



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Investing in Nutrition



USAID'S COMMITMENT TO MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

For over 40 years, USAID has helped children throughout the world grow into healthy, productive adults. Progress in child survival and disease control has long been, and remains, among the Agency's major accomplishments. USAID-funded interventions – oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and zinc supplementation to treat diarrhea; basic immunizations; vitamin A supplementation to reduce child mortality; and more – save the lives of approximately 6 million children under 5 each year. USAID assistance is instrumental in other areas of child and maternal health and the fight against HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases.

USAID's Maternal and Child Survival Goals:

By 2013 in targeted countries, USAID will, on average:

- Reduce under five mortality by 25%
- Reduce maternal mortality by 25%
- Reduce child malnutrition by 15%

To achieve these goals, USAID will:

- Target 30 priority countries that account for 50% of infant, child, and maternal deaths worldwide
- Deliver high-impact, proven interventions at scale
- Strengthen essential elements of health systems



micronutrient forum

The Micronutrient Forum serves as a stimulus for policy-relevant science and as an international catalyst for moving the global community towards consensus around evidence based policies and programs that reduce micronutrient deficiencies

around the globe. USAID has supported the Micronutrient Forum and its predecessor organizations for over 30 years.



WHO

U.S. Agency for
International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20523

THE NUTRITION CHALLENGE

Malnutrition remains the world's most serious health problem and the single biggest contributor to child mortality.

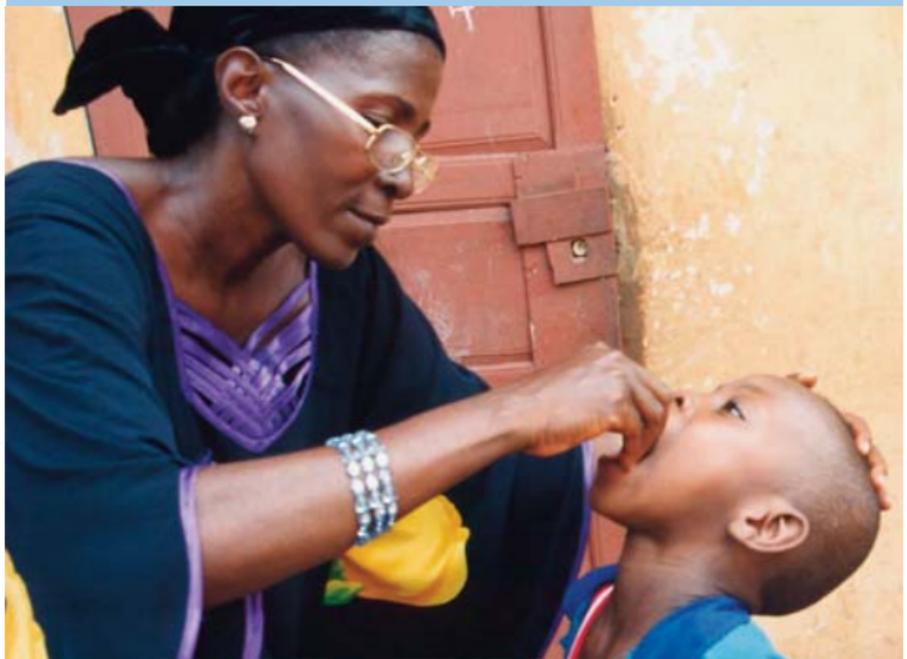
Over half of the 9.7 million child deaths worldwide each year are attributable to malnutrition

One-third of children in the developing world are chronically malnourished

Two billion people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies

Vitamin A deficiency causes 600,000 child deaths every year

Iron deficiency contributes to 22% of maternal deaths and 24% of perinatal deaths



LAURA LARTIGUE, COURTESY OF PHOTOSHARE

Global Partnerships

Collaborative partnerships are fundamental to USAID's work. USAID works with UN Agencies, the private sector, the public sector, host country governments, cooperating agencies, foundations, and civil society organizations to achieve sustainable reductions in global hunger and malnutrition.

USAID'S NUTRITION INVESTMENTS

Reduce micronutrient malnutrition

- Vitamin A supplementation for children under five
- Anemia programs for women and children
- Fortification of staple foods and condiments with multiple micronutrients, including iodine in salt, multiple micronutrients in flour, and vitamin A in oil

Prevent malnutrition through maternal, infant, and young child nutrition programs

- Exclusive breastfeeding for children under six months and continued breastfeeding through 24 months
- Improve feeding practices with an emphasis on diet quality and quantity for young children by promoting consumption of diverse, locally available foods
- Introduce innovative products like home-based or commercially-prepared complementary foods, including micronutrient powders and lipid-based nutrient supplements

Strengthen community level programs to manage malnutrition

- Integrate community management of acute malnutrition into national health systems
- Facilitate appropriate use of ready-to-use therapeutic and supplementary foods when the local diet is inadequate

Improve nutritional outcomes in food security programming, humanitarian assistance, and HIV programs

- Improve food security by addressing access to, availability of, and utilization of food through integrated agriculture and nutrition programs
- Work with USAID humanitarian assistance programs to strengthen nutrition components of reconstruction and stabilization efforts
- Improve nutritional care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS through technical assistance to PEPFAR programs

Invest in groundbreaking nutrition research

USAID has a long history of supporting nutrition research that translates into global child survival programs, demonstrated in the research-to-use continuum on the right. Currently, USAID is supporting research on the development and introduction of micronutrient powders, lipid-based nutrient supplements, and newborn vitamin A supplementation.

USAID'S RESEARCH TO PROGRAMS CONTINUUM

