

Strengthening Anemia Programming: A Hands-on Introduction to the Landscape Analysis Guidance and the District Assessment Tool

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SPRING's Mission

Strengthen global and country efforts to scale up high-impact nutrition practices

Prevent stunting and anemia in the first 1,000 days

Link agriculture and nutrition under Feed the Future

Create social and behavior change for improved nutrition outcomes

Five-year, USAID centrally-funded Cooperative Agreement (October 1, 2011–September 30, 2016)

Partners



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.

Colombia



Burundi



Vietnam





An effective strategy for anemia reduction requires...

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

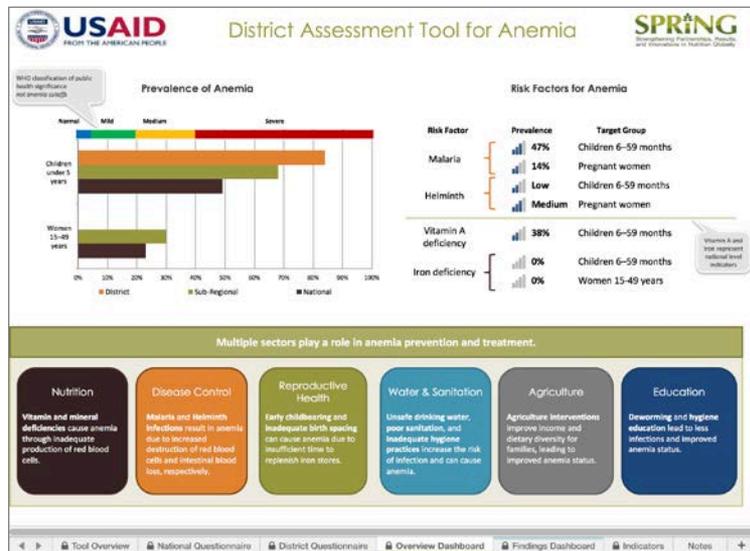


- a **multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder** approach



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).

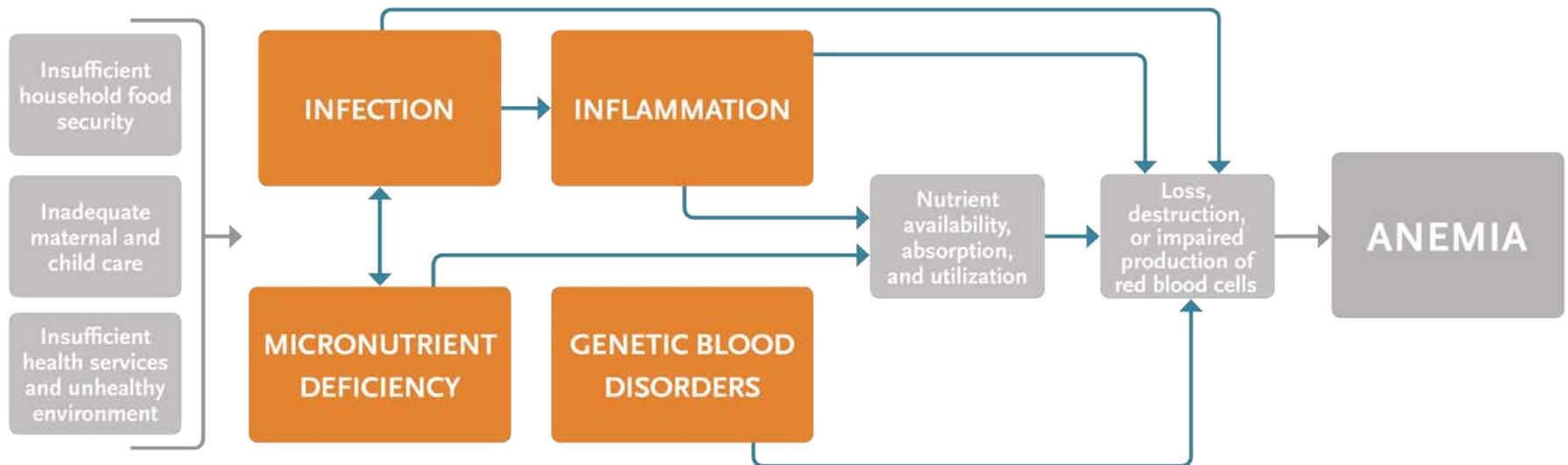
What is a landscape analysis?

