



# **Informal Board Consultation**

## **Right Food at the right time at the right place**

**WFP Policy Division**  
**Rome, 31 October 2011**

# The Magnitude of Undernutrition

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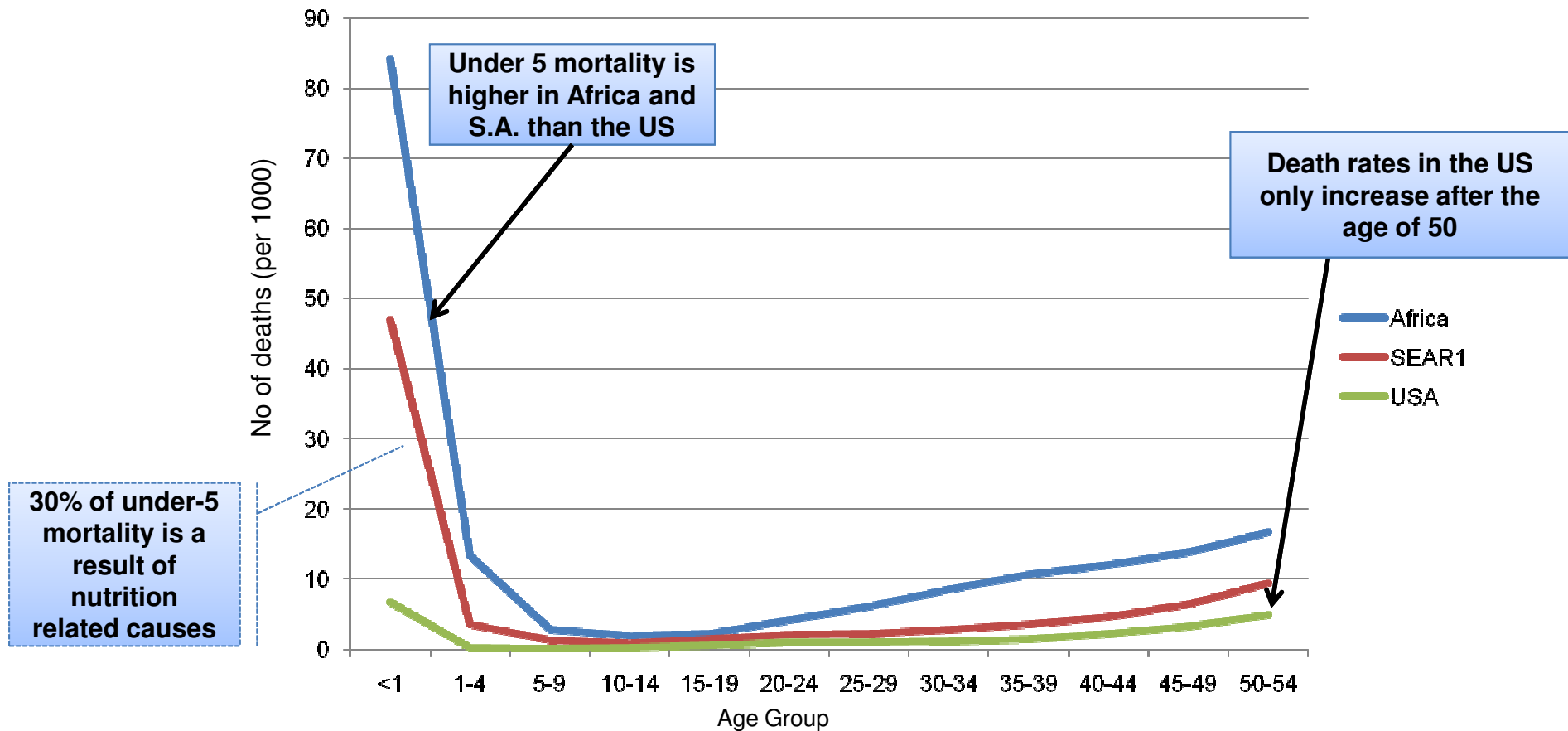
- More than 1 billion of hungry and undernourished people in the world;
- 2 billion suffer from micronutrient deficiencies
- 56 million children are wasted (thin; low weight/height)
- About 180 million stunted children (small; low height/age)

