Impactful Nutrition Policy
Tracking Nutrition Planning and Budgeting

September 2017
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SPRING Project/
John Snow, Inc. (JSI)
National nutrition policies represent a commitment to act.

Political will must be reflected through financial support.

—USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy 2014–2025

Additional $7 Billion may be needed to meet undernutrition goals.

—Investing in Nutrition (2016)
BUDGET CYCLE

REVIEW

PLANNING

IMPLEMENTATION

NEGOTIATION AND APPROVAL
**STEPS OF FINANCIAL TRACKING**

1. **COSTING**
   - Estimates funding needed to implement nutrition activities.
   - Serves as a first step in understanding overall resources required to support nutrition in a country.
   *Without estimated costs of an intervention, governments can't properly advocate for funds.*

2. **BUDGET ANALYSIS**
   - Estimates funding allocated to implement nutrition activities.
   - Provides insight into where to budget for nutrition within ministerial budget line-items.
   *Without money committed on paper for nutrition, activities will not be included in work plans.*

3. **EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS**
   - Estimates what percentage of allocated funds was actually spent.
   - Suggests where capacity to implement nutrition interventions and track expenditures may need to be strengthened.
   *Without funding line-items and actually spending money, governments can’t implement interventions.*

4. **EXPENDITURE TRACKING**
   - Helps determine why funds did not reach their intended destination.
   - Tools like the World Bank’s Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys (PETS) can do this type of analysis.
   *Without knowing where bottlenecks occur, stakeholders can’t improve funding systems.*
Pathways to Better Nutrition
Study Methods
SPRING’s PBN Study

Uganda
Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (2011-2016)

Nepal
PBN Study Timeline

Cross-Sectional
Secondary Survey Data (Snapshots)

Periodic Budget Data (Collection and Validation)

Continual Qualitative Data
(KIs, Meeting Notes, News Content Analysis)

National

2013
2014
2014
2015 → 2015
2016

Final Results

Selected Districts

Selected Sub-Districts*

Data Collection
Data Analysis

www.spring-nutrition.org
PBN Interviewees

Policy and oversight
Sector ministries
District & sub-district nutrition committees

Government
Donors
UN Groups
Civil Society
Academia
Private Sector
Study Findings
Is the NNAP understood and used?

- Yes (✓)

Are NNAP activities planned?

- No

Is funding allocated?

- No

Are allocated funds spent?

- Yes, partially (⚠️)
- Yes, fully (✓)

- Yes

<table>
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<th>Gov.</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>UN</th>
<th>CSO</th>
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*N/A – WASH not covered at baseline. Academia and CSO could not be analyzed for change by sector.*
Was Funding Allocated?

NEPAL

Total (On- and Off-budget) allocations were around USD 168 Million in 2015-16, up from USD 146 Million in 2014-15.

Eight added/expanded projects contributed 28% in final fiscal year.
Delayed Release of Funds:

*It is a situation where despite of the Government’s allocation of funds no results have come...Last year, it was because the fund got released at the end of the fiscal year that is why.*

   —Nepal National Government Stakeholder

Procurement Delays:

*Procurement is a major problem in absorption capacity.*

   —Uganda National Government Stakeholder
What Drove Changes in Priority and Funding?

- Identity
- Adaptation to Need
- Coordination
- Human Resources
- Advocacy
- Sustainable Structures
- Bottom-up Planning
- Ownership
Conclusions & Recommendations
## PBN RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Take Long View of Scale Up  
2. Reach the Lowest Level  
3. Build Sustainable Structures  
4. Add Human Resources for Nutrition  
5. Launch M&E Frameworks  
6. Align with NNAP  
7. Embed Nutrition in Sector & Organizational Plans  
8. Use Budgets as Planning Tools  
9. Invest in Key Drivers of Change  
10. Consider Formal Funding Mechanisms for Nutrition
Thank you

SPRING is
Evidence-based.
Country-led.
Results-driven.
Improving lives through better nutrition.

www.spring-nutrition.org/pbn
BREAK OUT SESSION
09/08/2017
WHY USE THIS TOOL?

- Improves transparency and replicability of analysis
- Provides ready-made data visualizations
- Compatible with SUN methodology
- Provides accounting comparable to national budget figures
9 STEPS FOR BUDGET ANALYSIS

**What this tool can do:**
- Improve search for nutrition activities within national budgets
- Provide estimates of yearly sector and national level nutrition allocations
- Provide estimates of nutrition-specific vs nutrition-sensitive
- Breakdown by objective areas

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>DEFINE YOUR SCOPE</td>
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<td>02</td>
<td>IDENTIFY COLLEAGUES TO HELP YOU</td>
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<td>03</td>
<td>MEET WITH STAKEHOLDERS</td>
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<td>GATHER DOCUMENTS</td>
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<td>08</td>
<td>FINALIZE RESULTS</td>
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<td>09</td>
<td>SHARE RESULTS</td>
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EXTENSIONS – BEYOND THE BASIC TOOL

• Track actual expenditures
• Compare available resources to the costed plan
• Track district nutrition budgets

SPRING can help countries make modifications to the read-made tool
CHALLENGES TO ACCURATE BUDGET ESTIMATES

- Highly aggregated budget line items make nutrition financing hard to estimate.
- Not all nutrition staff know where to find nutrition funding.
- National budgets do not always include transfers to districts, or account for transfer spending.
- Off-Budget financing for nutrition comes outside the national budget – accounting for these funds can be tricky!
- Methods used for estimating nutrition costing often do not allow for direct comparison.
Nutrition Budget Analysis
Practical tools to help government ministries track and advocate for nutrition funding.

For more information: www.spring-nutrition.org/budget-tool
EXAMPLE: Diet Diversity

- **Project Name:** ABCD Project
- **Code:** 1234
- **Description:** 4 objectives, one related to increasing production and consumption of micronutrient-rich foods
- **Entity:** N/A
- **Unit:** N/A
- **Sector:** Agriculture
- **Source:** External
- **Donor:** World Bank
- **On-Budget
- **Funding Type:** Recurrent
- **Keyword:** 3 – Diet Diversity
- **Allocated Budget:** 1 mill. Rs.
- **Data source:** 2017-2018 National Budget
- **Integrated
- **%:** 25
- **Sensitive
- **WEIGHTING:** N/A, use Dominant
Thank you

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What Does This Translate to?

Nepal (2014-15)
- Nutrition-Specific $28 per child under 5
- Nutrition Allocation 1% of total GoN Budget
- 3% of GoN Health Budget
- EDP nutrition allocation 7% of total devt. assistance to Nepal

Uganda (2014-15)
- Nutrition-Specific $9 per child under 5
- Nutrition Allocation 1% of total GoU Budget
- <1% of GoU Health Budget
- EDP nutrition allocation 5% of total devt. assistance to Uganda

EDP: External Development Partners
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Was Funding Allocated and Spent?

UGANDA

Total (On- and Off-budget) allocations were around USD 141 Million in 2014-15 (2015-16 not validated)

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<td>USD Millions</td>
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- Off-Budget EDP
- On-Budget EDP
- On-Budget Govt.

EDP: External Development Partners