Global Nutrition
Deep Dive

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Nutrition: The Problem

• Nearly half of all deaths of children under five are attributable to undernutrition
• Globally 159 million children under the age of 5 are affected by stunting
• Wasting threatens the lives of more than 50 million children each year
• Iron and other micronutrient deficiencies among pregnant women contribute to maternal deaths and babies being born underweight
Key Concept: Forms of Malnutrition

MALNUTRITION COMES IN MANY FORMS

- **stunting**: people are too short for their age
- **wasting**: people are too thin for their height
- **obesity**: people are overweight

GLOBAL NUTRITION REPORT 2015
#NutritionReport
Nutrition: The (Partial) Solution

Scaling up evidence-based nutrition interventions could reduce stunting by 20 percent and severe wasting by 60 percent.
Key Concept: Specific vs. Sensitive (or, direct vs. indirect)

**Nutrition-specific** interventions address the immediate causes of undernutrition, like inadequate dietary intake and some of the underlying causes like feeding practices and access to food.

**Nutrition-sensitive** interventions can address some of the underlying and basic causes of malnutrition by incorporating nutrition goals and actions from a wide range of sectors.
Promoting good nutritional practices

• breastfeeding
• complementary feeding for infants after the age of six months
• improved hygiene practices including handwashing
Increasing intake of vitamins and minerals

- Provision of micronutrients for young children and their mothers:
  - periodic Vitamin A supplements
  - therapeutic zinc supplements for diarrhea management
  - multiple micronutrient powders
  - de-worming drugs for children (to reduce losses of nutrients)
- iron-folic acid supplements for pregnant women to prevent and treat anemia
- iodized oil capsules where iodized salt is unavailable
- biofortification
Provision of micronutrients through food fortification for all

- salt iodization
- iron fortification of staple foods
Therapeutic feeding for malnourished children

• prevention or treatment for moderate undernutrition

• treatment of severe undernutrition ("severe acute malnutrition") with ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF).
Key Concept: The First Thousand Days

Nutrition during pregnancy and in the first years of a child’s life provides the essential building blocks for brain development, healthy growth and a strong immune system. In fact, a growing body of scientific evidence shows that the foundations of a person’s lifelong health—including their predisposition to obesity and certain chronic diseases—are largely set during this 1,000 day window.
Nutrition Financing

• Coming Soon!
Nutrition: The Opportunity in 2016

• The 2013 Nutrition for Growth summit in the United Kingdom resulted in over $4 billion in pledges to scale up high impact nutrition interventions from more than 100 countries, foundations, businesses, and civil society organizations.

• Prior to the 2016 Summer Olympics, Brazil will host a follow-up Nutrition for Growth summit to evaluate global progress and catalyze further action. (Maybe.)
Nutrition: U.S. Leadership

• Double current nutrition funding to $500m
• Set ambitious new targets on stunting, wasting, breastfeeding, and anemia.
• Build the evidence base for nutrition sensitive interventions.
Nutrition: Action and Opportunities

• LTE Action Sheet on Global Nutrition (link)
• Editorial packet
• Nutrition Outreach Guide
• Bipartisan Resolution on U.S. Global Nutrition Leadership
• April 25: Road to Rio Fundraising campaign
• May 8: Mother’s Day
Questions?