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Nutrition as a foundation for good health and development: the role of effective implementation and health systems

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Whichever way you look at the world...



...malnutrition affects **every** country

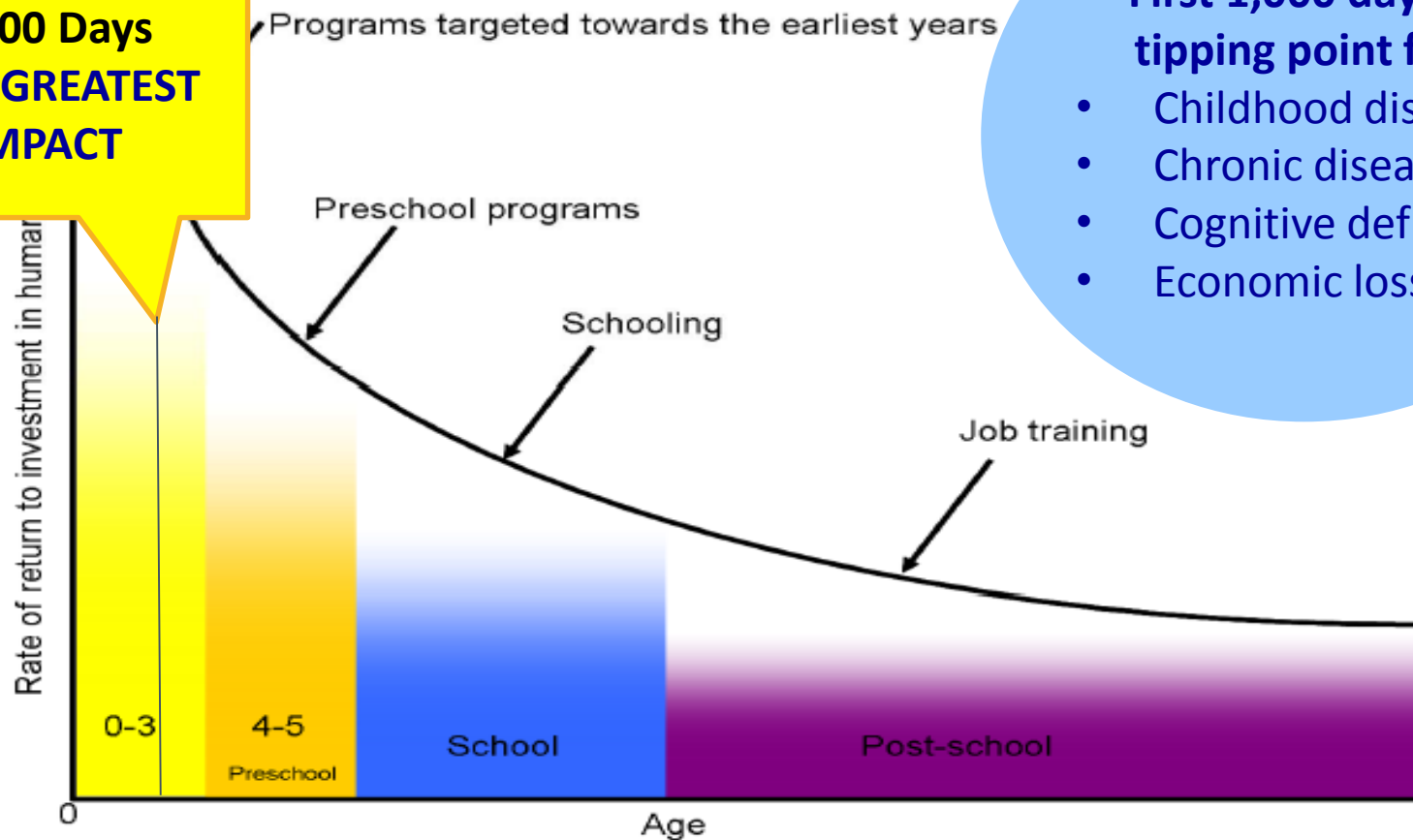


of all
child
deaths
from
poor
nutrition



Nutrition investments in the first 1000 Days are for life

Investments in First 1,000 Days Have **GREATEST IMPACT**



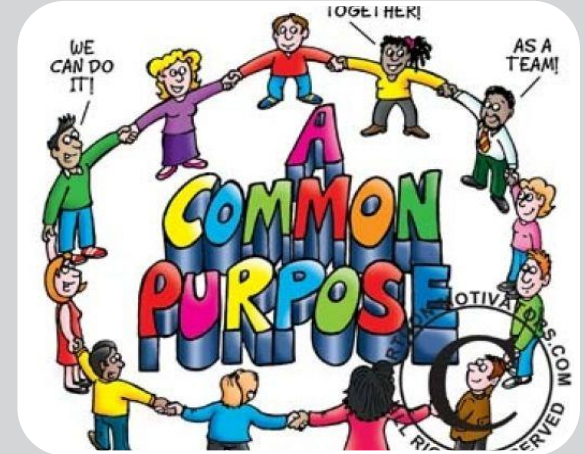
First 1,000 days is tipping point for:

- Childhood disease
- Chronic disease
- Cognitive deficits
- Economic losses

Source: Heckman & Masterov (2004)

Credit: Meera Shekar, World Bank

What can leaders do for nutrition?



