



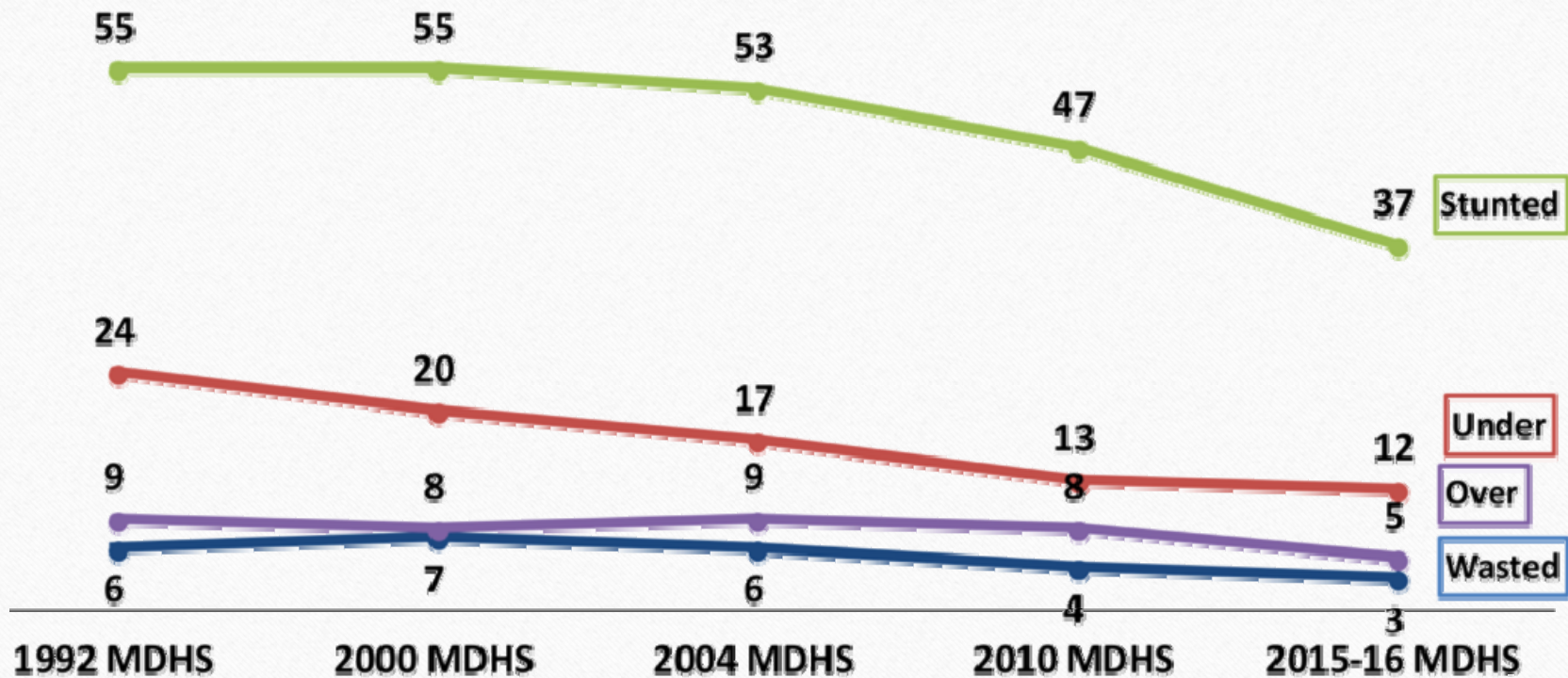
POLICIES AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS FOR GROWTH OF AGRI-FOOD VALUE CHAIN

