# Data and information for action and accountability

Professor Tanya Doherty
South African Medical Research Council







#### Monitoring child health and wellbeing in the SDG era

- More comprehensive view of health and development
- Data needs for children are larger: including education and protection indicators
- Reporting requires collation of diverse data sources beyond the health system and multiple levels of disaggregation



13 CLIMATE ACTION











15 LIFE ON LAND



4 QUALITY EDUCATION















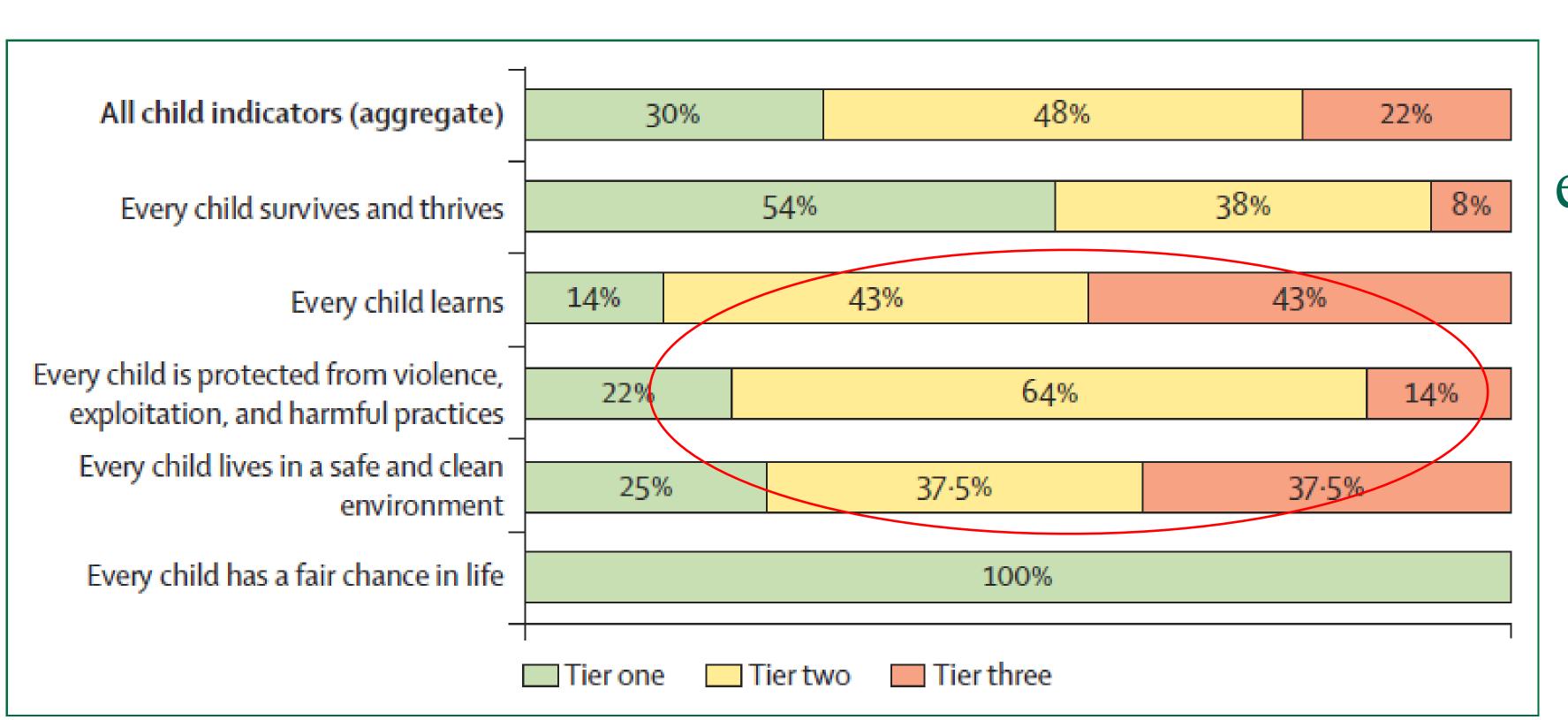
### Understanding SDG monitoring for children

- Review of indicators and meta data from the UN Statistical Commission, UNICEF and other SDG databases.
- Understand gaps in information on 47 child-related SDG indicators
- Categorized countries according to data availability on child-related SDG indicators (reporting since 2015)

