

ending child hunger and undernutrition

**Informal consultation to the
WFP Executive Board**

Rome, October 9 2006

Initiating partners:



- 1. a global initiative**
- 2. a strategic framework**
- 3. the cost of ending child hunger**
- 4. partnerships and coordination**

1. a global initiative
to end child hunger
within a generation

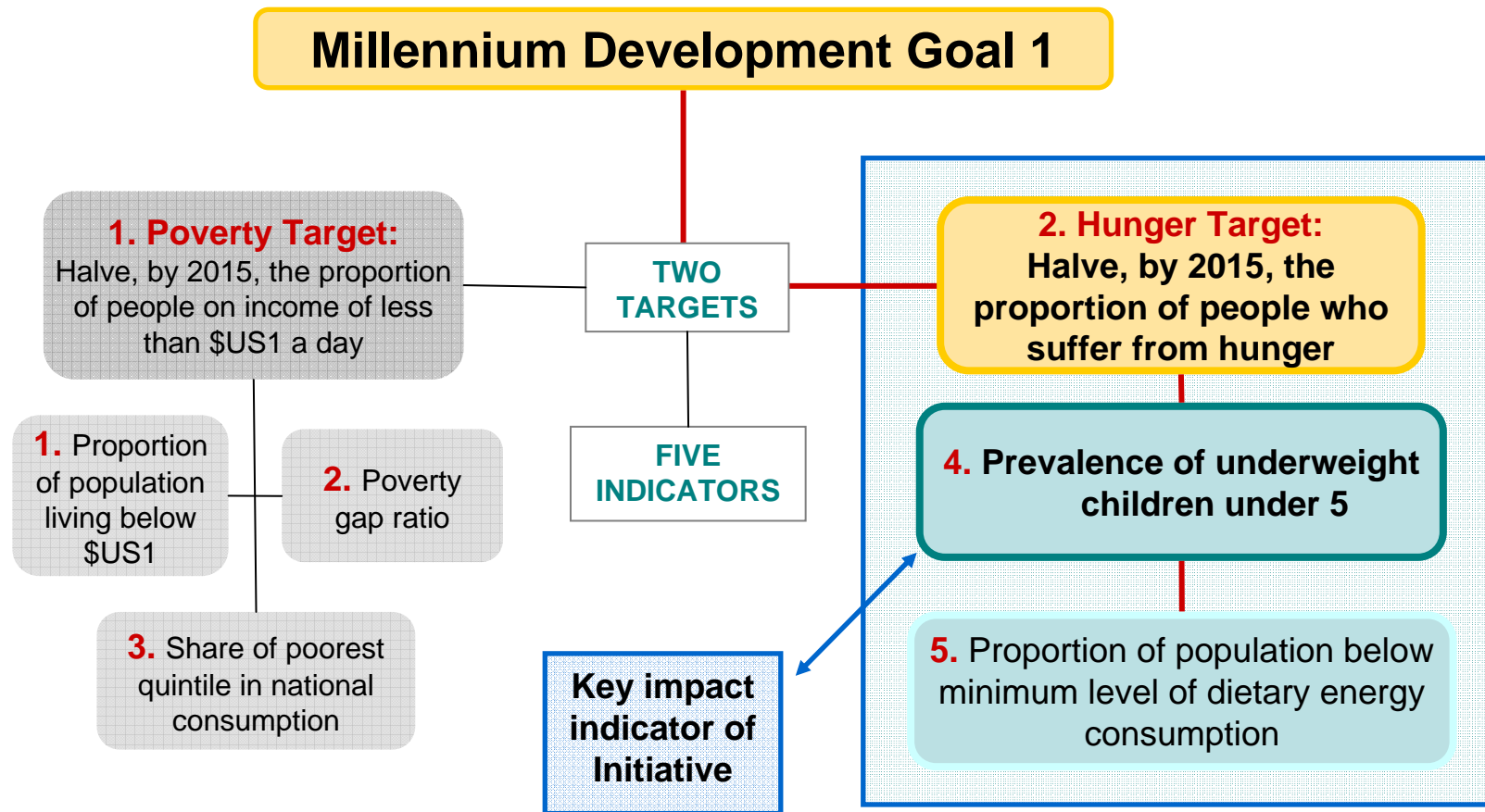
ECHUI is a **global partnership** to end child hunger and undernutrition **within a generation.**

ECHUI will **focus the world's attention, will and resources** on what is required – when, where, from whom and how – and on responding to needs with urgency.

