USAID Investments in Micronutrients: Future Outlook and Key Challenges

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The Lancet’s Series on Maternal and Child Undernutrition
Key Messages (Lancet 2008)

- Undernutrition begins with the mother
  - maternal low wt for ht
  - less visible micronutrient def
  - intrauterine growth restriction

- Stunting and wasting begin early in childhood due to poor diet and infectious diseases
# Interventions with Sufficient Evidence to Implement in All Countries

## Maternal and Birth Outcomes
- Iron folate supplementation
- Maternal supplements of multiple micronutrients
- Maternal iodine through iodization of salt
- Maternal calcium supplementation
- Interventions to reduce indoor air pollution

## Newborn Babies
- Breastfeeding (individual and group counseling)

## Infants and Children
- Breastfeeding (individual and group counseling)
- Behavior change communication for improved complementary feeding
- Zinc supplementation
- Zinc in management of diarrhea
- Vitamin A fortification or supplementation
- Universal salt iodization
- Handwashing or hygiene
Copenhagen Consensus 2008
Hunger and Malnutrition

Highly Effective versus Mortality

- vitamin A supplementation
- therapeutic use of zinc for diarrhea
- breastfeeding promotion

Effective versus Mortality

- iron supplement to pregnant women
- anthelminths for pregnant women
- community-based nutrition education

Ref. Horton et al 2008
US Govt Initiatives-2008

- **Feed the Future**
  - reduce poverty and prevalence of underwt children
  - 3 IRs direct impact from MN interventions

- **Global Health Initiatives**
  - nutrition as 1/7 target areas
  - MN interventions potential towards achieving GHI goals
The Innocenti MN Participants
22-25 September 2008

• Country-level implementers from Ministries of Health in Africa, Asia, and Latin America


• Global partners/donors (BMGF, USAID, UNICEF, WB)

• Program-oriented academics
FROM RESEARCH/EFFICACY

POLITICAL COMMITMENT

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Scaled-up programs/policy
Scaling Up Nutrition
A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION
June 2010
SUN Framework for Action

- Obtain high-level political commitment to increase investment in nutrition
- Facilitate high burden countries to implement nutrition programs effectively and accelerate progress towards achieving MDGs
- Call for complementary nutr-specific and -sensitive interventions as part of broader PBH programs
SUN Road Map and Roll-Outs

• SUN Roadmap at the MDG Summit – September 2010 complemented by “1,000 day Campaign” (-9 to 24 mo window) led by USAID

• Transition Team (n=12) chaired by Sp Rep of UN Secretary General for Food Security and Nutrition; SCN Exec Secretary as Rapporteur

• Supported by Task Forces: capacity, advocacy, civil societies, donors, business, M&E; UN and Country Reference Groups

• Other Platforms: G8/G20 in France 2011, Regional Summits (EU, ASEAN, SARC, African Union etc)

• Roll out in ‘early riser’ countries matched with donors, capacity/program supports
THE WAY FORWARD: NINE ELEMENTS

Starting Point: Stock-take of nutrition situation and current actions

1. SUN proposals developed by existing – or newly established - in-country multi-stakeholder coordination platforms
2. Scale-up is implemented with domestic and external finance
3. Functioning Stakeholder Platforms and Management Systems
4. Strong Stakeholder Networks and Vibrant Movements
5. Concerted Advocacy and Effective Communications
6. Monitoring and Reporting on Progress, Evaluating Outcomes, sharing Experiences and Results
7. Increasing access to knowledge, standards and harmonized policies
8. Frameworks and Mechanisms for Support to Scaling Up Nutrition
9. Governance, Leadership and Organizational Arrangements
Biomarkers of Nutrition for Development (BOND)

1. Initiated by the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* Natl Inst of Child Hlth and Development (NICHD)/NIH in 2010-supported by BM Gates Foundation
2. Guidance for selection of biomarkers & interpretation across 4 user groups: Research, Clinical, Program and Policy
3. **Synchronize** Translational and Research/discovery tracks
EU-FP7 Call for Proposal 2011

‘Translation mechanisms for targeting interventions on micronutrients—Southeast Asia and South and Southeast Asia’

- Best practices to improve MN status—large scale, target pregnancy and infants up to 24 mo
- Develop specific, policy guidance
- Ensure successful implementation
- Local context in consideration
USAID Call for Proposal 2011

Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovation in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)

- Promote policies and programs to reach vulnerable population esp women and young children
- Activities in country: technical assistance, capacity, evidence-base, effective delivery, scale-up, partners
Key Challenges for USAID

• Sustain Global Leadership in MN research and interventions eg VAS, Zn in diarrhea, mass fortification; and MN Forum- science to policy to program

• Capitalize on public-private partnership building model → country entrepreneurs

• Respond to needs-- build and sustain capacity in high-burden countries

• Reap benefits of >4 decades of MNs investment to accelerate country progress towards FTF, GHI and 1,000 days + SUN → achievement of MDGs