

INTER-REGIONAL MDG
INDICATORS MEETING
“SHARING KNOWLEDGE TO
IMPROVE MDG MONITORING
AND REPORTING”

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PRODUCTION AND REPORTING OF DISAGGREGATED MDG DATA SUB-NATIONAL MDG REPORTING

Presentation outline

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Country Background

- ▣ The Gambia is one of the smallest countries in Africa with an estimated population of 1.68 million people (2011 projected figures) and a total land area of 10,690 square kilometers.
- ▣ The main drivers of economic growth for The Gambia remain the agriculture sector and tourism industry
- ▣ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been growing at a rate of between 5-6 per cent in the past four years (2008-2011).

Country Background con't

- ▣ Findings of the Integrated Household Survey (IHS) 2010 show that poverty has decreased in The Gambia.
- ▣ Using the less than one dollar per person per day threshold, poverty has decreased from 58.0 per cent in 2003 to 36.7 per cent and
- ▣ using the less than \$1.25 per person per day threshold, poverty has decreased to 48.4 per cent.

Introduction

- ▣ The Gambia Bureau of Statistics with its mandate to coordinate all statistical activities in the country has defined criteria for disaggregation of data.
- ▣ MDG data in the country is collected through census, surveys and administrative sources.
- ▣ The instruments to collect data from each of these sources include variables like gender, age, the administrative division of the country called “Local Government Area (LGA)”, districts which are lower than LGAs , ethnicity and income groups among others to be used later for disaggregating data at the analysis stage.

Introduction con't

- ▣ The country uses the five wealth quintiles and data is disaggregated according to them too.
- ▣ All settlements have been divided into urban or rural and there are nine main ethnics groups.
- ▣ Age-groups are used during analysis of MDG data but that depends on the indicator one is analyzing.
- ▣ Educational attainment is also put into three or four groupings.

Introduction con't

- ▣ Due to the nature of the country, small in size, data collection does not take long duration for census and surveys.
- ▣ There are trained data collection personnel in all health facilities and cluster monitors in each education cluster and agricultural settlements.
- ▣ These personnel collect administrative data and each has a structure that enables it to be forwarded to the national level for national summaries but they also produce sub-national summaries.

Operating experience to show how successful disaggregated data on MDG indicators has been in The Gambia

- ▣ Before data is produced after any study, dummy tables are prepared by the GBoS and shared with stakeholders that are users of the information.
- ▣ This is done in close collaboration with the concerned MDA.
- ▣ These tables suggest levels of disaggregation for each localized MDG indicator and include that of global indicators.
- ▣ Data is then produced based on the agreed disaggregation for each localized or global indicator.
- ▣ The information is widely used since the users have been involved from the design to the analysis stages in producing the data.

Most Recent operational experience

- ▣ **Sub division** – To better understand the determinants of poverty, there is the need to look at settlements that have similar ways of life. This is why data is presented by sub division within LGAs and this is first of its kind by the bureau.
- ▣ **Why Kombo North-** This is a district in Brikama Local Government Area that is withnesing new settlements like the brusubis, trangil, wully kamma among others. High expenditure by the populace in this district was noticed during the 2010 HIS and as a result, it was decided to stand alone for analysis.

Brief background of Production of disaggregated data on MDG indicators in the Gambia

- ▣ The producers of MDG data are conscious of the fact that having MDG Indicators disaggregated is useful. This guides them in policy formulation and helps the country to plan for intervention as required by each group or level.
- ▣ Because the disaggregation groupings are few, it is possible to have all of them for each table in a report. Example is births attended by skilled health personnel. This indicator is disaggregated by LGA (sub-national), residence, age group, education, wealth status and ethnicity. Gross Enrolment Ratio is disaggregated by LGA, residence, wealth status, sex and ethnicity.

Benefits of production of disaggregated data on MDG indicators

- ▣ Private sectors and Non State Actors always complement government's effort in attaining the MDGs.
- ▣ Disaggregated data is useful to these bodies because only a few operate nationally. Those who intervene at sub-national levels use such disaggregated data to guide and plan for their interventions.
- ▣ Municipal/Local government authorities equally use them to plan and budget for activities for their populates.

Benefits con't

- ▣ The national pharmaceutical system in the Gambia allocates drugs to health facilities based on the data presented by age-group, morbidity episodes... etc
- ▣ The scarce resources of the country are well allocated because of the availability of disaggregated data hence budget allocation in the Gambia is now result based.
- ▣ The 2010 like the 2003 IHS results show that poverty is highest in Kuntaur LGA (CRR). MIS 2010 shows Malaria prevalence is highest in the same region
- ▣ Poverty was higher in female headed households in 2003 but 2010 showed a reverse

Challenges associated with the deployment of “Production of disaggregated data on MDG indicators” that, if avoided, would make the deployment of these Good practices easier the next time

- ▣ Although production of disaggregated data on MDG indicators is a good practice in The Gambia, there are challenges encountered.
- ▣ One major challenge is attributed to the literacy level of the people

Challenges con't

- ▣ During data collection, some people are not able to report on their ages accurately. The field staffs are always left with only an option to estimate.
- ▣ Weak CVRS

Conclusion

- ▣ There is the need to allocate enough resources to the production of disaggregated data. When financial resources are adequate, MDG indicators like maternal mortality can be produced as low as at district level and this will help in reducing it. The results of such studies will be properly utilized for planning and decision making.

Conclusion con't

- ▣ The need to train subject matter statisticians cannot be over emphasized. This provides core knowledge for statistician in order to properly produce disaggregated data that is meaningful to users.