons learned

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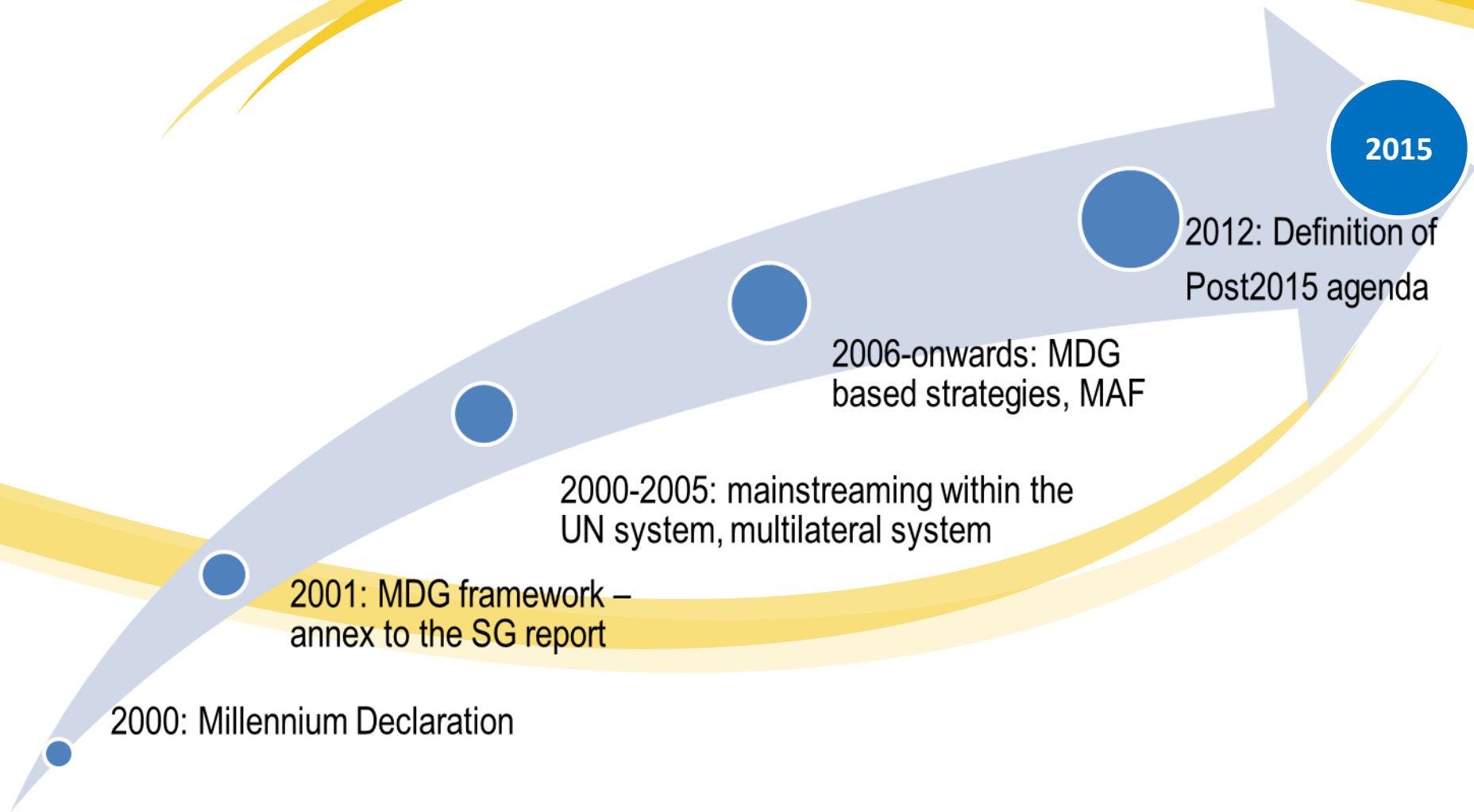
MDG strengths

- **Overarching political framework for international development**
 - Poverty in its different dimensions at the center of the global development agenda
- **Rallied political and financial support globally**
 - No other international instrument received this level of international attention
- **Simplicity was a big strength**
 - Measurable and easy to communicate

