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**Frontline Health Workers Coalition's Feedback on Draft Indicators to the Sustainable Development Goals
August 2015**

For 3.8

Target: 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

Feedback:

A crucial piece of achieving universal health coverage is achieving universal access to health services, the lack of adequate personnel standing as a major barrier in much of the world. The Frontline Health Workers Coalition strongly urges an indicator measuring access to health services:

Consultations with a certified or licensed provider in a health facility or in the community, per person, per year.

We also recommend this indicator for 3.C, as it has cross-cutting value. Our reasoning is contained in the comment for 3.C.

For 3.C

Target: Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States

Feedback:

The proposed indicator (ratio of skilled health workers/population) should be kept as a secondary indicator for 3.8 and 3.C, but it is not the best measure of "distribution" of health workers. The Frontline Health Workers Coalition believes the SDSN Indicator & Monitoring Framework Indicator 26 (pg. 130) better captures improved access to essential health services, the intention of Goal 3.C:

Consultations with a certified or licensed provider in a health facility or in the community, per person, per year.

The indicator is also recommended for 3.8, as it has cross-cutting value. It captures:



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- 1) Consultations with any licensed health worker. Data collected under the workers/population ratio only captures doctors, nurses & midwives, excluding cadres such as community health workers that provide substantial health services.
- 2) Measurement of access to health workers. Frequency of visits to health workers is important in determining whether citizens have consistent access to a health workforce.