

Highlights of Countdown Findings in 2013

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Mortality

- Both maternal and child mortality dropping in most *Countdown* countries
- But slower declines in sub-Saharan Africa, where fertility remains high, than in other regions

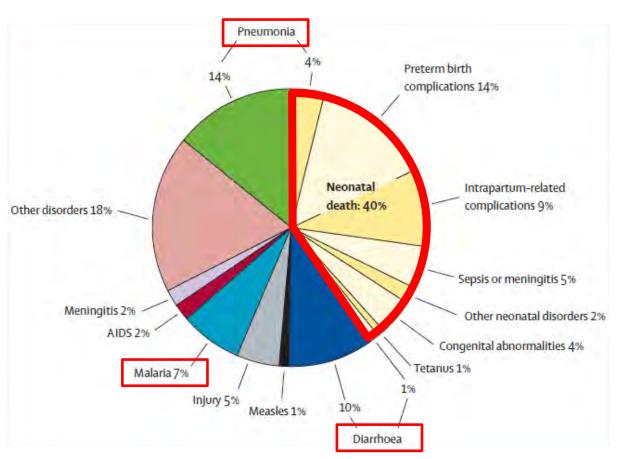


Action now! Prioritize high mortality countries for collective global, regional and national action.



Mortality

- Pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria remain the major infectious causes of child deaths.
- Newborn deaths are now 40%+ of all child deaths in 35
 Countdown countries

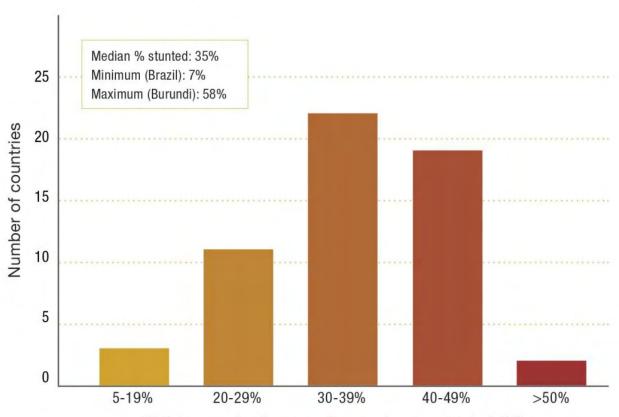


Action now! Stay the course in child survival, and strengthen efforts to save newborn lives.



Nutrition

 Unacceptably high stunting levels in nearly all 75 countries



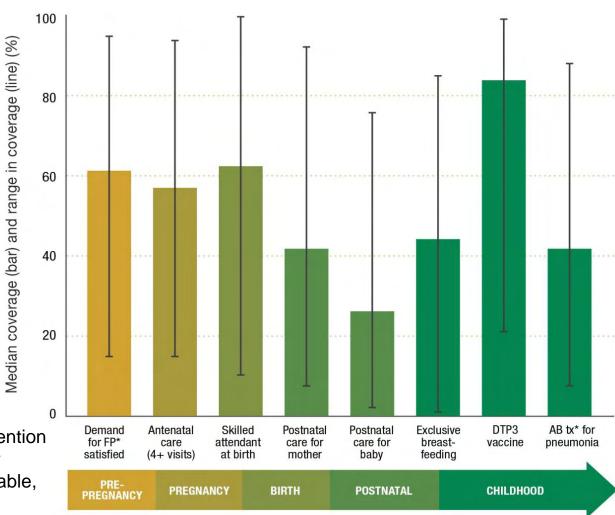
Children under 5 years of age who are stunted (%)

Action now! Emphasize nutrition as essential ingredient of all RMNCH programs.



Intervention Coverage

Wide range in coverage levels for all interventions



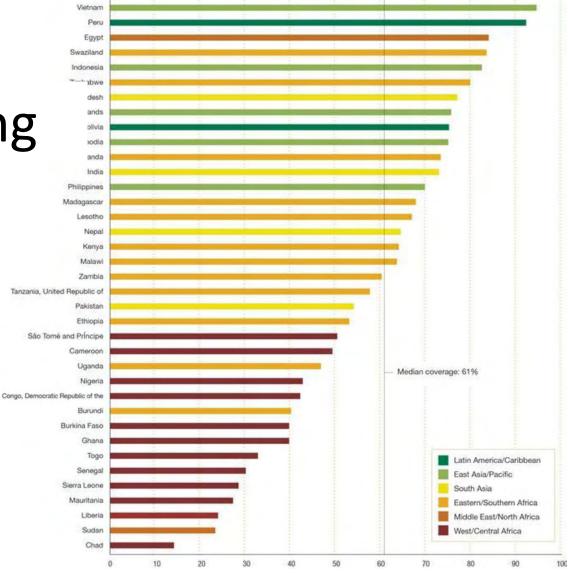
Coverage levels for selected Commission indicators of intervention coverage, median and range for priority countries with data available, 2007-2012

Action now! Countries achieving high coverage offer models of success.



