

Chapter 11

MDG 8: Partnerships

In small states the absence of economies of scale and limited capacity for specialisation inhibit economic, social and environmental progress and make international, regional and global partnerships essential components in development policy and programmes. MDG 8 recognises this and seeks to promote support from developed countries through aid, trade and debt relief.

The Commonwealth Secretariat is a source of policy and technical support for the many small states. Commonwealth members and regional groupings of SIDS have done much to encourage inter-state development, especially in the Caribbean and Pacific regions. The 2005 UN Mauritius Strategy for SIDS further emphasised the role of developed countries through inter-state, regional and global programmes to promote sustainable development.

MDG 8 provides a range of indicators to monitor the process by which developing countries maintain sound programmes for development and developed countries provide a range of specific support. This MDG has six targets and 16 indicators. Not all of these, however, apply to all the 46 small states and the structure of MDG 8 is more complex than that of MDGs 1–7.

Under MDG 8 the 46 small states and 10 benchmark states covered in this report have differing targets and indicators. This affects the denominator for each state used in assessments of progress and percentage achievement. The first 12 indicators (8.1–8.12) are linked to targets 8A–8D; indicators 8.1–8.3 apply only to donor states; indicator 8.4 applies only to landlocked countries; indicator 8.5 applies only to SIDS; indicators 8.6–8.9 apply only to developed states; indicators 8.10 and 8.11 apply only to least developed countries; indicator 8.13 relates to target 8E; and indicators 8.14–8.16 relate to target 8F.

Goal 8. Develop a global partnership for development

Target 8A: *Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system*

Target 8B: *Address the special needs of the least developed countries*

Target 8C: *Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the Twenty-second Special Session of the General Assembly)*

Target 8D: *Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term*

Indicators:

Official development assistance

- 8.1 Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income
- 8.2 Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)
- 8.3 Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied
- 8.4 ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes
- 8.5 ODA received in small island developing states as a proportion of their gross national incomes

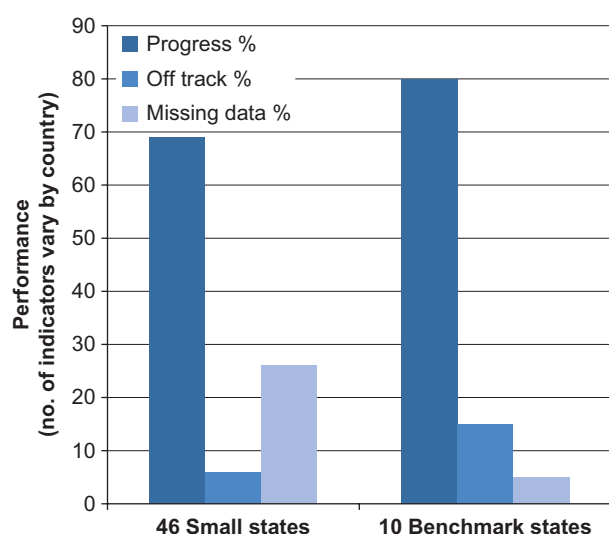
Market access

- 8.6 Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty
- 8.7 Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries
- 8.8 Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product

8.9	Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity
<i>Debt sustainability</i>	
8.10	Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)
8.11	Debt relief committed under HIPC Initiative and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI)
8.12	Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services
Target 8E: <i>In co-operation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries</i>	
8.13	Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis
Target 8F: <i>In co-operation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</i>	
8.14	Telephone lines per 100 population
8.15	Cellular subscribers per 100 population
8.16	Internet users per 100 population

Figure 11.1 summarises the performance of the 46 small states and 10 benchmark states on this MDG.

Figure 11.1 Performance on MDG 8: Partnerships



Source: UN MDG database 2010

11.1 Overall performance

The 10 benchmark states outperformed the 46 selected small and island states on the indicators for this MDG. The latter achieved 194 (68%) of the targets across the indicators in MDG 8 and made 69 per cent progress, including missing data, of which there was 26 per cent.

The 10 benchmark states achieved 46 (78%) of the targets across the indicators in MDG 8 and made 80 per cent progress, including missing data, of which there was 5 per cent. But excluding missing data, the 46 small states made 92 per cent progress and the benchmark states 84 per cent progress. Performance on this MDG is detailed below.

