SDG Indicator 3.8.1. Coverage of essential health services

An updated method for the essential health services coverage index

Custodian agency: WHO | Current Tier: I | Improved Method, Tier: I

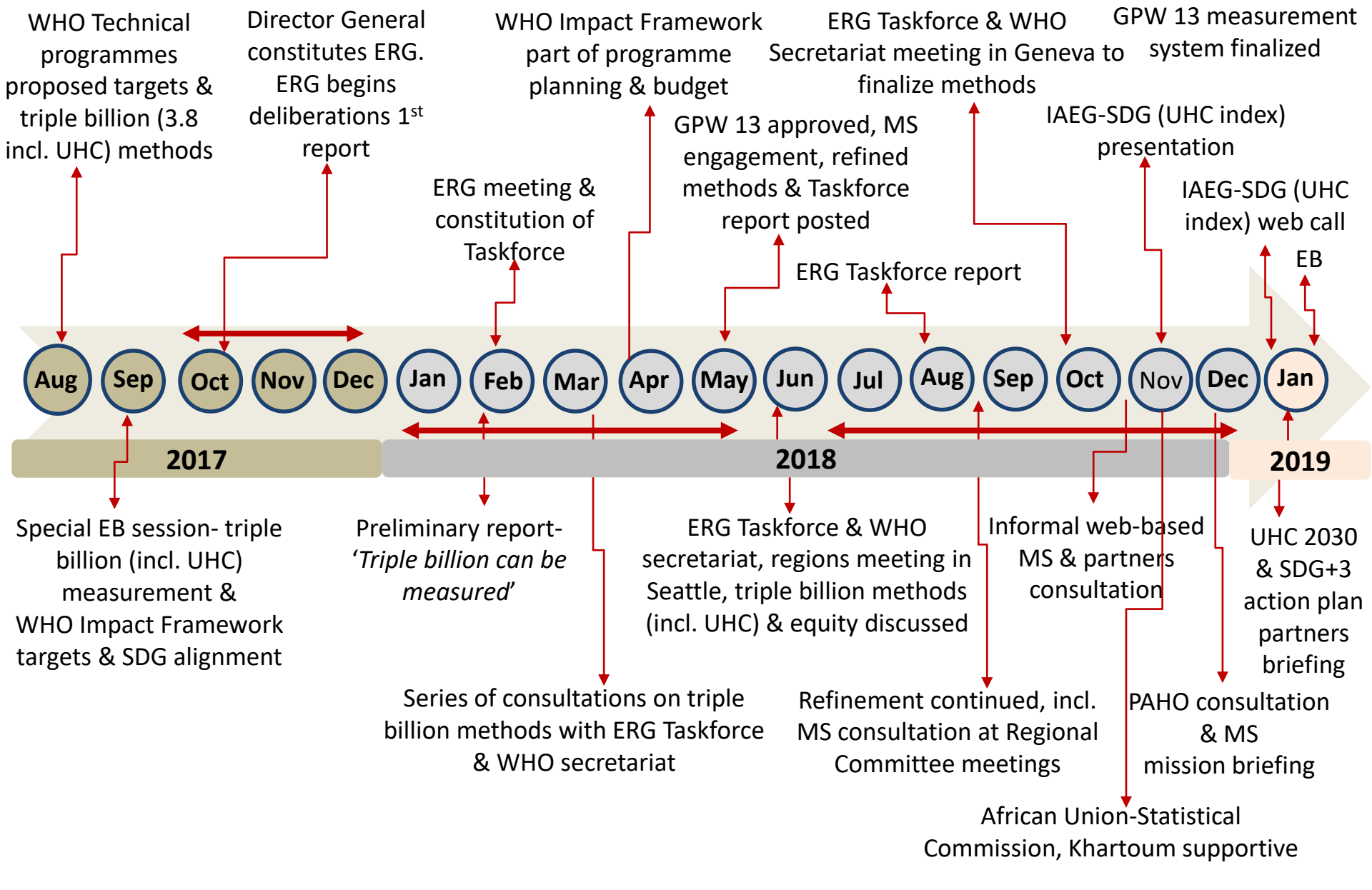
17 January 2019

World Health Organization

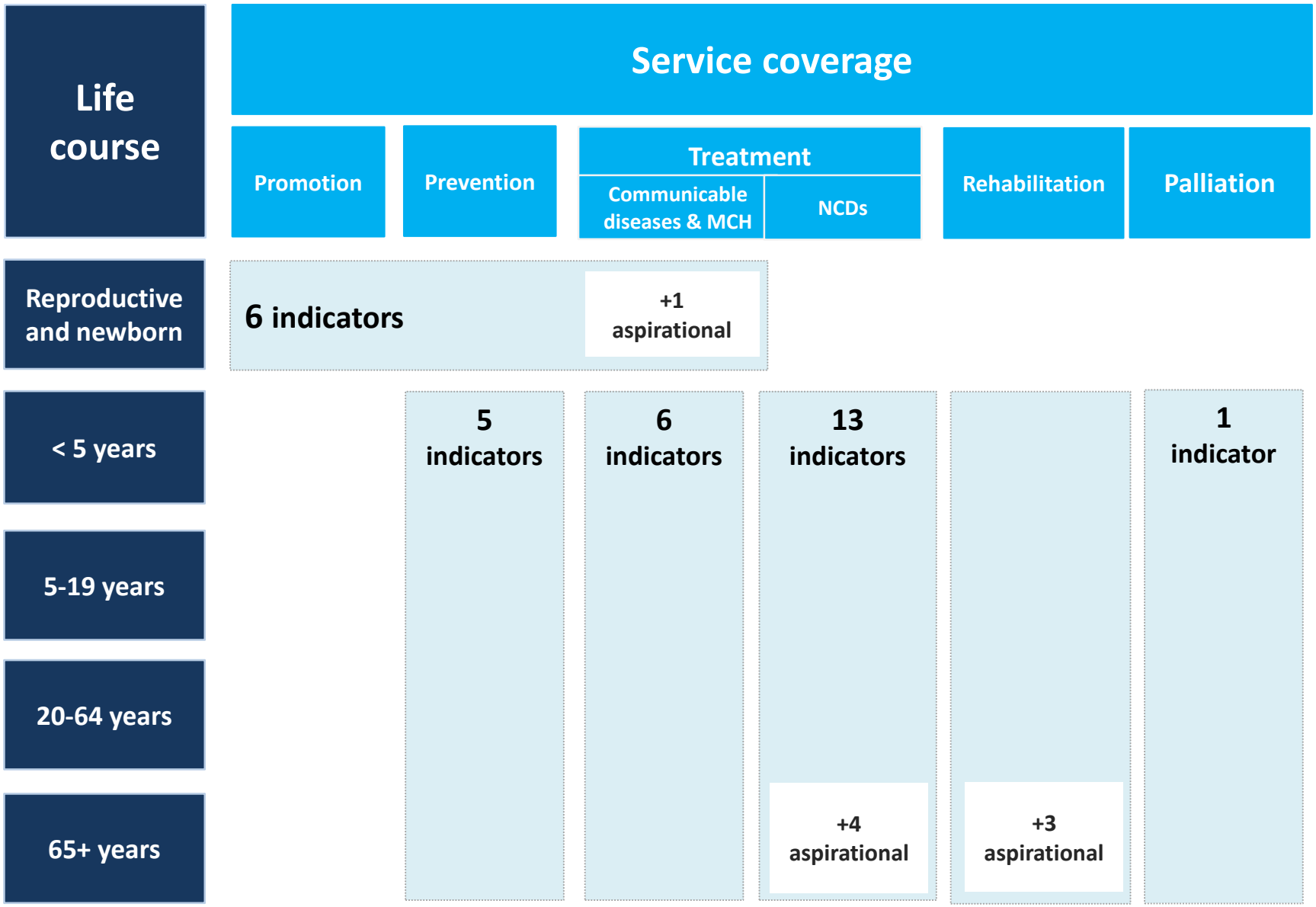
Why use the updated index instead of the earlier one?

