The Ottawa and Bangkok Charters: from principles to action
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Investing in Child Health and Development: Medium Term Strategic Plan, 2006-2009

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For every child
Health, Education, Equality, Protection
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The emerging context

- Significant advances for children in recent years

  But at the same time –

- Globalization of child health and development

- Increasing recognition of socio-economic and political factors

- Reconfiguration of global action for children

The Millennium Development Goals and Children

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme Poverty and Hunger

Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality/ empower women

Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality

Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases

Goal 7: Ensure Environmental sustainability

Goal 8: Partnerships for Development

Millennium Declaration (esp. Section VI - Child Protection)

Human rights approach

- Convention on the Rights of the Child as the principal reference
- The whole child: indivisibility of rights
- Life cycle: needs and evolving capacities of the child
- Nondiscrimination - all children, all populations;
- Concentrate on marginalized children and families in poverty
- Children in all situations - emergencies and post-conflict
- Support families' capacity to exercise their responsibilities for children
- All society's actions to be in the best interest of the child
- Support by governments: continuous progress, to the "maximum extent of available resources" (CRC Article 4)
- Promote children's participation and involvement

Focus Areas, 2006-2009

1. Young Child Survival and Development
2. Basic Education and Gender Equality
3. HIV/AIDS and Children
4. Child Protection : Preventing and responding to Violence, Exploitation & Abuse
5. Policy Advocacy and Partnerships for Children's Rights

Young Child Survival and Development

Key result areas:

1. Improved family and community care practices that impact on young child survival, growth and development
2. Increased access to, and use of, safe drinking water and basic sanitation
3. In declared emergencies, every child is covered with life-saving interventions

Key interventions for young child S & D

- Further scaling up and acceleration for Immunization services including polio eradication;
- Malaria prevention and control;
- Support for scaling up high-impact child survival intervention packages including diarrhoeal diseases control, pneumonia treatment and ARI control, Vitamin A prophylaxis, anaemia treatment and control etc.;
- Ante-natal care of pregnant women and neonatal care of the newborn;
- Breastfeeding promotion, growth promotion and monitoring and fortification of foods for ending micronutrient deficiencies;
- Essential drugs in primary health care for improving access and care to vulnerable and marginalized children;
- Guineaworm eradication, improving access to sanitation and water supply and hygiene improvement;
- Universal coverage of life-saving interventions for children in emergencies

Basic Education and Gender Equality

Key result areas:

1. Improve children's developmental readiness to start primary school on time, especially for marginalized children
2. Reduce gender and other disparities in relation to increased access, participation and completion of quality basic education
3. Improve educational quality and increase school retention, completion and achievement rates
4. Restore education in emergencies and post-conflict situations, and help safeguard education system against the HIV/AIDS pandemic

HIV/AIDS and Children

Key result areas:

1. Reduce the number of paediatric HIV infections; increase the proportion of HIV-positive women receiving ARVs; increase the proportion of children receiving treatment for HIV/AIDS; (4 targets)
2. Increased proportion of children orphaned and made vulnerable *by HIV/AIDS* receiving quality family, community and government support; (1)
3. Reduce adolescent risks and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS by increased access to and use of gender-sensitive prevention information, skills and services (4).

Child Protection from violence, exploitation and abuse

Key result areas:

1. Government decisions are influenced by increased awareness of child protection rights and improved data and analysis on child protection
2. Ensure effective legislative and enforcement systems and improved protection and response capacity to protect children from violence, exploitation and abuse, including exploitative child labour
3. Better protection of children from the impact of armed conflict and natural disasters
4. Children are better served by justice systems which ensure greater protection for them as victims, witnesses and offenders
5. Children and families identified as vulnerable are reached by key community and government services aimed at reducing their marginalization

Policy Advocacy and Partnerships for Children's rights

Key result areas:

1. Collect and analyze strategic information on the situation of children and women
2. Research and policy analysis on children and women
3. Policy advocacy, dialogue and leveraging
4. Enhanced participation by children and young people

Cross-cutting strategies

- A human rights based approach to cooperation
- Results based management – planning and reporting by objectives, including strengthened evaluation
- Generation and use of knowledge, including good practices and lessons learned
- Working through partnerships for children – at the national level; in international action, and with civil society
- Mainstreaming of emergency preparedness and response
- Support to the identification and procurement of essential supplies for children, to meet needs and strengthen national capacity