11.2 Target 8D

11.2.1 Indicator 8.4: Official development assistance

The indicator on ODA received by landlocked countries as a percentage of gross national income relates only to Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland among the 46 small states. In Botswana, ODA increased from 4 per cent of GNI in 1990 to 6 per cent in 2005. In Lesotho, ODA declined from 15 per cent of GNI in 1990 to 7 per cent in 2005. In Swaziland, ODA declined from 5 per cent of GNI in 1990 to 3 per cent in 2005. Therefore the latest range of official development assistance received is between 3 and 7 per cent.

11.2.2 Indicator 8.5: ODA in SIDS as percentage of GNI

Small and island developing states need to reduce the proportion of their national income derived from aid against their 1990 baseline. Twenty-six (68%) of the 38 SIDS in this review achieved this. Only two, Haiti and St Kitts and Nevis, increased their level of dependence on ODA. The highest latest levels of dependence on aid were in the Federated States of Micronesia (35%), São Tomé and Príncipe (26%) and Seychelles (26%). The lowest levels of receipts as a proportion of GNI were in Barbados (0%) and Dominican Republic (0.35%).

11.2.3 Indicator 8.10: Heavily indebted poor countries

Of the 46 small states, six are heavily indebted poor countries qualifying for debt relief under the IMF's HIPC scheme. These are Comoros, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, and São Tomé

and Principe (Comoros and Guinea-Bissau have yet to reach the completion point for agreement on the special debt relief programme). Within the programme, the four states that have reached completion received in full US\$1,191 million. A further US\$615 million has been committed to Guinea-Bissau and an additional US\$146 committed to São Tomé and Principe.

11.2.4 Indicator 8.12: Debt servicing

Seventeen of the 46 small states (37%) reduced their level of debt servicing as a percentage of exports of goods and services between 1990 and 2008. Nine of these countries (20%) increased their debt servicing in the same period. For 20 of the states (43%), missing data inhibited assessment of progress. For the 46 small states debt servicing in 2008 ranged from 1 per cent of exports of goods and services in Botswana to 17 per cent in St Kitts and Nevis.

11.3 Target 8F: Information and communications technologies

11.3.1 Indicator 8.14: Telephone lines per 100 population

All 46 small states achieved greater provision of ICTs measures against the 1990 baseline. The highest reported level was 59 per cent in Malta and 58 per cent in Barbados. Lagging behind was Timor-Leste on 0.2 per cent, Papua New Guinea on 0.9 per cent and Solomon Islands on 1.5 per cent.

Among the ten benchmark states, seven achieved an increase on the 1990 baseline. The highest level of provision was in Iceland at 61 per cent, while the lowest was in India at 3 per cent.

11.3.2 Indicator 8.15: Mobile cell phones per 100 population

Cellular phone usage increased in all 46 small states measured against the 1990 baseline; however, this baseline was set before mobile phones became a mass market commodity. The latest highest reported level of provision was in Antigua and Barbuda (158%),

Barbados (159%) and Bahrain (186%). (Figures in excess of 100 per cent indicate that there is more than one phone per person.) The lowest rates were in Kiribati (1%), Marshall Islands (2%) and Cuba (3%).

The ten benchmark states all achieved this target of increased level of provision on the 1990 baseline. The highest rate of usage was in the UK at 126 per cent, while the lowest level was in India at 29 per cent.