- **More valid methodology** follows international standards – satisfies tier 2 criteria (for SDG3.8.1)
  - Better alignment to SDG 3.8: measures **effective** coverage (face validity)
  - Better measurement framework: promotion to palliation across life course (content validity)
  - Better accuracy: 15/16 vs 8/16 known pairs of countries correctly identified (construct validity)
- **Sufficient data availability** for global SDG reporting – satisfies tier 1 criteria (for SDG3.8.1)
- **More useful to countries** to achieve SDG 3.8 by 2030

Extensive consultative process



Framework (31 indicators)

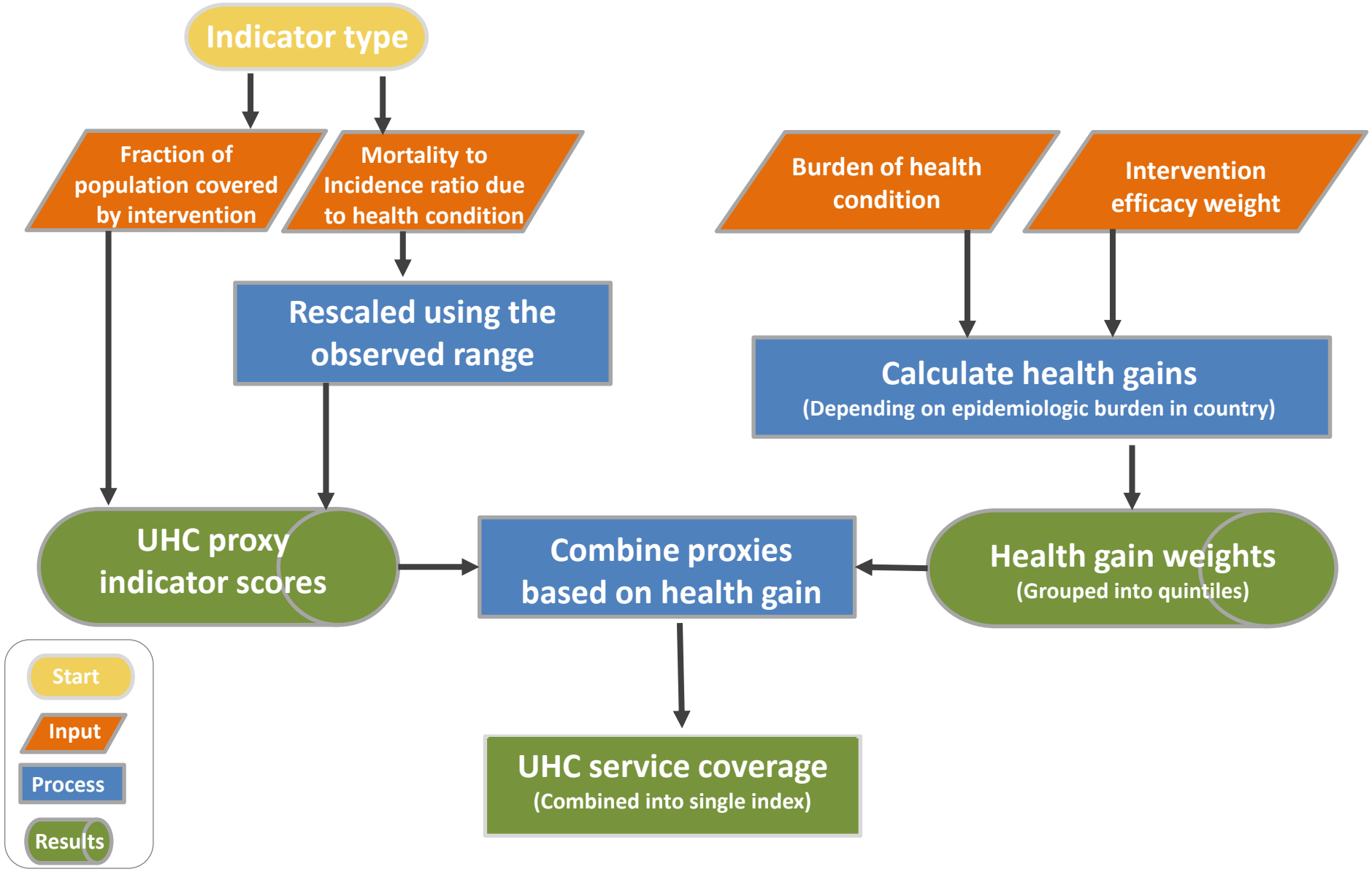


Data flow

- Input data collected from countries' original sources, UN system databases, publicly available databases
- Checked for accuracy, data quality, and validation in compliance with Guidelines for Accurate and Transparent Health Estimates Reporting (GATHER)
- Preliminary country estimates generated for individual tracer indicators
- Indicators combined into an overall index
- Country consultation and validation of the draft estimates
- Country feedback incorporated for final estimates

