



सत्यमेव जयते

Government of Maharashtra



Together for Nutrition 2014

Working Across Sectors to Improve Nutrition in India

Strengthening Governance for Nutrition -The Maharashtra Experience...

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Outline

- Background
- Intervention
- Approaches and methods for collaboration/**Research Methods**
- Key findings/**Results**
- Conclusions & implications of your work
- Acknowledgements

Addressing Child Under nutrition in Maharashtra-The Turning Point.. **Adversity to Opportunity.**

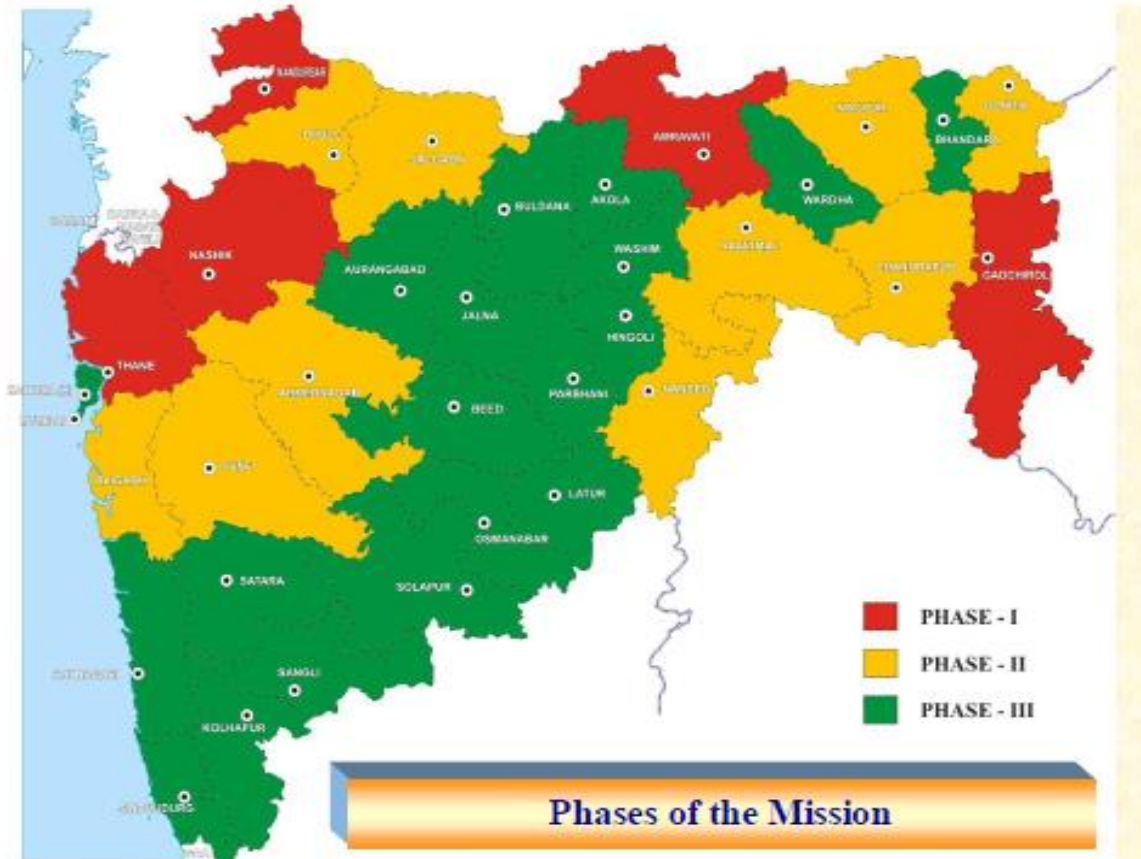
- Media reports child deaths due to malnutrition in two tribal districts.
- High power committee set up under CM to develop the response plan based on the PIL.
- Advocacy based on success of Marathwada Initiative.
- Demonstrated experience in implementing the large-scale Marathwada Initiative to address child undernutrition-(8 most backward later scaled up in 13 other districts)-Response to media reports (2001-2004) - UNICEF-Partnered.
- Release of the NFHS-III report.
- RJMCHN Mission established on 22 February 2005 through the State Cabinet approval.

“The 1st functional Mission in the country to address child under nutrition”

UNICEF had the Opportunity to Partner.


Delivering for the most deprived children

PHASE-WISE EXPANSION OF MISSION ACTIVITIES



- Phase I - The tribal districts
- Focus on 0-6 years
- Establish tracking system
- Strengthen weighing efficiency
- Focus on children with severe malnutrition (Grade III & IV)
- Special attention to under 3 years

RJMCHN Mission: Making a difference



RJMCHN Mission-
Independent platform with
committed team, enjoys the
flexibility and the autonomy

- **Visibility to the issue**
- Recognition of ICDS as a platform of service delivery.
- **Systematic capacity building of Health and ICDS.**
- Advocacy at the highest level-State steering committees.
- **Strengthening existing monitoring systems**
- **Creating Accountability at all the levels**
- Data for decision making
- Establishing Partnerships
- **Involving communities through nutrition audits**
- Demonstrating evidence base, and scaling up high impact interventions
- **Leveraging resources**

Approaches and Collaboration based on the Lessons learned..

- Evidence- Global and State level - the need to focus on (-9to +24months)
- Building on the Political commitment to Make Maharashtra Malnutrition Free. Election manifesto.
- Unfinished Agenda-Reaching the Urban Poor.
- Data analysis for action.

