

## Goal

Reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-five children by half

# » Child Malnutrition



## Where chronic malnutrition is highest

Countries where stunting in under-fives is 40 per cent or more

Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	60
Zambia	59
Burundi	57
Nepal	54
Afghanistan	52
Yemen	52
Ethiopia	51
Madagascar	49
Malawi	49
Cambodia	46
Guatemala	46
India	46
Nigeria	46
Bangladesh	45
Congo, Dem. Rep.	45
Lesotho	44
Mauritania	44
Tanzania	44
Rwanda	43
Comoros	42
Lao PDR	41
Bhutan	40
Niger	40

Source for all charts, graphs and tables: UNICEF, 2001.

## Result

Underweight prevalence declined from 32 per cent to 28 per cent in developing countries over the past decade. The most remarkable progress has been in East Asia and the Pacific.

### ... but

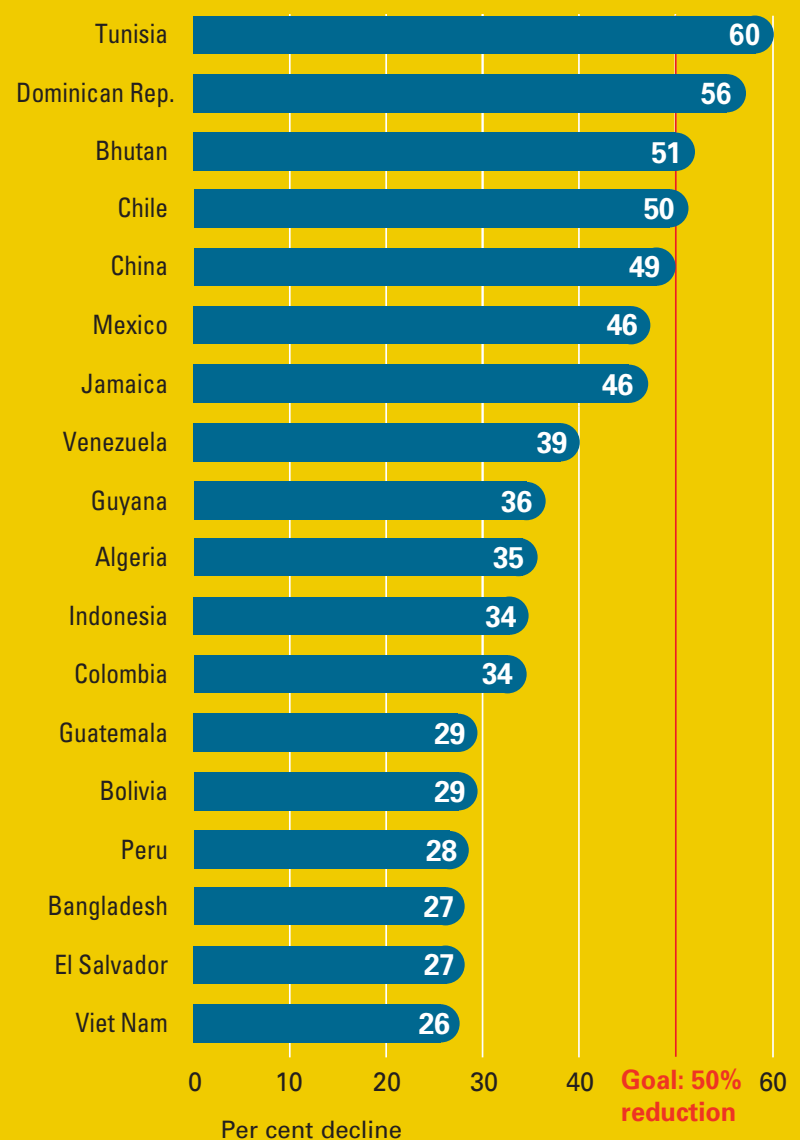
The high levels of undernutrition in children and women in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa pose a major challenge for child survival and development. Progress is made when provision of basic services is combined with support for initiatives that inform and empower communities and families (particularly women) to ensure adequate nutrient intake and prevent infectious disease.

## Issue

Malnutrition is associated with about half of all child deaths worldwide. Malnourished children have lowered resistance to infection; they are more likely to die from common childhood ailments like diarrhoeal diseases and respiratory infections; and for those who survive, frequent illness saps their nutritional status, locking them into a vicious cycle of recurring sickness, faltering growth and diminished learning ability.