#### Unicef classification of child related indicators



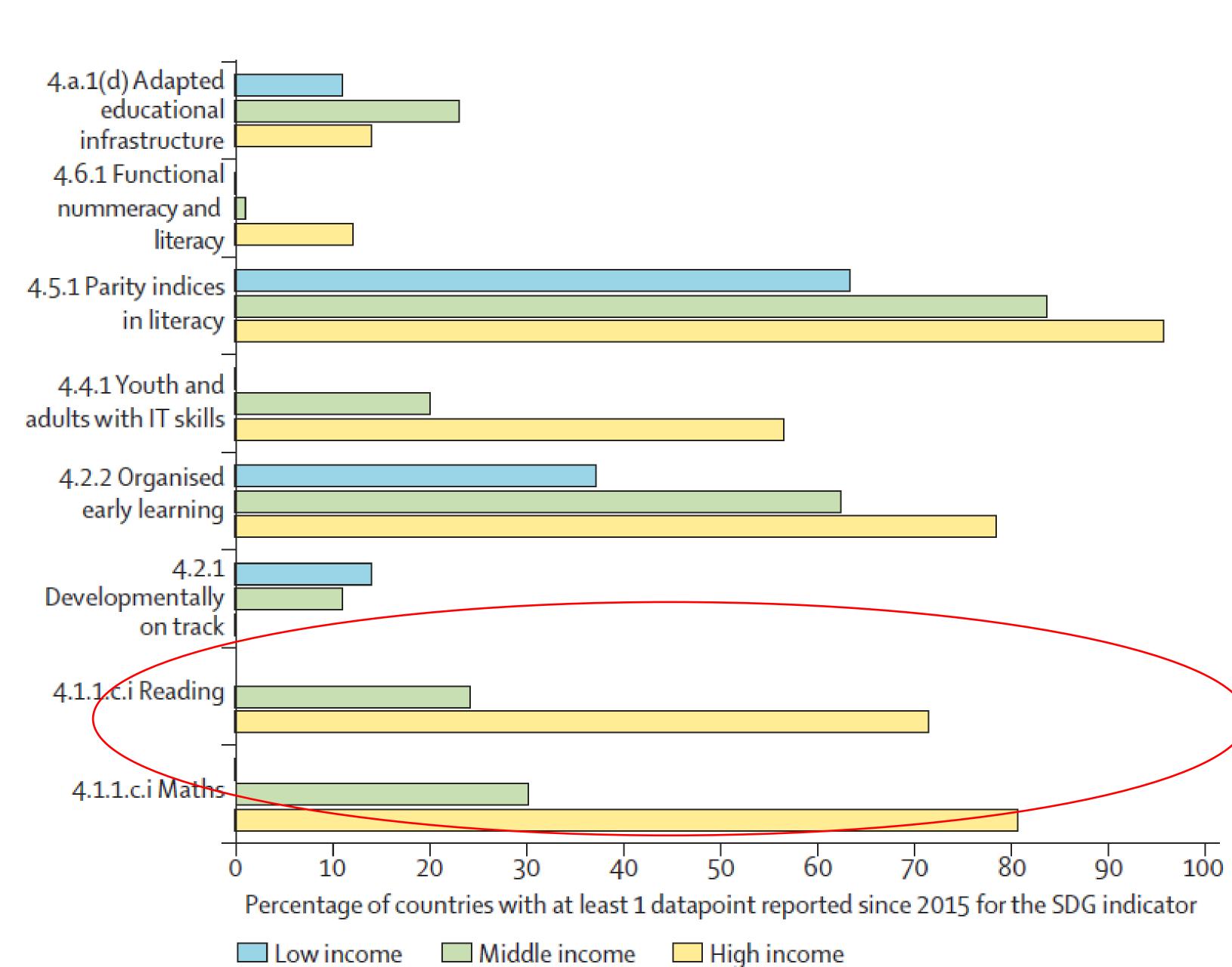
### SDG indicators relevant to children

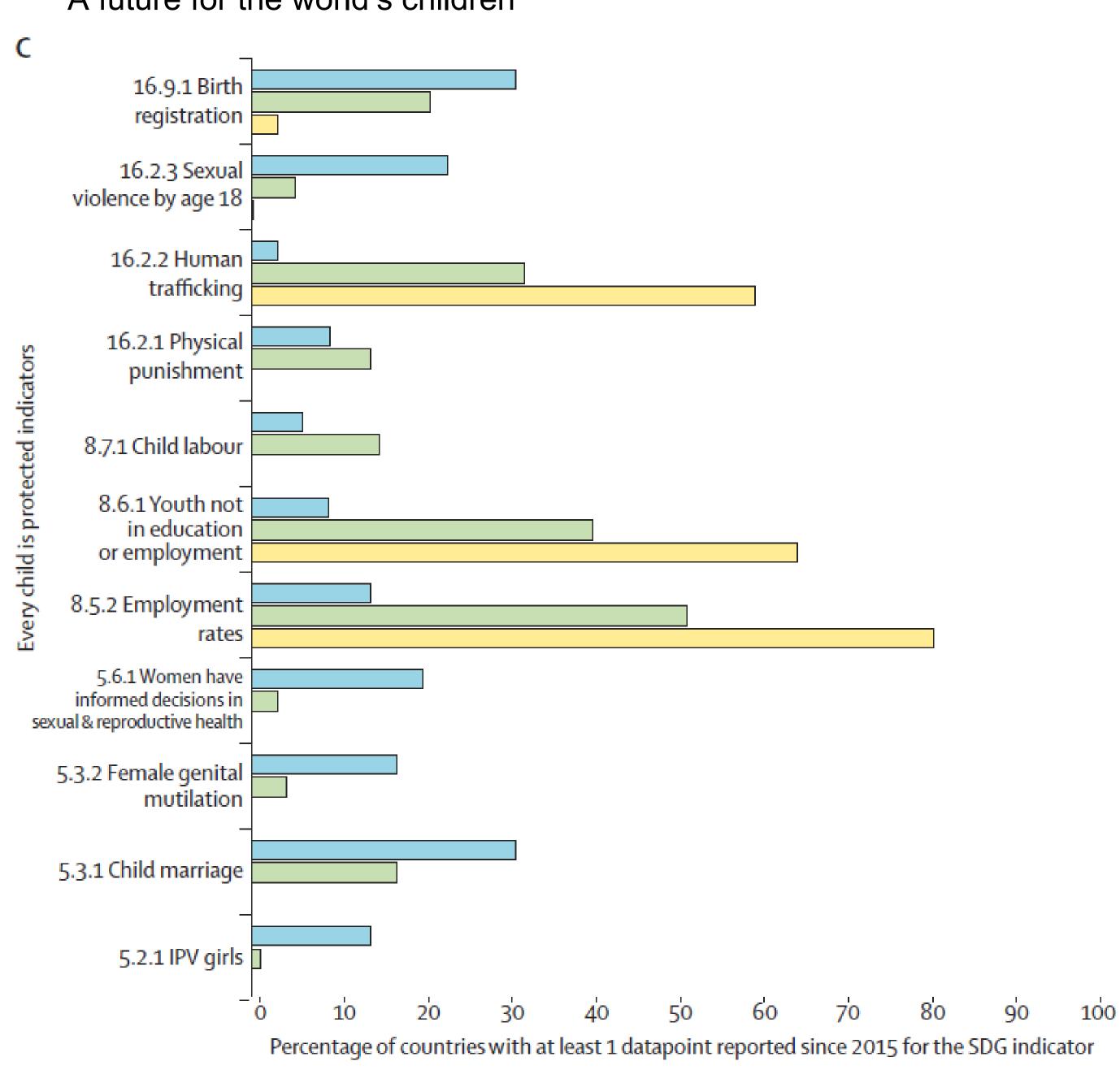


Majority of child-related indicators either not regularly produced by most countries or no established methodology for collection



В





High income

Low income Middle income

### Child protection

Not a single indicator that more than half of LMICs have produced data for since 2015



- 70% of child-related indicators sourced from national household surveys
- Issues of timeliness, data availability
- 6% of indicators use data from routine country information sources
- Many indicators not suited to collection through routine systems (e.g. intimate partner violence, child poverty)
- Lack of capacity and poorly functioning routine information systems in the most vulnerable settings





#### Levels of information collection and utilization

#### Tools and mechanisms for collecting and Type of information collected monitoring data UN databases Country reports based on existing available Global secondary data sources Countdown to 2030 and Global Strategy Modelled estimates SDGs Strategic goals Impact indicators Periodic household or special surveys, with Household survey data National subnational district or regional IPV and abuse National strategies and disaggregation Child nutrition and feeding budgetary allocations Mortality data Census CRVS Poverty data Subnational Routine information systems (eg, DHIS2) Environment and transport Routine health services District and council routine reporting Operational plans, implementation guidelines, and CRVS Social welfare systems Service availability mapping monitoring Operational decisions Process indicators Household level CHW data and community Early organised