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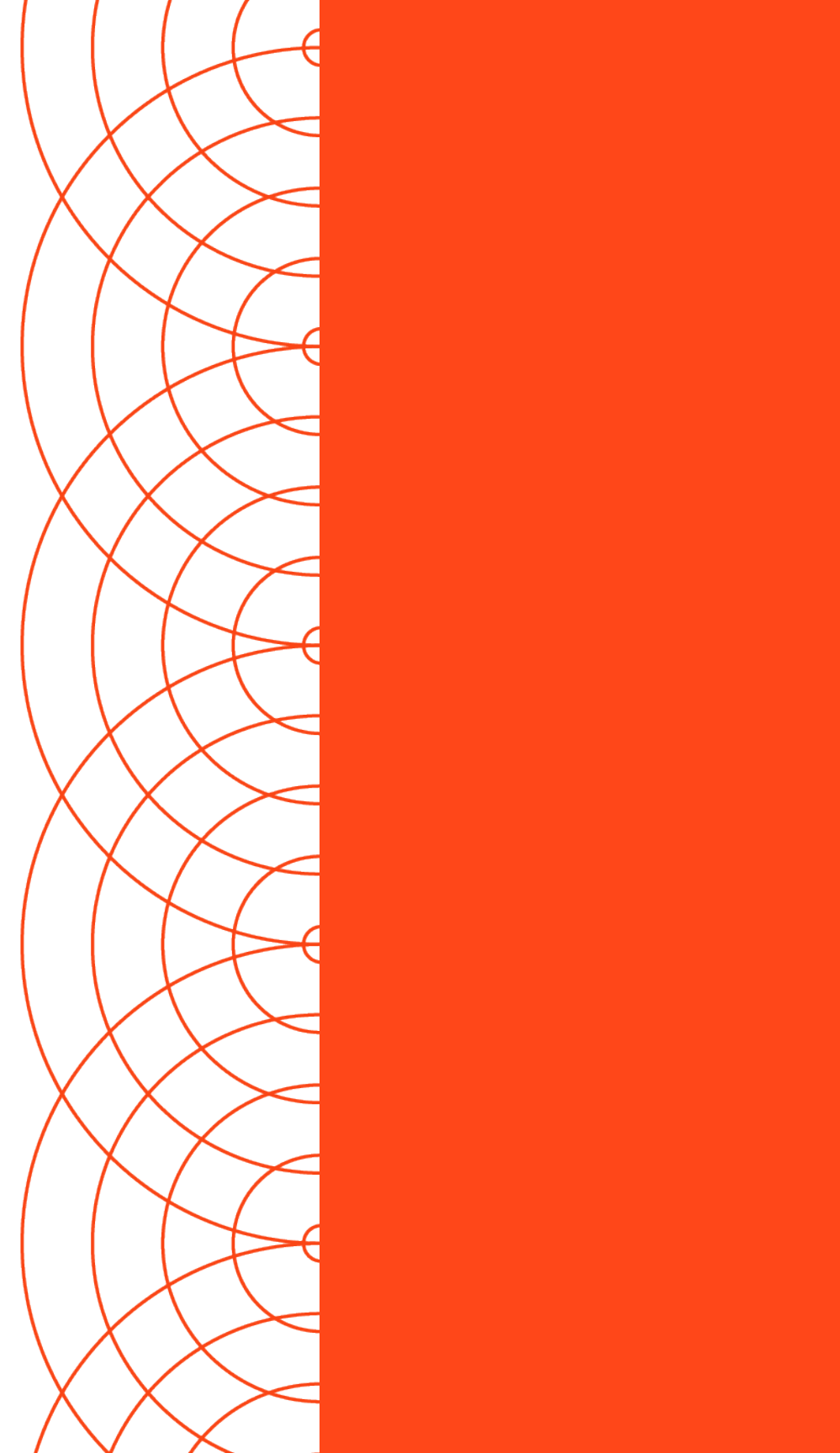


Multisectoral Nutrition Global Evidence Update

ELEVATE Nutrition | Winter 2025



BIXAL



About the Multisectoral Nutrition Global Evidence Update

Explore recently published evidence and evidence-based resources that can be applied to your multisectoral nutrition programs and policies to improve outcomes. These updates are made possible by ELEVATE Nutrition. We are grateful for resource contributions from AFFORD, Agency for All, Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab, IDEAL, MOMENTUM, NuMERAL, and USAID's Kitchen Sink: A Food Loss and Waste Podcast for this quarter's edition.

ELEVATE Nutrition is the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) flagship multisectoral nutrition activity that advances local implementation of high-quality nutrition programs and policies to improve the nutritional status of women and children, particularly in the first 1,000 days.



*If you have feedback on the Global Evidence Update
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TECHNICAL TOPICS

A curation of recent multisectoral nutrition evidence and evidence-based resources that apply to your work in various technical domains.



 Research Article

Current Developments in Nutrition Special Issue: Enabling Transformation of Food Systems

Description:

The Current Developments in Nutrition special issue “Enabling Transformation of Food Systems” includes 23 articles presenting evidence to support policies and programs to transform food systems to deliver better diets and nutrition. The articles explore diverse challenges and topics from around the world.

Application:

This issue may be useful to practitioners working in multisectoral nutrition because it provides updates on promising global tools and examples of where they have been used. It also includes content on emerging issues such as environmental sustainability, processed meat consumption, and cost and affordability of healthy food.

[Visit Resource](#)

 Research Article

Food Safety Through the Eyes of Rural Market Vendors in Northwest Nigeria

Description:

This study looks at perceptions of food safety among market vendors in northwestern Nigeria, specifically food safety risk perceptions and food safety promoting behaviors. The findings help inform food safety interventions and, more broadly, other food system and nutrition interventions.

Application:

This study could inform programming intended to work with market vendors by providing information on what kinds of incentives may increase vendor adoption of food safety practices. Additionally, the study provides some ideas of what kinds of messaging could be most effective in influencing vendor behaviors. The study also offers useful discussion on how rural vendors may require a different approach than non-rural vendors.

[Visit Resource](#)



Future Leaders Fuel Food Access: Locally Driven, National Impact with Regina Harmon of Food Recovery Network

Description:

This USAID *Food Loss and Waste* Podcast episode features Regina Harmon, Executive Director of Food Recovery Network, one of the largest student-driven movements against food waste and hunger that recovers and donates perishable food that would otherwise go to waste. Regina shares the story of Food Recovery Network and how they've successfully engaged with college students.

Application:

Learn how to avoid “analysis paralysis” when faced with the seemingly overwhelming problem of food waste. Explore how to engage with the Food Recovery Network to have a lasting impact to reduce food waste.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

Resilience



How Food Processing Can Reduce FLW with Vivian Maduekeh

Description:

This USAID *Food Loss and Waste* Podcast features Vivian Maduekeh, Program Director at Partners in Food Solutions and Managing Principal of Food Health Systems Advisory. This discussion covers the negative connotations around food processing and the important role food processing can play in reducing food loss and waste.

