United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Statistical Division

UNECE MDG Statistical Programme

UNECE

Inter regional MDG indicators Meeting:

"Sharing knowledge to improve MDG monitoring and reporting"

UNECLAC, Santiago, Chile, 15-17 May 2012

UNECE and MDGs: Activities

- Regional expert groups meetings/capacity building Workshops
- National capacity building missions
- MDG database and data & metadata repository
- Analysis & Information MDG data
- Collaboration within UNECE and UN system

Activities 2010-2011: Workshops

- Regional Workshop on MDG monitoring (Geneva, 2010.11): methodology, discrepancies & additional indicators MDG 4&5, national coordination
- Regional Workshop on poverty and employment indicators of MDG1 (Almaty, 2011.09: methodology, discrepancies & additional indicators

Activities 2010-2011: Database

- Made available on-line data used for official national and international monitoring (end 2010)
- Currently:
  - On-line: 25 countries, 119 indicators, 5,962 data points, and 18,153 footnotes
  - Repository: 25 countries, 182 indicators, 7,850 data points, 19,714 metadata reference points, and 364,386 metadata points
- Further Improvements:
  - Added Quick statistics
  - Additional indicators proposed at workshops
  - Additional Metadata (data repository)

Increased public knowledge on MDGs Advice and promotion & Collaboration within UN

- UNECE MDG report
- UNECE Weekly articles
- Presentations to University students
- Presentations at other meetings
- MDG Handbook in Russian
- Participation in IAEG-meetings and working groups
- Participation in post-2015 discussions

Activities 2012-13

- Database
- Data & Metadata Repository
- Technical Missions/Capacity Building
- Horizontal Cooperation Technical Mission
- Analysis & reporting
- Coordination (IAEG etc)
- Servicing UN system and national governments etc..

2012-2013: Database and data repository

- Database
  - Add more official national MDG reports & on-line data
  - Add additional indicators
  - Add other data sources with official estimates of MDG indicators
- Data repository:
  - Add detail from sources (focus on: Definitions, Methodology and Primary data source)
  - Make metadata available on-line (wiki style platform)

2012-2013: Capacity Building

- Three national capacity building workshops
  - First tier countries: Armenia, Moldova, and Tajikistan
- Horizontal cooperation technical mission
  - Visit to 2-3 countries by representatives from other countries
- Albania national workshop on MDG 2 & MDG 3

Possible topics for national capacity building missions

- Methodology: assist a country in implementing internationally agreed methodologies to estimate indicators from primary data sources
- On-line data dissemination: assist a country in creating an online dissemination tool for MDG-data (for example in PcAxis)
- Metadata: improve the provision of metadata in a country. This can be from the primary data sources up to the final disseminated data or any part of it.
- Data analysis: improve the analytical capacity regarding one or more indicators

Horizontal Cooperation:

- Process from planning a survey to the final dissemination of an MDG-indicator
- Back to back to Albania national workshop on MDG 2 & MDG 3
- Other proposals?

2012-2013: Other

- Analysis:
  - Contribute data, analyses and text to the Regional MDG-report
  - Report on data discrepancies
- Post 2015:
  - Regional interest/relevance
- Promoting data coming from region etc..
- Coordination UN system and NSOs

UNECE Regional MDG Database

UNECE Regional MDG Database: Principles

- UNECE has a mandate to produce a regional MDG database *(ECOSOC: E/2006/15/Add.1, page 11)*
- Focus on Eastern Europe, South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
- Added value for member states
- No duplication of efforts
- No increase in national burden but alleviate

Regional MDG-database: further considerations

- National estimates should be acknowledged
- Different alternative/harmonized UN estimates exist
- Comparing estimates and sources useful
- All data are publicly available but not in one place and not documented
- General audience should not be confused with multiple estimates
- UNECE provides a neutral platform with a regional focus

MDG data: Issues

- Comparability of data:
  - Several estimates for the same MDG-indicator for the same period exist, sometimes even in one National MDG-report
  - Limited deviation from recommended (exact definition often differs)
  - Alternative indicators exist
  - Disaggregated data exists
  - Updated and corrected figures published
- ➔ Need for overview with adequate metadata for interpretation

UNECE regional MDG-database:

- Two databases:

I) Official National and International estimates

-1) Most recent official National estimates

-2) Most recent official International estimates

- Basic relevant metadata in footnotes

II) Data repository with extended metadata

- For expert users

- All official national estimates (multiple estimates)