# The Burden of Knowledge

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- **Executive Board approved three nutrition policies in 2004**
- **New Scientific Knowledge:**
  - Lancet Nutrition Series 2008
  - New evidence of the use of nutritious food products (Ready to Use Foods) in the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition, Lancet 2006
- **WFP's new strategic plan: from food aid to food assistance: Strategic Objectives include**
  1. Saving Lives
  2. Treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition
  3. Prevention Chronic Malnutrition/Stunting

# Saving Lives: Mortality Rate by age group in Africa, Asia, and the US

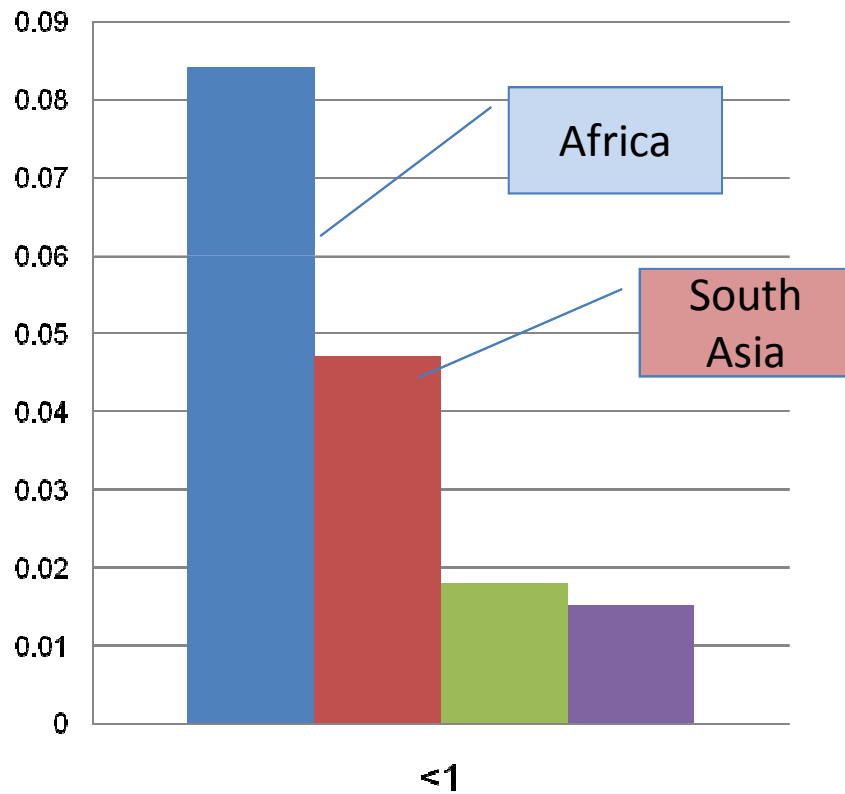


Comparison of Mortality by age per 1000 people in Africa, South Asia and the US

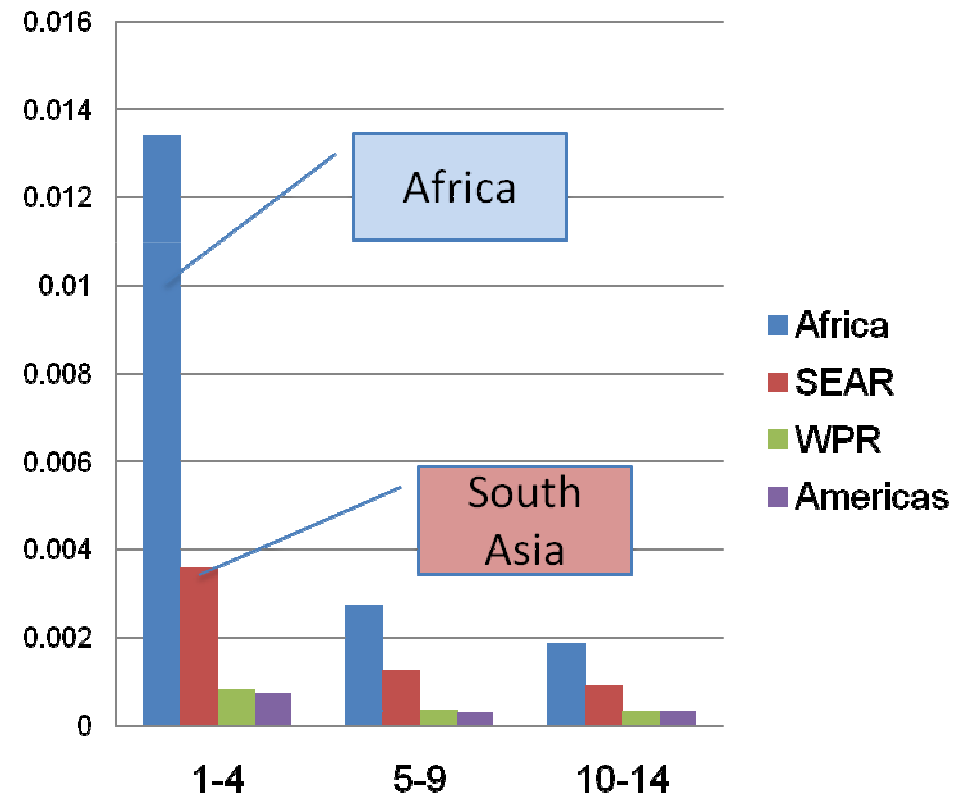
**Source:** Life tables for WHO Member States. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2011. (Also available at [http://www.who.int/whosis/database/life\\_tables/life\\_tables.cfm](http://www.who.int/whosis/database/life_tables/life_tables.cfm))  
 1. SEAR (South-East Asia Region) includes . Bangladesh Bhutan Dem. People's Rep. of Korea India Indonesia Maldives Myanmar Nepal Sri Lanka Thailand Timor-Leste