Application:

Learn about specific challenges and opportunities for food processors in Africa.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

Resilience

 Research Article

Increasing Access to Nutritious Local Complementary Foods: A Whole-of-Systems Approach

Description:

This article highlights challenges related to inadequate complementary feeding practices and a new “whole-of-systems” approach that addresses barriers related to production and distribution of safe, nutritious complementary foods.

Application:

The article proposes ideas to increase local production, demand generation, and the development of more supportive policies. There are actionable insights for partners working in all areas of the food system.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

 Podcast

Nourishing our Neighbors: Feds Feed Families with Marie Bucko

Description:

This USAID *Food Loss and Waste Podcast* features Marie Bucko, National Chair of the 2024 Feds Feed Families Campaign, which collected over 12 million pounds of food donations to tackle food insecurity. Feds Feed Families helps food pantries and food banks stay stocked during the summer months when they traditionally see fewer donations and increased need.

Application:

Explore opportunities to glean excess food to reduce food loss and waste while increasing access to safe, nutritious food.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

Resilience

 Research Article

Piloting Market Food Environment Assessments in LMICs: A Feasibility Assessment and Lessons Learned

Description:

The objective of this study was to examine the feasibility of implementing USAID Advancing Nutrition’s Market Food Environment Assessment (MFEA)—a suite of seven non-resource intensive food environment assessments. The study found that the package of food environment assessments, with minimal additional refinement, can be used to characterize market food environments in low- and middle-income country (LMIC) settings to inform context-specific interventions.

Application:

This paper speaks to the practicality of a set of tools, aiming to make them more accessible to activities and practitioners working outside of the research space.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

 Podcast

The Power of Abundance: The Farmlink Project’s Vision to End Hunger with Ben Collier

Description:

This USAID *Food Loss and Waste* Podcast episode features Ben Collier, CEO of Farmlink, which connects farms with surplus to food banks to feed people in need and reduce carbon emissions. Ben shares the history of Farmlink and how they are rebranding food waste as “abundance,” which is explored in their short film, “Abundance: The Farmlink Story.”

Application:

Gain insights into the role of food rescue organizations in the effort to reduce food waste and learn about future opportunities for large-scale produce rescue.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

Resilience

 Research Article

Complementary Food Hygiene Practice and Associated Factors Among Mothers with Children Aged 6–23 Months in Dessie Zuria, South Wollo Zone, Amhara, Ethiopia, 2023

Description:

This study explores the practice of appropriate complementary food hygiene as a precursor to lowering the incidence of food-borne disease and malnutrition in children aged 6–23 months in Amhara, Ethiopia. The study found low prevalence of appropriate complementary food hygiene practices and provides recommendations for improving adherence to best practices.

Application:

For programs operating in Ethiopia, this study can help inform program design around food safety and hygiene interventions more broadly at the household level, and specifically for interventions aiming to improve nutrition outcomes for children eating complementary food.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Social and Behavior Change](#)

 Research Article

Factors Associated with Exclusive Breastfeeding for the First Six Months Among Caregivers of Children Under Five Years in Northern Ghana: A Cross-Sectional Study

Description:

This paper explores the factors that influence optimal duration of exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) and those associated with suboptimal durations of EBF. Determinants explored include socio-demographic, care-seeking, and behavioral factors, with longer EBF duration associated with mothers' confidence in their EBF ability, willingness to recommend EBF practice to friends and family, and perception of practicing EBF as a norm in the community.

Application:

This research can provide insight to programs on key factors to explore during formative research or program design for interventions targeting exclusive breastfeeding.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Social and Behavior Change](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Tool | Report

Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act: Annual Report to Congress 2024

Description:

This Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act (GMPTA) annual report details the activities, results, and successes achieved through USAID's nutrition programs in nutrition priority countries, nutrition strategic support countries, and additional partner countries with nutrition-related programming in FY 2023.

Application:

Readers can reference the GMPTA report to source FY 2023 data on USAID's impact in nutrition across various countries. There are also several success stories that illustrate specific nutrition interventions across GMPTA focus areas: 1) strengthening nutrition in primary health-care systems; 2) increasing dietary diversity and appropriate complementary feeding; 3) scaling up and sustaining large-scale food fortification; and 4) improving food safety.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Food Systems](#) [Micronutrients](#) [Wasting](#) [Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

Global, Regional, and National Progress Towards the 2030 Global Nutrition Targets and Forecasts to 2050: A Systematic Analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021

Description:

The six global nutrition targets (GNTs) related to low birthweight, exclusive breastfeeding, child growth (ie, wasting, stunting, and overweight), and anaemia among females of reproductive age were chosen by the World Health Assembly in 2012 as key indicators of maternal and child health. There has yet to be a comprehensive report on progress for the period of 2012 to 2021. This assessment aimed to evaluate levels, trends, and observed-to-expected progress in prevalence and attributable burden from 2012 to 2021, with prevalence projections to 2050, in 204 countries and territories.

Application:

This study suggests that continued investment in preventive and treatment efforts for acute childhood illness is crucial. Parallel development of effective treatments, along with commitment to multisectoral, long-term policies to address the determinants and causes of suboptimal nutrition are needed.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning](#) [Wasting](#) [Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

The Next 1000 Days: Building on Early Investments for the Health and Development of Young Children

Description:

The next 1,000 days refers to a child's life from 2-5 years of age and is a window of opportunity to promote nurturing and caring environments, establish healthy behaviors, and build on early gains to sustain or improve trajectories of healthy development. The first paper focuses on the transition from the first 1,000 days to the next 1,000; describes why this developmental period matters; identifies the environments of care, risks, and protective factors that shape children's development; estimates the number of children who receive adequate nurturing care; and examines whether current interventions are meeting children's needs. The second paper focuses on the cost of inaction and the implications of not investing in the next 1,000 days.

Application:

Policymakers can use this information to advocate for integrated programming for children in the next 1,000 days, particularly bringing together the health, education, and social protection sectors. Practitioners can use this information to inform the design of programs that might better meet the developmental needs of children in this age group.

[**Visit Resource**](#)

 Research Article

Nutritional Management of Low Birth Weight and Preterm Infants in Low- and Low Middle-Income Countries

Description:

Preterm and low birth weight (LBW) infants are at an increased risk of morbidity and mortality compared with their term counterparts, with more than 20 million LBW infants born each year, the majority in lower middle-income countries (LMICs). Given the increased vulnerability and higher nutritional needs of these infants, optimizing feeding strategies may play a crucial role in improving their health outcomes. This study showed that early initiation of enteral feeding reduced neonatal mortality overall, but not in LIC/LMIC settings.

