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

25% of Kenyan 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: Kenyan Demographic and Health Survey 2014
Use of MNP improves the quality of a young child’s diet

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
**KENYA**

**ACTIONS**

Policies and actions to promote the sustainability of MNP

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**POLICY DESIGN AND DELIVERY**

Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) policy

- IYCF is included in the National Action Plan 2012-2017

MNP included in policy

- Budget allocation and MNP coverage set as an indicator for improving nutritional status

Reach

Total number of children 6-23 months who received micronutrient powders in 2017 was **219,043**

- MNP distribution has reached national scale

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**ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY**

- The integrated MNP program is reaching many counties...yet, continued efforts are needed to expand and 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