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.

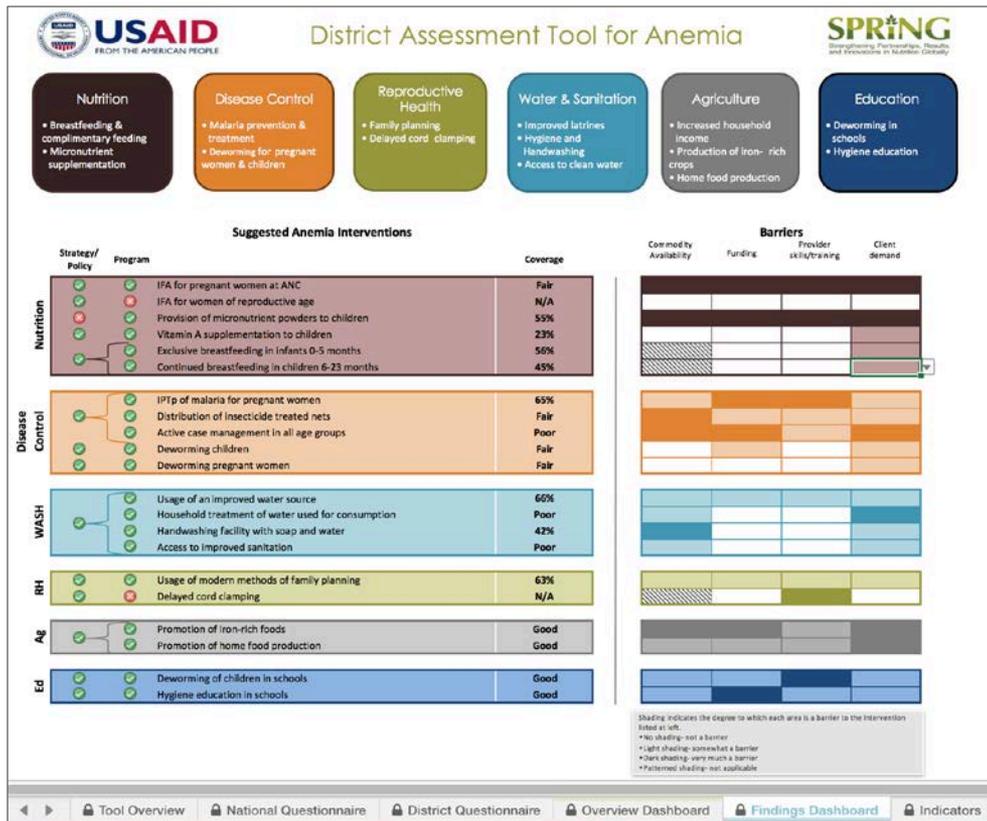
National and District Tools to Guide Anemia Programming
Understanding Anemia
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Landscape Analysis Guidance: **Why?**

- 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



DATA: Purpose



An Excel-based district-level tool that—

- increases understanding about anemia and its causes
- Uses existing data to improve implementation of anemia-related activities





DATA: Audience and Approach

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



Where are we
now?



Landscape Analysis Guidance

- Content drafted throughout 2016 and went live in October: <https://www.spring-nutrition.org/understanding-anemia>
- SPRING will be soliciting feedback in 2017 to ensure that the guidance reflects the most up-to-date information.





DATA: Testing and Rollout



Ghana

- Initial testing in August 2015
- Plans to rollout DATA to 15 districts in the Northern and Upper East regions in 2017



Uganda

- August 2016: Revised DATA package tested in two districts.



Nepal

- September 2016: Revised DATA package piloted in one district.





Thank you!

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