



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations

# Asia-Pacific Aspirations

## Perspectives for a Post-2015 Development Agenda

Asia-Pacific Regional MDGs Report 2012/13



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# Structure



**WHERE ASIA-PACIFIC STANDS: The MDGs, unfinished agenda and emerging issues**

**THE MDG EXPERIENCE: Lessons learned**

**GOING FORWARD: Aspirations from Asia and the Pacific**



**WHERE ASIA-PACIFIC STANDS:  
The MDGs, unfinished  
agenda and emerging  
issues**



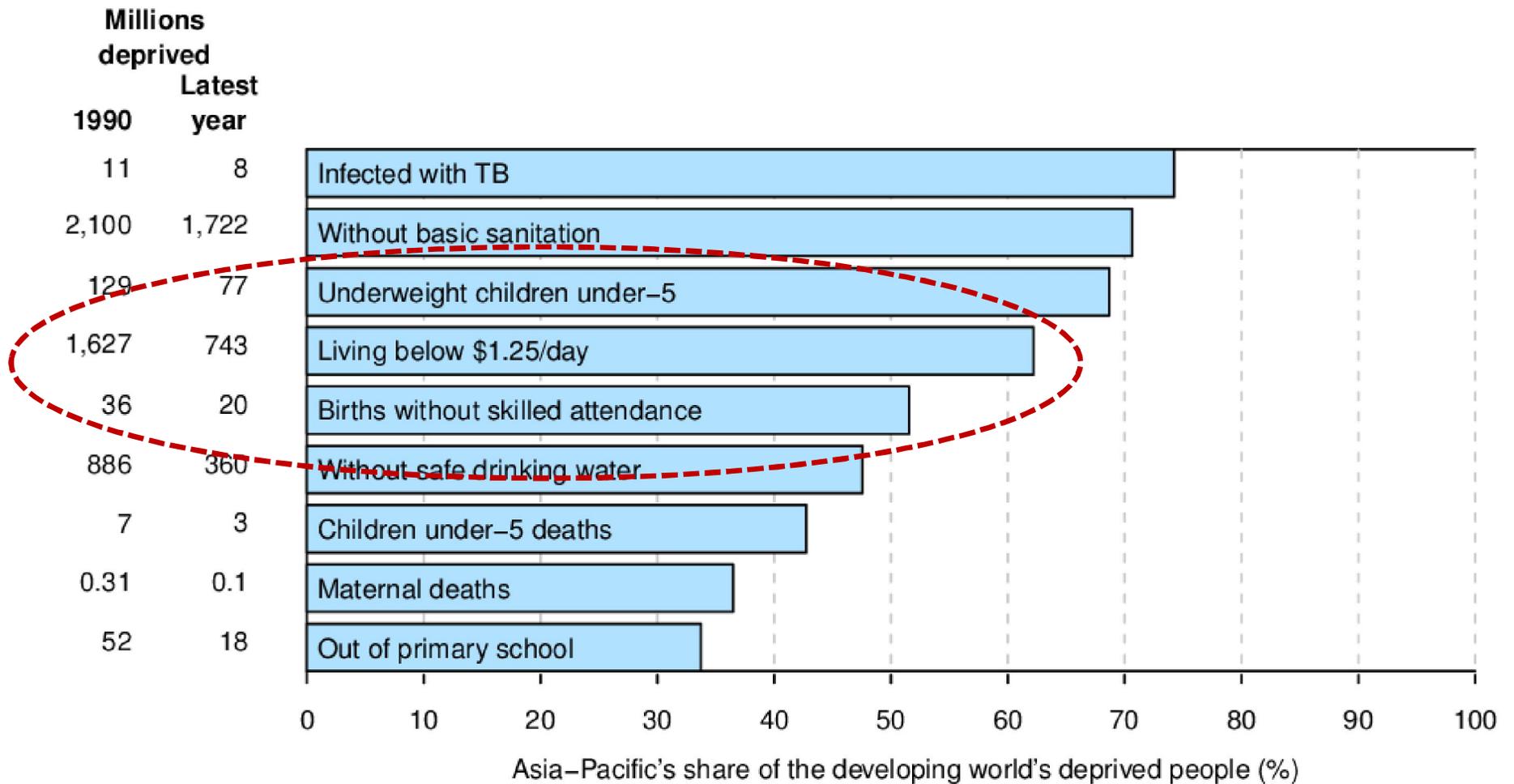
**MR. SHUN-ICHI MURATA**  
Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP



| Goal                       | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4                                     | 5  | 6   | 7  |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
|                            | \$1.25 per day poverty<br>Underweight children | Primary enrolment<br>Reaching last grade<br>Primary completion | Gender primary<br>Gender secondary<br>Gender tertiary | Under-5 mortality<br>Infant mortality | Maternal mortality<br>Skilled birth attendance<br>Antenatal care (≥ 1 visit) | HIV prevalence<br>TB incidence<br>TB prevalence | Forest cover<br>Protected area<br>CO2 emissions per GDP<br>Safe drinking water<br>Basic sanitation |
| Asia-Pacific               | ●  | ▶  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ●  |
| Excluding China and India  | ●  | ▶  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ▶  |
| South-East Asia            | ●  | ▶  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ▶  |
| South Asia                 | ▶  | ▶  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ●  |
| Excluding India            | ●  | ■  | ▶   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ▶  |
| Pacific Islands            |  | ■  | ■   | ■                                     | ▶  | ●   | ▶  |
| Excluding Papua New Guinea |  | ●  | ▶   | ■                                     | ▶  | ●   | ▶  |
| North and Central Asia     | ●  | ●  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ■  |
| Excluding Russia           | ●  | ●  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ▶   | ■  |
| Asia-Pacific LDCs          | ▶  | ▶  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ▶  |
| Asia-Pacific Low Income    | ▶  | ▶  | ■   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ▶  |
| Asia-Pacific Middle Income | ●  | ■  | ●   | ■                                     | ■  | ●   | ■  |

