

# MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION

Global Learning and Evidence Exchange  
Washington, DC



## Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy 2014-2025

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# Session Objectives

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- Demonstrate an understanding of the background and rationale of the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy
- Explain the Strategy's significance to USAID and country partners
- Discuss the vision and key components of the Strategy

# Purpose of the Strategy



To guide the Agency's policies and programs for nutrition in both emergency and development contexts with the goal of improving nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity and advance development.



# Rationale for the Strategy



- Evidence (The Lancet 2013) shows that nutrition impacts every aspect of human development.
- Investing in nutrition is fundamental to achieving USAID's development goals.
- USG is committed to supporting the World Health Assembly 2025 Nutrition targets, including 40 percent reduction in stunting.

# Malnutrition



- Malnutrition is comprised of:
  - **Under-nutrition:** stunting, underweight, acute malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies
  - **Over-nutrition:** overweight and obesity
- Under-nutrition contributes to 45 percent of under-five child deaths (Black, 2013).
- In 2014 approximately 159 million children under five were stunted (measured by height for age) -- about one in four children (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, 2015).

# Malnutrition is Costly



FAO estimates that the social and economic cost of malnutrition is US \$3.5 trillion (2013 data).

# Highest Burden of Stunting



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The Lancet, Maternal and Child Nutrition, June 2013

