

# **Assessing Awareness of Organizations about Millennium Development Goals and the Role of Statistics in Them: The Case of Eastern Hararghe, Oromiya, Ethiopia**

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The millennium development goals are the goals designed at global level to bring to assist the livelihoods of the human being on the globe. This goals are categorized into eight: eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empower women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDs, malaria, and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability, and developing a global partnership for development. Assessing the progress to achievement of such goals given being given due attention by regional and international organizations. Assessing the awareness of different organizations about the millennium development goals and how they apply statistical methods to support such development goals as well as making them achievable. This study was designed to contribute to such a goal. The study was undertaken in eighteen governmental organizations of Eastern Hararghe Zone of the regional state of Oromiya, Ethiopia. The data were collected through self-administered questionnaire and analyzed by descriptive statistics like proportion/percentages. The results show that all organizations incorporate millennium development goals in their strategic and annual plans. They use statistics only for reporting performances but none of them know or have the data about the indicators of the achievements of millennium development goals. None of them exactly know the number of people in Zone /Region with income less than one dollar a day, proportion of people who suffer from hunger, proportion of women in the labor force and parliament, maternal and infant mortality rates and others. Thus, awareness about millennium development goals without the data about its indicators cannot help achieve the goals. There is also lack of coordination and/or awareness by organizations on which millennium development goals are related to the responsibilities and mandates of the organization. It is thus recommended that the country should work towards achieving millennium development goals by integrating appropriate statistical measures to monitor the levels of achievements and make necessary timely corrections.

**Key Words:** Ethiopia, Millennium development goals, Oromiya, Statistics