Political Commitment

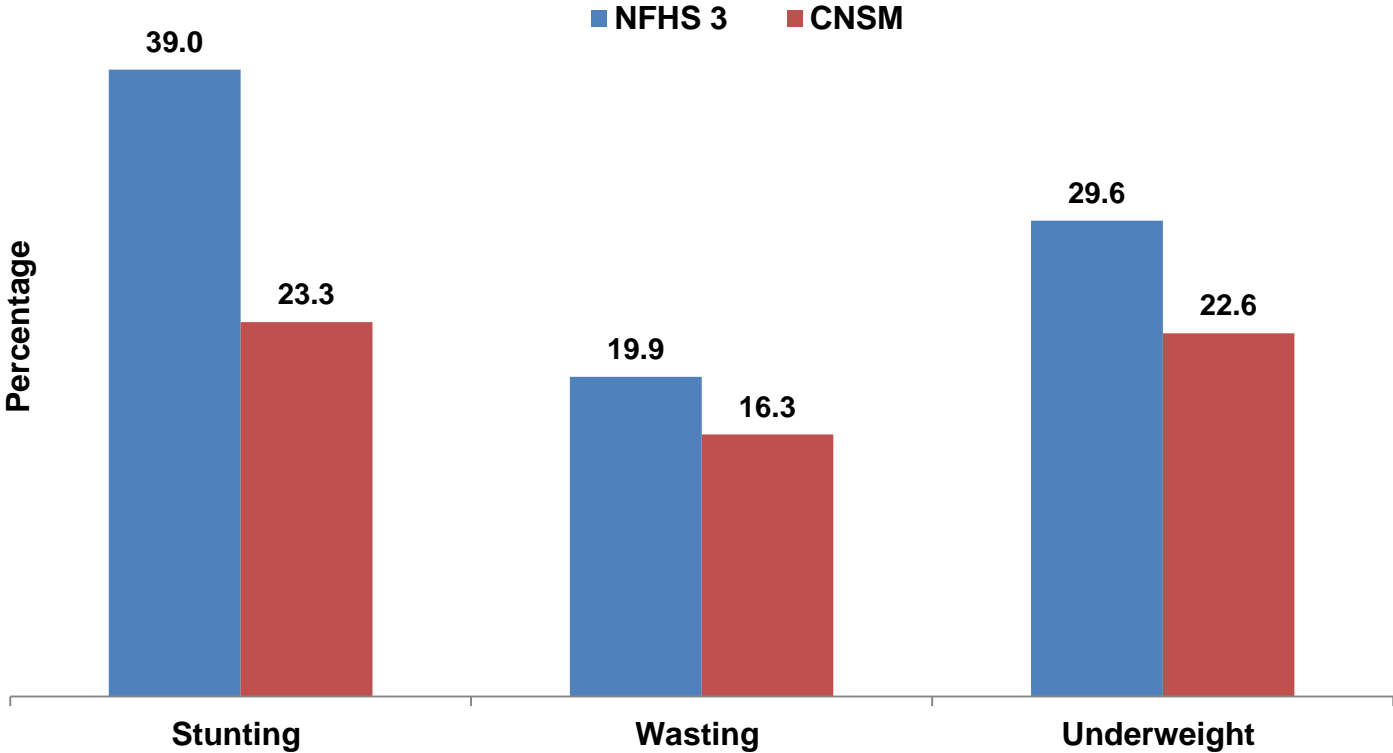
Sharpening the Focus – First 1,000 Days

- RJMCHN Mission with renewed focus (-9 to +24 months) endorsed by the CM on 30th September 2010 –(Phase-II-2010-2015).
 - **“UNICEF requested to partner again”**
- **Independent Nutrition Survey of children Under two.**

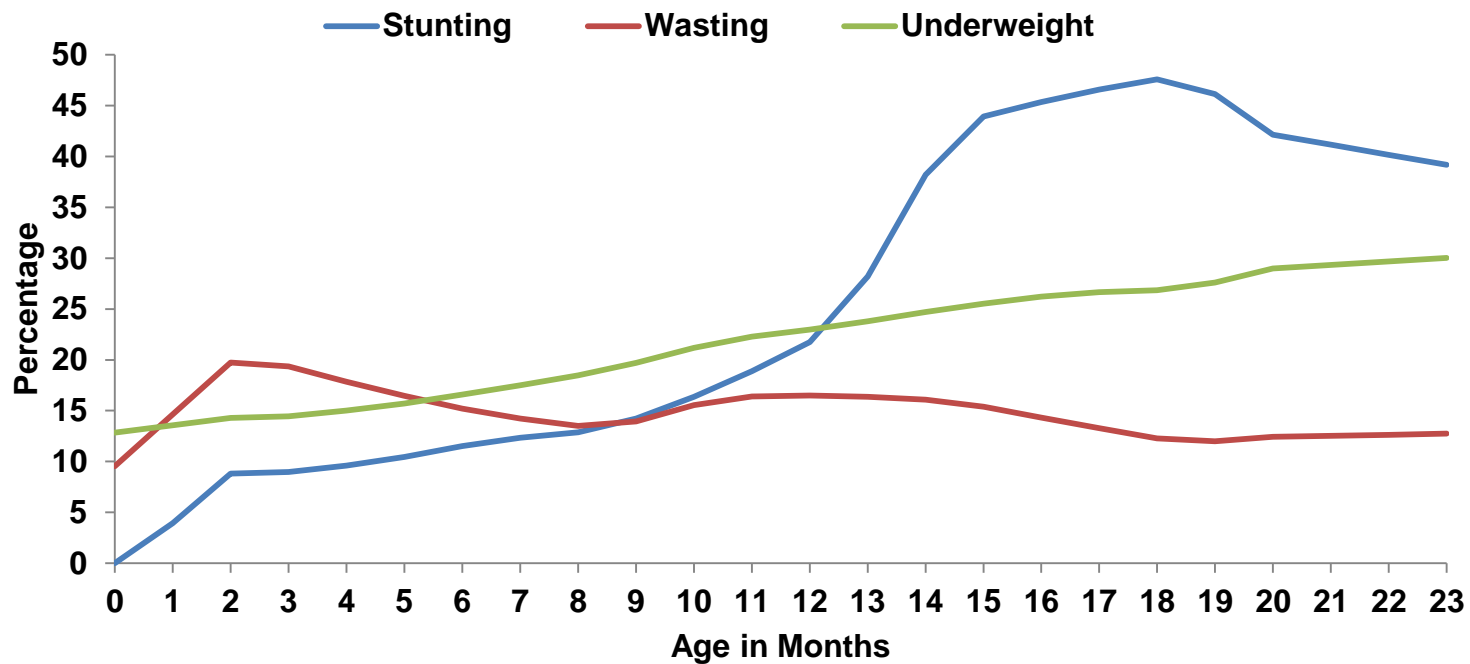
The Key Results..



