



Together for Nutrition 2014

Working Across Sectors to Improve Nutrition in India

PUSTIKAR DIWAS: CONVERGENT ACTION FOR REDUCTION OF CHILD UNDERNUTRITION IN ODISHA

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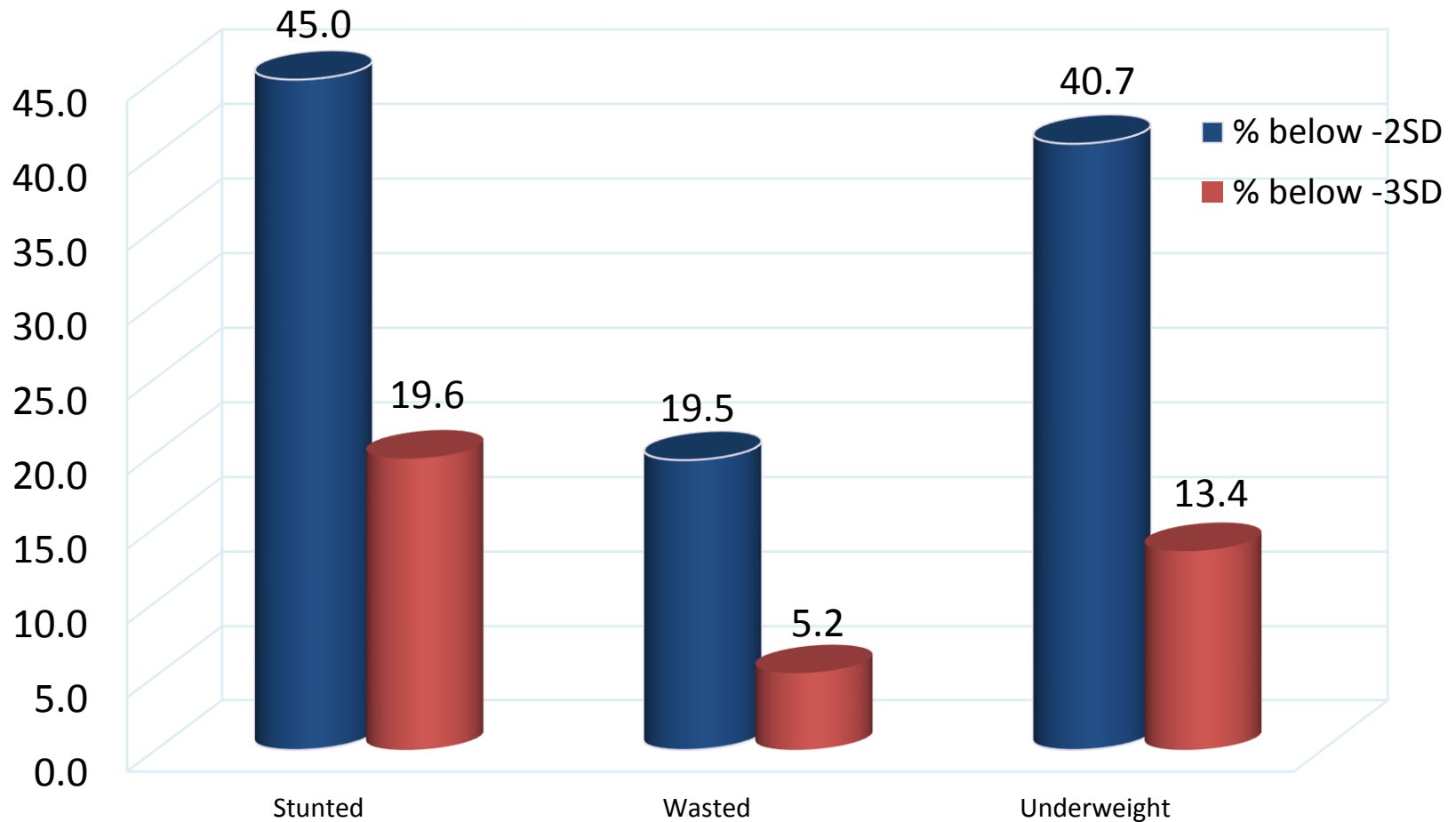
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Supported by DFID

