Statistical Literacy Project

Statistical Literacy for monitoring MDGs

Background

- A UNDP initiated project to develop the capacity and statistical literacy to monitor the MDGs and national development plans thereby improve use of evidence-based methodologies for the management of development policy .

Introduction

Global targets, however valid, cannot be imposed on countries. To be meaningful, the must be well known, customized and tailored to national circumstances.

Statistical Literacy project has been set up to give necessary skills on MDGs to people at regional and national level in order to understand and explain information regarding the MDGs.

Project Objectives

- **Make data more accessible** – managing the growing amount of information
- **Enhance Statistical capacity and literacy** – improve knowledge relevant to policy design
- **Support evidence-based advocacy** – allow public advocates to monitor progress

What are the goals of the Project?

- Producers' side, strengthen the NSO in the development of a database to be used as a single repository of MDG and national planning data;
- Users' side, develop the capacity among government officials, CSOs and academic institutions for better and wider use of this data, for monitoring of progress, advocacy and policy development.

How achieve these goals?

- The project would assist NSOs develop and maintain a database for MDG and national planning indicator data.
- The project will also assist the development of links to download the data from the software of choice to DEVINFO where necessary
- Countries will receive seed resources to assist the funding of training courses in country --to develop the capacity for for data use

How achieve these goals?

- Scope of Country:
- to current and potential users of data, to raise the technical skills of main stakeholders;
- to enable easy access to the data and the meta data;
- to use the database to carry out analysis of the data more effectively;
- and to identify gaps in existing data required for further analysis.

Project Implementation

- UNDP has invited ADB to lead the roll out of this project for the African region.
- ADB is planning to engage other institutions (e.g. ECA, EASTC, ACBF, AFRISTAT etc.) to assist with the rolling out of this project in Africa

Project Implementation: Role of ADB

- The ADB team would coordinate activities in the region through organizing training of trainers to at least 12 participants from each country on:
- i) MDGs;
- ii) technical training on use of software;
- iii) promotion of data use and analysis.

Project Strategy : 2 Phases

- **Phase 1** : – Database Development

- **Phase 2 :** – Statistical Literacy Training

Phase 1 : Database Development

- Data users and producers define database – agree on content, priority list of indicators and work plan for updating
- DEVInfo or appropriate dissemination software installed as the Central Repository of Data in the NSO
- Database task force established to guide implementation – could be led by a senior member of existing poverty monitoring unit or NSO

Phase 1 : Target users

- – National Statistical Offices
- – planners and policy makers
- – UNDP Field Office

Phase 2 : Statistical Literacy Training

Statistical Literacy Training

- Regional courses to train 12 trainers for each country and provide support and seed funding to train 100-200 in country users
- Training will cover : MDG indicators ; Sources, methods and meta data ; Accessing data through the central repository ; Basic statistical analysis ; Analysis of data for improving monitoring, evaluation, advocacy and policy development

Phase 2 : Target Users

- *1. Increase use for policy design and implementation*
  - Government officials / Parliamentarians
  - Local Government planners and policy makers
  - Staff involved in day-to-day policy making and planning
  - NGOs
  - National Statistical Offices
  - Donors

Phase 2 : Target Users

- *2. Stimulate public monitoring of policy*
  - CSOs
  - Universities and research centres
- *3. Improve social communication*
  - Media

Phase 2 : Implementation

Training Process
Regional Training of Country trainers
  - Training of Trainers for groups of 3 countries (36 participants)
  - 1st training: Kampala 8-12 August 2005 (for Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda)
  - 2nd training: Lusaka October 2005 (for Ghana, Malawi and Zambia)

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- **Thank you**