Data, Methods & Country Profiles

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#CD2015
Purpose of Session

I. Background to Countdown Monitoring
   Data and methods
   Country profiles

II. Countdown Report Findings
Outline

- Steps for effective global monitoring
- Overview of what Countdown monitors
- Data sources
- Countdown profiles
Effective global monitoring requires quality at each step

- **Global Reporting**
  Reports, profiles, websites etc.

- **Analysis**
  UN Agencies, Interagency Groups, Research groups etc.

- **Compilation and Quality Assurance**
  *Maintenance of global databases*
  UN Agencies, Interagency Groups

- **Data Collection**
  *Household surveys for coverage indicators*
Countdown 75 Priority Countries

*Countdown* tracks progress in the 75 countries where more than 95% of all maternal and child deaths occur.

*Source: Authors’ compilation based on information supplied in text.*
What does the Countdown monitor?

- Progress in coverage for critical interventions across reproductive, maternal, newborn & child health continuum of care
- Health Systems and Policies – important context for assessing coverage gains
- Financial flows to reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health
- Equity in intervention coverage
Selection of coverage indicators

- Indicators selected using objective criteria:
  - Harmonized with other monitoring efforts (e.g. MDGs)
  - Clear evidence of direct impact on child, newborn, and maternal survival
  - Easily understood by policy makers/program managers
Sources of data

- Global monitoring requires standardized data that allows for comparisons between countries and over time.

- **Population based household surveys**
  - UNICEF-supported MICS
  - USAID-supported DHS
  - Other national-level household surveys (MIS, RHS and others)
  - Provide disaggregated data - by household wealth, urban-rural residence, gender, educational attainment and geographic location

- **Interagency adjusted estimates**
  U5MR, MMR, immunization, water/sanitation

- **Other data sources** (e.g. administrative data, country reports on policy and systems indicators, country health accounts, and global reporting on external resource flows etc.)
Most recent data sources for Countdown countries:

**MICS, DHS, other national surveys**

*Based on data for Skilled Attendance at Birth*
Data compilation

• Countdown data compiled from a wide range of sources

• **Coverage data** largely from UNICEF global databases
  • UNICEF global databases updated annually using rigorous data quality review procedures ([www.childinfo.org](http://www.childinfo.org))

• **Data on policies and systems** from WHO, ILO, OECD and other organizations

• **Equity data** - analysis by Pelotas University (Brazil) based on data from MICS and DHS
Country Profiles
Country Profiles

- Central part of Countdown monitoring effort
- Brings together latest coverage data and other key information (e.g. policies) in one reference document
- Presents current situation and rate of progress
- Highlights gaps and areas needing attention
Core indicators identified by the Commission on Information and Accountability

- Maternal mortality ratio
- Under-five mortality rate, with the proportion of newborn deaths
- Children under five years of age who are stunted
- Demand for family planning satisfied (met need for contraception)
- Antenatal care coverage (at least four visits during pregnancy)
- Antiretroviral prophylaxis among HIV-positive pregnant women to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and antiretroviral therapy for HIV-positive pregnant women who are treatment-eligible
- Skilled attendant at birth
- Postnatal care for mothers and babies within two days of birth
- Exclusive breastfeeding for first six months of life
- Three doses of combined diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) immunization coverage
- Antibiotic treatment for pneumonia
Profile

- Demographics, including mortality
- Maternal & Newborn Health, including Continuum of Care
- Equity
- Child Health
- Nutrition
Good progress in reducing under-five & maternal mortality, but **overall rates still too high**
Variable coverage along the continuum of care
Steady reduction in underweight and stunting prevalence and exclusive breastfeeding rates are relatively high but trend stagnating.
The narrow bars show relatively equitable coverage and the wide bars show inequitable coverage.
Conclusion

- Countdown data powerful instrument for highlighting successes and identifying areas needing more attention

- Countdown provides the foundation for translating data into action!
Thank you