● Early achiever    ▶ On track    ■ Slow    ▶ Regressing/No progress

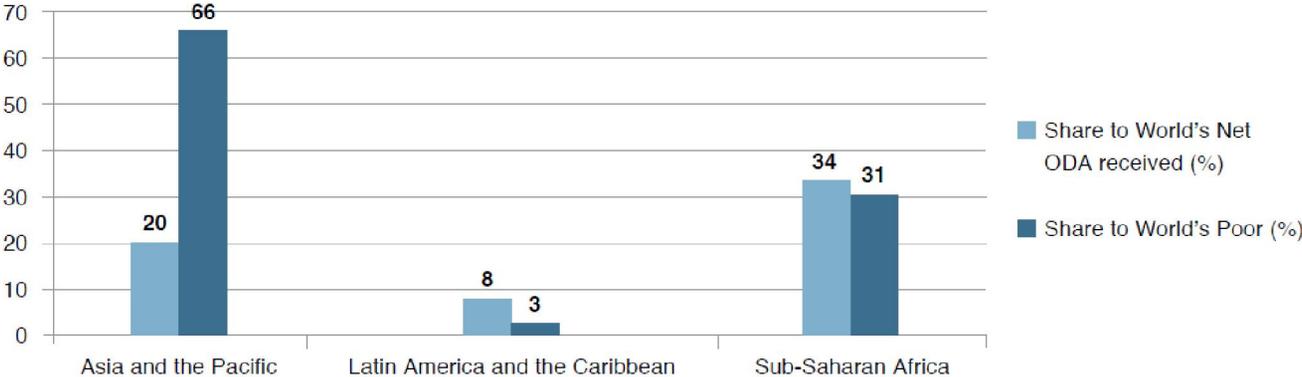
## The MDGs are unfinished: Goals 1-7



... *and about 1.64 billion are under \$2 per day*

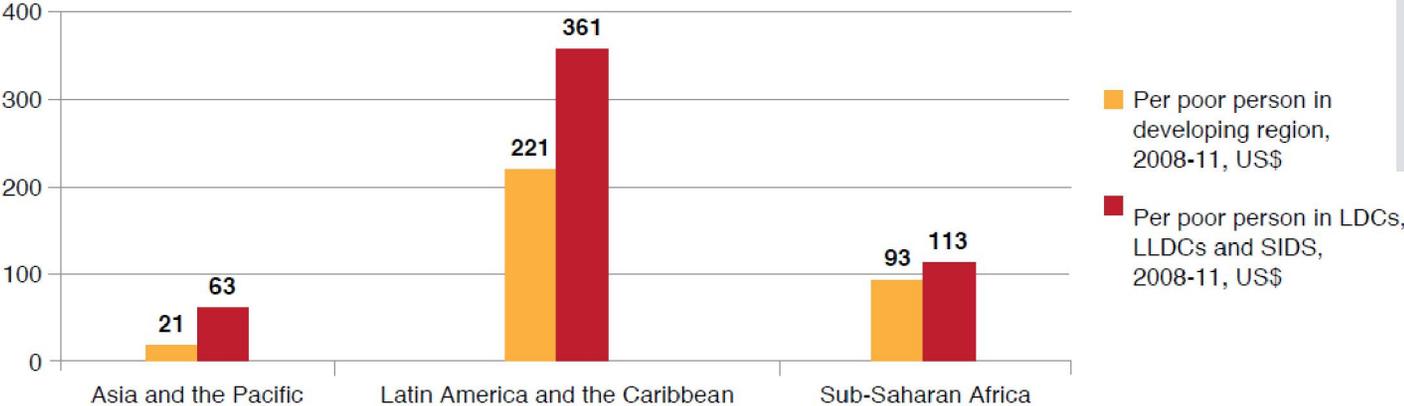
# Goal 8 has been less than stellar: The region gets little aid

Share of developing regions in aid and total world population in poverty



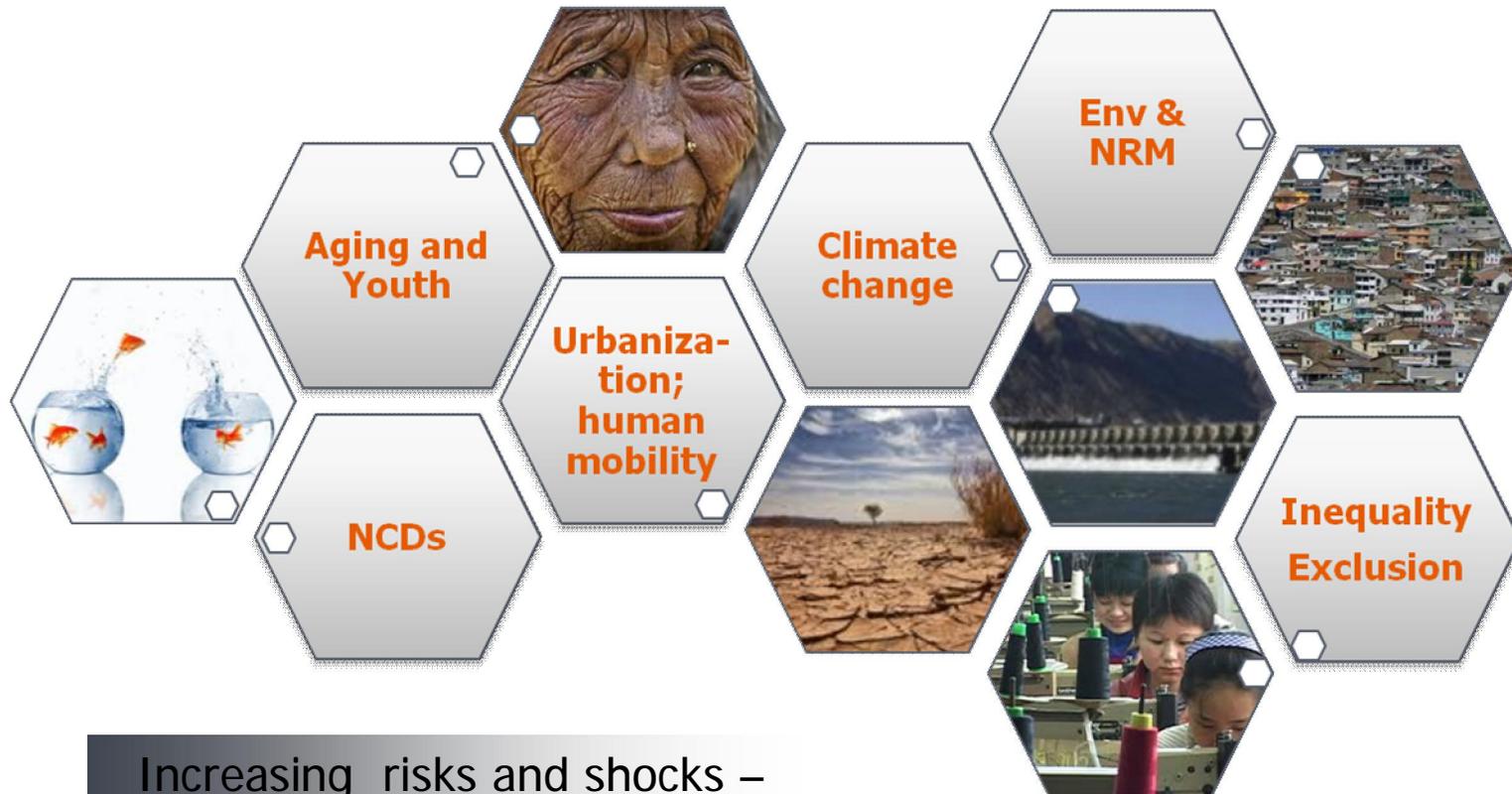
Asia-Pacific has 62% of the developing world's poor but receives only 20% of average ODA flows in 2008-2011.

ODA per poor person in the region and countries with special needs



Asia also receives the lowest aid per poor person amongst developing regions.

