

Countdown to 2015

Maternal, Newborn & Child Survival



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On behalf of Countdown partners

What is the Countdown to 2015?

- Multi-partner effort to report on country progresses towards **MDG 4** (child mortality) and **MDG 5** (maternal health)
- **68 countries** with the highest rates of mortality – 97% of all maternal and child deaths
- 22 interventions that save lives of **mothers, newborn & children** are tracked

2008: Progress in countries

- Only 16 countries (24%) on track to meet MDG 4
- Of the 16, only 3 have moved from “not on track” to “on track” since 2005
- 56 of 68 countries (82%) have high maternal mortality that obstruct progress towards MDG 5

Where is the problem?

- **Sub-Saharan Africa** – 50% of maternal and child deaths, many countries are reversing (conflicts and HIV are among major factors);
- **South Asia** – rates not as high as in sub-Saharan Africa, but many countries have large populations

Why do they die?

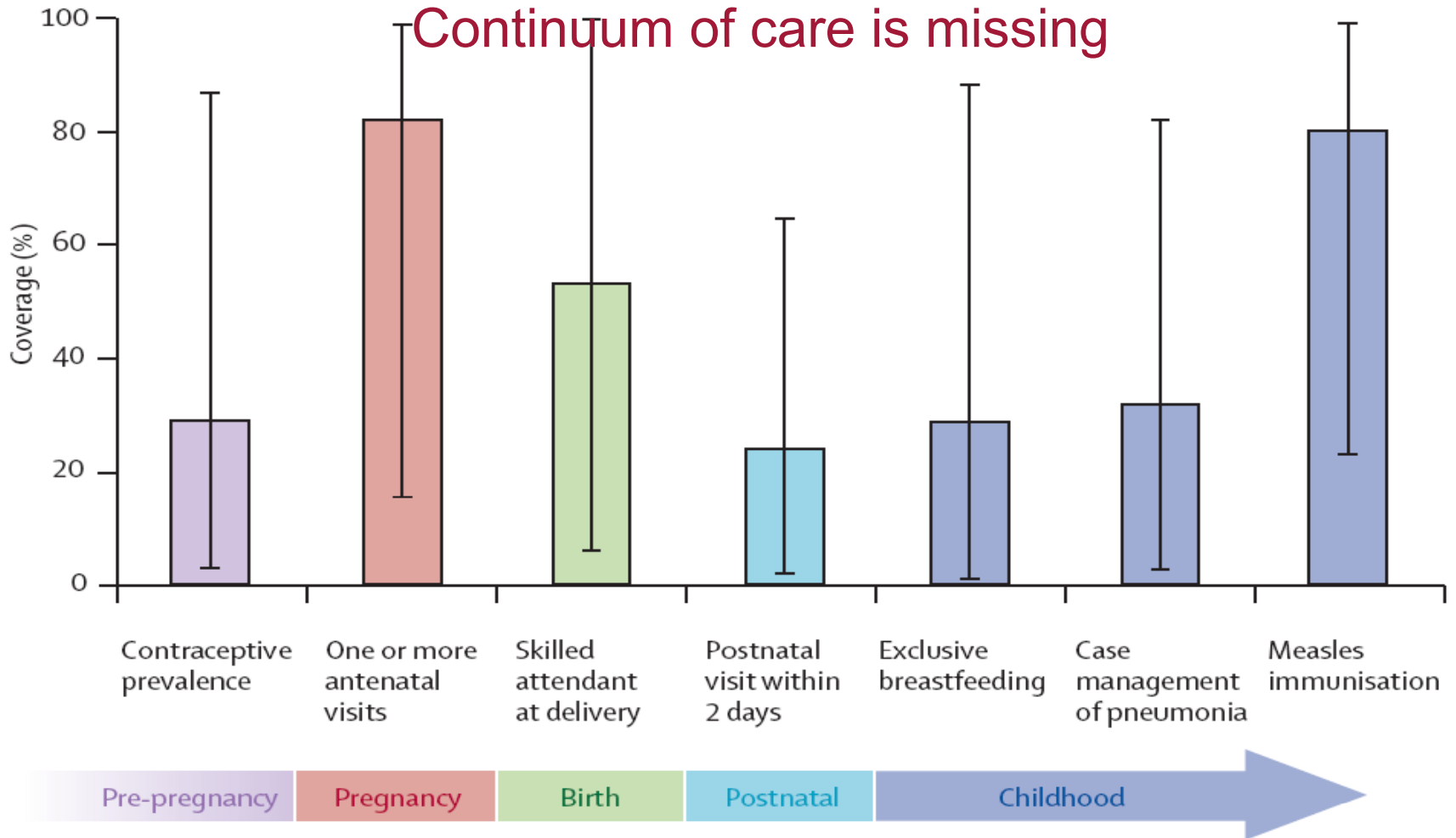


Figure 3: Coverage estimates for interventions across the continuum of care in the 68 priority countries

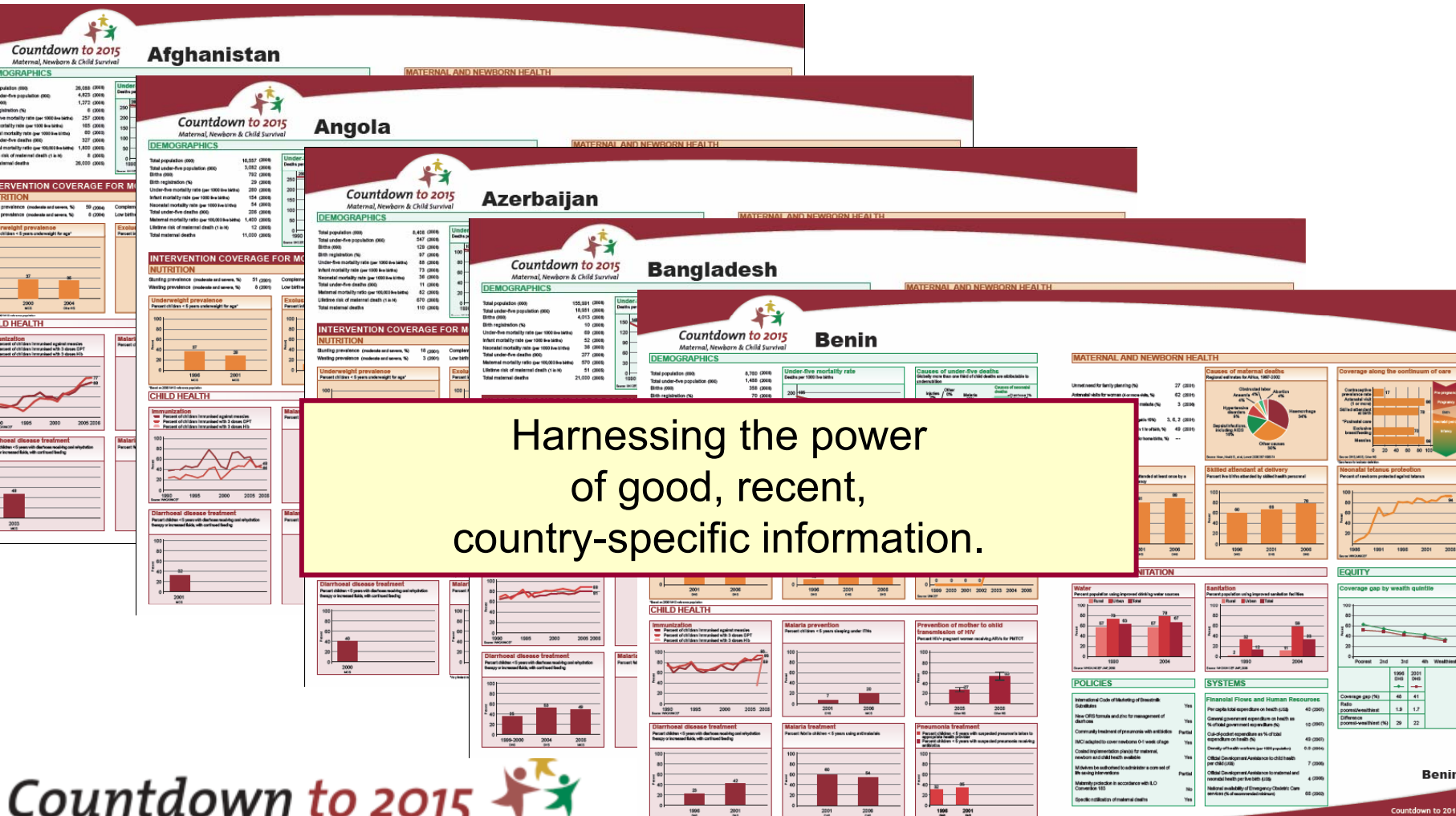
The 2008 Countdown findings

- Only some services are scaled up
- Health care access is inequitable
- Strong support on nutrition is key
- Stronger health systems are needed
- Donor funding has increased from \$4 to \$7 per child.
- But, only 2% goes to general budget support, 95% delivered through projects. Aid flows are volatile: lack of predictability and sustainability
- Overall funding is insufficient, needs to be tripled.

Countries can do!

- Countries have shown rapid progress is possible
- We know what to do:
 - Universal coverage of proven interventions
 - Integrating care throughout the life cycle
 - Building a responsive health system
 - Sustaining adequate funding
- Leadership, commitment and action are crucial.

IPU/Countdown Launch: 16 April



Harnessing the power of good, recent, country-specific information.



Five actions of the Parliamentarians

PARLIAMENTARIANS LEAD THE CHANGE

for Women and Children



*Achieving the Millennium Development Goals 4 & 5 for child
and maternal health requires leadership of Parliamentarians to:*

- **Represent** the voices of women and children
- **Legislate** to ensure universal access to essential care
- **Oversee** government accountability to implement policies
- **Budget** for maternal, newborn and child health
- **Advocate** nationally and internationally for MDGs

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