Application:

Practitioners working with low birth weight and preterm infants in LIC/LMIC settings should reference this article to better understand how specific feeding interventions can improve health outcomes. The article covers early feeding practices, interventions for milk enhancements, and micronutrient supplementation.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Micronutrients](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

Promoting Responsive Care and Early Learning Practices Among Caregivers of Children 0–23 Months in the Kyrgyz Republic: Findings from Integrating a Counselling Intervention with Nutrition Services

Description:

This article describes the findings from a study of integrating responsive care and early learning counseling into routine nutrition and health services in the Kyrgyz Republic, and the outcomes on responsive care and early learning practices, caregiver stress levels, infant and young child feeding practices, and child supervision practices. The findings showed that integrating responsive care and early learning counseling messages into routine nutrition services in the Kyrgyz Republic resulted in increased responsive caregiving practices and early learning opportunities among caregivers who received counseling.

Application:

Program managers can use the findings of this study to consider integrating responsive care and early learning counseling into routine child health and nutrition services in their settings. Program managers may consider adapting the Responsive Care and Early Learning training package for their setting and integrating the messages from it into routine nutrition and health counseling.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

Social & Behavior Change

 Tool | Report

UNICEF Caring for the Caregiver Package

Description:

Caregivers face many adversities linked to poverty, poor health, and structural and gender inequities. At the same time, healthy development and survival of children is dependent on caregivers and caregiving systems. The purpose of the UNICEF Caring for the Caregiver package is to strengthen the capacities of frontline workers, caregivers, and communities to mitigate the effects of multiple adversities on caregiver and family well-being.

Application:

This package aligns with several existing UNICEF and WHO guidance documents, including the Nurturing Care Framework, and thus can be integrated into existing early childhood development programs to strengthen caregiver well-being components. The package can also be integrated into other routine public sector services including health, education, and social services.

Visit Resource

[***Listen to the UNICEF Caring for the Caregiver Global Launch Webinar recording!***](#) 

This resource also references:

[Gender Equality & Social Inclusion](#)

[Social & Behavior Change](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Tool | Report

Advancing Large-Scale Food Fortification: UNICEF's Vision and Approach

Description:

The food system has a central role in providing nutritious, safe, affordable, and sustainable diets for children. This document presents UNICEF's vision and approach to advancing large-scale food fortification (LSFF) as set forth in the Nutrition Strategy 2020–2030.

Application:

UNICEF's work on LSFF will focus on achieving effective and sustainable mandatory fortification of selected staple foods and condiments in countries where micronutrient deficiencies exist and necessary conditions for sustainable and effective mandatory fortification can be achieved. UNICEF's support will prioritize government engagement, partnerships convening, policy formulation, program design, and public communication.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

 Research Article

The Costs and the Potential Allocation of Costs of Bouillon Fortification: The Cases of Nigeria, Senegal, and Burkina Faso

Description:

Knowing program costs and their allocation across stakeholders is essential to design and manage effective, efficient, and sustainable programs. The authors developed 10-year hypothetical bouillon fortification program cost models for Nigeria, Senegal, and Burkina Faso that included start-up and operational costs for government and industry, as well as premix costs generated by an embedded premix cost calculator to allow for alternative premix formulas in cost calculations.

Application:

Program costs should be estimated during the design phase and woven into stakeholder discussions; knowing these costs and weaving them into program choice and program design discussions will enhance the efficiency and sustainability of the programs ultimately chosen. Program costs should always be set alongside estimates of programs' nutritional and other benefits in policy discussions.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Nutrition Governance

 Research Article

Current and Potential Contributions of Large-Scale Food Fortification to Meeting Micronutrient Requirements in Senegal: A Modelling Study Using Household Food Consumption Data

Description:

The study used household food consumption data to model the contributions of existing Large-Scale Food Fortification (LSFF) programs (vitamin A-fortified refined oil and iron and folic acid-fortified wheat flour) and the potential contributions of expanding these programs to meeting the micronutrient requirements of women of reproductive age (15–49 years) and children (6–59 months).

Application:

Study findings suggest that adding a program to import fortified rice could further reduce inadequacies of multiple micronutrients (generally by >10 percentage points), although potential risk of high intake of vitamin A, folic acid, and zinc among children should be carefully considered. With both wheat flour and rice fortification, predicted prevalence of vitamin A, iron, and zinc inadequacy remained above 25% in some regions, pointing to the potential need for coordinated, targeted micronutrient interventions to fully close gaps.

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This resource also references: [Food Systems](#)

 Research Article

Estimating Food Consumption, Micronutrient Intake and the Contribution of Large-Scale Food Fortification to Micronutrient Adequacy in Tanzania

Description:

This study quantified apparent micronutrient intakes using national household consumption and expenditure surveys (HCES) data to estimate the prevalence of dietary micronutrient inadequacy and explore the potential contribution of Large-Scale Food Fortification (LSFF) to mitigate micronutrient inadequacy in Tanzania. The current LSFF program likely contributes to reducing vitamin A inadequacy. Policies that support increased compliance could improve the supply of multiple nutrients, but the prominence of small-scale maize mills restricts this theoretical benefit.

Application:

The findings could be used to inform LSFF program and policy decisions when used in conjunction with data from other studies, including individual-level dietary nutrient intakes and biomarker status.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Food Systems](#) [Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning](#)

 Tool | Report

Folate Inadequacies and Global Fortification Effort

Description:

This article explores the extent of the problem of folate deficiency and the role of fortification in tackling this. Despite its importance in fetal development and growth, folate is one of the micronutrients found to have the highest estimated prevalence of inadequate intake globally.


Application:

Only 70 countries globally currently have mandatory folic acid fortification of wheat flour, maize flour, or rice. About 215,000 cases of neural tube defects could have been prevented in 2019 in countries that did not have folic acid fortification programs.

[**Visit Resource**](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

 Other

Introducing and Scaling Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation Programming Frequently Asked Questions for Decision-makers

Description:

This guidance document addresses frequently asked questions from country decision-makers who have introduced and scaled multiple micronutrient supplements (MMS) programming. Rather than offering step-by-step instructions, it provides informative guidance to support country decision-makers in navigating the introduction and scaling of MMS programming, along with recommended approaches to facilitate a successful implementation process.

Application:

This guide is designed for country decision-makers who are exploring the introduction of MMS. It tackles the most pressing questions decision-makers have when introducing and scaling MMS delivery within strengthened antenatal care systems.

[**Visit Resource**](#)

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening and Localization

Women & Adolescents

 Research Article

Large-Scale Food Fortification: Building the Business Case for the Private Sector

Description:

Many food processors in low- and middle-income countries do not comply with large-scale food fortification (LSFF) standards due to technical feasibility, operational complexities, and costs. This white paper dives into the economic drivers behind food processors' behaviors and shares recommendations to help strengthen private sector engagement for LSFF and raise food processors' ability to comply with standards.