MDG Limitations

- **To achieve the broadest consensus, the MDGs had to compromise**
 - They omitted some key development issues and underlying challenges, e.g., inequality, gender, environment were only partially addressed
 - Did not prescribe how the goals would be achieved
- **The selection of targets and indicators was limited**
 - based on availability of data
- **Outcome orientation of targets was good, but they were specified in many different ways:**
 - proportional, completion, directional and even simply statements of intent

Too soon to judge – a 12 years journey



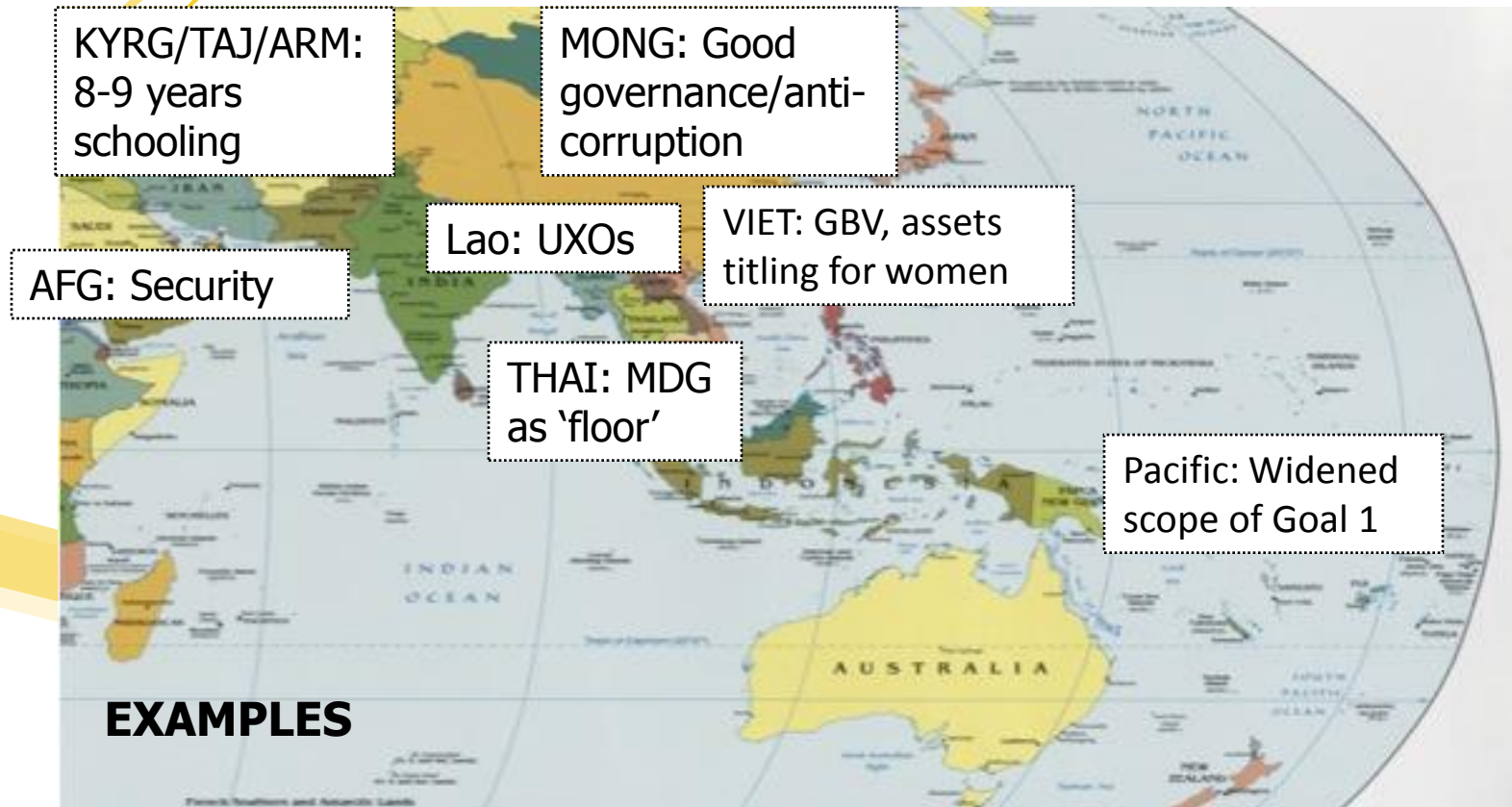
Overall the MDGs were effective in Asia Pacific...