Family Planning

Broader access to family planning needed, especially in Africa

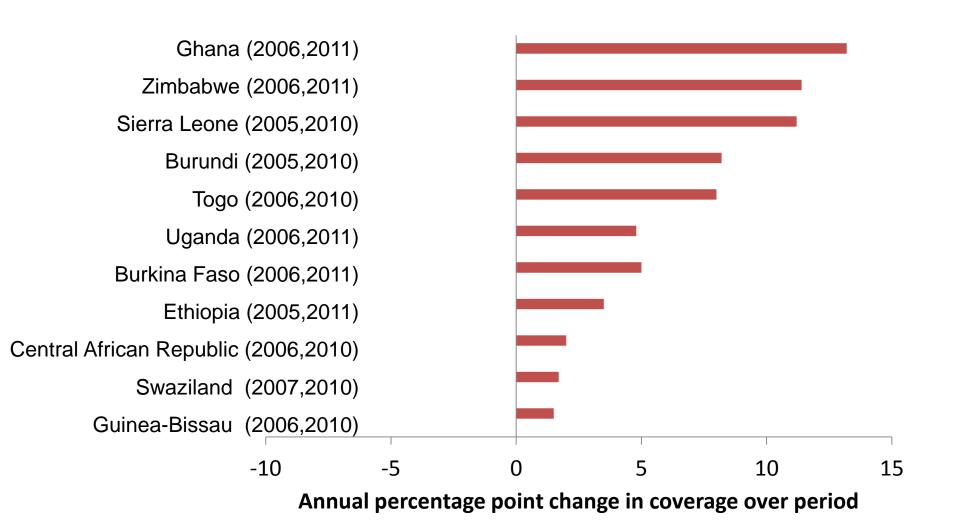


Demand for family planning satisfied, 2007-2012

Action now! Invest more resources in addressing the unmet need for family planning.

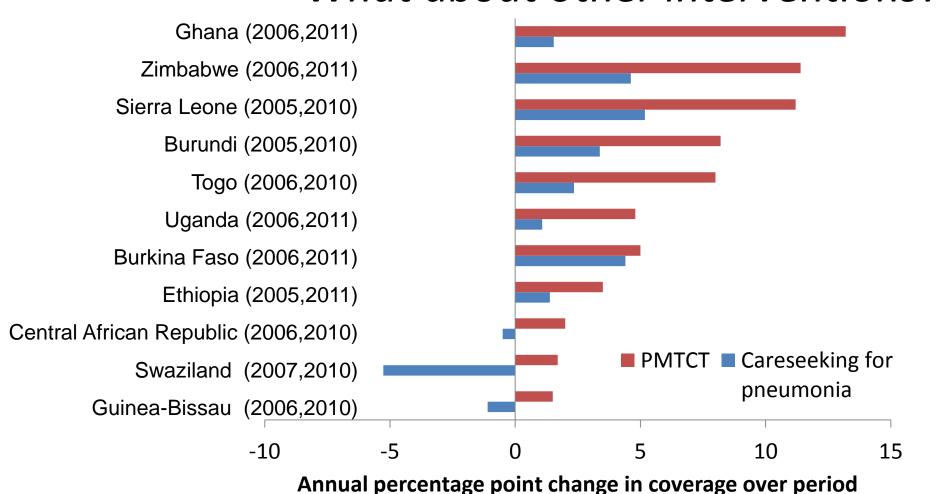


Rapid gains for PMTCT





Rapid gains for PMTCT What about other interventions?



Action now! Advocacy, political commitment, investment needed across the continuum of care.



Action now!

We, the global public health community, need to:

- Replicate the success of HIV interventions: Advocacy, commitment, investment are needed
- Increase focus on nutrition as part of the RMNCH continuum: Stunting has long-term consequences
- Meet the demand for modern contraception: Family planning saves lives
- Scale up high-quality services to save more mothers and newborns: The hours around and after birth are still the most dangerous

Our actions can save the lives of women and children facing preventable death.

The time for action is now!























































