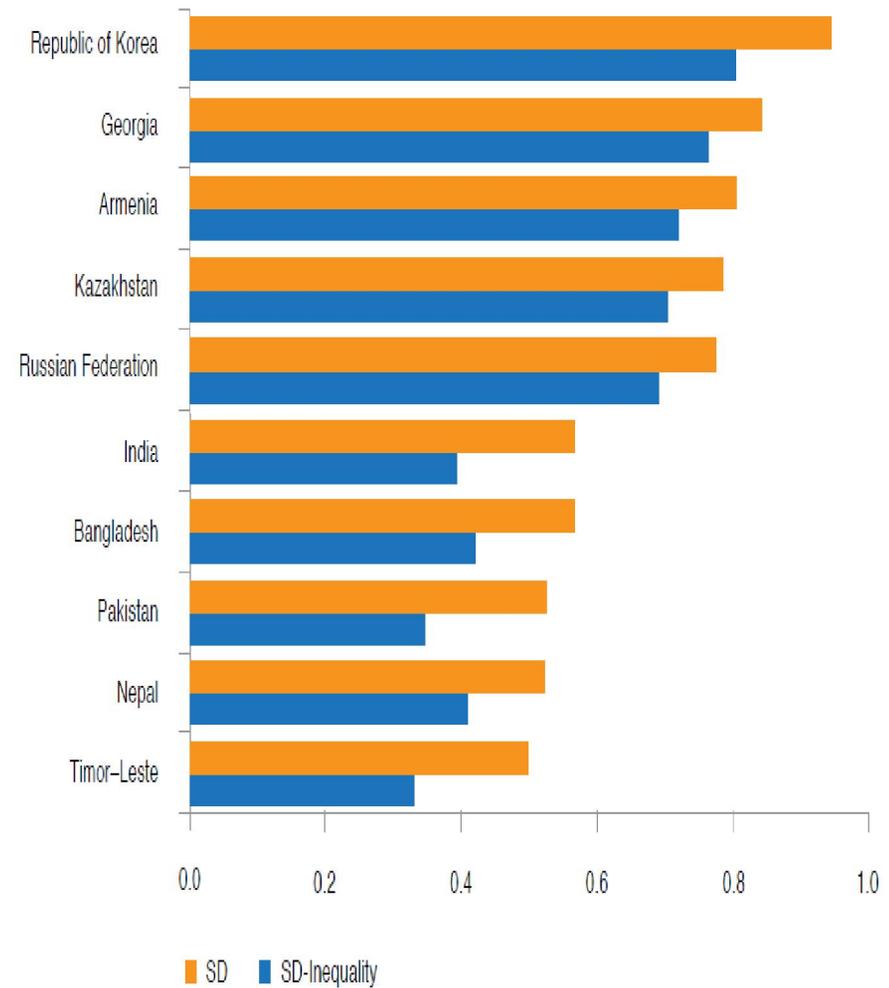
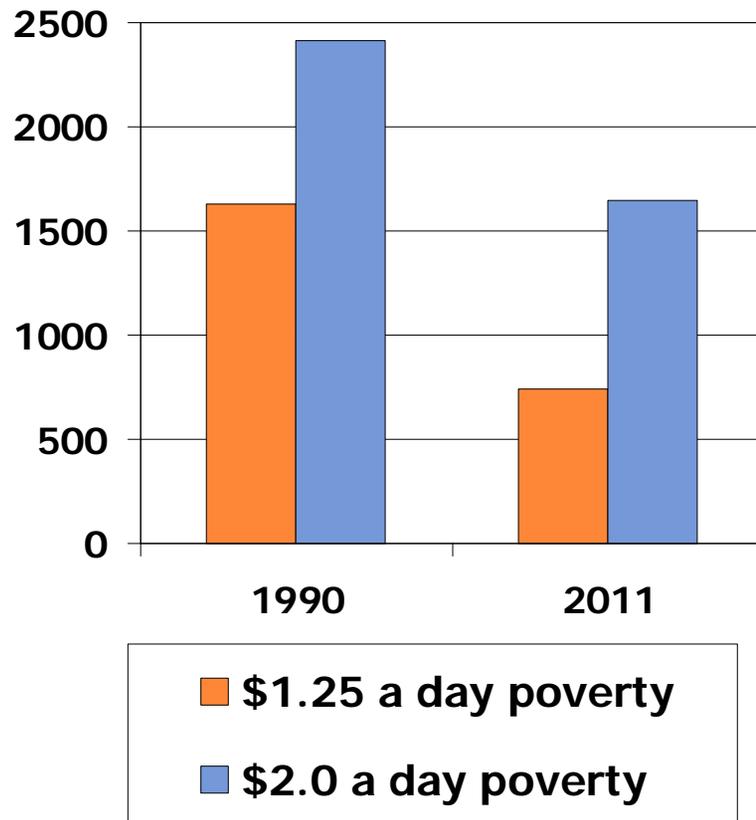
# Unfinished agenda and emerging issues: The region's challenges ...



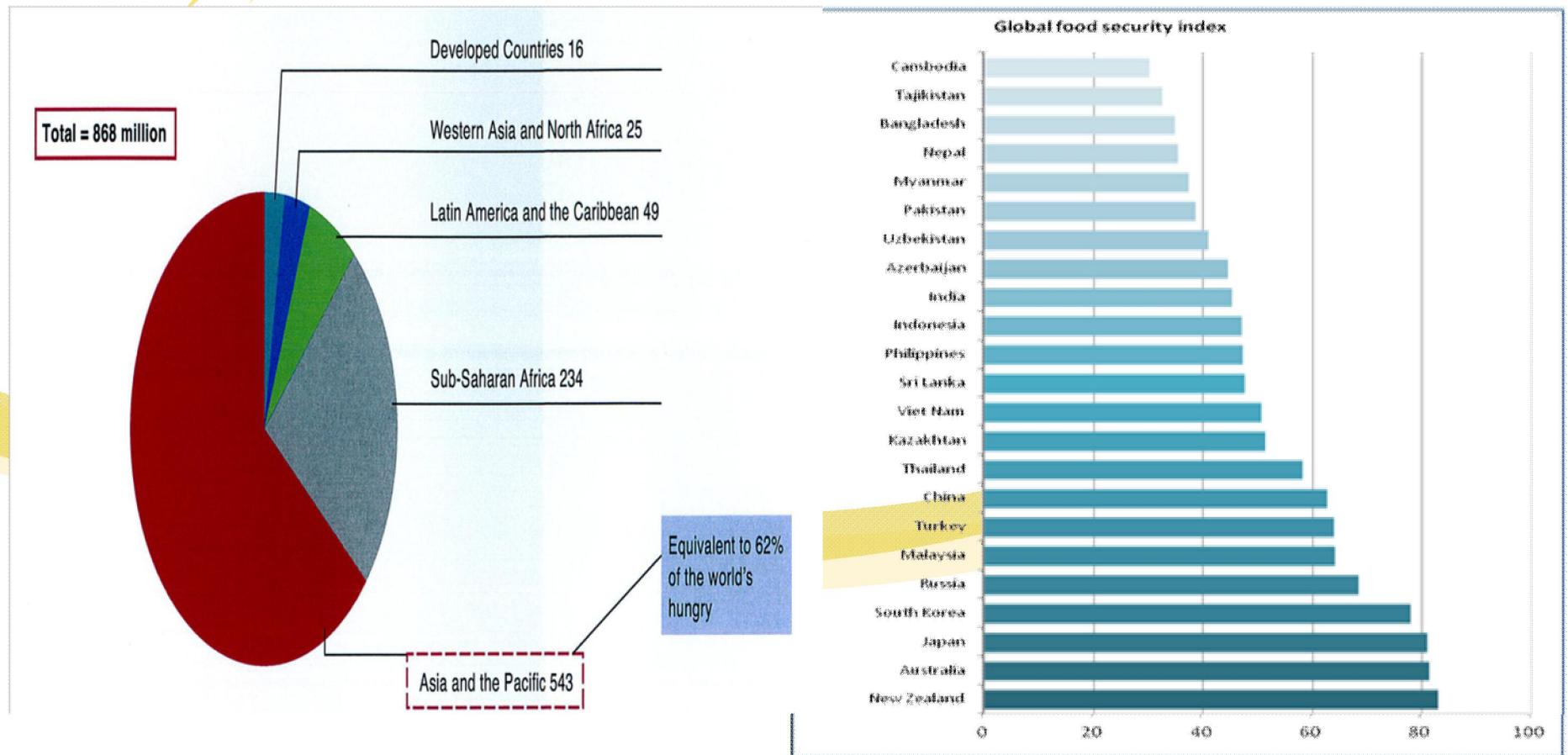
Increasing risks and shocks –  
economic, ecological

