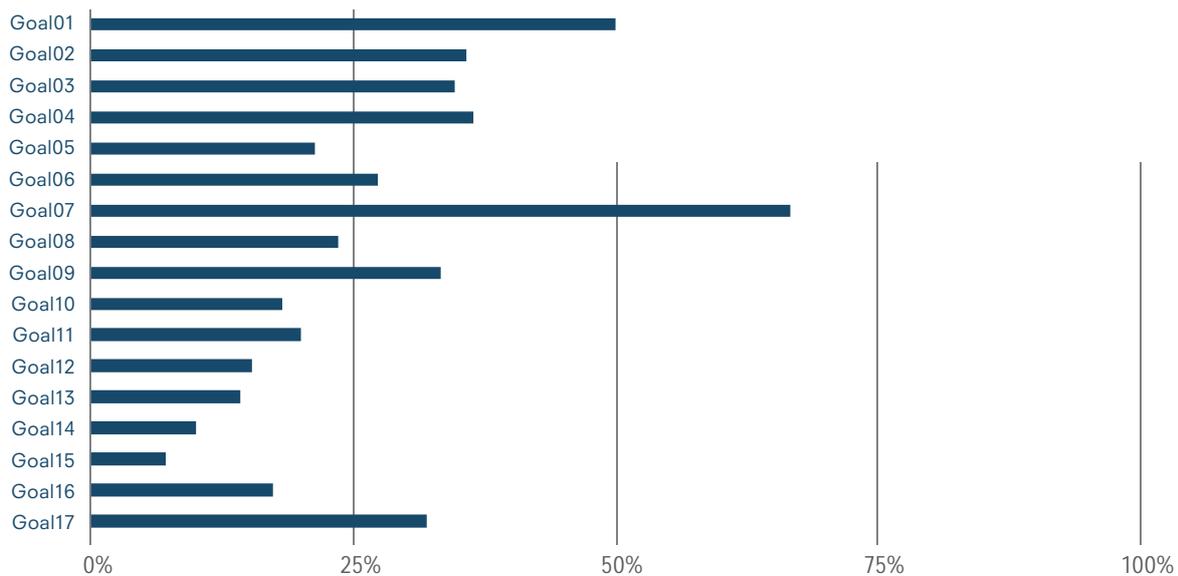




Goal Seventeen calls for enhanced global partnerships to implement the 2030 development agenda. The aim is to mobilize all available resources for sustainable and efficient financing for development; address systemic issues including strengthening data, monitoring and accountability, promote sustainable financing, facilitate equitable access to technology, target capacity needs, and promote equitable trade.

Proportion of SDG indicators with available data for 2015 by SDGs for Asia and the Pacific



No data available on over 70% of the SDGs indicators

According to the ESCAP statistical database, aggregate data at the Asia-Pacific region can be produced for less than 30% of the proposed 232 SDG indicators. Under all the other 16 SDGs, except for indicators on affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), less than 50% of the official indicators can be monitored at the regional level. In order to

permit regional aggregation for following up and reviewing the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific, governments will need sufficient data on relevant indicators. Collecting reliable and disaggregated statistics will benefit from national strategies for statistical development. These strategies can be guided by an effective user-producer dialogue, based on data needs for monitoring national policy priorities.

Strategic planning for statistical development continues to be a low priority in most Asia-Pacific statistical systems

In 2015, out of 41 countries that reported on their national statistical plans, only 16 had plans that were fully funded and under implementation.