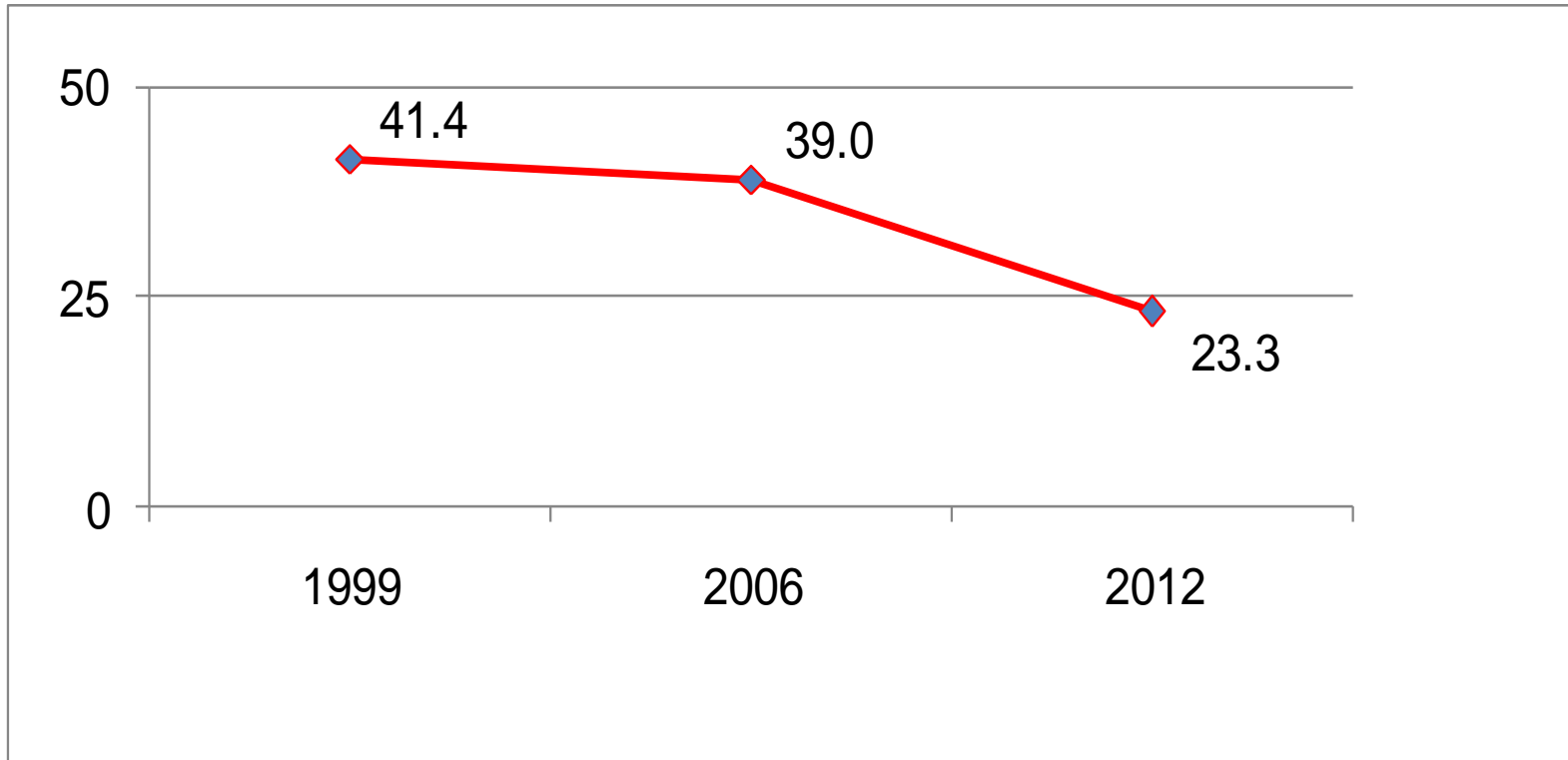
Trends in prevalence of under nutrition among children under two



