BURUNDI
THE FACTS

Sustaining home fortification with micronutrient powders (MNP)

MNP contain vitamins and minerals that support the healthy growth and development of children 6-23 months of age.

Not all children in Burundi eat nutritious foods:

- **MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE DIET***
  - 24% of children 6-23 months of age are eating an acceptable diet in terms of frequency and diversity.

- **DIETARY DIVERSITY**
  - 39% have foods from 4 or more food groups per day.

- **FOODS RICH IN IRON**
  - 17% consumed fish, meat, or poultry the previous day.

- **FOOD INSECURITY**
  - 40% of the population is food insecure.

61% of Burundian children under 5 years have anaemia*... linked to poor cognitive and physical development and reduced school achievement.

The World Health Organization recommends MNP use when the prevalence of anaemia in young children is 20% or higher.

The ultimate return on investment for MNP is $37 for every $1 invested, due to the positive effects of addressing childhood anaemia.

*Data Source: Burundian Demographic and Health Survey 2016-2017
**Benefits of MNP:**
- Prevents and treats iron deficiency anemia
- Reinforces appropriate complementary feeding practices
- Supports healthy growth & development
- High acceptability and ease of use

- Globally, considered one of the top cost-effective investment priorities to fight hidden hunger
- Can be integrated within health systems, food systems, WASH and social protection programs
- Included in the World Health Organization’s Model List of Essential Medicines for Children

**Counselling on age-appropriate complementary feeding should always be included with the distribution of MNP, along with other actions to address micronutrient deficiencies in children**

- MNP + Counselling + Adequate Complementary Feeding
- Continued Breastfeeding
- Malaria Control
- Water Sanitation & Hygiene
- Food Security Programs
POLICY DESIGN AND DELIVERY

Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) policy

- IYCF is included in the Politique Nationale de Sante 2016-2025

MNP included in policy

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Reach

Total number of children 6-23 months who received micronutrient powders in 2017 was 47,267

- MNP distribution has reached national scale

ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY

- The integrated MNP program is reaching many districts...yet continued efforts are needed to improve effective coverage so that no child is left behind

- Continued advocacy and resource leveraging are needed to ensure a predictable funding stream that will sustain efforts at the sub-national and national level