

MENA Transport Indicator Initiative



Transport Results Measurement Workshop

June 28 and 29, 2004

Objectives

- ❖ Develop pilot indicator of rural access for one IBRD and one IDA country in the MENA region
- ❖ Demonstrate to Borrowers the value of establishing and maintaining performance indicators

Approaches to Gathering Data

➤ Morocco

- Government initiative since mid-1990s - owns process
- Used established database, own GIS, and dedicated team within entity reporting to DOR
- Applied 1994 population census, but update using 2003 census data on going (data gathered by Government staff and consultants)

➤ Yemen

- Relied on 1994 population census and on going Rural Access Project (RAP) for location and road data
- Using GIS data from CSO, created 4 km corridor (2 km each side of road) around rural asphalted roads
- RAP consultants compiled information and developed ratio

Outcomes

- Morocco - 45% of rural population live within **1 km** of an all purpose road (adopted Government's more stringent measure of accessibility)
- Yemen - 22% of rural population live within 2 km of an all purpose road (covered five Governorates, but indicator is representative of country)

Challenges

➤ Morocco

- High percentage of country is hilly or mountainous
- What constitutes a rural population - disbursed rural population excluded (about 25% considered scattered)

➤ Yemen

- 90% of country's terrain is hostile (mountainous or sandy tracks), making it difficult to define indicator
- Cultural sensitivities hindered gathering of household data

Benefits

- Morocco (*demonstrated*)
 - Garnered support for aggressive program of full access (80% access by 2015)
 - Heightened donor interest (workshop 6/28)

- Yemen (*potential*)
 - More effective allocation of resources, targeted interventions under RAP
 - Facilitate on going decentralization process
 - RAP feeds data back to CSO (*actual*)

Lessons Learned

- Long-term approach with permanent monitoring and evaluation systems, and commensurate financing needed
- Government ownership critical for sustainability
- Piecemeal method to gather data not sufficient - comprehensive approach necessary
- Resources required may be beyond what countries are willing to spend
- Good road maps and accurate data are essential!