

Nutrition: Evaluation and Ways Forward

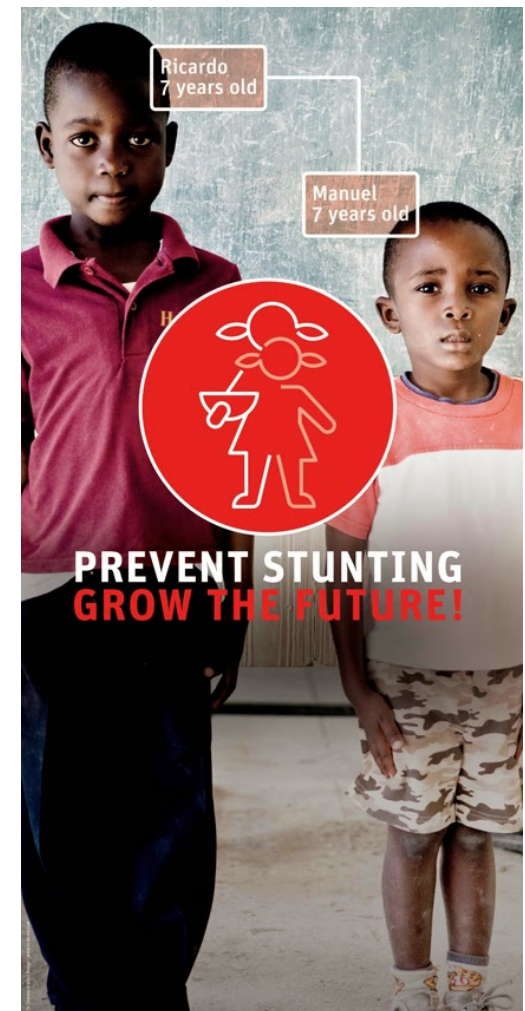
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Roundtable – October 2015



World Food Programme

Where We Stand: Global Picture

- **3.1 million children under 5 die every year from malnutrition-related causes**
- **50 million children under 5 are wasted (*thin*; low weight for height)**
- **159 million stunted children under 5 (*small*; low height for age), primarily in Africa and Asia**
- **Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) rates can at least double, if not more, during the lean season, with even greater risk in sudden onset emergencies**



Where We Stand: How to solve it

The Lancet

Landmark series on 'Maternal and Child Undernutrition' (2008) which found that inadequate nutrition during the first two years of life during a critical window of opportunity –1,000 days from conception to age two -- leads to irreversible damage and impairments in physical growth and cognitive development.

- Maternal and child undernutrition is the underlying cause of more than 45% of deaths of children under five.
- Findings reaffirmed in 2013 series, which also highlighted the need to extend the 1,000 focus to include adolescent girls.

Copenhagen Consensus

If we had an extra \$75 billion to put to good use, which problems would we solve first?

A group of leading international economists, including Nobel Laureates, found that **five of the top ten most cost-effective solutions** for development are interventions to improve nutrition

- The Consensus found micronutrient (vitamin and mineral) fortification and supplementation to be the #1 priority investment for development.
- For every \$1 invested in reducing childhood malnutrition, we have a \$45 return.

Where We Stand: WFP

Global Engagement

- Strong platform for WFP Nutrition has been built over the last 10 years.
- WFP has contributed greatly to the global evidence base around programmes and nutrients.
- Built an international reputation as a thought leader in nutrition.
- Contributed to the development of new specialized foods.

Implementation

- Reaching 10-15 million people directly in nutrition programmes which use improved foods.
- Direct programmes in 59 countries, with many additional countries providing policy support and technical assistance to governments.
- Deep field presence enables programming where other partners cannot deliver.