Outline

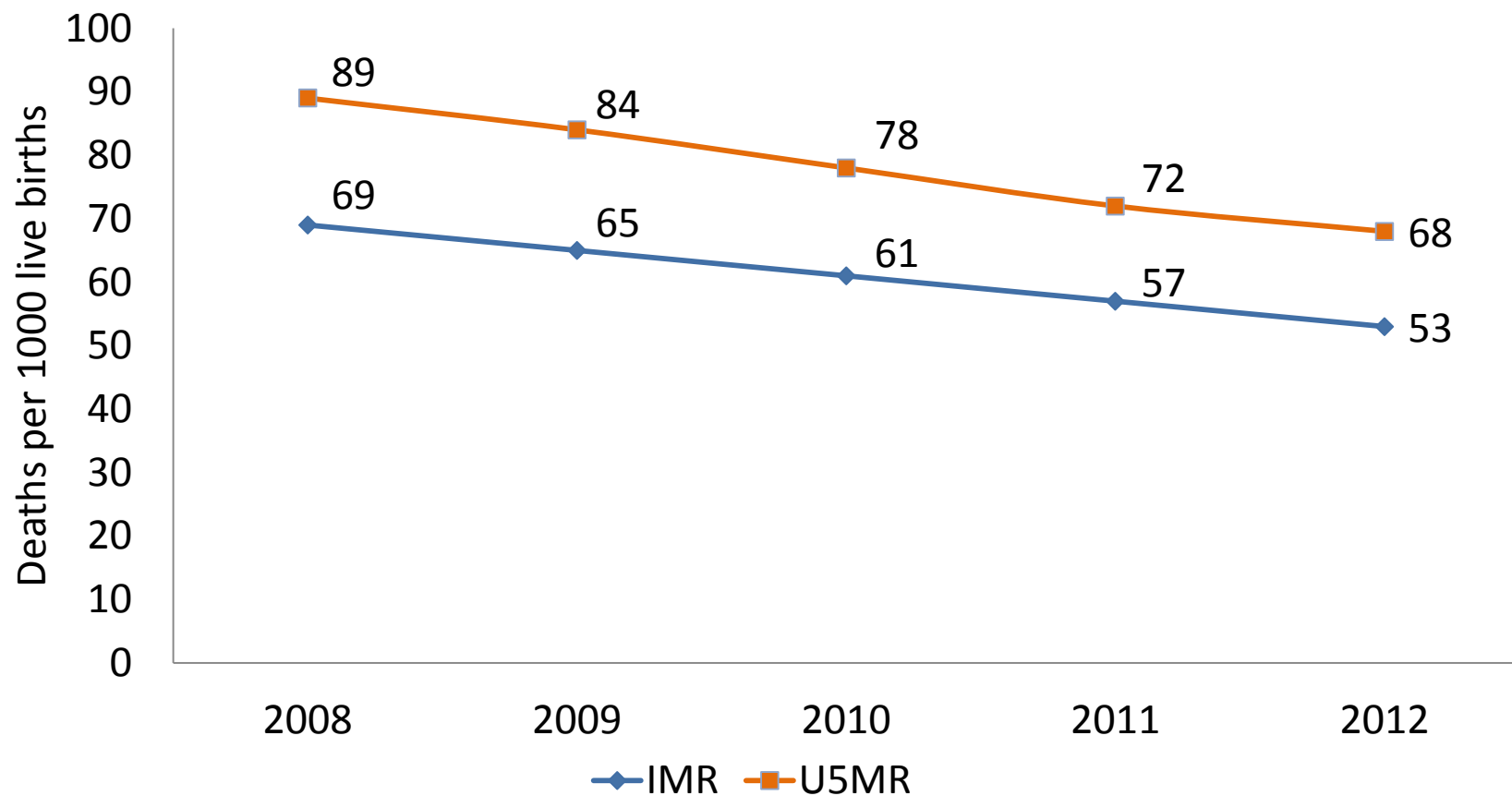
- Background: Nutrition trends and programmes
- Convergent Health and Nutrition Programmes
- Pustikar Diwas?
- Key benefits and challenges
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements

Background: Nutritional status of children under-five



Source: NFHS-3 (2005-6)

