

# Learning from the MDGs: Lessons for the SDGs

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*Presented by*

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CENTRE FOR POLICY DIALOGUE (CPD)

B A N G L A D E S H

a civil society think tank

# Learning from the MDGs and Lessons for the SDGs

This presentation draws on four CPD studies:

- **“Attaining the MDGs: How Successful are the LDCs?”**  
<http://cpd.org.bd/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Attaining-the-MDGs-in-LDCs.pdf>
- **“Public Expenditure Trends in Low-Income Countries in the Post-MDG Context”.** [http://erd-report.com/erd/report\\_2015/press/Public%20Expenditure%20Trends%20in%20Low-Income%20Countries%20in%20the%20Post-MDG%20Context.pdf](http://erd-report.com/erd/report_2015/press/Public%20Expenditure%20Trends%20in%20Low-Income%20Countries%20in%20the%20Post-MDG%20Context.pdf)
- **“Measuring for Monitoring: State of SDG Data in Bangladesh”.** <http://www.post2015datatest.com/>
- **“Delivering on the promise: Ensuring the successful implementation of the post-2015 agenda in Bangladesh”**  
*[Ongoing]*



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# Introduction

- MDGs have often been criticized for being a top-down development agenda. North-dominated
- At the seventieth session of the UN General Assembly to be held on 25-27 September 2015, member states will adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In contrast to the MDGs, SDGs consultation process was more inclusive
- The SDGs framework is expected to go far beyond the MDGs
- 17 Goals with 169 associated Targets will come into effect on 1 January 2016 and will guide the international development agenda over the next 15 years
- The member states including Bangladesh will commit to work towards implementing the Agenda within their own countries and at the regional and global levels
- In this context, one may look back to the learnings from MDGs experience for the purposes of drawing lessons for the SDGs implementation



# Learning from the MDGs

*MDGs attainment in Bangladesh has been quite impressive*

MDG indicators	Latest status	Target by 2015
1.1a: Proportion of Population below national upper poverty line (2,122 kcal), %	31.5 (HIES 2010) 24.8 (GED Est. 2015)	29.0
1.8: Prevalence of underweight children under-5 years of age (6-59 months)	31.9 (MICS 2012-2013) 32.6 (BDHS 2014)	33.0
2.1: Net Enrolment Ratio in Primary Education	97.7 (APSC, DPE 2014)	100
3.1a: Ratio of girls to boys in primary education (Gender Parity Index = Girls/ Boys)	1.03 (APSC, DPE 2014) 1.07 (MICS 2012-2013)	1.00
4.1: Under-Five Mortality Rate	46 (BDHS 2014) 41 (SVRS 2013)	48
4.2: Infant Mortality Rate	38 (BDHS 2014) 31 (SVRS 2013)	31
4.3: Proportion of One-Year Old Children Immunised against Measles	81.9 (UESD 2013) 79.9 (BDHS 2014)	100
5.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100,000 live births)	170 (MMEIG 2013) 197 (SVRS 2013)	143
6.1: HIV Prevalence among Population Aged 15-24 Years	<0.1 (9th SS 2011)	Halting
7.8: Proportion of Population Using an Improved Drinking Water Source	97.9 (MICS 2012-2013) 97.5 (SVRS 2013)	100

