



Topic of the Speech:

Improving the Maternal and Child Health Graphical for Low-And-Middle Income Countries Profiles

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Professor A. Blanton Godfrey is the Joseph D. Moore Distinguished University Professor of Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management in the Wilson College of Textiles. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, the American Society of Quality, the World Academy of Productivity Sciences, the Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce and an elected member of the New York Academy of Science. Professor Godfrey is the recipient of the C. Jackson Grayson Distinguished Quality Pioneer Medal, the Feigenbaum Lifetime Achievement Medal, and is an Honorary Member of the American Society for Quality. He has a B.S. in Physics from Virginia Tech and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Mathematical Statistics from Florida State University.

He is the co-author of eight books and over 30 book chapters and has published over 200 papers. Prior to joining NC State University as Dean of the College of Textiles, Dr. Godfrey was Chairman and CEO of Juran Institute, a quality management consulting company working in over 60 countries. He joined Juran Institute after fourteen years at Bell Telephone Laboratories where he was Head of the Quality Theory and Technology Department. He taught graduate courses at Columbia University for nineteen years as an adjunct professor in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research and was a visiting lecturer in clinical quality at Harvard University for four summer courses. In 1987 he co-founded the National Demonstration Project for Quality Improvement in Healthcare that later became the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, an organization that he has been associated with for over 30 years serving as a member and as chair of the board.

Improving the Maternal and Child Health Graphical for Low-And-Middle Income Countries Profiles

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ABSTRACT (NO MORE THAN 500 WORDS:)

The Countdown RMNCAH (Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health) country profiles (countdown2030.org/landing_page) present the latest evidence to assess country progress in improving women's, children's, and adolescents' health. These profiles are designed to support the United Nations Strategic Development goals for 2030. Specifically, these profiles support SDG 3 on maternal, child and adolescent health. They are designed for countries and their partners to use for making decisions on where to allocate technical and financial resources. We have helped develop countdown profiles for all low-and-middle income countries (LMICs) developing the graphical presentation for the 103 maternal and child health indicators.

The information on the profiles includes demographics, mortality, nutritional status, coverage of evidence-based interventions, socioeconomic equity in intervention coverage, coverage of environmental services, and information on health policies, systems, and financing. This information is presented through different types of visualizations such as bar and line charts, maps, ladder charts, equiplots, tables, and text boxes.

The database and graphical visualizations have enabled us to expand our research into specific areas of reducing maternal, child and adolescent mortality. Research teams are focused on reducing mortality from poor water quality, mosquito borne malaria, upper respiratory infections, and poor nutrition. The teams are identifying best practices in countries with exceptional results over the past twenty years and identifying other countries where these best practices could be applied to achieve similar results.

This research is helping create the structure (data and analytic tools) that public health institutions will be able to use to increase the effectiveness of their work. The outcomes from this work will inform the Countdown to 2030 teams on how to improve the utility of the back-end databases for driving decision making and to clarify the strengths and limitations of the databases and graphical visualizations.