



The Developmental Direction towards the Post-2015 (SDGs) on Korea Statistical Capacity Building Experiences

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Around the world all countries including Korea have not yet exerted sufficient statistical capacity to measure social progress. Looking at the reasons, the Korean statistical system is a decentralized one that has faces great limits to generate indicators for measuring social progress. Nevertheless, KOSTAT (Korea Statistics) has taken a lot of effort and made many attempts to fix these limitations and poor conditions.

UN in September 2015 terminated the MDG program launched in 2000 and is planning to promote new development goals, which some name the Post-2015 (SDGs). However, in relation to the implementation of the MDG program, researches are very unsure as to how to construct a basis for the measurement of social progress. I try to present a desirable development direction of the UN to pursue the improvement of cases involving the Korean statistical system and the efforts of enhancing the measurement for social development as follows:

1. Performances for statistical infrastructures

- ◆ Statistics-Based Policy Evaluation System (SPES) introduced in 2007 to assess the availability of statistical indicators helping government policy design a legislating procedure. Statistical Budget Screening System has also been reviewed yearly the statistical budget of all government ministries since 2010.
- ◆ Key National Indicator System (KNI) established in 2014
- ◆ Administrative Database System for the official statistics production established using court data, national tax data, management data and others since 2008

2. Efforts for the development of the new environment

- ◆ To enact a law concerning the use of the administrative population database
- ◆ To strengthen the independence of the statistical agency and other ministries
- ◆ To improve the management methods for compiling administrative and synthetic statistics
- ◆ To ensure transparency in sharing and publication of official statistics

3. Problems and limitations

- ◆ Different and weak bodies managing public data and the compiling of official statistics and conflicting with each other.
- ◆ Insufficient control system to perform quality control and data matching to create official statistics using big data and public data.
- ◆ No world standard management principles of synthetic and administrative statistics.

4. Suggestions for development direction: the role of the UN, desirable for the promotion of the successful Post-2015 (SDGs)

- ◆ Ensuring a neutrality system of SDGs indicator production and independent statistics entity.
- ◆ Scoping the official statistics, standardization and quality control guidelines, and ensuring information security regarding the survey, administrative and synthetic statistics
- ◆ Having a role of statistical agencies following the UN principles for official statistics to build statistical capacities and coordination

MDG adopted by the UN in 2000 has contributed to the improvement of education, poverty and hunger, health, etc. of many countries. However, many countries have a situation such that the management of the MDG indicators, through a lack of statistics, is not properly conducted. In the case of Korea Statistics, the statistical system is decentralized, but the management and the standardization of statistics, the use of administrative data and the statistical coordination, etc. are still weak.

When NSOs (National Statistical Offices) have the right authority to act as a sufficient statistical coordinating unit, I think they will successfully play an important role for the promotion of the Post-2015 (SDGs) to produce the necessary statistical indicators in a timely manner.