# Saving Lives: Children in Africa at highest mortality risk - especially under the age of five

## Under 1 mortality



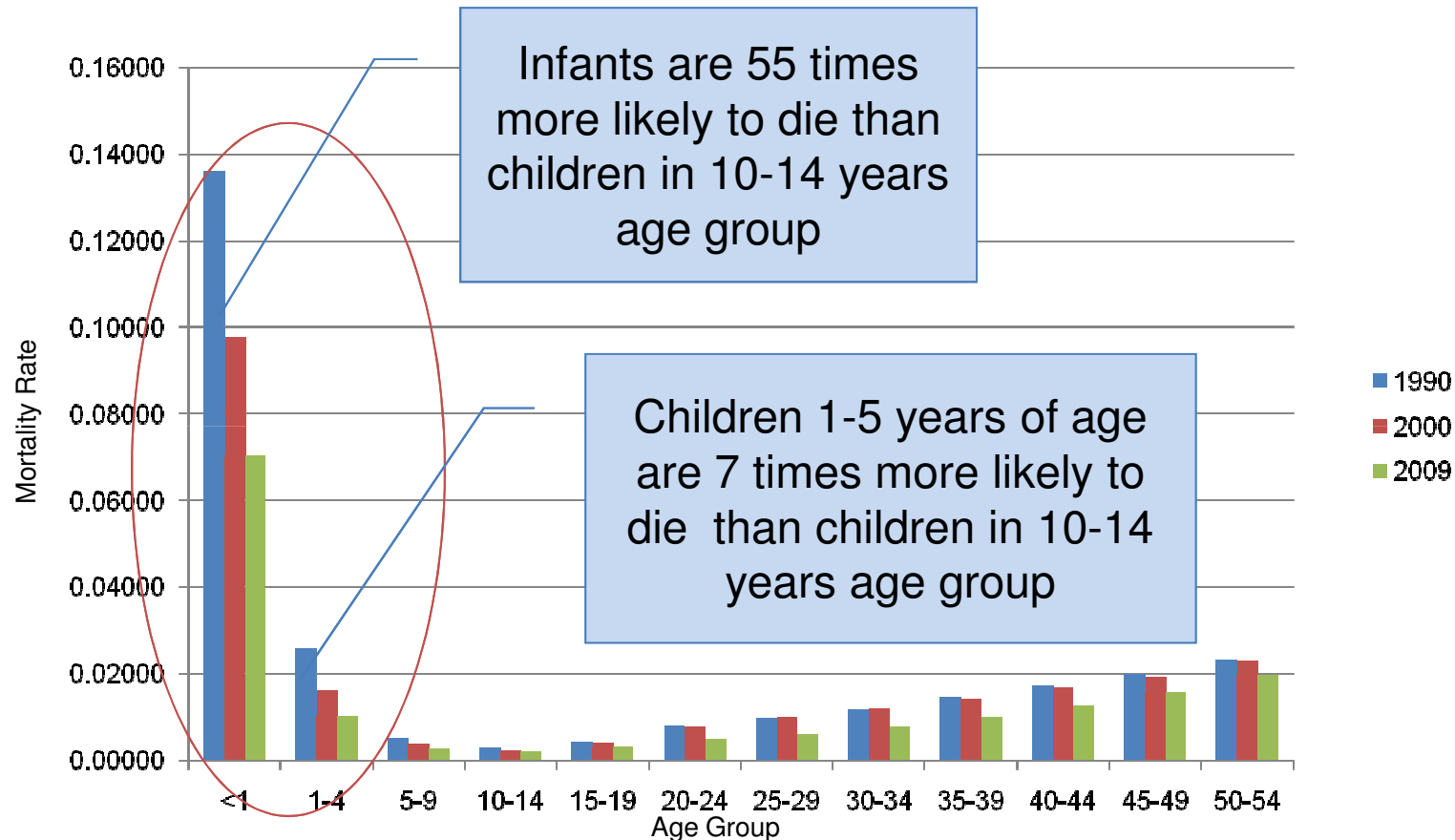
## 1-14 years Mortality



**Source:** Life tables for WHO Member States. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2011. (Also available at [http://www.who.int/whosis/database/life\\_tables/life\\_tables.cfm](http://www.who.int/whosis/database/life_tables/life_tables.cfm))

