

# National and District Tools to Guide Anemia Programming

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# Why turn attention to anemia?





# 2011 Global Estimates of Anemia Prevalence



Pregnant women: **29%**



Women of reproductive age: **38%**



Children (6–59 months): **43%**





Only 3 out of 185 countries with anemia data are on course to reduce anemia.





# An effective strategy for anemia reduction requires...

- an understanding of the **context-specific causes** and **interventions that address them effectively**

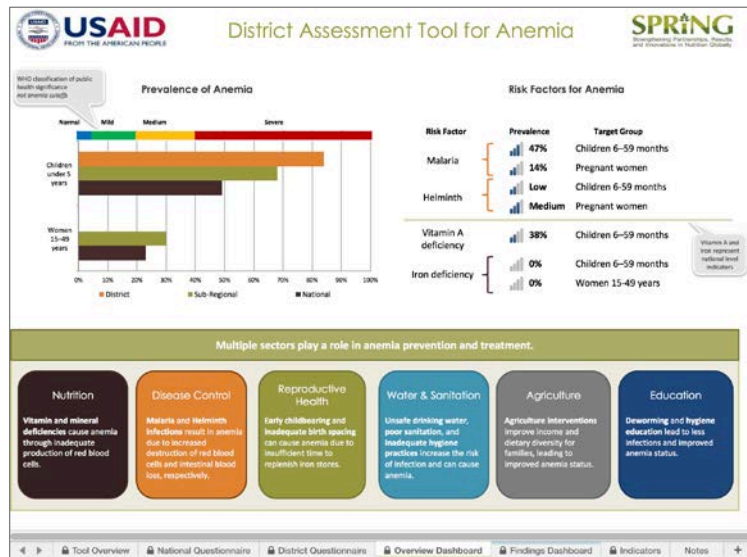


- a **multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder** approach



# SPRING developed two tools...

- An interactive, web-based Guidance for Conducting Landscape Analyses for Anemia
- An Excel-based District Assessment Tool for Anemia (DATA)



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**Understanding Anemia: Guidance for Conducting a Landscape Analysis**

The aim of this guidance is to support data collection and analysis to understand the anemia situation and support an evidence-based approach to anemia prevention and reduction. While primarily directed at technical experts planning to carry out a landscape analysis, the guidance will also be of interest to anyone interested in a better understanding of anemia in their country: government staff in anemia-related ministries, nutrition program implementers, and planning staff in anemia-related sectors. This guidance leads readers through the process of conducting a landscape analysis, providing references and examples to further explain each step.

**Why is anemia important?**

Today, anemia is one of the most common public health problems. Globally, 43 percent of children under 5, 38 percent of pregnant women, and 29 percent of women of reproductive age (WRA) are anemic (Kassebaum et al. 2014; Kassebaum 2016). Anemia is characterized by low levels of hemoglobin, a protein that carries oxygen throughout the body. Effects of anemia include reduced cognitive and physical development in children, fatigue, and reduced physical stamina and productivity for people of all ages (Low et al. 2013; Lozoff 2007; Murray-Kolb 2013; Pasricha et al. 2014). When severe, iron deficiency increases mortality during pregnancy, infancy, and childhood (López et al. 2016). During pregnancy, anemia increases the risk of preterm delivery, low birthweight, and maternal and neonatal mortality (Rahman et al. 2016).

**What is a landscape analysis?**

Landscape analyses have been conducted in many different ways and are closely related to activities like a context assessment or situation analysis. For this guidance, we define a landscape analysis as a detailed assessment that uses primary and/or secondary data to describe a problem and the policies and public health interventions already in place to address this problem in a given setting. Ideally, conducting a landscape analysis should include participation by multiple stakeholders working to ensure all relevant and existing data are included. For country examples of anemia landscape analysis, please visit the "Next steps and resources" section of this guidance.