What is ECHUI's objective?

- to **mobilise** the political, financial, technical and other resources required...
- to **strengthen** national responses sufficiently...
- to **impact** dramatically on child hunger and undernutrition.

ECHUI focus: MDG1 - hunger component



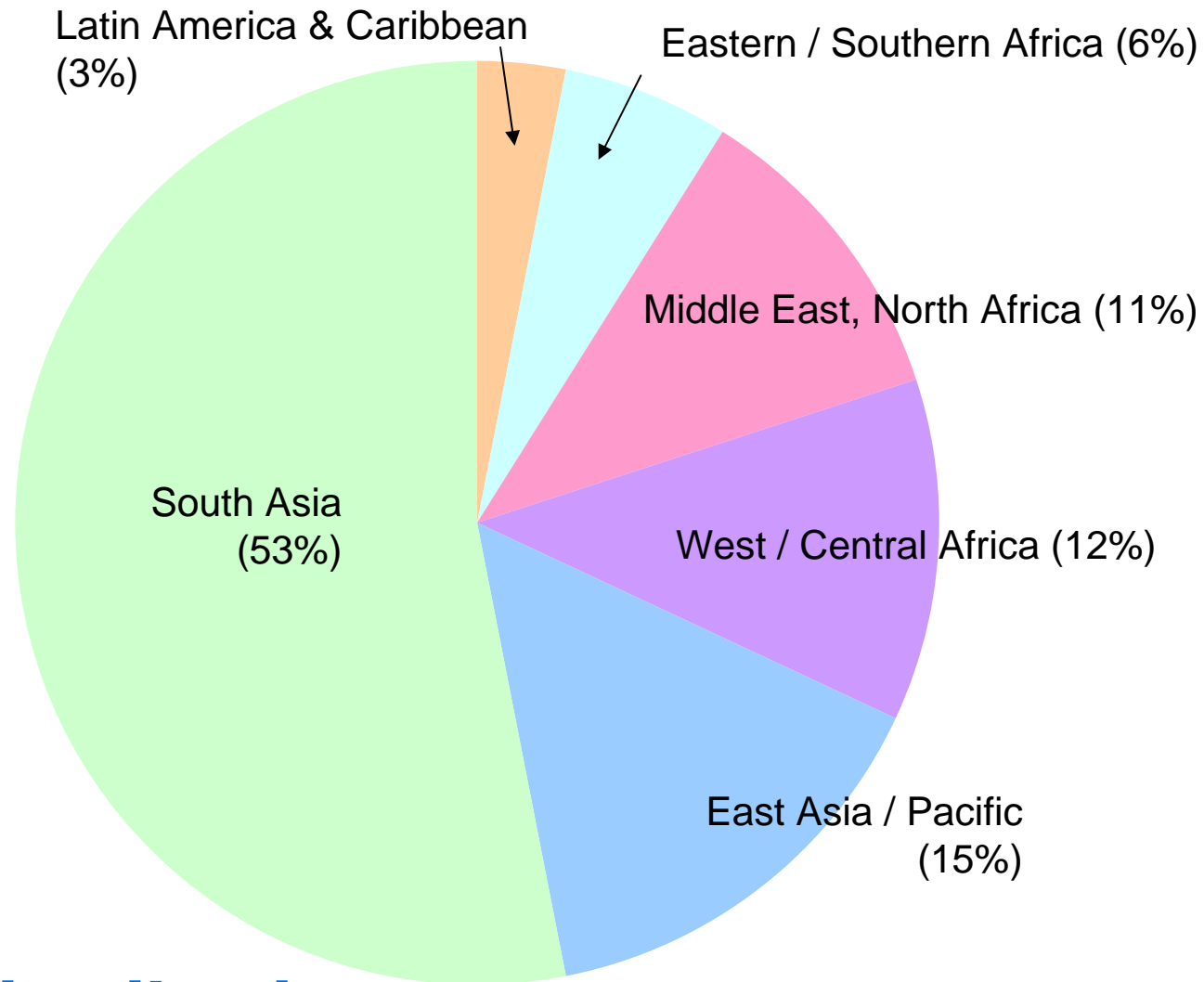
Why focus on child hunger?

