Nutrition & the Continuum of Care: From Pre-Conception to the Postnatal Period

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Washington, DC

28 July 2014



World Food Programme

- Largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide
- Approximately 80 million a year in 75 countries (2013)





- Food assistance mandate:
 - Emergencies
 - Strategic Plan 2014-2017
 - Building resilience & reducing undernutrition



Adequate nutrition for mothers & young children is essential

45% of all deaths children under 5 attributed to undernutrition (3.1 million deaths)

52 million children under 5 are wasted

165 million children under 5 are stunted

Lancet Maternal & Child Nutrition series (2008, 2013):

Proper nutrition → 1000 Days window

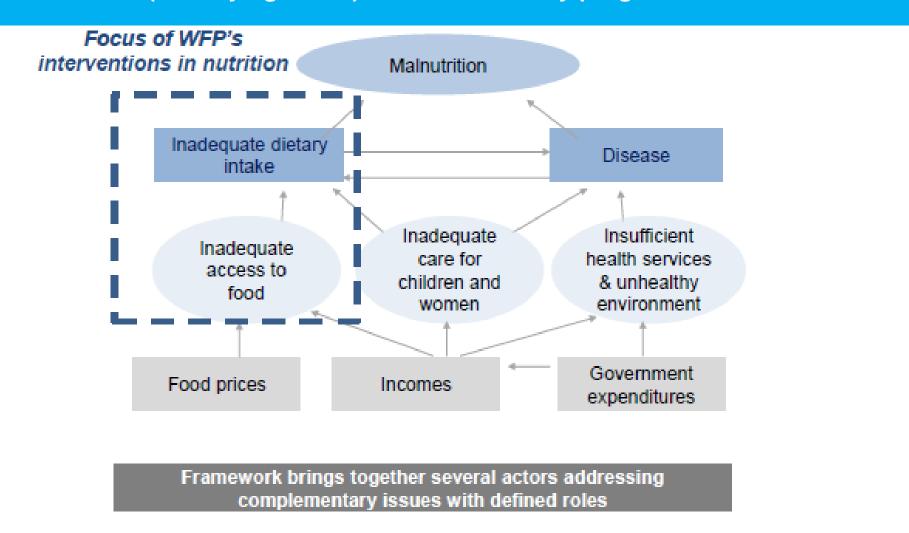
WFP

- Break intergenerational cycle of malnutrition
 → Action in 1000 Days
- Critical to treat and prevent undernutrition in children and to address the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women
- 2012 → 4 million PLW & 12 million children under 5 in nutrition programs





There are many causes of undernutrition. WFP's focuses on addressing inadequate dietary intake (direct cause) with nutrition programmes, and inadequate access to food (underlying cause) with food security programmes



WFP also coordinates with national governments and partners in relation to programming to address the other causes of undernutrition.

WFP Nutrition Policy (2012)

WFP's Mission in Nutrition:

To work with partners to fight undernutrition by ensuring physical and economic access to a nutritious and ageappropriate diet for those who lack it and to support households and communities in utilizing food adequately. WFP ensures access to the right food, at the right place, at the right time.



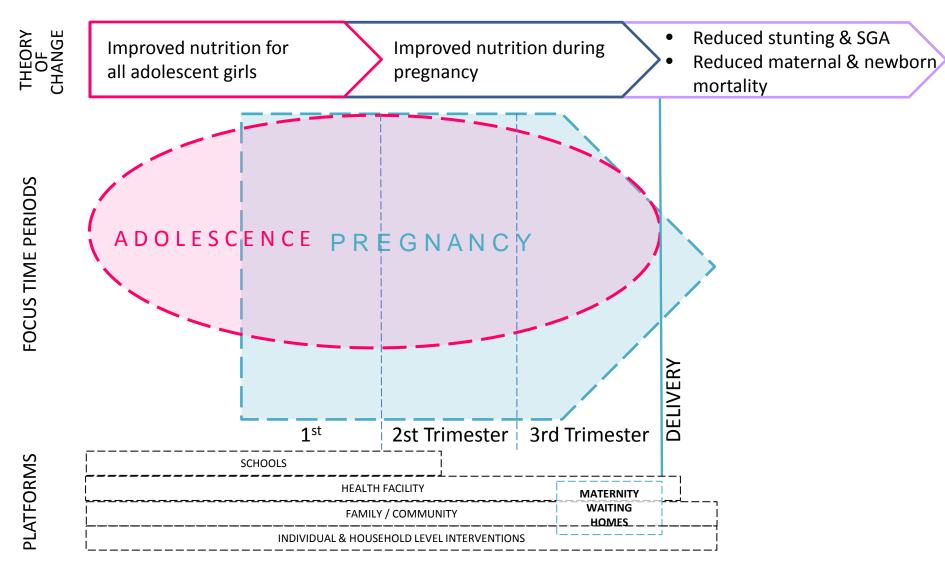
Maternal nutrition

- Lancet 2013:
 - Improving nutrition during pregnancy and pre pregnancy
- WFP approach: aligned to SUN
 - Adolescent girls: address MND
 - Support pregnant women (last trimester) & lactating women
 - Good quality nutritious foods for children 6-24 months
 - Treatment of MAM & prevention of acute malnutrition
- Partnerships: Targeting and linking to existing health platforms





Healthy adolescents, healthy women, to reduce maternal and new born mortality and stunting



Existing platforms with partners need to be leveraged for WFP to add a nutrition component



Maternal new born and child health platforms using IHP+ principles¹

Efforts to fulfil human rights adolescent girls

Programs build the health, social and economic assets of girls

Every woman every child



Global movement by UNSG to improve the health of women and children

Health 4+ /



Harnesses the collective power of each of the six agencies and 53 countries to improve the health of women and children

Action for Adolescent Girls (AAG)



Launched by UNFPA to reach the most marginalized adolescent girls

WFP's contribution similar to the UNAIDS model



- Nutrition services integrated into RMNCH programs and platforms that reach adolescent girls
- Delivery channels leveraged depending on country context and needs

Thank you