*Source: Bangladesh's MDG Progress Report 2015*



# Learning from the MDGs

*In a number of areas, further attention will be required*

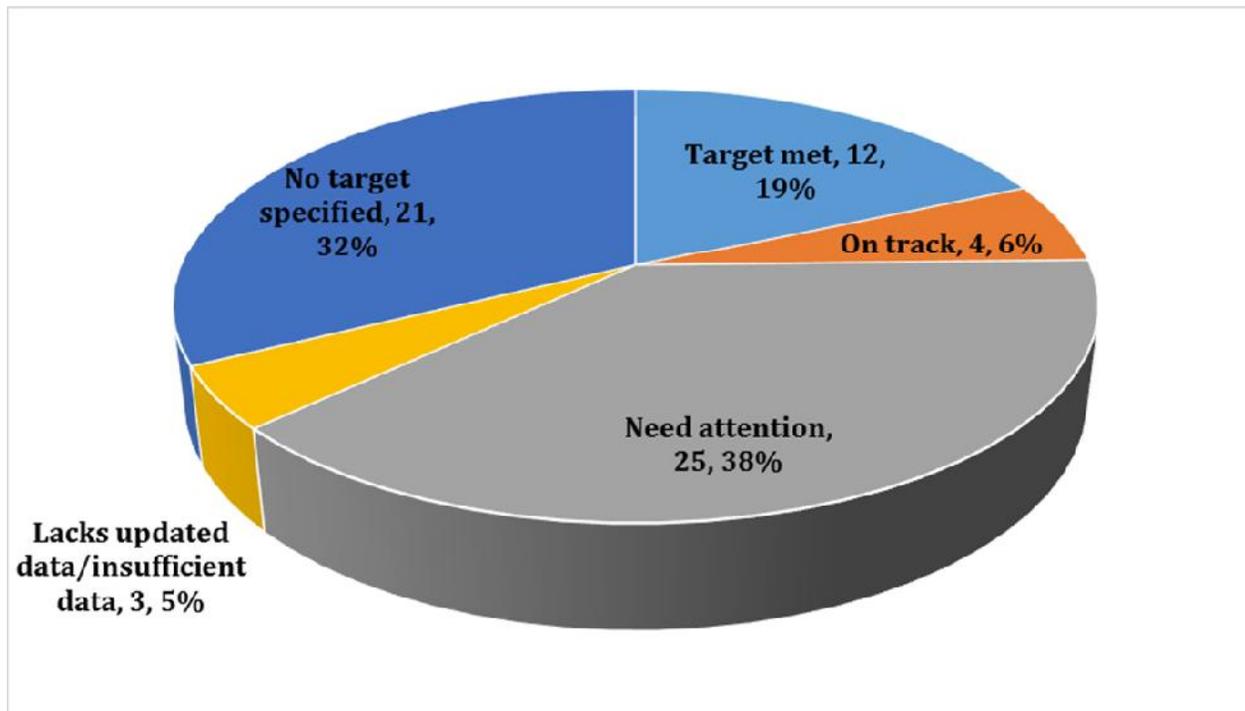
- For example -
  - 1.5: Employment to population ratio (15+), %
  - 2.2: Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5, %
  - 2.3: Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men, %
  - 3.2: Share of women in wage employment in the nonagricultural sector, %
  - 4.3: Proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles, %
  - 5.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio, (per 100,000 live births)
  - 5.2: Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel, %
  - 5.3: Contraceptive Prevalence Rate, %
  - 6.9a: Prevalence of TB per 100,000 population
  - 7.1: Proportion of land area covered by forest, % (tree coverage)



# Learning from the MDGs

*Achievement of Bangladesh as regards MDGs has been somewhat mixed*

**Bangladesh's MDGs Progress Status in terms of 65 Indicators**



Source: Bangladesh's MDG Progress Report 2015 (GED)

*To keep in mind: Many of the MDGs Indicators will continue into the SDGs*

# Learning from the MDGs

*After 2000, pace of progress has been uneven across indicators*

MDG Performance Estimated by Unbiased Rate of Progress Method (URPM)

MDG indicators	Performance
1.1: Proportion of Population below Poverty Line	Accelerated
1.5: Employment-to-Population Ratio (15+)	Slow Down
1.9: Proportion of Population below Minimum Level of Dietary Energy Consumption	Slow Down
2.1: Net Enrolment Ratio in Primary Education	Accelerated
2.3: Literacy Rate of 15-24 Year Olds, Women and Men	Accelerated
4.1: Under-Five Mortality Rate	Slow Down
4.2: Infant Mortality Rate	Slow Down
4.3: Proportion of One-Year Old Children Immunised against Measles	Accelerated
5.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio	Slow down
6.1: HIV Prevalence among Population Aged 15-24 Years	Maintained
7.1: Proportion of Land Area Covered by Forest	Accelerated
7.8: Proportion of Population Using an Improved Drinking Water Source	Maintained
7.9: Proportion of Population Using an Improved Sanitation Facility	Accelerated



# Learning from the MDGs

*MDG progress has also been uneven across different regions within Bangladesh*

Divisions	1.1: Proportion of Population below Poverty Line (%)	1.8: Prevalence of underweight children under-5 years of age (%)	4.1: Under-5 Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	4.2: Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	5.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100,000 live births)
<b>National</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>197.0</b>
Barisal	39.4	36.9	43.0	28.0	234.0
Chittagong	26.2	36.0	39.0	30.0	196.0
Dhaka	30.5	28.5	36.0	30.0	184.0
Khulna	32.1	25.5	51.0	42.0	195.0
Rajshahi	29.8	32.1	46.0	33.0	290.0
Rangpur	46.2	36.8	42.0	33.0	148.0
Sylhet	28.1	39.8	47.0	40.0	174.0
<b>Source</b>	<b>HIES 2010</b>	<b>BDHS 2014</b>	<b>SVRS 2013</b>	<b>SVRS 2013</b>	<b>SVRS 2013</b>

*Note: Green shades denote the best performing Division while red shades signify the worst performing Division.*

# Learning from the MDGs

*One can discern an increasing trend in Bangladesh's policy documents to address areas relevant to MDGs*

- Bangladesh has traditionally focused on a number of MDG-related areas, even before the inception of MDGs.
- Development plans that were formulated before the adoption of the MDGs had already identified and incorporated a number of MDG-relevant areas to be accorded high policy priority in Bangladesh.
- Among the nine (major) selected MDG indicators that were selected for a CPD study, Bangladesh gave priority to seven in its pre-MDGs Development Plan, the **Fifth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)**.
  - For four indicators quantitative targets were set.
  - However, specific targets were not set for three issues (gender disparity in primary and secondary education; prevalence of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; forest coverage).

