



# Nutrition for Growth

**Each year, malnutrition claims the lives of almost 3 million children and costs the global economy over \$3 trillion in lost productivity and health care costs.**

Despite the magnitude of the problem, the world has gravely underinvested in nutrition—on average, countries spend about two percent of their domestic budgets on nutrition and donors allocate less than one percent of total development assistance to the issue. Yet nutrition investments are one of the most cost-effective development actions any government can take, and will be critical to drive progress on global health and economic development.

## 2017: A Year of Action

To kickoff the United Nations' Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025), in 2017 Nutrition for Growth will mobilize governments, investors, civil society and others to shine a spotlight on the global problem of malnutrition.

At events throughout the year, these stakeholders will have the opportunity to:

- Announce new financial and political commitments to nutrition;
- Exchange ideas on best practices in nutrition; and
- Hold each other accountable and track progress.

## While nutrition has grown as a political priority in recent years, we still face a significant financing gap in meeting our global targets.

New analysis shows we will need to invest an additional \$3.7 billion per year over the Decade of Action to drive progress toward the World Health Assembly targets for stunting, anemia, exclusive breastfeeding and treatment of severe wasting.<sup>1</sup> The bulk of these funds—\$2.2 billion—would come from high-burden country governments. Altogether, this investment would avert at least 2.6 million child deaths and prevent stunting in 58 million children.

New commitments in 2017 will be critical to drive progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals and World Health Assembly global nutrition targets. All commitments made will be recorded in the Decade of Action commitment repository and tracked throughout the decade.

<sup>1</sup> Full scale-up to meet the targets will require an additional \$7 billion from all sources annually. A down-payment in a smaller package of eight cost-effective, ready-to-scale interventions would require an annual additional investment of just over \$2 billion, while a slightly more ambitious catalytic effort will require an additional \$3.7 billion annually.

## Key 2017 Moments

- April 21-23 Washington, D.C.  
World Bank Spring Meetings
- May 22-26 Ahmedabad, India  
African Development Bank Annual Meeting
- May 26-27 Taormina, Italy  
G7 Meeting
- October 13-15 Washington, D.C.  
Human Capital Summit, World Bank Annual Meetings
- November 4 Milan, Italy  
Year-end N4G Event and 2017 Global Nutrition Report Launch
- November 7-9 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  
SUN Movement Global Gathering



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## Nutrition for Growth

The Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Stakeholders Group, led by the Department for International Development (DFID), aims to provide coordinated leadership across the international community to secure commitments to address malnutrition. Members include DFID, US State Department, Brazil and Japan government representatives, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, CIFF, WHO, FAO, the SUN Movement and the Global Nutrition Report.

Please contact [Joanne-Fall@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:Joanne-Fall@dfid.gov.uk) if you would like to host an event to help accelerate action to end malnutrition in all its forms.