# Persistent poverty & rising inequality

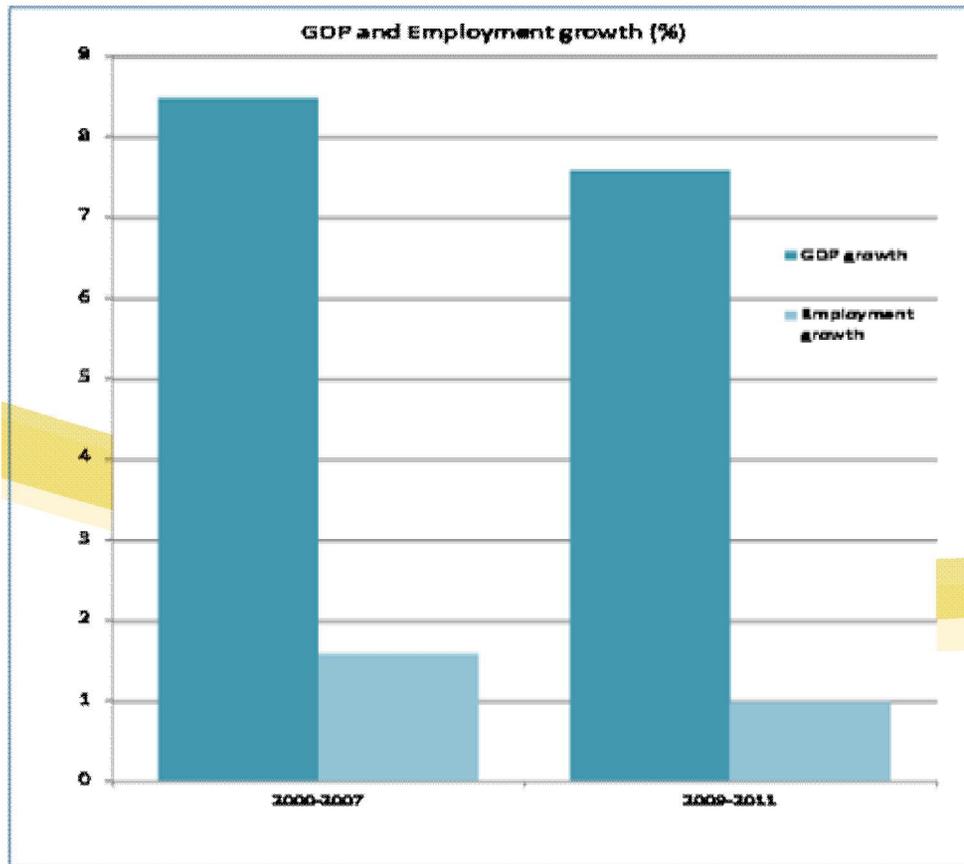
Millions of people in poverty



# Malnutrition and food insecurity



# Jobless growth & working poor

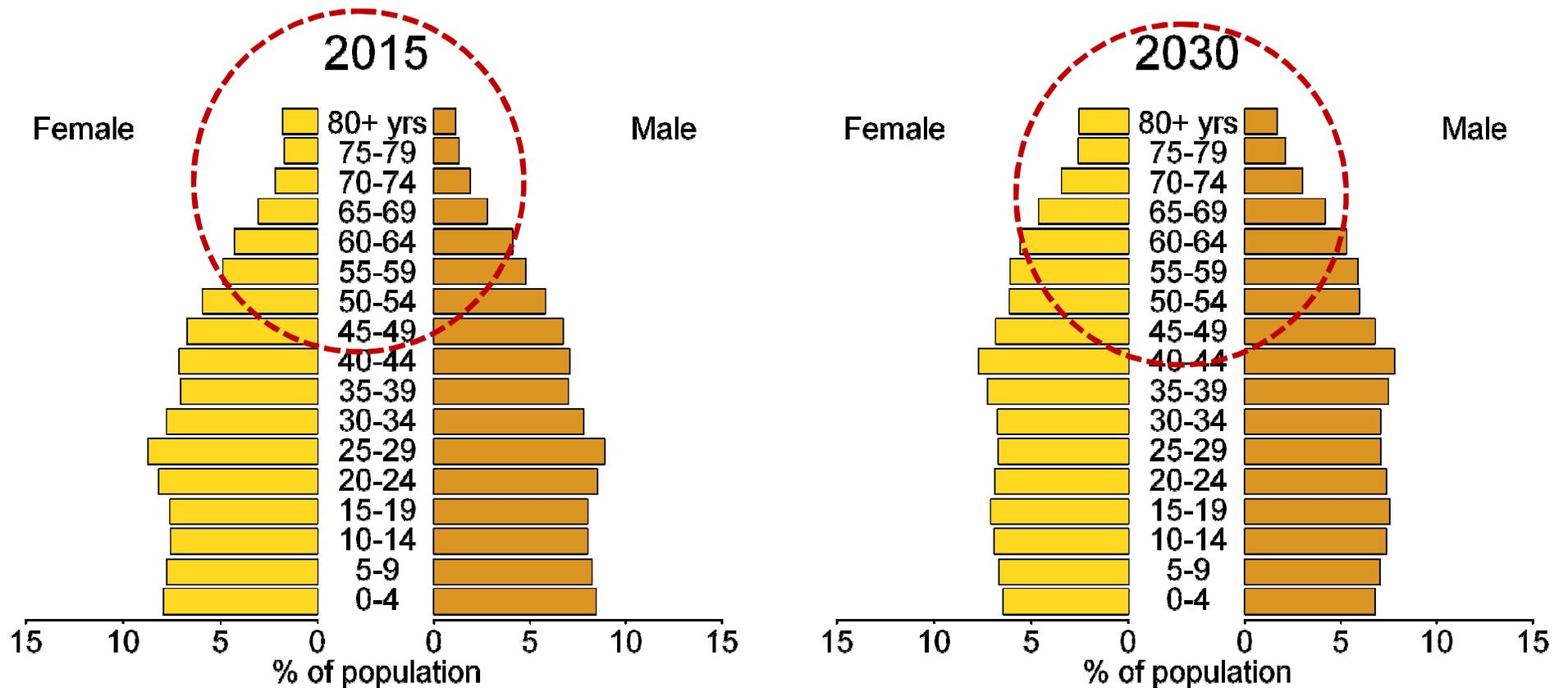


## Vulnerable employment:

- 60% of Asia-Pacific workforce, 1.1 billion
- 73% of worlds working poor, 422 million workers living below \$1.25 a day
- 80% of workers, 486 millions, in South Asia
- 50% of workers in East Asia

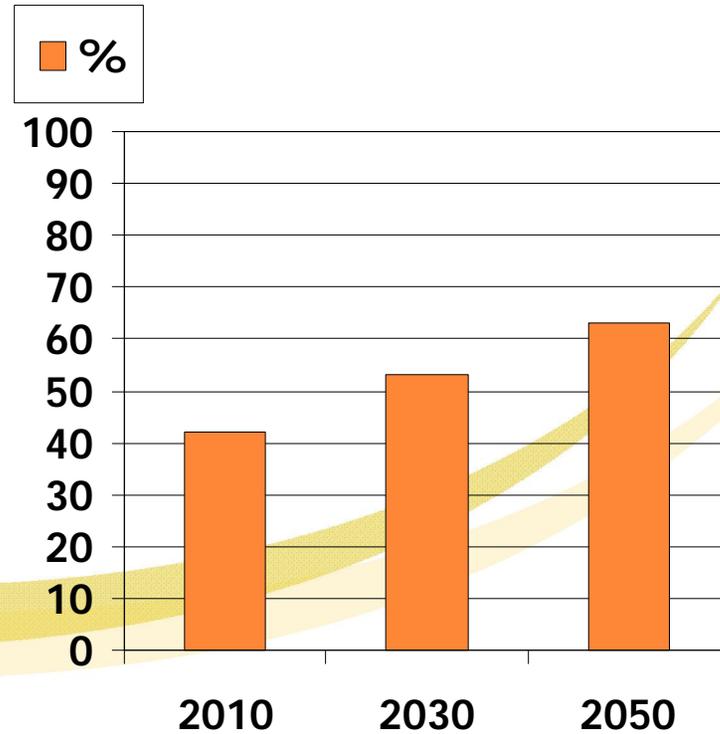
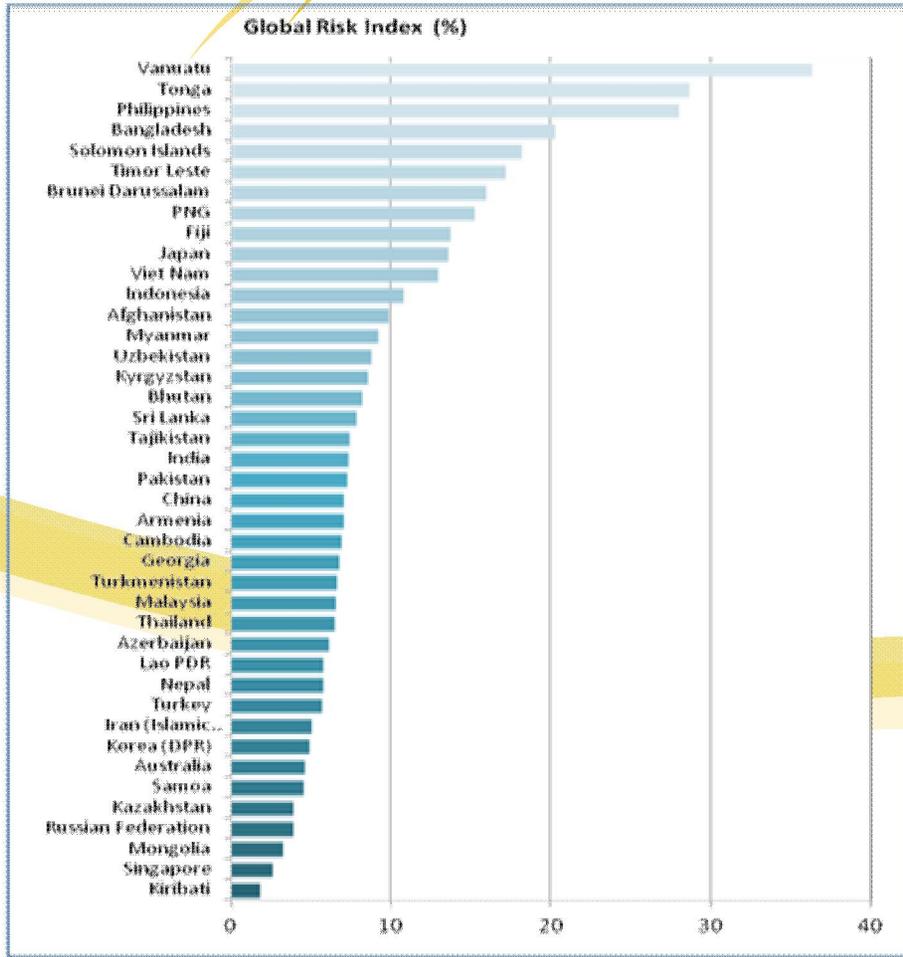
# Asia and the Pacific is aging rapidly

