

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**Addendum to 2<sup>nd</sup> Guidance Note on  
Country Reporting on the Millennium  
Development Goals**

**November 2009**

## I. Introduction

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the world's shared development agenda to reduce major aspects of human poverty. Major successes in combating extreme poverty, improving school enrolment and child health, and expanding access to clean water, malaria control and AIDS treatment—even in the poorest countries—demonstrate that the MDGs are achievable. Despite these successes, positive changes in the lives of the poorest are happening at a very slow pace and in some countries hard fought gains are being eroded. Without a renewed commitment for concrete, comprehensive and targeted action—particularly in this time of global economic crisis—a host of countries will not meet many of the MDG targets by 2015.

The High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on MDGs in 2010 and preceding general discussions (2010 MDG Review) will be an unprecedented opportunity for rallying and revitalizing efforts, building on the assumption that “business as usual” will not advance most countries to achieve the goals by 2015. The 2010 MDG Review therefore will be a defining moment to galvanize new political commitment and to spur collective action and the effort needed over the final five years to accelerate and sustain progress towards the MDGs.

A special edition of the MDG Country Reports in 2010 can help ensure that the promise of 2015 is kept by providing national stakeholders with a common, nationally owned framework for renewed action to accelerate progress towards the MDGs.

## II. Purpose and Rationale

This addendum complements the 2<sup>nd</sup> United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Guidance note on Country Reporting on the Millennium Development Goals (endorsed in 2003).<sup>1</sup> The rationale for the addendum stems from the fact that new realities have emerged since the MDG Country Report Guidelines were last updated and endorsed in 2003. These new realities include:

- The fact that progress on the MDGs has been highly mixed across and within countries and goals: in almost every country, good progress has been made against some MDG targets and slow progress against others, signalling that the MDGs will be missed in several countries.
- Escalating inequality—across and within countries—pointing to the fact that *even* where progress on the MDGs seems to be on track nationally, there may be underlying discrepancies in terms of achievements reaching the poorest men and women.
- New challenges such as the food, fuel, and the global economic and financial crises having dealt real blows to MDG achievements, and over time threaten to slow or even reverse gains made. Moreover, the climate crisis threatens to set back MDG achievements even further.
- A solid knowledge base of identified and tested interventions to accelerate progress against each MDG has been built over the last 9 years. Yet the in-depth understanding of what

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<sup>1</sup> The main purpose of the first-generation (2000 – 2005) MDG Country Reports has been two-fold: public information and social mobilization. They have been tools for awareness raising, advocacy, alliance building, and renewal of political commitments at the country level, as well as for building national capacity for monitoring and reporting on progress. This purpose remains unchanged for the second generation of MDG Country Reports, but they are expected to extend the frontiers of the scope of public information and social mobilization through analyses of what has worked and what has not, while taking account of multifaceted global crises.

constrains MDG progress in terms of implementation and how to scale-up MDG successes remains inadequate.

- The fact that some countries have made remarkable MDG progress using innovative approaches (including in the areas of energy, technology and governance) to address constraints that hinder MDG achievements. Such experiences can be a powerful instrument for South-South learning and exchange of policy experiments and innovation to accelerate progress towards the MDGs.

The addendum is entirely consistent with the main principle of the MDG Country Reports: intended to provide quick and simple assessments, which are communicated through clear and compelling messages. It is meant to be suggestive and should not be taken as prescriptive. The addendum provides guidance on additional specific themes and topics that will strengthen the analytical content of the reports, and help in the context of these reports to:

- Deepen national understanding of why progress is being achieved on some MDGs and why others are lagging behind, and thus what is working and what is not;
- Engage and build national coalitions of partners (Governments, multilateral agencies, communities, CSOs, the private sector and others) who work together to develop a practical plan leading to the 2010 MDG High-Level Event that targets and addresses key constraints to making progress towards the MDGs;
- Catalyse collective renewed action and strengthen the case for greater efforts and resources in favour of the MDGs;
- Generate and implement targeted public advocacy campaigns that serve to rally national stakeholders around accelerating progress on the MDGs; and
- Ensure strategic re-positioning and consistency of national efforts with recent global developments.