Application:

Practitioners can reference this white paper to explore ways to strengthen private sector engagement for LSFF and raise food processors' ability to comply with standards. Recommendations include, but are not limited to, creating the conditions for a constructive dialogue between public and private sector on fortification standards, by increasing transparency of the corresponding costs and fortifying the business case by optimizing costs and enhancing benefits.

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This resource also references: [Food Systems](#)

 Tool | Report

Micronutrient and Large-Scale Food Fortification Lexicon

Description:

This lexicon is a central repository of terms with definitions used in micronutrient programs, with particular focus on large-scale food fortification and its governance.

Application:

The lexicon was created to harmonize terminology in a living document that stakeholders within the field can consistently reference.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references: [Food Systems](#)

 Research Article

The Potential for Bouillon Fortification to Reduce Dietary Micronutrient Inadequacy: Modeling Analyses Using National Survey Data from Cameroon, Ghana, and Haiti

Description:

The authors of this study modeled the potential impacts of bouillon fortification on dietary micronutrient adequacy to inform future discussions around bouillon fortification programs. In Cameroon, Ghana, and Haiti, the prevalence of dietary micronutrient inadequacy varied across countries and target groups but exceeded 30% in many instances, even when accounting for the estimated contributions of current levels of fortification of staple foods, such as wheat flour and cooking oil.

Application:

This study suggests that bouillon fortification could improve dietary micronutrient adequacy beyond existing fortification programs. Further work is needed to identify fortification levels that meet criteria for nutritional benefit, technical and commercial feasibility, affordability, and cost-effectiveness.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references: [Food Systems](#)

 Research Article

Primer on Public Law and Regulation

Description:

The primer acts as a guide to help navigate a country's legal landscape and build bridges with different stakeholder groups. It will help practitioners make more informed decisions and develop more effective interventions.

Application:

Understanding legal frameworks can help address challenges like determining if fortification is mandatory or identifying the best legal tools to use. It can also help practitioners understand and differentiate between the legal requirements of countries' health and nutrition programs.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references: [Food Systems](#) [Nutrition Governance](#)

 Tool | Report

Regulatory Governance of Large-Scale Food Fortification: A Measurement Framework

Description:

This document presents a comprehensive framework for solid regulatory governance of large-scale food fortification (LSFF), a key strategy to addressing micronutrient deficiencies. It identifies six pillars for effective design and implementation: collecting data and scientific evidence to identify the problem and policy options, designing policies and regulations, ensuring adequate authorization processes, implementing supervision and enforcement measures, building capacity for continuous improvement, and incentivizing stakeholder performances.

Application:

The framework aims to assist policymakers and regulators in evaluating their legal frameworks and offers insights on how to improve regulatory practices and outcomes. It also explores how the implementation of each of these pillars could be assessed through the development of indicators, and presents findings from selected pilot country studies.


Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Learning

Nutrition Governance

 Research Article

Status of Prevention of Neural Tube Defects Post-Folic Acid Fortification of Cereal Grains in South Africa

Description:

This article provides an overview of neural tube defects birth prevalence in South Africa, pre- and post-fortification, and evaluates current folic acid fortification regulations. Significant reductions in the birth prevalence of spina bifida and anencephaly and improved maternal folate levels have been achieved following the introduction of folic acid fortification in South Africa. However, there is poor overall regulatory compliance in some instances and a gap in current regulations.

Application:

Fortification monitoring requires strengthening to ensure widespread compliance with policies, particularly in underserved areas.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Food Systems

 Research Article

Use of Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation Integrated into Routine Antenatal Care: A Discussion of Research Priorities

Description:

Optimal maternal nutrition, including adequate intake of essential micronutrients, is important for the health of women and developing infants. Currently, World Health Organization (WHO) antenatal care recommendations include daily iron and folic acid (IFA) supplementation as the standard of care. WHO convened a technical consultation of key stakeholders to discuss research priorities with the objective of providing guidance and clarity to donors, implementers, and researchers about this recommendation.

Application:

WHO recommends the use of multiple micronutrient supplementation (MMS) within the context of rigorous research. More evidence is desired on the impact of switching from supplements containing iron and folic acid alone to MMS, including evaluation of maternal and perinatal outcomes, acceptability, feasibility, sustainability, equity and cost-effectiveness.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

Using Implementation Science to Support the Introduction and Scale-up of Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation

Description:

This guidance document complements the [Healthier Pregnancies and Brighter Futures for Mothers and Babies: A global investment roadmap for multiple micronutrient supplementation](#) Framework by explaining the rationale for using Implementation Science (IS), the essential components of IS, and how IS can be applied across the pillars and phases defined in the Framework.

Application:

Reference this guidance to gain an understanding of IS concepts, determine how IS can support the different phases of MMS program introduction and scaling, and become familiar with IS methods. There are also appendixes included that address research ethics approvals, in-depth country case studies that illustrate how IS approaches have been adapted to different settings, and lists of IS resources and tools.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

Zinc Spot Test: Qualitative Spot Tests for Zinc in Fortified Wheat Flour, Maize Flour, and Rice

Description:

The qualitative spot test is to quickly and inexpensively assess the presence of added zinc in fortified wheat flour, maize flour, and rice. Designed for both laboratory and field use, these tools empower professionals to ensure food fortification compliance with ease. Both methods provide reliable results within 10–15 minutes and are safe, efficient, and validated for practical application.

Application:

The Xylenol Orange Test is ideal for fortified wheat flour and white rice, this method uses xylenol orange in a phosphate buffer to create visible pink/purple spots where zinc is present. The Dithizone Test is tailored for maize flour (yellow and white) and white or brown rice, this assay uses dithizone to detect zinc through distinct pink spots.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references: [Food Systems](#)

 Research Article

Disruptions and Adaptations of an Urban Nutrition Intervention Delivering Essential Services for Women and Children During a Major Health System Crisis in Dhaka, Bangladesh

Description:

Systemic crises can disrupt well-designed nutrition interventions, requiring an understanding of affected paths and adaptations to continue services. Alive & Thrive's intervention to integrate nutrition services into urban antenatal care in Dhaka, which began during COVID-19, faced significant disruptions, including reduced client demand, staff attrition, and unfeasible activities. The intervention adapted by incorporating new guidelines, managing workforce turnover, and using hybrid approaches, ensuring successful service delivery during the crisis and providing critical insights for future responses to emerging threats.