Recommendations 1 & 2: Revision and Development

Recommendation

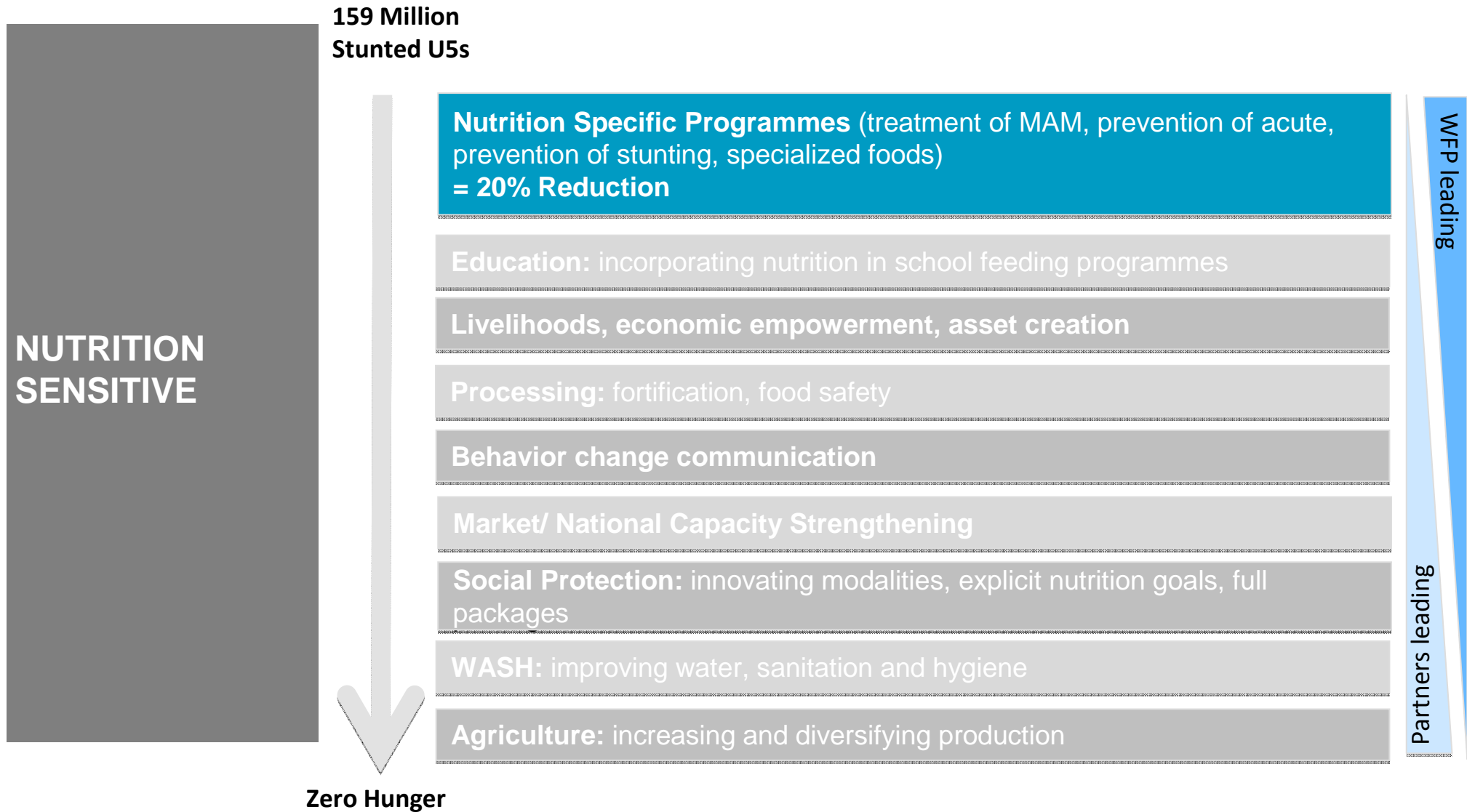
- **Do not revise at this time**
- **Align with the new Strategic Plan**
- **Provide regular updates to the Executive Board**
- **Collaborate with partners under the United Nations Global Nutrition Agenda**
- **Develop subject papers to provide guidance on emerging issues**

Ways Forward

- Continue to communicate openly regarding the roll out of the policy and evaluate the evolving global evidence base and dialogue
- Continue and strengthen work with UN partners
- Complete a series of subject papers on global nutrition issues
- Accelerate work on nutrition-sensitive strategies across WFP

PREVIEW

Getting to Zero Hunger: Nutrition Sensitive



Recommendation 3: Guidance for Implementation

Recommendation

- **Strengthen guidance for WFP staff and management**
- **Improve gender analysis and monitoring in line with new Gender Policy**
- **Ensure guidance is readily available**

Ways Forward

- Improve tools and update guidance
- Continue collaboration with the Gender office and VAM to strengthen gender considerations in nutrition programming and analysis, e.g. adolescent girls and nutrition.
- Update webpages and communications tools for the field