UNICEF Joint Health and Nutrition Strategy for 2006-2015

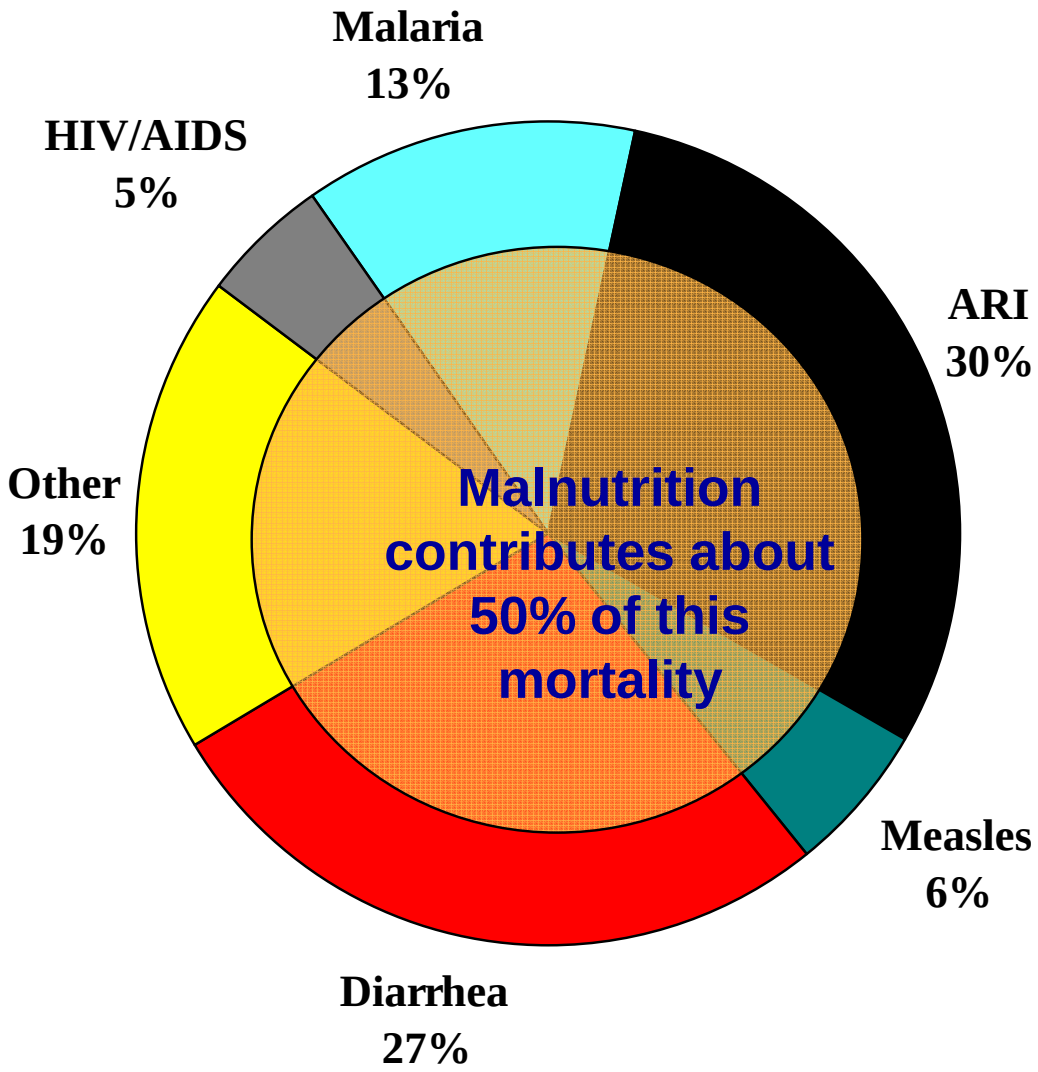
"The joint health and nutrition strategy defines the UNICEF contribution to national efforts to accelerate health and nutrition action to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015."