- Detailed metadata

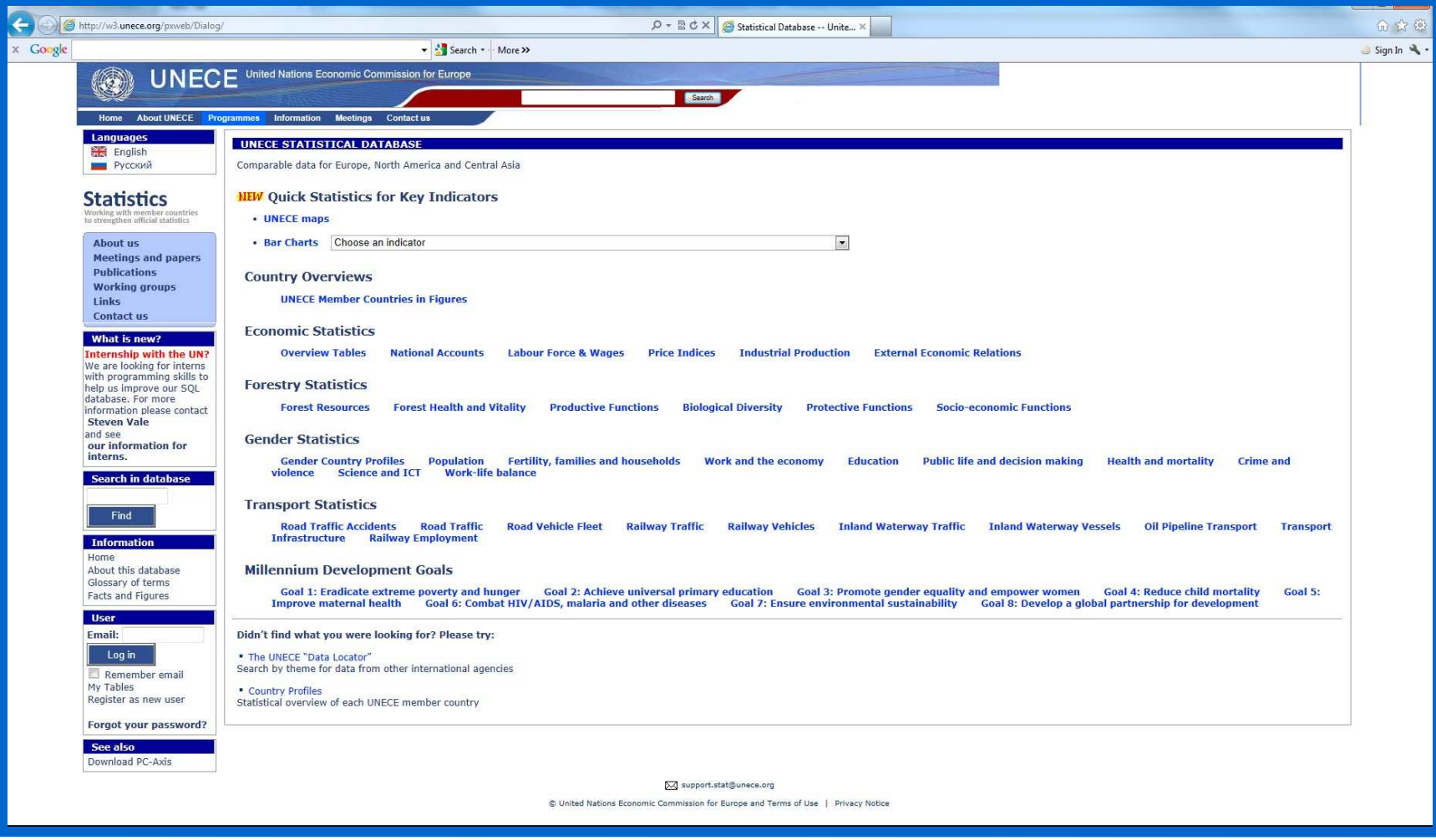
I.1) Official National MDG estimates

- Regional overview nationally authorized MDGs estimates
- Sources:
  - **National MDG-reports**
  - **National MDG websites**
  - *Official statistics (NSO yearbooks and publications)*
  - *Data request by UN-family*
- Updates: Most recent estimate for certain period only
- Relevant disaggregated MDG indicators
- Additional regional MDG indicators