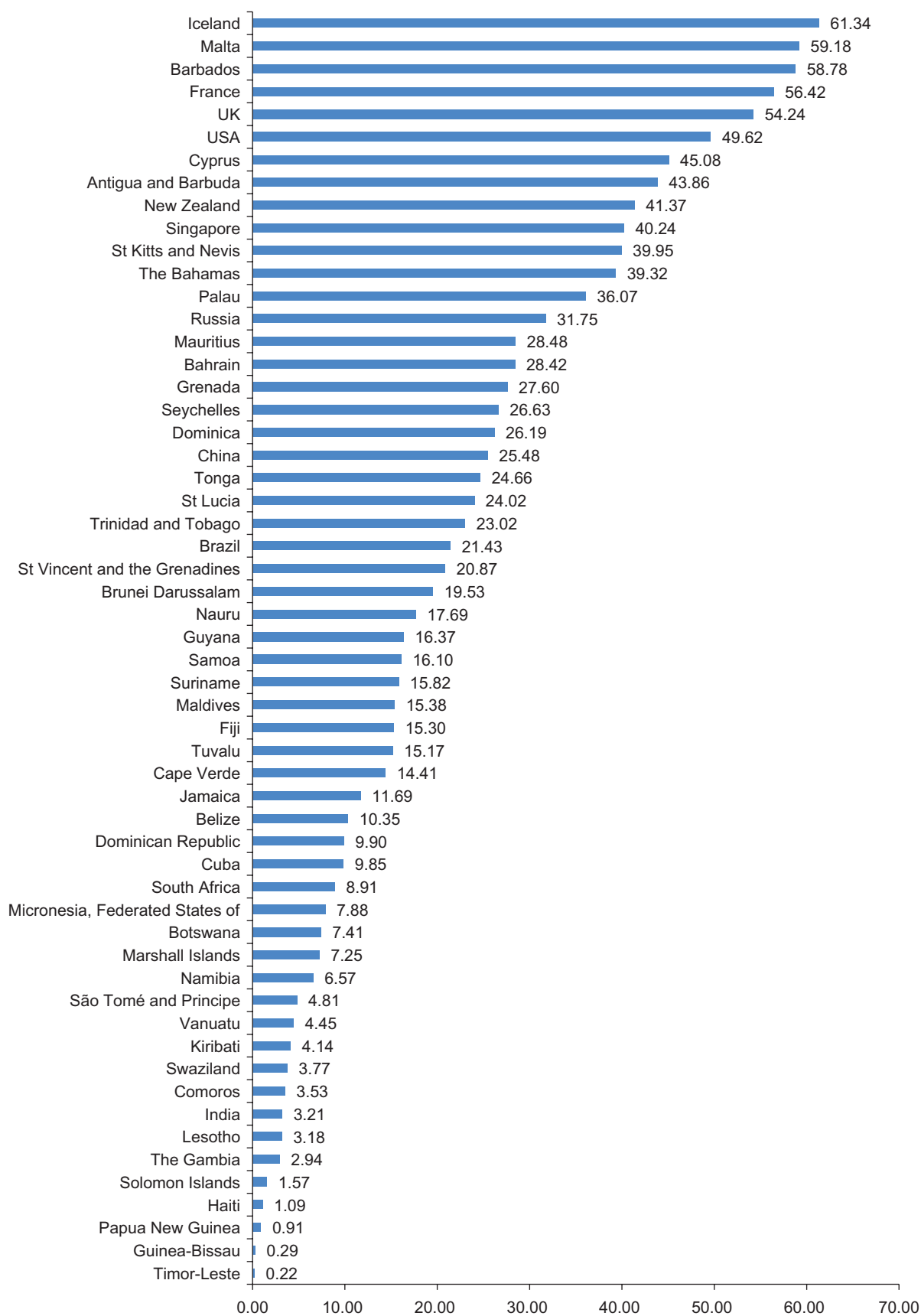
11.3.3 Indicator 8.16: Internet use per 100 population

All 46 small states and all benchmark states achieved increased internet usage, measured against the 1990 baseline. Among the former, the highest level in 2008 was in Antigua and Barbuda at 75 per cent and Barbados at 74 per cent. The lowest level was in Timor-Leste at 0.2 per cent, Papua New Guinea at 2 per cent and Solomon Islands at 2 per cent. Across the benchmark states the highest reported level of use was in Iceland at 90 per cent and the lowest was in India at 4 per cent.