Key elements of the strategy

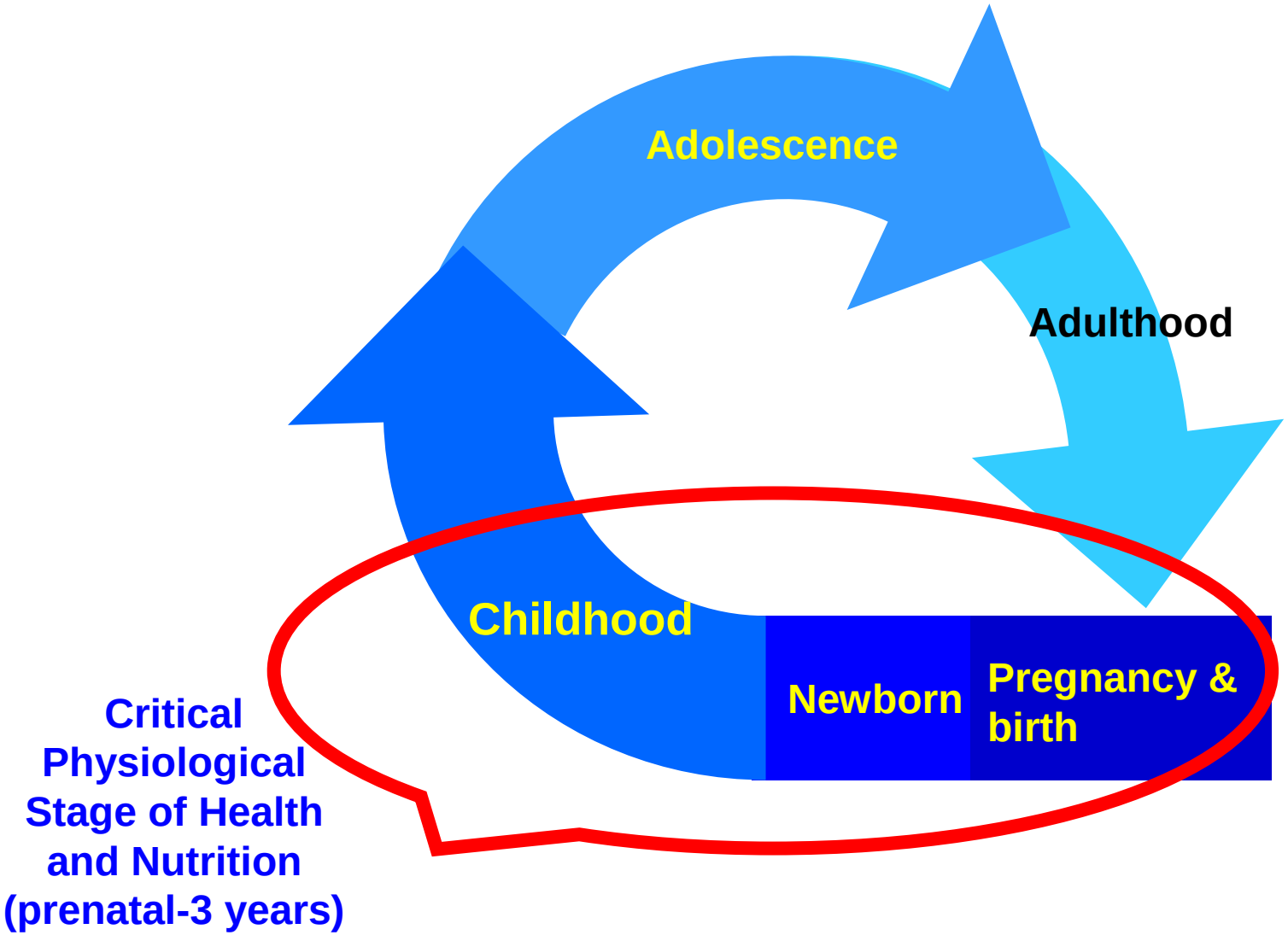
- Action focus on accelerated implementation of **outcome-oriented health systems and nutrition services**
- **Maternal health** is closely linked to child survival and development
- Efforts are highlighted for **youth-friendly health services and HIV prevention**
- Addressing **gender inequities** as key to sustained improvements in children's and women's health.
- Strengthening **coordinated action for children and women** at the national, subnational and community/ family levels.

Why a combined H&N strategy?