Application:


The article unpacks how the system was integrated and adapted in order to support continuity of services, which may support readers in conducting similar reflections.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

How Inter-Cluster/Sector Collaboration (ICSC) can enhance programming in South Sudan

Description:

Siloed approaches to humanitarian emergencies often fall short of achieving the desired outcomes and frequently exclude affected and vulnerable populations. The Inter-Cluster/Sector Collaboration (ICSC) approach is one model designed to improve collaboration across sectoral boundaries. This article outlines the purpose, successes, and challenges of the ICSC approach in the context of South Sudan.

Application:

Nutrition practitioners can read this article to become familiar with the ICSC approach and its potential to improve nutrition in emergencies work. The article also describes practical steps and challenges associated with enhancing collaboration across sectors.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Nutrition Governance

Resilience

 Tool | Report

Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IYCF-E) Assessment Guide

Description:

The Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IYCF-E) Assessment Guide is designed to offer a standardized approach for gathering, analyzing, and interpreting IYCF data during emergencies. This methodology supports improved decision-making in emergency preparedness and response, particularly in humanitarian and fragile settings. The guide seeks to simplify the IYCF-E assessment process with a clear, step-by-step framework, enabling humanitarian responders to better understand the needs and circumstances of infants, young children, and their caregivers.

Application:

Practitioners can use the IYCF-E Assessment Guide to collect, analyze, and interpret IYCF data in emergencies for better decision-making. The Guide is accompanied by several practical tools that support training, data collection and analysis, and estimation of sample-size requirements.

Visit Resource

[***Check out the Global Nutrition Cluster's recent webinar, Managing Feeding for Infants and Young Children with Disabilities in Emergency Settings***](#) 

This resource also references: [Infants & Young Children](#) [Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning](#)

 Tool | Report

Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IYCF-E) Curriculum for Programme Managers, Version 2

Description:

The Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies Training Curriculum for Programme Managers (also known as the “IYCF-E Curriculum”) equips health and nutrition professionals with the skills, knowledge, and understanding required to protect and support infants, young children, and their caregivers during emergencies through IYCF-E interventions that are consistent with the latest global guidance, policies, best practices, and minimum standards.

Application:

By completing the full curriculum, participants will be able to assess, justify, and advocate for the need for IYCF-E programming when preparing for and responding to an emergency; describe which actions decision-makers, planners, and emergency responders across all sectors can take to protect, promote, and support recommended IYCF and care practices during emergencies; and design and operationalize contextually appropriate, effective, accessible, and inclusive IYCF-E programs and interventions.

Visit Resource

This resource also references: [Infants & Young Children](#)

 Tool | Report

Landscape: Nutrition Financing Trends in Fragile Contexts

Description:

Global progress in combating malnutrition is too slow, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected areas, where scarce resources and inadequate care continue the cycle of illness and malnutrition. This report highlights the urgent need for sustained investment in nutrition interventions to achieve global targets by 2030. The report highlights trends in humanitarian nutrition financing, key challenges, opportunities, and recommendations.


Application:

Donors and partners can use information in this report to enhance the nutrition financing environment in a more sustainable and scalable manner.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Nutrition Governance](#)

 Other

Mpox Resource Hub | Nutrition Response

Description:

Mpox, previously known as monkeypox, is a viral illness caused by the monkeypox virus, a species of the genus Orthopoxvirus. There are two distinct clades of the virus: clade I (with subclades Ia and Ib) and clade II (with subclades IIa and IIb). Find recent comprehensive information on Mpox and nutrition in emergencies in the Mpox Resource Hub.

Application:

Find guidance materials in the Mpox Resource Hub related to global trends in Mpox outbreaks, preparedness and response plans, and infant and young child feeding in the context of Mpox.

[Visit Resource](#)

 Research Article

Protecting Nutrition in a Food Crisis

Description:

Despite global commitments to addressing nutritional challenges, policy responses have increasingly concentrated on food security, especially food affordability, often overlooking the need to integrate nutritious foods into the food system for long-term nutritional improvement. This article explores opportunities for policymakers to incorporate nutrition into critical aspects of crisis response, including social protection, agricultural investment, trade policy, and urban planning.

Application:

The article provides recommendations on how health sector policy-makers can contribute to integrating nutrition into a food crisis response. It may support readers in policy advocacy in their contexts.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Nutrition Governance

Resilience

 Research Article

Understanding the Food and Nutrition Insecurity Drivers in Some Emergency-Affected Countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region from 2020 to 2024

Description:

This article aimed to identify the key factors and challenges affecting food security and nutritional status in ten countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine (Gaza Strip), Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. The article found that food security and malnutrition in countries affected by emergencies are primarily driven by conflict, political instability, natural disasters, and socioeconomic conditions, which disrupt agriculture and infrastructure, worsening these issues.

Application:

The article reinforces the importance of applying a multisectoral lens to understanding nutrition outcomes and underlying factors in order to guide policy and program action.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Nutrition Governance

Resilience

 Research Article

The Cost of Not Investing in the Next 1000 Days: Implications for Policy and Practice

Description:

This paper outlines the benefits and costs of key strategies to support children's development during the next 1,000 days (ages 2–5 years). Building on family and health-sector interventions from the first 1,000 days, this phase requires broader multisectoral approaches.

Application:

Implementers can use this guidance to advocate for policies and interventions that support the nutrition of children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. To note, interventions that were shown in this article to be particularly effective in this age range are the provision of early childhood care and education, parenting interventions, and cash transfers.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Infants & Young Children](#)

 Tool | Report

Investment Framework for Nutrition 2024

Description:

The *Investment Framework for Nutrition 2024* expands upon the 2017 framework by incorporating low birthweight and obesity. It also introduces policy considerations, operational guidance for implementation at the country level, and perspectives on gender and climate change.

Application:

This resource can help country decision-makers identify cost-effective, evidence-based investments and policy recommendations. Examples include expanding fiscal space for nutrition interventions through innovative financing mechanisms, such as taxes on unhealthy foods, and repurposing agrifood subsidies and social bonds.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Gender Equality & Social Inclusion](#)

[Resilience](#)

 Tool | Report

The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024

Description:

This report is the annual global monitoring update for SDG 2, targets 2.1 and 2.2, aiming to end hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition in all its forms. It provides the latest data on hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition, along with new estimates on the affordability of a healthy diet. Additionally, the report introduces a new definition and methodology for measuring financing for food security and nutrition and applies it to assess current availability and gaps.

Application:

Use the report's updated data and methodology to design, advocate for, and evaluate nutrition programs, identify funding gaps, and inform policy decisions to address hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Food Systems

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning

 Research Article

Strengthening the Governance of Food Systems for Nutrition in Africa: A Political Economy Analysis of Food Policy in South Africa and Ghana

Description:

This article examines the political economy factors affecting the integration of nutrition into food system governance in Ghana and South Africa. It finds that while nutrition is a policy priority, it remains mainly within the health sector, with limited integration across other sectors.

