Lessons Learned Across Contexts

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Action Against Hunger
COVID-19 CMAM ADAPTATIONS STUDY

Study Aim:
To systematically document, analyze, and synthesize information related to adaptations for detection and treatment of child wasting

Methods:
Survey – who, what, where
• 242 responses
• 28 countries

Interviews – operational implications
• 46 interviewees
• 20 countries
SUCCESSES

General

- Widespread implementation and scale-up during the pandemic
- Enables continued case identification when standard community-based screening is unavailable (e.g., during COVID-19 restrictions, in hard-to-reach areas, etc.)
- Findings from pilot studies have been used to advocate for scale-up
  - Highlights importance of consistent, rigorous monitoring

Operational

- Using multiple entry points maximizes buy-in and uptake
- Strong relationships between community-based workers and community members a critical foundation for the approach
- Building specific Family MUAC M&E indicators into standard monitoring tools facilitates streamlined data collection
### COMMON CHALLENGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHALLENGE</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limited availability of MUAC tapes</td>
<td>Purchase through donors, advocate for coverage, coordinate with UNICEF</td>
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<td>Tensions with CHWs (additional workload,</td>
<td>Collectively determine clearly defined roles and responsibilities for</td>
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<td>perceived competition)</td>
<td>CHWs and caregivers</td>
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<td>Variable referral accuracy</td>
<td>Regular refresher trainings</td>
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<td>• Refusal of admission may discourage caregivers</td>
<td>• Encourage caregivers to return; offer additional services while at sites</td>
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<td>Limited MAM treatment services</td>
<td>Advocate for increased coverage</td>
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<td>Lack of program guidance</td>
<td>Document pilots; choose simple indicators</td>
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