Deaths among children aged 28 days to five years



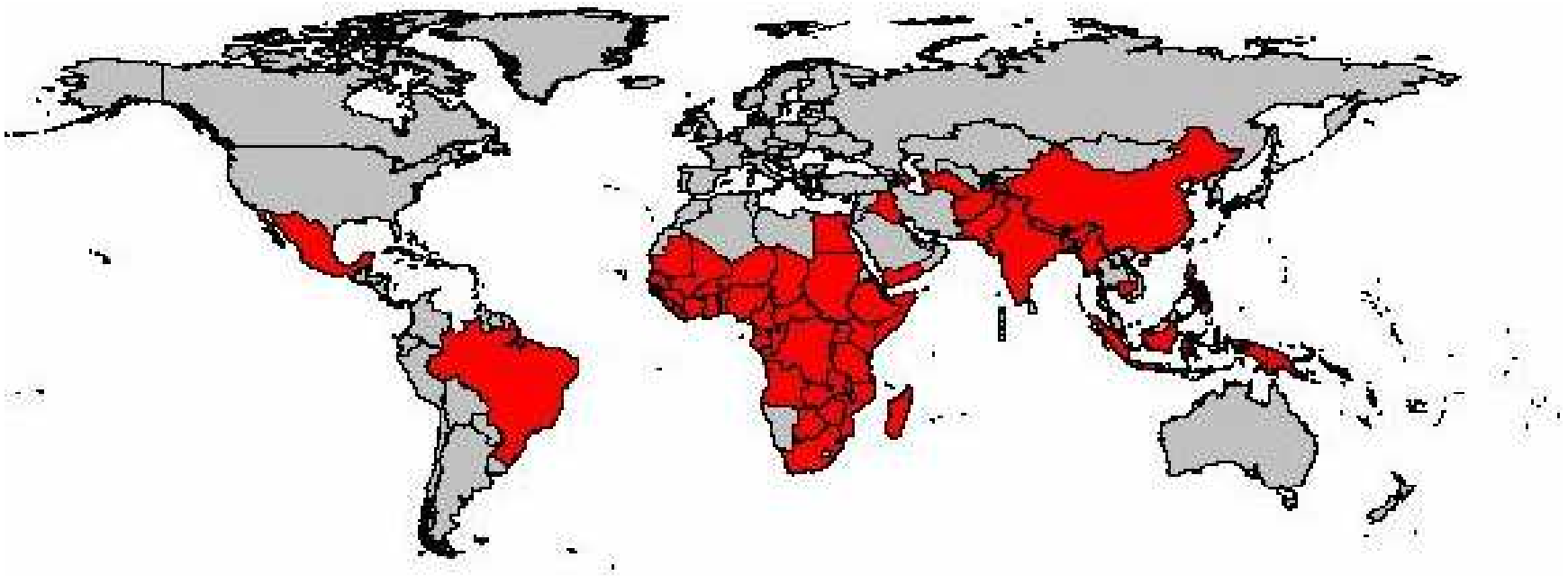
Selecting evidence-based interventions and operational strategies using a life-cycle approach



Addressing three groups of countries:

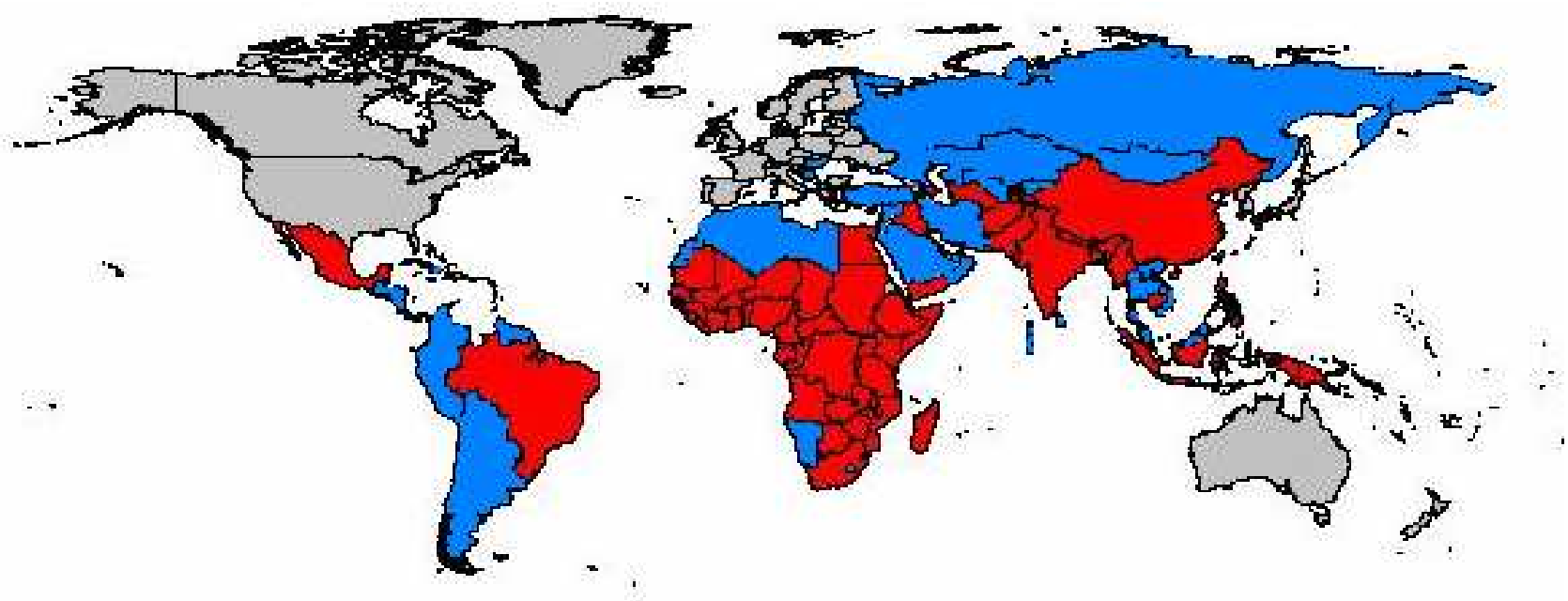
First group : 60 countries with high maternal and child mortality rates and deaths

