

## **NSCB, UNRC and UNDP Conduct Users-Producers' Forum on Philippine MDGs and StatDev Philippines**

The National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) in collaboration with the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will conduct a Users-Producers' Forum on the Philippine Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Indicators and StatDev Philippines on January 31, 2006, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Makati Palace Hotel in Makati City.

The MDGs or the **Millennium Development Goals** are time-bound and measurable goals and targets for combating poverty, hunger, diseases, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women. It consists of 8 goals, 18 targets and 48 indicators that are periodically monitored at the international and country levels, based on a timeline set to have started in 1990 and to last until 2015. In the Philippines, the data series on the MDG indicators are compiled by the NSCB which is also the official repository of the MDG indicators per NSCB Resolution No. 10, series of 2004 – "Adoption of and enjoining data support to the Millennium Development Goals indicators". On the other hand, the **StatDev Philippines** is a statistical indicator system to monitor the achievement of the economic and social development goals set forth in the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP). Thus, the StatDev Philippines framework is necessarily congruent with the current MTPDP, and is revised each time a new plan is formulated.

The forum serves as a launching activity of the statistical capacity building program in upgrading statistical capacities of the MDG data sources and stakeholders to generate, validate and update MDG indicators. The forum will also be a venue for advocacy on the use/significance of the MDG indicators and the StatDev indicators in monitoring the country's progress in attaining the goals and targets of the MDGs and the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP), respectively. Meanwhile, the NSCB-based Philippine MDG Indicators Web will be re-launched, this time containing extensive information and more interactive statistical tables and charts.

Dr. Zahidul A. Huque, United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Philippines, will deliver the opening and inspirational message during the forum highlighting the MDGs in a global aspect including some international updates while Dr. Romulo A. Virola, NSCB Secretary General, will present the current status of the MDGs in the Philippines. Furthermore, Dr. Celia Reyes of the Philippine Institute of Development Studies (PIDS) will present the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) as a tool for monitoring MDGs at the local level.

Invited to attend the forum are officials and staff of government offices, representatives from the academe, civil society and the private sector who are directly responsible for generating indicators and/or developing programs to achieve the MDGs. Members of the UN country team are expected to attend the forum as well.

For inquiries regarding the forum, please contact Mr. Minard T. Reyes of the NSCB at telephone numbered (+632) 896-7981 or at e-mail address [mt.reyes@nscb.gov.ph](mailto:mt.reyes@nscb.gov.ph)