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Agriculture and Nutrition Global Learning and Evidence Exchange (N-GLEE)

held in Kampala, Uganda from December 10-12, 2012.

For additional presentations and related event materials, visit: http://spring-nutrition.org/nglee-africa
The Nutrition Revolution
From Revolution to Results

Agriculture and Nutrition Global Learning and Evidence Exchange (N-GLEE)
December 10-12, 2012
Kampala, Uganda

Shawn K. Baker
Vice President & Regional Director for Africa
For Decades
Undernutrition remained a Silent Crisis

• The “forgotten MDG”
  • Hidden under MDG 1c
• Rarely talked about
• Rarely invested in
• And even more rarely acted upon at scale
2008: Revolution Begins

- *The Lancet* series on undernutrition
- Copenhagen Consensus:
  - 5 of top 10 investments are in nutrition
- Global Food Price Crisis
Revolution Continues

- Advances in treatment of severe acute malnutrition – community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM)
- Advances in point-of-use fortificants (powders, lipid-based nutrient supplements)
Global Movement

- REACH: Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger (UNICEF, WHO, WFP)
- SUN: Scaling Up Nutrition (http://scalingupnutrition.org)
- 1,000 Days (http://www.thousanddays.org)
- CGIAR Agriculture for Nutrition and Health
- Nutrition Strategies of Major Donors:
  - USAID
  - European Union
  - UK DFID
  - World Bank
SUN: Endorsed by nearly a hundred partners – from civil society, governments, regional organizations, academia, UN agencies, World Bank, Foundations, private sector groups.
Nutrition Interventions: Direct versus Indirect

UNICEF Conceptual Framework of Malnutrition
Nutrition Interventions: Direct versus Indirect

“Direct” (specific) Interventions

“Indirect” (sensitive) Interventions
13 “Direct” Nutrition Interventions: What?

• Behavior change interventions:
  – Breastfeeding promotion and support
  – Complementary feeding
  – Handwashing and promotion of hygiene

• Micronutrients and deworming:
  – Vitamin A supplementation
  – Therapeutic zinc
  – Point-of-use fortification
  – Deworming
  – Iron-folic acid supplements for pregnant women
  – Fortification of staples
  – Salt iodization
  – Iodine supplements

• Complementary and therapeutic feeding:
  – Prevention/treatment of moderate malnutrition in children 6–23 months
  – Treatment of severe acute malnutrition.
13 “Direct” Nutrition Interventions: Characteristics

- Lend themselves to randomized trials
- Strong evidence base
- Some “old standards”
- Some evolving rapidly:
  - Point-of-use fortification
  - Moderate acute malnutrition
  - Severe acute malnutrition
- Only a few “at scale”
  - Vitamin A supplementation
  - Deworming
  - Fortification/Iodization
13 “Direct” Nutrition Interventions: Scale Score Card

• Behavior change interventions:
  – Breastfeeding promotion and support (D)
  – Complementary feeding (D-)
  – Handwashing and promotion of hygiene (D)

• Micronutrients and deworming:
  – Vitamin A supplementation (A)
  – Therapeutic zinc (C-)
  – Point-of-use fortification (New)

• Deworming (A)
• Iron-folic acid supplements for pregnant women (D-)
• Fortification of staples (B+)
• Salt iodization (B)
• Iodine supplements (D-)

• Complementary and therapeutic feeding:
  – Prevention/treatment of moderate malnutrition in children 6–23 months (D to C)
  – Treatment of severe acute malnutrition. (D to B+)
“Indirect” Nutrition Interventions

- **SUN**: “Take a multi-sectoral approach that includes integrating nutrition in related sectors and using indicators of undernutrition as one of the key measures of overall progress in these sectors”
  - Agricultural-based interventions
  - Food Security Interventions
  - Conditional Cash Transfers

- **Demonstrating Impact:**
  - Evaluation design more complex
  - Evidence-base far weaker
  - Implementing institutions not “accountable” for nutrition impacts
Capacity Building: The Orphan Nutrition Intervention

• SUN: “Human and institutional capacity in nutrition is very weak in many countries, thus limiting the pace of scaling up”

• West Africa Initiative:
  – Consultation
  – ECOWAS Assembly of Health Ministers

• East Africa Assessments

• Have not translated into investment