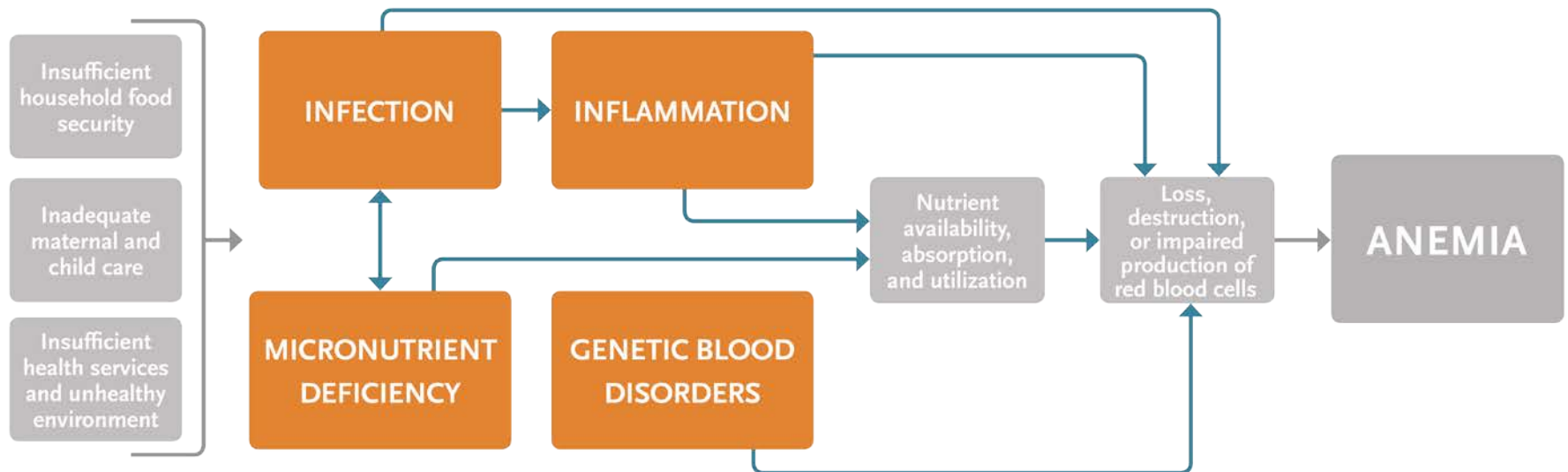
**National and District Tools to Guide Anemia Programming**

Understanding Anemia

Navigate this Resource

# Landscape Analysis Guidance: **Why?**

- Helps users know the anemia problem in the country
- Shows users how to capture information on the multiple factors that contribute to anemia
- Helps users understand the existing strategies for anemia prevention and control