Specifically, this addendum provides guidance on undertaking:

- Trends and inequality analyses
- Identification of the key bottlenecks constraining progress on specific MDG targets
- Assessment of the impact of the economic crisis on MDG progress
- Assessment of the impact of climate change on MDG progress
- Assessment of Good Practice examples that accelerate progress and their replicability/scalability

### **III. Integration of new analysis in existing MDG Country Reports' Content Section**

In consistence with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Guidance Note on Country Reporting on the Millennium Development Goals (see section 11 entitled Content), as well as based on the principle of national ownership, the following guidelines are provided to incorporate new analysis into the main body of each respective MDG Country Report (MDGR). The items in ***italic bold in this section only*** reflect where new analysis should appear in the MDGR in the existing content section.

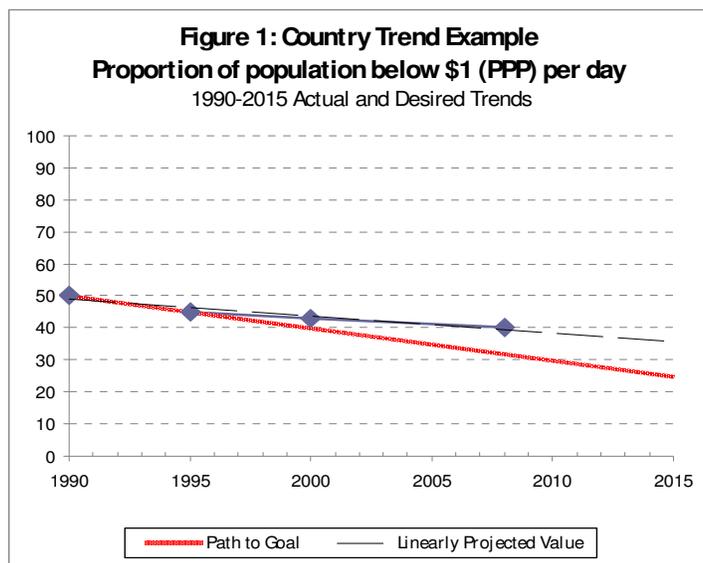
- Introduction – with a brief explanation of how the report/review was prepared and the participation of different actors in discussions, research, and writing.

- Country-specific development context including:
  - ***Achievements, enablers and challenges towards reaching the MDGs.***
- For each goal and target, it is suggested that the MDGR highlight:
  - ***Trends of progress against each MDG target between 1990 and the latest year with available data.***
  - ***Inequality analysis (by geographic region, rural/urban location, gender or socio-economic groups) in both initial levels of achievement against particular targets, as well as the trends on progress.***
  - ***Identification of the key implementation bottlenecks constraining progress on specific MDG targets based on the trend analysis, and how to address them.***
  - ***New challenges with unanticipated consequences for the MDGs such as the global financial and economic crisis, the food and fuel crisis, and climate change.***
  - ***An identification of the key factors that contributed to reasons for accelerated progress on a specific MDG target, to highlight best practice in a national context.***
- A table or “Status at a Glance” summarizing the feasibility of meeting targets and the state of national support.

#### IV. Guidance on the new analysis

- **Trends and inequality analyses**

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance on undertaking simple trend and inequality analyses. Trend analysis is vital to identify those MDG targets where progress is slow and/or shows a declining trend (that is, not likely to reach a particular MDG target by 2015), or adequate and accelerating (that is, will likely reach or surpass expected progress).<sup>2</sup> This is the first step towards pin-pointing the key factors that constrain or enable *MDG progress* so strategic decisions can be taken to address constraints and accelerate progress.



The trend analysis is undertaken as follows:

- Using the Excel template provided, for each MDG target enter the 1990 (or closest year with reliable data) baseline data as well as the target baseline data. This will generate a line from the baseline to the target.
- Then enter the trend column data points at five-year intervals (e.g. 1995, 2000, 2005 and current year), or those for which data is available (please do not include zero values in either columns).
- The template will automatically generate the respective graphs against each target (see figure 1 for an example).

<sup>2</sup> Trend analysis applies particularly to those goals and targets with quantitative indicators that have well-defined desired attainment levels (e.g. Targets 1.A, 1.C, 4.A, 5.A and 7.C) and associated indicators. For several others (e.g., 1.B, several indicators of 3.B [such as 3.2 and 3.3], as well as of 5.A, 5.B, 6.A, 7A and B), indicators do not have specific numeric targets but can be assessed for the consistency and pace of changes in the direction of improved welfare.