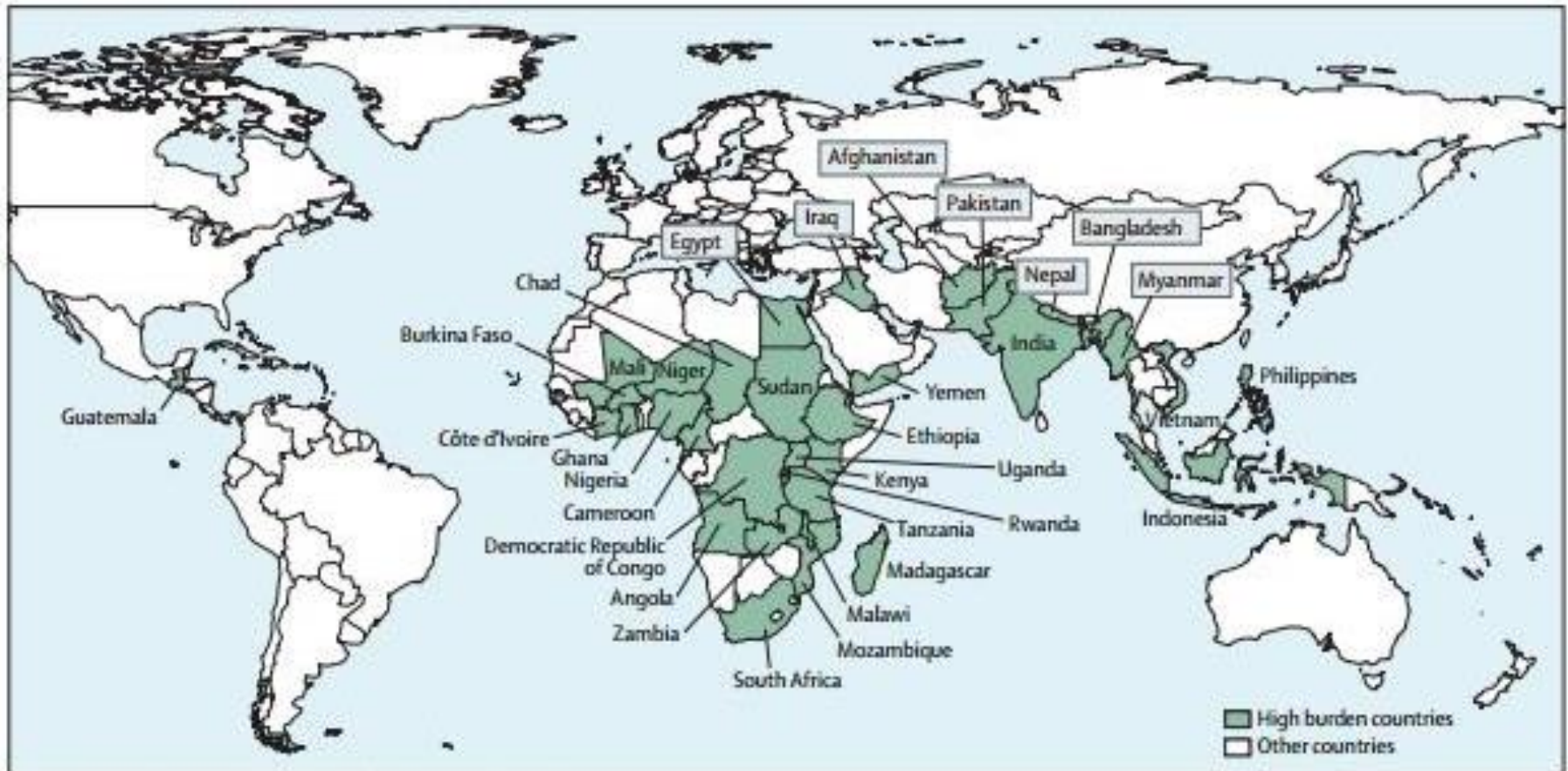


Figure 3: Countries with the highest burden of malnutrition  
These 34 countries account for 90% of the global burden of malnutrition.

# The Vision



Through Feed the Future, Global Health, and the Office of Food for Peace programs, resilience efforts and other nutrition investments, USAID aims to reduce chronic malnutrition measured by stunting by 20%.





# To Realize the Vision...



- Set and monitor nutrition targets
- Focus on evidenced-based high impact actions
- Manage funds and programs in a rigorous manner to achieve results

# Nutrition Targets

- Contribute to the reduction of child stunting by 20 percent wherever we work;
- In GH, FTF, and Food for Peace intervention areas, reduce the number of stunted children by 2 million over five years;
- In humanitarian crises, maintain Global Acute Malnutrition below 15 percent.



# 1000 Day Window of Opportunity



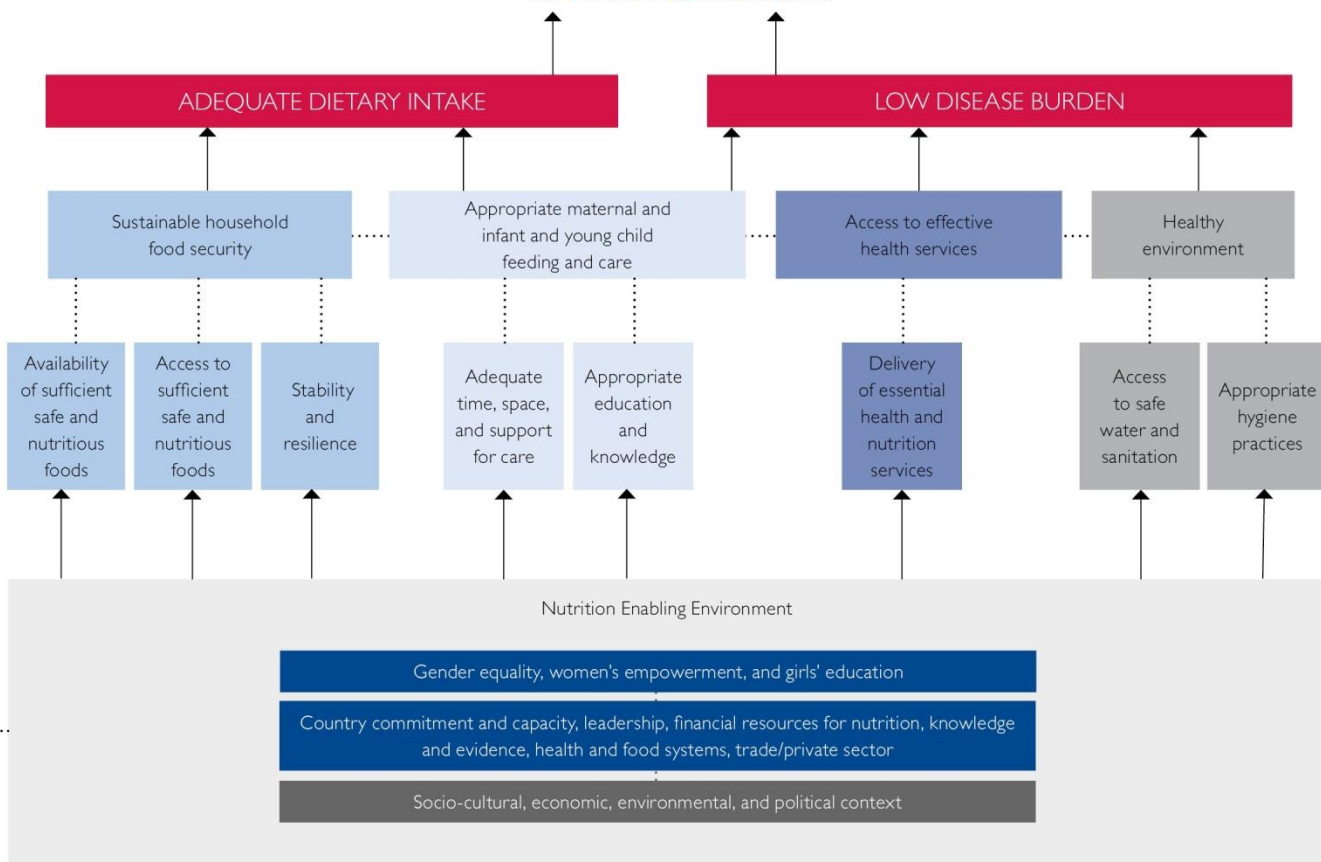
- Most critical time for positive impact on a child's cognitive and physical development
- Lays the foundation for health, development and prosperity for the next generation
- After this time, the negative impacts of poor nutrition may be irreversible