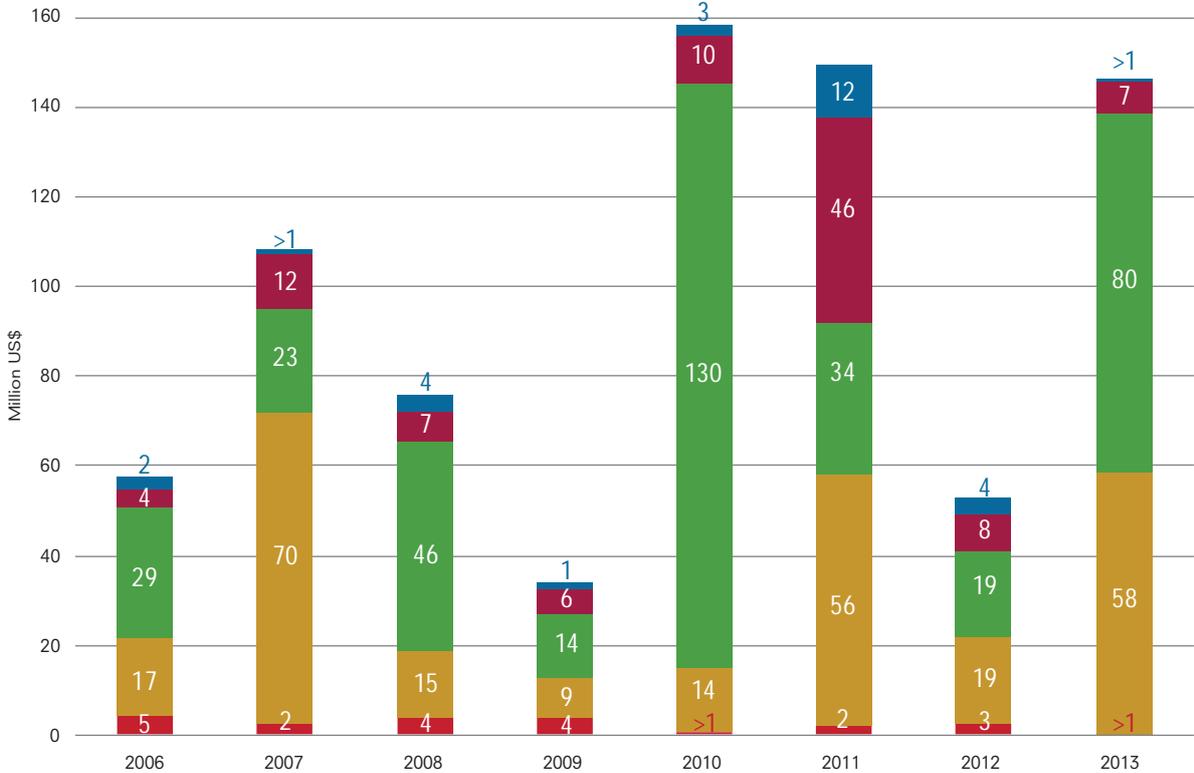
Statistical development requires sustainable and targeted resource mobilization. The Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS), published by PARIS21, presents data on the ongoing financial support to statistical development provided by multilateral and bilateral donors covering all areas of statistics. According to PRESS, in 2013, all the resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries in

the Asia-Pacific region added up to \$146 million. The LDCs received 88% of this. Distribution of the funds across statistical systems in the region between 2006 and 2013 shows an uneven allocation. This is most likely the consequence of major statistical operations such as population housing censuses, or the changing political landscape for foreign aid. For instance, in 2010 Bangladesh received 10% of the total assistance received by developing countries in the region, and in 2013 it received 32%, which is more than 25 times higher than assistance received by Bangladesh in previous years. Similarly, in 2007, 60% of the financial resources for the region was received by the Viet Nam statistical system and in 2013, 27% went to Myanmar.

Number of countries with National statistical plans fully funded and under implementation, 2015



Financing to strengthen statistical capacity

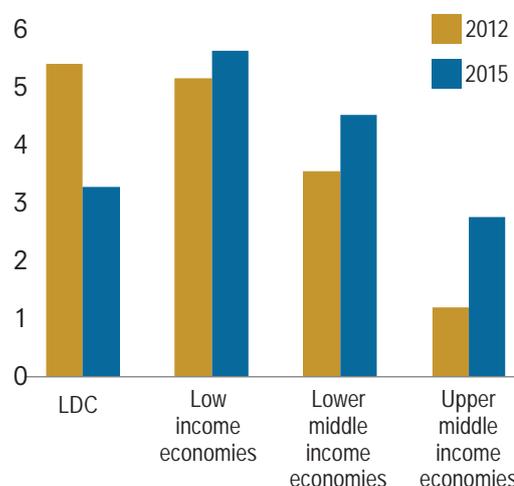


The debt service ratio increase in the region after 2012

The total debt service ratio is a key measure for an economy's debt burden. Between 2000 and 2012, all subregions in Asia and the Pacific managed to significantly reduce their debt service as a proportion of export incomes. One of the main reasons for this was the increase in earnings from exports of goods and services by the region's middle- and low-income economies. Subsequently, between 2012 and 2015, the debt service ratio increased in all the country income groups. However, it decreased significantly in LDCs, mainly due to a sharp increase in export earnings in Myanmar. In low-income countries, policy measures can help reduce debt distress and improve financial sustainability include debt relief, efficient debt management and access to

international capital markets with more attractive borrowing options.

