

Systems Thinking and Scale



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Key Principles

- Not prescriptive
- Whether they apply in a given setting will depend on policy, programmatic, and contextual factors.
- We suggest that integrating these principles into how we work will lead to more great, at-scale nutrition SBCC.



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Systems thinking

- A systems approach to Nutrition SBCC requires that program planners, designers, and policymakers:
 - consider interrelationships among systems rather than linear cause-and-effect chains;
 - consider processes of change among systems rather than discrete snapshots of change; and
 - identify and leverage input, processing, output, feedback, and control components.



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Which systems?

- Policies and governance
- Financing and economics
- Information and communications
- Resources, goods, and supplies
- Service delivery and production
- Socio-cultural networks



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Dimensions of scale

- Effectiveness, reach, equity, quality, sustainability
- Different models of scaling and types of scale: horizontal, vertical, functional
- Characteristics of “scalable” models



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What is this session about?

- Wow! Example: Prospera—Mexico's National Nutrition Program
 - National Integrated Nutrition Program component
- Panel discussion with a diversity of perspectives on systems and scale
- Challenging us to ask the right questions about systems and scale



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Prospera

- Unique, long term experience and learning from implementing at-scale
- Incentives for positive practices built in for families in the program as well as service providers
- Applying a systems framework to guide assessments, using data to change the program, and testing out the changes



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