FIGURE 1: USAID MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Adapted from UNICEF, 2013<sup>15</sup> and Black et al., 2013<sup>2</sup>

- ▼ Morbidity & Mortality
- ▲ Adult Stature
- ▲ Cognitive, Motor, and Socio-Emotional Development
- ▼ Obesity
- ▲ School Performance and Learning Capacity
- ▲ Work Capacity/Productivity

→ OPTIMAL NUTRITION ←



ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

- Agriculture Production/Income Generation for Dietary Diversity
  - Food Processing
  - Postharvest Storage
  - Food Fortification
  - Targeted Livelihood Activities
  - Risk Mitigation Interventions
  - Social Protection and Safety Nets
  - Biofortification
- Early, Exclusive, and Continued Breastfeeding
  - Appropriate Complementary Feeding
  - Feeding During Illness
  - Dietary Diversity for Pregnant and Lactating Women and Children
  - Maternal Supplementation
  - Caregiver Support and Protection
  - Early Child Care and Development
- Treatment of Acute Malnutrition
  - Micronutrient Supplementation or Fortification
  - Nutrition Management of Diseases
  - Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Diseases
  - Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services
  - Deworming in Children
  - Nutrition Assessment and Counseling
- Safe Water Sources
  - Sanitation Facilities
  - Hand Washing with Soap
  - Clean Family Living Environment
  - Safe Food Handling
- Nutrition Advocacy
  - Nutrition Resources Mobilization
  - Multi-sectoral Coordination
  - Human Resources for Nutrition
  - Gender Sensitive Interventions
  - Accountable Policies that Enable Participation and Transparency
  - Systems: Quality Improvement/ Quality Assurance, Management, Financial, Logistics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Nutrition Surveillance

# USAID NUTRITION STRATEGY RESULTS FRAMEWORK GOAL

Improve nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity, and advance development

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Scale up effective, integrated nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions, programs, and systems across humanitarian and development contexts

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1

Increased equitable provision and utilization of high-quality nutrition services

- 1.1 Increased timely delivery of critical services before and during humanitarian crises
- 1.2 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-specific services and commodities
- 1.3 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-sensitive services and commodities
- 1.4 Improved social and behavior change strategies and approaches for both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2