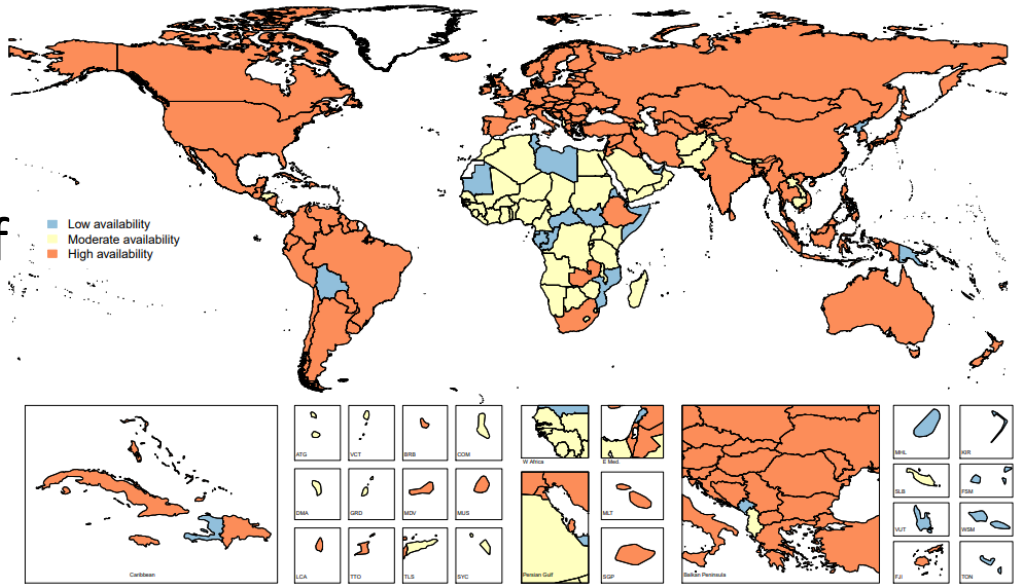
WHO is aligned with IAEG-SDGs dataflow workgroup guidelines