Application:

In Ghana and South Africa, nutrition practitioners can leverage opportunities to increase investments in healthy traditional foods, strengthening urban/rural linkages and informal food systems, and strengthening institutional structures for policy coherence and coordination related to nutrition.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Food Systems

 Research Article

Changing Maternal and Child Nutrition Practices Through Integrating Social and Behavior Change Interventions in Community-Based Self-Help and Support Groups: Literature Review from Bangladesh, India, and Vietnam

Description:

This systematic review focused on the role of self-help groups (SHGs) and support groups (SGs) in improving nutrition outcomes, particularly for pregnant and lactating women in India, Bangladesh, and Vietnam. Findings indicate that SHGs and SGs demonstrate success in improving health and nutrition outcomes, however, scale, sustainability, and participation remain a challenge.

Application:


For programs that implement different types of care or support group models, this review can provide key insights into factors that influence group effectiveness and sustainability. It provides considerations for group design and processes and can help programs reflect on and prepare for programmatic challenges the group model may face.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Infants & Young Children](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Tool | Report

Designing and Implementing a Gender-Transformative Adaptation of the Husbands Schools in Niger: Formative Research Report

Description:

Formative research was conducted in 2023 in two departments in Zinder: Magaria and Damagaram Takaya. Research questions focused on exploring the meaning of gender equity, agency, and power in the Nigerien context, including the roles of families and communities in influencing gender-equitable norms. Through 24 human-centered design “immersion interviews” or semi-structured in-depth interviews, and co-creation sessions with Husbands Schools implementers, participants, wives, and other stakeholders, the study team was able to capture experiences with Husbands Schools and their impact.

Application:

The findings from this report can be applied to nutrition programs in Nigeria that seek to address gender dynamics at the family level and engage men in household decision-making around nutrition.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Gender Equality & Social Inclusion](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

Effect of Male Partner-Targeted Breastfeeding Education and Support Interventions on Optimal Breastfeeding Practices in Central Ethiopia: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial

Description:

This randomized controlled trial evaluated interventions that target husbands or male partners to support breastfeeding in their households in Ethiopia. The authors found that breastfeeding education and support to husbands or male partners, including through social events, home visits, and printed materials, improve optimal breastfeeding practices.

Application:

This study can provide programs seeking to improve breastfeeding outcomes an often-overlooked target for program design. Where appropriate, programs may consider learnings from this research to explore how to include husbands or male partners as key actors in supporting breastfeeding within their families.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Gender Equality & Social Inclusion

Infants & Young Children

Women & Adolescents

 Research Article

Effectiveness of Three Front-of-Pack Food Labels in Guiding Consumer Identification of Nutrients of Concern and Purchase Intentions in Kenya: A Randomized Controlled Trial

Description:

Evidence of effectiveness of front-of-pack-labels (FOPLs) is limited, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. This randomized controlled trial, conducted with supermarket shoppers in Kenya, focused on three specific label types for packaged foods. Results indicate that FOPLs significantly improved consumers' correct identification of nutrients, while also reducing their intention to purchase unhealthy foods.

Application:

For programs or policymakers seeking to increase consumer demand for healthy foods or reduce demand for unhealthy foods, FOPLs are an emerging strategy. This study can help inform the design of pilots or other studies aimed at increasing the evidence base for their effectiveness at scale.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Food Systems

 Tool | Report

Formative Research Report: Respectful Maternity Care in India

Description:

The primary research objective of this ongoing study is to inform an intervention to support respectful maternity care (RMC) at community and facility levels in India. The specific objectives of this report were to assess and understand institutional and community norms around RMC at health facilities; understand the meaning of women's agency in the context of RMC from the provider, community, and women's perspectives; use the findings to support the development and delivery of programmatic interventions to improve provision of and demand for RMC in health facilities in India.

Application:

The learnings from this report will help practitioners better understand how women's and providers' agency can be considered in interventions that attempt to address community and institutional social norms in nutrition programming.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Gender Equality & Social Inclusion

Women & Adolescents

 Research Article

Social Norms: A Missing Ingredient of Programs Seeking to Foster Women's Agency in Nutrition

Description:

This paper examines the role social expectations play in shaping women and children's dietary practices. It advocates an approach that emphasizes the importance of recognizing, measuring, and addressing societal constraints and barriers that impede improved nutrition for these key groups.

Application:

The approach promoted by this paper can inform and educate programs implementing social and behavior change interventions for improved nutrition outcomes to use tools to more comprehensively understand contextual dynamics within child feeding practices. This understanding can be used to inform intervention design and appropriate targeting for populations of concern.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

Adapting iCCM to Enable Family Health Workers to Treat Acute Malnutrition in Gabiley District, Somaliland: Findings from an iCCM+ Service Prototype Study

Description:


The treatment of acute malnutrition (wasting) by family health workers (also known as community health workers) has been considered as a way to bring treatment closer to families, reduce barriers for accessing services, and reach more children with timely treatment. In Somaliland, Save the Children and its partners have been testing how this approach can be integrated into existing community health structures. The 2022–23 Integrated Community Case Management Plus Nutrition (iCCM+) service prototype in the Gabiley district provides early insights and operational findings from the first stage of a larger research project on treatment by family health workers.

Application:

This report demonstrates how to build context-specific evidence for detecting and treating wasting. It contributes to the evidence base on the operational challenges that must be addressed when introducing wasting treatment at the family health worker service level.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references: [Nutrition in Emergencies](#)

 Tool | Report

Considering Wasting and Stunting Approaches Together Requires Action by Diverse Stakeholders

Description:

The Wasting and Stunting Technical Interest Group (WaSt TIG) was established in 2014 to investigate the relationship between both stunting and wasting, which were being treated as separate conditions. These two infographics summarize the evidence gathered by the WaSt TIG and others over the past ten years regarding the link between child wasting and stunting, and emphasize the implications for research, policy, and programs.

Application:

Readers can use the infographic on the evidence linking child wasting and stunting to support policy discussions and evidence-based dialogue. Additionally, the infographic summarizing options for how policymakers, donors, program designers, implementers, and researchers can address wasting and stunting together can help guide efforts to improve services and systems for malnourished children.

[Visit Resource](#)

 Research Article

Determinants of Recovery Time from Severe Acute Malnutrition Among Cholera-Exposed and Unexposed Children in Ethiopia: A Prospective Cohort Study


Description:

This study aimed to address an evidence gap by comparing time to recovery and its determinants between cholera-exposed and unexposed children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). The results showed that cholera exposure is a major factor contributing to prolonged recovery time in children with SAM. Additionally, food insecurity, meal frequency, and parents' attitudes toward children's dietary habits were identified as key factors influencing recovery.

Application:

The study findings emphasize the need for programming that addresses the specific needs of children affected by both cholera and SAM. It encourages health and nutrition practitioners to review detection, referral, treatment, and support strategies in contexts where children are impacted by both conditions.

