

Experts' Meeting for the 2009 Report on Assessing  
progress Towards Attaining the MDs 8-9 April

ADB Opening remarks

# MDG Framework

The MDGs play a key role in monitoring development, with emphasis on poverty reduction, in over 190 countries. They also provide a framework for international development cooperation. Besides monitoring progress, the framework sets ambitious goals, creating an incentive for more rapid progress. The MDG agenda has achieved more visibility from various stakeholders than all previous programmes.

## **Lessons from the design of the MDG framework**

- focused on a manageable number of issues and has been very effective for improving public understanding of sustainable pro-poor development.
- The areas covered are broadly adequate although health-related issues seem overrepresented while on the other hand there are no goals/targets that emphasize rights, empowerment and good governance.
- too much emphasis on the social sectors while there is no explicit goal on growth.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> genr PRSP: emphasis is being put on addressing the constraints to growth such as investment in infrastructure and the aid for trade initiatives.
- the selection of indicators is still debatable, but on the whole many of them are considered as appropriate.

# ADB & the MDGs

- Progress on the MDGs in the region as a means to assess the long-term combined impact of its operations, in partnership with its development partners.
- partnership to strengthen cooperation, monitor progress, help improve policies and institutions, and develop capacities for achieving the MDGs in Africa
- produced regional MDG reports and updates, technical papers, and promoted regional advocacy and capacitybuilding
- Bank lending guided by CSPs which draw from PRSPs linked to MDGs
- Investment in infrastructure including essential public services such as water and sanitation; Gender equality and social sectors; environmental sustainability, including support for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures; regional economic integration and trade

# Challenges for the 2009 Report

- Food crisis
- Financial & economic crisis

## Beyond 2015 framework

- a further set of indicators have to be designed to tackle the problem of absolute poverty in all its aspects;
- tackle systemic global issues such as global factors such as climate change, financial stability and security;
- other ways of tracking and stimulating progress have to be investigated. Measurability have to be taken into account particularly for developing countries, including Africa.