Estimation process



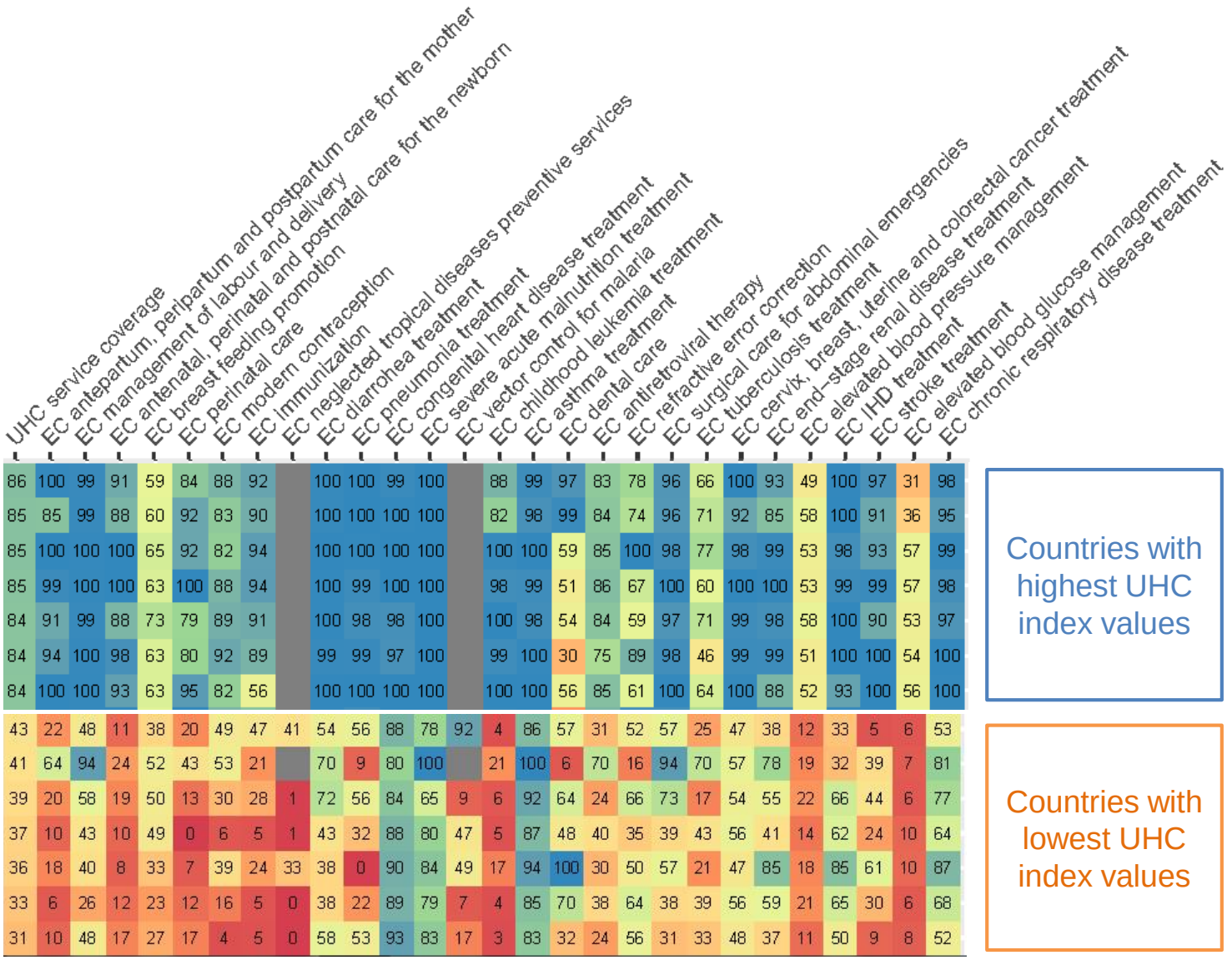
Data availability

- 21 of 31 indicators associated with Tier 1 indicators
- 25 of 31 meet Tier 1 criteria have data from at least 50% of countries and 50% population
- 6 of 31 have data from 50% of the world population



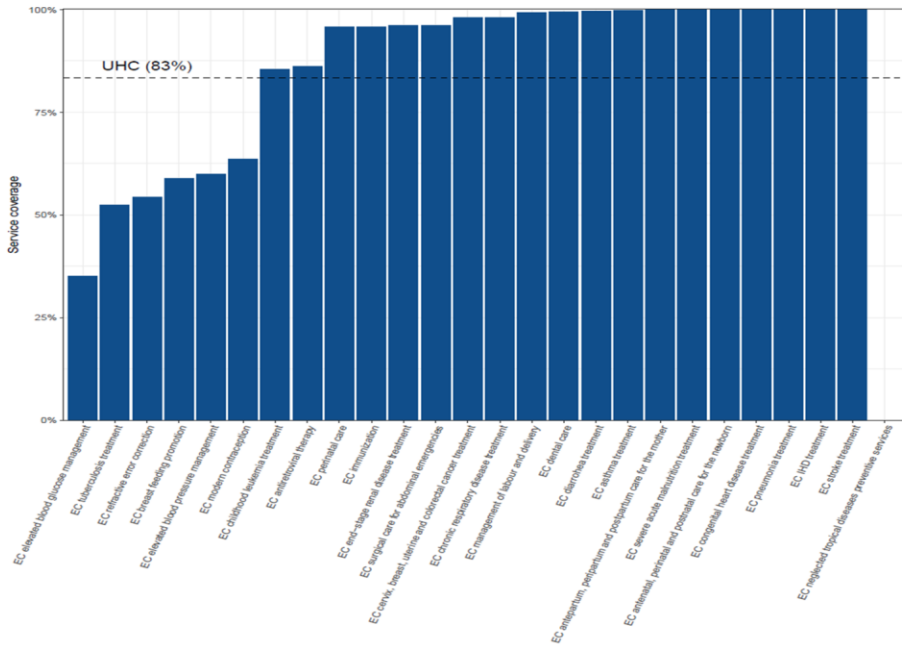
WHO is ready to report on SDG 3.8.1 using updated method