Trends in Infant and Under-Five Mortality, Odisha



Source: SRS, GoI

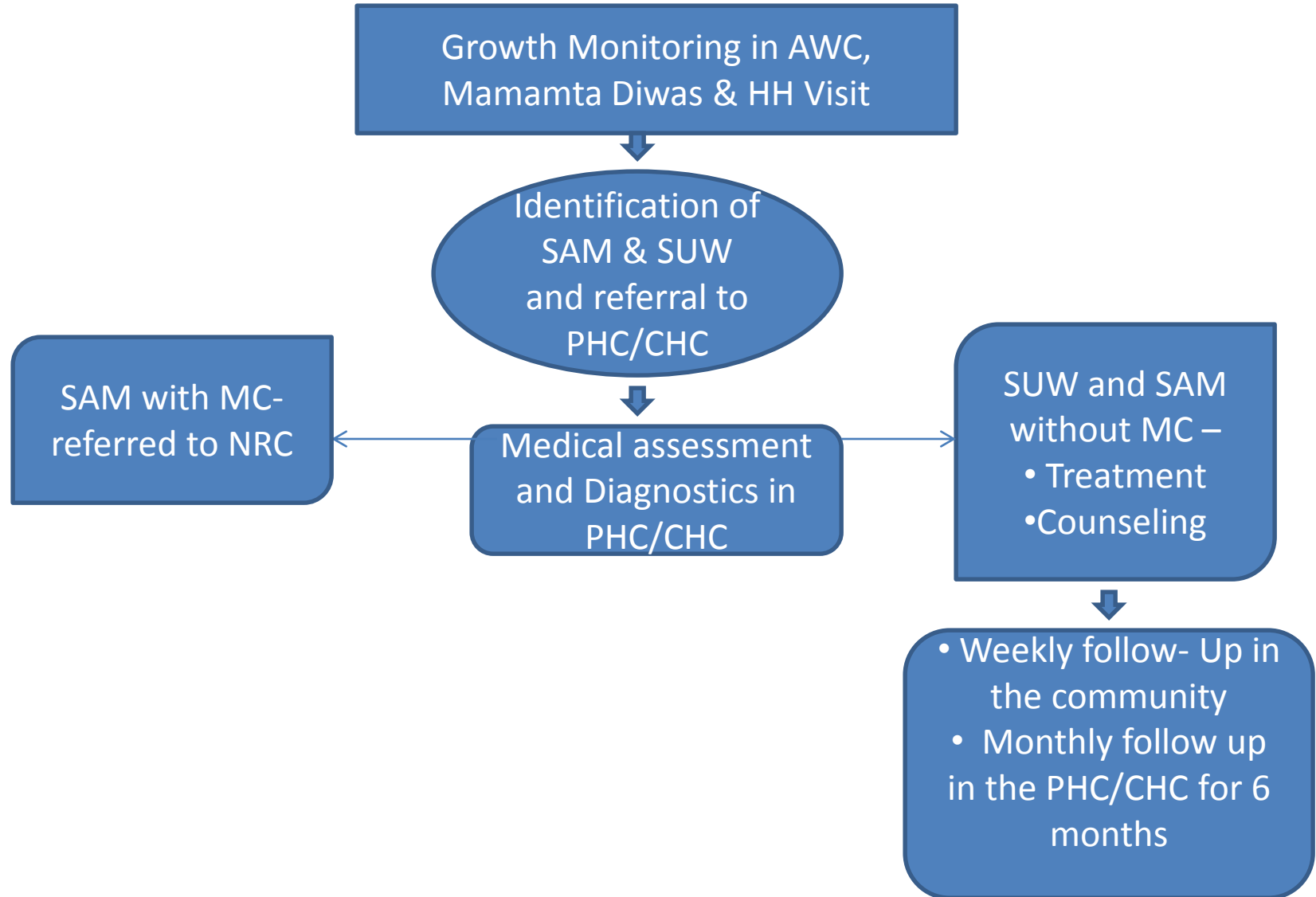
Convergent Nutrition and Health Programmes for Children U5

- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme
- Mamata – Conditional maternity assistance
- Mamata Diwas
- ***Pustikar Diwas***
- Nutritional Rehabilitation Centers
- CMAM- Being piloted in one District
- Shakti Varta- Convergent Participatory Learning & Action
- Capacity Development of FLWs on 1000 days
- IMNCI training for AWW, ANM