PREVIEW

Improve targeting: Adolescent girls

Issue

- **Each year 16 million girls below the age of 19 give birth**
- **Complications related to pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death among adolescent girls aged between 15 and 19**
- **Often these complications are associated with poor nutrition including anaemia, micronutrient deficiencies, and low stature (stunted adolescent)**
- **Pregnancies before the age of 20, are closely associated to low birth weight and stunting**

Ways Forward

- **A renewed focus on this particular target group:**
 - **Identify the best channels to reach them**
 - **Building on existing strategic partnerships**
 - **Ultimately: adjusting and prioritizing programming to show impact**

Recommendation 4: Monitoring & Evaluation

Recommendation

- **Provide guidance on methodology**
- **Provide guidance on supporting national M&E systems**
- **Ensure consistent prioritization of M&E and utilization of results**

Ways Forward

- Updated guidance on methodologies for reporting against the SRF has been completed and disseminated to regional advisors in order to support country offices.
- Work with other United Nations agencies and partners to define a framework for national nutrition M&E systems and provide support as appropriate.
- Maintaining and strengthening a focus on M&E remains a cross cutting priority

Recommendation 5: Operational Research and Knowledge Management

Recommendation

- **Develop, disseminate and implement a comprehensive operational research strategy**

Ways Forward

- Finalize operational research strategy which meets needs of regions and countries
- Strengthen tools and data analysis
- Link improved nutrition situation analysis to decision making on nutrition

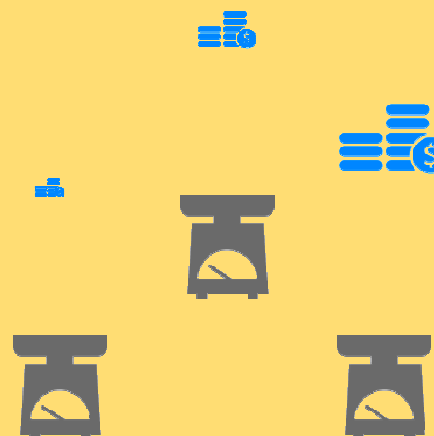
PREVIEW

The Cost of Diet and Filling the Nutrient Gap

LINEAR OPTIMIZATION (PRICE MINIMIZATION)



Locally available
food items



Possible nutritious diets
meeting all nutrient
requirements of a modelled
household, including a child
under two years being
breastfed



Least expensive
nutritious diet

Recommendation 6: Capacity Development within WFP

Recommendation

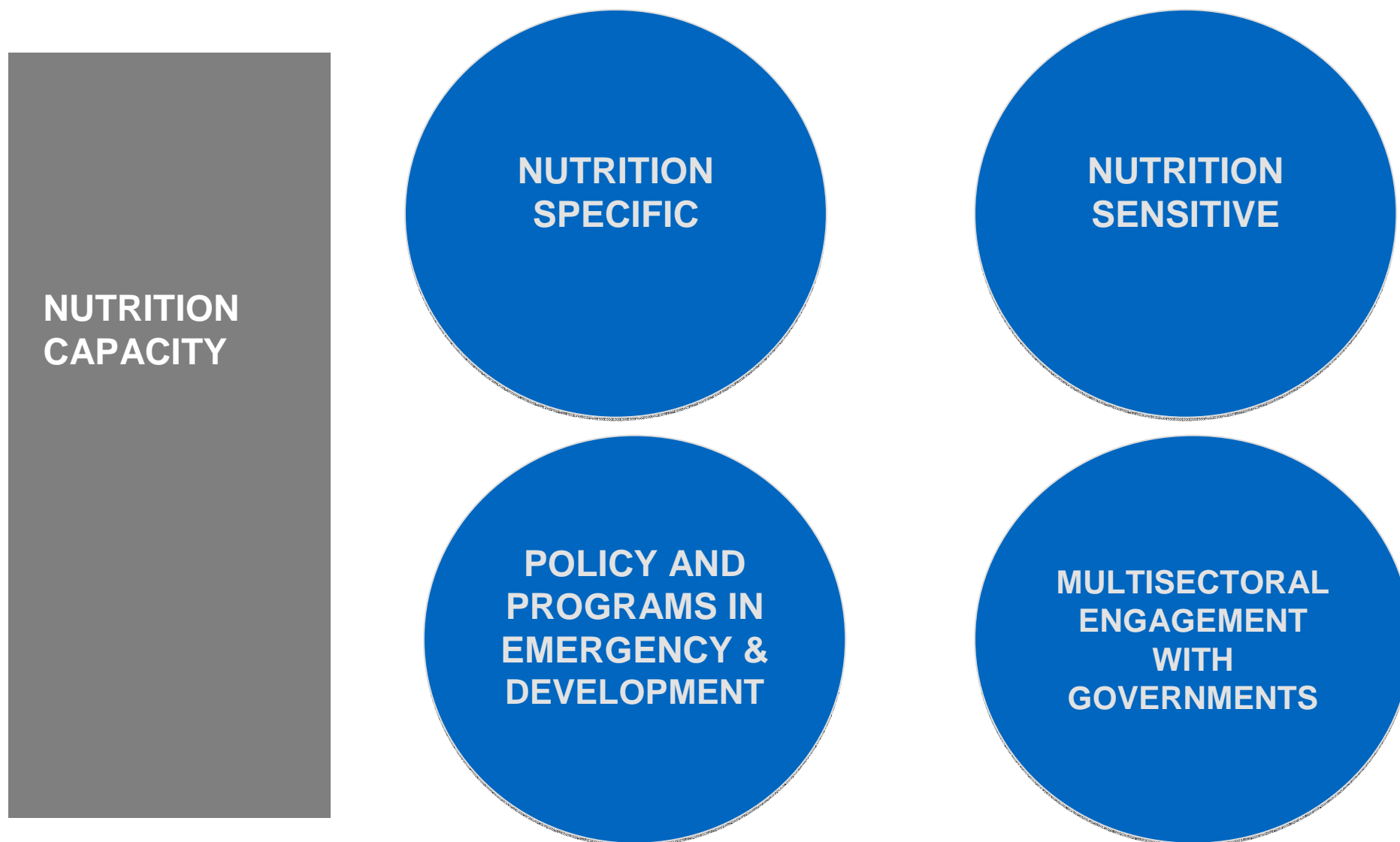
- **Ensure appropriate balance of competencies**
- **Ensure skills for implementation**
- **Enable effective advocacy, particularly with national governments**

