



Lessons Learned Across Contexts

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Action Against Hunger

SIMPLIFIED **APPROACHES**

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



SUCCESSSES

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

CHALLENGE

OPPORTUNITY

Limited availability of MUAC tapes



Purchase through donors, advocate for coverage, coordinate with UNICEF

Tensions with CHWs (additional workload, perceived competition)



Collectively determine clearly defined roles and responsibilities for CHWs and caregivers

Variable referral accuracy

- Refusal of admission may discourage caregivers



Regular refresher trainings

- Encourage caregivers to return; offer additional services while at sites

Limited MAM treatment services



Advocate for increased coverage

Lack of program guidance



Document pilots; choose simple indicators