- Hunger has a **disproportionate impact** on children
- Addressing child hunger is **an investment** in health and productivity of future generations.
- Major synergies with other **MDGs**
- Less reliant for **results** on increased GDP and agricultural production than overall hunger
- More subject to **interventions** focused on vulnerable children and their families

Hunger's disproportionate impact on children

- **roughly 400 million children** under 18 suffer from undernutrition world-wide
- **146 million children** under five are underweight world-wide
- over **5 million children** under five die each year from undernutrition related causes
- **maternal undernutrition** during pregnancy and lactation impacts a **child's lifelong capacity** for physical growth, intellectual development, and economic productivity

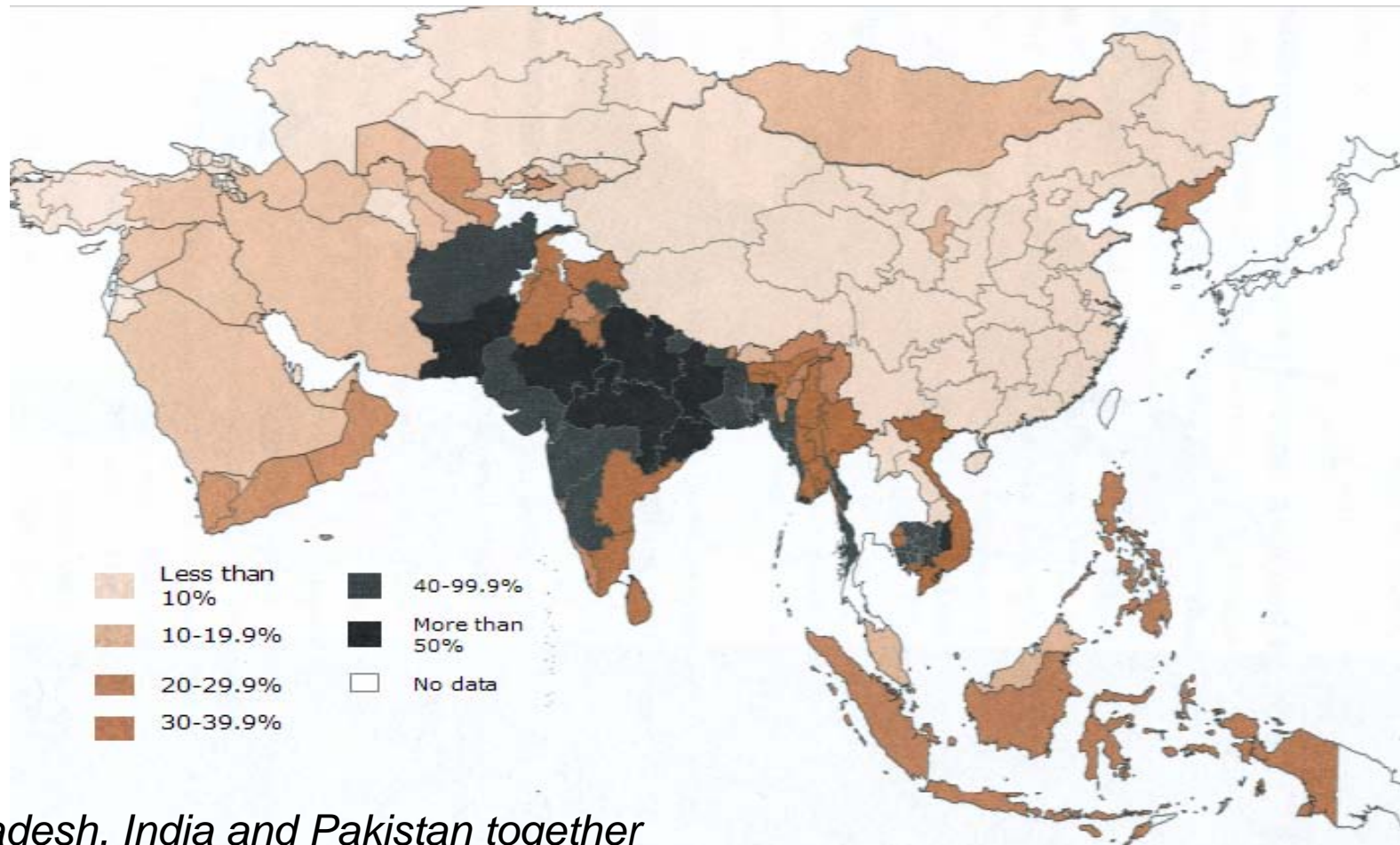
“73% of the world’s underweight children live in just ten countries”