Youth share is also high



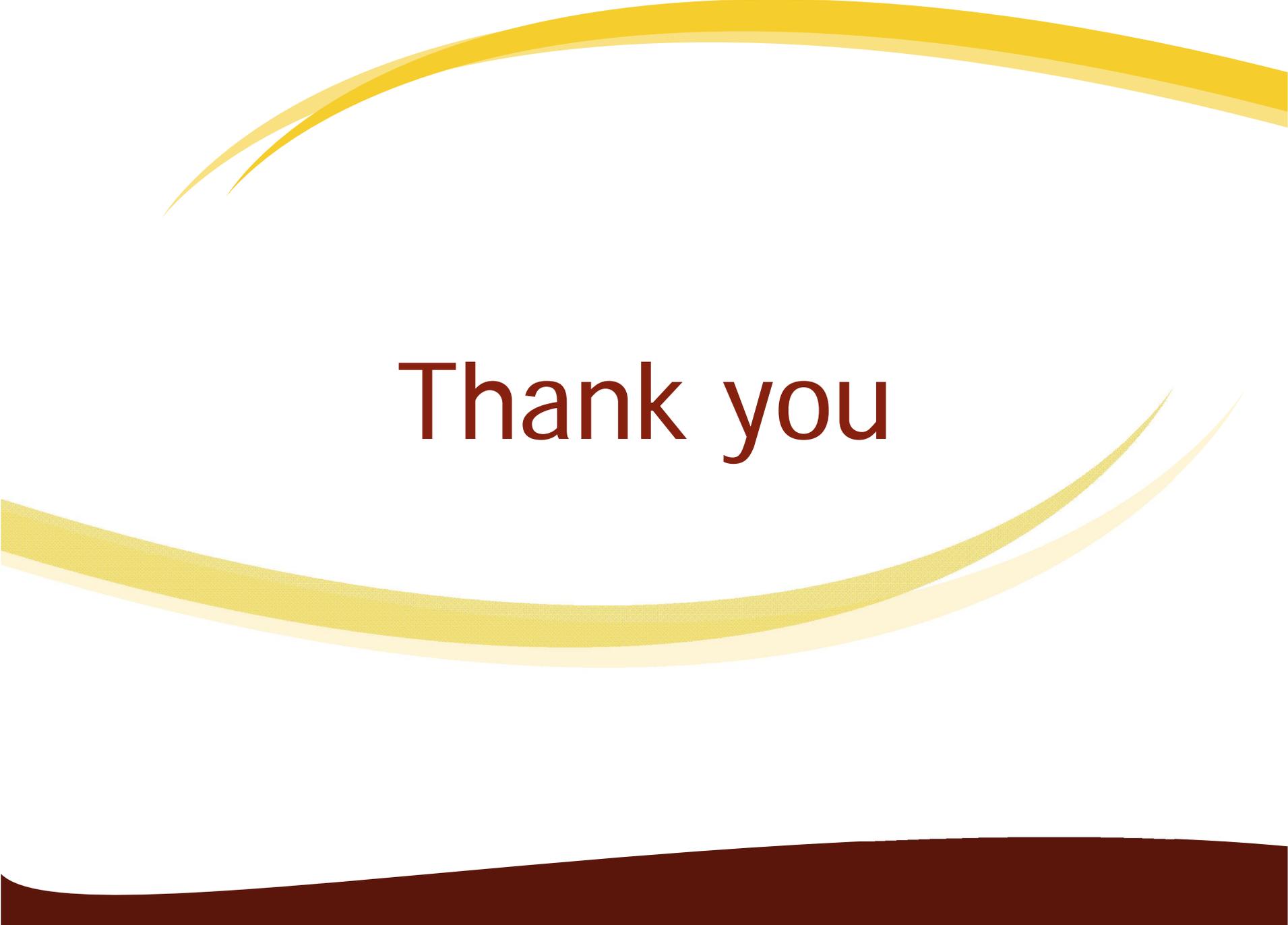
# Increased disaster risks & rapid urbanization

Proportion of people living in urban areas



## **Serious data deficits**

- Data gaps render MDG performance assessment weak in the Pacific and some LDCs
  - Timeliness, quality, disaggregation are longstanding issues
  - Demand for new indicators and greater disaggregation will further strain country statistical systems
- 

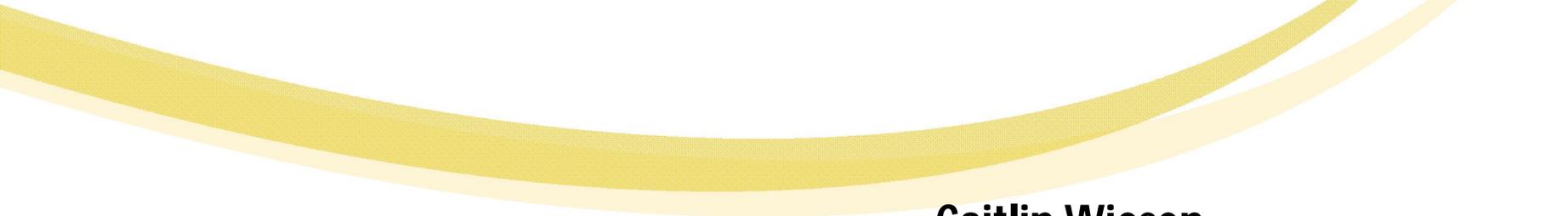


Thank you



# **THE MDG EXPERIENCE:**

## **The impact of the MDG and lessons learned**



**Caitlin Wiesen**  
Manager  
Asia-Pacific Regional Center  
United Nations Development  
Programme



# MDG strengths

## § **Overarching political framework for international development**

- Poverty in its different dimensions at the center of the global development agenda

## § **Rallied political and financial support globally**

- No other international instrument received this level of international attention

## § **Simplicity was a big strength**

- Measurable and easy to communicate

# MDG Limitations

- **To achieve the broadest consensus, the MDGs had to compromise**
  - They omitted some key development issues and underlying challenges, e.g., inequality, gender, environment were only partially addressed
  - Did not prescribe how the goals would be achieved
- **The selection of targets and indicators was limited**
  - based on availability of data
- **Outcome orientation of targets was good, but they were specified in many different ways:**
  - proportional, completion, directional and even simply statements of intent