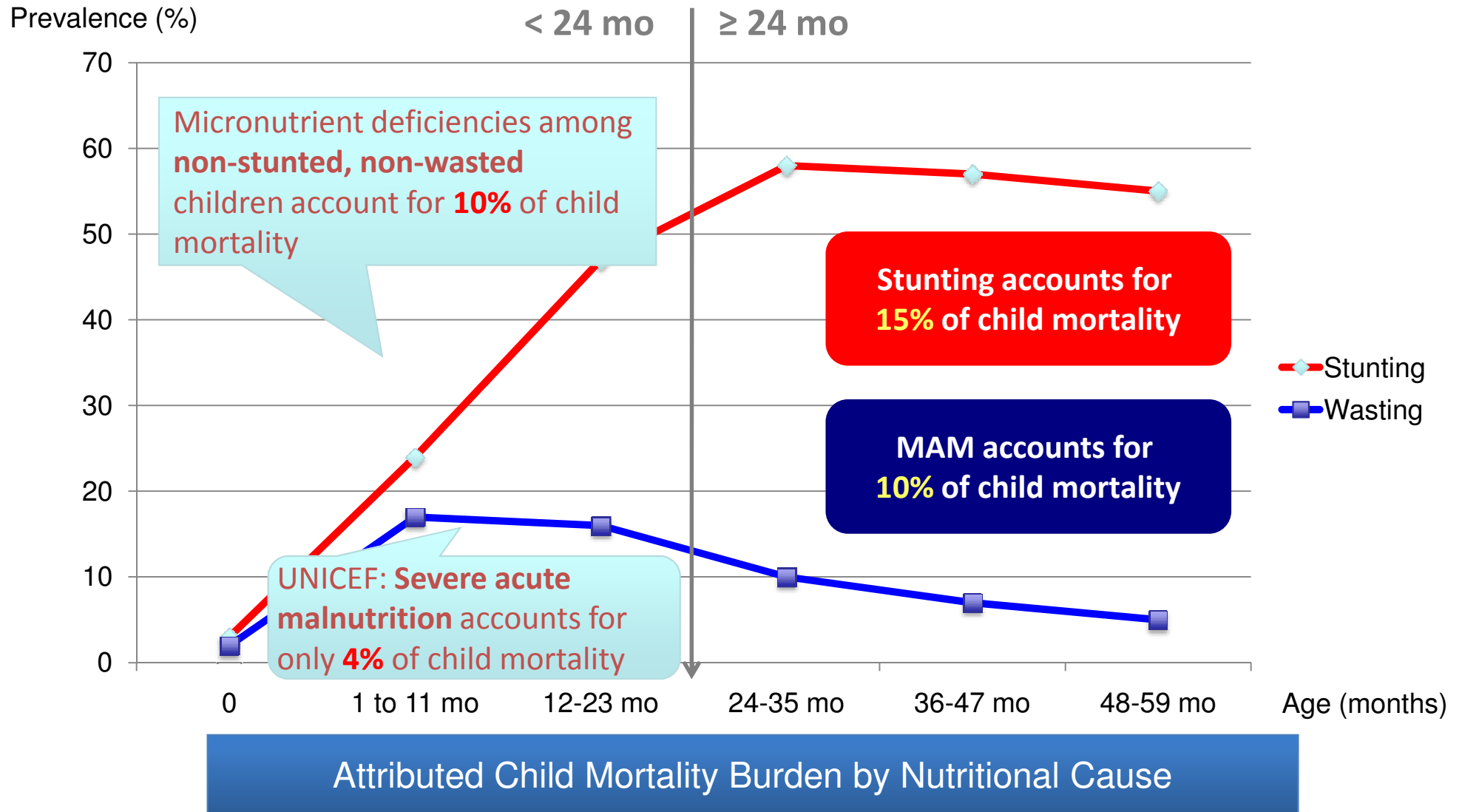
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# Saving Lives: Despite declining trend seen in some countries, under 5 mortality remains high...



Mortality trends in Ethiopia by age and by year

# Saving lives: Wasting, Stunting, Micronutrient Deficiencies and Risk of Dying



Source: Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey (2011); Lancet Nutrition Series, 2008

## Damage Suffered in Early Life Leads to Permanent Impairment



Undernourished children are more likely to become short adults and to give birth to smaller babies

Evidence links stunting to cognitive development, school performance and educational achievement

Poor fetal growth or stunting in the first 2 years of life leads to reduced economic productivity in adulthood