Deliver at scale a set of proven solutions to address immediate causes of poor nutrition in the first 1000 days of life

Improve underlying conditions for nutrition through social equity-focused programs and inclusive economic growth

Build and strengthen leadership and accountability for nutrition at all levels

Extraordinary things can happen

Maharashtra



stunting fell from 37% to 24% in 7 years

Economic
Growth

Poverty
reduction

Nutrition and
Health **Missions**

Improved
Program
Performance

Frontline
nutrition staff
recruited

Nutrition
spending

Delivering for nutrition in the first 1000 days: key interventions for health systems/programs*

Pre-pregnancy and pregnancy

- IFA supplementation and deworming.
- Consumption of iodized salt.
- Calcium supplementation where needed
- Adequate food and nutrient intake during pregnancy

Newborn

- Delayed cord clamping
- Counseling and support at birth for early breastfeeding
- Special care for low-birth-weight infants

1-6 months

- Counseling for exclusive breastfeeding
- Support for EBF through policies
- Nutritional support to breastfeeding mothers

6-24 months

- Counseling for age-appropriate IYCF
- Special nutritional support/food supplements to 6-24 mo

Through entire period: Behavior change communication on hygiene and sanitation

Birth to five years: Routine immunization; Screening and care for severe acute malnutrition

*Nutrition services often provided through same delivery platforms as health

6 months to five years
Vitamin A; deworming
IFA, as needed; ORS, zinc



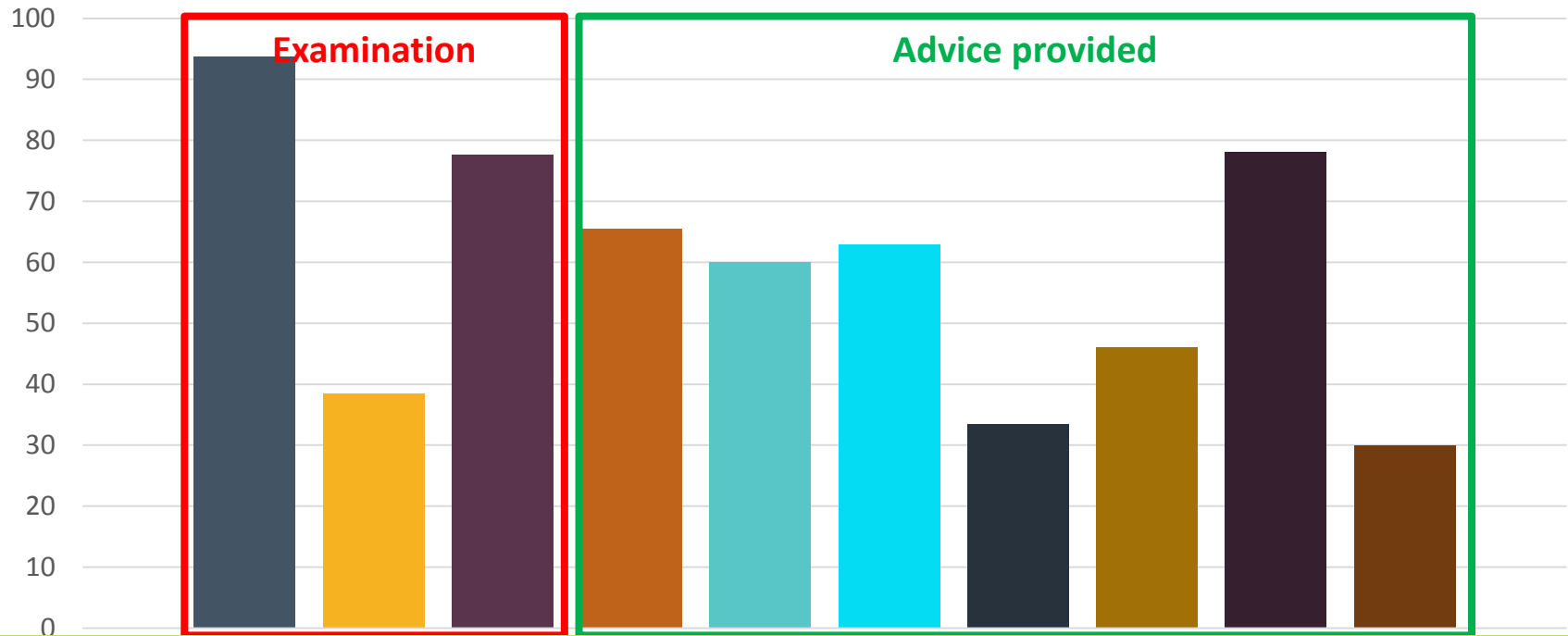
What can health leaders do to make health systems more nutrition-sensitive?

