

Strong and accountable policy framework to maximise nutrition impact



DFID's 2010-2015 nutrition strategy has come to an end. It now plans to release its new nutrition strategy to guide its overall nutrition related investments and programmes for the next five years.

To drive nutrition success, it is time to **scale up high impact nutrition-specific interventions** such as strengthening infant and young child feeding, micronutrient interventions, and treatment of severe acute malnutrition. At the same time, DFID should **explore and implement 'co-benefit' actions that tackle both undernutrition and overweight/obesity**; and at a minimum ensure interventions do not contribute to the latter.

DFID must clearly outline how its policy strategy will contribute to **improving nutrition, above and beyond a basic measure of 'reach'** – its previous but inadequate measure of impact. Some of the greatest impact on nutrition can be achieved through integration and multi-sectoral coordination, due to the complex immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition. Nutrition should be a key component of the continuum of care package for women and children. Thus nutrition should be **integrated in the design and delivery of basic health packages, including Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH)** programmes.

Investments in sectors such as health, agriculture, WASH, and social protection can be made more nutrition-specific to maximise their impact on nutrition outcomes. For this, programmes implemented within these sectors should **explicitly include nutrition objectives and indicators to measure nutrition outcomes**. In addition, transparent reporting of the impact of such programmes on nutrition is necessary.

Vitality, all programmes relevant to nutrition should **benefit the hardest to reach and most vulnerable groups**. This can be achieved by **strengthening national information systems and using disaggregated data** to prioritise investments and interventions. Only then we can reach all those in need, and truly **'leave no-one behind'**.