Child's height for age is best predictor of human capital

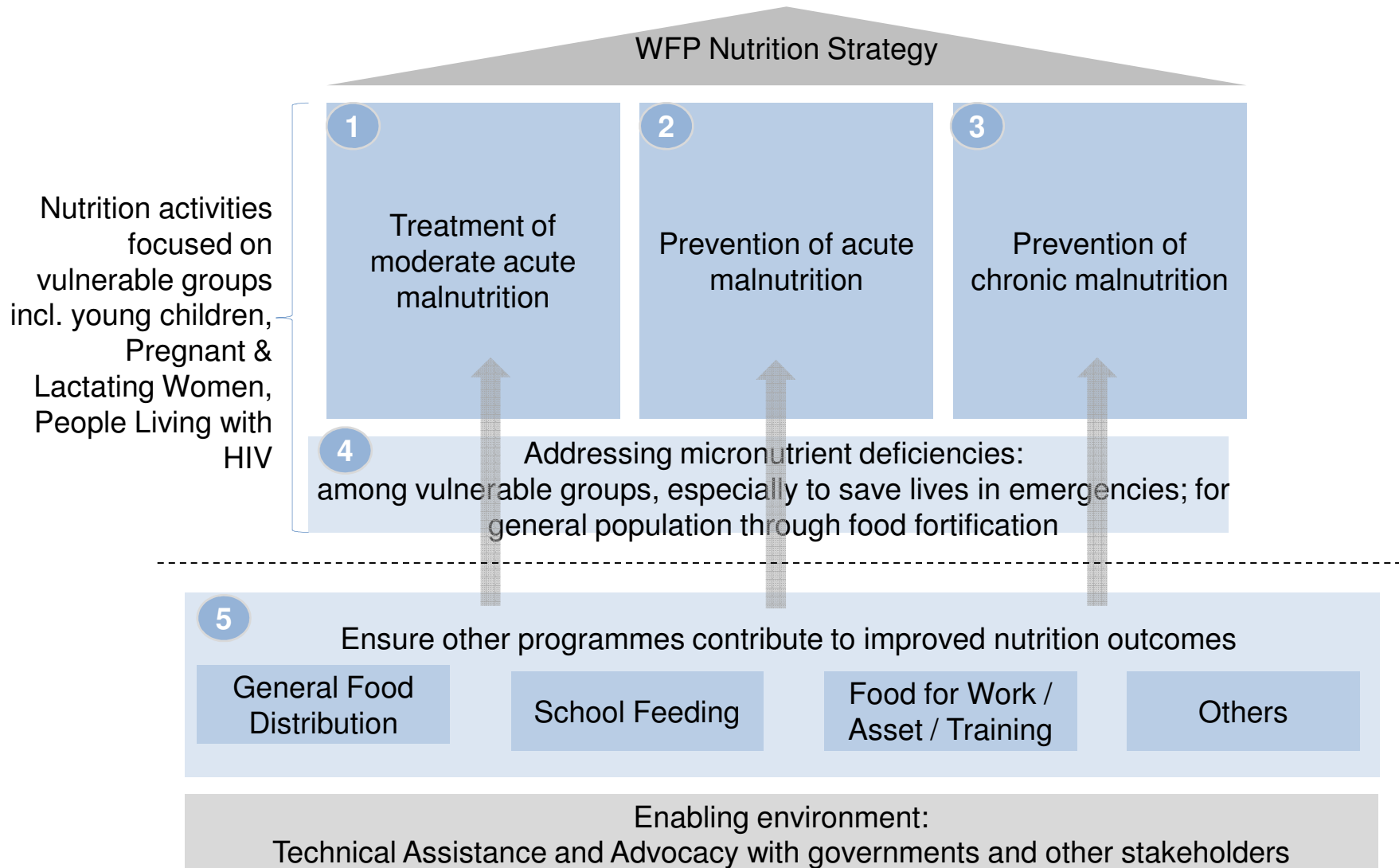


# The Consequences of Stunting (Lancet 2008)

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- Chronic Diseases: Children who are undernourished in the first 2 years of life and who put on weight rapidly later in childhood and in adolescence are at high risk of **chronic diseases** related to nutrition
- The window of prevention = the first 1000 days = from conception to 24 months

