



WASTING

THE GOAL

By 2025, reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%

WHY IT MATTERS



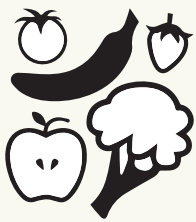
Children become wasted when they lose weight rapidly because of diets that **do not cover nutritional needs**



Wasting increases risk of **stunted growth, impaired cognitive development & non-communicable diseases** in adulthood



Increased risk of child **deaths from infectious diseases** such as diarrhoea, pneumonia and measles



Wasting is linked with the other global nutrition targets:

- **stunting**
- **anaemia in women**
- **breastfeeding**
- **low birth weight**
- **childhood overweight**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

SCALE UP TREATMENT

WHAT?

Scale up coverage of services for the identification and treatment of wasting

HOW?

Improve the identification, measurement and understanding of wasting



COORDINATION

WHAT?

Improve coordination between key government ministries

HOW?

Link treatment strategies for acute malnutrition to prevention strategies for wasting and stunting throughout the life-course



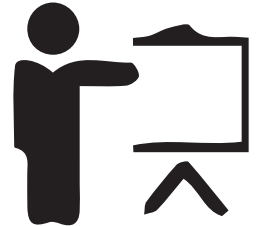
BUILD THE EVIDENCE

WHAT?

Develop evidence for effective prevention strategies

HOW?

Rapidly develop evidence to reduce the burden of wasting, which can then be translated into policy actions



SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Globally

52 million children



under 5 are moderately or severely wasted

The current global levels of severe wasting are responsible for up to **2 million** deaths annually



A child that is wasted is

3 times



more likely to die than a healthy child