It has also become increasingly evident that national aggregates often have masked disparities in MDG achievement at the sub-national level. Different dimensions of inequality could be highlighted, such as regional, ethnic, socio-economic groups and gender disparities. Countries that have managed disaggregated reporting on MDG status gain a clearer picture of where pockets of poverty or marginalized groups are situated. Such information also provides a comprehensive picture of disparities on different planes that helps in having more targeted interventions. Sub-national MDG analysis may also create opportunities to discuss clearer responsibilities for local governments and development partners in achieving MDGs. Sub-national comparative data (by state, province or district) have proven to be a powerful tool for public action.

A similar approach, as described for the trends analysis, but using data disaggregated by region, gender, ethnic or socio-economic groups can be used as a starting point. Such analysis should also examine initial differences in MDG target status. The analysis should lead to an understanding of how the chosen dimensions of inequality matter for the MDGs; and specific suggestions for improvement.

- ***Identification of the key bottlenecks constraining progress on specific MDG targets<sup>3</sup>***

The purpose of this section is to provide governments and their development partners with a systematic and adaptable approach to identifying bottlenecks constraining progress on specific MDG targets, and using them as a basis for the development of appropriate and targeted responses, which can be coordinated among key partners.

More specifically, this section provides a systematic approach to:

- Identifying commonly agreed bottlenecks in the implementation of key programmatic interventions that should be removed to optimize expected MDG outcomes.
- Analysing the reasons behind these bottlenecks to arrive at a comprehensive objective set of solutions with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for different development partners in supporting governments to accelerate MDG service delivery.
- Creating an objective basis for discussions which engages all relevant stakeholders and improves the monitoring of progress set against a series of agreed-upon benchmarks.

It is recognized that for almost all of the MDG targets, a combination or effective package of interventions is required. For example, MDG 5.B (universal access to reproductive health), has several components. Adolescent fertility (one of the indicators) will require interventions (e.g., incentives, advocacy and information) to keep young women in school, reduce rates of early marriage, address sexual and reproductive health issues in curricula and information campaigns, provide quality youth-friendly reproductive health services, including family planning, with adequate supplies and resources and empower young women to access them all. The combination or effective package of interventions needed for each of the MDGs is generally known and often identified by countries in, for example, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), MDG-based National Development Plans and Sectoral Strategies and Plans.

The recommended starting point for this approach is the MDG(s) that is “Off-track” or with “Slow-progress”, including those MDG targets that are under serious risk of reversal. For each priority MDG, the framework prompts analysis of the following key questions:

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<sup>3</sup> The detailed implementation bottleneck methodology will be available on: at [www.undg-policynet.org](http://www.undg-policynet.org).

1. Are all relevant, evidence-based, cost-effective and country-specific programmatic **interventions necessary to meet the off-track or slow-progressing MDG** identified, and fully and effectively implemented?
2. For the interventions that have been identified as not being fully or effectively implemented, what are the **bottlenecks in policy and planning, budget and financing, and service delivery** that impede progress? These can include important socio-cultural barriers that need to be addressed and other issues in the supportive environment that need redress.
3. What could the Government and its development partners do to address these bottlenecks?

For example, providing emergency obstetric care to all pregnant women at all times—a key programmatic intervention to achieving the MDG 5.A target on Maternal Mortality Ratio—may be proving difficult to implement, and thus, the need to identify the reasons for its slow delivery. The trend analysis already conducted (Section 1) will point to which MDGs should be the focus of such an exercise.

**Step 1 What are the proven programmatic interventions for this MDG?** In order to do this assessment, the first step is to identify the package(s) of proven programmatic interventions that are essential to making progress on the selected MDG target, and should be available to all households on the ground. Subsequently, those programmatic interventions that are currently non-existent; or available only in limited ways and are therefore not fully effective, should be identified. It is important to note that the list of proven programmatic interventions, even for the same MDG target, will vary from country to country, depending on country-specific circumstances.

**Step 2 Where are the major bottlenecks on the path to this MDG programme intervention?** The second step is to locate the major bottlenecks that lead to the MDG interventions, identified in the previous step, falling short on the ground. Successful implementation of any identified intervention may require that several different intermediate steps are completed—for example, the provision of emergency obstetric medical care could involve the recruitment and training of para-medical staff, their distribution around the country, and appropriate incentives for their performance. Bottlenecks can be found by tracing backward the steps required for successful completion on the ground; it is recommended that this process be undertaken in a systematic manner by first developing guiding questions. Ideally, the questions would gradually narrow the focus from the broader issues to the more specific constraints whose removal would bring discernible improvements to the delivery of the identified intervention on the ground. They would uncover constraints not just related to the specific MDG sector, but also broader cross-cutting and macro issues, e.g. fiscal space, geography, conflict, environmental challenges, gender inequities and other socio-cultural barriers.

