Results

• Over 28 million children were reached with nutrition-specific interventions in 2018 as a result of USAID’s integrated efforts.

• Between 2009 and 2018, the prevalence of stunting within 19 of USAID’s maternal and child nutrition priority countries decreased from 40% to 32.8%.

• In 2018, USAID reached more than 6.9 million pregnant women with nutrition interventions, including breastfeeding education, counseling and support.*

• USAID’s efforts have contributed to the average prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding doubling across 20 of the Agency’s nutrition countries between 1990 and 2014.

* Due to reporting delays, one country’s reach is still forthcoming and not included in this overall result.

Funding

This funding represents that of the Global Health Programs (GHP-USAID) nutrition sector.

Priority Countries

Bangladesh  Mali
Cambodia    Mozambique
DR Congo    Nepal
Ethiopia    Nigeria
Ghana       Rwanda
Guatemala   Senegal
Haiti       Tajikistan
Kenya       Tanzania
Laos        Uganda
Malawi      Zambia

USAID’s maternal and child health and nutrition investments save lives, help children reach their full developmental and economic potential, build stronger health systems and foster more resilient, self-reliant communities and nations.

https://www.usaid.gov/global-health/health-areas/nutrition
USAID’s maternal and child nutrition interventions address the immediate, health-related causes of malnutrition to save the lives of women and children and lay the foundation for healthier futures. These efforts include a special focus on the 1,000 days from pregnancy through a child’s second birthday—a period in which good nutrition is critical for optimal physical and cognitive development—and they are closely aligned and coordinated with food security programming.
USAID works with the public, private and faith-based sectors to improve nutrition for women and children. Programs vary by country, but examples of our investments include:

**Healthy children start with well-nourished mothers**

- Provide pregnant women with micronutrient supplements
- Ensure that pregnant women regularly attend health facilities for antenatal care, nutrition assessments and counseling
- Educate communities on consuming diverse, nutrient-rich diets in adequate amounts

**Evidence, capacity & data spark nutrition action**

- Improve data measurement and analysis to inform countries’ nutrition priorities
- Work with policymakers to include nutrition in national programs, policies and budgets
- Develop and support trainings to build the number of in-country nutrition professionals
- Create and share evidence on best practices for nutrition globally
- Contribute to global policies and guidelines around nutrition
Breastfeeding grows the roots for good nutrition

- Educate mothers and caregivers on the benefits of early and exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months and continued breastfeeding up to 2 years of age and beyond
- Train health workers and community volunteers on how to counsel and support breastfeeding mothers and their families
- Help facilities adopt evidence-based practices that support new mothers to feed their newborns

Those in need receive essential nutrients

- Provide vitamin A supplements to children under 5 years old
- Ensure iodine is added to salt to reduce iodine deficiency disorders
- Support iron fortification, supplementation and improved dietary practices to reduce maternal and child anemia

Strong facilities & communities fight child malnutrition

- Train health workers and community volunteers to regularly monitor growth and assess for malnutrition throughout childhood
- Prevent and treat cases of acute malnutrition
- Help health facilities better identify and address nutrition-related conditions
- Strengthen linkages and referrals between health facilities and community health activities

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