The use of MICS and PISA for monitoring education of Roma

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• **Facts:**
  - Some Decade countries have already participated into various international surveys
  - It is very rare that these international surveys have been used by countries for Decade monitoring

• **Key message: do not miss these opportunities**
  - With some modifications and some additional costs countries could get valuable monitoring information
  - Information on Roma vs. non Roma gaps regarding to internationally

• **Two examples: MICS and PISA**
MICS: General info

- MICS: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
- UNICEF household survey program
- Aim: to monitor situation of children and women
- The MICS process was designed to strengthen national statistical capacities
  - MICS are typically carried out by government organizations with the technical support and financial assistance of UNICEF.
- Largest single sources of data for MDG monitoring
  - Almost half of the MDG indicators are collected via MICS

http://www.childinfo.org/mics3_surveys.html
MICS: Modular content

- Nutrition
- Child health
- Environment
- Reproductive health
- Child development
- Education
- Child protection
MICS 2005-2006

• Decade countries participated in the MICS 3
  – Serbia (2005)
  – Macedonia (2005)
  – Bosnia & Herzegovina (2006)
  – Albania (2005)
  – Montenegro (2005)

• Serbian good practice
  – Boosted subsample of Roma in Roma settlements
  – Interviewed households:
    • Serbia without Roma settlements: 7014
    • Roma in Roma settlements: 1716
MICS 3 in Serbia: Example of results

- Suspected pneumonia in last two weeks – Child receive any kind of appropriate health care service
  - Roma: 90.2%
  - Non Roma: 92.8%

- Household does not have security of tenure
  - Roma: 43.1%
  - Non Roma: 16.1%

- Percent of households considered to be living in slum housing
  - Roma: 58.8%
  - Non Roma: 18.5%
MICS 3 in Serbia: Example of results

- % of children for whom household members engaged in 4+ activities promoting school readiness
  - Roma: 47.4%
  - Non Roma: 85.7%

- Percentage of children aged 36-59 months currently attending early childhood education
  - Roma: 3.9%
  - Non Roma: 33.4%

- Percentage of children of primary school entry age currently attending grade 1
  - Roma: 66.2%
  - Non Roma: 94.4%
PISA: General information

- PISA - Programme for International Student Assessment
- OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development)
- Motivation: Education is investment in future well being of societies, so quality and equity need to be monitored systematically
- One cycle costs ≈ 60 mil. €
PISA: Target population and domains

• 15 years old students
  – ...because it’s going to be exit point from compulsory education
  – 16 years old will participate actively in society
  – Till 16 children needs to develop competencies necessary for active participation in society

• Assessment of competencies that are key for success in modern society and labor market
  – Reading
  – Math literacy
  – Science literacy
PISA: Participating Decade countries

- Decade countries involved in PISA 2006:
  - Croatia
  - Serbia
  - Montenegro
  - Slovakia
  - Czech Republic
  - Hungary
  - Romania
  - Bulgaria

- PISA 2009 will include as well:
  - Albania
  - Moldova
PISA: Serbian example

- Something might be done even with no additional cost and with almost no effort!
- Just two additional questions in the PISA student questionnaire
  - Ethnic self identification (with Roma alternative among alternatives)
  - Language spoken at home (with Romani language among alternatives)
- Boosted subsample would be better, but it brings some additional cost and efforts
PISA: What we get know with no additional cost and effort?

- First, **only 1 out of 7** Roma children who are enrolled in the first grade of compulsory education will be enrolled in the first grade of secondary education!
PISA: What we get know with no additional cost and effort?

- Second, the achievement gap is **HUGE**!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Non Roma</th>
<th>Roma</th>
<th>Gap (without SES control)</th>
<th>Gap (with SES controled)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>401</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Bear in mind!**
  - Such huge gap exists even for 15% strongest Roma children who manage to reach secondary education!
International surveys: missing Decade M&E opportunities

• Some opportunities are just around us
• It just need to notice that

• Advantages:
  – Internationally recognized indicators
  – Sound methodology (sample design, instrument development etc.)
  – Strong international support system
  – It serves also as a capacity building

• Shortcoming:
  – It asks each country to contribution to international expenses
Thank you for the attention!

Questions & comments
Education Support Program (ESP)

• ESP is an OSI program with a wide network of partner organizations (for example NEPC)
• Support to educational reforms and policy development
  – Advocacy for policies which strengthen open society values
  – Advocacy for equity in education
• Three strategic directions of ESP
  – Fighting for justice in education
  – Openness and accountability of education
  – Support to the open society
• Global reach: Asia, Caucusus, CEE/SEE, Western Europe, Africa