Global distribution of underweight children by region

Distribution of Underweight Children in Asia

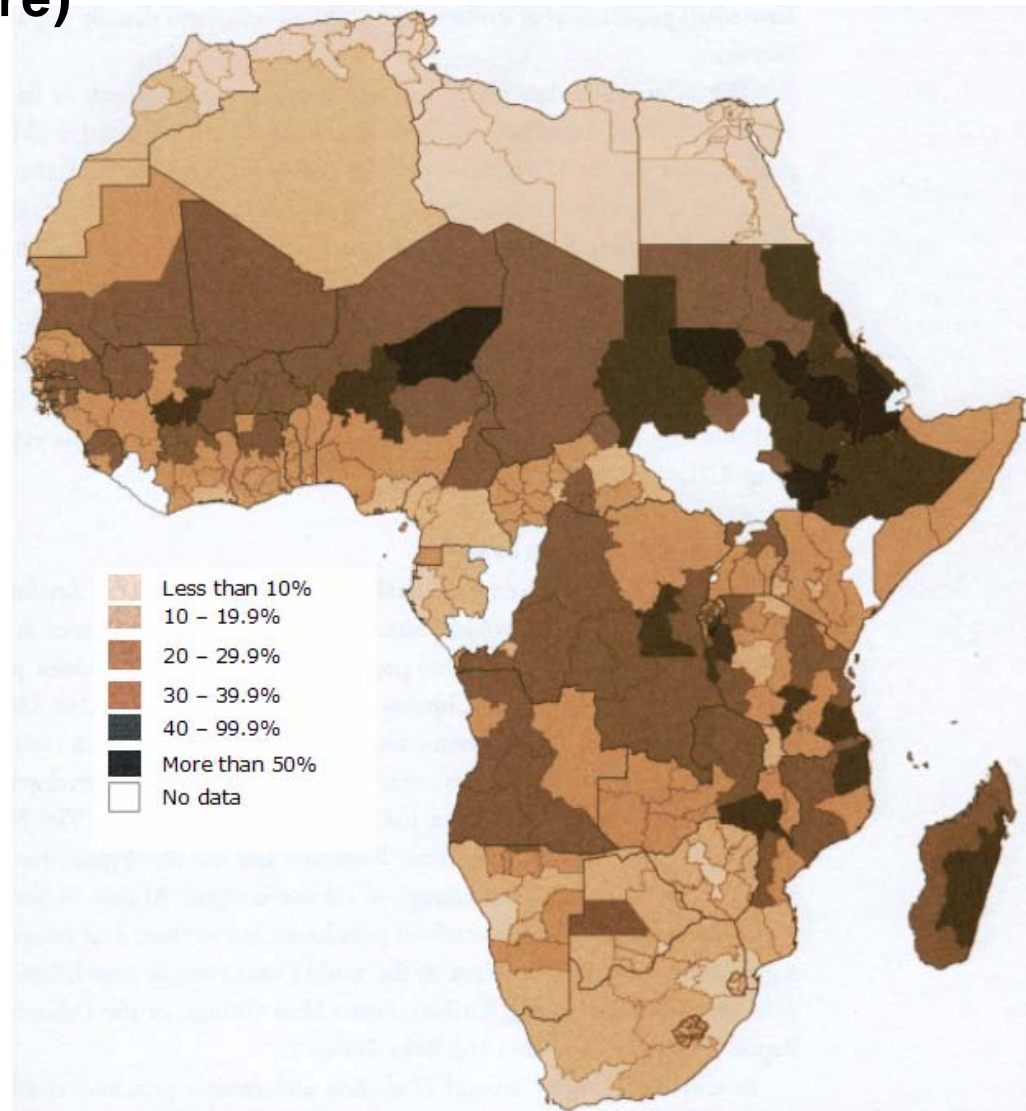
(Children per square kilometre)