learning Population and schools with access to WASH mapping Community Youth reporting Health facility stock outs of essential Public mobilisation, mechanisms of accountability, medicines Citizen report cards and CBM Civil society group advocacy and citizen action





# How to ensure that lack of data doesn't lead to lack of action by 2030

- Recognizing that progress on many of the SDGs for children requires transformational change at the level of households and communities
- Rights-based approach to data and information is required, that places citizens at the center of monitoring efforts
- Covid-19 has increased the urgency for monitoring and reporting approaches. Currently DHS data collection activities in 13 low income countries are paused due to the pandemic.





## How to ensure that lack of data doesn't lead to lack of action by 2030

- Case studies of large-scale initiatives (community-based monitoring in Maharashtra, UNICEF U-Report)
- Potential in social media and mobile communication for youth monitoring and reporting

POLL RESULTS			
JUN 11. 2018			
What are the key environmental problem 876 responded out of 8,676 polled	s in your communi	ity?	
STATISTICS LOCATI	ONS GENDER	AGE	
HABITAT LOSS			12%
POLLUTED AND/OR LACK OF WATER			11%
CHEMICALS AND NUCLEAR IMPACT			9%
POLLUTED AIR			32%
EXTREME AND UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER			20%
GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS GMO			17%





#### Conclusion

- Scarce data about the situation of children constrain efforts to achieve the SDGs.
- Investment in and strengthening of global health metrics initiatives has not been matched with similar investments in national information systems and capacities.
- Vast data gaps necessitate different approaches to ensure continued progress