

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa



Inter Regional MDG indicators Meeting

Sharing knowledge to improve MDG
monitoring and reporting

Post 2015 MDG Monitoring framework

May 15 – 17, 2012
Santiago, Chile

Content

- Benefits of MDG agenda**
- Limitations of the current MDGs**
- Scenarios beyond 2015**
- Africa regional consultations**
- Current statistical challenges**
- Expected statistical challenges**
- Conclusion**



Benefits of MDG agenda

□ In terms of development programs

- ❖ **Increased awareness** of development issues;
- ❖ **Increased efforts** by many donors to provide the necessary development assistance;
- ❖ Successful **targeted interventions** (malaria, HIV/AIDS, measles);
- ❖ First significant step in the search for **harmonization and rationalization of development**;
- ❖ **Integration of MDG into the CRSP** considerably eased their implementation through national budgets and raised commitments of international development partners.



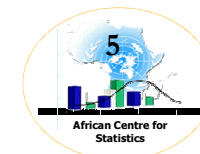
The main objectives of the MDGs are **as relevant today as before**: to free people everywhere from hunger and poverty, ensure that they can live healthy lives, have access to basic education, sanitation, and clean drinking water, and that men and women are guaranteed equal rights, placing human development at the centre of the debate. (UNDP)



Benefits of MDG agenda

□ In terms of statistical development

- ❖ Need for monitoring progress towards MDGs has given many benefits and opportunities for many African countries to **develop their NSS** and **produce better information** in support of evidence-based policies for development: NSDS, statistical operations conducted;
- ❖ Increased attention to the **need for strengthening statistical capacity**: many NSOs have been empowered with autonomous status and more resources;
- ❖ Framework for **coordination** among and within reg. and int. organizations and between int. organizations and countries, for statistical capacity-building: Regional Report on MDGs.





