



# World Bank's Engagement in Malnutrition in Africa in Partnership with Japan through the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF)



# Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF)



- Established in 2000, the JSDF is a unique instrument of partnership between the World Bank and the Government of Japan with a specific focus on reaching the most vulnerable populations with the most innovative approaches
- Builds capacity in communities through shared decision-making, life skills and livelihood improvement skills
- Responding to strategy to scale-up nutrition by designing and testing innovative pilot projects to:
  - improve infant and young child nutrition; pre-conception nutrition
  - build household and community resilience to food and nutrition insecurity shocks
  - improve access to nutrient-rich food of plant and animal origins improve access to community-based nutrition and livelihoods services
- Reaching new groups of beneficiaries who have been overlooked by government programs
- Supporting community driven development by empowering the poor at the grassroots level to participate in society on issues that will improve their livelihoods
- Pioneering more cost-effective service delivery mechanisms
- Investing in economic empowerment and livelihood improvements for conflict affected youth in AFR and elsewhere



# Why Focus on Reducing Malnutrition?



Simply stated, malnutrition is one of the world's most serious but least addressed health problems

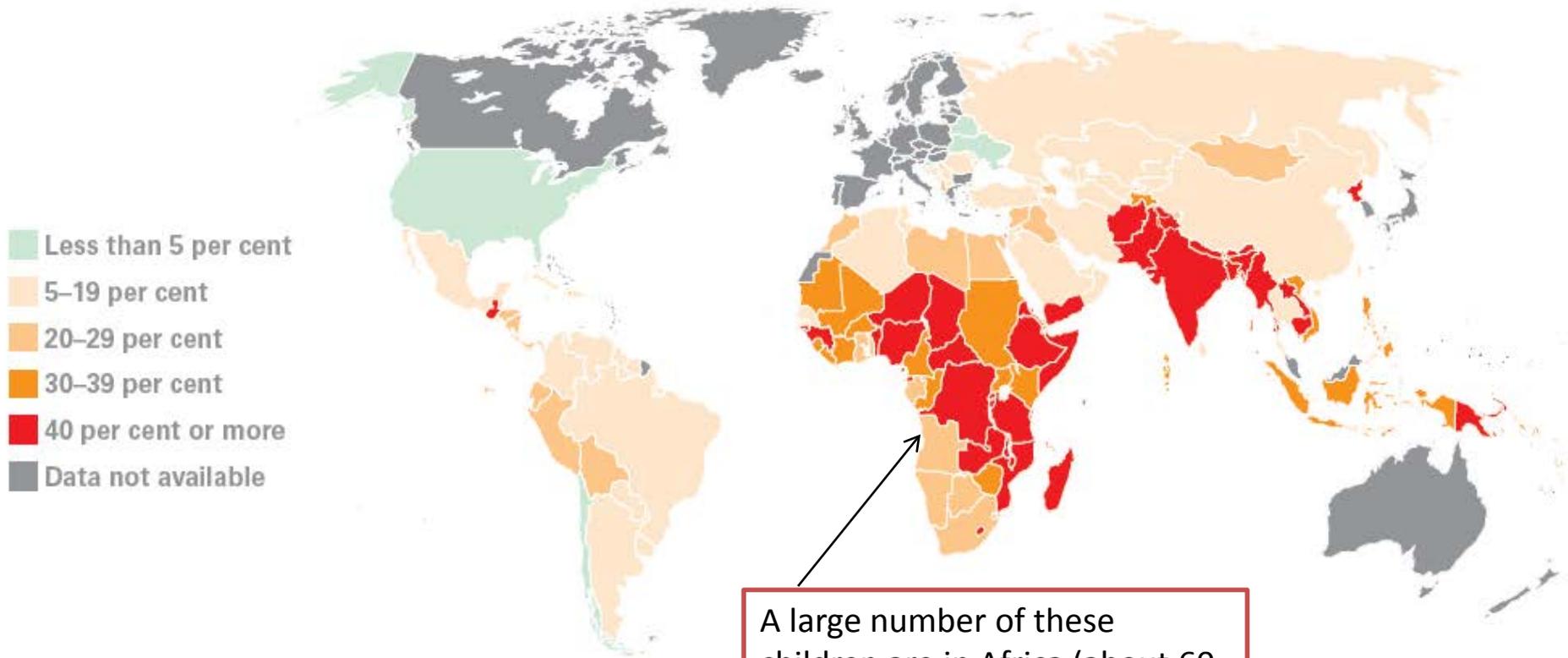
The human and economic costs are enormous, falling hardest on the very poor and on women and children. In developing countries nearly one-third of children are underweight or stunted (low height for age)