Updated UHC index more useful for countries

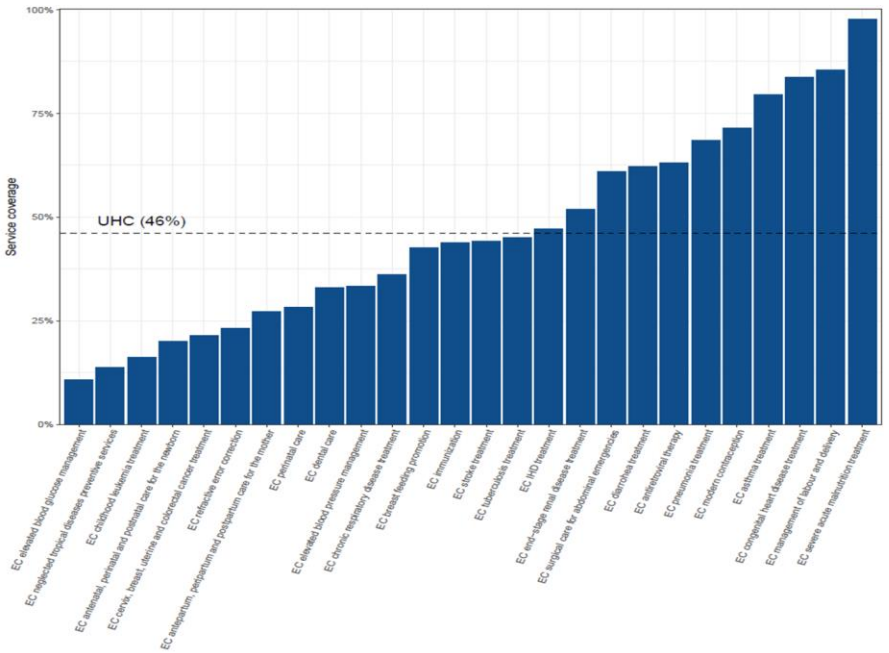


Updated UHC index differentiates between countries

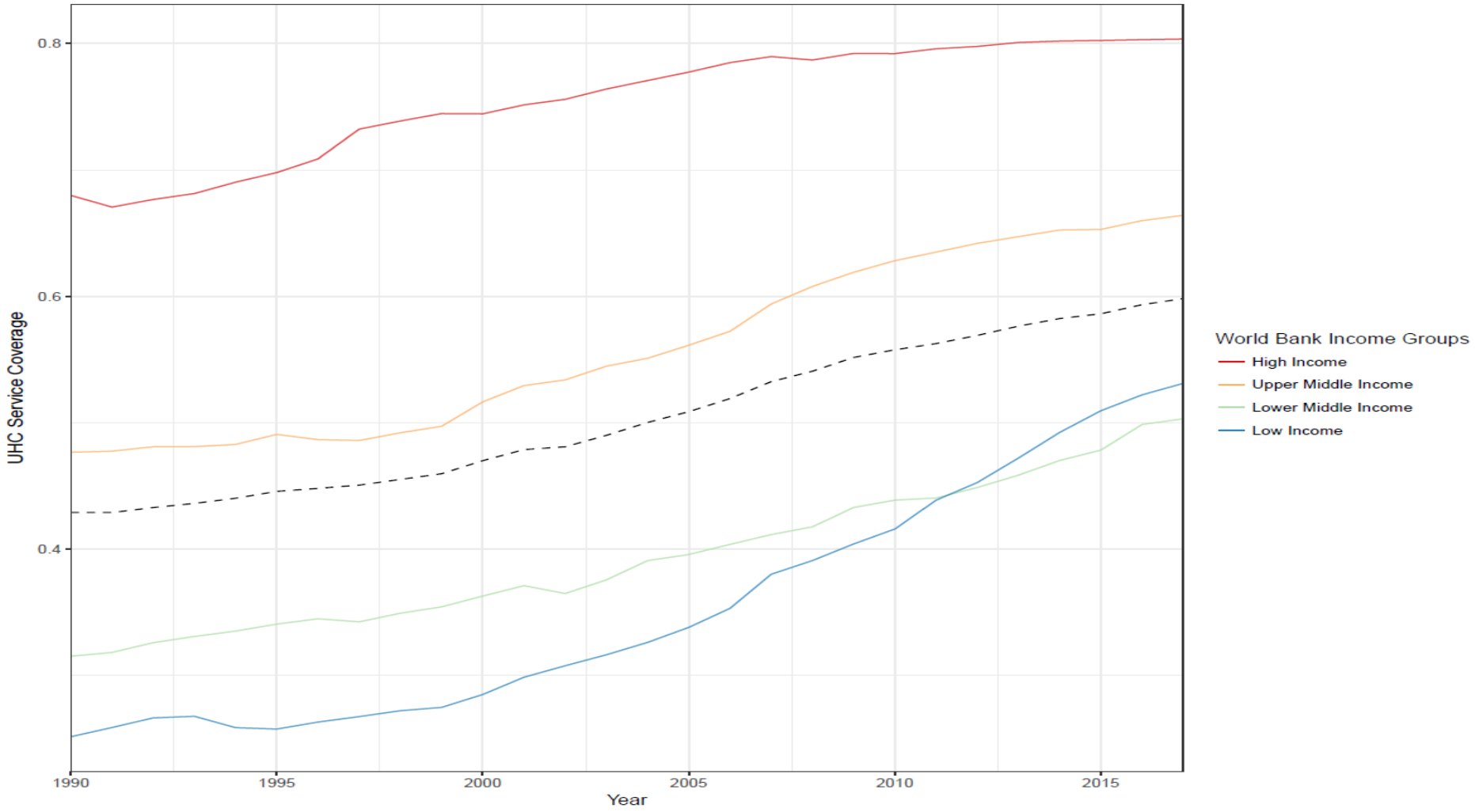
High income



Middle income



Updated UHC service coverage index is sensitive to change



Countries can measure the updated index

- WHO in collaboration with NSOs, MoH and stakeholders, UN partners, technical expert groups will strengthen capacity to generate, analyze and use data to report on health and health-related SDGs

- WHO will provide transparent data trails and methods

- WHO will provide technical support to countries as needed:
  - —Tools for calculation
  - —Adaptation to country needs

Backup slides

SDG target and indicator

- **Target 3.8:** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

- **Indicator 3.8.1:** Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population).

Source: A/RES/71/313 Official list of global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Online Member State consultation process

(26 October – 16 November, 2018)

46 Member States responded with comments

40+ Member States agreed with:

- HALE as an appropriate overarching indicator
- 3 indices to measure the triple billion targets
