



# WASTING

## THE GOAL

By 2025, reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%

### WHY IT MATTERS



Children become wasted when they lose weight rapidly because of

**infection or food insecurity**

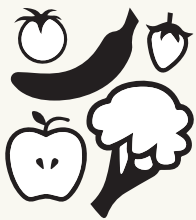


Wasting increases risk of **stunted growth, impaired cognitive development**

**& non-communicable diseases** in adulthood



Wasting increases risk of **deaths from infectious diseases** such as diarrhoea, pneumonia and measles



Wasting is linked with the other global nutrition targets:

- **stunting**
- **anaemia in women**
- **breastfeeding**
- **low birth weight**
- **childhood overweight**

Updated October 2018

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

#### SCALE UP TREATMENT

**WHAT?**

Scale up coverage of services for the identification and treatment of wasting

**HOW?**

Improve the identification, measurement and understanding of wasting



#### COORDINATION

**WHAT?**

Improve coordination between key government ministries

**HOW?**

Link treatment strategies for acute malnutrition to prevention strategies for wasting and stunting throughout the life-course



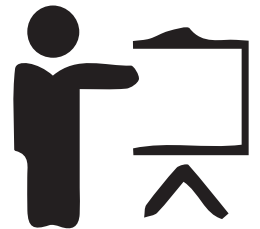
#### BUILD THE EVIDENCE

**WHAT?**

Develop evidence for effective prevention strategies

**HOW?**

Rapidly develop evidence to reduce the burden of wasting, which can then be translated into policy actions



### SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Globally nearly

**51 million children**



under 5 are moderately or severely wasted

The current global levels of severe wasting are responsible for up to

**2 million**

deaths annually



A child that is wasted is

**11 times**

more likely to die than a healthy child