## Slide 17

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TK1

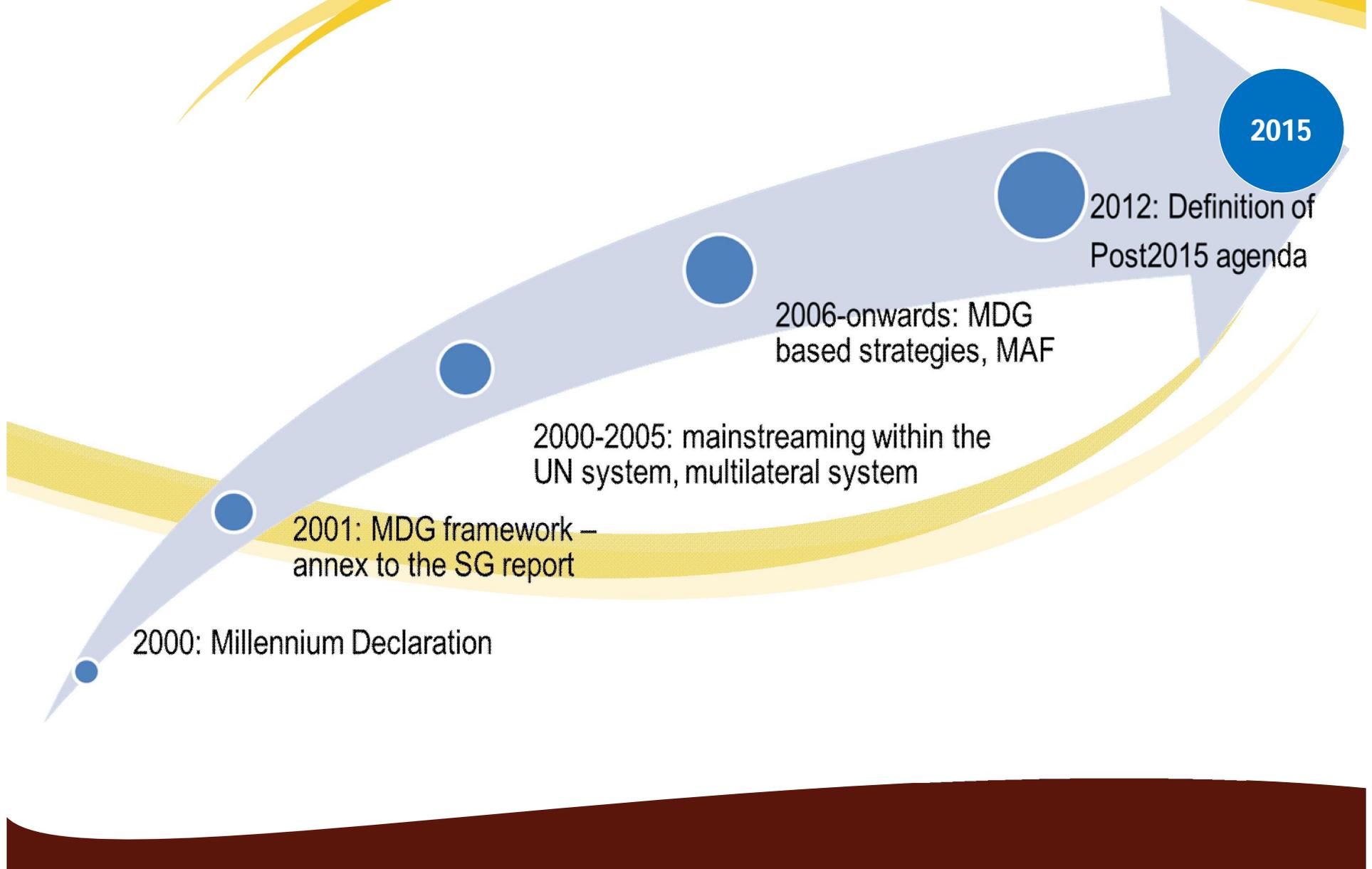
consider revising.

Might be worthwhile to instead have the following limitation:

They were reported at the national aggregate level, which masked significant disparities at the local, and sub-national level.

Taimur Khilji, 19/09/2013

# Too soon to judge – a 12 years journey



## Overall the MDGs were effective in Asia Pacific...

- § Raised aspirations and helped set local priorities
- § Shaped national plans, budgets and could serve as a framework to reform domestic policies
- § Ring-fenced social expenditure to an extent
- § Motivated investments in institutional capacity
- § Increased awareness for coordination across ministries/levels of government and development partners
- § Measured outcomes and tracked progress in a comparable way - almost all AP countries produced N-MDGRs

# Effectiveness of the MDGs

§ **Opened a space for CSOs to engage in structured dialogue**

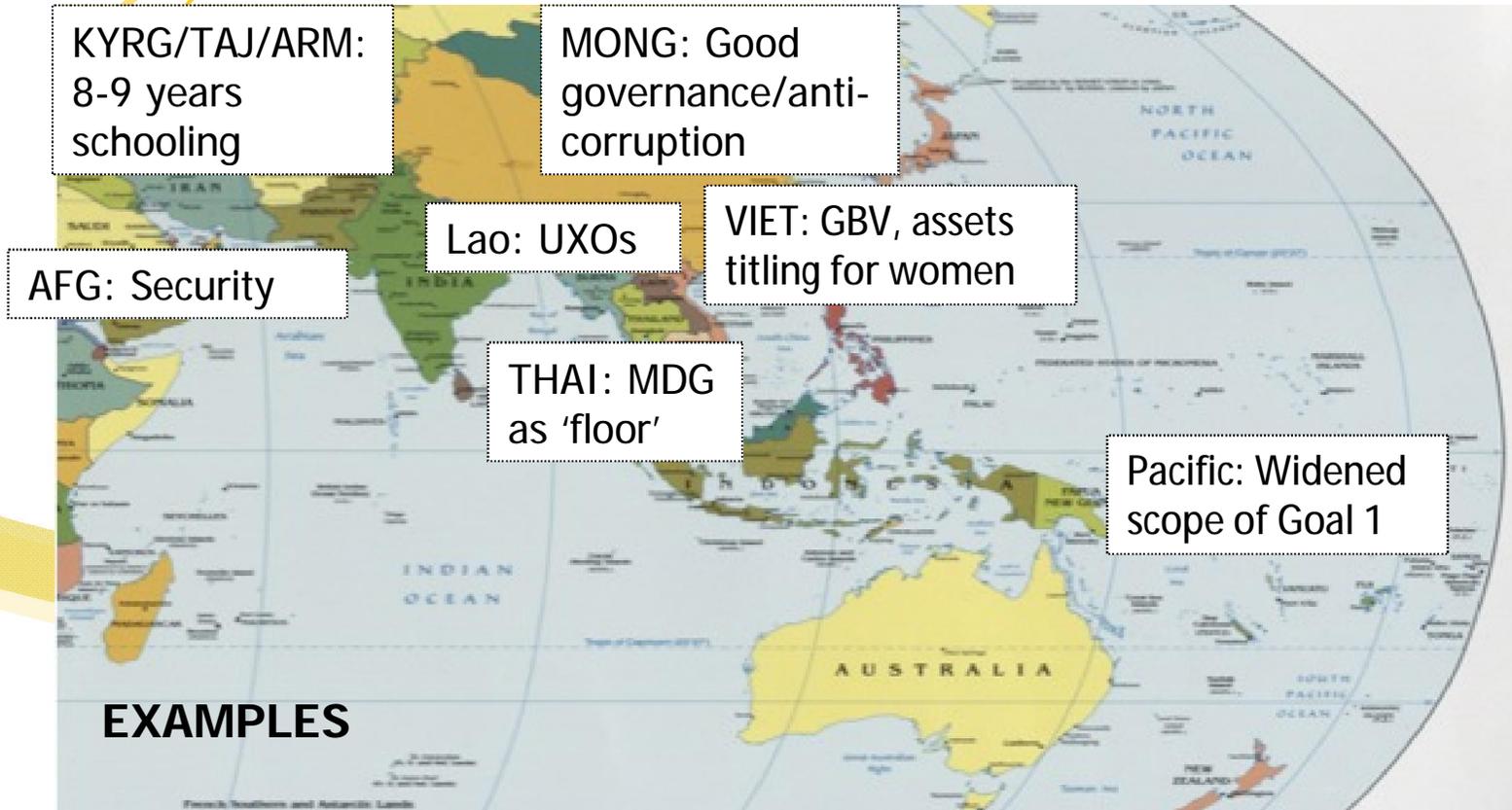
- served as a springboard to advocate specific agendas