- Large scale, system-enhancing, acceleration of H/N interventions
- Leverage MDG-friendly policies, plans and budgets
- Monitor progress towards MDG 4 and 5



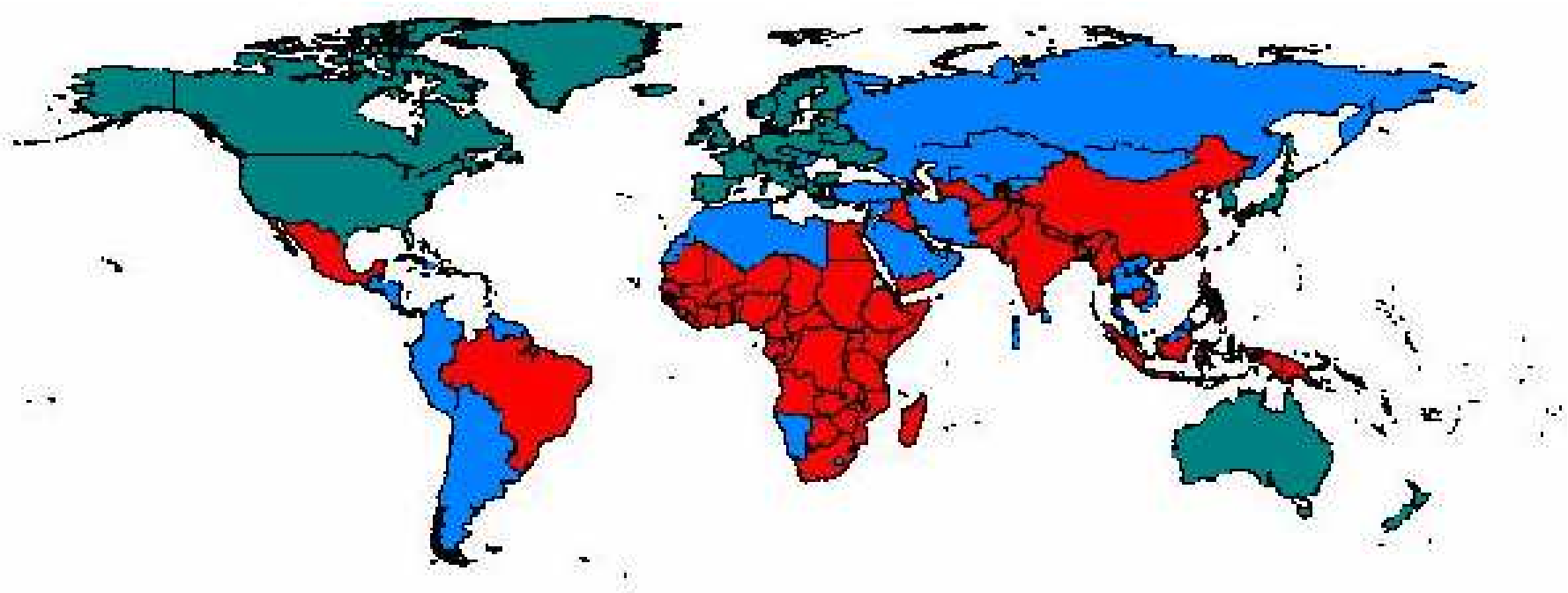
Second group : other programme countries

