

Overview of the Second Regional MDG Report Concept Note and Dissemination Strategy

Raj Kumar
Chief
Poverty and Development Division



MDGs – How to treat them?

- MDGs emanated from MD - values and principles for a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.
- MDGs clear, measurable and time-bound development goals
- Multi dimensional nature - approach multi-sectoral, requires coordinated action .
- Raising the capabilities and creating an enabling environment.
- Improved governance

What MDGs are all about?

- Human dignity, equality and equity at the national and global level
- Respect for all international agreed human rights and fundamental freedom, including rights to development
- Creation of an environment conducive to elimination of poverty
- Good governance at country and international level

What the second MDG report hopes to achieve?

- An advocacy tool to galvanize actions.
- A vehicle for:
 1. analytical research to assist countries in identifying policy options and sharing experiences;
 2. advocacy function to promote support and ownership of MDGs by all stakeholders at all levels.
 3. reporting progress of MDG achievements, in particular to highlight areas where further action is required

What the second MDG report hopes to achieve?

The report supports:

- identifying the causes which result in some countries not achieving the MDGs
- highlighting best practices and lessons learned
- identifying areas requiring special attention

What areas will it cover?

- Update assessment made in first report with the latest data
- Special focus on
 1. LDCs,
 2. Land Locked Developing Countries
 3. Pacific
 4. Central Asia

What areas will it cover?

In-depth analysis of the three broad groups of developing countries

1. Countries which are largely on track to meet the target of halving extreme poverty by 2015 and achieving many of the social targets;
2. Those making good progress towards some individual goals (e.g. universal primary education), but have been less successful in reducing poverty; and
3. Those which are far from making adequate progress of most goals.

Special Thematic Topic: Institutional Change

- Three key factors influencing MDG achievement:
 1. economic growth and its impact on the poor,
 2. level of human and financial resources, and
 3. way institutions function, which is an indicator of development itself
- The first has been dealt with in first MDG report.
- Global MDG reports focus on resource requirements.
- Area of institutions has received less attention.

Why Institutional Change?

- Institutions are crucial for effective allocation of resources
- Provide enabling environment to help deliver services, shape human behaviour, govern effectively, protect human rights
- Create equal opportunity and empower people
- Touch every facet of human interactions

Why Institutional Change?

- Even the best organizations can accomplish little if institutional framework is antithetical to development goals
- Informal institutions and local norms and custom play a key role at grass root level
- Lacuna in policy advocacy and development efforts in addressing institutional issues

Technical Background Papers – Their Purpose

- An in-depth analysis on selected thematic issues:
 1. inputs into the second MDG report
 2. stand-alone MDG Knowledge Management Series that could be built progressively

Technical Background Papers – Their Purpose

1. Synthesis of national and sub-regional MDG reports
 2. PRSPs-role of institutions and MDGs
 3. Institutional change for good governance
 4. Enabling institutions for promoting and upscaling micro initiatives
 5. Gender and institutional change
 6. Water, sanitation and health: institutional issues
 7. Implications of the Doha Development Agenda for the achievement of MDGs in Asia and the Pacific
- Missing TBP – health and education

Sourcing of quality and comparable data

- UNDESA database, supplemented with national data.
- Enhance capacity-building efforts for national statistical systems and better organize existing data relating to MDGs.

Who will benefit the second MDG report?

- Key change agents
- Partners from public sector, NGOs civil society, including private sector and media.

Our strategies to promote key messages of the report?

- knowledge management process to promote key messages to achieving the MDGs
- Strategies:
 1. Development and testing of key messages at an early stage of project implementation
 2. A capacity development programme for key policy-makers in high-risk countries

Our strategies to promote key messages of the report?

- Strategies:
- 3. Ongoing development of distribution and partnership networks:

(Governments, Civil-society (including the involvement of the MDG Ambassador), Academia, Media, Private sector, Existing networks (Poverty-Net and MDG-Net))
- 3. Development of a web-based MDG resource facility for Asia and the Pacific

Timeline of the preparation of the project

- Report Launching - first week of September 2005.
- The preliminary findings and draft synthesis ready by November 2004 for submission to UNDESA as inputs to the SG's report on MDGs.
- A summarized version of the report at the UNESCAP Commission Session in April 2005