 **But some limitations of the current
MDGs**



**Type of benchmark:
relative or
absolute
change?**

**Same
targets for
countries at
different
level of
dvlp**

Limitations of the current MDGs

**Unclear
baseline:
1990 or
2000?**

**African
countries
realities
and
priorities**

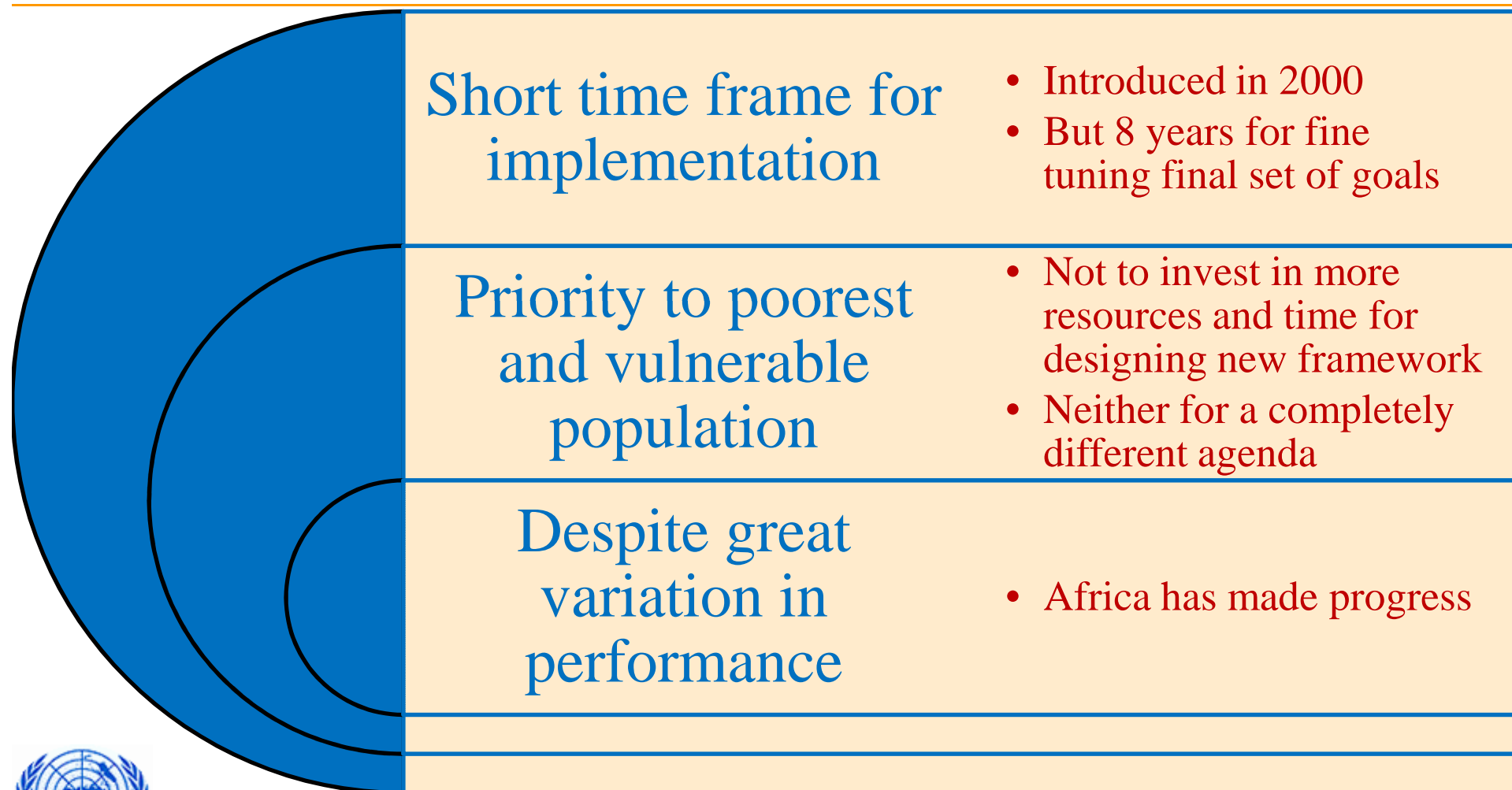


What Scenarios beyond 2015?

UNECA, in collaboration with the AUC and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa organized a regional workshop in Accra, Ghana, in 2011 to engage policymakers on a dialogue on the issue



Retaining the MDGs in their current configuration



Reformulating the MDGs

**Current
global
context
differs
from 1990**

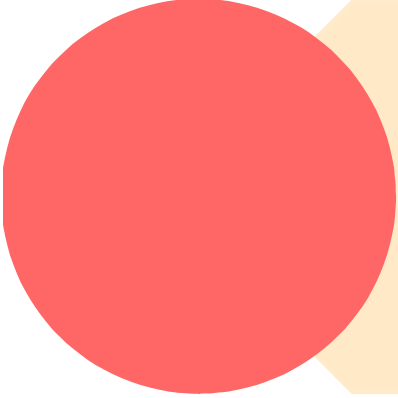
**To customize the
MDG to address
new complex
challenges**

**Economic
growth rates
with no
effect on
employment
creation**

**To focus on
creating
mechanism that
improve living
conditions through
decent employment**



Developing an alternative framework



While the MDGs aim to reduce global poverty, their focus is primarily on outcomes (HDI such as education and health) and not on processes (increasing the sophistication and complexity of developing countries' economies including through transformation of their economies).



New set of development goals that specifically target structural transformation of developing country economies, should be developed post 2015.



The case for developing an alternative framework

a.

- transforming the structure of the economies of developing countries

b.

- developing internal economic institutions to facilitate and sustain structural transformation

c.

- strengthening the capacities of developing countries for greater reliance on domestic resources and revenue

d.

- developing local, cross-border and international markets, and formal and entrepreneurial skills



Africa : Regional consultation

- ECA Electronic survey of 112 stakeholders (gvmnt, civil society organizations, research institutions and academia) of 32 African countries, across the five sub-regions:
 - **MDGs remain relevant** to member States;
 - Assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the MDGs strongly point to the adoption of an **“MDG-plus agenda”** for Africa;
 - majority of respondents agree that the MDG areas: (a) are **important development priorities** for their countries, (b) **reflect** “most/all” or “some” of the **development priorities** of their respective countries, and (c) **should feature** in the post-2015 agenda.



Africa : Regional consultation

- **Goal 1:** insufficient focus on inclusive growth and job creation.
- **Goal 2:** has exclusive focus on primary education; better to emphasize on post-primary education and to focus on education outcomes and not only on enrolments.
- **Goal 3:** indicators of women's empowerment must extend beyond women's representation in parliament to include representation in local government, as well as issues of sexual and gender-based violence, sexual division of labour, access to finance, and early marriage and pregnancy .
- **Goals 4-6:** criticism is the neglect of the health status of the aged, non communicable diseases and mental health issues.
- **Goal 7:** internal displacement and climate change were not captured in the MDGs.



● **Goal 8:** Post-2015 should focus on trade (at both the global and intra-African level) rather than aid.



Africa : Regional consultation

- **Regional consultation: MDGs limitations**

- have **limited focus on economic growth** and transformation;
- do not sufficiently emphasize the **role of domestic resource mobilization** in Africa's development agenda;
- tend to neglect issues relating to the **quality of service delivery**;
- are **silent on inequality** including spatial and horizontal inequality; and
- disproportionately **focus on outcomes** with limited consideration of the enablers of development, thereby excluding the role of factors such as infrastructure and peace and security



Africa : Regional consultation

- **Regional consultation: Responses: the need to reflect an appropriate balance of development outcomes and enablers. Therefore, need to take into consideration:**
 - **institutional capacity development;**
 - **domestic resource mobilization;**
 - **participation and ownership at the community, local and global level;**
 - **social inclusiveness and equality;**
 - **governance and leadership;**
 - **peace and security;**



Africa : Regional consultation

- **regional integration and trade;**
- **infrastructure development;**
- **global cooperation and partnerships;**
- **economic transformation;**
- **education and technology; and**
- **human development.**



Africa : Regional consultation

- **Composite index** that is composed of all MDGs;
- Current tests lead to a **ranking different to HDI**;
- Also **large spectrum of development indicators** from which each country or sub-region can establish its own development agenda;
- Consultant will present **final report on mid-June 2012**.



