Nutrition in Emergencies
UNICEF’s Strategy 2012 - 2014

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Background

- Climate change
- Increased frequency and magnitude of natural disasters
- Food prices surge
- Increase in urban dwellings
**Climate change**

Rainfall patterns are changing:
- Increased precipitation, but uneven distribution

Desertification
- is the degradation of land in arid areas
- It occurs because dryland ecosystems are extremely vulnerable to over-exploitation and inappropriate land use
- Desertification is not to be confused with the expansion of existing deserts

**Conflict**

Since the start of decolonization, the region has experienced a significant number of conflicts, including large-scale interstate wars, civil wars and localized fighting.

In addition, the proliferation of small weapons and drug trafficking have exacerbated violence in this region.

**Conflict over resources**

Northern pastoralists have pushed farther south, while southern farmers have expanded cultivation into lands used primarily by pastoralists. Such changes have led to greater competition, tension and violent conflict between livelihood groups.

**Lack of resources**
- Generates more conflict
- Women and girls are being kidnapped and children are being recruited into armed groups
- Landmines on the ground have already killed several children
- The insecurity is hampering the delivery of aid to those who remain

**Southern farmer**

- Corn prices are 60 - 85% higher than the average for the time of year (based on the last five years)

**Northern pastoralist**

- Maize is so expensive in the market now that we cannot afford food every day
- Sometimes we eat and sometimes we do not. Our farm yields no benefit this year
- When the village was attacked, we left at sunset with many families in an old truck, and we spent a horrible night betrayed by cold and fear. We’ve been here for two months and I do not know what we will do. We have nowhere else to turn

"If the rains fall again this year, I don’t know what we will do" - Maham Diawadji - Mali

"We’ve been here for two months and I do not know what we will do. We have nowhere else to turn" - Ahmadu Abdullahi - Chad

"When the village was attacked, we left at sunset with many families in an old truck, and we spent a horrible night betrayed by cold and fear. We’ve been here for two months and I do not know what we will do. We have nowhere else to turn" - Naniou Yaya - Mauritania
Community Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

• Implementation of CMAM
• Scale up of CMAM

• Role of UNICEF:
  – Policy change
  – Technical Support
  – Major Provider of RUTF
Review of CMAM Status

2009
• 56 countries
• 1 million children treated
• 0.6 million cartons of RUTF purchased

2011
• 61 countries
• 2 million children treated
• 2 million cartons of RUTF purchased
Challenges

HR Capacity > Funding > Integration > Supply > Access

- Considerable gaps in information
- Lack of overall CMAM data collection system
Focus Areas

1. Support countries to increase access to treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition in humanitarian and non-humanitarian situations.

2. Support countries to improve quality of nutrition information to enable tracking of progress and enhance quality and coverage of both emergency and CMAM programming.

3. Support countries in emergencies and prone to emergencies to ensure predictable, timely and adequate humanitarian response.
1. Scaling-up Community Management of Acute Malnutrition

**Key Outcome:** Strengthened UNICEF country team capacities to support governments and partners to ensure sustainable **national scale-up** of the treatment of SAM within existing health systems.

*Vertical* (Policy, institutional)

*Horizontal* (geographical expansion)
Strategic Actions (1)

1. Developing a Global Joint Strategy Framework, and associated tools and guidance, for Supporting National Scale-up of CMAM
2. Dissemination and roll-out of the Global Strategy /Framework for Scale-up
3. Increasing the capacity of countries to plan and implement strategies that will promote and support national scale-up
4. Assure Supplies Availability
Strategic Actions (2)

4. Monitoring and evaluation / Impact evaluation
5. Operational Research
6. Advocacy
7. Partnerships and linkages with other global initiatives
8. Knowledge management
Assure Supplies Availability

• Expand supplier base with **focus on programmatic countries**
• Assure product quality
• Conduct annual forecasting exercise
• Preposition stocks closer to programmatic countries
• Build capacity of national governments *(procurement, import, storage and distribution)*
• Strengthen In-country supply chain
2. Strengthening Nutrition Information and reporting systems

**Key Outcome:** Develop CO&RO capacities to improve quality of nutrition information in emergencies to enable tracking of progress and enhance quality and coverage of programming.

**Vertical** (Strengthened buy-in and capacity)

**Horizontal** (expanded info collection)

*Improved quality of information*
Strategic Actions

1. Strengthen knowledge and capacity
2. Improve quality of information collection, collation and analysis
3. Strengthen knowledge management/communication/reporting
3. Improving UNICEF’s Predictability of Response in Nutrition

**Key Outcome:** UNICEF emergency nutrition capacity and preparedness is improved to ensure predictable response in humanitarian crises.
Strategic Actions

1. Improve Global, RO and CO preparedness for emergency response
2. Ensure quality, appropriateness and timeliness of emergency response
3. During humanitarian crises - provide technical support through back-office ‘secondment’ or deployment
Conclusion

• UNICEF will remain major provider of RUTF in 2012 – 2014

• Focus is on strengthening suppliers in programmatic countries and better (faster and cost effective) response to humanitarian crisis