Information Empowerment
Using Data, Tools and Strategies in Global Health

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“... Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family.”

-Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, in an address to the World Bank Conference, ‘Global Knowledge’ (1997)
**Overload:**
Too many data (e.g. written, verbal and nonverbal, physician's memory) for the clinician to organize, synthesize, draw conclusions from, or act

**Erroneous:**
Information is incorrect.

**Underload:**
necessary information is lacking.

**Conflict:**
Unable to determine which data correct.

**Scatter:**
Information located in multiple places.

**Information Chaos**

Today: An Introduction

1) Reflect on the significance of information resources in global health

2) Provide an overview of selected data sources
The interdisciplinary nature of global health requires an awareness of diverse information resources.....

- biomedical & public health
- sociocultural
- public policy
- statistics
- regional news sources
- country profiles
- .......
Investigating Selected Resources – Scratching the surface...

- Just the facts
  - exploring statistics

- Seeing is believing
  - data visualization tools

- Where in the world?
  - country profiles

- Taking it with you
  - mobile apps for global health

- Ear to the ground
  - global news sources

- Making connections
  - social media
Bottom line!
What is your question??
Matching information resource to information need.....
Statistics

“If information and knowledge are central to democracy, they are the conditions for development.”

- Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, in an address to the World Bank Conference, ‘Global Knowledge’ (1997)

- UN Data
- World Bank Open Data
- WHO Statistics
- DHS survey data
- Millennium Development Goals indicators
Data Visualization

“The greatest value of a picture is when it forces us to notice what we never expected to see.”


- World Bank eAtlas collection
- STATcompiler
- Google Data Explorer
- Gapminder
- World Mapper
- HealthMap
- World Bank Open Data
- Institute for Health Metrics & Evaluation
Country Profiles

“I have a neighbor who knows 200 types of wine…. I only know two types of wine — red and white. But my neighbor only knows two types of countries — industrialized and developing. And I know 200.”

-- Hans Rosling, Professor of Global Health, Karolinska Institute and Gapminder co-founder, as presented in TED talk “Hans Rosling's new insights on poverty”

- BBC Country Profiles
- CIA World Factbook
- FAO Country Profiles
- NationMaster
- UN Data
- UNESCO Country & Regional Profiles
- WHO Country Profiles
- World Bank Country Profiles
ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT


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“The MDGs represent the commitments of United Nations Member States to reduce extreme poverty and its many manifestations: hunger, disease, gender inequality, lack of education and access to basic infrastructure, and environmental degradation.”

- Asha-Rose Migiro, UN Chronicle, 1/12/07
How does the maternal mortality ratio in Ghana and Canada compare?

Resource to investigate:
UN Data

(statistics)
I’m having trouble finding reliable country-specific data.

Resource to investigate: World Bank Open Data

(statistics and data visualization)
I am conducting research on births attended by skilled health personnel. How does India compare to the rest of the world?

Resource to investigate:
World Bank eAtlas of Global Development
(data visualization)