Suaahara

Lessons learned from an integrated
nutrition program

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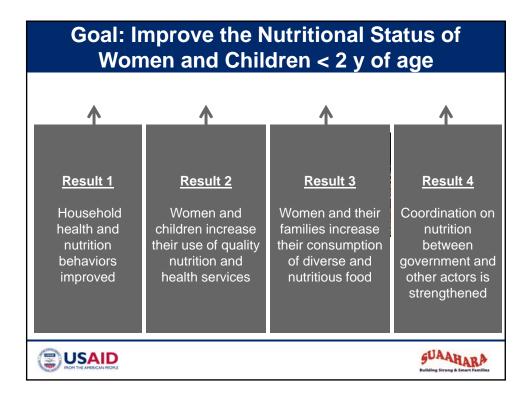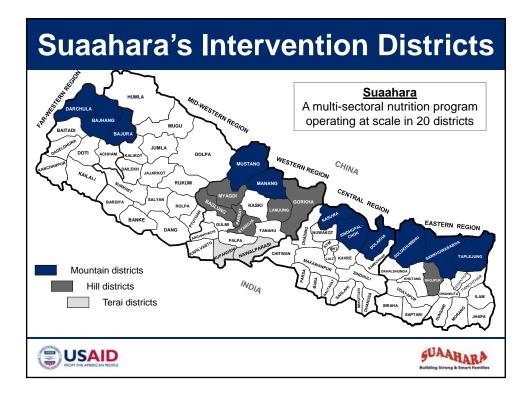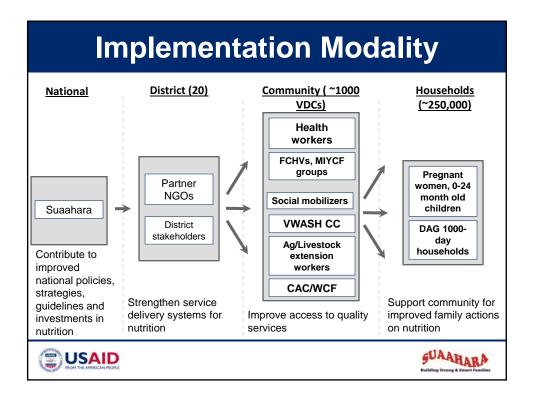
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Suaahara

- Responds to 2009 NAGA

- Supports MSNP

- Engages health and non-health sectors

- Promotes multi-level coordination with GON

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Goal: Improve the Nutritional Status of Women and Children < 2 y of age

Result 1

Household health and nutrition behaviors improved

Result 2

Women and children increase their use of quality nutrition and health services

Result 3

Women and their families increase their consumption of diverse and nutritious food

Result 4

Coordination on nutrition between government and other actors is strengthened

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Suaahara's Intervention Districts

Suaahara
A multi-sectoral nutrition program operating at scale in 20 districts

Mountain districts

Hill districts

Terai districts

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Implementation Modality

National	District (20)	Community (~1000 VDCs)	Households (~250,000)

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Partner NGOs

District stakeholders

Health workers

FCHVs, MIYCF groups

Social mobilizers

VWASH CC

Ag/Livestock extension workers

CAC/WCF

Pregnant women, 0-24 month old children

DAG 1000-day households

Contribute to improved national policies, strategies, guidelines and investments in nutrition

Strengthen service delivery systems for nutrition

Improve access to quality services

Support community for improved family actions on nutrition

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Key points to consider when delivering nutrition support at broad scale

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On the Ground Focus

- **How do we make it all happen on the ground?** *delivery science*

  – **On-the-ground oversight** of field implementation
  – **Multi sector collaborations**: Process, institutional mechanisms, accountability, budgets, sector actions
  – **Institutional and programmatic convergence** across sectors

- **District and VDC level support required to drive integration**
  – Support planning process (District to Ward level) to help prioritize nutrition interventions
  – Build capacity in program management
  – Develop clear guidelines (roles, responsibilities, expected outcomes)
  – Introduce monitoring indicators and track the changes

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Evidence, Policy and Planning

- **Evidence:** How do 'we' provide the right nutrition support at the right time to the right person?
  – **Targeting**: First 1,000 days, disadvantaged groups
  – **Extending reach and coverage** for greater impact
  – **Using multiple entry points** to reach program beneficiaries

- **Policy:** Create a positive policy and planning environment for nutrition

  - *Why Nutrition Matters* (District to Ward level stakeholders, Media, journalists), tangible results

- **Planning:** Reduce 'missed opportunities' in existing health and non-health programs by introducing nutrition support

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Take Home Messages

- **Focus, focus, focus**
  - **Evidence**-based programming
  - Plan on scaling-up from **Day 1**
  - Convergence and integration at **household** level

- **Importance of program impact pathways**
  - Analysis of the pathways from input to impact
  - Knowing what works for implementation and service delivery

- **Are our investments going to achieve the desired impact?**
  - Need for implementation research
  - Periodic data analysis
  - Programming to address gaps in pathways

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Thank you

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