# Good Practices Checklist

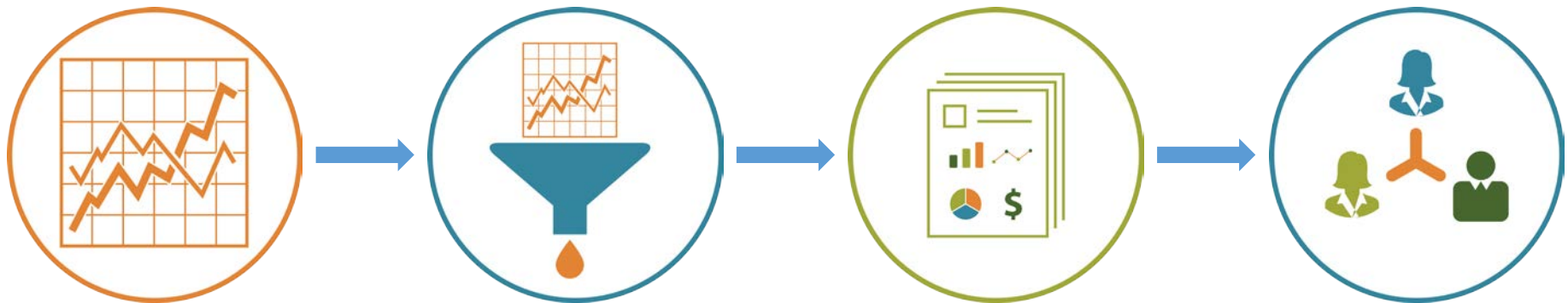
- 1. Know the problem
  
- 2. Raise awareness and develop partnerships
  
- 3. Develop interventions and implementation plans







# Understanding Anemia: Landscape Analysis Guidance and Tool



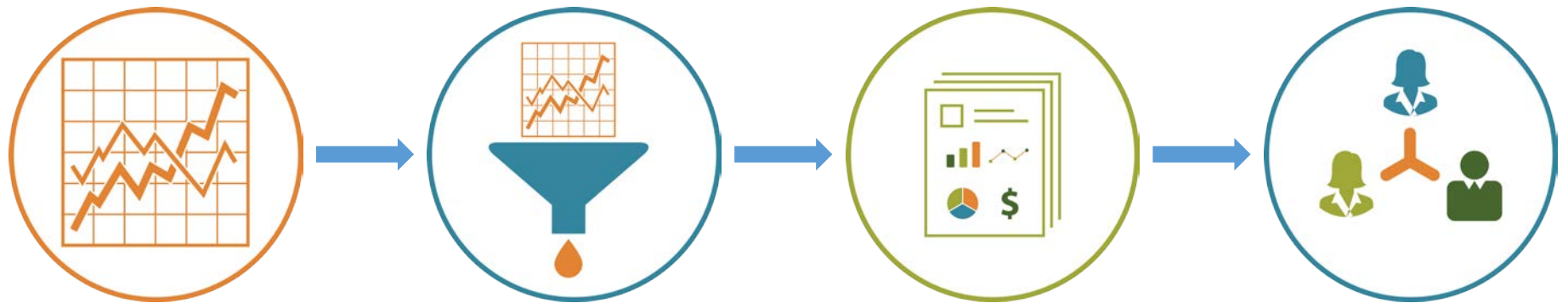
Available at:

[www.spring-nutrition.org/anemia-landscape](http://www.spring-nutrition.org/anemia-landscape)