[Visit Resource](#)

 Research Article

Linear Growth During Treatment With a Simplified, Combined Protocol: Secondary Analyses of Severely Wasted Children 6–59 Months in the ComPAS Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial

Description:

A simplified, combined protocol was previously shown to provide similar recovery outcomes to the standard treatment, which used higher, weight-based ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) dosing for children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) for moderate acute malnutrition, in a cluster-randomized controlled trial in Kenya and South Sudan. A secondary analysis of this trial compared linear growth among children with a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) <115 mm at admission. The results showed no significant difference in MUAC or weight gain velocities between the treatment groups. Reducing the RUTF dose prescribed to children during SAM treatment does not appear to affect linear growth or other growth velocities during treatment.

Application:

The study findings help expand the evidence on how simplified, combined protocols perform in relation to standard treatment.

[Visit Resource](#)

 Tool | Report

Micronutrient Status in Children Aged 6–59 Months with Severe Wasting and/or Nutritional Edema: Implications for Nutritional Rehabilitation Formulations

Description:

Children with severe wasting and/or nutritional edema continue to face high mortality rates, suggesting a complex, multifactorial cause that may include micronutrient deficiencies. Micronutrients are currently included in therapeutic foods based on expert recommendations, but there is a lack of high-quality studies to support them. This narrative review examines the current understanding of micronutrient deficiencies in children aged 6–59 months with severe wasting and/or nutritional edema, and identifies areas where further research is needed.

Application:

The study findings enhance the understanding of the causes of severe wasting and highlight areas where further research is necessary to improve programming approaches.

Visit Resource

This resource also references: [Micronutrients](#)

 Research Article

Rates and Risk Factors for Relapse Among Children Recovered from Severe Acute Malnutrition in Mali, South Sudan, and Somalia: A Prospective Cohort Study

Description:

This multi-country prospective cohort study aimed to assess the risks and determinants of relapse after recovery from severe acute malnutrition in high-burden settings. It followed children who had recovered from severe malnutrition and their non-malnourished peers for six months in Mali, South Sudan, and Somalia. The study found that children who recovered from severe malnutrition are at a high risk of relapsing within six months, showing their vulnerability. While the community-based treatment model effectively saves lives, the high relapse rate suggests the need for extra support during and after treatment to help maintain recovery.

Application:

The study findings highlight the need to better understand what factors will prevent relapse and support sustained recovery from treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Infants & Young Children](#)

[Nutrition in Emergencies](#)

 Tool | Report

Advancing Gender Equality for Optimal Nutrition in Adolescent Girls and Women

Description:

Malnutrition, including undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and anemia among adolescent girls, is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality. This technical note aims to build a common understanding of linkages between gender inequality and adolescent girls' and women's nutrition. It outlines gender-responsive and gender-transformative programs and highlights how they can contribute to positive nutrition outcomes for this group.

Application:

Partners working in adolescent girls' and women's nutrition can use this technical note to more fully understand how gender and nutrition are related and to apply key practices to their programming approach for these populations.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Gender Equality & Social Inclusion](#)

[Nutrition Governance](#)

 Research Article

Associations Between Iron Status and Psychosocial Wellbeing Among Pregnant Women in Cape Coast, Ghana: A Longitudinal Study

Description:

This longitudinal study assessed women starting in their first trimester of pregnancy and followed them through their second and third trimesters to determine whether their iron status was associated with depressive and/or anxiety symptoms and their quality of life. Increases in iron status (through supplementation) from first to second trimester were related to improvements in psychosocial well-being.

Application:

Programs seeking to address maternal mental health during pregnancy can gain insight from this study on strategies to improve psychosocial well-being in addition to improved nutrition outcomes.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Micronutrients](#)

 Research Article

Effects of Prenatal Small-Quantity Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplements on Pregnancy, Birth, and Infant Outcomes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Individual Participant Data from Randomized Controlled Trials in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Description:

This systematic review and meta-analysis explores the use of small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplements (SQ-LNSs), which contain both macro- and micronutrients, for preventing multiple nutritional deficiencies that increase the risk of giving birth to a small, vulnerable newborn. Impacts of SQ-LNSs are compared to those of iron and folic acid supplements or the standard of care, as well as the impacts of multiple micronutrient supplements.

Application:

Policymakers and program implementers working to improve nutritional outcomes for pregnant women, newborns, and infants can use this research to inform considerations around intervention design and supplementation protocols for pregnant women through routine health services and antenatal care.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Infants & Young Children](#)

[Micronutrients](#)

[Wasting](#)

 Research Article

How Do Publicly Procured School Meals Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa Improve Nutritional Outcomes for Children and Adolescents: A Mixed-Methods Systematic Review

Description:

This review examines the impact of publicly procured school meal programs on nutritional outcomes of children and adolescents aged 5–18 in several countries in sub-Saharan Africa and highlights different procurement strategies, including local food sourcing. A small number of studies found a positive impact on nutritional outcomes. The authors emphasize the need for strengthened implementation to improve nutritional outcomes.

Application:

This study provides key considerations for policymakers already administering or interested in administering wide-scale school meal programs. Programs that partner with governments to implement school meal programs can use this research to gain insight into the key challenges that may hinder overall impact to improved nutritional outcomes.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

Food Systems

Micronutrients

Nutrition Governance

CROSS-CUTTING AREAS

A curation of recent multisectoral nutrition evidence and evidence-based resources that apply across technical domains.



 Research Article

How Does Community Health Feature in Global Financing Facility Planning Documents to Support Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNAH-N)? Insights from Six Francophone West African Countries

Description:

The study describes community health actors, community health interventions and monitoring within a global health initiative, how they fit into the wider health system, the challenges and weaknesses they face and the measures taken to mitigate them, and how they are budgeted. Although community health is a key component of the Investment Cases and the Project Appraisal Documents of most of the six francophone West African countries studied, the level of investment varies considerably between countries, and mostly skewed to community health workers, with very little left over for broader community engagement and oversight processes.

Application:

There is an opportunity to better prioritize and streamline community health interventions, including integrating them into health system planning and budgeting, to fully harness their potential to improve Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH-N).


Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

Nutrition Governance

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

USAID Local Systems Position Paper

Description:

Building on the success of the USAID [Local Systems Framework](#) and its [Policy Implementation Assessment](#), the Local Systems Position Paper reiterates USAID's commitment to systems thinking and systems practice.

Application:

The *Local Systems Position Paper* describes the key approaches USAID will use to translate systems thinking into systems practice. It focuses on ways USAID can better understand and engage local systems to support them in producing more sustainable results.

