Suaahara

Lessons learned from an integrated nutrition program
August 13, 2013

- Responds to 2009 NAGA
- Supports MSNP
- Engages health and non-health sectors
- Promotes multi-level coordination with GON
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

### Suaahara’s Intervention Districts

Suaahara, a multi-sectoral nutrition program operating at scale in 20 districts.
Implementation Modality

National

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

District (20)

- Partner NGOs
- District stakeholders
- Strengthen service delivery systems for nutrition

Community (~1000 VDCs)

- Health workers
- FCHVs, MIYCF groups
- Social mobilizers
- VWASH CC
- Ag/Livestock extension workers
- CAC/WCF
- Improve access to quality services

Households (~250,000)

- Pregnant women, 0-24 month old children
- DAG 1000-day households
- Support community for improved family actions on nutrition

Key points to consider when delivering nutrition support at broad scale

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

### 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
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

For more information

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