Undernutrition interacts with repeated bouts of infectious disease, causing an estimated 3.5 million preventable maternal and child deaths annually

Has lasting implications for multiple generations



# Stunting affects approximately 183 million under-five children in the developing world



- Less than 5 per cent
- 5-19 per cent
- 20-29 per cent
- 30-39 per cent
- 40 per cent or more
- Data not available

A large number of these children are in Africa (about 60 million stunted; + 30 million underweight and many more micronutrient deficient)

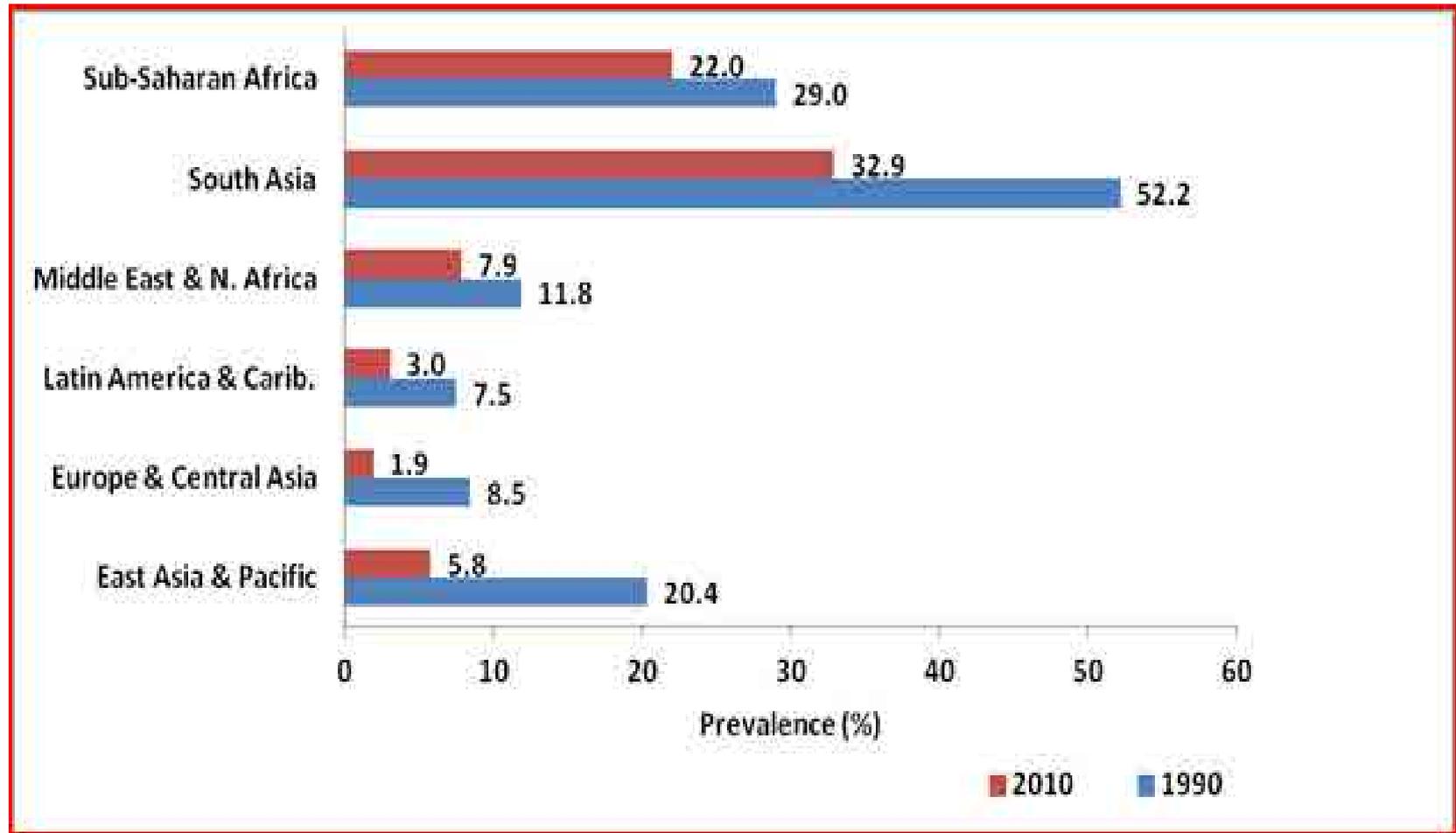


**Note:** prevalence estimates calculated according to WHO Child Growth Standards  
**Source:** DHS, MICS and national nutrition surveys, 1990 - 2010, and additional analysis by UNICEF



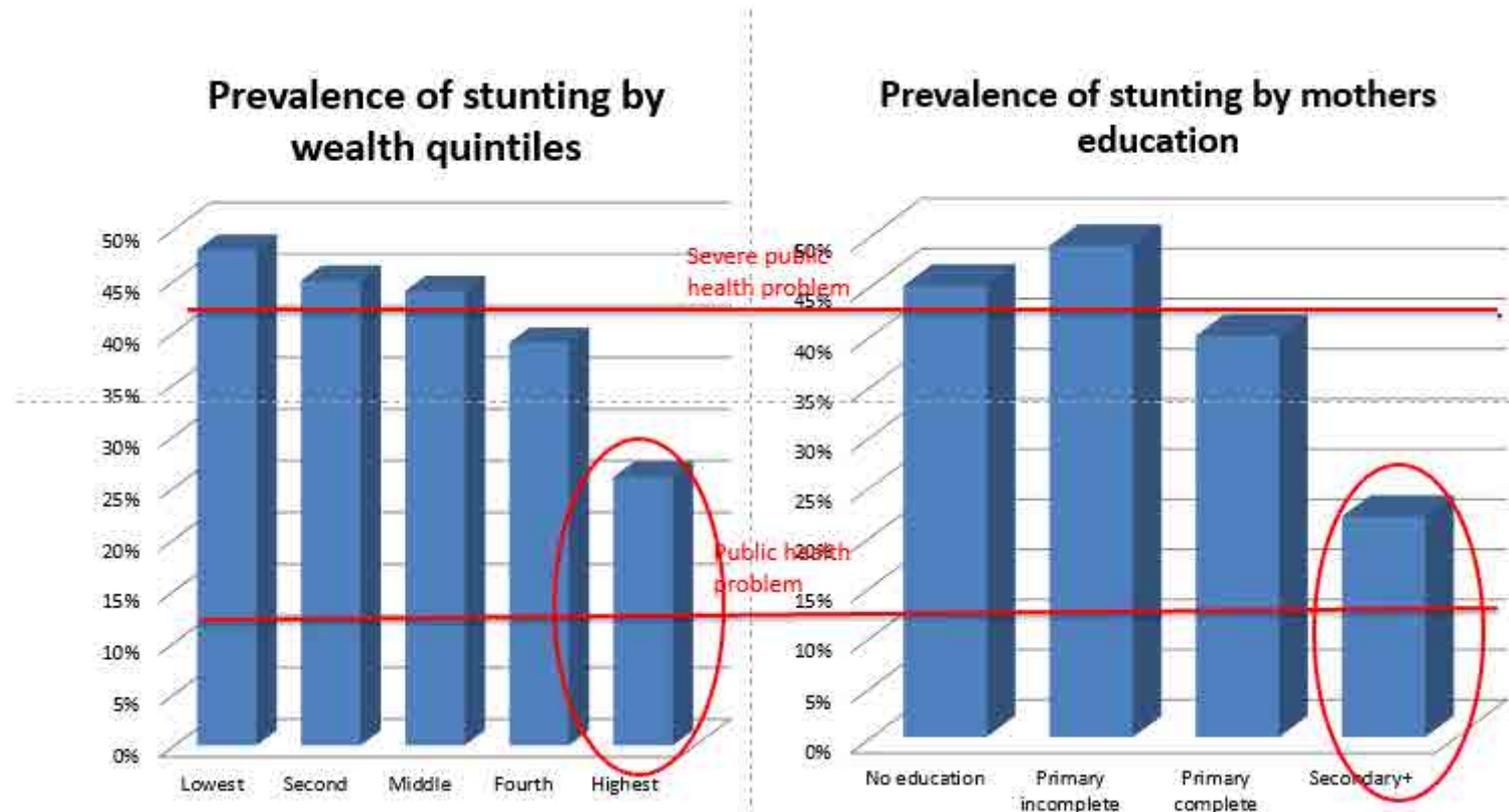
# Underweight Trends

## Weight for age (% of children under 5 years old)



# Nutrition Inequities

## Tanzania: Stunting rates by wealth quintiles & education



Children from all socioeconomic groups are seriously stunted, although somewhat less in the richest and most educated families