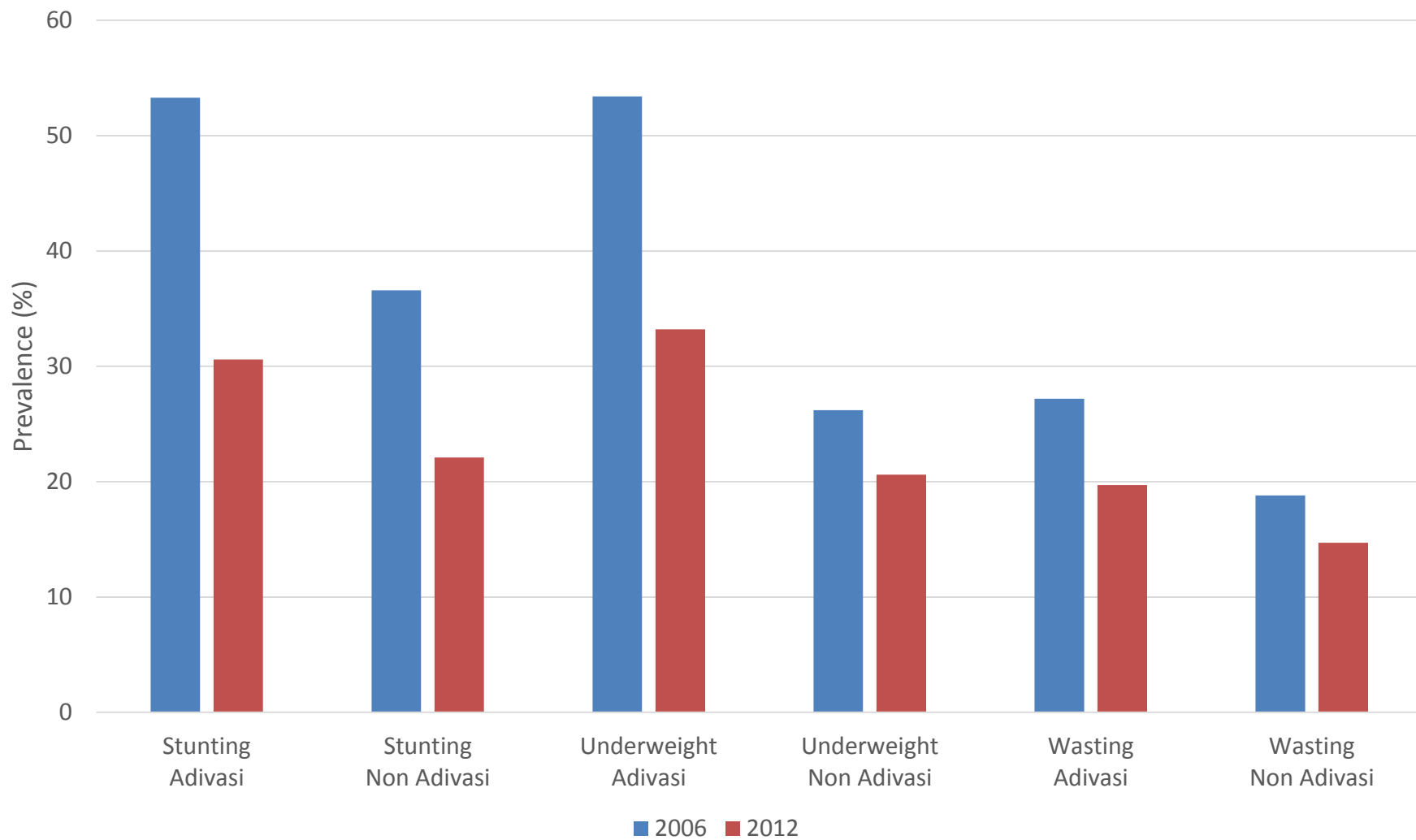
Under nutrition among children under two by age