# Learning from the MDGs

- The study further found that eight out of the nine identified MDG targets were addressed in **Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP I, 2005)**.
  - However, no specific commitments were made in the strategy for two MDG issues (adult literacy and HIV/ AIDS).
- **The Sixth Five Year Plan (SFYP) (2011-2015)** of Bangladesh was the final national development plan during the MDG period which came to its closure in 2015.
- Bangladesh continued to address same number of MDG targets in SFYP as it did for PRSP I.
  - Bangladesh had set specific target in seven MDG areas. Interestingly, to address the issue of forest coverage, an additional target (increase productive forest coverage by 2%) was adopted in SFYP.

Regrettably, the issue of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions was consistently lacking in terms of any specific commitment in the national plans of Bangladesh.



# Learning from the MDGs

*MDG related targets were also considered in designing the major public sector programmes*

- In **post-2000 period**, some of the major programmes and policy initiatives had focused on MDGs:
  - Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP II in 2004-09 and PEDP III in 2011-16);
  - Education Policy 2010;
  - The Education Assistance Trust Act 2012;
  - National Policy for Women's Advancement (2011);
  - Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP 2003-2011);
  - Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Development Program (HNPSDP 2011-2016);
  - National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS 2011-2021).



# Learning from the MDGs

*Resource allocation in Bangladesh has been largely MDG sensitive in the areas of health, social protection and environment*

- The pace of growth in **public health expenditure** consistently increased between various inter-temporal periods since 2000.
  - 1.4% in 1996-2000 period; 5.6% in 2001-2005 period; and 12% 2006-2012 period.
  - This trend, however, did not continue in recent years
- Bangladesh has increased its **social protection spending** both as a share of total budget (by 3.7%) and GDP (by 0.5%) in 2001-2012 period compared to 1991-2000 period.
- Growth momentum also accelerated as regards **public spending on environment protection** in post-2000 period in Bangladesh.
  - From 0.1% in 1996-2000 period to 4.7% in 2006-2010 period.



# Learning from the MDGs

*Resource allocation was off-track particularly in the area of education while net ODA inflow declined!*

- Momentum of growth as regards **public spending on education** decelerated in post-2000 period in Bangladesh.
  - From 13.7% in 1991-2000 period to 7.8% in 2001-2010 period. (11.4% in 2011 – 2014 period according to MoF)
- The amount of **net ODA received** (in nominal terms) slightly decreased in the post-2000 period.
  - Average net ODA received in 1991-2000 period was USD 1,390 million which reduced to USD 1,353 million in 2001-2010 period. (average USD 1,651 million in FY2011-FY2015 according to ERD)
  - Utilisation capacity of ODA remained a concern!