# Understanding the Foundation



The  
Problem

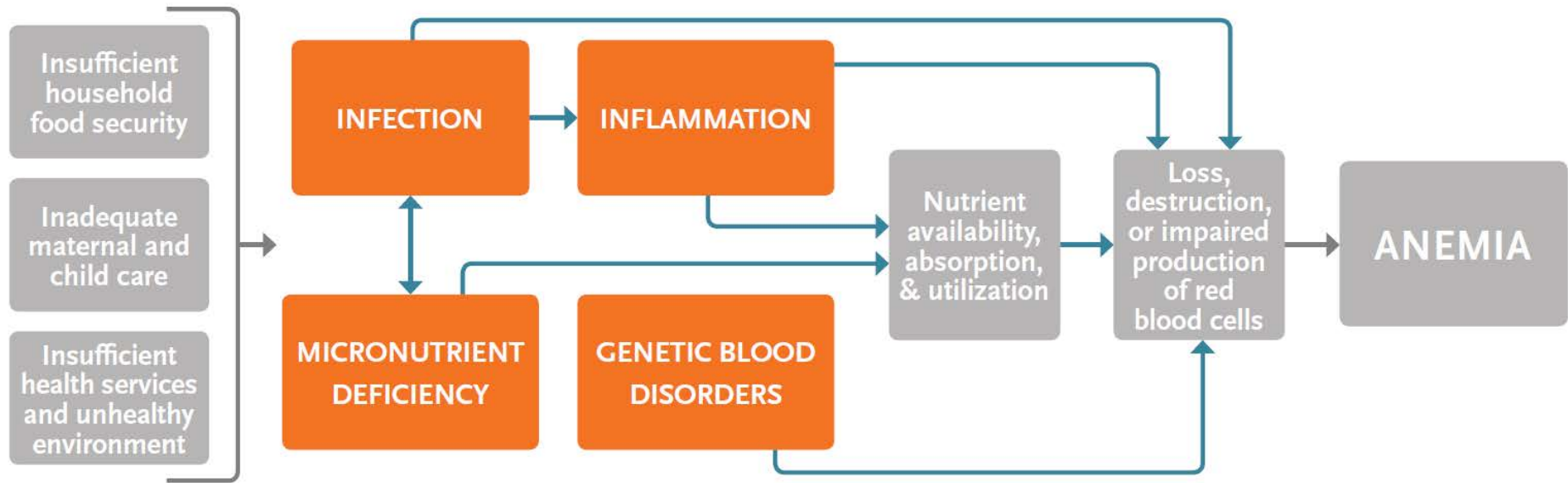
The  
Process

The  
Data





# Exploring the Causes of Anemia





# Investigating Interventions for Anemia Prevention and Reduction

## NUTRITION



## DISEASE CONTROL



## WASH



## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



## AGRICULTURE



## GENETICS





# Gathering and Using Data on the Causes of and Interventions for Anemia

## How is it...

- linked to anemia?
- classified?
- measured?

What **methodological issues** should I understand to use this data properly?

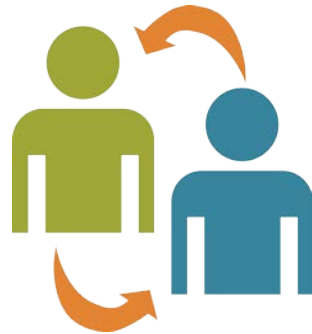
What **data sources** have this information available?





