



TECHNICAL OVERVIEW

Nutrition

Around the world, nutrition plays a significant role in children's health and well-being. UNICEF estimates that nearly half of all deaths of children under five are attributable to undernutrition, totaling more than 3 million children per year. Inadequate nutrition during a child's first 1,000 days from conception to age two can also result in chronic undernutrition (also known as stunting), which is associated with lower labor productivity, impaired cognitive ability and academic achievement.

Globally, IMA World Health addresses malnutrition through social and behavior change (SBC) interventions while strengthening policies and health systems. We support national programs, working with local authorities and community organizations to implement evidence-based approaches that transform health outcomes.

IMA World Health works to create sustainable change in the services and systems that impact nutrition through:

- **Health systems strengthening** that enables governments and civil society organizations (CSOs) to deliver quality nutrition services, even in hard-to-reach areas. We strengthen local capacity to address the numerous causes of child stunting and support quality nutrition services at scale.
- **Multisector integration** that approaches nutrition holistically and addresses the multiple causes of malnutrition, including poor food, care and health. We do so by promoting family planning and reproductive health, reducing HIV/AIDS, addressing gender-based violence, reinforcing early childhood development, and strengthening water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) systems and household practices. By linking nutrition with government programs and leveraging the expertise of our Corus International partners Lutheran World Relief, CGA Technologies and Ground Up Investing, we advance long-term impact on dietary diversity and food security.
- **Technical assistance** that supports donors and governments to develop and implement nutrition policies and programs in fragile settings through advocacy, health systems strengthening and operations research. We strengthen the evidence base around nutrition interventions and improve program design and implementation.



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In Practice

MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience

IMA World Health leads the five-year, USAID-funded MOMENTUM Integrated Health Resilience project, which is part of a suite of innovative MOMENTUM awards designed to holistically strengthen quality voluntary family planning, reproductive health, and maternal, newborn, and child health in host countries around the world. This includes refining the Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN)'s strategic direction, coordinating with governments and other implementers through the MAMI Global Network and MAMI Implementers' group, and providing global technical leadership around growth monitoring and promotion among children under two years of age.

Addressing Stunting in Tanzania Early (ASTUTE)

Through a DFID (now FCDO)-funded contract, IMA World Health partnered with the Government of Tanzania and 50 CSOs to scale nutrition support to 10 million people and reduce stunting of children under five by 7% or more in four Lake Zone regions. In support of Tanzania's commitment to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, IMA World Health strengthened the capacity of local government authorities across sectors to address the myriad causes of child stunting and contributed to the evidence base for what works best and most cost-efficiently in the local context. We also designed and implemented radio and television campaigns that reached much of the country, conducted home visits, assisted support groups and carried out positive deviance/hearth programs.

ASSP and ASSR

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), IMA's Access to Primary Healthcare (ASSP) and Access to Health Systems Support (ASSR) programs reached over 7.5 million children and pregnant women including over 1.4 million nutrition intervention participants. IMA World Health and our partners trained over 10,700 community health workers and nurses in malnutrition screening, nutrition education and/or home gardening. Service utilization rates across 1,500 health facilities increased from 34% to 62% in six years (ASSP) through innovations such as the reinforcement of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM). Multisector malnutrition management initiatives promoted easily grown,

nutrient-dense perennials and complex carbohydrates through demonstration gardens at health clinics.

Afya Jijini

Through the USAID-funded Afya Jijini project, IMA World Health strengthened Kenya's National Nutrition Center (NCC) systems to reach over 2 million women and children with high-impact nutrition interventions. Vitamin A supplementation (a proxy for service coverage) grew from 53% to 94% and routine monitoring of the nutritional status of people living with HIV increased from 65% to 95%.

National Nutrition Communications Campaign

IMA World Health implemented the National Nutrition Communications Campaign (NNCC), a four-year communications and behavior change project focused on reducing stunting, as part of Indonesia's national strategy. NNCC worked in collaboration with the government in 11 districts to increase awareness and understanding of the causes, symptoms, long-term implications and prevention of childhood stunting among parents, community members, Ministry of Health personnel, government officials and the general public.



The Corus Effect

Founded in 1960, IMA World Health is part of Corus International, an ensemble of long-serving, global leaders in international development and humanitarian assistance committed to ending poverty and building healthy communities across Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Africa.

In addition to IMA World Health, the Corus family includes global aid and development organization Lutheran World Relief, U.K.-based technology for development company CGA Technologies, impact investing firm Ground Up Investing, and direct trade company Farmers Market Brands.

Alongside communities and local partners in fragile settings, our dedicated experts across our organizations integrate disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome global health challenges, develop productive and stable economies, improve resilience in the face of climate change, and respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises. We invest in solutions that are innovative, scalable, holistic and move the needle towards transformational change.



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