- Raised aspirations and helped set local priorities
- Shaped national plans, budgets and could serve as a framework to reform domestic policies
- Ring-fenced social expenditure to an extent
- Motivated investments in institutional capacity
- Increased awareness for coordination across ministries/levels of government and development partners
- Measured outcomes and tracked progress in a comparable way - almost all AP countries produced N-MDGRs

Effectiveness of the MDGs

- **Opened a space for CSOs to engage in structured dialogue**
 - served as a springboard to advocate specific agendas
- **Encouraged statistical systems to monitor and report**
- **Adoption versus Adaptation**
 - The original intention of the MDGs was for goals to be collectively achieved for the world as a whole
 - UNMP - every country should adopt goals & targets
 - **But countries in AP have adapted the MDGs to their specific contexts**

Adaptation of the MDGs in Asia and the Pacific



Note: Not official map

MDG Acceleration Framework in the region

Armenia
Bhutan
Cambodia
Kyrgyz Republic
Indonesia
Lao PDR
Nepal
Philippines
PNG
Tajikistan
Tonga
Tuvalu and Vanuatu

**MDG Acceleration
Framework (MAF)**

MAF
integration in
national
development
planning

Source: www.undp.org/mdg/acceleration.shtml

Lessons from the MDG experience for post-2015

- The MDGs were articulated as stand-alone: neglected synergies across goals
- Compromises limited ambition: E.g., Goal 3 did not address gender empowerment and was limited to a few symptoms
- Goal 7 (Environment) did not adequately address new environmental challenges
- MDG 8 (Global partnership) was weakly formulated, hard to track and only partially monitored
- Demand on official statistical systems were not matched by resources resulting in incomplete monitoring
- One size did not fit all – so countries went ahead and customized without losing comparability which will be very relevant post-2015



Thank you



GOING FORWARD:

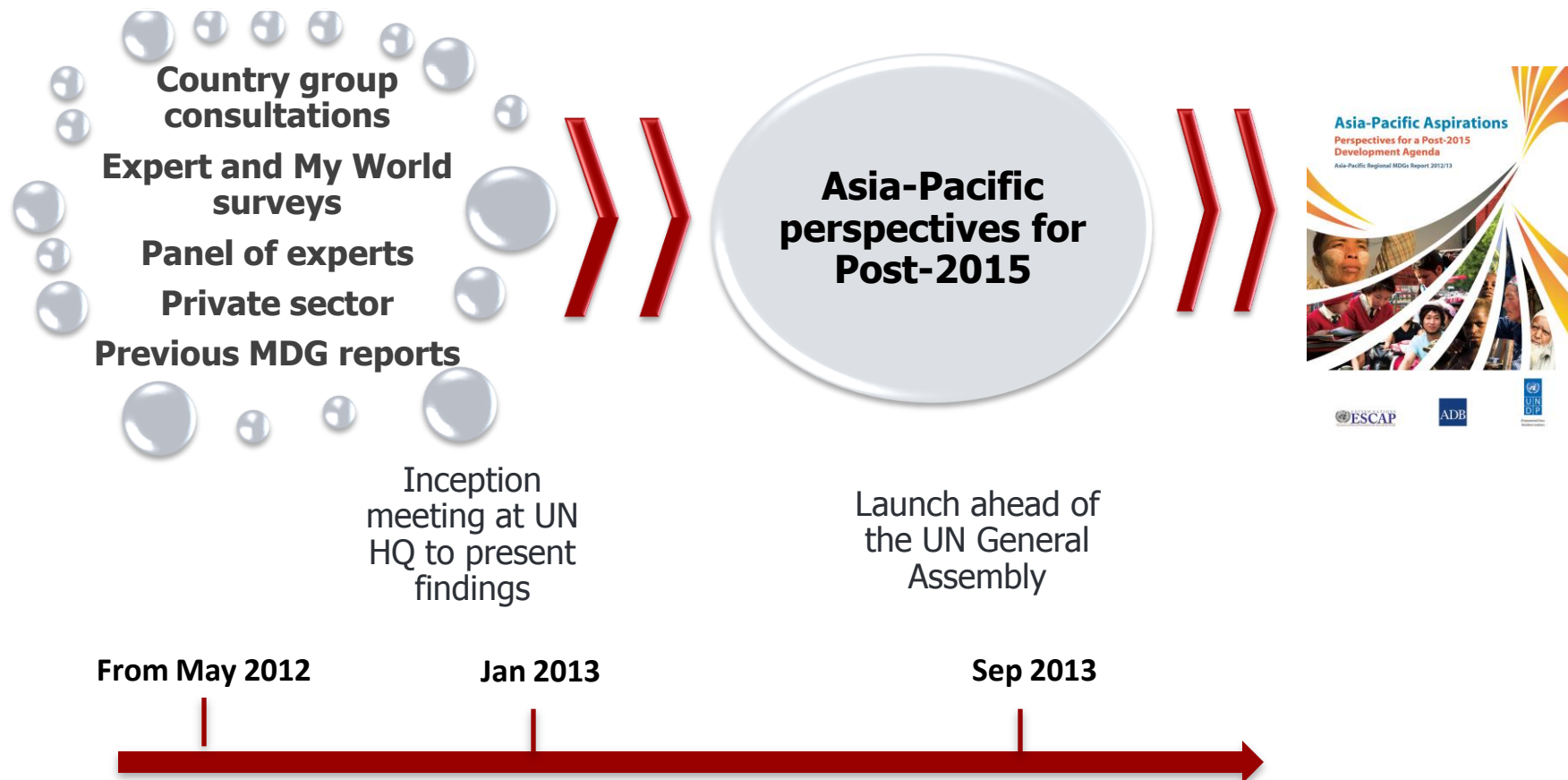
Aspirations from Asia and the Pacific

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Harnessing views from the region



Top 5 priorities...

EXPERTS

Sub-regional Consultations Expert Survey

- Quality education
- Eradicate poverty
- Accountable and responsive government
- Universal health
- Universal access to safe water and sanitation

PEOPLE

My World Survey

Asia

- Better health care
- Good education
- Better jobs
- Honest and responsive government
- Affordable and nutritious food

Pacific

- Protecting forests, rivers and oceans
- Access to clean water and sanitation
- Affordable and nutritious food
- Good education
- Action on climate change

Areas of convergence ...

The Post 2015 Development Agenda should:




- Drive transformative change

- Integrate economic prosperity, social equity and environmental responsibility

- Retain the MDGs as '**unfinished agenda**' (minimum standards)
- Agenda should be for **people** rather than organizations
- Move away from 'one size fits all'
- Account for **development stage**

Differences by income group are important...

Low income group – middle-to-higher income group			
			
Improved living conditions for all	Better access	Increased efficiency	Lifestyle change
Example WATER	Access to safe drinking water	Efficiency in use of water for agriculture	Reduction of freshwater use in daily life (includes reusing grey water)
	Access to electricity	Energy efficiency improvement in production & transport	Higher share of renewable energy use; lower energy use per head

...under a shared agenda

A challenge...

How can the simplicity and clarity of the MDGs be retained while addressing growing expectations and complexities?