Decline in prevalence of stunting among children under two

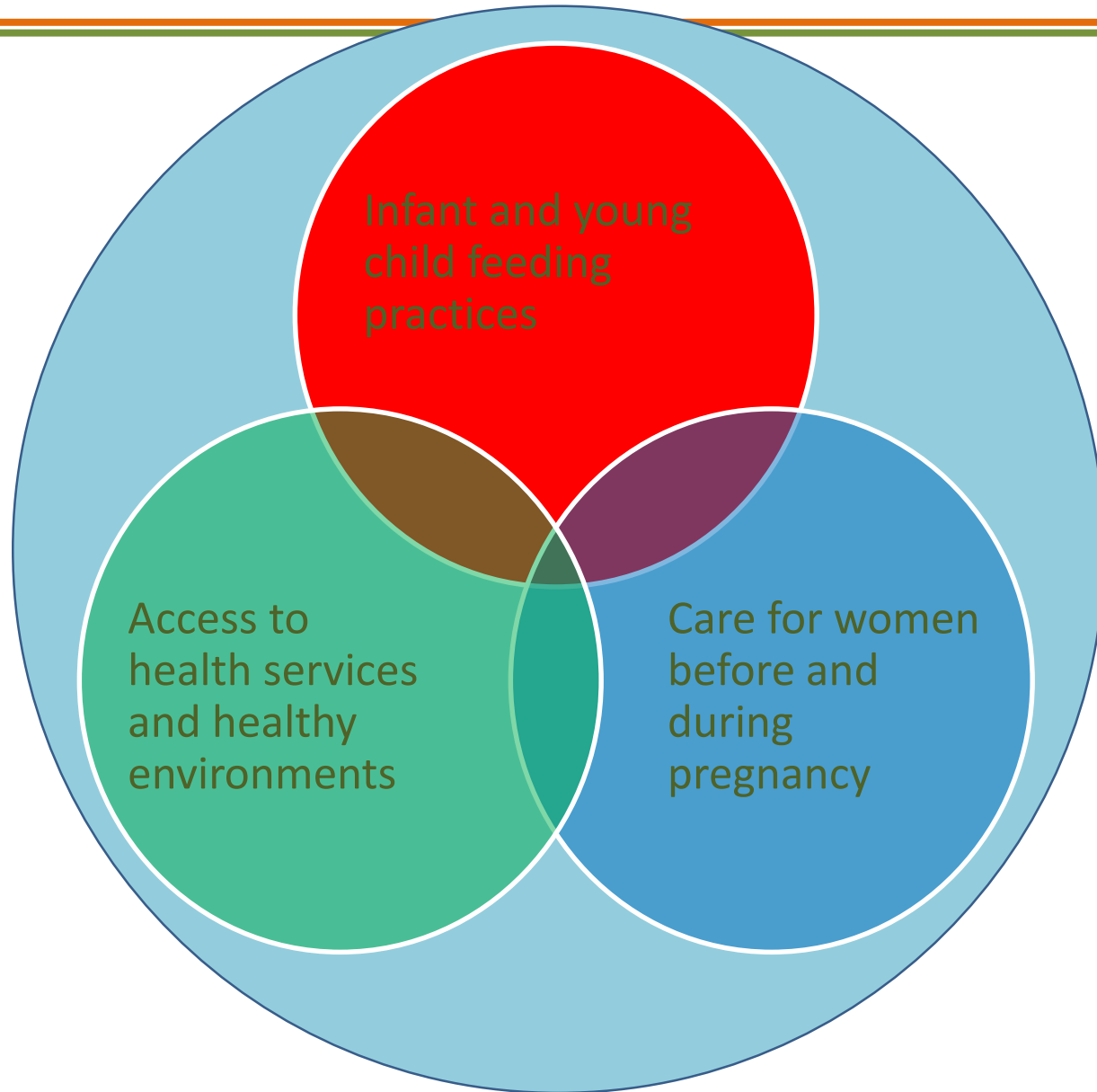


Prevalence of stunting, underweight and wasting in children 0-23 months old. Maharashtra 2006-2012



The factors that contributed to the significant reduction in stunting....

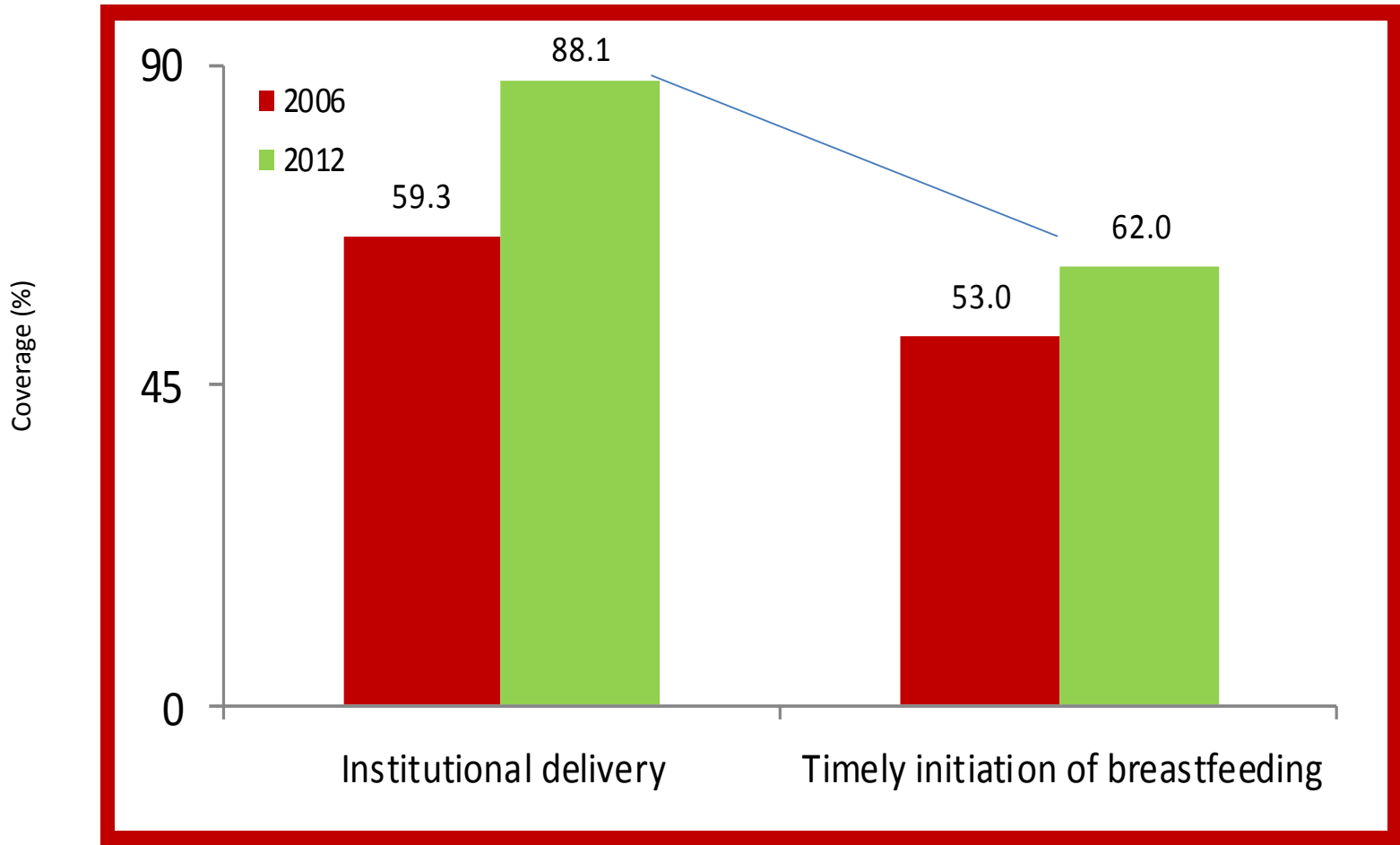
Maharashtra: Improvements in 3 key areas