These questions should fall under three main levels: 1) Policy and Planning Framework; 2) Financing and Budgeting Framework; and 3) Service delivery to the public (including the delivery of services and goods, and monitoring & evaluation aspects). See the table below for examples of questions corresponding to these levels that could help start the analysis.

<b>Levels</b>	<b>Example of Questions</b>
Policy and Planning Framework	Is the <u>MDG programmatic intervention</u> supported by the relevant policy and legal framework?
Financing and Budgeting Framework	Are the required budgetary resources allocated for the <u>MDG programmatic intervention</u> ?
Service delivery to the public	Are the required numbers of trained/skilled service

	<p>providers available in all regions to effectively deliver the <u>MDG programmatic intervention</u>?</p> <p>Are the goods required to deliver the intervention available in the required quantity and quality at all times at the requisite points for service delivery?</p>
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Relevant socio-cultural barriers could be identified at each of these levels.

**Step 3 What is the sequence and prioritization of bottlenecks, and how might they be addressed?** Once the major bottlenecks are identified, the **third step** would be to list these and discuss and/or brainstorm possible solutions, their relative prioritization in terms of impact, and their sequencing. Countries may find the need to work around broader constraints, such as limited financing, to come up with solutions. For example, if a major bottleneck is the insufficient number of trained emergency obstetric care practitioners on the ground, the solution might be task-shifting. Generally, the solutions could be: technical support; awareness and advocacy; capacity building, financing<sup>4</sup> or others depending on the nature of the bottleneck.

- **Assessment of the Impact of the Global Crises on the MDGs**

The global crises that have developed since September 2008 have affected all countries in different degrees. Review of the effects of similar crises helps clarify the ways in which it can affect human development and MDG achievement. The purpose of this section is to provide guidance on assessing the impact of the global crises, with implications for MDG achievement. It seeks to lay out the several dimensions along which country-level impacts can be measured, suggests indicators that could be of use, and ways to trace them through to the MDGs. In keeping with the general philosophy of the MDGR, the assessment is intended to be quick and simple, and should be communicated through lucid messages.<sup>5</sup> In particular, it would be important to conduct this assessment in a participatory manner by building partnerships and consensus with others active in this area—academic institutions, think tanks, NGOs and others. The assessment can play an important role in bringing together the efforts of various partners into a coherent and convincing picture.

The channels through which the crisis translates into effects on human development are declines in household income, inadequate government response to protect the vulnerable, and deteriorations in quality and delivery of key services in health and education. The effect of the shock may initially be felt most directly at the household level through a loss of income. However, when this translates into a change in diet towards poorer nutrition, it could lead to a permanent erosion in the cognitive ability of a child; predispose an individual to a debilitating illness; or result in an early death. Households may be able to cope with such shocks in the short-term, by being able to draw upon their reserves; however once these are depleted, they might be compelled to defer seeking health care; or re-assess their decisions to invest in education. Income losses may be distributed non-uniformly across households; or

<sup>4</sup> Financing for the MDGs remains a challenge and the MDG Country Reports may wish to highlight examples of financing gaps, particularly against those MDGs that remain off-track. MDG Needs Assessments and other costing tools help in analysing the size of these gaps. However, it is important to look beyond these assessments, so as to gain insight into other constraining factors. Many countries have achieved remarkable successes with limited resources; in others, increased financing of selected sectors has not been accompanied by correspondingly high rates of progress.

<sup>5</sup> Countries may wish to use the guidance below to help design a monitoring framework for on-going assessment of the impacts on the MDGs as well as undertaking forward-looking assessments. As there are often lags between immediate impacts and longer-term effects on the MDGs, forward-looking assessments can prove vital in predicting and preparing for future expected scenarios even as immediate impacts are overcome.

affect intra-household consumption in different ways, accentuating long held patterns of inequality by geography, ethnicity, gender or age.

