OBSTACLES TO MEETING THE MDGS IN ASIA-PACIFIC: LESSONS FROM THE MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK (MAF)

Biplove Choudhary
UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre
Accelerated Achievement of MDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda in South Asia
ESCAP/ADB/UNDP Sub-Regional Workshop
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Key lessons on MDG Implementation
The Millennium Development Goals are:

- Multi-sectoral
- Multi-dimensional
- Inter-dependent
Gender acts as a multiplier for all achieving all MDGs
South Asia on and off track for the MDGs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1.25 per day poverty</td>
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<td>Underweight children</td>
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<td>Primary enrolment</td>
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<td>Reaching last grade</td>
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<td>Gender primary</td>
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<td>Gender secondary</td>
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<td>Gender tertiary</td>
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<td>Under-5 mortality</td>
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<td>Infant mortality</td>
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<td>Maternal mortality</td>
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<td>Skilled birth attendance</td>
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<td>Antenatal care (≥1 visit)</td>
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<td>HIV prevalence</td>
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<td>Polio prevalence</td>
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<td>Malaria prevalence</td>
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<td>Tuberculosis prevalence</td>
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<td>Forest cover</td>
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<td>Protected area</td>
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<td>CO2 emissions</td>
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<td>Substandard consumption</td>
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<td>Safe drinking water</td>
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<td>Basic sanitation</td>
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Source: Staff calculations based on the United Nations MDG Database and World Population Prospects 2010; UNESCO Institute of Statistics for the education-related indicators under Goals 2 and 3, except ‘Reaching last grade’.
MDG Acceleration Framework to support South Asian Countries
II. What is the MDG Acceleration Framework?

- A “living document” to guide interventions, partnerships and resources
- Generate country-specific acceleration plans bringing together all partners for a systematic prioritization of bottlenecks and identifying interventions
- Focus on off-track and slow progress targets
- Leverage multiplier effects and innovations through cross sectoral synergies, breaking down multiple barriers at once
- Scale up integrated local-level initiatives
Four stylized facts on MDG Progress

- Progress tends to be non-linear
  - Periods of acceleration and slow-down
  - Increasing marginal costs as targets approached
- Reversals are possible and can actually occur due to external shocks/disasters
- Progress is heterogeneous
  - Different regions within a country progress at different rates
- Growth slow-down could presage deceleration
MDG progress: with and without acceleration

Projecting three different trajectories
MAF Bottlenecks of Four Types

Bottleneck categories:
- Policy and planning
- Budget and financing
- Service delivery (supply)
- Service utilization (demand)

Cross-cutting (illustrative examples below):
- Legal framework and laws
- Institutional capacities

Sub-categories:
- Sector Strategies, policies and plans
- Resource allocation
- Human resource
- Self-efficacy
- Engagement and advocacy
- Resource expenditure
- Infrastructure, equipment and supplies
- Acceptability
- Coordination and alignment
- Resource mobilization
- Sector-governance
- Accessibility and affordability
- Accountability and transparency

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.
Four Steps to Acceleration

Step 1: Identify, codify the interventions required to meet the MDG targets

Step 2: Help identify and prioritize MDG bottlenecks

Step 3: Identify solutions to form an MDG Acceleration Compact that aligns and focuses stakeholders and resources on accelerating MDG

Step 4: Implement and Monitor the MDG Acceleration Compact to ensure required impact
MAF has been rolled out in 44 countries globally including 3 countries in S. Asia
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustrative list of MAF countries in Asia-Pacific</th>
<th>Off track MDG being addressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>District wise off track MDGs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Sanitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Youth unemployment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Maternal Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Gender and Women’s empowerment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Maternal health</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Lessons From MAF Pilots

- Promote government ownership leveraging political support
- Build cross-sectoral and cross-ministerial engagement
- Recognize the role of local governments, civil society and other local actors
- Anchor in existing national development plans, policies and budget
- Balance acceleration with sustainability to prevent reversal
- Support MAF team with required expertise and knowledge
- Strengthen data availability and quality for monitoring progress
MAF can add value

• Bring together stand-alone activities; link all steps from policy to service utilization
• Operationalize laws, roadmaps and policies and improve implementation
• Help prioritize within existing investment plans for stronger MDG impact
• Motivate cross-ministerial collaboration towards common goal
• Indicate how best to adapt existing tools to the local context
• Select local solutions for scaling up
RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON MAF

MDG Acceleration Framework
http://www.undg.org/index.cfm?P=1505

MAF Brochure

MAF Operational Note and Annexes
http://www.undg.org/index.cfm?P=1505

Lao PDR: Reaching the unreached

Unlocking progress
Report on MAF pilot roll-outs

Colombia: Sub-national levels
Nariño: Empowering women
Colombia: Sub-national levels
Cundinamarca: Poverty reduction

Colombia: Sub-national levels
Santander: Maternal health

Uganda: MAF on maternal health

Togo: MAF on rural poverty

Ghana: MAF on maternal health

Belize: Water and Sanitation
Niger: Hunger and Food Security
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/

Tanzania: Poverty and Hunger
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/

Burkina Faso: Hunger and Food Security
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/

Costa Rica: Jobs for people with disabilities
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/

Tajikistan: Energy Access
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/

Central African Republic: Food Security and Nutrition
http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg_accelerationframework0/
THANK YOU!

Email: biplove.choudhary@undp.org