Debt service as a proportion of total exports of goods, services and primary income (%)



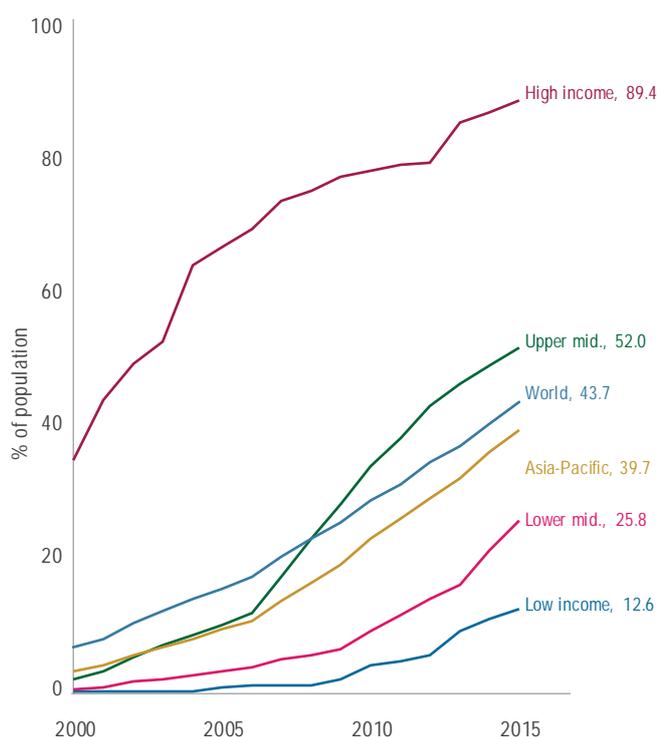
Different income groups get very different levels of internet access

Over the past decade, in the upper-middle-income economies of the region the number of internet users as a percentage of the population has increased by more than 40 percentage points – and is above the world average.

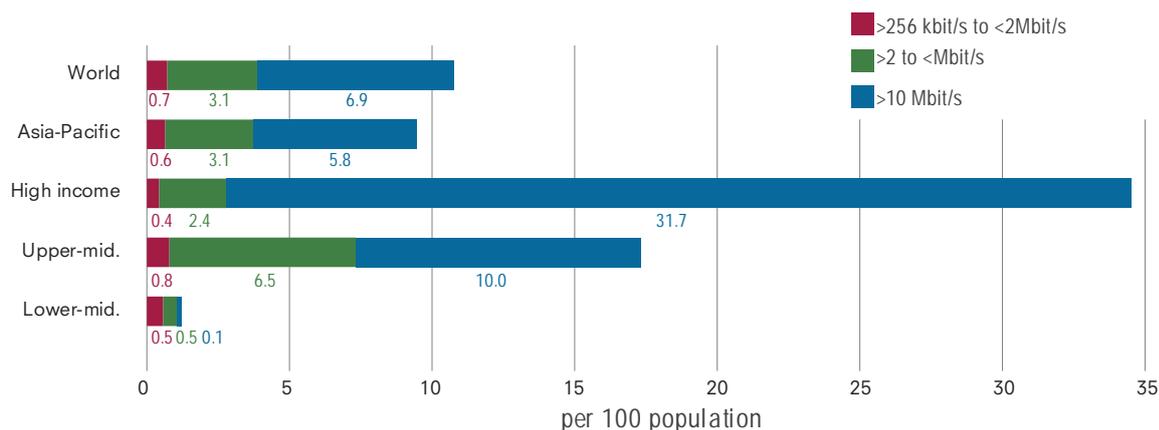
However, in lower-middle-income economies the proportion has remained below 26%, and in low-income economies below 13%.

The region's access to internet remained slightly below the world average in 2015. Subscribing to the internet continues to be unaffordable to people in the region's lower-middle-income economies. The contrasts in quality of access reflect considerable differences in ICT infrastructure. For 10 Mbit/s fixed internet broadband, the rate of subscription in high-income countries, at 32%, is three times higher than in upper middle income economies, at 10%. High-quality internet is almost inaccessible to people living in lower- and lower-middle-income economies.

Internet users, Asia-Pacific income groups and the world, 2000-2015



Fixed internet broadband subscriptions, by speed, Asia-Pacific income groups and the world, 2015



Despite progress made, LDCs continue to hold a small share of the region’s total exports of goods and services

Between 2005 and 2015, Asia-Pacific LDCs doubled their share of the region’s total exports of goods and services. Nevertheless, in 2015, that share was still less than 1% of the region’s total exports. A major hurdle for exports from these economies is the high cost of trade. This can be reduced through measures for trade facilitation. In 2015, developing countries exported 86% of the goods and services produced in the region. This represented a major increase since 2000, mainly due to increasing demand from emerging economies. Between 2005 and 2015, the Asia-Pacific region increased its share of total world exports of goods and services, from 29% to 36%, driven mainly by the success of major export-oriented economies such as China.

Share of Asia-Pacific total exports of goods and services (%)