These impacts can be prevented if households can continue to meet critical consumption and investment needs for MDG achievement whether from additional labour income<sup>6</sup>, income from asset sales, credit, remittances, cash or in-kind transfers and access to key services. These resources may not be available at all to households; or may only be available for limited periods: therefore both the depth and the duration of the income shock are important determinants of individual as well as aggregate human development impacts. Unfortunately, increased demand on safety nets and public services coincides with falling revenues and difficult financing conditions during a crisis. In the current situation, falling public revenues along with reduced prospects for raising finances through borrowings will constrict the fiscal space needed to maintain spending on health, education and social protection. Therefore, the impacts of the crisis on the MDGs may be quite pronounced, and may become manifest with a time lag. Below is a step-by-step method to undertake the assessment:

**Step 1 Determine the channels of transmission:** For most countries, the clear and immediate impacts have been seen through one or more of the *channels* through which the global crisis has been transmitted into a national one. These include, for example, steep declines in export earnings (oil, minerals and other commodities; manufactured goods); tourism incomes, remittances; ODA; other capital flows; or a collapse of a significant portion of the financial/banking sector.

**Step 2 Determine the immediate and long-term impacts to national and sub-national economies and population groups:** These include declines in employment, wages, profitability of small enterprises and GDP; and increases in levels of household poverty. Some of these impacts may be concentrated, at least initially, in particular regions or occupations. Depending on the duration and the effectiveness of the coping mechanisms by households and Governments, longer term human development and social impacts may begin to manifest themselves—malnutrition, increases in unintended pregnancies and in infant and child mortality, changes in school attendance, poorer health outcomes and life expectancy—sometimes differentiated by gender or other categories; and increasing social and political tension.

**Step 3 Determine the response capacity:** The severity of these longer term consequences (or whether they manifest themselves at all) depends crucially on the *capacity to respond*. Households with adequate levels of insurance or sufficiently liquid assets will be able to smooth consumption over the period, and therefore avoid the most adverse outcomes; however, the poor typically have limited access to these coping mechanisms and their own reserves have already been eroded in many countries by recent increases in food and fuel prices. Community coping mechanisms, which could help for a while, may be similarly depleted. The ability of Governments to respond is therefore vital and has both economic and governance components. Among the economic factors is the fiscal space available—the size of the current account and the ability to maintain spending trends in key parts of the health and education sectors. Among the factors related to governance are the coverage and sustainability of safety nets; and the ability to resolve social and political tensions that may become apparent over a protracted downturn.

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<sup>6</sup> Some of these may involve difficult trade-offs between the short-term and the long-term: people may work longer hours, or engage in riskier occupations, with a negative impact on health; caregivers (usually a female family member) may need to return prematurely to the labour force, thereby harming the health of the young and the aged at home.

**Step 4 Determine country-specific exacerbating factors:** for example, a drought or pandemic may deepen economic distress and further strain the fiscal capacity to respond. A recent history of conflict or ethnic divisions may indicate weakened governance capacity. Continued high consumer prices in a country, especially for food and fuel, might further erode purchasing power and signal lower quality diets.

**Step 5 Develop a list of indicators for the assessment of impacts and vulnerability –**

**Based on the preceding steps, select key indicators—both quantitative and qualitative—for the country:** Some of these indicators are readily available in the public domain, and are updated at pre-defined intervals—for example estimates of export revenues, tourism earnings, government tax income, or expenditures on key sectors. Comparing the values of these indicators with their values over corresponding periods in past years provides an idea of the order of magnitude of the impact. Other indicators are less readily available—not collected frequently enough (e.g. child nutrition indicators, skilled attendance at births, contraceptive prevalence and unmet need for family planning or poverty rates); or not being collected at all (e.g. remittance inflows). Naturally, the list of indicators and their status as regards to collection would vary across countries. For most countries, only a small set of indicators would be relevant—experts within each country can identify those that matter, locate sources for each and identify proxies (including cases where the indicator is not frequently or sufficiently updated).

**Select key qualitative indicators to supplement quantitative ones:** These include media reports and stories; perception polls and other qualitative surveys. One function of these is to indicate impacts that may not be possible to capture in any other way due to a lack of data—for example, gender-differentiated effects may be hard to capture due to a lack of disaggregated data. Another important function is to cross-validate the quantitative data and to provide a human face that helps to convey messages to a wider audience.

