# COUNTDOWN TO 2030 – Latin America & the Caribbean Regional Hub

## Workshop
## Measuring Inequalities in Coverage of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Interventions

## Dates
18-22 October, 2016 (note: Tuesday-Saturday, as Monday is a holiday)

## Venue
Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia

## Credits
40 hours in 5 days. Each day will include 2 hours of lectures, 2 hours of practical sessions (group discussion with tutors), and 4 hours of group work (regional or country studies).

## Faculty

***ICEH, Pelotas, Brazil***
Cesar Victora, Aluisio Barros, Maria Clara Restrepo, Fernando Werhmeister, Leonardo Ferreira

***Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru***
Luis Huicho

***Unicef, New York, USA***
Liliana Carvajal

***PAHO, Washington, USA***
Oscar Mujica

## Overview
This course focuses on two main areas: coverage and equity. We will start with basic definitions of RMNCH intervention coverage, including data sources and statistical aspects of survey analyses. The second area covers equity: how to understand, define and measure health inequalities. It examines the language of health inequalities, explains dimensions and key measures of health inequalities and shows how to calculate them.

The course is divided into five units. Unit 1 introduces to the Countdown initiative and the SDGs, discusses main RMNCH coverage indicators used in Countdown analyses and relevant data sources. Unit 2 reviews the definition and measurement of health inequalities. Unit 3 introduces attendees to a range of health inequalities measures, highlighting their advantages and disadvantages, and discussing how to select, communicate and evaluate health inequalities. Unit 4 provides grounding in assessing and interpreting trends in health inequalities. Unit 5 provides a practical example on how to relate trends in inequalities to the evolution of policies and programs in the health and related sectors, and in health financing.

## Course objectives and contents:
By the end of the first unit, participants will be able to:

- Understand aims and activities of the Countdown to 2030 initiative and its relationship with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Global Strategy for Women's Children's and Adolescents' Health
- Describe the main RMNCH coverage indicators used in the Countdown
- Understand the strengths and limitations of each indicator
- Understand gaps in the current portfolio of coverage indicators
- Become familiar with the available data on RMNCH indicators from sources such as MICS and DHS

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Federal University of Pelotas
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By the end of the second unit, participants will be able to:

- Define concepts related to equity and inequality
- List key definitions/terms related to health inequalities
- Identify the dimensions of health inequalities
- Explain absolute and relative inequalities
- Present health inequalities using graphical representations of data
- Describe patterns of inequalities (e.g., bottom, top)

By the end of the third unit, participants will be able to:

- Describe complex measures of health inequalities, including analyses of ordered groups and extreme group comparisons
- Identify advantages and disadvantages of complex measures of health inequalities
- List the analytic steps in measuring health inequalities

By the end of the fourth unit, participants will be able to:

- Describe measures for unordered groups – e.g. geographic regions
- Describe different types of trends in health inequalities
- List the analytic steps in measuring trends in health inequalities

By the end of the fifth unit, participants will be able to:

- List policies and programs, in the health and other sectors, that have had an impact on maternal and child health and nutrition in Latin America and elsewhere
- Interpret and use available data on health financing

## Workshop methodology

This course will include lectures, practical sessions and group work which aimed to create opportunities for participatory learning through computer practicals when participants will work on a regional or country study. Real-world examples will illustrate concepts, and exercises/country case studies will help build knowledge.

The course materials include PowerPoint presentations, key references and support materials (such as datasets for country case studies), which will be provided electronically. Practical sessions will require basic use of Stata.

## Who should attend the course?

Attendance is by invitation only. The course is designed to be accessible to a broad audience of professionals including service managers, policy makers and academics interested in monitoring health coverage and equity. Our priority are professionals from federal or state health agencies, international organizations, or academic institutions. Previous training in quantitative methods including basic or intermediate level biostatistics and epidemiology is essential.

## Certificate

A certificate of attendance will be issued to those completing the workshop. Attendants are expected to make a final presentation of the analyses carried out during the course.

## Sponsors

This course has been made possible through funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the Countdown to 2030 initiative, through the U.S. Fund for Unicef.