Current statistical challenges

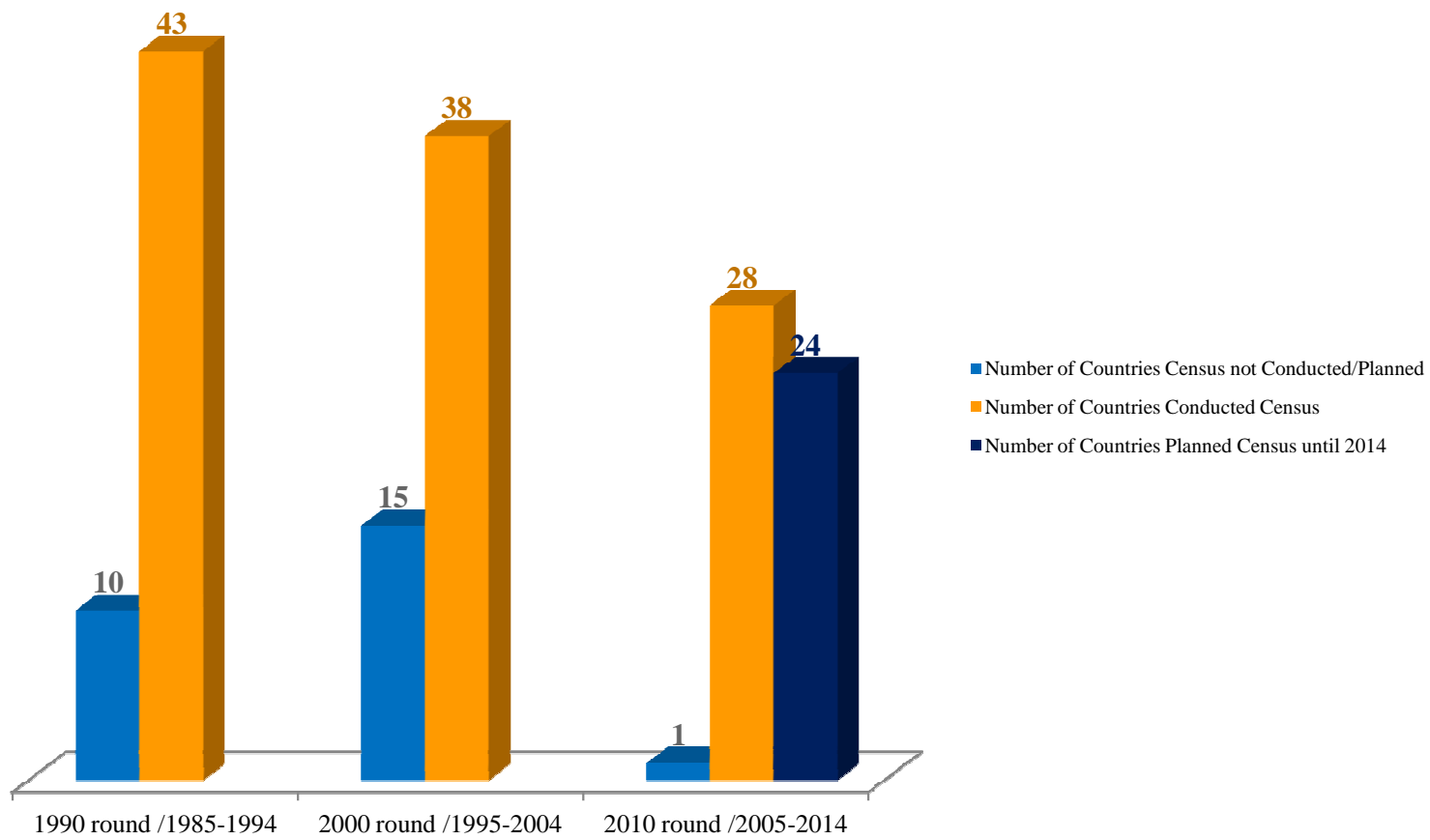
- An important obstacle to monitoring MDG performance in Africa has been the **lack of timely and reliable high-quality data**, as well as **efficient monitoring and evaluation systems** which have limited countries' abilities to assess the impact of interventions.



Expected statistical challenges

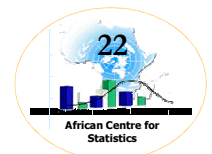
- **Specification/Definition** problem of some target;
- **Relevance of some Indicators** to the targets;
- **Applicability** of Indicators at the country level;
- **Measurement** of some Indicators;
- **Resources** to conduct regular statistical operations and strengthen NSS.





Conclusion

- **Yes, current MDGs remain relevant.**
- **Yes, to additional and measurable Goals and targets taking into account emergent issues.**
- **To anticipate expected statistical challenges.**
- **Process for designing the new agenda should be more participatory.**



Thank you!