**Step 6 Estimate the expected impacts on MDGs:** Not enough information may be available to provide firm MDG-by-MDG assessments of the impact of the crisis. However, the information collected in the previous step, should be adequate to indicate whether the country can expect to maintain its trend towards the MDGs; experience a slow down; or a reversal. This result would draw upon the experience of the country (or similar countries) during previous periods of lowered growth<sup>7</sup>, as well as direct assessments that may have been made during the current period. For example, some agencies and NGOs have promoted the use of innovative technologies such as SMS to collect live data on health and education. Comparisons of current ‘leading’ indicators—such as growth rates, revenues and expenditures—with pre-crisis trends may also be helpful. In some cases, the negative outcomes may be more likely only within selected groups, rather than the population as a whole, and may be brought out through case studies.

In all cases, it would be important to maintain the preferred approach of the MDGR, to keep the analysis simple and to focus on messages that, while being backed by evidence, are also clear and easy to communicate. The UN Secretary General’s first GIVAS Report ([www.voicesofthevulnerable.net](http://www.voicesofthevulnerable.net)) offers a good example of how to present the impacts of the crisis in a compelling manner.

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<sup>7</sup> In some countries, academic institutions or think tanks may have already computed quantitative measures of the impact based on expected changes in macro indicators such as per capita real GDP.

- **Assessment of the Impacts of Climate Change on the MDG progress**

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance on undertaking a qualitative assessment of the impacts of climate change traced through to the MDGs. The guidance follows a similar approach to that on the impact of the global economic crisis on human development. The difference here is that the channels of transmission are varied and are clearly based on changes in climatic conditions, which ultimately result in impacts on the MDGs. Some of the indicators presented earlier would be useful in the context of climate change as well; however, others such as expected changes in agricultural productivity or prevalence rates of illnesses would also be important. Countries may wish to use the indicators and guidance below to design and put in place a monitoring framework to establish a baseline, and then use this as a basis for assessment of climate change impacts on the MDGs in subsequent MDGRs. Countries may also wish to subsequently undertake forward-looking assessments. The user should consult, as starting point for this qualitative assessment, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) publications, especially its Assessment Reports that are updated periodically and provide a sound empirical basis for understanding the likely channels and magnitude of the impacts (<http://www.ipcc.ch/publications>).

Similarly, it is important to conduct this assessment in a participatory manner by building partnerships and consensus with others active in this area—environmental NGOs, academic institutions, think tanks and others. Several UNDG members are also completing their own assessments of the likely impacts, which can also be important resources. Below is a step-by-step method to undertake the assessment and present the information in a box in the MDG Country Report:

**Step 1 Determine the channels of transmission:** There are three major channels through which climate change will impact the MDGs: long-term changes in temperature, precipitation and sea levels; increased temperature and precipitation variability; and more frequent extreme weather events—covering the continuum from stresses and shocks. These channels are not distributed uniformly across the world, and so the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) provides a useful starting point to identify the relevant channels of transmission by respective regions. In some cases, the National Adaptation Programmes of Action and National Communications may provide more country-specific information.

**Step 2 In the case of more frequent extreme weather events, determine the immediate impacts on the national economy and MDGs:** Direct impacts of extreme events, increased weather variability (i.e. coastal storms, floods) is clear: crops are destroyed, public (schools, health facilities, etc.) and private infrastructure (businesses) and property are damaged or destroyed, household assets such as livestock are wiped out, and lives are lost. Depending on their size and frequency, these could have immediate impacts in terms sectoral output (agriculture, industrial, energy) and could be reflected in macro-level economic indicators such as GDP growth rates, employment, and government revenues. Households are also impacted through loss of lives, livelihoods and income, assets, food insecurity, increased burden of disease, lower educational status, and increased likelihood of falling into or deeper into poverty. Households will also be impacted by the lack of service provision—for example, water supply and sanitation, health services, food availability, safety net provision and micro-finance. The status of the household (by wealth) generally determines the extent to which they are impacted as well as options available to them to recover from such events. The country's previous experience with similar events would be important in assessing the likely impact in the future.

**Step 3 In the case of long-term changes in temperature, precipitation and sea levels, determine the likely biophysical changes, short-term impacts and long-term impacts:**

Long-term changes in climatic conditions are expected to manifest in biophysical changes, most notably to ecosystems (agro-ecological, forest, freshwater, marine and so on) and result in the decline of the quantity and quality of the services they provide (i.e. usable water, soil formation, crop production, fish, forests, fuel, flood regulation, climate regulation) as well as changing the geographical distribution of many prevailing diseases. These at certain points could become extreme events (heightened water insecurity, sharp declines in agriculture production and so on). Decline in the quantity and quality of services is inextricably linked to changes in sectoral output—for example, lower outputs of energy, food (fish, crops, wild animals and plants, forests, rangeland and livestock products), water, tourism, as well as increased burden of disease. These impacts will be reflected as well in economic indicators such as reduced GDP growth rates, employment, and government revenues and increased poverty. These will lead to longer-term human development and social impacts such as malnutrition, increases in infant and child mortality, changes in school attendance, poorer health outcomes and life expectancy, and increasing social and political tension. In many cases, climate impacts are borne disproportionately by women, and it would be important, especially for MDG3 and MDG5, to try and isolate the channels through which this occurs.

