WFP’s Nutrition Interventions and Policies in Africa – including Ghana

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Agenda

1. The Nutrition Solutions

2. WFP Nutrition Programmes in Africa

3. Nutrition Programmes in Ghana
Sustainable Development Goal No. 2

**GOAL 2**

END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal
Multisectoral, multistakeholder efforts required to address malnutrition

Stakeholder landscape for nutrition – not exhaustive

Regional/global processes supporting national nutrition efforts

- Global processes
- Gov’t efforts
- Other stakeholders

Health | Agriculture & fisheries | Social development | Finance | Education

Donors | UN* | NGOs / CSOs | Private sector | Academia

- Nutrition Division (OSN)

* UN Nutrition Network comprised of FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO and IFAD; other agencies engaged in nutrition include UNHCR, UNFPA, UN Women, and UNDP
What do we know: The unacceptable magnitude of the problem...

- **3 million children under 5** die every year from malnutrition-related causes  
  = 45% of all child deaths

- **50 million children under five** are *wasted* (*thin*; low weight for height)

- **159 million children under five** are *stunted* (*small*; low height for age), primarily in Africa and Asia

- Moderate Acute Malnutrition (*MAM*) rates can at least *double* during *lean season*, with even *greater risk* in sudden onset *emergencies*
UNICEF Conceptual Framework (partial representation)

- Malnutrition
  - Inadequate dietary intake
  - Inadequate access to food
  - Inadequate care for children and women
  - Insufficient health services & unhealthy environment
- Disease
The High Burden Countries in Africa

25 countries have a stunting prevalence above 40%, the level defined as critical by WHO.
How does WFP fight Malnutrition?

- Targets the 1,000 days window of opportunity
- Treatment and Prevention of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)
- Brings expertise in Specialized Nutritious Foods
- Strengthens capabilities of Governments in Nutrition
- Applies Nutrition Sensitive Lens to its deep field programming
WFP’s work in Africa

• In 2014, WFP had nutrition operations in 33 countries of Africa

• 6.3 million nutrition beneficiaries (61.5% of all nutrition beneficiaries in 2014, were in African countries)
  • 32.8% in Prevention programmes
  • 67.2% in MAM Treatment Programmes

• Largest programmes are in Niger, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya and Somalia
# Nutrition Profile in Ghana

## National Nutrition Figures

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<tr>
<td>Stunting Prevalence</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wasting Prevalence</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
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<td>Low birth weight</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
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## Regional Figures (where WFP implements its projects)

<table>
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<th>Region</th>
<th>Prevalence</th>
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<td>Northern region (stunting)</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Eastern (wasting)</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
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Current Nutrition Programmes in Ghana

- MAM Treatment Programme for pregnant and lactating women and Children
- Pilot Prevention Programme supported by Japan
- Nutrition Programme for People Living with HIV
- Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chains in Ghana (anticipated for 2016)
  - Linking small holder farmers to producers of fortified blended foods
MAM Treatment Programme in Ghana

Children 6-59 months

- Targeted supplementary feeding programme (TSFP) for 96,000 children with moderate acute malnutrition
- Provided in 435 health facilities in the 26 districts with relatively high food insecurity levels in the three northern regions
- Super Cereal Plus (CSB++).

Pregnant and Lactating Women

- 12,000 pregnant and lactating women with MAM in the same 26 districts in Northern, Upper East, and Upper West Regions
- Receive rations of Super Cereal, fortified vegetable oil and sugar, from as early in their pregnancy as possible.
Prevention Programme in Ghana

- Prevention of chronic malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies among children 6-23 months old

- Japanese funded “New Nutrition Project” in cooperation with Ajinomoto

- 10 districts in the Northern region, Upper East and Upper West regions are being targeted.

- Cash transfer (voucher) for the purchase of a small quantity of complementary product (start 2016)
  - Includes a Behavior Change Communication component
  - Distribution of small quantity LNS to be done through supply chain including pharmacies and health volunteers
Prevention Programme in Ghana

• **Nutrition Sensitive focus**
  • Focus on the increased production of diverse crops and the increased consumption of a diverse diet
  • Includes Behavior Change Communication

**Activities implemented:**
• Identification and nutrient analysis of locally available nutritious foods and the promotion of their production and consumption; (10 staples have been analysed with another 10 to be analysed soon)

• **Improve the Nutrition Component of School Feeding**
  • Improve the nutrition component of school feeding programmes (nutritious school menus)