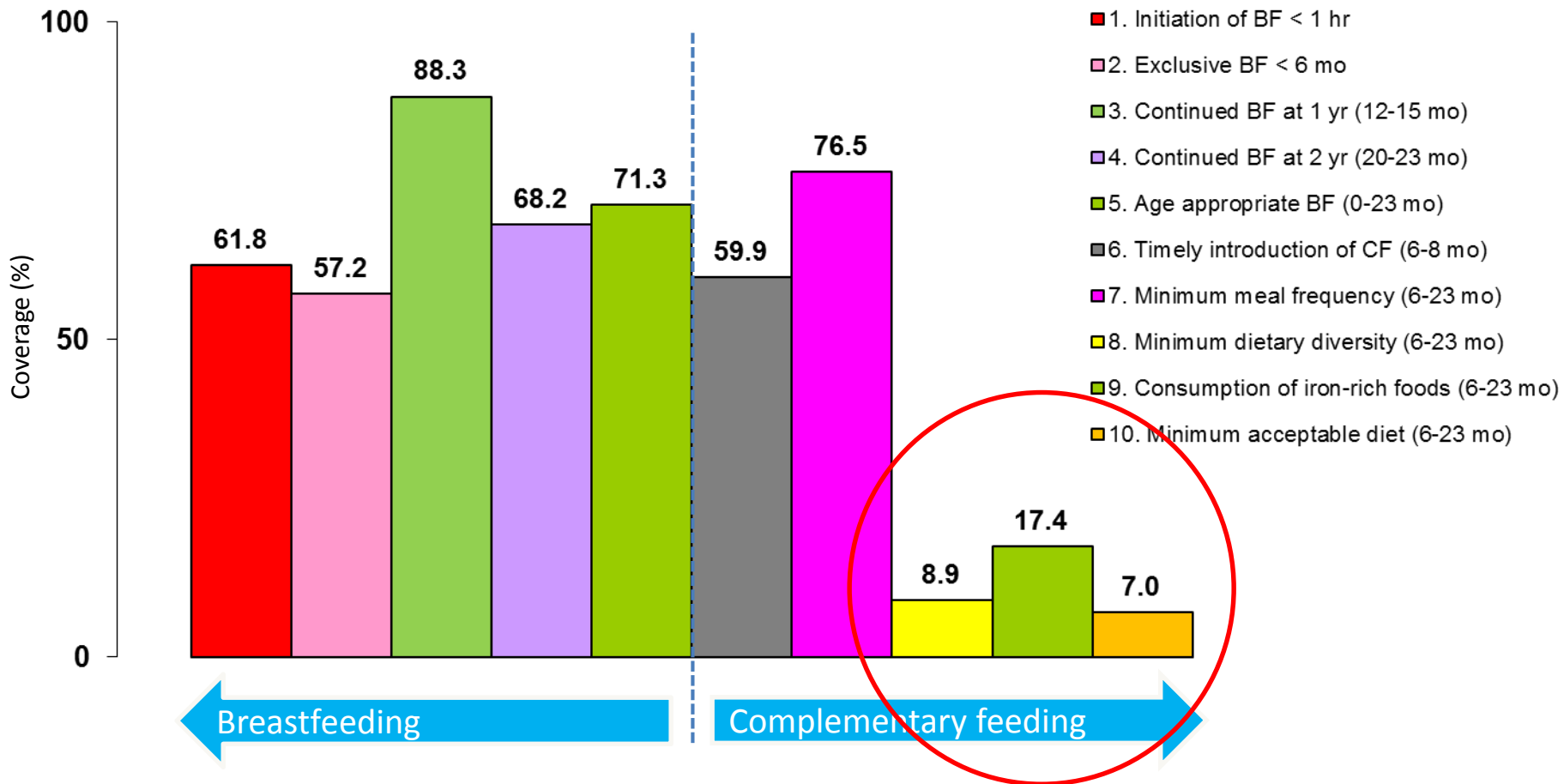
The Gaps...