# New WFP Nutrition Policy with five main pillars



# Proposed vision and mission

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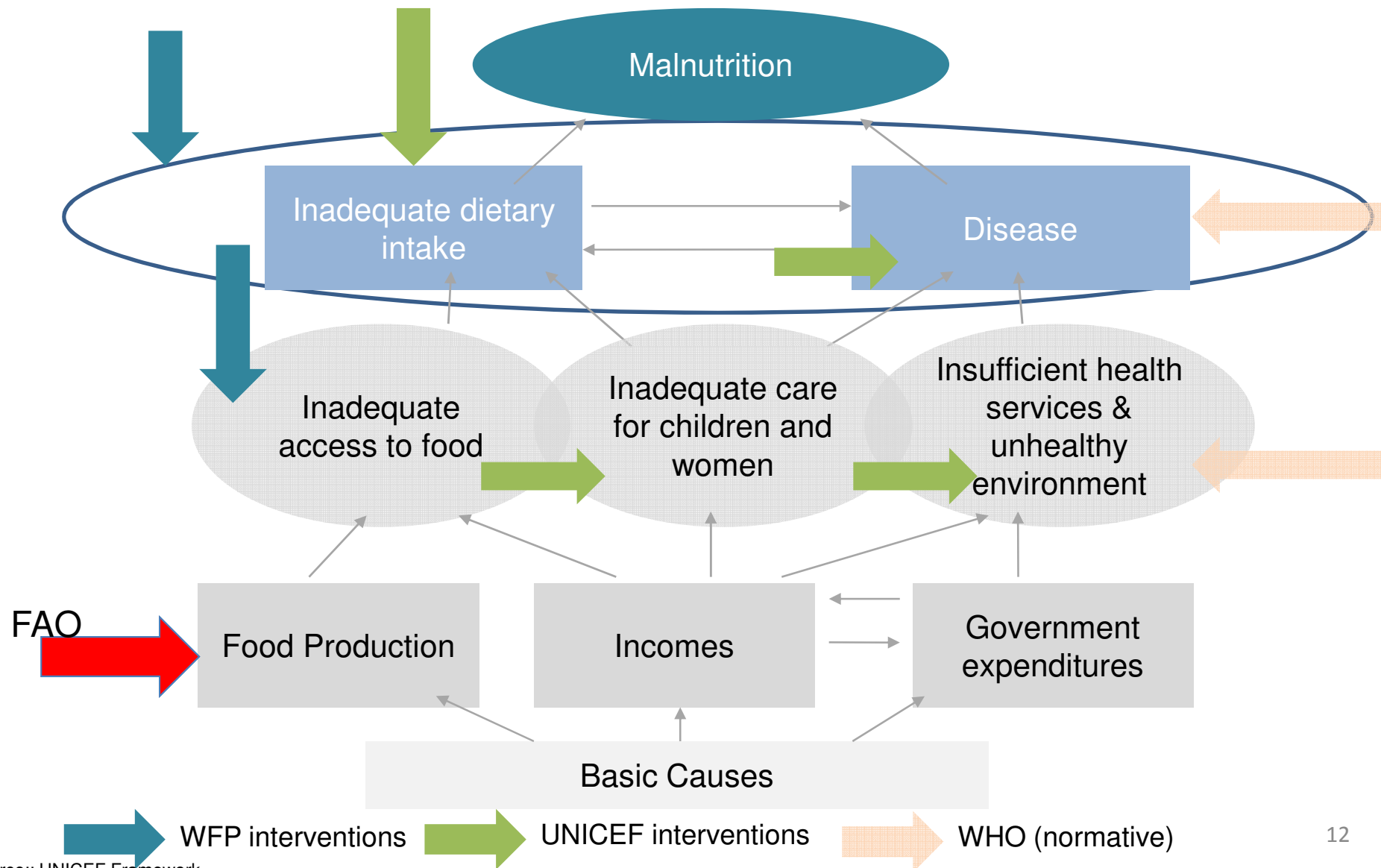
## *WFP's vision on nutrition:*

A world in which all human beings have access to adequate nutrition, enabling them to develop their full potential and live healthy and fulfilled lives.

## *WFP's mission for nutrition is focused on its comparative strengths related to food:*

Working with partners to fight undernutrition in all forms by ensuring access to the right food, at the right time, at the right place, to save lives & improve health and development.

# REACH (FAO, UNICEF, WFP and WHO) partnership



## The right food at the right time at the right place

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