# Examining the Policy Environment for Anemia

1



2



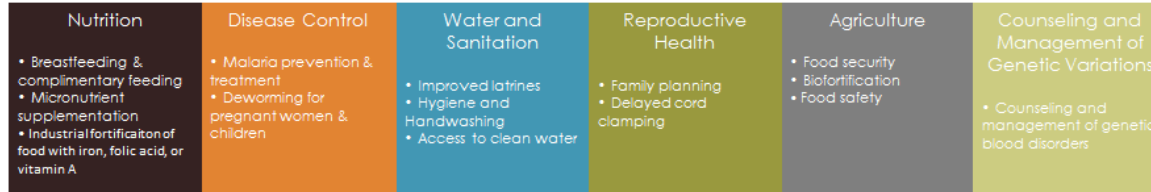
3



# Landscape Analysis Tool Dashboard



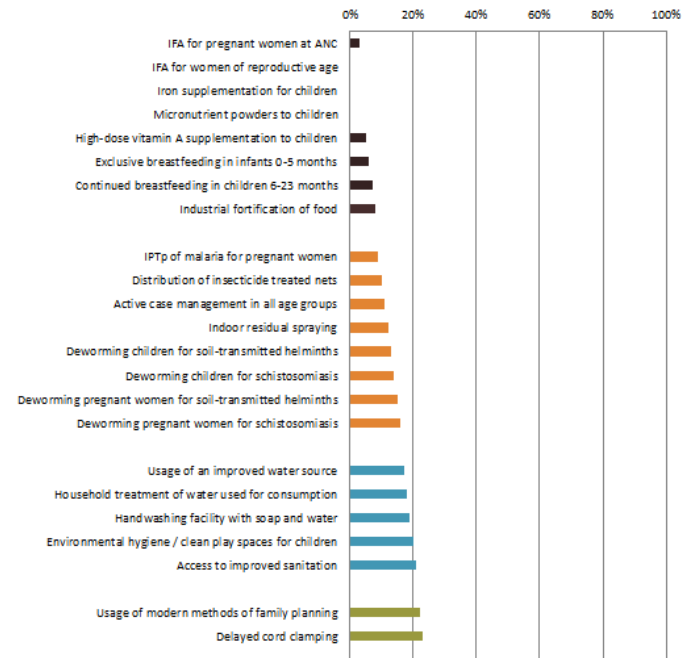
## Anemia Landscape Analysis Tool

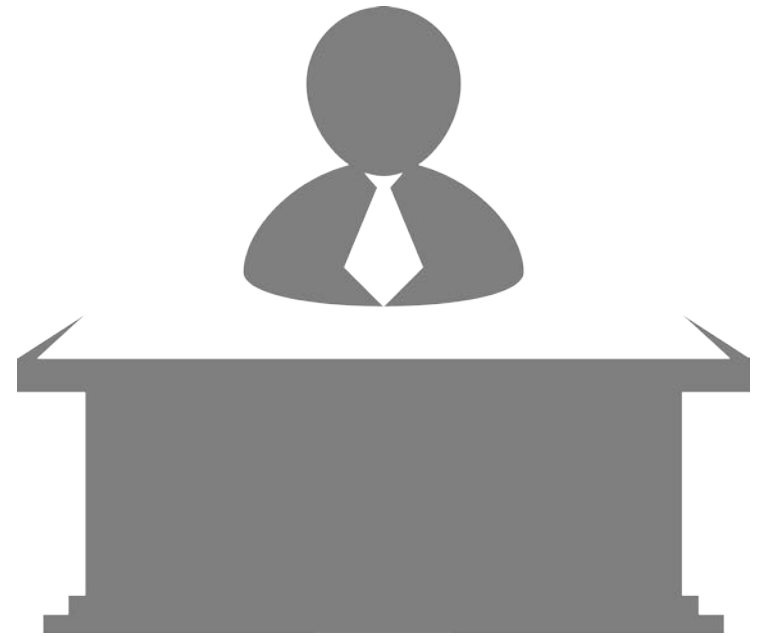
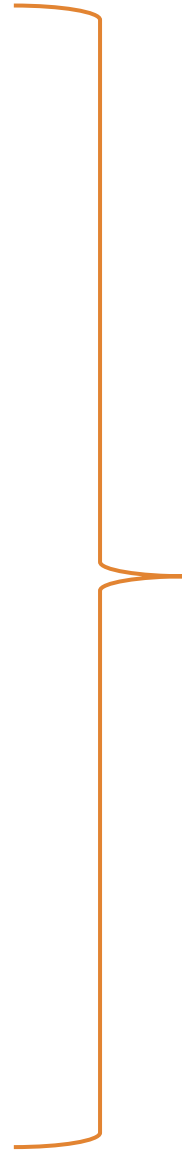


Suggested Anemia Interventions

Strategy/Policy	Program	Coverage
Nutrition	IFA for pregnant women at ANC	3%
	IFA for women of reproductive age	N/A
	Iron supplementation for children	N/A
	Micronutrient powders to children	N/A
	High-dose vitamin A supplementation to children	5%
	Exclusive breastfeeding in infants 0-5 months	6%
	Continued breastfeeding in children 6-23 months	7%
Industrial fortification of food	8%	
Disease Control	IPTp of malaria for pregnant women	9%
	Distribution of insecticide treated nets	10%
	Active case management in all age groups	11%
	Indoor residual spraying	12%
	Deworming children for soil-transmitted helminths	13%
	Deworming children for schistosomiasis	14%
	Deworming pregnant women for soil-transmitted helminths	15%
Deworming pregnant women for schistosomiasis	16%	
WASH	Usage of an improved water source	17%
	Household treatment of water used for consumption	18%
	Handwashing facility with soap and water	19%
	Environmental hygiene / clean play spaces for children	20%
	Access to improved sanitation	21%
RH	Usage of modern methods of family planning	22%
	Delayed cord clamping	23%

Coverage









# Anemia Programming at the District Level: District Assessment Tool for Anemia (DATA)

Dr. Denish Moorthy, Technical Advisor, Micronutrients,  
SPRING, Washington, D.C.

March 23, 2017



# Why District Level?

- Decision making becoming disaggregated
- Resources limited; Decisions need to be made
- Opinions matter: perspective and expertise of district level staff
- Comparisons: Want to know how they are doing vis-à-vis regional and national
- Simple visualization



# Why DATA?

## A district level tool:

- Increases awareness of the importance of contextual factors
- Identifies the gaps, enablers, and barriers to addressing anemia risk factors
- Assists with prioritization of district-level anemia interventions





# Purpose of DATA

- Increases an understanding about anemia and its causes
- Highlights current data and encourages further data collection
- Helps prioritize activities and interventions in a way that is most likely to address the most important causes of anemia