Nutrition Response

July 2019

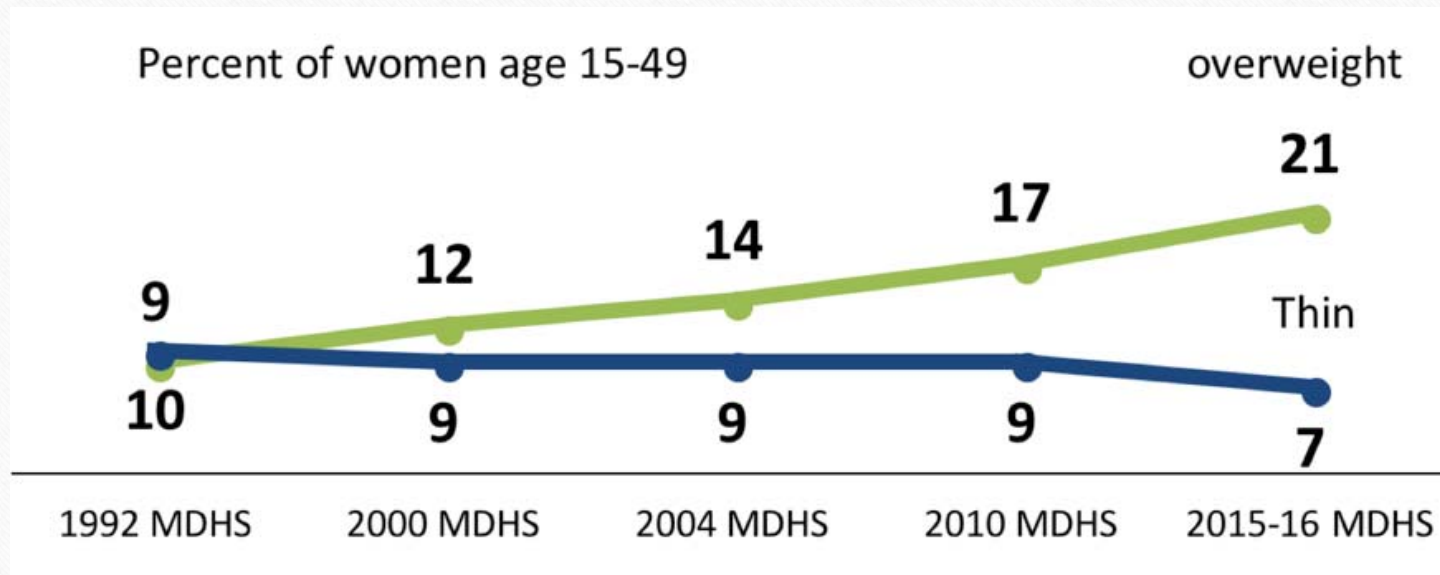
Nutrition Situation

Nutrition status in under-five children