# JSDF – Tokyo International Conference on Africa Development (TICAD)



- TICAD has been an evolving element in Japan's long-term commitment to fostering peace and stability in Africa through collaborative partnerships. To do this, Japan has stressed the importance of Africa's ownership of its development as well as of the Partnership between Africa and the international community
- JSDF is funding Nutrition projects under TICAD
  - Complex development issue that requires multi-sector approaches
  - Some of these are under implementation while others are at the pre-concept stage



# JSDF: Unleashing the Power of Nutrition

## Burundi Community Nutrition Project



**\$3 million JSDF grant Improving the nutrition of young children in poor rural areas with high malnutrition rates through innovative delivery mechanisms of nutrition services at community level by reaching out to mothers and grandmothers**



### Results to date:

- 32,500 pregnant/lactating women offered basic nutrition services
- 18,600 children under the age of 24 months benefited from improved infant and young child feeding
- 9,800 children under age five treated for moderate or severe acute malnutrition



# JSDF: Belize Improving Children's Health



Objective is to improve the health and nutrition of children in local Mayan communities in Toledo, Belize through an early childhood development approach focusing on **pre-natal care**, **nutrition monitoring** in the critical window of opportunity, and school health interventions at the primary school level.

## Results To Date:

- Pre-natal care - providing pharmaceuticals across the Toledo District health network and sensitization training to MOH staff on reducing cultural barriers which limit indigenous women from seeking and accessing health services.
- Trained 84 Community Health Workers on key areas of proper nutrition practices and monitoring.
- Trained principals, teachers, and the PTA across the 32 primary schools on proper nutrition practices and the management and implementation of the school feeding program.
- De-worming and iron pills provided twice a year to primary school children as part of the national strategy to reduce malnutrition.



# JSDF: Burundi Nutrition Smart Agriculture and Capacity Building Project (\$1.8 million) Under Preparation



- Development Objectives is to increase nutritionally-adequate food crop production, leading to increased household food consumption and dietary diversity
- Increased year-round household production of micronutrient-rich foods, including biofortified iron-rich beans and sweet potatoes, targeted to mothers with children under the age of two
- Supporting capacity-building for extension activities, program management, policy advocacy and outreach, and monitoring & evaluation of nutritionally-smart agriculture initiatives
- Expected impact is to alleviate malnutrition and undernutrition in the medium and long term
- To increase utilization of nutrition-improving services by under-three children, adolescent girls and pregnant and nursing women from poor households in the target areas



# Togo: Pilot Project to Improve Community-based Nutrition Under Preparation



- Objective is to test an innovative approach of improving and expanding community-based delivery of nutrition services through better use of community health workers and other community members, to prevent chronic malnutrition and ensure better access to nutrition services
- Target pregnant women and children under the age of two in selected regions of Togo where there exist high burden of child undernutrition and poverty
- Target men in the households as part of the decision making process as behavioral change is important. Conduct training to men in order for them to gain further understanding of the importance of nutrition in women and children
- Contribute to informing policy makers on building efficient, innovative and sustainable mechanism of community-based nutrition service delivery that could be replicated in other regions of Togo



# Mozambique: Pre-Conception Nutrition Improvement Pilot Under Preparation



- The Grant Development Objective is to design an innovative pilot project to improve pre-conception nutrition in support of Mozambique's current efforts to scale up nutrition, with a focus to engage with beneficiaries who are the poorest; ensure ownership and participatory design of the project inputs.
- Community consultations are underway to identify potential linkages, to clarify community priorities and desired inputs and outcomes with respect to the proposed pilot project, and to understand perceptions and challenges of working with communities with regards to increasing their ownership in service delivery;



# Improving Nutrition will have lasting impact for multiple generations



**Thank you for your partnership!**