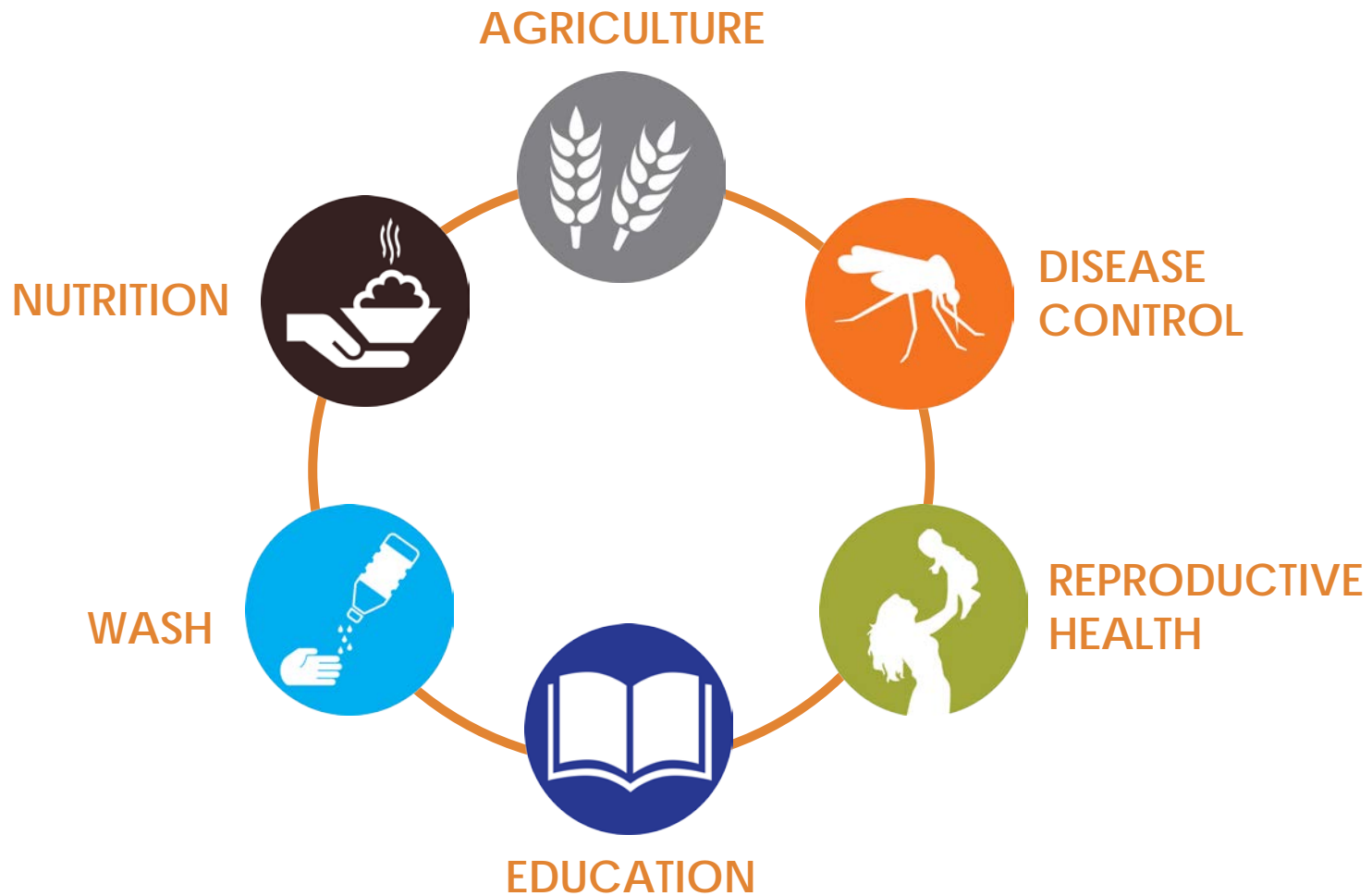
# DATA: Approach

A two-day facilitated workshop involving district-level stakeholders from health, water and sanitation, agriculture, and education sectors





