Role of information in the SDGs: key considerations

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Transition from human development to sustainable development

MDG lessons...

- Are developments sustainable?
- Increase ownership by countries…bottom up
- Leave no one behind: ladder…disaggregation
- Dev partners: role of facilitation, convening etc.
- Right mix of leadership, enabling environment, financing: cross sectoral…linking information
- Enhanced monitoring for greater accountability
- Take advantage of data revolution…use all available data

SDGs…an opportunity

- To strengthen country capacity/ownership
- To have streamlined approach: national to regional to global…feedback loop
- To strengthen partnership within country, as well as at regional and global levels
- To develop enhanced monitoring…don't dumb down the targets by indicators
- To break silos of development

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Background and challenges

Problems to solve…

- 1in 4 deaths due to environmental factors
  - 1 in 5 defecate in the open and 1 in 7 lack potable water
  - Worse under climate change scenarios
- Limited knowledge of environmental factors.
- Evidence based policies…
  - Lack of comprehensive information system for planning and focusing of resources.
  - Fragmented monitoring of health and environment

Health sector: Climate knowledge gap

- How much climate change affects access or prevents from reaching targets?

- How much climate variability affects access?
  - How climate change/variability affect water quality/quantity?

- Can we handle/mitigate climate impacts on various sectors?

- Can we prevent disasters related to climate?

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We need to…

- Strengthen the evidence base
  - Links between lack of basic services and diseases
  - Linking environmental issues (WASH, CC etc.)
- Correlate service levels to BoD, CC, poverty.
- Have environmental health information to:
  - Improve quality and types of health surveillance and the environmental data
  - Better connect existing databases, address gaps
  - Build country capacity

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Global Information Management System on Health and Environment (GIMS)

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GIMS…first shown at 2009 OECD World Forum on Statistics

- A wiki style data management system
  - Data collection, analysis, dissemination
  - Data linking system (JMP and GLAAS)
- Data to be shared with interested parties (interoperable and open source)
- Incremental build-up to develop an Early Warning System for water-borne diseases:
  - Vulnerability and risk analyses as a learning step

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GIMS can…

- Link WASH data to other environmental health data

- Enable…Transparent flow of data, effective data dissemination

- Create an environment for:
  - Inter-agency collaboration within country
  - Dynamic data reconciliation between agencies within a country and internationally

Way forward…

Key consideration for Information System for EH in the SDGs

- Need for the country and the sectors

- Analyse the knowledge gap at the country level

- How a system can develop (country) capacity for monitoring: incrementally

- A phased approach: focus on visualization and wide dissemination

- Combine key determinants of environmental health to turn statistics/information into knowledge

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www.gimsinitiative.org
thanks very much...how can we help?