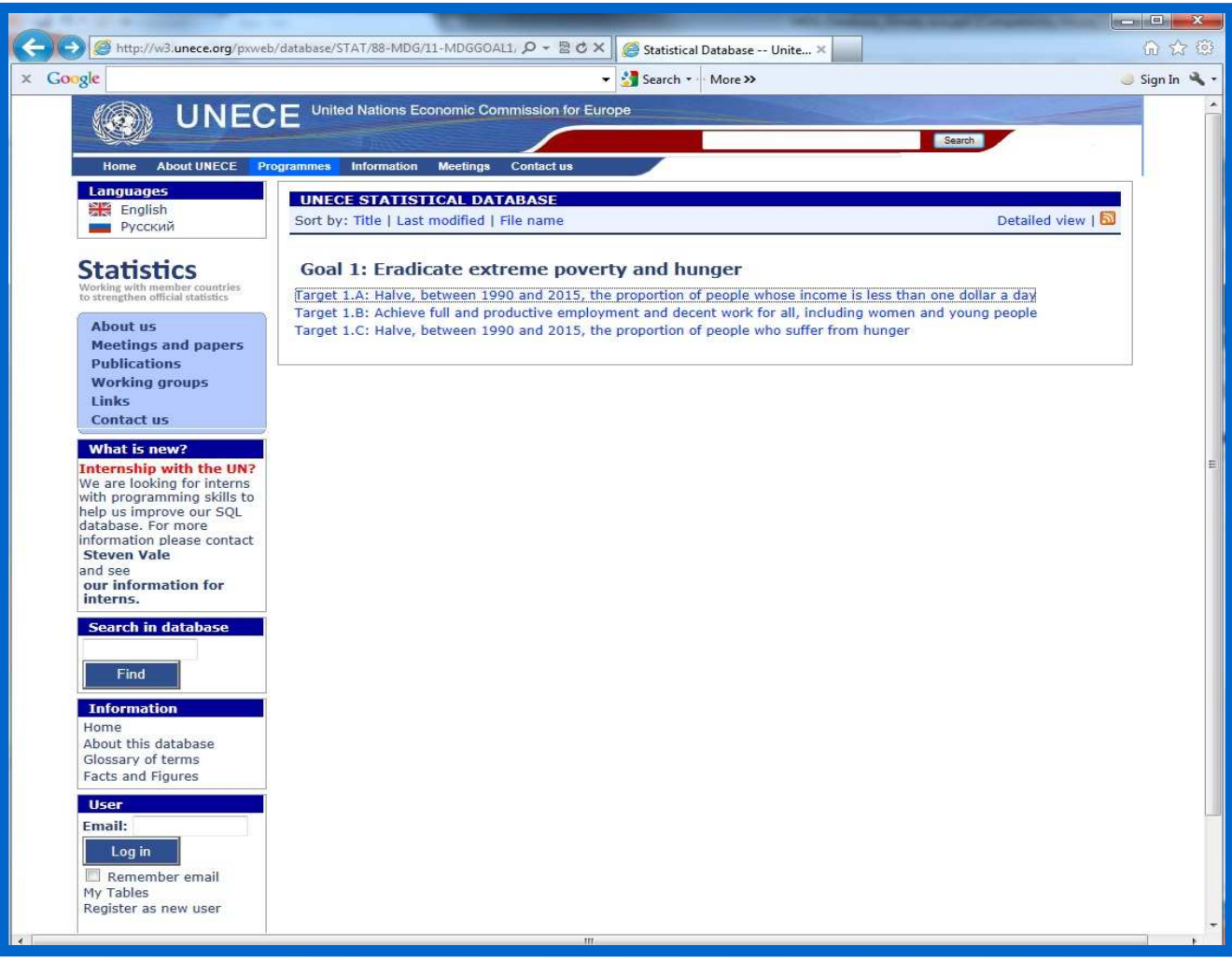
I.2) Official UN-estimates

- Data Sources:
  - Official international estimates (unstats.un.org)
  - Additional indicators from other UN agencies (e.g. WHO, WB etc.)
- Use:
  - To compare with official national data
  - Additional indicators for analysis
  - Compare: more harmonized data
  - Sometimes estimates when no national data