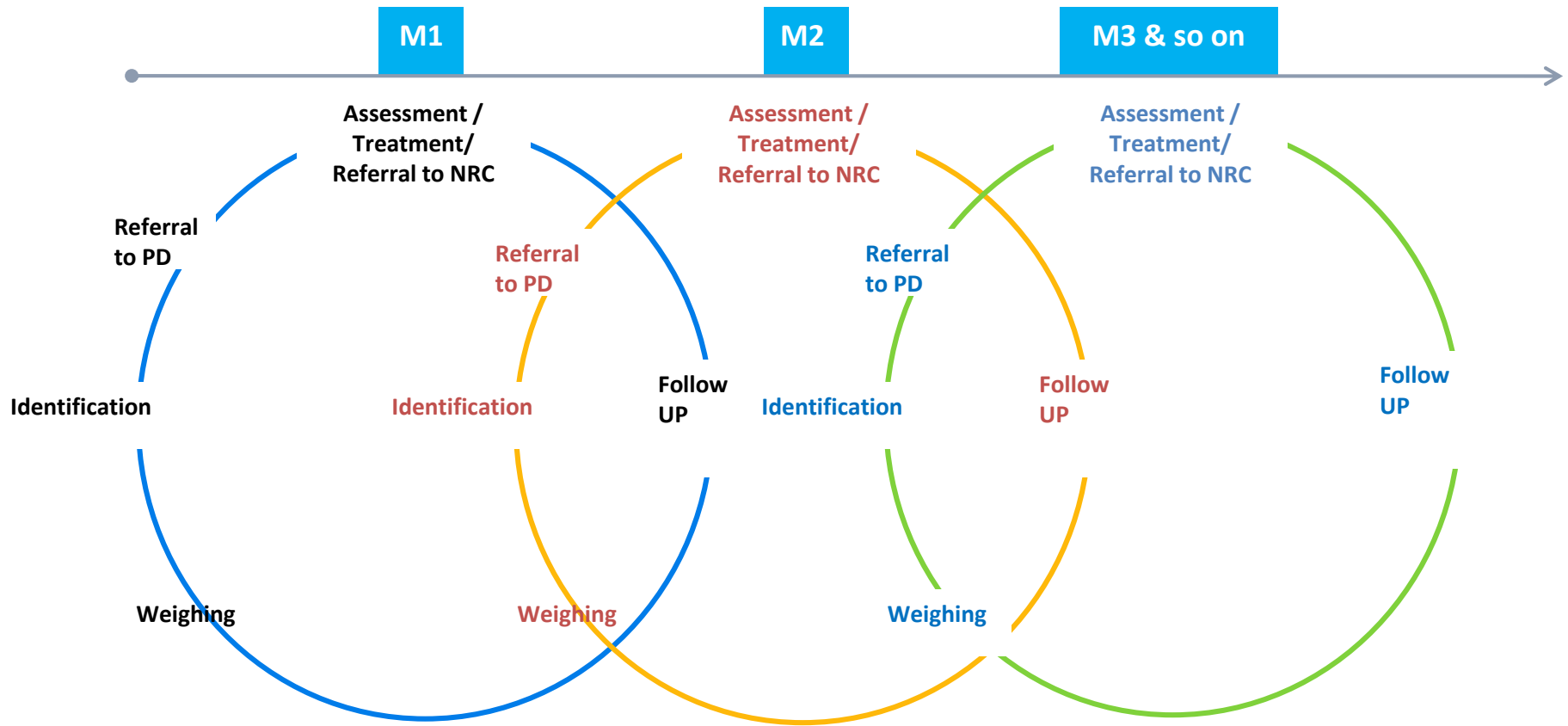
What is Pustikar Diwas?