# Audience: District level stakeholders across sectors



# DATA: Inputs and Outputs

## Outputs

- National Questionnaire
- District Questionnaire

## Outputs

- Barriers
- Dashboards
- Plan of Action

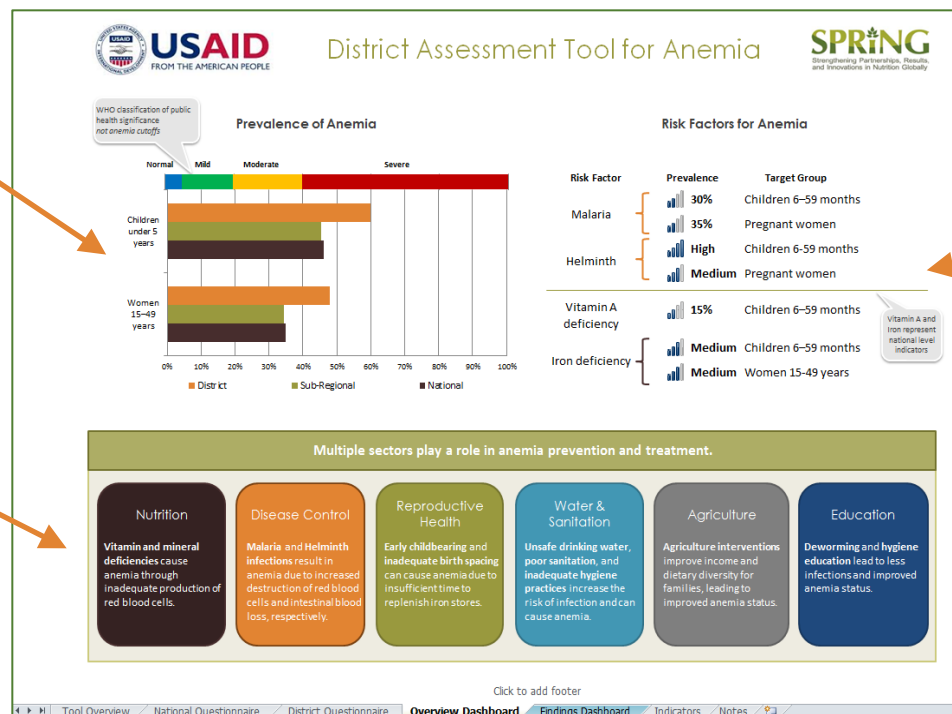




# Output: Overview Dashboard

Once the survey questions have been answered, the data can be viewed on dashboards by program area

- This information can be used to identify issues and prioritize actions



Prevalence of anemia

Risk factors for anemia

Relevant sectors that play a role in anemia programming



# Output: Findings Dashboard

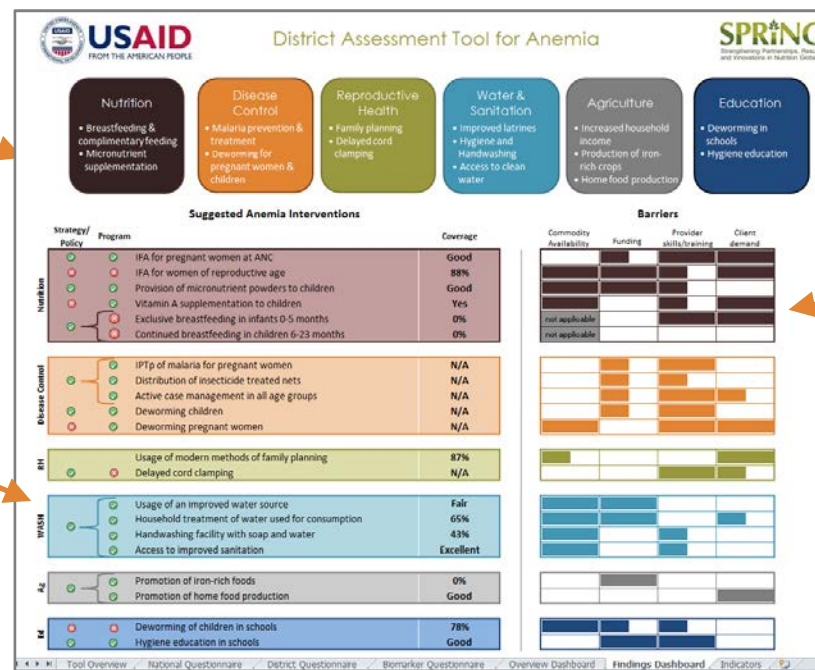
Once the survey questions have been answered, the data can be viewed on dashboards by program area

