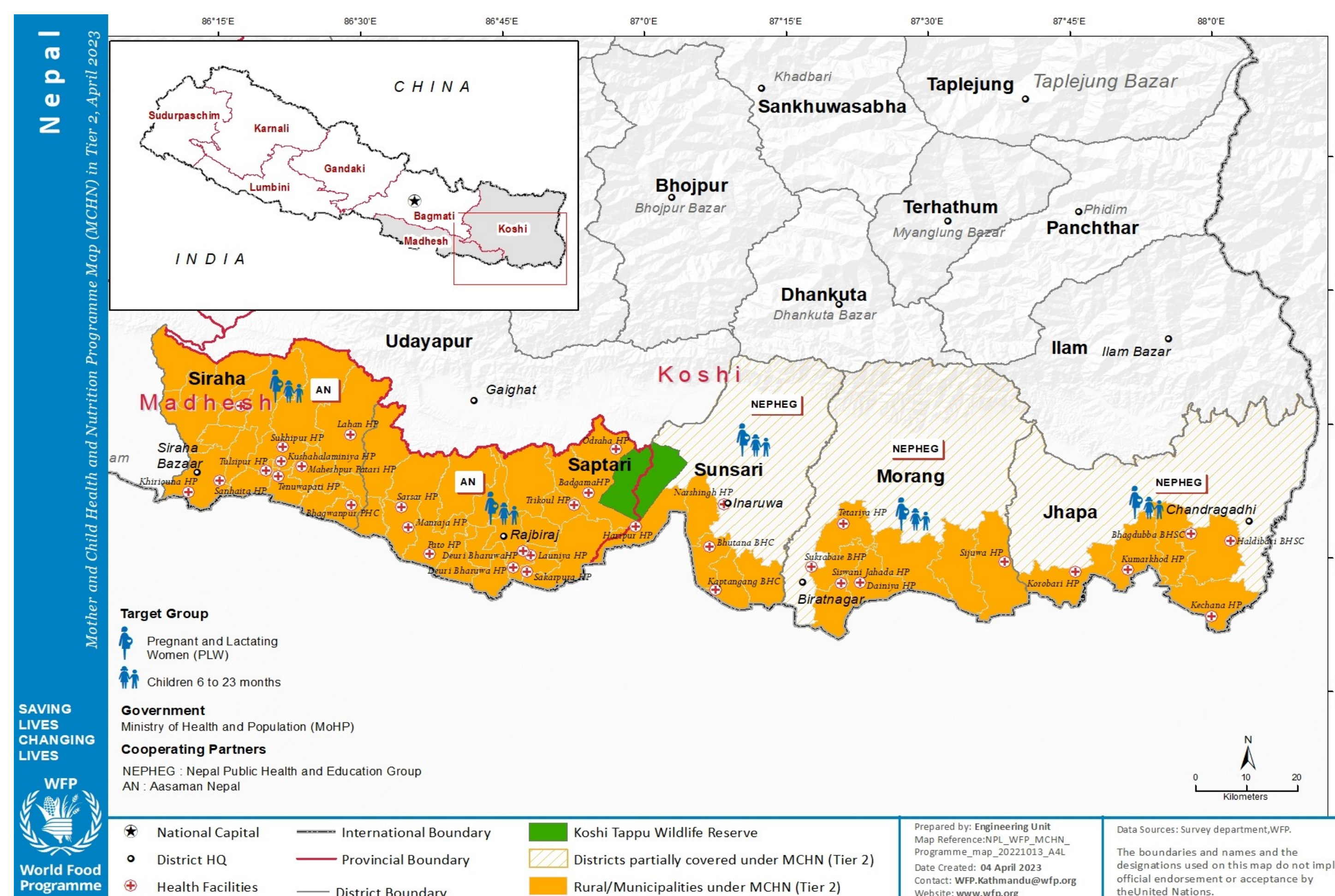


Mother and Child Health and Nutrition: Nourishing Lives Preventing Malnutrition

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BACKGROUND

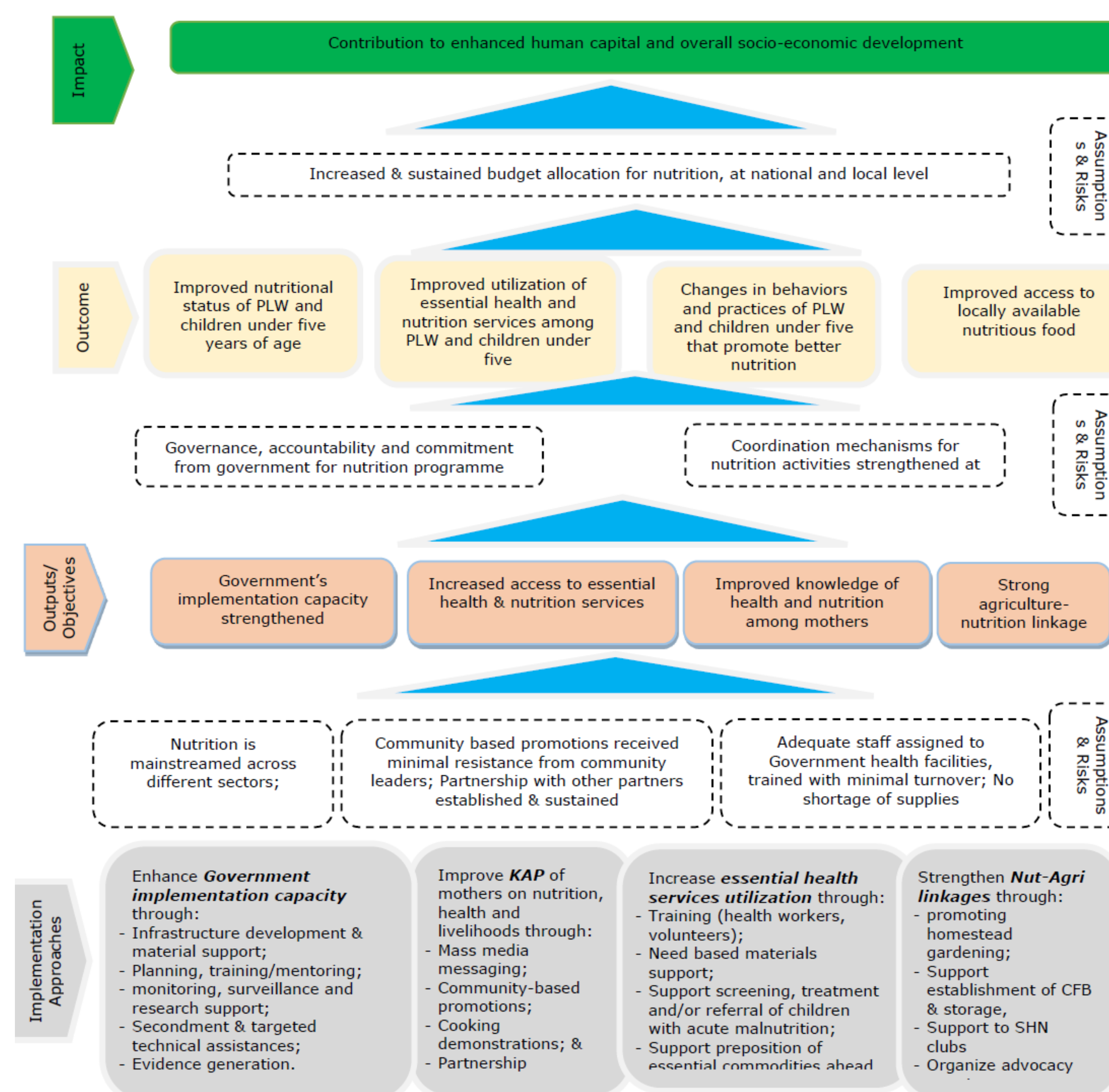
Mother & Child Health and Nutrition Project is implemented to deliver nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive solutions to improving the health and nutrition status pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls and children under 5 years as well as their households. This project is implemented in five districts of Koshi and Madhesh province. Although Nepal's nutrition status is considerably higher than the minimal global recommended acceptable threshold, the two provinces (Madhesh province and parts of Koshi province) have shown higher combined rates of undernutrition, characterized by low socio-economic status. By strengthening local capacity, improving young children's and mothers' diets, linking agriculture and other nutrition sensitive programs, and advocating for increased domestic resource allocation, malnutrition can be significantly reduced in the highly affected target areas of Jhapa, Morang and Sunsari districts of Koshi Province and Saptari and Siraha of Madhesh province bring - and with it, lifelong benefits to the target population of the project.



APPROACHES

The implementation approaches of MCHN are focussed on enhancement of Government implementation capacity (through infrastructure development and material support, training/mentoring, monitoring and research support, and technical assistances), improvement of KAP of mothers on nutrition, health and livelihoods (through mass media messaging, community-based promotions, and cooking demonstrations), increase essential health services utilization (through training, need based materials support, support screening and treatment of children with acute malnutrition, support preposition of essential commodities), and strengthen nutrition-agriculture linkages (through promoting homestead gardening, support establishment of community food bank, and support to school health and nutrition initiatives).