11.4 Action on MDG 8: Partnerships

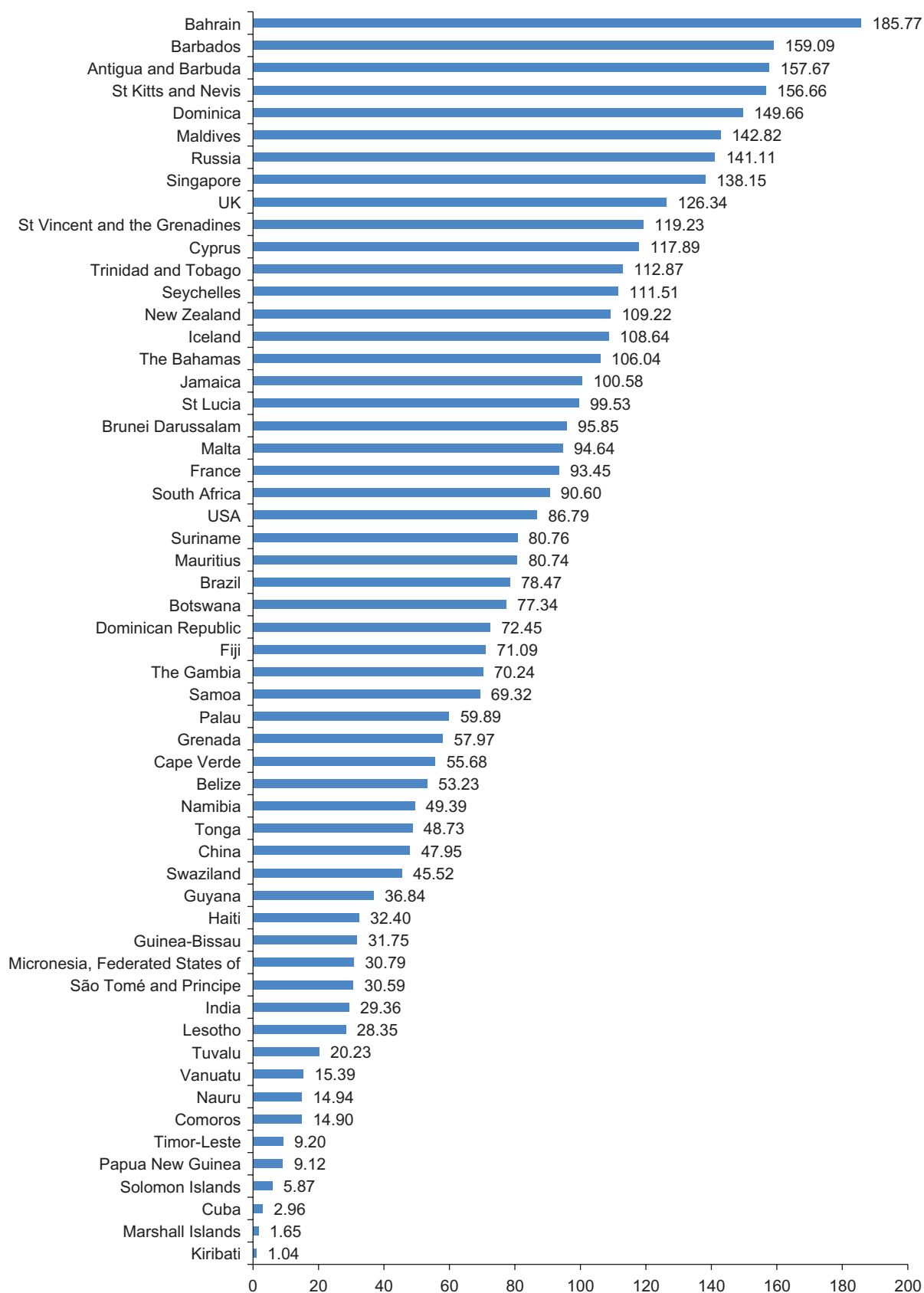
International policy on partnerships has been overshadowed by the global economic crisis. As a result, governments have tended to concentrate budgetary measures on tightening fiscal and monetary policy. Some limited initiatives have been taken to promote the wider themes of international partnerships in the Millennium Development Goals and the 2005 UN Mauritius Strategy for SIDS. For example, Jamaica has continued negotiations through the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for a free trade area with Canada.

St Lucia has established through CARICOM a catastrophe disaster insurance fund for the whole region. In addition, St Lucia has projects with foreign commercial partners exploring geothermal energy and photovoltaic systems. It is offering concessionary credit and incentives schemes for solar and bio-gas renewable energy and developing tourist energy efficiency schemes.