- This information can be used to identify issues and prioritize actions

Interventions for anemia

Details on policy and program coverage for each intervention

Details on barriers for each intervention





# Steps of Using DATA



**Step 1:** Review the anemia situation—consult **Overview Dashboard**



**Step 2:** Review anemia programs and policy—consult **Findings Dashboard**



**Step 3:** Review **inputs to prioritization**—discuss considerations for program implementation

**Step 4:** Identify and **assess barriers to implementation**—complete the barriers section



**Step 5:** Formulate a **plan of action**



# DATA: Initial Piloting



## Ghana

- August 2015: Kumbungu district, Northern Region



## Uganda

- August 2016: Revised DATA package tested in three districts - Namutumba, Arua, and Amuria



## Nepal

- September 2016: Revised DATA package piloted in one district – Kapilvastu



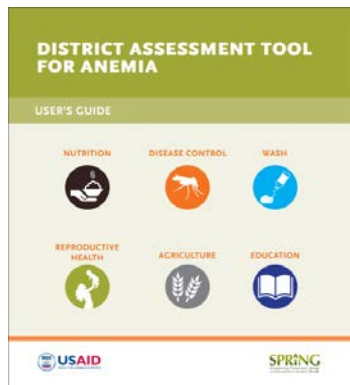
# DATA Package

The screenshot shows the 'District Assessment Tool for Anemia' Excel spreadsheet. It features a header with USAID and SPRING logos. Below the header are six colored boxes representing key areas: Nutrition, Disease Control, Reproductive Health, Water & Sanitation, Agriculture, and Education. The main content is divided into two columns: 'Suggested Anemia Interventions' and 'Barriers'. Each column contains a list of items with checkboxes and a corresponding 'Score' column. The 'Barriers' section includes a grid for 'Community', 'Health', and 'District' levels, with 'Yes' and 'No' options for each barrier.

EXCEL TOOL



FACILITATOR'S GUIDE



USER'S GUIDE



POWERPOINTS W/ SCRIPT



# SPRING DATA Page



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## District Assessment Tool for Anemia (DATA)

- Download:**
- Download the District Assessment Tool for Anemia (XLS, 364 KB)
  - Download the Facilitator's Guide (PDF, 2 MB)
  - Download the User's Guide (PDF, 2 MB)
  - Download the SPRING Anemia Overview Script (PPT, 13 MB)
  - Download the DATA Overview Script (PPT, 2 MB)
  - Download the Decision Framework for Prioritization of Anemia Action Script (PPT, 674 KB)





# DATA: Rollout



## Ghana

- 7 districts in Northern Region



## Uganda

- SPRING supporting RHITES-SW in 5 districts in South Western Region
- RHITES implements in 10 districts



## Nepal

- September 2016: Revised DATA package piloted in one district – Kapilvastu



# DATA Team

All participants in DATA Workshops to date and in the future

## Advisory Board

- Rolf Klem, HKI
- Robin Houston, JSI
- Omar Dary, USAID
- Tariq Azim, JSI
- Edward Bonku, JSI
- Phil Harvey (Honorary)
- Toby Stillman, Save (Previous)

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- Anuradha Narayan
- Denish Moorthy

## CHIME, JSI

- Emma Stewart, JSI
- Barbara Knittel, JSI







Thank you!



[www.spring-nutrition.org](http://www.spring-nutrition.org)