Data Resources for Advocacy: Summary of resources and tools for data analytics and visualization

Global health actors have invested in developing data resources and tools as global goods to support evidence-informed advocacy and decision making by policymakers, advocates, and health care providers, and other diverse players. These tools contain rich data from trusted national and global sources, which can be useful to advocates in building strong advocacy cases to influence policies, investments, decisions, and accountability for RMNCAH and nutrition.

To orient advocates to resources and tools that provide multi-country data and evidence, **Table 1** summarizes several primary data resources as well as tools that aggregate data from multiple sources, including their purpose, unique features, data sources, geography covered, and possible use cases for advocates, while **Table 2 summarizes key global guidance and frameworks** to support RMNCAH advocacy framing.

TABLE 1. RMNCAH + nutrition data resources and tools.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Data sources	Geography	Use case for advocates
WHO RMNCAH Policy Database	Data portal with visualizations of RMNCAH policy indicators and searchable document repository.	 Ability to search for and visualize key RMNCAH policy indicators. Searchable document repository of national RMNCAH laws, policies, guidelines, strategic plans, etc. Country policy profiles organized by population and demographics, crosscutting RMNCAH, sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence, maternal and newborn health, child health, adolescent health. Reports on the results of the 2018/19 WHO RMNCAH policy survey are available. 	Periodic WHO survey administered through a structured questionnaire.	150 WHO member states that responded to the 2018/19 RMNCAH policy survey.	 Repository of documents (laws, guidelines, plans/strategy, etc. for policy tracking and implementation. Data can also be visualized on charts and maps for exporting and downloading, for use in advocacy briefs or other advocacy materials. The tool offers quick and efficient overview of a country's demographic and key RMNCAH indicators and policies. Datasets for additional analysis can be requested.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Data sources	Geography	Use case for advocates
WHO Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing Data Portal	Up to date global health data, including regional and country data organized separately in the areas of maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health and ageing.	 Data can be visualized on charts and maps which you can download. You are also able to export data files. Links to other departments within WHO and other UN agencies where additional data and information in specific areas of interest. Wealth of cross-cutting data and resources relevant to RMNCAH. Includes coverage data. The above WHO RMNCAH Policy Database is also displayed here. Dashboards and other visualizations are available, including: adolescent health country profiles; RMNCAH country policy profiles; and country profiles for the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health. The Child Health and Wellbeing Dashboard is also accessible. 	Data for global monitoring are reported by UNICEF and WHO, based on national sources including MICS, DHS, and other national household surveys, and joint estimates based on all available country data points including administrative sources.	UN Member States.	 Data visualized on charts and maps for exporting and downloading, for use in advocacy briefs or other advocacy materials. Equity considerations through the use of crosscutting data—including demographic data, socio-economic, and environmental data and policies.
UNICEF Data Portal	Portal for the latest available data related to children, including a variety of topical dashboards and datasets.	 Data/datasets related to children in the areas of RMNCAH, HIV/AIDS, COVID-19, WASH, immunization, and malnutrition, etc. For example, specific dashboards include: Child Health & Wellbeing Dashboard; Infant Feeding Data Dashboard; COVID-19 & Children Data Hub, among others. COVID-19 dashboard explores the impacts of the pandemic on children's poverty, education, health, nutrition and more. Includes coverage data. 	Data for global monitoring are reported by UNICEF and WHO, based on national sources including MICS, DHS, and other national household surveys, and joint estimates based on all available country data points including administrative sources.	UN Member States.	 Includes interactive dashboards to visually showcase the data for advocates and decision-makers and downloadable data files. Country reports include a wide range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other indicators for child and adolescent health, nutrition, WASH, child protection, education, gender, and poverty. Resource tab includes a variety of data-driven thought products, ranging from short brochures to indepth analyses, to support advocates.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Data sources	Geography	Use case for advocates
UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)	Data on key indicators on the well-being of children and women to help shape policies.	 Largest source of statistically sound and internationally comparable data on children and women worldwide. MICS is a major data source for more than 30 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators. 	Household surveys focused on issues affecting the lives of women and children.	118 countries globally primarily in Africa, Asia, and South America.	 Major data source for SDG indicators, useful for advocates to link to advocacy priorities and country goals. Country reports, comprised of household surveys, provide national data for a variety of women and child health indicators.
Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program	Collects, analyzes, and disseminates accurate and representative data on population, health, HIV, and nutrition through periodic surveys.	 Standardized surveys in conjunction with reports and respective datasets that make them very easy to use and follow. Data collected across/for households, women, and children, among others. Conducted periodically over time in most countries. 	DHS surveys conducted periodically in over 90 countries.	Most countries globally, predominantly in Africa, Asia, and South America.	Country reports are an excellent resource for pulling the most recent national and regional data for variety of indicators, including examining progress over time.
UN Inter- agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME)	Data and estimates of stillbirth and child mortality rates for each country based on the research of the UN/IGME.	Includes dashboards that analyze primary source data in different ways, highlighting disparities and SDGs progress, subnational trends, and includes country profiles focused on stillbirth.	 Estimates from compilation of population-based surveys (e.g., DHS, MICs, census). UN/IGME consists of UNICEF, WHO, The World Bank Group and UNDESA Population Division, plus an expert Technical Advisory group of Demographers, Epidemiologists and Statisticians to inform the estimates. 	UN member states.	 Highlighting and conveying disparities. Side-by-side country comparisons.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Data sources	Geography	Use case for advocates
GFF Data Portal	A data portal for accessing key indicators of MNCHN impact and tracking progress toward implementing GFF investment case.	 GFF logic model as organizing framework. Country-specific profile pages with holistic view of finance, process and service delivery and outcome data at national and sub-national level data. Map-based features to: display subnational data and geographic equity; and subnational data for monitoring implementation progress (with percent change over time). Downloadable data tables and graphics. 	 Core RMNCAH-N impact indicators from population based surveys with links to country estimates. Country-specific routine indicators from HMIS, and other country sources as applicable. Output, medium and long term and impact indicators aligned to GFF logic model. Health financing and resource mapping data. 	 36 GFF countries. Subnational data available for all countries implementing an investment case (currently 31). 	 Data to support advocates in contributing to policy debates and resource mobilization efforts. Equity considerations through geographic analyses: Subnational progress comparisons can help advocates and civil society organizations with data for targeting investments to subnational areas with slower progress or greater gaps.
PATH MNCHN Asset Tracker	A data visualization dashboard aggregating evidence on the status of scale up for 14 "assets" (or interventions) that improve MNCHN.	 Pathway to scale up toward effective coverage (26 milestones) used as an organizing framework. Compare countries' progress toward any specific milestone for any asset. Integrates causes of morbidity (disability adjusted life years) alongside coverage metrics, by asset. Time series for implementation and coverage indicators in subset of countries. Data quality audit results included for HMIS indicators. Set of dashboards exploring national-level data, as well as subnational-level data and qualitative data in a subset of countries. 	 Compilation of survey data, document review, and routine data sources (DHS, WHO SRMNCAH policy survey, UNICEF Nutridash, Global Breastfeeding Collective, SPA, SARA, HMIS). Indicator definitions & data sources available through hovering over tool tips. Qualitative data collected from select subnational areas in 5 countries. 	 81 'Countdown to 2030' countries. Deeper analysis in 8 focus countries: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania. Qualitative data from 5 countries: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Nigeria. 	 By bringing multiple survey and other sources together in one place, the tool offers quick and efficient comparison of different indicators or countries. Examine progress toward effective coverage for specific asset / country combinations for focus countries, or comparison across countries. Utilize data to support increased advocacy around scale up for specific assets.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Data sources	Geography	Use case for advocates
Countdown to 2030	Country profiles that track progress of RMNCAH+N interventions and analytic tools. Developed through collaboration of academic institutions, UN, World Bank, and CSOs to strengthen evidence & analytical capacity.	 RMNCAH Country profiles in dashboard layout. Country equity profiles with sex disaggregated analysis. Early childhood development profiles. Data download feature to Excel. Holistic conceptual framework to explain reductions in maternal, late foetal and neonatal mortality and improvements in health. 	Countdown does not collect new data but uses available data accessible to the public from UNICEF, WHO, and household surveys (DHS, MICS, others) and country-level health information system data stored in DHIS2.	 Country profiles are available for all low and middle income countries for the national and equity profiles, and for all countries for the ECD profiles. Additional resources are available for countries that are part of the GFF collaboration and the maternal newborn health exemplars study. 	 Use country profiles to: (1) highlight where progress has been slow and where there are data gaps; (2) hold country government and partners to account for their commitments to the 2030 Agenda. Use analytic tools to measure equity, geospatial differences, effective coverage and other factors.