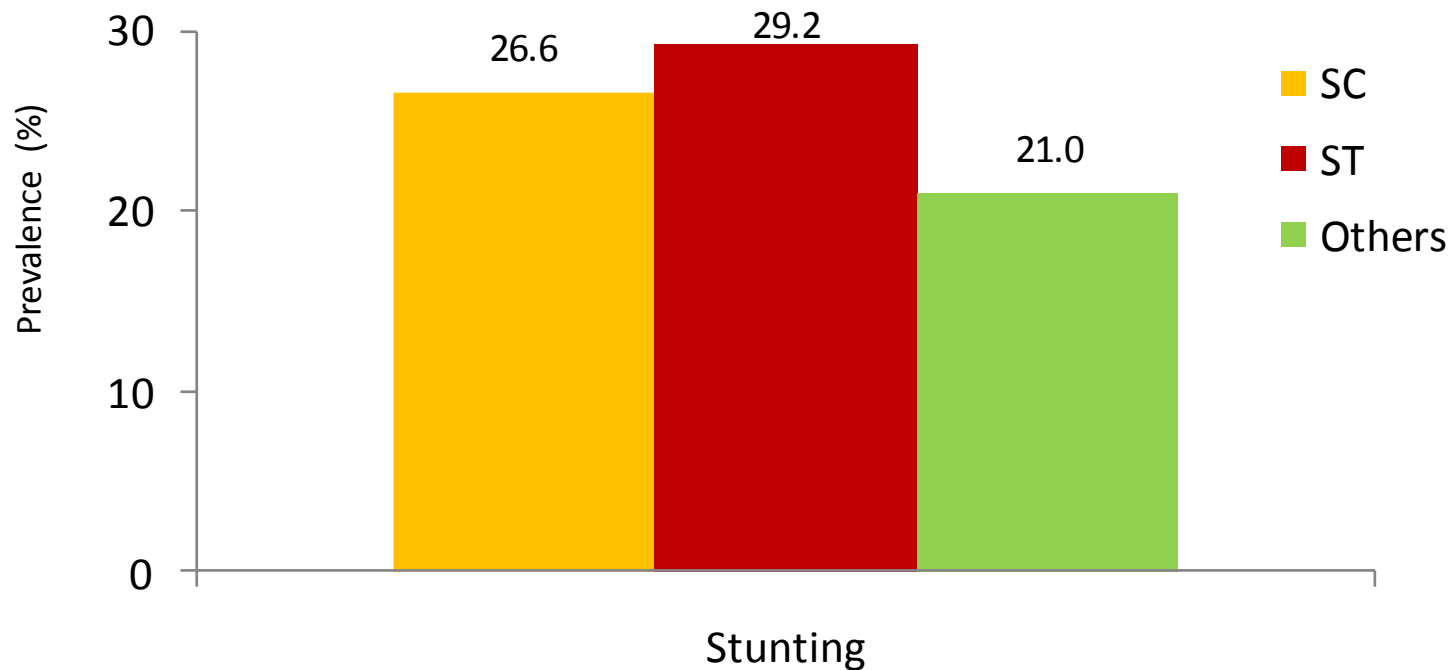
Marked improvement in institutional deliveries; however timely initiation of breastfeeding is still sub-optimal



Poor quality of complementary foods in children undertwo



Significant disparities in the prevalence of stunting: Social Groups



Conclusions...

- High level political commitment.-Demonstrated by appointing full time PS rank officer.
- Mission Providing the Leadership for Nutrition focusing on the youngest and most deprived.
- Continuity of Mission team for 5 years contributed to major break through in programs
- High-Credibility of the Mission for providing necessary technical guidance and support among the front line functionaries especially the ICDS. And Health..
- Proactive role of NRHM-Nutrition interventions mainstreamed .

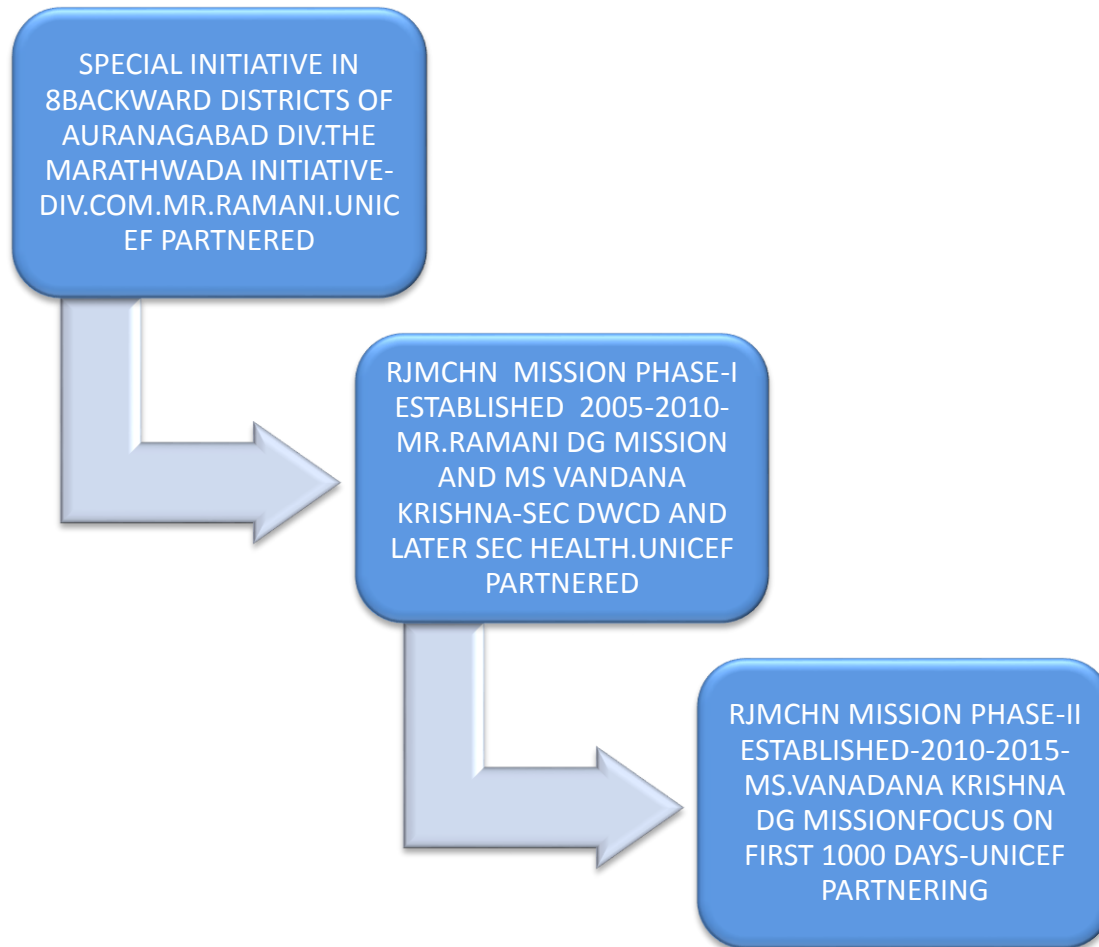
Conclusions. Way Forward...