Increased country capacity and commitment to nutrition

- 2.1 Increased professional and institutional capacity
- 2.2 Increased political will and resources for nutrition programs
- 2.3 Increased stakeholder engagement around national nutrition goals
- 2.4 Improved systems to plan, manage, and evaluate nutrition programs

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 3

Increased multi-sectoral programming and coordination for improved nutrition outcomes

- 3.1 Increased joint planning across humanitarian and development sectors
- 3.2 Strengthened coordinated multi-sectoral programming and planning among nutrition stakeholders within the U.S. Government and at the country level
- 3.3 Strengthened engagement with the private sector to improve nutrition

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4

Increased nutrition leadership

- 4.1 Improved global coordination among donors, international organizations, partner countries, and other stakeholders addressing nutrition
- 4.2 Strengthened and expanded nutrition evidence base
- 4.3 Increased generation of innovative practices and technologies
- 4.4 Increased application of evidence-based approaches and innovation, including use of technology

# Multi-Sectoral Approach



## **The determinants of malnutrition are multifaceted:**

- an individual's health status
- access to safe, nutritious and diverse foods
- water, sanitation and hygiene
- feeding and caring practices

## **Require a multi-sectoral approach:**

- agriculture
- health
- economic growth and livelihoods
- education
- humanitarian assistance

# High-Impact Interventions



## Nutrition-Specific Interventions:

- Improve infant and young child feeding
  - Immediate and exclusive breastfeeding
  - Appropriate complementary feeding
- Improve women's nutrition services during reproductive, antenatal and postpartum care
- Scale up micronutrient supplementation, including iodine, vitamin A, iron and folic acid
- Community management of acute malnutrition
- Prevention and management of infectious disease

## Nutrition-sensitive interventions:

- Girls' and women's education
- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture
- Family planning, and healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies
- Food safety and food processing
- Early childhood care and development



- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Economic strengthening, livelihoods
- Social protection



# Enabling Environment



- Gender equality: women as mothers, income earners and decision makers
- Country commitment and capacity, leadership, and financial resources
- Socio-cultural, economic, environmental and political context



- Concentrate resources in target countries
- Set clear objectives
- Regularly monitor outcomes and impact
- Directly support the country's own nutrition plan
- Increase impact and improve cost-effectiveness by coordinating our nutrition efforts across multiple sectors (health, agriculture, water, humanitarian)

# Common Factors for Success



- Explicit nutrition objectives and common indicators in USAID strategies, projects and activities across sectors
- Target high-impact multi-sectoral activities with populations in need/vulnerable (1,000 days) – geographic overlay with multiple sectors
- Clear mandates, roles and responsibilities of activities and partners for optimum coordination
- Real time learning
- Rigorous research to quantify results

# Implementing the Nutrition Strategy



- 27 briefs total (11 finished; 16 in process)
  - Nutrition-sensitive Agriculture
  - Intensive Nutrition Programming
  - Role of Nutrition in Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Death (EPCMD)
  - The 1000 day Window of Opportunity
  - WASH and Nutrition
  - Nutrition, Food Security, and HIV
  - Maternal Nutrition for Girls and Women
  - Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition
  - Nutrition in Emergencies
  - Nutrition, Food Security and Family Planning
  - Nutrition Scale-Up; Learning from Experience (discussion paper)
- As they are completed they are posted:  
<https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/global-health/nutrition/technical-areas>

# Key Messages



- Multiple determinants need multi-sectoral responses to direct and underlying causes
- Humanitarian assistance linked to development programs builds resilience
- Cost-effectiveness and impact improved by:
  - ✓ Stronger coordination
  - ✓ Nutrition outcomes in agriculture, WASH and gender programs

# What's Next?



## ADS 212 Breastfeeding Policy - New topics on:

- Premature babies
- Kangaroo mother care
- Donor human milk
- HIV/AIDS
- Family planning
- Complementary feeding
- Procurement of breast milk substitutes



# USG Nutrition Coordination Plan



# Thank you!



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