Ways Forward

- Core competencies for nutrition staff have been updated and include a focus on partnership, advocacy and strategy
- To balance the various needs of different audiences, OSN will work with HR to update a nutrition capacity development strategy

PREVIEW

Capacity Building: Building Skills



PREVIEW

Capacity Building: Skills, Secondment and Recruitment

NUTRITION CAPACITY

BUILDING NEW SKILLS

Training for:

- Refining emergency response
- Close work with governments
- Nutrition sensitive

SECONDING THE RIGHT SUPPORT

Seconding the right staff with the right skills and working with partners on surge capacity and targeted technical support

RECRUITING

When we can't build or borrow, finding new staff with the right competencies to grow with WFP

CREATING A NEW STRATEGY

Building, borrowing and recruiting the right talent across staffing levels requires a new strategy and way of working with HR

Recommendation 7: Collaboration and Multi-sectoral Partnerships

Recommendation

- **Continue to work in partnership across emergency, transition and development contexts**
- **Support cohesive UN Nutrition strategies**
- **Strengthen external communications on WFP Nutrition**

Ways Forward

- Continue to support global nutrition mechanisms which support national governments to deliver improved nutrition
- Strengthen collaboration with key nutrition partners and ensure coordinated action via the Cluster
- Update external materials to openly communicate WFP's role in nutrition and serve as an ongoing update to external stakeholders

PREVIEW

Strong Partnerships in all Contexts

PARTNERSHIP ACROSS DELIVERY MODELS

Emergencies



Strong logistics / supply chain



Direct delivery of specialized nutritious foods, including for treatment of MAM



Working closely with UNICEF



Nutrition cluster coordination

Traditional Partners

Community level

Specialized food

Referral to health care

BCC



De-worming

Treatment and prevention

Training community workers

Fortification



Project delivered with government and NGO partner



Governments



Assessment tools, data analysis, and M&E



The right assistance, via diverse platforms including social protection

Value added to governments to deliver improved nutrition

Recommendation 8: Resourcing Implementation of the Policy

Recommendation

- **Continue to implement the Financial Framework Review**
- **Improve financial monitoring and cost-effectiveness analysis**
- **Continue to advocate with donors for longer term financing for prevention activities**

Ways Forward

- Continue work on Financial Framework Review and ensure nutrition considerations
- Explore cost-effectiveness under the value for money framework
- Update Nutrition Fundraising Strategy, with a focus on the need for funding to better implement preventative activities