Scaling up nutrition in Burkina Faso: achievements and challenges

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Between 1990 and 2000, malnutrition rates continually increased, thus hindering progress on the MDGs.
Development of an effective policy and institutional framework

- Political will to tackle the nutrition crisis first led to the creation of the Directorate of Nutrition in 2002 and progressed through the implementation of the « Three-ones »

- One Framework to facilitate cross-sector coordination and collaboration
- One National Policy, with the adoption of the National Policy on Nutrition in 2007
- One monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system
Between 2003 and 2010, partnerships have been continually strengthened with both donors and civil society partners including:

- World Bank, European Union, USAID, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, FAO ...
- Hellen Keller International, Save the Children, Red Cross, Terre des Homme, MSF, Nutrifaso, Africare, Catholic Relief Services, CARITAS, APAIB, IBFAN, Action contre la Faim, Eau vive...

In 2009, the Ministry of Health initiated a contracting strategy with civil society to improve service delivery through:

- Funding of a network of more than 150 community based organisations, including capacity development activities through 15 NGOs
- Provision of community-based health and nutrition interventions covering 30 % of the population
Significant increase of nutrition funding between 2006-2010, but...

- Funds are mainly for emergency type, non predictable and earmarked for treatment of acute malnutrition
3. Key results and challenges

Scale-up of key nutrition interventions


- Exclusive breastfeeding rates for babies under 6 months old
  - 2006: 6%
  - 2008: 25%
  - 2010: 6%

- Percentage of children aged 6-23 months who have minimal acceptable diet
  - 2006: 30%
  - 2008: 30%
  - 2010: 30%

- Percentage of children aged 6-59 months who have received vitamin A supplements
  - 2006: 73%
  - 2008: 67%
  - 2010: 67%

- Percentage of households using adequately iodized salt
  - 2006: 49%
  - 2008: 56%
  - 2010: 56%

- Percentage of diarrhea cases treated with ORS/ORT among children aged 0-59 months
  - 2006: 23%
  - 2008: 24%
  - 2010: 24%

- Percentage of children aged 0-59 months treated for severe acute malnutrition
  - 2006: 41%
  - 2008: 31%
  - 2010: 31%
3. Key results and challenges

A downward trend in malnutrition prevalence...

... though prevalence levels remain high

4 key challenges to scale up nutrition interventions in Burkina

1. Move from emergency funding to predictable development funding
2. Linking the curative to multisectoral preventive response (health, food security, social protection, education ...)
3. Strengthen quality and access to health care and infant and young child feeding
4. Strengthen community approaches against under-nutrition
Conclusion

After a difficult start, today the Government and its partners can count on an effective policy response to reach the nutrition target for the MDGs, including through:

- An appropriate institutional framework
- A clear vision
- A strategic and realistic plan that is results-focused
- A functional monitoring and evaluation system
Let us put our efforts together and invest in the fight against malnutrition for improved well-being of children and women, and attainment of MDGs in Burkina Faso.