§ **Encouraged statistical systems to monitor and report**

§ **Adoption versus Adaptation**

- The original intention of the MDGs was for goals to be collectively achieved for the world as a whole
- UNMP - every country should adopt goals & targets
- **But countries in AP have adapted the MDGs to their specific contexts**

# Adaptation of the MDGs in Asia and the Pacific



Note: Not official map

# MDG Acceleration Framework in the region

Armenia  
Bhutan  
Cambodia  
Kyrgyz Republic  
Indonesia  
Lao PDR  
Nepal  
Philippines  
PNG  
Tajikistan  
Tonga  
Tuvalu and Vanuatu

**MDG Acceleration  
Framework (MAF)**

MAF  
integration in  
national  
development  
planning

Source: [www.undp.org/mdg/acceleration.shtml](http://www.undp.org/mdg/acceleration.shtml)

# Lessons from the MDG experience for post-2015

- § The MDGs were articulated as stand-alone: neglected synergies across goals
- § Compromises limited ambition: E.g., Goal 3 did not address gender empowerment and was limited to a few symptoms
- § Goal 7 (Environment) did not adequately address new environmental challenges
- § MDG 8 (Global partnership) was weakly formulated, hard to track and only partially monitored
- § Demand on official statistical systems were not matched by resources resulting in incomplete monitoring
- § One size did not fit all – so countries went ahead and customized without losing comparability which will be very relevant post-2015

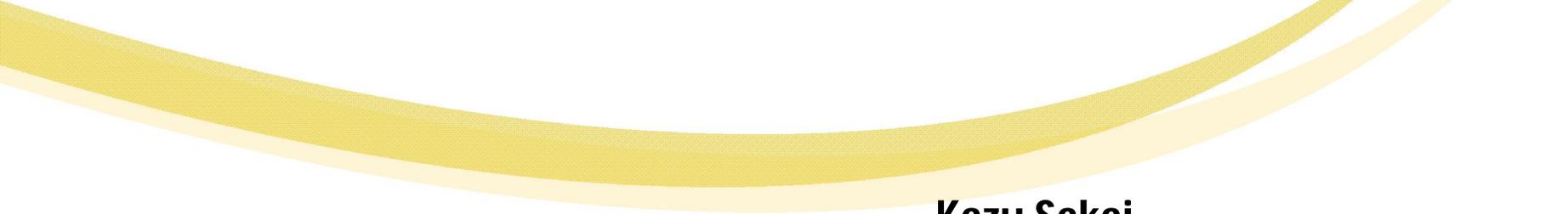
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Thank you



**GOING FORWARD:**

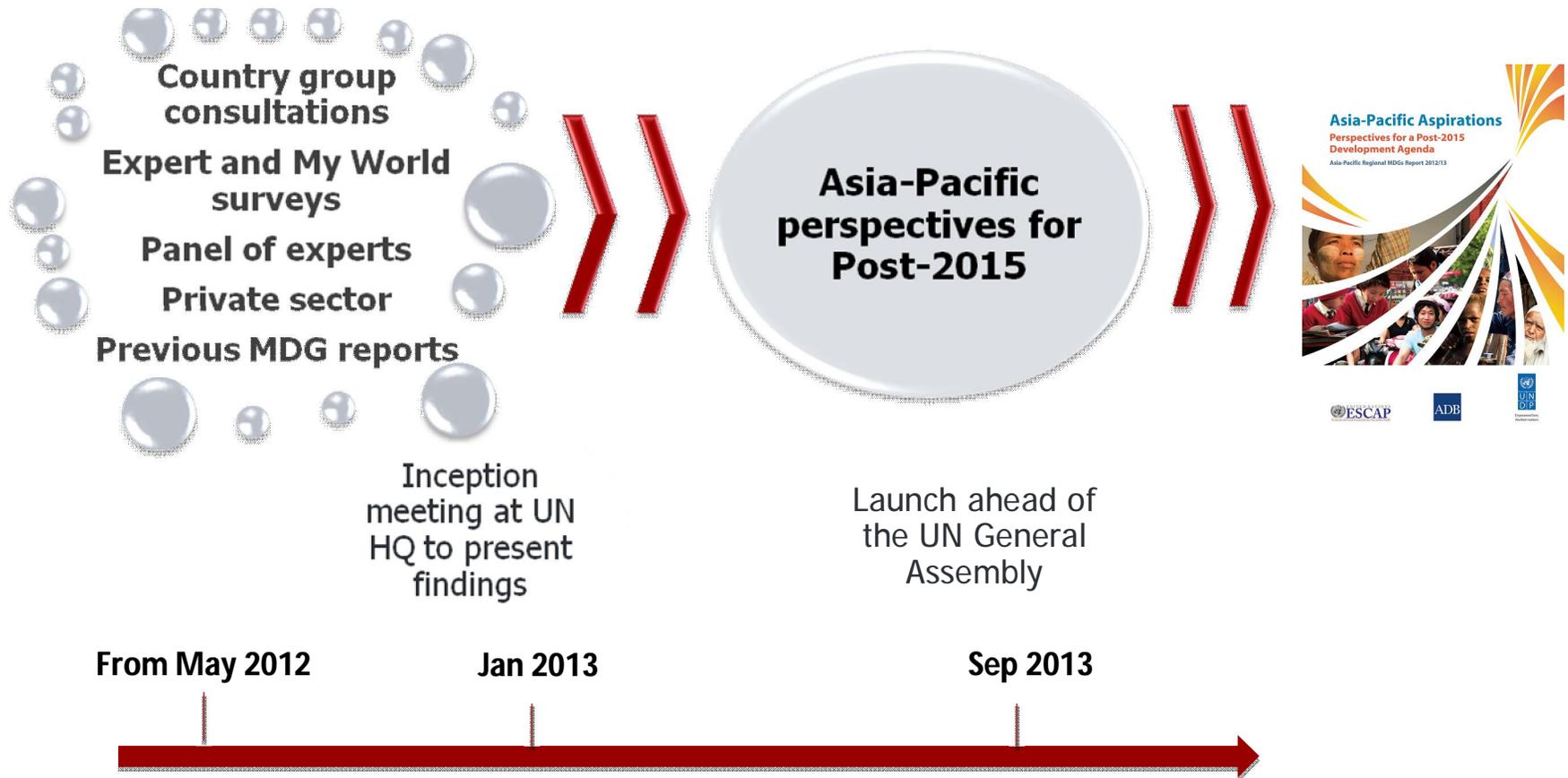
**Aspirations from Asia  
and the Pacific**



**Kazu Sakai**  
Director General  
Strategy and Policy Department  
Asian Development Bank



# Harnessing views from the region



# Top 5 priorities...

## EXPERTS

### Sub-regional Consultations Expert Survey

- Quality education
- Eradicate poverty
- Accountable and responsive government
- Universal health
- Universal access to safe water and sanitation