- Leverage MDG-friendly policies, plans and budgets
- Monitoring of progress towards MDG 4 and 5, with particular focus on disparities

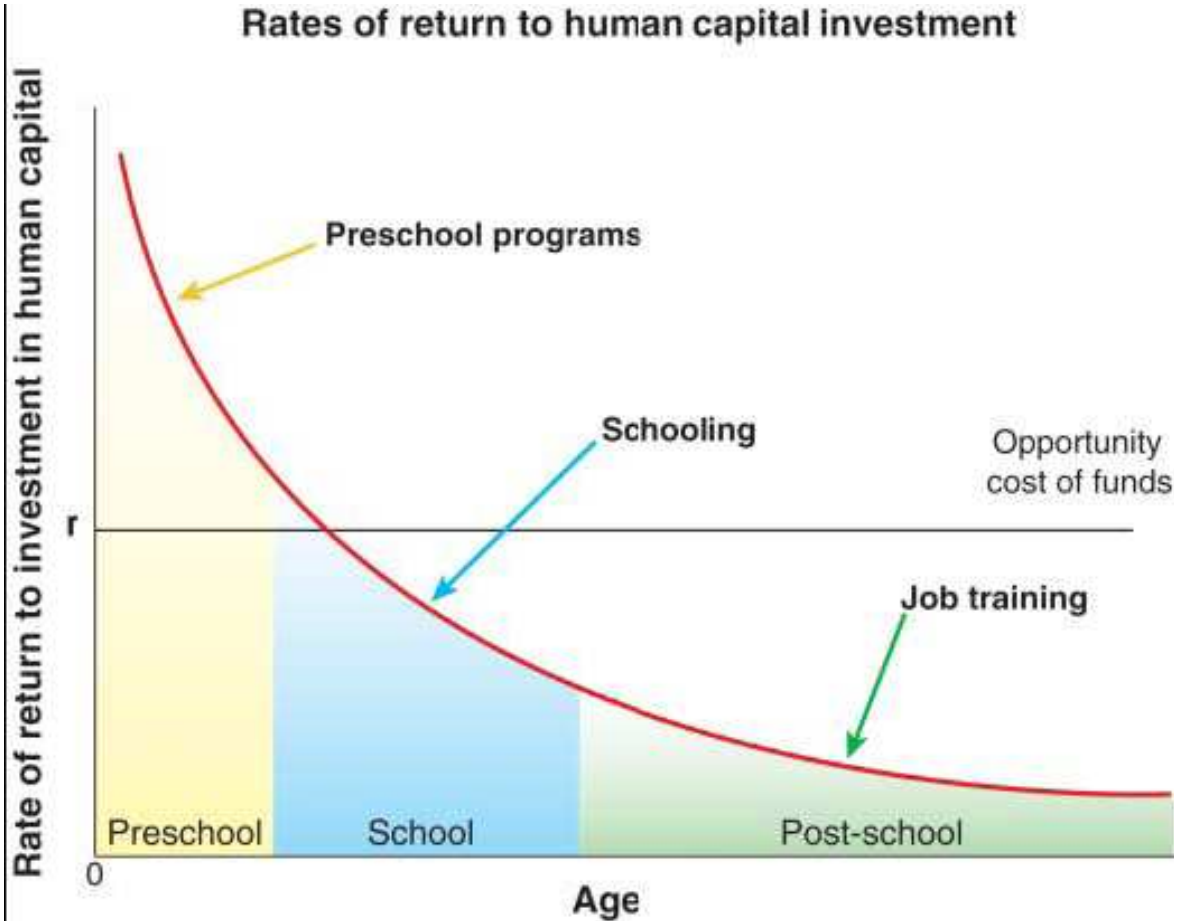


Third group : non programme countries

- **Evidence-based advocacy (increased North-South solidarity, donor harmonization, innovative financing mechanisms, development of public/private partnerships, research)**



The importance of early intervention



Source: Heckman, J. “Skill Formation and the Economics of Investing in Disadvantaged Children”, Science Vol. 312, 30 June 2006 (www.sciencemag.org)

Grazie!

Thank you !

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