

DevInfo Yemen: Addressing national monitoring needs and making data widely available

Information submitted by MoPIC, UNICEF and UN RCO Yemen

The elaboration of the 2009 report on the national Development Plan for Poverty Reduction (DPPR) in Yemen was clearly made easier by the monitoring activities conducted by the country's Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) using DevInfo. The experience was in marked contrast to the exercise five years earlier, when the reporting process was hampered by limited data availability that resulted in inadequate monitoring of progress.



In a similar experience, the value of DevInfo was evident when, following the government's official adoption in 2007 of DevInfo as the main tool for monitoring the MDGs, the availability of data in the country's MDG database notably facilitated CSO's work on the 2008 MDG report.

In addition to the DPPR and MDG databases, the country is making gainful use of DevInfo technology through a series of other databases, all of which make up *DevInfo Yemen*. Most of the databases contain annual data at the national and, if available, at the subnational level. They are obtained from line ministries, surveys, reports and other sources.

Name of database	Purpose of database
CensusInfo	Dissemination of census data
DPPR	Monitoring the Development Plan for Poverty Reduction
GenderInfo Yemen	Monitoring the National Development Plan for Women (covering a range of policy areas, including health, education, work, and political participation)
MDGs Yemen	Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Dissemination of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) data
Taiz Health Info	Monitoring the Subnational Development Plan for Health (Taiz Governorate and districts)

The most recent database updates were released in 2010 and are accessible online at www.devinfoyemen.org.

The web-based databases are managed by the M&E unit of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC). Prime Minister's decree no. 339, issued at the end of 2009, calls on line ministries to create sector-specific DevInfo databases at central and local levels to enhance DPPR monitoring. With the support and facilitation of MoPIC, good progress is reported in the development of these sectoral databases in six pilot ministries.

To ensure sustainability, a pool of users and database administrators has been created through a series of national and subnational training events. About 17 government agencies and 150 data managers from the health, education and statistical offices in five governorates, as well as the central offices of MoPIC and CSO, have been trained to use DevInfo and conduct trend analyses for monitoring purposes, and to update information on key indicators.

The existence and utility of *DevInfo Yemen* are advertised through a range of promotional materials, including a demo CD, brochures and posters. The data are further disseminated through a searchable online gallery that contains tables, graphs and maps of the main indicators. Users can easily download these ready-to-use presentation objects from www.devinfoyemen.org.



DevInfo Yemen online gallery

The prime ministerial decree that reinforces the institutional framework for monitoring the DPPR using DevInfo has, in turn, strengthened the country's monitoring and evaluation system. It is also a clear recognition of the growing understanding in the country of the importance of results-based monitoring and evaluation in support of development outcomes.

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