Maharashtra, India

National nutrition targets and commitments to action

22nd SUN Country Network Meeting,
Tuesday, 26th January 2016
Some of the Proposed Nutrition Targets for 2020 include:

- **Stunting**
  - Reduction of Stunting among children under two from 22.3% to 12% by 2020

- **Under-5 Mortality Rate**
  - Reduction in USMR from 28 to 14 per 1,000 live births by 2020

- **Infant Mortality Rate**
  - Reduction in IMR from 24 to 12 per 1,000 live births by 2020

- **Neonatal Mortality Rate**
  - Reduction of NMR from 18 to 9 per 1,000 live births by 2020

- **Maternal Mortality Rate**
  - Reduction of MMR from 68 to 30 per 100,000 live births by 2020.
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)

- 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)

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<th>Key Nutrition Indicators</th>
<th>Maharashtra Nutritional Status</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CNSM, 2012 (children under 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stunting</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low birth weight</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
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<td>Exclusive Breastfeeding (&lt;6 months)</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
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<td>Wasting</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
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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