*Bangladesh, India and Pakistan together account for **half** of the world's underweight children*

Distribution of Underweight Children in Africa (Children per square kilometre)

*Half of the approximately **32 million** underweight children in Africa live in less than 10 percent of its sub-national administrative units.*



Successful country experience

- Between 1960 and 2004, **Chile** cut its underweight rate from 37% to 2.4%
- **Thailand** reduced malnutrition rates from 36% to 13% in the 15 years to 1990,
- **Brazil** decreased its child undernutrition by 67% between 1970 and 2000;
- Malnutrition in **India** has declined by about 30% since 1960
- Between 1980 and 1990, **Tanzania** reduced reduce child malnutrition from 50% to 30%, (an improvement not since sustained)

2. a strategic framework for global action

- a **global** framework
- **regional** strategies
- **country-level** action plans

Strategic framework: the key elements

- three **approaches**
- four intended **outcomes**
- essential package of **interventions**

Three approaches

1. partnership

- strong alliance
- linkages, experience exchange

2. operations

- strengthen national capacities to scale up, deliver essential package
- leverage broad action globally

3. advocacy

- global campaign
- alignment with existing efforts

Four intended outcomes

1. **increased awareness** and understanding of potential solutions
2. **strengthened national** policies and programmes
3. **increased capacities** for direct community action
4. **increased efficiency** and accountability of global efforts

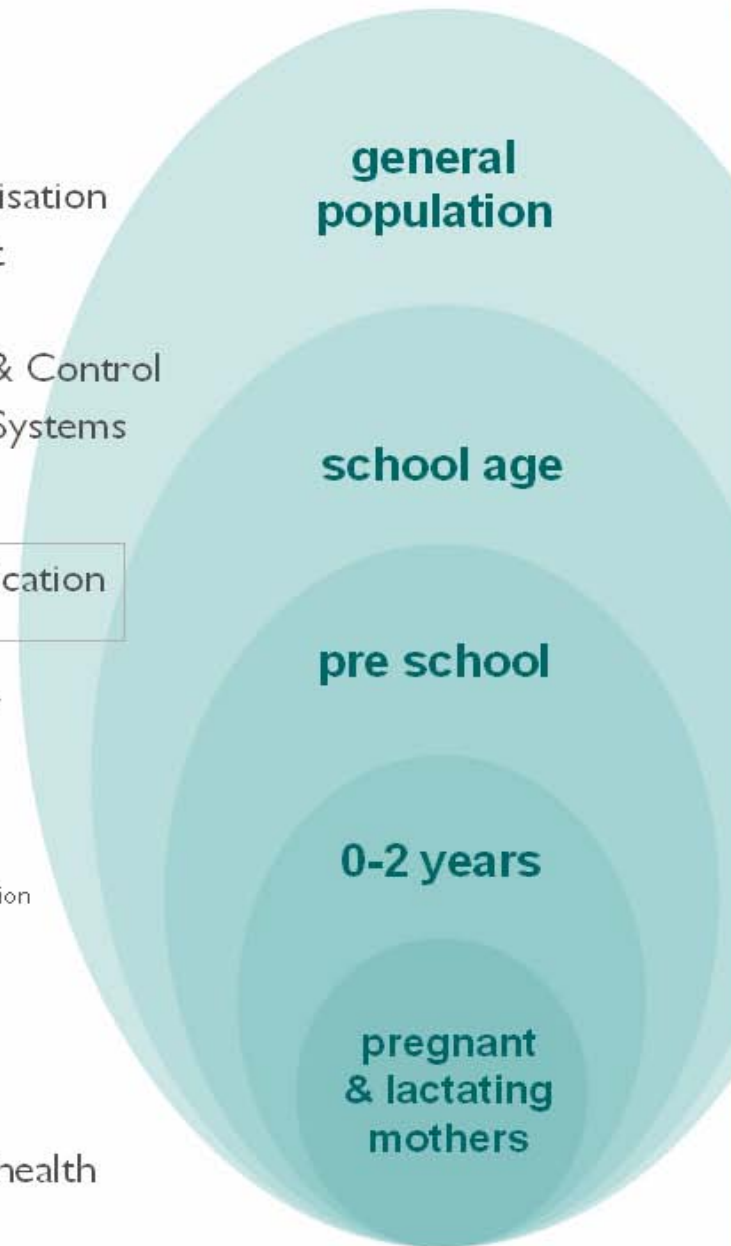
Initiative interventions that work...

