Expert Group Meeting on
Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs
Dhaka: 16-17 May 2015

Working Session 3
Financing Data and Information Needs for Monitoring and Accountability Mechanism of the Post-2015 Agenda
17 May 2015

Delivering on Data Needs for Monitoring SDGs
Addressing Financing Issues in Asia-Pacific Context

CENTRE FOR POLICY DIALOGUE (CPD)
BANGLADESH
a civil society think tank

ENDPoverty 2015
millennium campaign

Southern Voice
On Post-MDG International Development Goals
Mustafizur Rahman
Towfiquil Islam Khan
Mostafa Amir Sabbih
Shahida Pervin
High-quality, disaggregated, and timely data will be crucial for evidence-based planning, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

Data needs for monitoring SDGs are being recognised and highlighted by all involved stakeholders.

Monitoring exercise will test the limits of existing capacity of many national statistical systems.

A targeted financing mechanism including a corresponding international support architecture will need to be devised and deployed.

Third Conference on Finance for Development to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015 will be a major opportunity to discuss the relevant issues.
Objectives

1. Identifying the underlying gaps and challenges in the context of data revolution in Asian countries
2. Reviewing the global cost estimations to finance data revolution for SDGs
3. Examining the current mechanisms to finance production of data in Asian countries
4. Understanding the political economy dynamics in the context of financing data revolution in Asian countries
5. Proposing a set of policy recommendations prepared on the basis of analysis undertaken to inform the relevant discourse
**Methodology**

Focused on countries from East Asia, South Asia and Pacific regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Review of literature and relevant policy documents</th>
<th>Analysis of data and secondary information relating to financing data and statistical capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


Key messages

Mind the gaps

Focus on sustainable statistical capacity

Ensure predictable and sustainable budget

Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA flow is critical

Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated

Seal domestic buy-in and political buy-in
Mind the gaps

Availability

Disaggregation

Gaps

Accessibility

Quality
Notable progresses following inception of MDG
*With wide variation*

*Ratio of girls to boys enrolled in primary education*
*Incidence and death rates associated with malaria*

Variation is also significant among the regions/countries

*Civil registration data: 25% in South Asia, about 50% in Latin America and Caribbean & 6% in Sub-Saharan Africa*

*Leaving no one behind! – Some are hardly covered*
*Indigenous people, slum dwellers, persons with disability*

*Administrative records - an important source of statistics*
*Often not recorded or collected in a systematic way*
DISAGGREGATION

Insufficiently disaggregated at sub-national level

District level data

Not found by age, sex and ethnicity

Lack of demographic and location information frequently hinders global response to emergencies

Information on Refugees in 2013
sex composition 56% & age-sex composition 35%
Data is considered ‘good’ when it is accurate, relevant, comparable, timely, produced free of political interferences.

Standardization is crucial for aggregation.

Consistency is crucial for compatibility.
Mind the gaps

ACCESSIBILITY

- Restricted behind technical and/or legal barriers and by governments or companies that are apprehensive about ‘too much’ transparency
- Lagged in terms of right to information laws, civil society demand for data, and open government initiative
- Dissemination format is also critical
- Administrative data that are often not transferred to statistical offices
- Data generated by the private sector or by academic researchers that are never released or released too late
- Absence of data dissemination policy and strategy to release metadata and unit-level or micro-data
Focus on sustainable statistical capacity

Wide variation among the countries

6 had scores below the threshold of 50 and all of these were island countries

Small island Asian countries will require significant capacity development

Compared to African counterparts in other Asian regions, in general, are better

The weakest area is ‘methodology’ - critical to ensuring quality
Focus on sustainable statistical capacity

Statistical capacity score vs per capita income of 30 Asia-Pacific countries in 2013

Statistical capacity score vs per capita income for only Asian countries in 2013

Statistical capacity and per capita income may be linked!

Steady and dramatic improvement can be observed

Institutional strengthening should be focus of financing for data
Ensure predictable and sustainable budget

- Bangladesh
- India
- Philippines
- Nepal
- Singapore

It is perhaps the case that as a country develops, it can also invest more in data-related activities.

Budgetary allocations for data tend to be volatile – needs to ensure predictability.

Efficacy in utilising budgetary allocations also needs to be enhanced.
Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical

Aid Commitment to Statistics by Region (2013)

Asia-Pacific region received the highest share – on an average $100 million per annum since 2006

Aid Commitment to Statistics by Region (2013)

ODA allocation for data was found to be volatile
Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical

Commitments by Donors (2006-2013)

Only five major donors have been contributing more than 80%

Share of Top 5 Donors (2006-2013)

Volatile - nature of these donors in providing project/program-based finance
Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical

Type of ODA for statistics (2006-2013)

Financing Approaches (2006-2013)

Loan/credit is becoming more preferred

Project based ODA is more common
Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical

Sources of financing NSDS of selected Asia-Pacific countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>GNI per capita (USD) 2013</th>
<th>Govt. sources</th>
<th>Donor support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>43.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>1,010</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>5,600</td>
<td>85.5</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>3641*</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>72.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Implementation of NSDS is largely financed by government revenue

Countries with higher per capita income are seeking lower share of foreign financing – except small island country!
Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated.

Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS) in 2004 estimated that the additional cost of developing both national and international statistical systems up to the acceptable levels would be between USD 140-160 million per year.

World Bank and WHO in 2014 estimated that the total cost of scaling up and sustaining civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems in 73 countries to be about USD 382 million per year (excluding China and India).
Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated

Jerven (2014) estimated that 18 targets from MDGs cost USD 27 billion, hence, 169 targets proposed by the OWG would roughly demand about USD 254 billion for the 2015-2030 SDG round a big number and twice the annual global ODA flow.

Demombynes and Sandefur (2014) attempted to improve Jerven (2014) estimates - the total amount of international donor assistance needed to support this basic survey program is in the order of USD 300 million per year.
Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated

SDSN, Open Data Watch, PARIS21, the World Bank and other partners, based on SDSN proposed 100 indicators and 77 IDA recipients countries, estimated that on an average USD 1.30 to USD 2.59 million will be required for per IDA recipient or blend country

MAPS is outdated

Jerven (2014) is over-ambitious and overestimated

Demombynes & Sandefur (2014) fell short of providing a comprehensive estimate

Estimates by SDSN and other partners is of only indicative nature

No estimate considered administrative data – a major means/tool of monitoring SDGs
Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated

- Dissemination and timeliness
- Technology
- Quality
- Disaggregation
- Frequency

Financing needs for SDGs related data

Sustainable data related capacity building for NSOs and other government agencies
Success in terms of SDGs will be critical not only from the perspective of gaining global recognition as ‘success case’, but attaining SDGs will also be closely related to success of national development plans and policies.

An autonomous and political interference free data eco-system

Domestic buy-in and Political buy-in

Institutional frameworks for monitoring data related issues including finance at the global level and at country levels – led by host government where donors are engaged in a coordinated manner.
Next steps for member states

- Estimate financing needs for SDGs related data at national level
- Design a strategy in the country context in view of monitoring the SDG process
- Estimate the resource envelop
- Identify the potential sources
- Allocation from domestic sources through annual budgetary expenditure plans
- Incremental allocation to support non-state actors in generation of reliable-SDG data
- Mobilise ODA particularly for strengthening national systems
- Explore if private flows can be directed to generation of data
- Built-in data generation costs in projects being implemented that are relevant in SDG context
THANK YOU