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## USAID ADVANCING NUTRITION KENYA

# Kakamega County Multi-Sectoral Nutrition (MSN) Investment Case



### Undernutrition increases the risk of illness and death in children

- Undernutrition is the single most important **contributor to child mortality**.
- Malnutrition is associated with an estimated **50% of childhood deaths**.
- Recent studies demonstrate that underweight children have **2.74% higher risk of dying**.



### Stunting caused by undernutrition can lead to low progression in life

- Children stunted before the age of 5 are more likely to **underperform in school**.
- Stunted children have a **higher risk of repeating grades**.
- Stunting in children has a **negative impact on their productivity** later in life.

## Effects of Child Undernutrition on Productivity, Health, and Education



out of **249,145** children under 5 in Kakamega



**11.5%** are stunted



**1.5%** are wasted



**6.4%** are underweight



The **economic impact associated with underweight and stunted children** is significant with far reaching effects on:



#### Productivity

The current workforce has been impacted by increasing child mortality rates and reduced adult productivity.



#### Health

Increased child illness and death from undernutrition can strain already limited health resources.



#### Education

Most stunted people of working age in Kakamega have not completed primary school.

**323 million KSh**  
(2.27 million USD);  
**0.19% of GCP**  
estimated amount lost in Kakamega county in 2022 due to undernutrition

## Cost-Effectiveness of MSN Interventions and Investments

Total Cost for 5 years



**2.15 billion KSh** (20.62 million USD)  
cost of county interventions (2023-2027)

Projected Health Cases Averted



**4,536**  
cases of stunting



**579**  
child deaths



**16,129**  
cases of adolescent anemia



**10,326**  
cases of anemia in pregnancy

**45,581 KSh**  
(437.61 USD)  
cost per DALY averted

**8:1**  
benefit-cost ratio