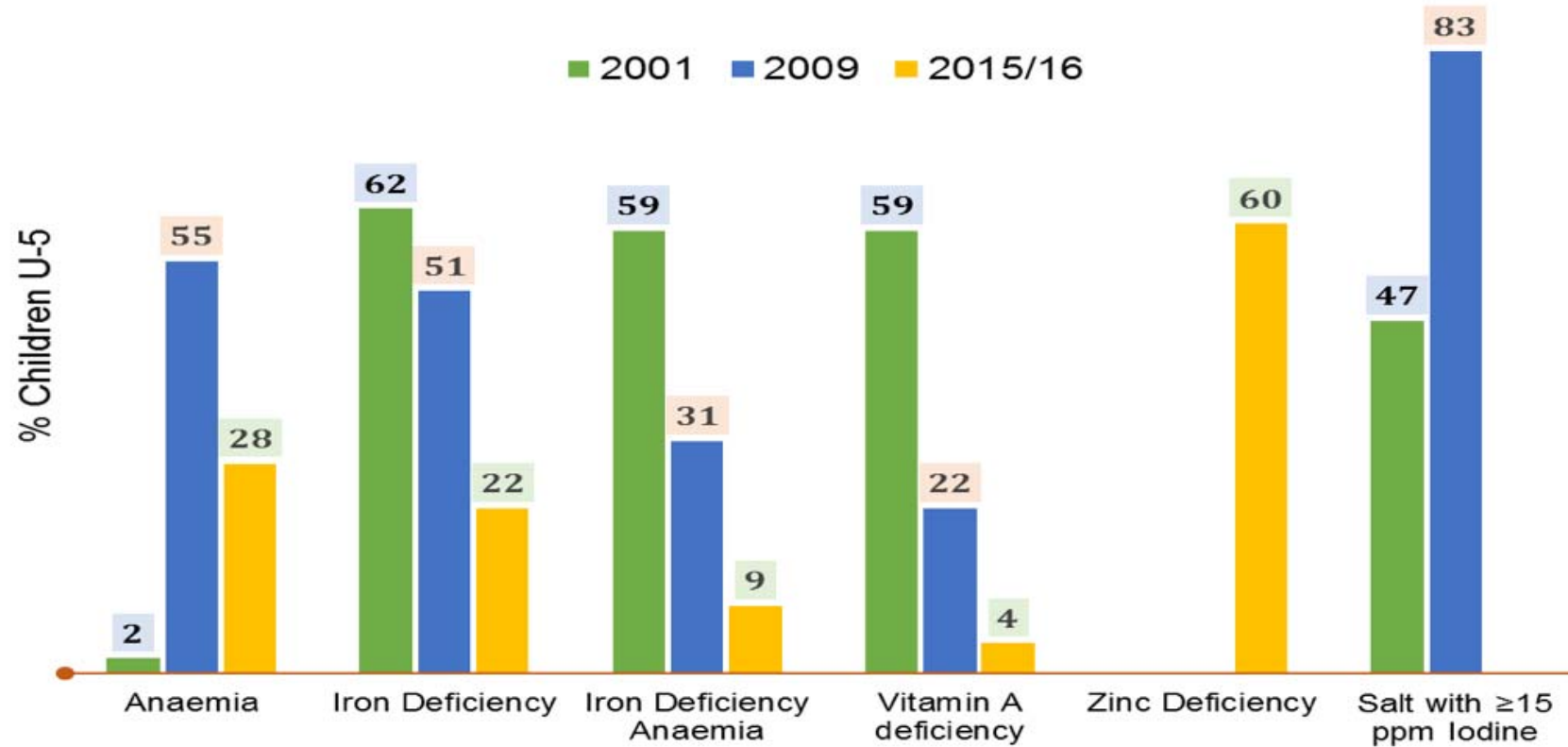
- Stunting is declining, but still high at 37%. Overweight remains at 5%.