## PEOPLE

### My World Survey

#### Asia

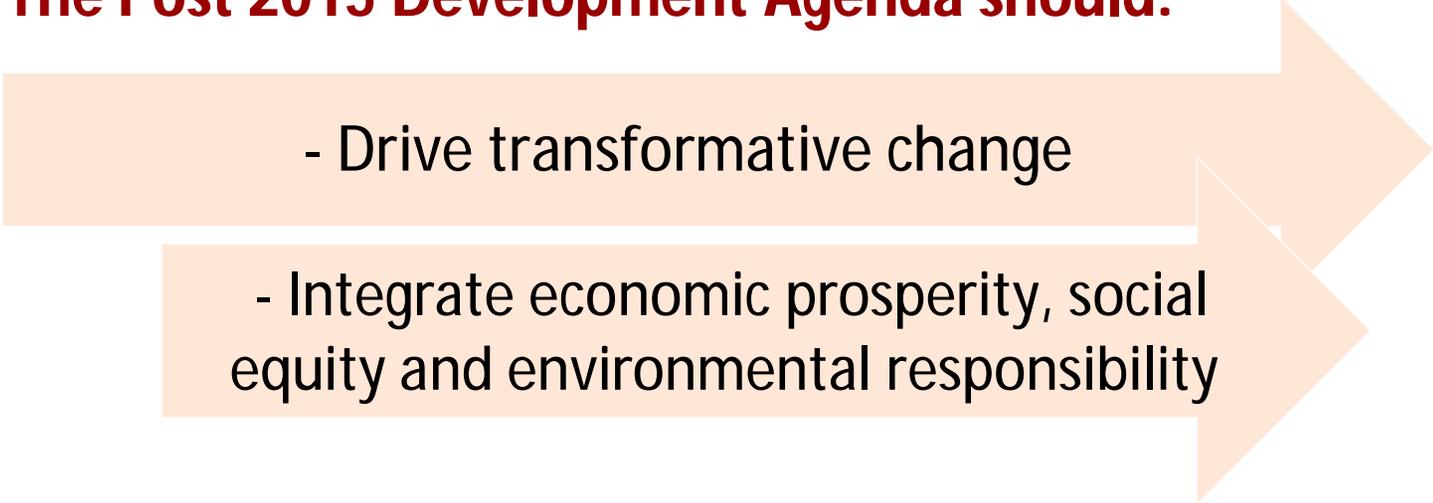
- Better health care
- Good education
- Better jobs
- Honest and responsive government
- Affordable and nutritious food

#### Pacific

- Protecting forests, rivers and oceans
- Access to clean water and sanitation
- Affordable and nutritious food
- Good education
- Action on climate change

# Areas of convergence ...

## The Post 2015 Development Agenda should:



- Drive transformative change

- Integrate economic prosperity, social equity and environmental responsibility

- Retain the MDGs as '**unfinished agenda**' (minimum standards)
- Agenda should be for **people** rather than organizations
- Move away from 'one size fits all'
- Account for **development stage**

# Differences by income group are important...

| Low income group – middle-to-higher income group                                   |                               |   |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|
|  |                               |   |   |
| Improved living conditions for all   | Better access                 | Increased efficiency                                    | Lifestyle change  |
| <b>Example WATER</b>   | Access to safe drinking water | Efficiency in use of water for agriculture              | Reduction of freshwater use in daily life (includes reusing grey water) |
| <b>Example ELECTRICITY</b>   | Access to electricity         | Energy efficiency improvement in production & transport | Higher share of renewable energy use; lower energy use per head         |

**...under a shared agenda**

# A challenge...

How can the simplicity and clarity of the MDGs be retained while addressing growing expectations and complexities?



Identify  
guiding  
principles

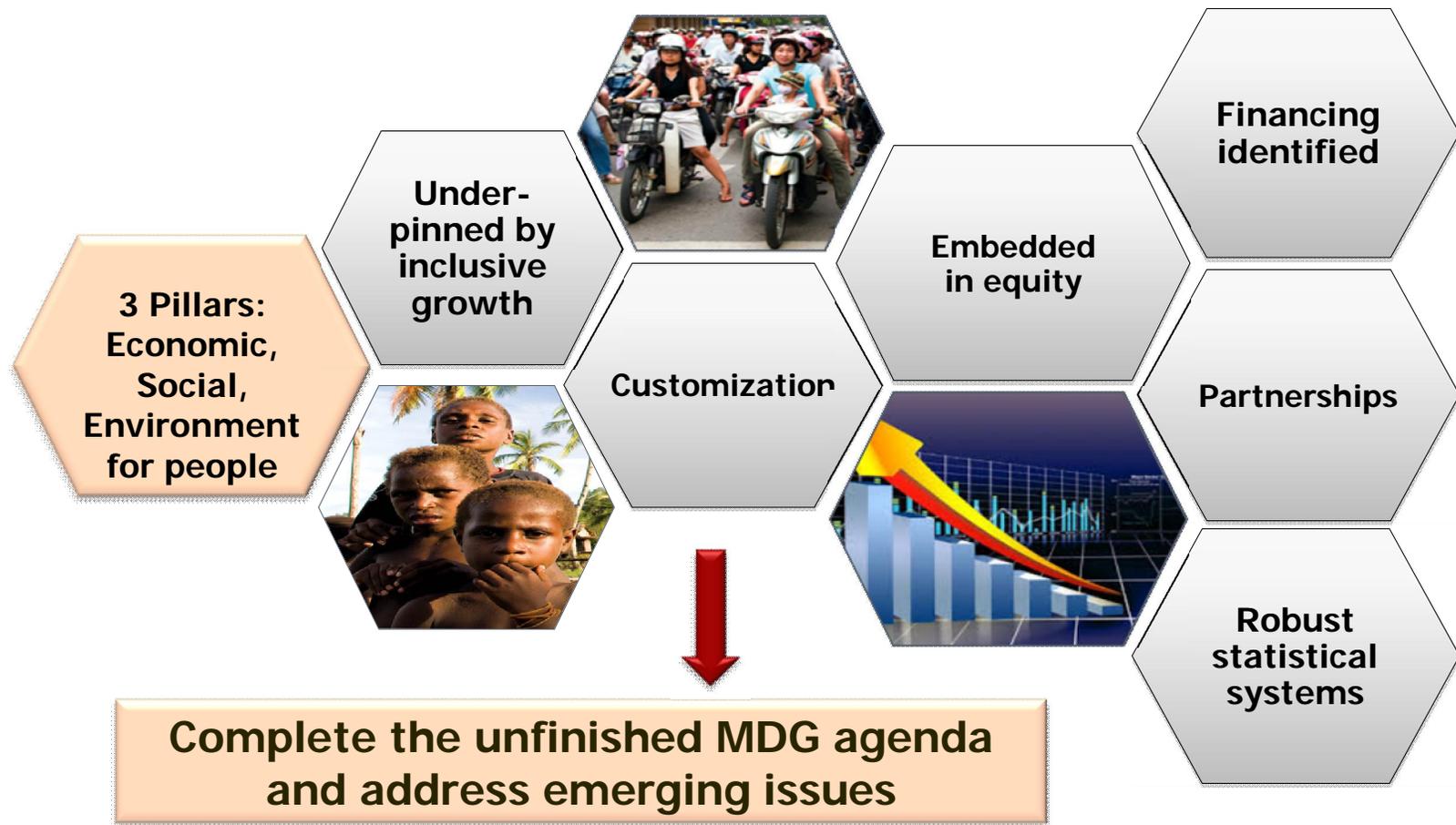


Prioritize  
goal  
areas



Present  
framework  
scenarios

# Guiding principles for a successor framework



# Goal areas for the next framework

Zero  
income  
poverty

Decent jobs  
for all of  
working age

Quality  
education for  
all

Disaster risk  
reduction

Zero  
hunger,  
malnutri-  
tion

Health  
for all

Liveable  
cities

Accountable &  
responsive  
governments

Gender  
equality

Improved  
living  
conditions  
– pro-poor

Environ-  
mental  
responsibili-  
ty & NRM

Strong  
development  
partnerships

# Framework scenarios

- The Base Model (MDG+)
- Integrated Sustainable Development Model (MDG++)
- The Transformational Model

Represent progressive ambition levels  
within a timeframe

The question of compliance remains:  
combine national reporting with peer review mechanisms

# Seizing the future

- **The MDGs** demonstrated the value of **global support** for **common goals**
- The region's **past MDG experience** can support **more vigorous effort** for the future
- **National action** is primary; **recognize external factors** that influence national progress
- **Regional cooperation** for public good
- Engagement with **global institutions** essential in an increasingly interlinked world
- **Focus on results** value for money



These findings are a contribution from Asia-Pacific to the global dialogue.



The Member States will finally determine the scope of a forward-looking agenda.

**Asia and the Pacific matters to the world.**

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