Post-2015 Data Test: Unpacking the Post-2015 Data Revolution at the Country Level

The Case of TURKEY

Presented by Mehmet Arda Coordinator, Turkish Research Team

Overview of Post-2015 Work in Turkey

- Responsibility:
 - Ministry of Development for substantive issues
 - Turkish Statistical Institute (eventually) for statistical issues
 - Some communication between the two, potential for this project to stimulate further contacts
- Desirable outcome:
 - Both Post-2015 SDGs and statistical data to be used more intensively in domestic and international policy design, implementation and monitoring
 - Potential for this project in this regard

Overview of national and global priorities, possible divergences and basics of data availability, by goal area (1)

- Poverty
 - Equality rather than abject poverty
 - Regional and intraregional inequalities and difficulties
 - National vs regional mode and median, urban vs rural division
- Education
 - Quality rather than quantity
 - Causes e.g. Frequent changes of teachers (to follow)
 - Divergence between administrative and survey data

Overview ... (2)

- Employment
 - Rich information available from surveys as microdata
 - For gender issues use representative occupations
 - Work related injury data important but not sufficient
- Energy and infrastructure
 - Disaggregation not suitable for meaningful information
 - e.g. Road standards by province, not population
 - Some confusion because of multiple use
 - e.g. Same internet line used by several people, or one person having several bank accounts
 - Definitional e.g. "full access to developed infrastructure"

Overview ... (3)

- Governance
 - Problems arising from information based on perception or administrative data not suitable for statistical use
 - Reporting problems for gender violence
 - e.g. Complaints to the police very different from legal cases
- Environment
 - Existence of rules not same as desired outcomes
 - Renewable energy may not be ecologically the best
 - Disaster deaths depend on when disaster strikes
 - Ecological footprint would be meaningful
- Global partnership
 - Definition of South-South cooperation not suitable for Turkey
 - Restrictions to trade more meaningful than DFQF

General issues

- Categorical lacunae
 - Ethnic divisions, minorities, migrants
 - Sometimes possible indirectly from microdata
 - Regional definitions vary between sources
 - Rural urban differentiation currently impossible
- Administrative microdata unavailable, unlike surveys
 - Of the 124 indicators studied, 38% are from Statistical Institute, 30 % administrative, 8 % each from other domestic and international, and 8 % unavailable
- "Accuracy and timeliness" considered best, "accessibility" worst – because of microdata problems of non-TUIK data
- Baseline 2007 covers all goals, earlier requires extra work

Political economy of data revolution - Turkey

- Main source, the Statistical Institute is professional, impartial, respected but not independent
 - No intervention in the process of data collection, manipulation, publication, but possibly in deciding what data to collect
 - Some line ministries not professionally equipped to collect important statistical data (could be improved)
 - Very good data generated in conjunction with EuroStat but some issues regarding applicability of questions
 - Very few non-governmental sources, e.g. academic (could be facilitated)