

# Health system strengthening

**CMAM** 2021

22-25 March

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**CONCERN**  
worldwide

 **Irish Aid**  
An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Why adopting a Health System Strengthening approach when it comes to wasting ?

Sarah Brousse, Action against Hunger

# LOW COVERAGE OF THERAPEUTIC PROGRAMS

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The coverage of therapeutic programs for acute malnutrition remains too low

- Important proportion of wasted children live outside of the humanitarian context
- A lot of nutrition services are still delivered by external partners rather than by the Ministries of Health

# HEALTH AND NUTRITION ARE CLOSELY LINKED

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- Health is a determining factor of undernutrition
- Proven health interventions for pregnant and lactating women, and young children during the first 1,000 days, along the continuum of care
- Common barriers to access nutrition and health services



# PARTIAL INTEGRATION OF WASTING IN THE HEALTH SYSTEM

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Nutrition interventions tend to be integrated in health system through the use of the **existing delivery mechanisms**

But, the integration of nutrition interventions remains limited across the 6 building blocks

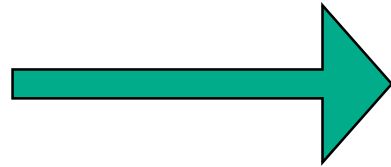
→ To ensure sustainable and efficient improvements, there is a need for systemic integration



# A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

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- Health systems as a paramount component
- Specificities of the management of acute malnutrition
- Common barriers to the access to nutrition and health services



- **Promoting diagonal approaches** - *aiming for disease-specific results through improved health systems*
- Strengthening existing health systems at all levels

# TOWARD UHC THAT INCLUDES NUTRITION COMPONENTS

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**Universal health coverage (UHC):** all people can use the health services they need, services that are of sufficient quality to be effective and do not expose people to financial hardship

**No country can achieve Universal Health Coverage without investing in essential nutrition actions, and good nutrition for all cannot be achieved without UHC.**

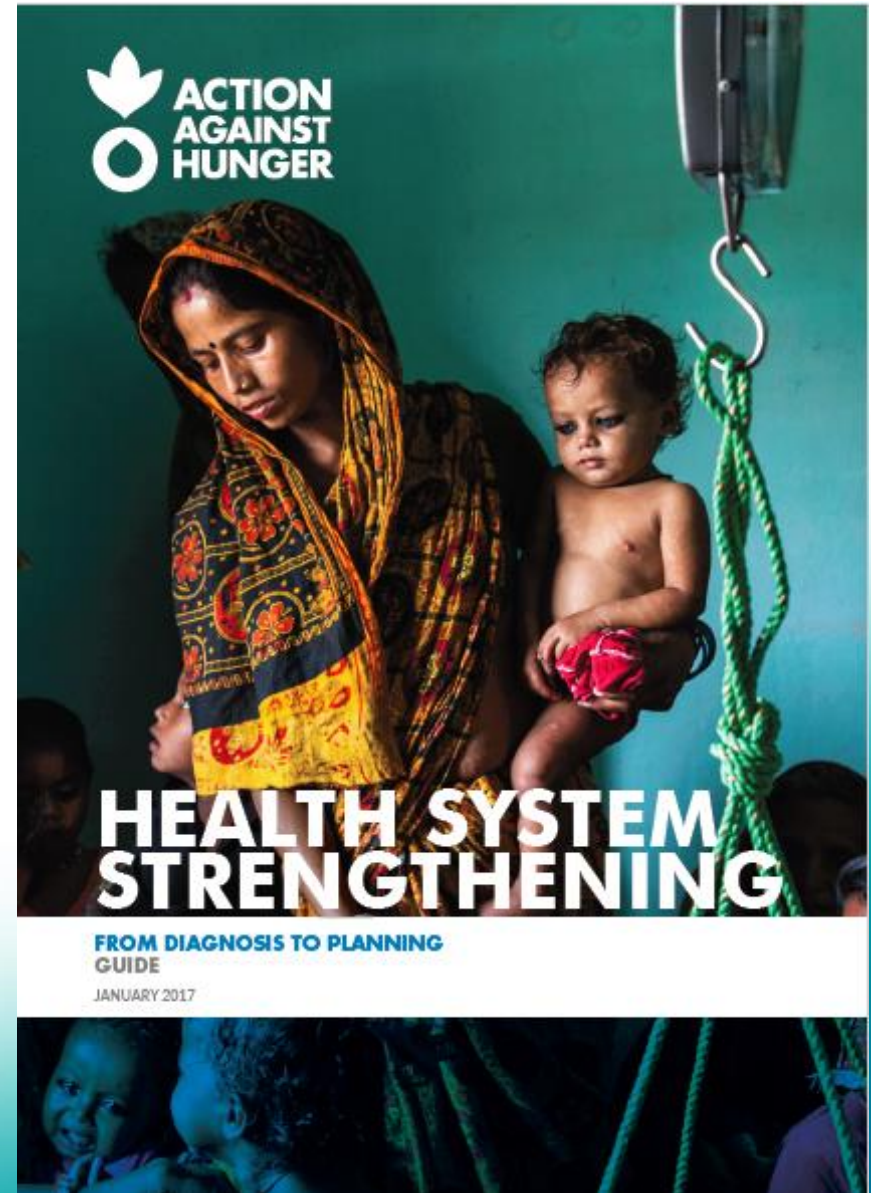
# AAH HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING APPROACH

**Objective:** strengthen the planning process of the health district, with an evidence-based and participatory method

- Systemic vision
- Bottom-up approach, based at the District level
- Participatory dynamic



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# HSS APPROACH – EXAMPLE OF CAMEROON

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## Successes

- Embedment of the HSS exercise in the National Health Development Plan
- Ownership of the exercise by the Health authorities
- Creation of a synergy of action around this new District Health Plan
- Adjustment of CMAM Surge Method to a more comprehensive one



# Thank you



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