Complementary interventions

- Policy & social mobilisation
- Ensure adequate diet
- HIV prevention
- Disease Prevention & Control
- Water & Sanitation Systems
- Food Security

- **Micronutrient Fortification**
(at the State & National Level)

- Primary & Secondary Education
- ARI & Diarrhoea Treatment
(inc. promotion of Oral Rehydration Therapy)
- Immunization
- Birth spacing
- Safe motherhood
- Other reproductive health interventions



Essential Package of interventions*

* Implemented at the household, school and community level

- Health, Nutrition & Hygiene Education (inc. breastfeeding and growth promotion)
- Supplementary & therapeutic feeding
- Micronutrient Supplementation (inc. vitamin A, zinc, iron and prenatal vitamins)
- Hygiene promotion
- Household water treatment
- Parasite control (esp. deworming)

The Essential Package

Health, hygiene and nutrition education plus...

- **supplemental food interventions**
- **micronutrient supplementation**
- **household water treatment**
- **hand-washing with soap**
- **parasite control (esp. deworming)**

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general population

school age

pre school

0-2 years

pregnant & lactating mothers

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Related and complementary efforts

- International Alliance Against Hunger
- Integrated Management of Childhood Illness
- Partnership on Child Development
- FRESH - Focusing Resources on Effective School Health
- Schistosomiasis Control Initiative
- Global Public-Private Partnership for Handwashing with Soap
- International Network to Promote Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage Network
- Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)
- Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

3. The cost

**of ending child hunger
and undernutrition**

Key numbers* for child hunger

- **850m** undernourished people worldwide
- **400m** undernourished children < 18
- **146m** underweight children < 5
- **100m** families-in-need

* Approximations and estimates, sources: FAO, WFP, WHO/UNICEF, WFP/UNICEF

Cost of doing nothing

- **US\$20-30 billion** - current annual global cost of child hunger and undernutrition
- **2 to 3 percent of GDP** lost annually to malnutrition in high prevalence countries
- **US\$500 billion to \$1 trillion** - in lost productivity and income over the lifetime of today's undernourished children

