



# USAID Advancing Nutrition

## The Agency's Flagship Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project

### What We Do

USAID Advancing Nutrition strengthens nutrition investments of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), providing support and technical assistance to USAID Missions, governments, and partners at local, regional, and national levels and as they improve nutritional status and health outcomes around the world.

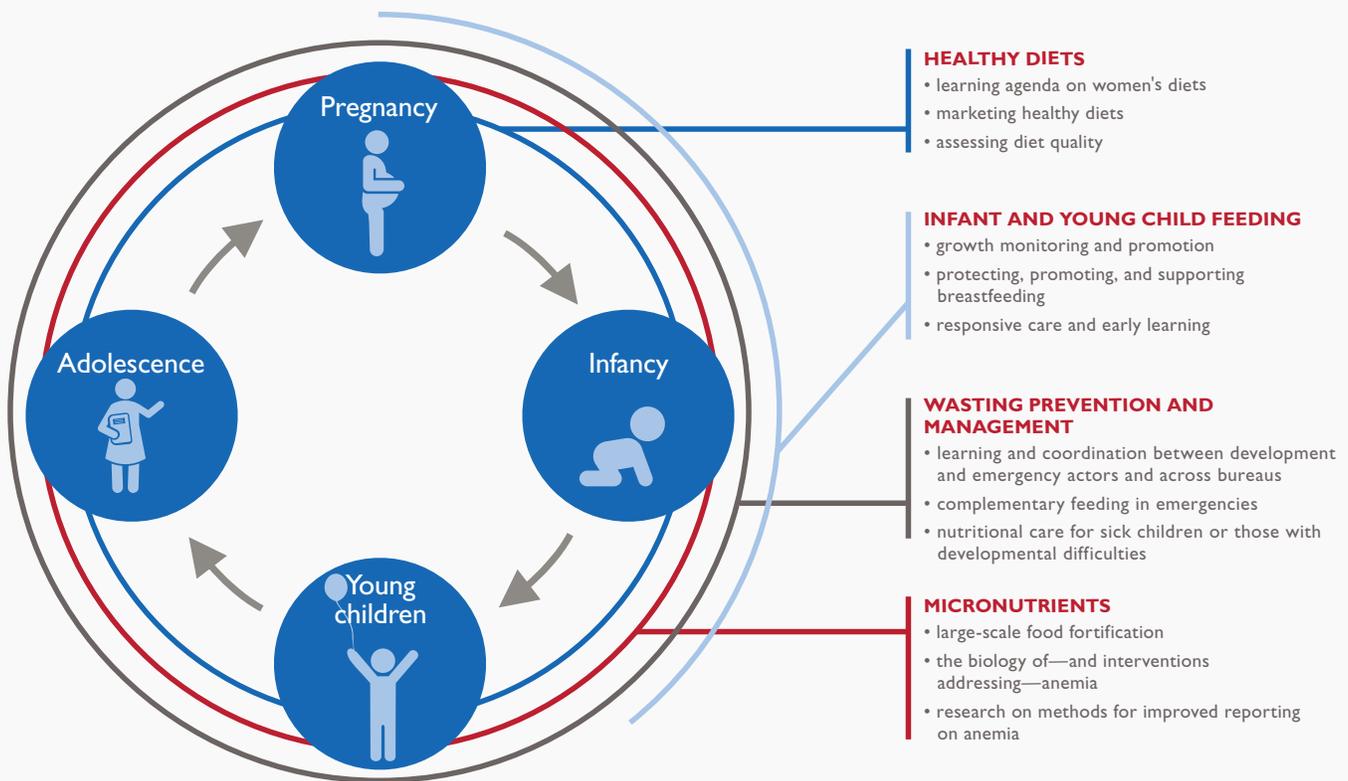
With **offices in 12 countries** and activities in many others, **we work across critical stages in the nutrition life cycle**. We do this by responding to local needs and priorities as we focus on the people most at risk of malnutrition, especially

young children, their caregivers, and women and girls of reproductive age.