- **CNSM Survey** , Demonstrated that systems can deliver for children-high level motivated front line functionaries.
- **Special focus on high burden districts and blocks .**
- **Focusing on Nutrition sensitive interventions-Livelihood, Tribal, Agriculture, Water and sanitation, Food and civil supplies.**
- **Established Partnerships-Corporations, Academia, Professional bodies, NGO networks and Citizens Alliance .**
- **Urban Strategy**

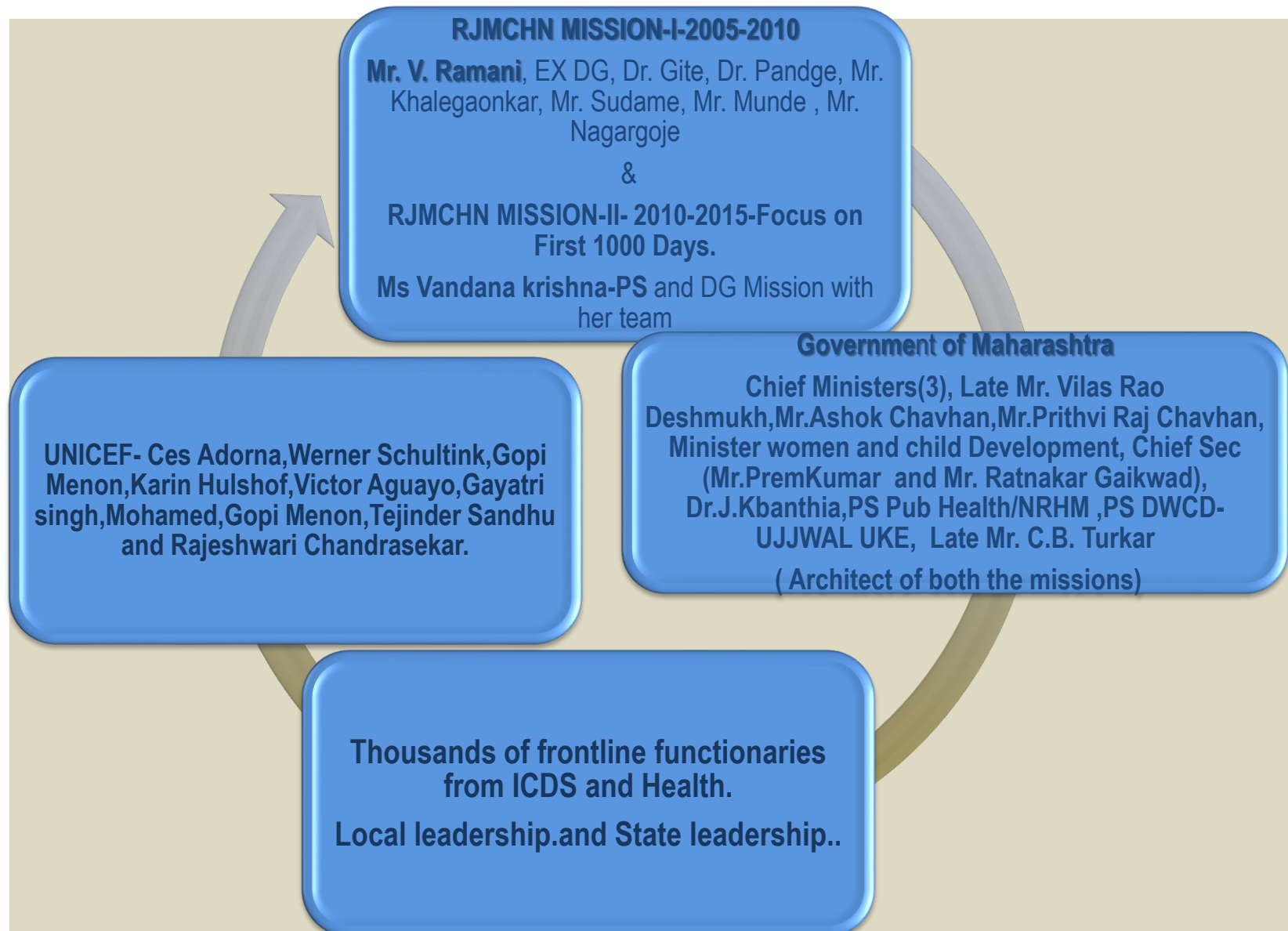
Implications...

- Larger Role of Business Houses as per their CSR Policy. Clear and Standard guideline to be developed for Partnerships.
- Is Mission the answer to addressing Child Under nutrition in the Country? Yes and No.
- **Yes**-If the Mission is headed by a Senior Policy maker and who is interested and understands the issue and willing to head it for atleast three years.
- High end Political support.
- Gets complete autonomy and ideally not under any department.
- **No**-if it is going to be headed by an outsider, or it is a punishment posting or by a technocrat.

The Phases...



The Team that made the difference..



Contributors to the Paper..

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Thank You

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