Over and underweight

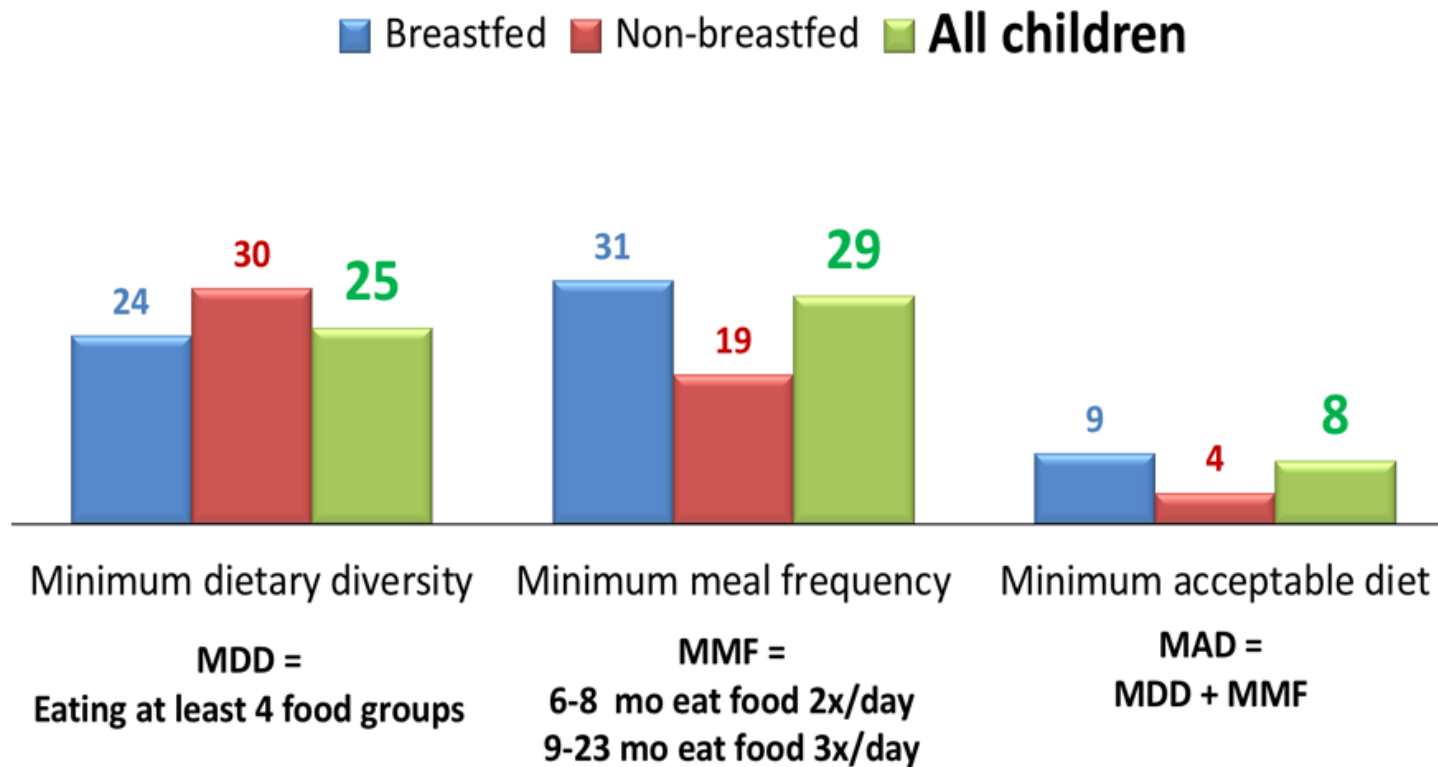


- In adult women 15-49, overweight has increased from 10% to 21% in from 1992 to 2015/16.
- WHO conducted a 2009 non-communicable disease survey and found 16% of men overweight.

Micronutrient Deficiencies



Feeding of the 6-23 months



Some observations...

- **Anaemia** is declining but still high, especially among women and children.
- **Vitamin A** has decreased significantly.
- **Zinc** deficiency is prevalent in all sexes and ages with men leading in the deficiency at 66%, preschool and school aged children at 63% and women 15-49 years at 61%.
- Only 25 % of the U5 meet **Minimum Dietary Diversity** (4 of 6 food groups)
- Only 29% of the U5 meet **Minimum Meal Frequency** (2-3 times per day)
- Only 8% of the U5 meet **Minimum Acceptable Diet** (Diversity + Frequency)

Agriculture the Basis of Nutrition?

- The primary role of agriculture may be feeding people well by improving stable availability and accessibility
?????? Are the gains in agriculture productivity translating into optimal nutrition outcomes. ?????
- High anaemia levels because of iron, folate and/or vitamin B12 coupled with high malaria rates.
- Significant decrease levels Vitamin A, is it because of health interventions, or agriculture and food interventions.
- High prevalence Zinc deficiency is prevalent in all sexes and ages >60%

What has been done?

- Advocated nutrition in the national development agenda – MGDS
- Developed and reviewed the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan
- Developing Food and Nutrition legislation
- Developed and reviewed Nutrition Education and Communication Strategy
- Developed the Agriculture Sector Food and Nutrition Strategy in line with NMNP, NAP & NAIP



Key Objectives of the ASFNS

1. To ensure stable **availability** of food from all the six food groups through sustainable and diversified production
2. To ensure stable **access to safe and nutritious** foods
3. To promote Social **Behaviour Change** for improved dietary practices
4. To promote **gender integration**, and women and community empowerment and participation for improved food and nutrition security
5. To create and strengthen an **enabling environment** for effective delivery of food and nutrition programs



Conclusion

- Strengthen weak links in behaviour change from production – processing – utilisation.
- Women empowerment – influence what goes into family pot (VSLs & Land ownership)
- Capacity strengthening at district and community levels (Personnel, Equipment and Structures)
- Scale up research to address the emerging issues in nutrition



Thank You ...