THEORY OF CHANGE



RESULTS

The World Food Programme's Mother & Child Health and Nutrition programme in Nepal is a comprehensive initiative aimed at improving the health and nutrition status of mothers and children in Koshi and Madhesh province. More than 19,000 children were treated for Moderate Acute Malnutrition. The programme led to improved awareness among pregnant and breastfeeding women and families on nutrition and healthcare practices. Thus, leading to an improvement in nutritional status of pregnant & breastfeeding women.



Institutional deliveries (from 64.2% to 77.3% in Madhesh and from 79% to 81.5% in Koshi) are increased. Stunting has been reduced from 37% to 29% in Madhesh province and 32.6% to 20% in Koshi province. Wasting has been reduced from 14.4% to 10% in Madhesh province and from 11.8% to 4% in Koshi province. The status of pregnant women receiving antenatal care from skilled provider is also improved (from 36.1% to 63.6% in Madhesh and 62.6% to 72.4% in Koshi). The programme contributed to a reduction in maternal and child mortality (reduced to 43% from 52% in Madhesh and 34% from 36% in Koshi province), particularly in areas where the interventions are implemented.

REACH

- Health facilities: 1,177
- Health workers: 1,671
- Female Community Health Volunteers: 3,759
- Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and Girls: 26,759
- Children aged 0-23 months: 30,315
- Children aged 0-59 months: 18,276
- Schools: 526
- Beneficiaries reached through SBCC interventions: 160,033

SIGNIFICANCE AND APPLICATION

- Improved nutritional status of children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls through
- increased access and utilization of locally available nutritious foods
 - changes in behaviours and practices of children and PBW/G that promote better nutrition
 - improved coverage and utilization of essential health and nutrition services and
 - strengthened the National, Provincial and Local Governments' capacity to implement integrated health and nutrition programs through improved: infrastructure; monitoring and surveillance systems