Identify
guiding
principles

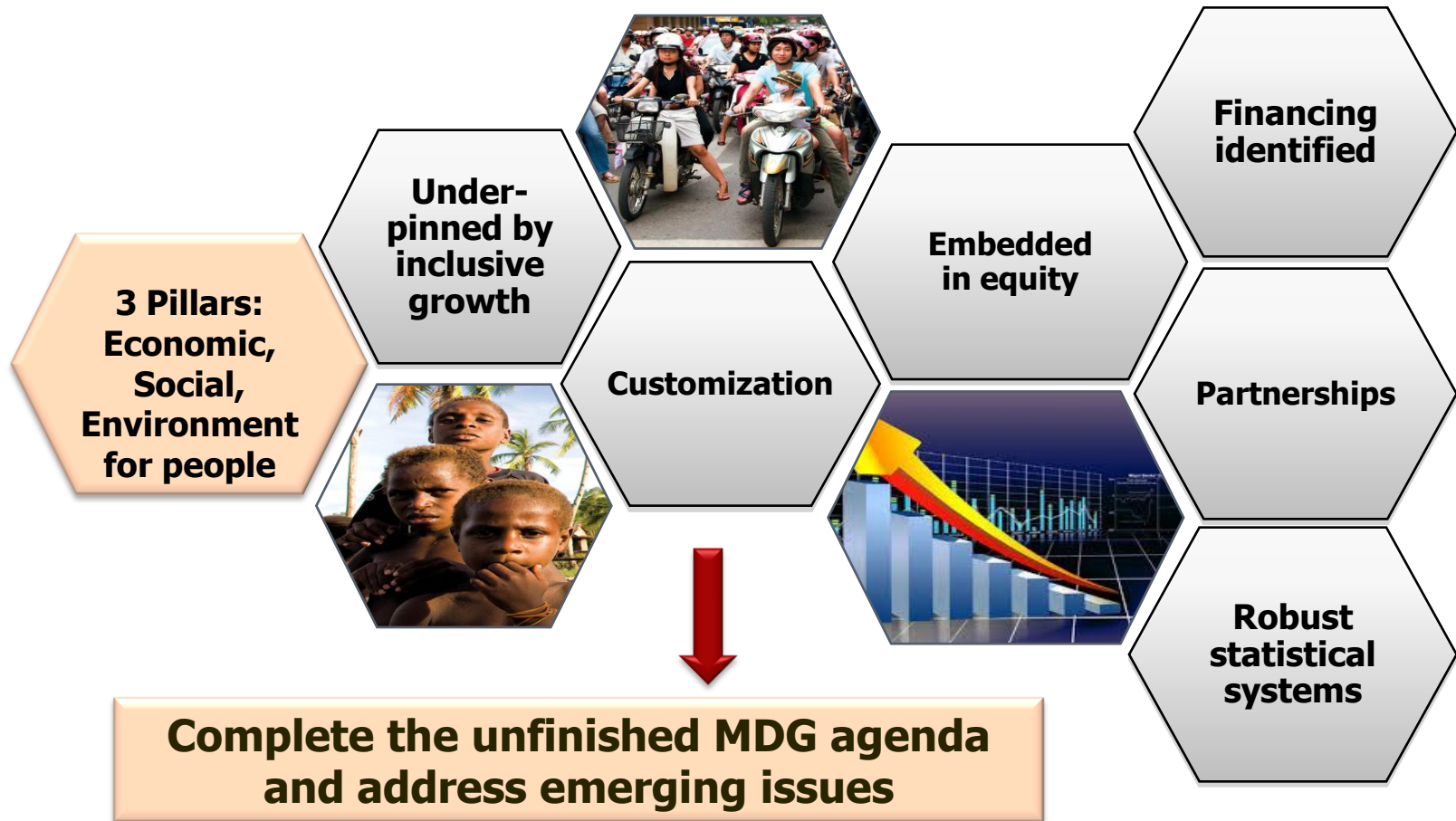


Prioritize
goal
areas



Present
framework
scenarios

Guiding principles for a successor framework



Goal areas for the next framework

**Zero
income
poverty**

**Decent jobs
for all of
working age**

**Quality
education for
all**

**Disaster risk
reduction**

**Zero
hunger,
malnutri-
tion**

**Health
for all**

**Liveable
cities**

**Accountable &
responsive
governments**

**Gender
equality**

**Improved
living
conditions
– pro-poor**

**Environ-
mental
responsibili-
ty & NRM**

**Strong
development
partnerships**

Framework scenarios

- The Base Model (MDG+)
- Integrated Sustainable Development Model (MDG++)
- The Transformational Model

Represent progressive ambition levels
within a timeframe

The question of compliance remains:
combine national reporting with peer review mechanisms

Seizing the future

- **The MDGs** demonstrated the value of **global support** for **common goals**
- The region's **past MDG experience** can support **more vigorous effort** for the future
- **National action** is primary; **recognize external factors** that influence national progress
- **Regional cooperation** for public good
- Engagement with **global institutions** essential in an increasingly interlinked world
- **Focus on results**—value for money



These findings are a contribution from Asia-Pacific to the global dialogue.



The Member States will finally determine the scope of a forward-looking agenda.

Asia and the Pacific matters to the world.

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Thank you