Visit Resource

 Research Article

Do We Contribute to Women's Empowerment? Insights From a Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Project Implemented in Nong, Laos

Description:

Previous studies have demonstrated that empowering women can result in increased food and nutrition security. This study, therefore, investigated whether Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) projects improved women's empowerment and food and nutrition security in remote villages in Laos. The study found that while NSA projects did increase food and nutrition security, there was no positive impact on women's empowerment, which was considered low by all participants.

Application:


When working on interventions aimed at contributing to women's empowerment, it is critical for program managers to build in opportunity for ensuring that there is clarity around the concept of women's empowerment at all levels, especially within the cultural context where the intervention is taking place. In this study, while women's contribution to the NSA project did improve food and nutrition security, it did not improve women's empowerment and actually added to their already high workload. Program managers should assess the potential negative consequences of the intended intervention and ideally conduct a gender analysis to potentially mitigate these negative consequences in the intervention design.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Social & Behavior Change

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

USAID Gender Analysis and Gender Equality Action Plans: An IP Toolkit

Description:

The USAID 2023 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy and ADS 205 recommend that USAID implementing partners be required to submit a gender equality action plan, outlining how gender equality will be integrated into the work plan and monitoring plan based on the results of a gender analysis. This toolkit provides practical strategies and tips to help partners fulfill this requirement.

Application:

Implementers can use this toolkit to conduct a gender analysis and develop a gender equality action plan.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

Social & Behavior Change

Women & Adolescents

⋮ Other

Why Nutrition Programming Must Address Gender-Based Violence

Description:

This article, published by the Global Nutrition Cluster, issues a call to action for 2025 to prioritize actionable interventions that will empower women, girls, and gender diverse individuals, and address their unique needs in humanitarian contexts. The actions highlighted include: 1) Implement inclusive and gender-transformative nutrition programs; 2) Empower women as leaders in humanitarian response; 3) Enhance access to comprehensive healthcare services; 4) Advocate for gender equality in policy and practice; 5) Strengthen community support and protection systems; and 6) Integrate disease prevention and health education.

Application:

Practitioners can use this call to action to seek opportunities within their existing work to integrate the recommended actions to address gender-based violence within nutrition programs. Policymakers can also use the recommendations in this call to action to identify critical areas for policy change.

[Visit Resource](#)

This resource also references:

[Nutrition in Emergencies](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

Working Towards a Gender-Responsive Work Environment: Evidence-Informed Training for Health Professionals Within the Primary Health Care System

Description:

To highlight the importance of improved gender knowledge and competencies among health care professionals and HR practitioners in promoting a gender-responsive work environment, UNICEF is working to increase the availability and access to workplace training programs on gender. This guide addresses workplace inequities, empowering health and nutrition professionals to foster equitable environments and integrate gender-responsive policies for improved nutrition outcomes.

Application:

This training manual is intended for health professionals at the community and district levels, including frontline workers, district management health teams, and other leadership teams within the primary health care system working to promote a gender-responsive work environment. This guide is also intended for development practitioners and implementing partners, including NGOs, CSOs, and IGOs, who are interested in strengthening their capacity and the capacity of their staff to advance gender equality and rights to improve health outcomes.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

[Capacity Strengthening & Localization](#)

[Women & Adolescents](#)

 Research Article

Emerging Evidence and Critical Issues with the Use of Single-Drop Capillary Blood for the Measurement of Hemoglobin Concentration in Population-Level Anemia Surveys

Description:

Accurate, precise measurement of hemoglobin concentration is critical for reliable estimations of anemia prevalence at the population level. When systematic and/or random errors are introduced in hemoglobin measurement, estimates of anemia prevalence might be significantly erroneous and, hence, limit their usefulness. For decades, single-drop capillary blood has been the most common blood source used for the measurement of hemoglobin concentration in surveys, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

Application:


This study highlights historical and emerging evidence that single-drop capillary blood introduces a high degree of random error (variability) to hemoglobin estimates, leading to less reliable estimates of anemia prevalence at the population level.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Infants & Young Children

Women & Adolescents

 Tool | Report

Planning Pause & Reflect Sessions – Practical Guidance for Your Project

Description:

Pause & Reflect sessions are designated times that are purposefully structured to allow teams to step back from day-to-day work and reflect on their processes and/or data. USAID's framework for Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) identifies Pause & Reflect sessions as a tool for "adapting." Well designed Pause & Reflect sessions also generate learning and facilitate collaboration. This tool will guide teams through the Pause & Reflect process.


Application:

This practical guidance document can be used by any project or team looking for step-by-step guidance on Pause & Reflect sessions. It can be used after a public, virtual or in-person event or activity to identify successes and challenges, after a data collection activity as a way to collectively review findings and determine next steps, or as part of an annual review process prior to future work planning.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

 Tool | Report

IDEAL Resource Guide

Description:

The IDEAL Resource Guide is a comprehensive collection of resources, tools, and insights developed over the last six years. This guide captures the essence of IDEAL's learning and knowledge-sharing efforts, featuring technical toolkits, research, case studies, webinar recordings, online courses, and key takeaways from events.


Application:

This guide provides a collection of key learnings, tools and resources, and guidance that are applicable in multiple settings. It is structured around IDEAL's workstreams of monitoring and evaluation, adaptive management, humanitarian-development-peace coherence, as well as cross-cutting and legacy focus areas. While these materials were developed with BHA partners in mind, most will be useful to the broader food security and nutrition community.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

- Capacity Strengthening & Localization
- Social & Behavior Change
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, & Learning
- Resilience

 Tool | Report

NiE and the Climate Crisis: GNC Scoping and Options Paper

Description:

This scoping aims to identify relevant opportunities for the Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) in the face of the changing humanitarian landscape due to the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, emerging risks like disease outbreaks, and the complex relationship between Nutrition in Emergencies (NIE) and the climate crisis.

Application:

Nutrition practitioners can reference the GNC scoping paper to identify opportunities, both as individual agencies and as collaborating entities, to contribute to the GNC's climate crisis and NIE work.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

- Nutrition in Emergencies

 Tool | Report

Opportunities for Integrated Climate and Nutrition Action: Findings from a Review of National Climate, Health, and Nutrition Policies, Strategies, and Plans in Eight Countries

Description:

Recognizing the importance of coordinated actions and multisectoral initiatives to address the interdependent drivers of climate change, nutrition, and health, MOMENTUM Country and Global Leadership conducted a desktop review to identify national climate, health, and nutrition policies in eight USAID nutrition priority countries that could guide nutrition and climate adaptation actions. This report details the review, its findings, and recommendations.

Application:

Strengthen the capacity of national health and nutrition stakeholders to engage in issues related to climate and nutrition integration; identify climate financing opportunities to support nutrition-focused adaptation and mitigation actions; and support the engagement of health and nutrition stakeholders in climate-focused multisectoral coordination mechanisms.

Visit Resource

This resource also references:

Capacity Strengthening & Localization

Climate

Nutrition Governance



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