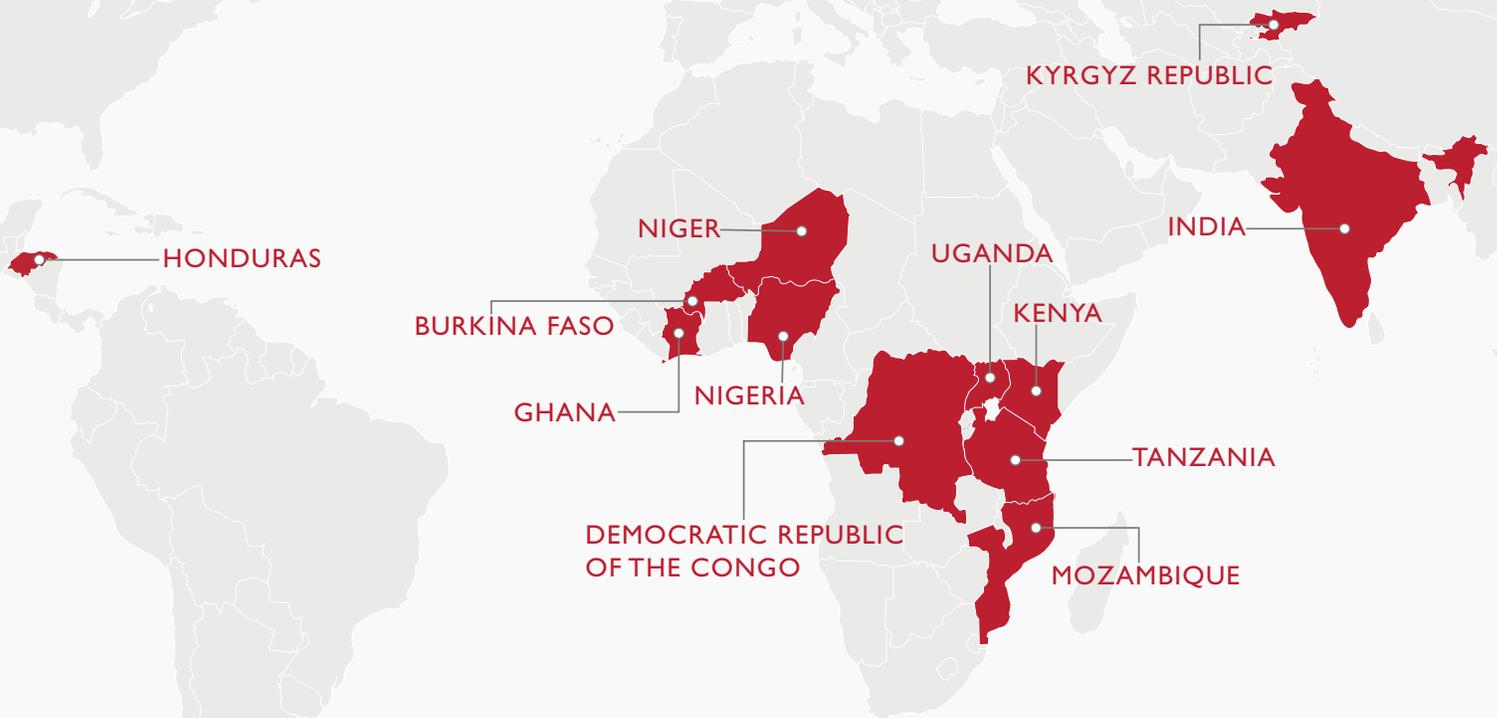
### Our Goals

- Support governments and partners to design, evaluate, and scale up high-impact nutrition programs and services.
- Strengthen country commitment and capacity for multi-sectoral nutrition programming.
- Generate evidence and facilitate learning, behavior change, and innovation for improved nutrition.

## OUR WORK ACROSS CRITICAL STAGES IN THE NUTRITION LIFE CYCLE



## COUNTRY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



### HONDURAS

Our work supports the government to strengthen systems that deliver nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions to reduce malnutrition among households and children under five.



### BURKINA FASO

To improve regional nutritional outcomes, we support the national government and key stakeholders to improve results-based planning and strengthen data-driven nutrition interventions.



### GHANA

We advance the national government's efforts to improve district planning for equitable delivery of services that improve nutrition, household resilience, and early childhood development.



### NIGER

We strengthen micronutrient supplement delivery systems and treatment services to reduce anemia and vitamin A deficiency among women of reproductive age, adolescents, and children under five.



### NIGERIA

We provide technical support to the government and partners and generating evidence to enhance multi-sectoral nutrition programming.



### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

We partner with the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance to document learning on coordination and collaboration among nutrition actors working along the continuum of care for the management of wasting.



### UGANDA

We help the government to reduce micronutrient deficiencies by strengthening compliance with food fortification standards, enforcement, and monitoring.