– Source: UN Standing Committee on Nutrition

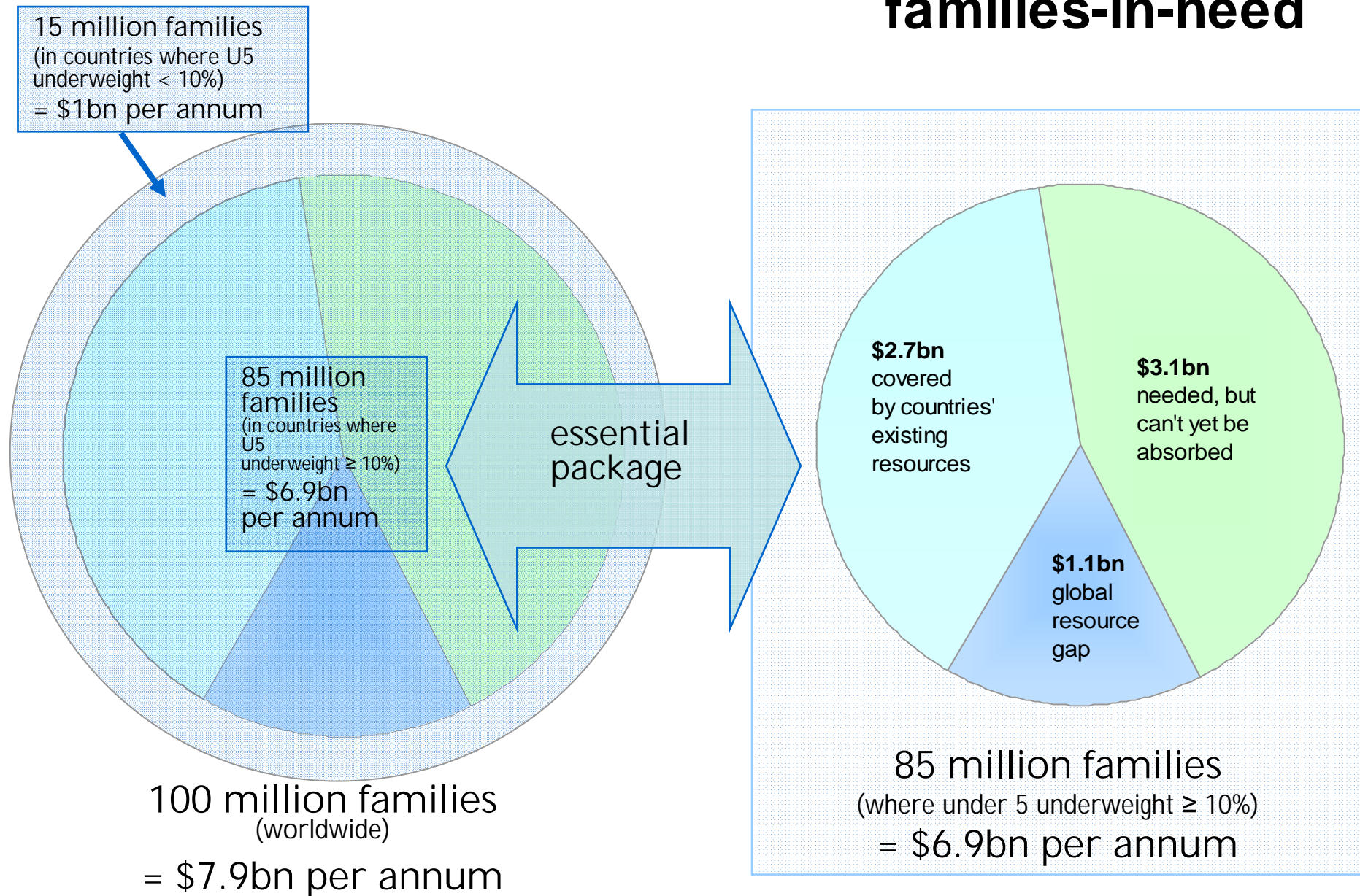
First approximation of global incremental direct costs

US\$79 per household

- Average cost for an essential package of 5 commodity-linked interventions in an envelope of health, hygiene and nutrition education

Intervention	(US\$)
1. Health, nutrition & hygiene education	6
2. Supplemental food (average)	50
3. Micronutrient supplementation	11
4. Household water treatment	4
5. Hand-washing with soap	6
6. Deworming	2
Household Total	\$ 79

Costing the essential package: targeting 85m families-in-need



Donor and technical resource requirements

Resources will be needed to assist:

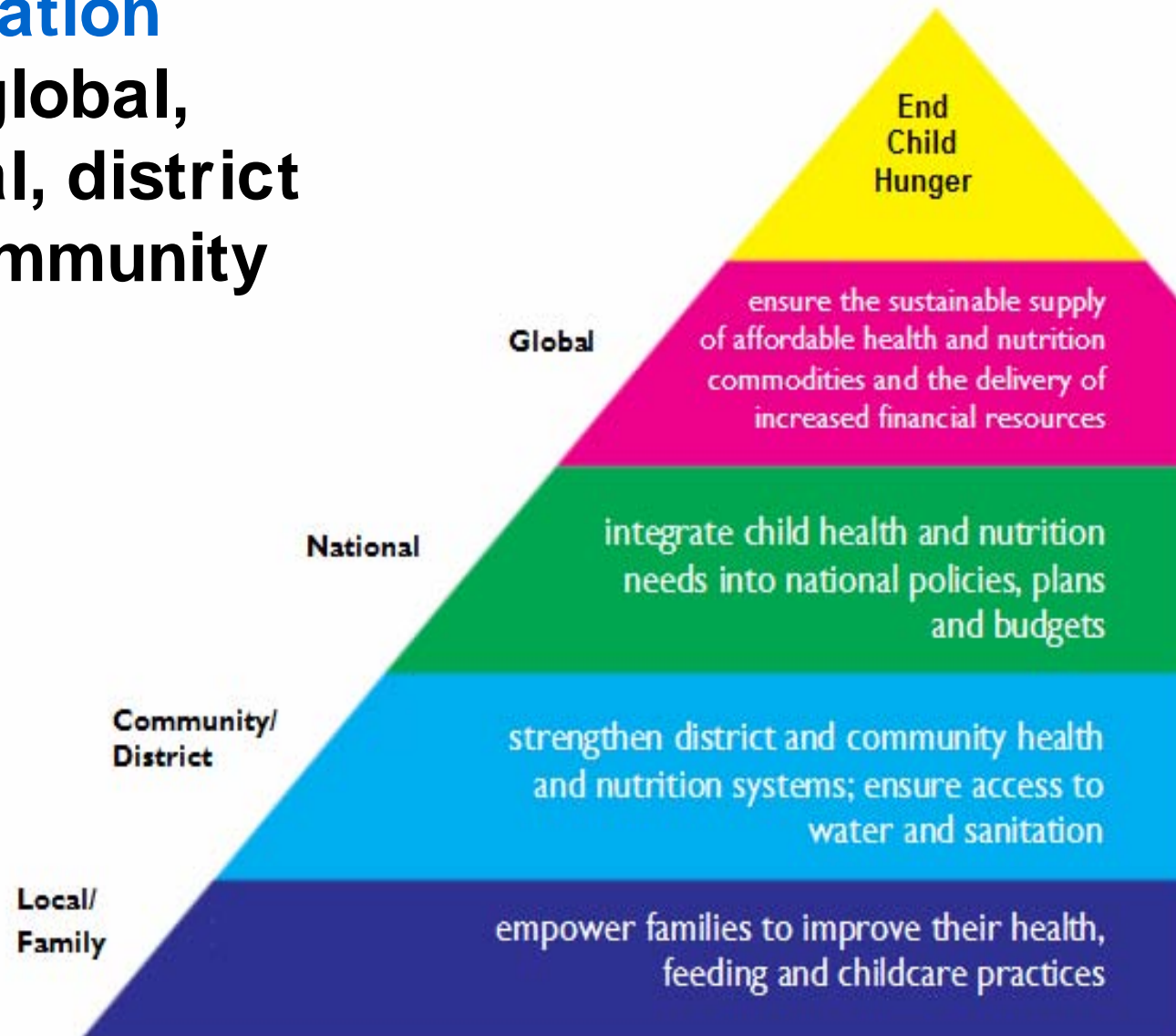
- **meet** near-term global resource gap of approx. \$1 billion, ramping up to approx. \$2 billion by 2012.
- **optimize** existing programme capacities,
- **support** social mobilization efforts,
- **strengthen** the community and supporting infrastructure required to deliver essential interventions

Next steps:

- Refine the global costing model
 - Phasing in of costs
 - Technical and management capacities needing to be built
 - Changes over time
- Country-specific costing
- Resource tracking

4. Partnerships and coordination

Harmonisation at the global, national, district and community levels



Harmonisation with UN efforts addressing child hunger and undernutrition

- Millennium Declaration, MDGs
- Millennium Project and Campaign
- UNDAF process and UN Reform
- UN Country Programme, Resident Coordinator System, and Food and Nutrition Themes Teams
- UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN)
- Agency medium-term strategic plans

Upcoming milestones

2006	October	Consultations with various stakeholder groups and representatives
	November	Review and guidance from WFP Executive Board
2007	January	Review and guidance from UNICEF Executive Board Maternal and Child Undernutrition series published in <i>The Lancet</i>
	February	Convening of Partners Group and formal adoption of <i>Global Framework for Action</i> Publication of UNICEF and WFP programme and policy resources on addressing maternal and child undernourishment
	March	Technical launch of initiative at 34 th Annual Session of the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition , held in Rome
	March-June	Rollout of global campaign