- A convergent initiative between Departments of Women and Child Development, and Health and Family Welfare implemented since 2009
- Aims to prevent and manage child undernutrition and reduce the risk of death through outpatient care
- Eligible children: severely underweight and severely acutely malnourished (MUAC <11.5 cm) children <5 years
- Services: micronutrients, supplementary food, screening for underlying diseases, medicine, infant and young child feeding advice, onward referral if necessary

Pustikar Diwas: Programme Design



Prustikar Diwas: Process



Pustikar Diwas: Services

Nutrition

(W&CD Dept./ICDS)

- Anthropometry & MUAC assessment
- Referral and escort to PD
- Counseling
- Post PD follow-up
- Diagnostic / Treatment cost reimbursement

Health

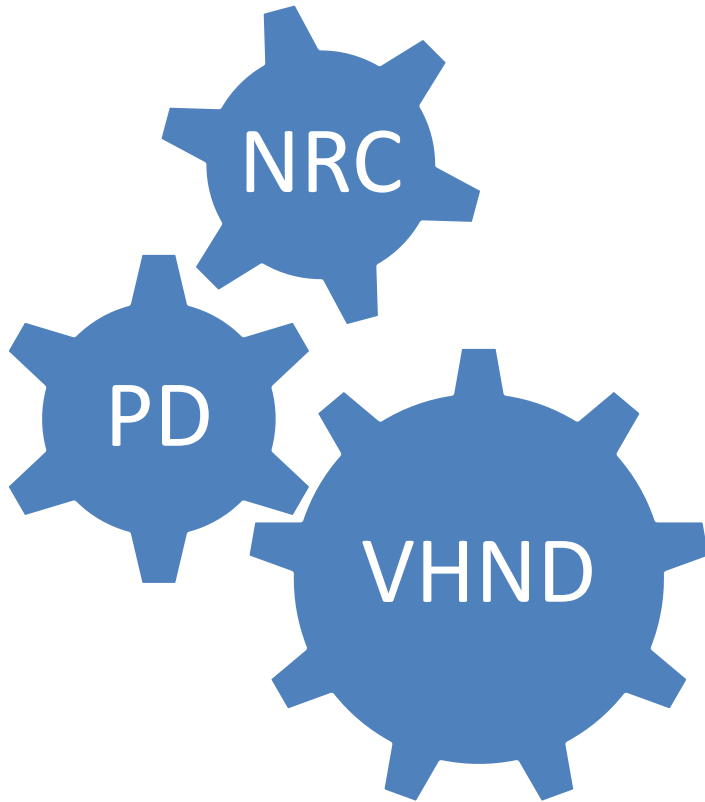
(H&FW Dept.)

- Escort support by ASHA
- Diagnostics and Pathological tests (Hb, Malaria and Stool)
- Treatment of SUW&SAM children
- Referral of SAM + MC to NRC
- Reimbursement of Transportation cost and incentive to ASHA
- Post NRC and post PD follow-up

Pustikar Diwas: Convergent Activities

- Joint identification of severe acute malnutrition and underweight by ANMs (Health and Family Welfare) and AWWs (Women and Child Development)
- Referral by AWWs and AWWs/ASHAs who also accompany children and caregivers to Pustikar Diwas
- Information sharing with Supervisor on NRC discharge for follow-up of the children in AWC
- Block level and District level convergence meeting on undernutrition management including referral to PD, NRC admission and follow-up in the community

Pustikar Diwas: Key benefits



- Integration of ICDS & Health for management of undernutrition
- Institutionalised processes for undernutrition management
- Early identification and early treatment/management of SAM cases
- Cut-down on referrals to NRC
- Shift to outpatient management of undernutrition
- Greater knowledge of hygiene and sanitation as the underlying causes of undernutrition

Pustikar Diwas: Challenges

Administrative

Inadequate medical personnel's

Inadequate/absence of
diagnostic facilities

Inconsistent incentives

Anthropometry logistics

Uniform transport cost
irrespective of distance

Funds flow for incentive and
transport cost

Programmatic

Overlap in roles of AWW &
ASHA

Fixed day approach for SUW
children

Overcrowded facilities

Inadequate/ tardy child
tracking mechanism

Inadequate follow-up

More convergence mechanisms
with WASH and other sectors

Pustikar Diwas: Conclusion

- Pustikar Diwas has strengthened and expanded care for undernourished children across the State
- Referral systems and protocols for the prevention and management of undernutrition have been established and strengthened (although not without its challenges)
- Pustikar Diwas requires convergent working at community level between both departments. Also with challenges, but achievements too.
- Pustikar Diwas has been able to focus on Severe Chronic Malnutrition
- Outpatient management has paved the way for the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) pilot in Odisha
- Other departments such as Water and Sanitation and Education could become more involved in nutrition-related activities such as Pustikar Diwas for greater convergence and greater impact on undernutrition reduction

Acknowledgements

- Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Odisha
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