Figure 11.2 Telephone lines per 100 population

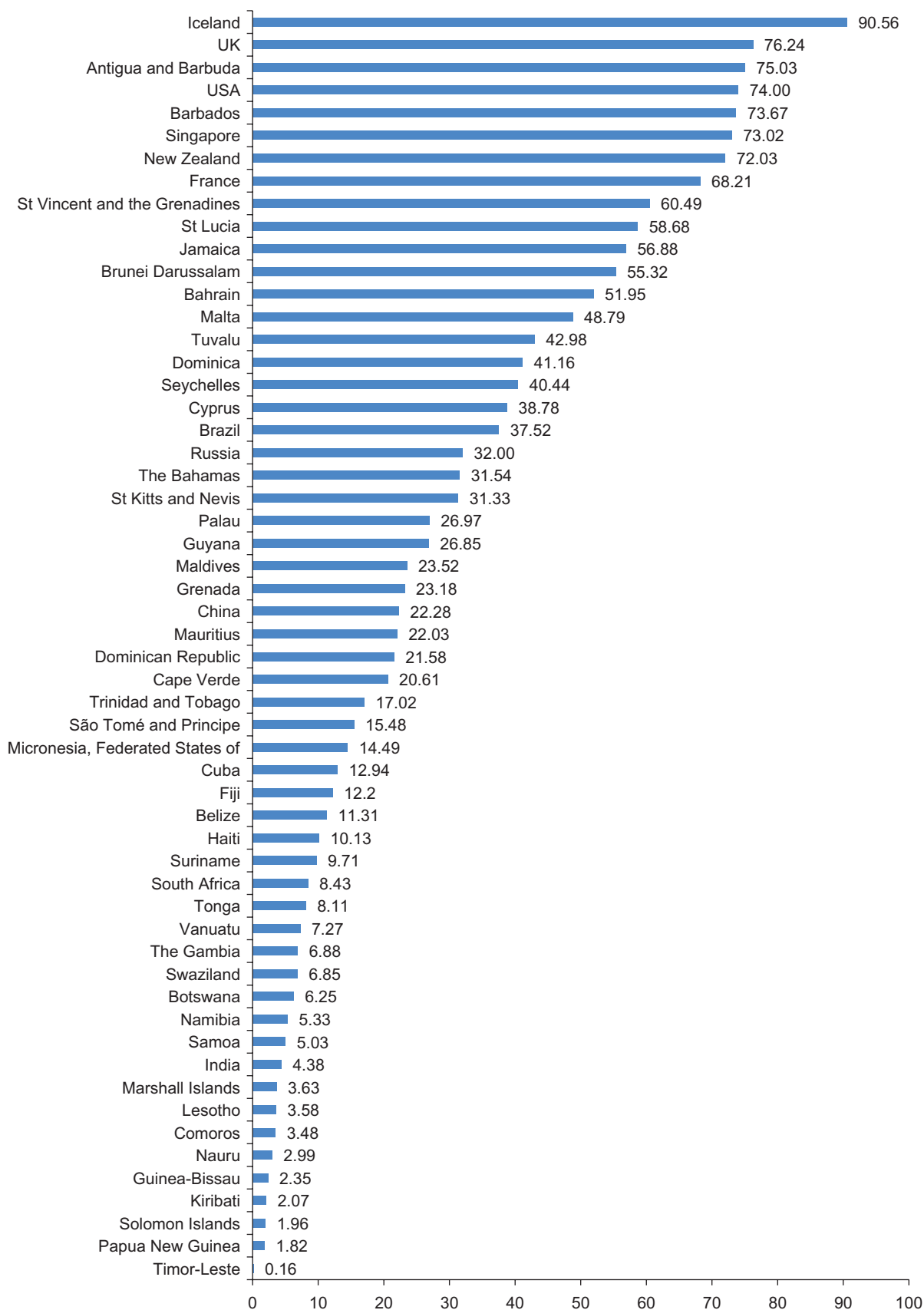
Note: Data from 2008.

Source: UN MDG database 2010

Figure 11.3 Mobile telephone subscriptions per 100 population

Note: Data from 2008.

Source: UN MDG database 2010

Figure 11.4 Internet users per 100 population

Note: Data from 2008.

Source: UN MDG database 2010