**Step 4 Based on the nature of transmissions channels and likely impacts, determine the climate adaptation options required and the current status of these options:** The adaptation options available cover the spectrum of addressing climate risks directly through climate proofing infrastructure and investment to building the resilience of the government and household to respond to climate change. For a list of possible adaptation options, please also consult the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4). If possible, please compare the options identified with the current status of adoption of such options in your country, and the steps necessary to accelerate the process. Furthermore, if MDG Needs Assessments have been undertaken with respect to the impacted MDG Sector, countries may wish to compute the additional resources required to finance the climate impacted option to sustain progress.

- **Assessment of Good Practices that accelerate progress on the MDGs**

This section provides a template for reporting on good practices that can be scaled-up to accelerate progress on the MDGs, and can be used for South-South Learning and Exchange. The trend analysis already conducted (Section 1) will point to which MDGs should be the focus of such an assessment. The focus should *be on key success factors contributing* to sustained progress towards the Goal(s) being assessed. It should look at both immediate factors and underlying conditions that have been essential for success, with key examples drawn from available analysis. A particular emphasis may be on innovative strategies that may have simultaneously accelerated progress on one MDG with positive spill over to other MDGs such HIV/AIDS, gender and environment, as well as new evidence of the contributing impact of energy, technology and governance across the MDGs.

- **The MDG Initiative/Intervention:**
- **Desired outcome:** Which Goal(s) is/are being addressed by this initiative/intervention?
- **Objective (problem statement):** What was the specific constraint to the achievement of the above Goal(s) that the initiative/intervention was meant to address? Constraints could be the: 1) Policy and Planning Framework; 2) Financing and Budgeting Framework; and 3) Service delivery to the public (including the delivery of services and goods, and monitoring & evaluation aspects).

- **Result of the initiative:** Please describe the result achieved by the initiative/intervention in terms of level, efficiency and equity.
- **Synopsis:** Please sum up in a maximum of 3 paragraphs a brief description of the initiative/intervention such as the outputs, duration and budget.
- **Key elements of success:** What were the critical elements that contributed to success looking at both immediate factors and underlying conditions that have been essential for success? Please consider the key investments in building individual and institutional capacities.
- **Lessons learned:** Briefly summarize *key lessons that may be more widely applicable* for national strategies and programmes to promote accelerated and sustained progress. This paragraph(s) should conclude by setting out critical evidence-based measures that are recommended for scaling up programmes and accelerating action, including addressing the constraints identified.

## V. Updated guidance on statistics

As a tool for public information, a MDGR cannot compromise on the quality of data. Its credibility depends, to a large extent, on the reliability of the information. The available data for specific countries and/or specific goals have to be understood with considerable caution. The limitations manifest themselves in the low coverage of indicators, the scant availability of two data points for most of the indicators and the generalized inconsistency of data across the different sources. Only data that has consensus about accuracy, reliability and consistency from authentic sources such as Planning Ministries, Statistical Offices, Central Banks and so on must be used and their sources clearly mentioned in tables and diagrams.

The UNCT should encourage consultations with relevant institutions—such as the national statistical office, line ministries, universities, research institutes and NGOs—to review the quality of data, including censuses, administrative reporting systems and household-based surveys. Where data are not available, considered as unreliable or where differences exist among data sources, the MDGR could note the data limitations. This can lead to operational interventions to improve statistical capacity<sup>8</sup>.