TABLE 2. Global guidance and key frameworks and targets to support RMNCAH advocacy framing.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Targets	Use case for advocates
Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016- 2030)	An updated Global Strategy, spanning the 15 years of the SDGs, provides guidance to accelerate momentum for women's, children's and adolescents' health.	 Objectives and targets aligned to the SDGs. Takes a life-course approach aiming for the highest attainable standards of health and well-being—physical, mental and social—at every age. 	Includes targets and indicators at the impact, outcome, and systems levels. The strategy includes five targets related to ending preventable deaths (survive), eight targets related to ensuring wellbeing (thrive), and five targets related to expanding enabling environments (transform).	Outlines nine action areas: 1. Country leadership; 2. Financing for health; 3. Health system resilience; 4. Individual potential; 5. Community engagement; 6. Multisector action;
				7. Humanitarian and fragile settings;
				8. Research and innovation;9. Accountability for results, resources and rights.

Name	What is it?	Unique features / differentiators	Targets	Use case for advocates
Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP) framework	A global plan that presents evidence-based solutions to prevent newborn deaths and stillbirths and targets for ending preventable newborn deaths and stillbirths in support of Every Woman Every Child.	 Every Woman Every Child framework as organizing model. Framework accompanied by Every Newborn Tracking Tool by which country data is measured—includes a guidance note (2016). Action plan was endorsed by 194 Member States in 2014. Progress is reported on every few years at the direction of the DG. Framework specifies four key targets. Plans for joint ENAP/EPMM progress report in 2023. Compilation of data by country based on Every Newborn Tracking Tool. Spotlights on specific country activity and regional/global efforts in support of national level progress. 	 Shared targets aligned across ENAP/EPMM: Four or more antenatal care contacts. Births attended by skilled birth attendants. Early routine postnatal care (within 2 days). Additional ENAP specific target: National implementation plan for inpatient units and sub-national inpatient units (>1). 	Outlines actions by constituency, including NGOs, communities, and/or parent groups.
Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality (EPMM) framework	A global framework for EPMM that aims to improve maternal health and well-being and achieve the SDG target for MMR.	 Framework specifies a set of strategic objectives and five key targets. Plans for joint ENAP/EPMM progress report in 2023. 	Shared targets aligned across ENAP/EPMM: • Four or more antenatal care contacts. • Births attended by skilled birth attendants. • Early routine postnatal care (within 2 days). Additional ENAP specific targets: • Population covered by EmOC. • Access to care and information for broader determinants of maternal health (sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health care).	Includes a call to action needed to reach the ambitious targets and goal.

Contact

To learn more, contact advocacyandpolicy@path.org.