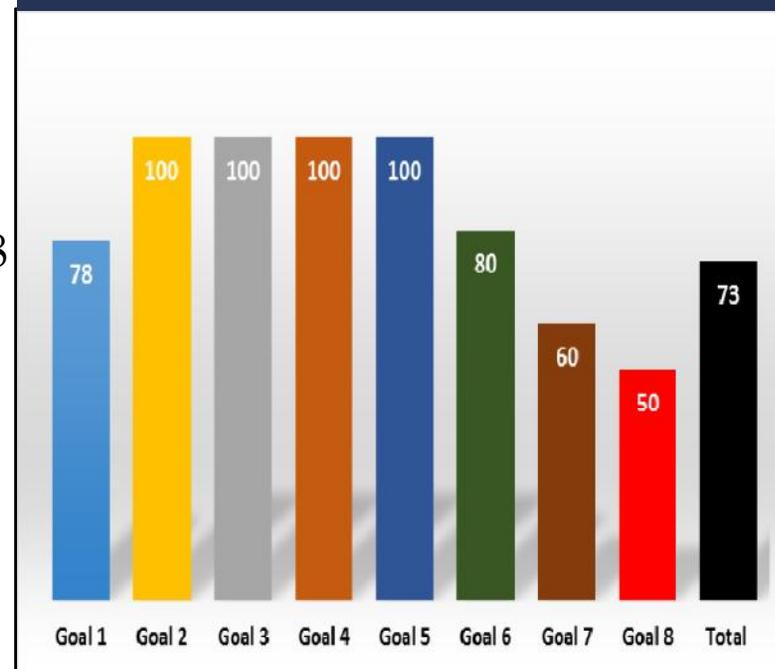


# Learning from the MDGs

## *Monitoring progress as regards MDGs was constrained by inadequate data and information*

- Out of total 60 indicators under the 8 goals and 21 targets, data was available for 44 indicators (73% of total).
- Partially available data (for which data may not be available at disaggregate level or is not updated regularly) are also considered to be available in this context.
- Availability of data was found to be quite good (80% indicators) for MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) and MDG 6 (Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases).

Data availability (% of total)  
across MDG indicators



- On the other hand, data availability situation for MDG 7 (Ensure Environmental Sustainability) and MDG 8 (Develop a Global Partnership for Development) was not satisfactory.

# Learning from the MDGs

- Experience as regards MDG related data also indicates:
  - Lack of data did not allow setting up reference year indicators for a number of MDGs.
  - Inadequacy and paucity of data did not allow real time measurement of progress with respect to a number of MDG targets and indicators.
  - A number of MDG indicators did not have quantifiable targets in absence of the required data.
  - It was often difficult to access data due to different administrative bottlenecks.
  - The status of electronic dissemination of data was also rather poor.

# Learning from the MDGs

*Monitoring and evaluation was one of the weakest areas of MDGs, both at country and global levels*

- Weak monitoring and accountability practice
- Silo approach in implementation
- Inadequate data availability
- Low level of engagement with stakeholders



# Lessons for the SDGs

## *It is critically important to keep the key elements of SDGs in perspective*

The synthesis report of the Secretary General on the post-2015 agenda, “The road to dignity: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet” was published in December 2014. The report presents six elements for delivering on the SDGs which “... would help frame and reinforce the universal, integrated and transformative nature of a sustainable development agenda ...”. The six elements are:

- **Dignity**: to end poverty and fight inequalities
- **People**: to ensure healthy lives, knowledge, and the inclusion of women and children
- **Prosperity**: to grow a strong, inclusive, and transformative economy
- **Planet**: to protect our ecosystems for all societies and our children
- **Justice**: to promote safe and peaceful societies, and strong institutions
- **Partnership**: to catalyse global solidarity for sustainable development



# Lessons for the SDGs

*Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere*

*Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*

*Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*

*Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*

*Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*

*Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*

*Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all*

*Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all*

*Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation*



# Lessons for the SDGs

*Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries*

*Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*

*Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns*

*Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*

*Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*

*Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*

*Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*

*Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development*



# Lessons for the SDGs

- The Agenda: *Inclusive, transformative, integrated and universal*
  - How the ‘universal’ SDG will be rearticulated at the national level reflecting the contextual priorities?- Still an issue of debate
- Country-led implementation
- A revitalised Global Partnership: An area much criticized during MDG implementation
- Follow-up and review processes will be voluntary and will respect policy space and priorities of the countries
- Global review will primarily be based on national official data sources – country reports and thematic reports
- Data Revolution
- Separate Goal (17) for means of implementation (MoI) and MoI targets under each Goal



# Lessons for the SDGs

- New areas of SDGs (e.g. cities and human settlements, ecosystem and biodiversity) will call for greater effort and resources at the country level
  - Much more ambition and effort is required on the part of the national, regional and international community.
- It is important to sensitise national policies in line with SDGs!
- An important issue with respect to SDGs is how their implementation will be financed.
  - Public finance (domestic resource mobilization) and foreign aid are expected to continue to be central to supporting the implementation of the SDGs, but they will not be adequate.
  - Other potential sources of financing include:
    - ✓ resources generated from the private sector (including remittances)
    - ✓ crackdown on illicit financial flows and corruption
    - ✓ trade and market access
    - ✓ foreign direct investment

# Lessons for the SDGs

- Concerns have been raised about the sheer breadth and ambition of these goals, the feasibility of monitoring them and tracking actual progress within countries.
  - If monitoring of 8 MDGs, 20 targets and 60 indicators have posed serious challenges at the national level, how about 17 SDGs, 169 targets and over 300 indicators?
  - Capacity of national statistics office and other government agencies will be tested
  - Accessibility, quality and timeliness of data will be critical. To fix a reference year will be a challenge: 2010?; 2015?
  - Rapid technological progress should be put into effective use
- Attainment of SDGs will require a strong and effective institutional mechanism involving all stakeholders including public representatives (central and local), government (executive & bureaucracy), private sector, civil society, knowledge community, and development partners.



*Thank You*



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