

# Maharashtra, India

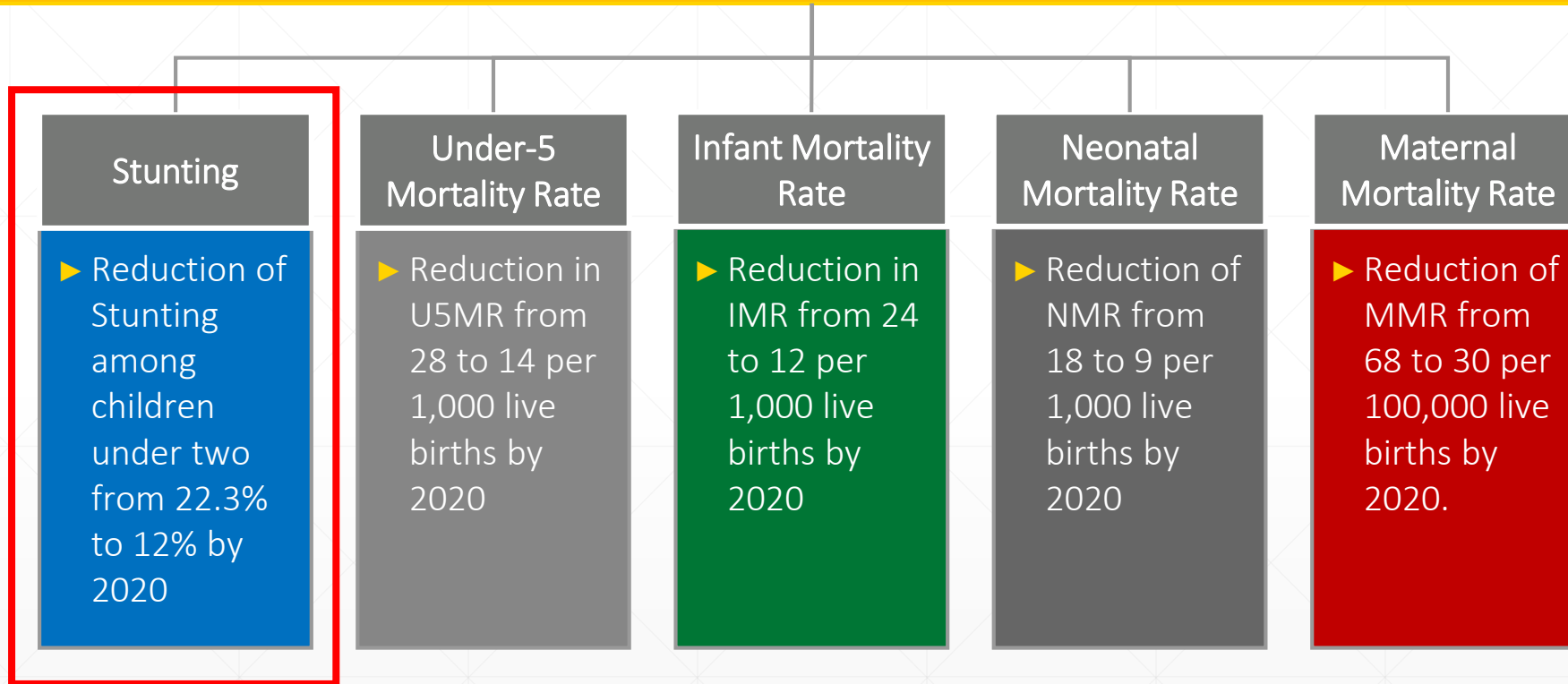
## National nutrition targets and commitments to action

---

22<sup>nd</sup> SUN Country Network Meeting,

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016

# Some of the Proposed Nutrition Targets for 2020 include



# Setting the Nutrition Targets

- Global Nutrition Targets 2025 form the basis – targets are then extrapolated based on past trends and Annual Average Reduction Rate (AARR)
- Recent surveys with nutrition indicators are considered (Comprehensive Nutrition Survey in Maharashtra (CNSM), 2012 and Rapid Survey on Children (RSOC), 2013-2014)

Key Nutrition Indicators	Maharashtra Nutritional Status	
	CNSM, 2012 (children under 2)	RSOC, 2014 (children under 5)
Stunting	22.8%	35.4%
Low birth weight	19.9%	20.6%
Exclusive Breastfeeding (<6 months)	57.2%	73.4%
Wasting	15.5%	18.6%

- Government census data on the number of beneficiaries (<6 year old children, pregnant and lactating mothers)
  - Government Databases - Health Management Information System (HMIS) and Maharashtra Integrated Child Development Services Geographic Information System (ICDS MIS-GIS)
  - Government data on the number of institutions like Anganwadis (pre-school learning centres / Government day care centres) and/or Primary Health Centres (PHCs)
-

# Commitments to Action

- The Department of Public Health has recently shown greater commitment towards nutrition through its Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) policy
  - There has been commitment to set up Hirkani Rooms (breast feeding rooms) in PHCs
  - New schemes have been introduced through the Tribal Department for provision of meals for pregnant and lactating mothers (Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Amrut Ahaar Yojana)
  - Many district-level officers have mobilised large scale community or Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) resources for treatment of wasting and under-weight
  - Promotion of kitchen gardens by the Department of Women and Child Development through CSR funds
  - Specific commitments are determined based on several other factors, such as available resources, acceptance of the programme by the general public and also the success of the initiative - For example:
    - How many children will be covered under the ICDS programme?
    - How many deliveries will be covered under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)?
    - How many PHCs will set up Hirkani Rooms (breast feeding rooms)?
  - Higher targets are expected to be achieved through these renewed commitments
-

## Linking Targets and Commitments to the national planning and budget cycle

- Budgets for each action vary greatly depending on many factors
  - There has been budget cuts for the social sectors at the national level. For example, The Village Child Development Centre (VCDC) is a Government project for Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition. But the States are expected to make up for it through their State budgets.
  - Districts often make commitments for nutrition based on their motivation and vision even if Central or State budgets are not available
  - CSR funding is often tapped in for Information, Education, and Communication (IEC), Behavior Change Communication (BCC) and Training activities
-

# Challenges

- Independent surveys are infrequent and irregular and not a part of government policy or budgets
  - There are no allocated budgets for independent surveys on nutrition
  - Each survey may cover different geographical areas and age groups, so comparability becomes difficult and hence, more difficult to set realistic targets with varying baseline figures
  - Also, practically impossible to track budgets for decentralised action – since community contribution is often in kind. For example x quintals of grain or peanuts, etc.
-

# Going Forward

- Proposed 2020 targets are highly ambitious and not set in stone
  - Consensus on the proposed targets are yet to be achieved across the various departments
  - Targets might be revised to be more realistic depending on the budget allocations for the concerning Department
-

**Thank you for your attention**

---