- **Acknowledge** contribution of nutrition to health system goals
- **Integrate** specific nutrition interventions into relevant health delivery platforms, especially for the first 1000 days
- **Monitor** nutrition interventions alongside

Examples of health systems taking on nutrition:

- National Nutrition Services in Bangladesh
- National Rural Health Mission in India
- Health Extension Program in Ethiopia
- Health system in Vietnam

Quality of nutrition services during antenatal care in Bangladesh: *Insights from an operational assessment in facilities*



Take-away: Closing gaps in nutrition counseling during existing antenatal care visits could strengthen nutrition actions

Delivering nutrition interventions across continuum of care: *An example from Odisha, India*



Take-away: Closing gaps in counseling during existing home visits can strengthen home-based counseling by health workers

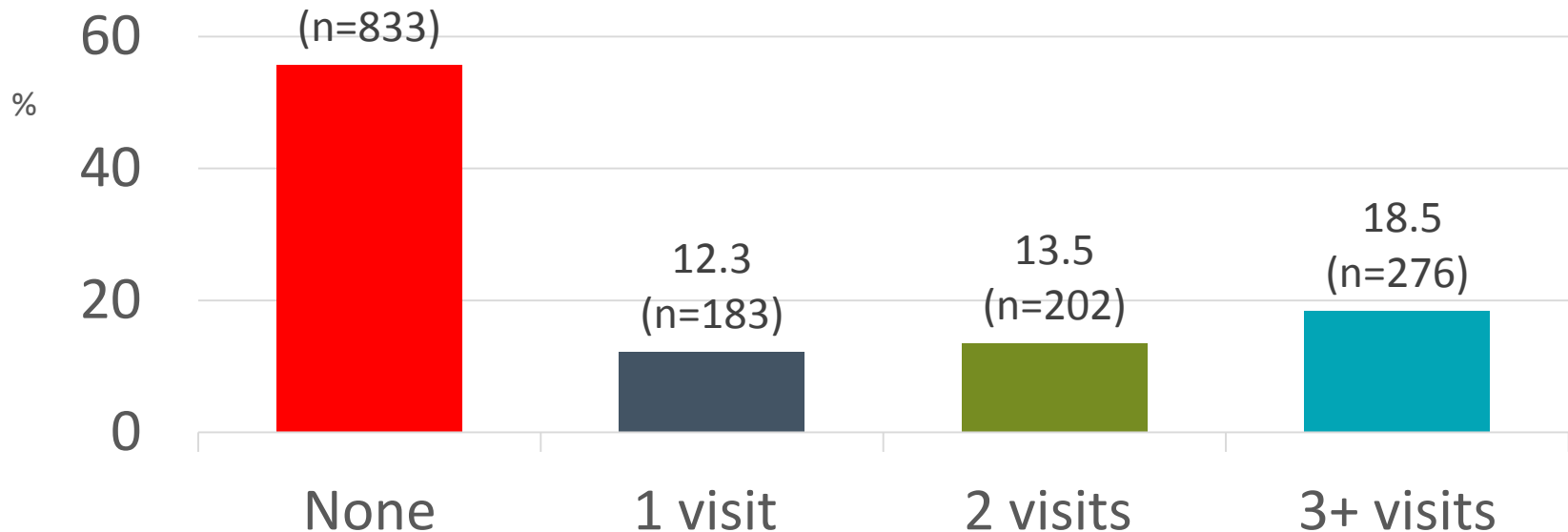
- Nutrition counseling
- Consumed food
- Received food supply
- Pediatric IFA
- Advice on IFA
- BF initiation advice
- Home visit last 3 mo
- Advice on BF at home visit
- Home visit last 3 mo
- Advice on CF
- Vitamin A supplement
- Food supplement
- Consumed food



Delivering home-based counseling via outreach services in Ethiopia: Home visits by health extension workers among mothers with children <2y

No. of home visits by HEW in last 6 mos

Take-away: Closing gaps in reach of home visits needs to be a first step in delivering home-based counseling in Ethiopia.





Financing for nutrition: a critical consideration for effective implementation

2010: World Bank-led work on *Scaling Up Nutrition: What Will it Cost?* → 10 billion dollars of additional financing for nutrition

Ongoing: Costing and Financing for WHA Targets for Nutrition; other costing studies.

Overall goal is to support country-specific costing and financing plans linked to achieving nutrition targets



Estimating the Costs and Financing Needs to Achieve the
World Health Assembly Targets for Nutrition



In closing: What can ministries of health do for nutrition?

- **Commit** to addressing nutrition explicitly to achieve health sector goals
- **Measure** and **monitor** delivery of nutrition interventions as part of health systems
- Include **financing for nutrition** as part of financing for health
- **Lead** laterally/manage up – bringing attention to social determinants of nutrition and health