## VI. Update on consultative process of MDGR preparation and available UN joint backstopping support

Engaging CSOs and other stakeholders in the preparation of an MDGR will be country-specific. However, close collaboration with CSOs, especially those representing groups that are normally absent from policy dialogue, including women's groups, indigenous people, and marginalized populations, is recommended for widening a key development partner's support and consensus for accelerating progress on the MDGs. Involving more development partners will inevitably lengthen the MDGR preparation process, but may be essential for generating a stronger sense of national ownership and for building a broad MDG coalition to facilitate inputs into national priority setting, resource allocation

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<sup>8</sup> The UN Statistical Division (UNSD) is promoting and co-ordinating the efforts of different UN agencies on statistical capacity building for producing and improving the MDG indicators at country level. In addition, special trust funds may be available for this purpose—such as the World Bank's Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB); STATCAP, the African Development Bank's support to African countries; and the Accelerated Data Program led by the PARIS21 Secretariat and the World Bank.

and policy reforms. A practical way of ensuring CSO involvement is to explicitly state, at the outset of the MDGR process, the strategy of how such participation will be sought and made effective.

In 2009, the UN joint backstopping support for UNCTs has been made available for supporting governments, among others, to develop an MDG Country Report (MDGR). The Network support taps on advisors from regional and global level across the UN system, including the Non-Resident Agencies. The *UN in-kind technical support: UNDG/MDG Policy Network* facilitates direct UN joint technical support to UNCTs. The Network has a roster of in-house advisors from UNDG agencies. UNCTs can send a request for UN joint support (UN joint mission and/or electronic review) through an “On-Line Request Form” available at [www.undg-policynet.org](http://www.undg-policynet.org).

## ANNEX 1: Official list of MDG indicators

*Effective 15 January 2008*

**All indicators should be disaggregated by sex and urban/rural as far as possible.**

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)	
Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)	Indicators for monitoring progress
<b>Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</b>	
Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day	1.1 Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day <sup>9</sup> 1.2 Poverty gap ratio 1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption
Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people	1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person employed 1.5 Employment-to-population ratio 1.6 Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day 1.7 Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment
Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of People who suffer from hunger	1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age 1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption
<b>Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education</b>	
Target 2.A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	2.1 Net enrolment ratio in primary education 2.2 Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary 2.3 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men
<b>Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women</b>	
Target 3.A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015	3.1 Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education 3.2 Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector 3.3 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament
<b>Goal 4: Reduce child mortality</b>	
Target 4.A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	4.1 Under-five mortality rate 4.2 Infant mortality rate 4.3 Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles
<b>Goal 5: Improve maternal health</b>	
Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	5.1 Maternal mortality ratio 5.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health	5.3 Contraceptive prevalence rate 5.4 Adolescent birth rate 5.5 Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit and at least four visits) 5.6 Unmet need for family planning
<b>Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases</b>	
Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	6.1 HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years 6.2 Condom use at last high-risk sex 6.3 Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS 6.4 Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years

<sup>9</sup> For monitoring country poverty trends, indicators based on national poverty lines should be used, where available.

Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it	6.5 Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs
Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases	6.6 Incidence and death rates associated with malaria 6.7 Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets 6.8 Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs 6.9 Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis 6.10 Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course
<b>Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability</b>	
Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources	7.1 Proportion of land area covered by forest 7.2 CO2 emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP) 7.3 Consumption of ozone-depleting substances 7.4 Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits 7.5 Proportion of total water resources used
Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss	7.6 Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected 7.7 Proportion of species threatened with extinction
Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation	7.8 Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source 7.9 Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility
Target 7.D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	7.10 Proportion of urban population living in slums <sup>10</sup>
<b>Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development</b>	
Target 8.A: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system  Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally  Target 8.B: Address the special needs of the least developed countries  Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction  Target 8.C: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)Target 8.D: Deal comprehensively	Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.  Official development assistance (ODA) 8.1 Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income 8.2 Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation) 8.3 Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied 8.4 ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes 8.5 ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes  Market access 8.6 Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty 8.7 Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries 8.8 Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product 8.9 Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity  Debt sustainability

<sup>10</sup> The actual proportion of people living in slums is measured by a proxy, represented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the four characteristics: (a) lack of access to improved water supply; (b) lack of access to improved sanitation; (c) overcrowding (3 or more persons per room); and (d) dwellings made of non-durable material.

with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term	8.10 Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative) 8.11 Debt relief committed under HIPC and MDRI Initiatives 8.12 Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services
Target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries	8.13 Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis
Target 8.F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	8.14 Telephone lines per 100 population 8.15 Cellular subscribers per 100 population 8.16 Internet users per 100 population

The Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration, signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of State and Government, in September 2000 (<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>) and from further agreement by member states at the 2005 World Summit (Resolution adopted by the General Assembly - A/RES/60/1, <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>). The goals and targets are interrelated and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership between the developed countries and the developing countries "to create an environment – at the national and global levels alike – which is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty".