

Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed

Progress Report 2015

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September 2015

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ISBN: 978-92-806-4815-7

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This report was prepared by UNICEF's Division of Data, Research, and Policy in collaboration with the Programme Division and the Secretariat for *A Promise Renewed*.

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Special thanks to Sherin Varkey from UNICEF Afghanistan, Alexandra Westerbeek from UNICEF Ethiopia, Victor Ngongalah from UNICEF Ghana, Caroline Den Dulk and Gagan Gupta from UNICEF India, Kyaw Aung from UNICEF Malawi, Willibald Zeck from UNICEF Philippines, Nathalie Lam from UNICEF Senegal, Sudha Sharma from UNICEF Tanzania, Ana Cristina Matos, Cristina Albuquerque, Jucilene Rocha, Maria Estela Caparelli and Rogério Carlos Borges de Oliveira from UNICEF Brazil and Paulo Cezar Galvão Pinto from Observatory of Development Indicators — SESI PR in Brazil for their assistance in providing data and information. Thanks also go to Adrienne Clermont, Yvonne Tam and Neff Walker at the Institute for International Programs, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health for carrying out the analyses using the Lives Saved Tool.

Special thanks to UNICEF's core and thematic donors and to supporters of UNICEF's data analysis work, including the United States Agency for International Development, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the National Committee for UNICEF of the Republic of Korea, UNICEF Canada and The 25th Team.

Contents

6....Foreword

8....Main Messages of the 2015 Progress Report

14....Chapter 1: The progress so far

Global progress

Regional progress

National progress

Acceleration in progress

Lives saved

League table of under-five mortality rates, 2015

26....Chapter 2: The work that remains

Where under-five deaths are occurring

Who is most at risk

When under-five deaths are occurring

Why under-five deaths are occurring

What works to reduce under-five mortality

60....Chapter 3: The future we want

Scenarios for child mortality from 2016 to 2030

Realizing equity for child survival

76....Chapter 4: A promise renewed

Political commitment

Accountability

Social mobilization

Turning *A Promise Renewed* into a promise fulfilled

84....References

86....Tables: Country and regional estimates of child mortality
and causes of under-five deaths



Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths: *A Promise Renewed*

Background

In June 2012, the Governments of Ethiopia, India and the United States of America convened the Child Survival Call to Action in Washington, D.C. This high-level forum brought together over 700 representatives from government, civil society and the private sector to rejuvenate the global child survival movement. The forum built on the success of the many partnerships, structures and interventions that already existed within and beyond the field of health.

Following the Child Survival Call to Action, 178 governments — as well as hundreds of civil society, private sector and faith-based organizations — signed a pledge vowing to do everything possible to stop women and children from dying of causes that are easily avoidable. We now call this commitment *A Promise Renewed*.

Since 2012, over 30 countries have deepened their commitments by launching sharpened country strategies for child survival, further accelerating global progress for children. Those national strategies are based on the core principles advocated by *A Promise Renewed*:

1. Fostering political commitment to end preventable child mortality by implementing sharpened country strategies for child survival and publicly committing to ambitious, measurable goals
2. Strengthening public accountability through improved monitoring, data and use of tools such as scorecards to track progress and identify priorities for action
3. Mobilizing societies and communities to take action on child survival and to hold governments accountable for their commitments.

Accelerating progress on child survival beyond 2015

Since its initiation, *A Promise Renewed* has focused on promoting two goals: first, keeping the promise of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 – to reduce the under-five mortality rate by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015; and second, continuing the fight beyond 2015, until no child or mother dies from preventable causes.

To achieve these goals, partners that support *A Promise Renewed* have committed to five priority actions:

1. Increasing efforts in the countries facing the greatest challenges on under-five mortality
2. Scaling up access to underserved populations everywhere
3. Addressing the causes that account for the majority of under-five deaths
4. Increasing emphasis on the underlying drivers of child mortality, such as women's education and empowerment
5. Rallying around a shared goal and using common metrics to track progress.

By focusing on these priority actions and core principles, countries are already achieving progress, bending the curve on child mortality and moving towards a world where no mother or child dies from a preventable cause. As we begin the work of the Sustainable Development Goals, maintaining this momentum must be our top priority.



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