- 46 programmatic targets to drive country performance

Method of calculation

- Potential health gain associated with an intervention can be quantified as the total related burden in the absence of the intervention, subtracting the portion that is unavertable due to inefficacy:

$$maximum\ burden_{ctpi} = \frac{DALY_{ctpi}}{1 - coverage_{ctpi} * efficacy_{pi}}$$

$$minimum\ burden_{ctpi} = maximum\ burden_{ctpi} * (1 - efficacy_{pi})$$

$$health\ gain_{ctpi} = maximum\ burden_{ctpi} - minimum\ burden_{ctpi}$$

Method of calculation

- Once an estimate is produced for health gain associated with UHC service coverage proxy, it is combined to create a summary measure:

$$health\ gain\ fraction_{ctpi} = \frac{health\ gain_{ctpi}}{\sum_{pi} health\ gain_{ctpi}}$$

$$health\ gain\ weight_{qct} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{pi=1}^{n} health\ gain\ fraction_{ctpiq}$$

$$UHC\ service\ coverage_{ct} = \sum_{pi}\left(coverage_{ctpi} * health\ gain\ weight_{qct}\right)$$

Each proxy indicator that is not in coverage units* is rescaled as follows:

$$rescaled\ indicator = \frac{indicator - 2.5th\ percentile}{97.5th\ percentile - 2.5th\ percentile}$$

* i.e., MMR, MIRs, etc.