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# Nutrition-related Evidence-based Program and Policy Implementation at USAID

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# Agenda

- 1. Snapshot of USAID's key nutrition-related research, program, and policy activities + COVID-19 impacts**
- 2. Underdeveloped knowledge gaps to be further explored**
- 3. USAID priorities for improving malnutrition among children and adolescents**

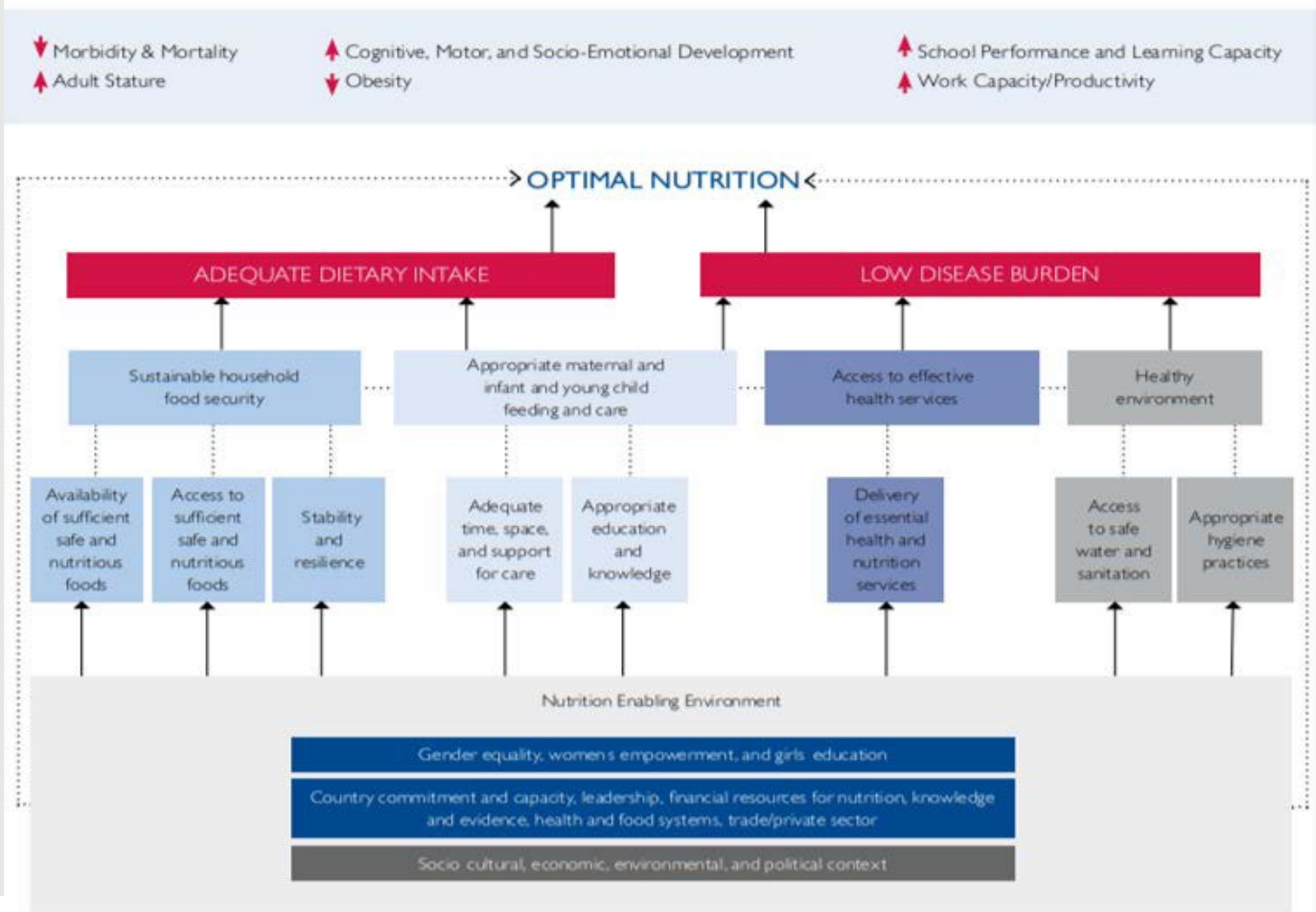
# Key nutrition-related research, program, and policy activities at USAID

1. Increased equitable provision and utilization of high-quality nutrition services
2. Increased country capacity and commitment to nutrition
3. Increased multi-sectoral programming and coordination for improved nutrition outcomes
4. Increased global nutrition leadership.



FIGURE 1: USAID MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Adapted from UNICEF, 2013<sup>15</sup> and Black et al., 2013<sup>2</sup>



# COVID-19 impacts on USAID's activities

- **Shock Pathways- Disruptions of...**
  - Livelihoods and food systems
  - Health systems and humanitarian assistance
  - Social protection programs
- **Priority Actions**
  - Food Systems Programming
  - Health Systems Programming
  - Humanitarian Assistance and Safety Net Programming



# THE ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK



ENABLING DETERMINANTS

UNDERLYING DETERMINANTS

IMMEDIATE DETERMINANTS

OUTCOMES

IMPACT

Environmental Context

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**Governance Context**



**Resource Context**  
*(financial, human, physical)*



**Socio-cultural Context**



**Food System**



**Health System**



**Social Protection System**



**Education System**



**Water & Sanitation System**

Breastfeeding practices

Mother-infant dyad

Food handling

Physical activity

Dietary intake

Food security

Maternal nutrition

Nutrient absorption

Mental well-being

Immune system



**Breastfeeding**

**Stunting**

**Wasting**

**Low birthweight**

**Anaemia**

**Overweight**

Mortality

Morbidity

Human capital

DEEPENING INEQUALITY

## Examples of COVID-19 Innovations

- Virtual environments for communications, meetings, and training
- Strengthening new and existing partnerships
- Involving men in discussions around nutrition-relevant and other topics
- Implementing training of trainer cascade approaches to allow for dissemination in light of movement restrictions
- Using different media to reach broader populations
- Using social media platforms to share nutrition and follow-up with caregivers and to foster connection and sharing between caregivers and different communities
- Leveraging digital applications to provide agricultural extension support and create market
- Linkages to increase sales of nutritious foods

# Knowledge gaps to be further explored

- **Context-specific sub-national trends and drivers**
  - Individual, household, and population levels
- **Double-duty actions delivery platforms and modalities**
  - Health, social safety nets, education, and agriculture
- **Diets, food environments, and food systems in LMICs**
  - Role of food environments in dietary patterns and influences on various forms of malnutrition
  - How food systems processes and policies affect both sides of the double burden and environment



# USAID Priorities for Improving Malnutrition Among Children and Adolescents

- Increase access to and consumption of affordable, safe, and nutritious foods, particularly in the critical first 1000 days from pregnancy through a child's second birthday, including quality nutrition counseling
- Strengthen community and facility-level health systems to deliver high-quality nutrition services
- Improve access to quality nutrition services in humanitarian response settings
- Facilitate an enabling environment that supports sustainable food and health systems, such as improving access to diverse markets and strengthening capacity of health workers and systems.



## MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION STRATEGY 2014-2025



## U.S. Government Global Nutrition Coordination Plan 2021-2026



## U.S. GOVERNMENT GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY

Fiscal Year 2022-2026