### KENYA

At the national and sub-national levels, we strengthen stakeholders' capacity to advocate for improved nutrition among Kenya's most vulnerable populations.



### TANZANIA

We work with the national government to better plan and coordinate multi-sectoral nutrition programs.



### MOZAMBIQUE

We assist the national and Nampula Province governments to improve nutrition of pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls, and children under two.



### INDIA

We address malnutrition among socio-economically disadvantaged families in Assam that are negatively impacted by COVID-19 and create knowledge exchange platforms on nutrition-sensitive agriculture.



### KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

We improve the nutritional status of women of reproductive age and children under five with a focus on the 1,000-day window of opportunity.



Photo Credit: Morgana Wingard/USAID

## How We Work

We collaborate across a range of sectors, such as health and agriculture, and through a variety of approaches, from policy to programming to evidence generation. Our team of experts builds stronger linkages among people working in service delivery, policy, research, and capacity strengthening. They do so through comprehensive and integrated nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities, systems strengthening, implementation research, private and civil society sector engagement, quality improvement, and risk management practices.

## Technical Focus

Our project is organized around **four focus areas** that align with USAID's nutrition priorities.

### Early Childhood Development

Globally, poverty, undernutrition, and inadequate care put 250 million children at risk of not reaching their developmental potential. Nurturing care, which includes health, nutrition, responsive care, early learning, and security and safety, helps children thrive. We assess, design, and build

competencies to strengthen the integration of nurturing care into maternal, infant, and young child nutrition services, with a focus on responsive caregiving, early learning, and support for children who require special care.

### Food Systems

Diet is a key contributor to nutrition and health outcomes globally, with suboptimal diets responsible for more than 10 million deaths per year. To help individuals and families access and consume diverse, healthy diets, we partner with governments, communities, and the private sector to improve the supply of and demand for safe and nutritious foods, including fortified foods.

### Nutrition and Health Systems

Access to quality nutrition services is essential to prevent and manage malnutrition and promote optimal nutrition across all life stages. We work with governments, communities, United Nations agencies, and other local and international organizations to improve nutrition services available in communities, strengthen national policies, and

build global nutrition guidance, especially for maternal, infant, and young child nutrition.

### **Nutrition in Humanitarian Contexts**

Countries around the world are increasingly experiencing complex and protracted emergencies due to natural disasters, conflict, and displacement. We leverage multiple sectors to improve nutrition, food security, and resilience in fragile contexts. We do this by working across humanitarian and development programs to support USAID, their implementing partners, and local public and private sector actors as they undertake acute malnutrition treatment and prevention programming, advance social and behavior change in fragile contexts, while also facilitating agriculture and livelihoods resilience and recovery.

### **Crosscutting Support for Technical Activities**

We **work across our technical focus areas** to elevate and measure behavior-driven, locally-led nutrition programs.

### **Capacity Strengthening**

Building local country capacity to deliver multi-sectoral nutrition programming is a key strategy for sustainability and success. We design quality capacity strengthening programs to fit the needs of our global and country-based partners, making investments in people that last beyond our immediate programming to build competencies and promote resilience.

### **Social and Behavior Change and Gender**

Because behaviors are central to the immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition, social and behavior change plays an important role in sustaining

improved nutrition outcomes. We collaborate with individuals, families, communities, businesses, policymakers, and others to make optimal nutrition behaviors and supportive norms second nature by building context-specific incentives, services, and infrastructure. This includes fostering environments that enable gender equality and equitable nutrition norms and behaviors.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning**

Accurate and reliable data are essential for effective nutrition action. Yet the data available for decision-makers are often limited, making scientific evidence difficult to translate into action through policy and programs. By combining monitoring, evaluation, and research with collaboration, learning, and adaptation, we help multi-sectoral nutrition programs increase their impact.

### **Knowledge Management**

Our implementation research has produced a wealth of knowledge about what works where, when, and why to improve nutrition outcomes. We capture, synthesize, present, and build on lessons generated from current and past USAID investments in implementation, measurement, evaluation, and research, sharing those lessons with broad and targeted audiences to further advances in global health and nutrition.

### **Who We Are**

Led by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., we are a diverse group of partners engaging with stakeholders across sectors and contexts to strengthen nutrition outcomes in both development and humanitarian response settings.

### **USAID Advancing Nutrition**

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This document was produced for the U. S. Agency for International Development. It was prepared under the terms of contract 7200AA18C00070 awarded to JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. The contents are the responsibility of JSI and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the U.S. Government.