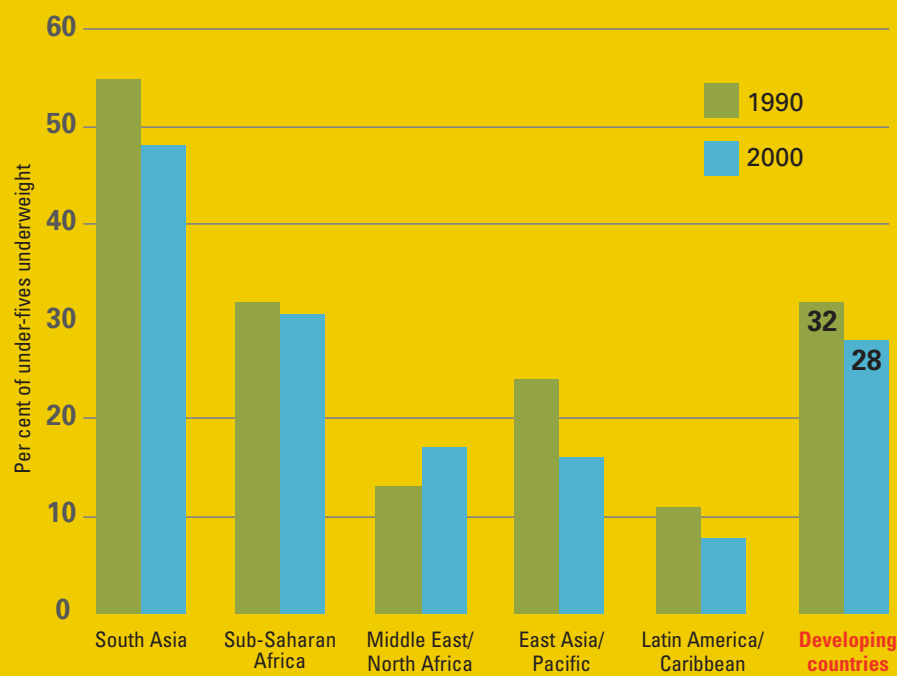
## Progress during the 1990s

Countries where under weight prevalence declined by 25 per cent or more



## NUTRITIONAL STATUS IMPROVES

Percentage of under-fives underweight, 1990 and 2000

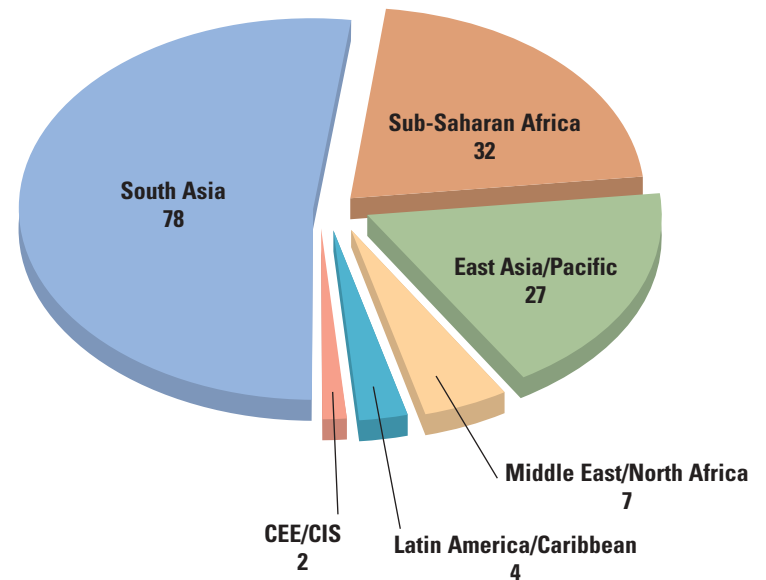


CEE/CIS region is not included in this graph because of insufficient 1990 data.

## 150 million children in developing countries are still malnourished

More than half of underweight children live in South Asia

Figures in millions



## Per cent of under-fives underweight, 1995-2000

### Sub-Saharan Africa

Botswana	13
Zimbabwe	13
Congo	14
Lesotho	16
Mauritius	16
Sao Tome and Principe	16
Gambia	17
Senegal	18
Cameroon	21
Côte d'Ivoire	21
Guinea	23
Guinea-Bissau	23
Kenya	23
Mauritania	23
Central African Rep.	24
Comoros	25
Ghana	25
Malawi	25
Togo	25
Zambia	25
Mozambique	26
Somalia	26
Uganda	26
Nigeria	27
Sierra Leone	27
Chad	28
Benin	29
Rwanda	29
Tanzania	29
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>30</b>
Madagascar	33
Burkina Faso	34
Congo, Dem. Rep.	34
Niger	40
Mali	43
Eritrea	44
Burundi	45
Ethiopia	47

### Old data or no data:

**Sub-Saharan Africa:** Angola, Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Liberia, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland

**Middle East/North Africa:** Cyprus, Morocco

**East Asia/Pacific:** Brunei Darussalam, Cook Islands, East Timor, Fed. States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Latin America/Caribbean:** Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent/Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

**CEE/CIS:** Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan

### Middle East/North Africa

Lebanon	3
Occupied Palestinian Territory	4
Tunisia	4
Jordan	5
Libya	5
Algeria	6
Qatar	6
Bahrain	9
Kuwait	10
Iran	11
Egypt	12
Syria	13
Saudi Arabia	14
United Arab Emirates	14
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>15</b>
Iraq	16
Sudan	17
Djibouti	18
Oman	24
Yemen	46

### East Asia/Pacific

China	10
Mongolia	13
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>17</b>
Malaysia	18
Indonesia	26
Philippines	28
Viet Nam	33
Myanmar	36
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	40
Cambodia	46
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	60

### South Asia

Bhutan	19
Sri Lanka	33
Pakistan	38
Maldives	43
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>46</b>
Nepal	47
India	47
Bangladesh	48
Afghanistan	48

### Latin America/Caribbean

Chile	1
Cuba	4
Jamaica	4
Costa Rica	5
Dominican Rep.	5
Paraguay	5
Uruguay	5
Venezuela	5
Brazil	6
Colombia	7
Panama	7
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>8</b>
Mexico	8
Peru	8
Bolivia	10
El Salvador	12
Guyana	12
Nicaragua	12
Ecuador	15
Guatemala	24
Honduras	25
Haiti	28

### CEE/CIS

Croatia	1
Yugoslavia	2
Armenia	3
Georgia	3
Moldova, Rep.	3
Russian Federation	3
Ukraine	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4
Kazakhstan	4
TFYR Macedonia	6
<b>Regional average</b>	<b>7</b>
Turkey	8
Kyrgyzstan	11
Albania	14
Azerbaijan	17
Uzbekistan	19

UNDERWEIGHT PREVALENCE  
28%  
IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD