Countdown to 2030 started in 2003 as a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional collaboration, in response to the challenge of the health-related Millennium Development Goals by 2015. At the time, it was known as Countdown to 2015. Countdown is a collaboration of academics from global, regional, country institutions, UN agencies and World Bank and civil society organizations, to track progress of life-saving interventions for reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition (RMNCAH+N).

Countdown generates evidence to foster advocacy and accountability for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health. It analyzes data on coverage of health interventions across socio-economic status, gender, education, and geography; and on key drivers of change such as policy, finance, and other health system dimensions.

In 2016, the Countdown to 2030 Initiative adapted its strategies and approaches to align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly the Global Strategy for Women’s Children’s and Adolescents’ Health 2016-2030.

Countdown focuses on strengthening country evidence and analytical capacity through working with country analysts from public health institutions, research institutions and ministries of health. For example, the Countdown conducted 15 data analysis workshops for teams of analysts from 50 countries in Africa, Caribbean & Latin America during 2017-2019.

In 2020, the Countdown expanded its work in countries, focusing on initially 15 countries that have investment cases for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health through the Global Financing Facility (GFF). In 2022, Countdown expanded to working in 25 countries.

Enhance monitoring techniques and strengthen analysis of countries’ health progress

The Countdown work in countries aims to generate evidence and strengthen countries’ analytical capacity in relation to the measurement of progress and performance of RMNCAH+N programs. The focus is on analytical work to inform annual and midterm reviews of the countries’ 5-year plans and GFF investment cases. Country collaborations involve academic global/regional institution(s), working in close relationship with the Ministry of Health and GFF, as well as statistical offices and UN partners.

In addition to within country work, Countdown conducts multicountry studies on relevant cross topics including urban health, family planning, maternal-newborn health, and immunization.
Countdown to 2030 Structure

**Secretariat**
- **Director**
  - Cheikh Faye, APHRC
- **Senior Management Team**
  - Cheikh Faye, APHRC - SSA Engagement
  - Agbessi Amouzou, JHU - Global Monitoring & Measurement
  - Jennifer Requejo, JHU/GFF - GF Interactions
  - Ties Boerma, U. Manitoba - Technical & Coordination Support

**Coordination**
- JHU
- APHRC

**Communication**
- Team at APHRC and JHU

**Steering Committee**

The steering committee aims to coordinate and align Countdown initiatives and is co-chaired by an representative from the UN and from the research community.

**Steering Committee Co-Chairs**
- Catherine Kyobutungi, APHRC
- Anshu Banerjee, WHO

**Technical Working Group**

Co-chaired by APHRC and JHU, it guides the monitoring and measurement work with the focus areas in effective coverage, equity, finance, conflict, nutrition, and early childhood development.

**Technical Working Group Chair**
- Bob Black, JHU

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**Data Analysis Centers**

Countdown has established six Data Analysis Centers (DAC) which will support the GFF countries with tools and methods for data analysis and are also contributing to global synthesis of country evidence. DACs will maintain a repository of country data and contribute to monitoring and measuring the progress and performance of RMNCAH+N from a global and regional perspective.

**DAC**
- Equity Analysis
- Effective Coverage and Quality of Care
- Health Systems Facility Data
- Geospatial Analysis
- Financial Analysis
- Drivers of Change

**Institution**
- Federal University of Pelotas
- Johns Hopkins University
- African Population Health Research Centre
- University of Southampton & World Pop
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- University of Western Cape

**PI**
- Aluisio Barros
- Agbessi Amouzou
- Cheikh Faye
- Andy Tatem
- Nouria Brikci
- Asha George

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Learn more on Countdown to 2030’s website:
www.countdown2030.org

Countdown to 2030’s website provides more information about each country collaboration and a wealth of resources related to improved measurement and data analysis methods. The site offers easy access to the Countdown country profiles for RMNCAH+N, equity and early childhood development, as well as reports, policy briefs, and peer-reviewed journal articles by Countdown researchers.

The Countdown to 2030 for Women’s Children’s and Adolescents’ Health is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.