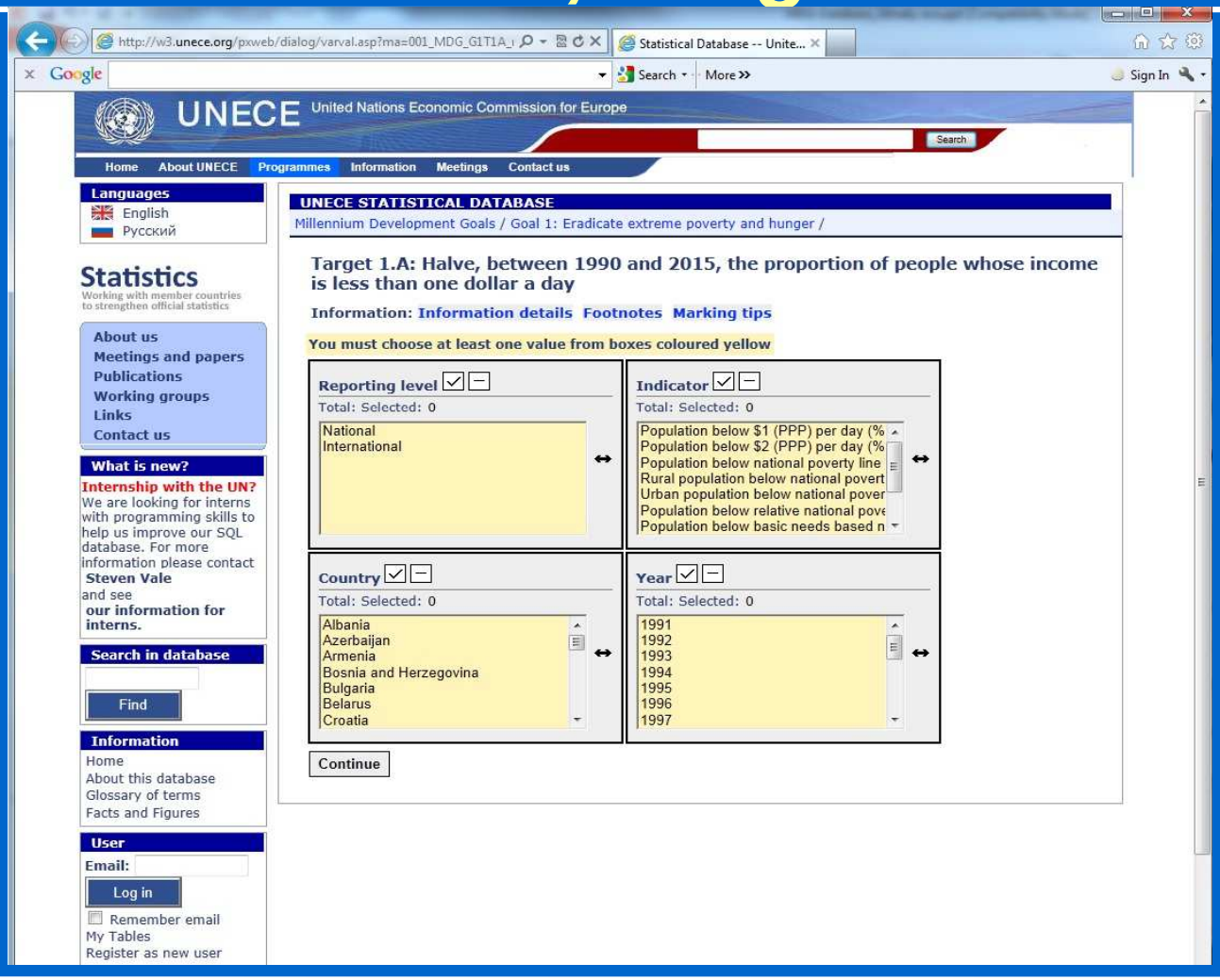
UNECE MDG Database of official estimates: Main Page Databases



UNECE MDG Database of official estimates: Goal 1



UNECE MDG Database of official estimates: Goal 1, Target 1A



Metadata in Footnotes:

- Reference to document and original source of data
- Primary Source of the data point
- Reference period
- Exact definition
- Method used (e.g. income/consumption based, direct/indirect, regression analysis etc.)
- Any other relevant information
- **Depends on reporting of Metadata in national MDG-reports**
- At estimate level (but give per time-series)
- English and Russian version (subject to funds available)

II) Data repository:

- All national MDG-data produced
  - Historical backup
  - Digital overview in one location (incl. time-series)
- More alternative indicators and disaggregated data
- Extensive Metadata
- More selection criteria (e.g. exact definition, level of proximity, quality indicator)
- For national and international experts, not for general public

Metadata in Repository:

- Extended Reference to document and original source of data
- Type of source, reference period (retrospective survey data), sample size, sample population etc.
- Exact definition of data and grouping into broader concept group (proximity)
- Method used (e.g. income/consumption based, direct/indirect, regression analysis etc.)
- Indication of data quality
- More detailed descriptions & original documents
- Footnotes with link to Wiki-style web-pages

UNECE regional MDG-database: summary of advantages

- National producers and users:
  - Regional comparison
  - Overview of national sources/estimates (might explain differences with UN-estimates) with detailed metadata
  - Comparison with official UN-estimates
  - Less data requests
- International Organizations:
  - Source of data for estimates
  - Access to additional indicators
  - Detailed Metadata and in English
- General public:
  - Regional overview of official national estimates of MDGs
- Other (expert) users:
  - Multiple estimates and sources and extensive metadata
  - Additional indicators for analysis