

MDGs:the unfinished agenda.

Notes

from LA

Martin Benavides

GRADE

# MDGs and its influence

- In most LA countries especially but not only in those with recent important economic growth, progress has been made in indicators related to mdgs: reduction of poverty levels, primary education, child mortality, gender gaps in education.
- How this process has been driven by MDG framework is hard to tell.
- But it should not be neglected the amount of donations and influence in policy discourse that European Union had in the region

- Economic growth and local politics had been two other mayor players. It is possible to say that some indicators are more sensible to economic growth others to local politics.

- The reduction of poverty and the increase of primary enrollments or the decrease in child mortality correspond to different dynamics. The first is more influenced by economic growth while the others are more sensitive to political decisions.

- Without economic growth it would be difficult to reduce poverty but this is not the case for the other development indicators. The increase of social services is more closely connected with local politics, independently of the economy, but also with global frameworks.
- In this sense we can say that the MDGs framework has been more influential in the progress of indicators of education and health, especially for countries with lack of economic growth.

# Issues of the Mdgs agenda: Global vs local policy agendas

- The problem with the indicators of education and health for countries with rapid success in the MDGs indicators, was that the mdgs agenda in those topics was different than the local agendas.
- In education , for example, the local agenda is more related to the quality of the service, especially for poor indigenous students.
- The same in the case of health. In those cases, at the local level the policy agendas were dual: one for the local needs other for the global needs.

- A reconciliation has to be made for some of the indicators between the Mdgs frameworks and the local needs
- In some countries Mdgs indicators are not anymore binding.
- At this moment, in Peru for example no one is talking about MDGs for the topics of education and health.

# Topics with lack of global and local support: the case of violence and vulnerability in general

- There are some topics that have not received much pressure for change. Domestic violence for example is an indicator that has not changed in the last 10 years in Peru.
- The global frameworks and local politics were not influential in the change of violence (no Ngos working, no policy support): that was an invisible dimension.
- A new framework have to put more efforts in changing it.

# New approaches: a case for distributive policies

- In spite of the multidimensionality of the MDGs framework, the development community (connected to Mdgs framework) has been more influential for development topics than to economic ones.
- It is important to integrate the economic discussion to the development one. For more economic successful countries, growth is not enough for making the change from quantity to the quality of social services for more vulnerable persons.



# Improve implementation

- The global new framework has to take into account the complexities of implementation policies: promoting implementation plans, more informed policy decisions, monitoring and evaluation of policies, synergies between sectors and indicators, qualitative aspects, interdependency of Mdgs, etc.
- This is very important for tackling severe poverty and other indicators of social exclusion.

# Global and local challenges

- The next framework should take into account global challenges but also local ones.
- Therefore a uniform approach is not anymore appropriate given the diversity of conditions between countries.
- Put more clearly together global dimensions with national goals.
- Efforts should be oriented to propose a tipology of needs that consider national diversities but integrated under the umbrella of a global community of learning and influence, where some countries can disseminate their learnings to the others