Version 1

REACH

Ending Child Hunger and Undernutrition

Acting at Scale: Implementation Case Studies

Exclusive Breastfeeding and Complementary Feeding

August 2008

Context

The following document is part of the REACH Acting at Scale set of materials

- The documents' aim is to provide highly condensed information and lessons learned for scaling up REACH-promoted interventions to support field practitioners and other interested parties
- They are intended to become a living set of materials, updated periodically by the REACH Global Interagency Team
- These materials are a first step towards a larger REACH Knowledge Sharing service, which will be developed over time

The full set of Acting at Scale materials includes

- An Intervention Summary
 - An overview document containing key facts for all of the 11 promoted interventions
- Intervention Guides for each of the interventions¹
 - Containing rationale, lessons learned, costs and further resource lists
- Implementation Case Studies for each of the interventions¹
 - Initial set of details and lessons learned from programs implemented at scale
- Resource Lists
 - Lists of key documents, organizations and programs at scale
 - Included at the back of each Intervention Guide and in Excel spreadsheets available from the REACH Global Interagency Team

These materials represent a preliminary version, to be validated and refined via additional consultations

- Prepared in Summer 2008 by the REACH Global Interagency Team, based on inputs from 56 practitioners and experts, as well as extensive desk research
- A revised Version 2 of these documents will be released in late 2008 or early 2009, incorporating feedback from initial recipients

If you have questions or feedback on these materials, please

- Contact your local REACH facilitator in Lao or Mauritania, or
- Contact the REACH Interagency Team Coordinator, Denise Costa-Coitinho, at Denise.CostaCoitinho@wfp.org

^{1.} Breastfeeding and complementary feeding have been combined into a single document due to strong linkage in delivery

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (I)

LINKAGES Madagascar

Intervention:	Exclusive breastfeeding								
Program name:	LINKAGES			Туре:	Type: Education				
Location:	Madagascar			Setting:		X	Rural	x	Urban
Start year:	1997 (policy level) 1999 (community level)	Duration:	9 years	Ongoing	?		Yes	x	No
Target group:	 P&L women Covered 1.3M population, including 80k mothers with infants <6 months 								
Total costs:	N/A Other resources used:		N/A						
Metrics:	 Metrics: Indicators included timely initiation of breastfeeding rate (TIBF), exclusive breastfeeding rate (EBF), frequency of BF, continued breastfeeding rate Impact: TIBF rose from 32% to 68% in project districts and from 21% to 71% in project districts where BASICS was active before EBF rose from 42% to 70% in project districts and 48% to 76% in project districts were BASICS was active before 								
Lead & partner organizations:	 Madagascar Ministry of Health nutrition unit coordinated Funded mainly by USAID, with supplementary funding from others, e.g. Government of Japan Implemented by AED Field partnerships with JSI (Jereo Salama Isika) project by John Snow International and grassroots organizations Partnerships to weave LINKAGES activities into other implementing programs, e.g. UNICEF, PSI (e.g. vitamin A distribution) 								
Description of specific country situation & social context:	 Significant malnutrition challenge Underlying cause of death for 54% of <5s; 40% underweight proportion at 36 months (1997DHS data) Initial signs of commitment: National Health Policy recommends exclusive breastfeeding for first 6 months Yet only 50% of newborns in Madagascar were exclusively breastfed Political stability not constant throughout program: 2001-02 political crisis created implementation challenge: Economic and social development was halted, and program did not begin again until 2003, at which point it began to operate at the provincial, rather than district level 								
Note: N/A denotes 'not available' as of yet via research Source: "Cost and effectiveness analysis of LINKAGES infant and young child feeding program in Madagascar." Abt Associates, 2004. Source: LINKAGES Project – Country homenage Madagascar and related documents: http://www.linkagesproject.org/country/madagascar.php. accessed 29 April 2008; EAO Nutrition Country Profile: Madagascar: MDG Monitor									

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (II)

LINKAGES Madagascar

Policy and coordination processes and organization ¹ :	 An intersectoral nutrition action group was created to coordinate and harmonize nutrition actions (GAIN)
Communication, advocacy and change management:	 Devoted the first 2 years of program to advocating for policy changes Viewed as critical step to support program scale, uptake and sustainability
Measuring, tracking and reporting progress:	 Employs rapid assessments on policy, health facility services, infant feeding and related behaviors, community issues, training, and information, education, and communication (IEC) within 1-6 months to provide near-term program feedback
Funding and resource mobilization:	• N/A
Capacity building:	 Designed and delivered training for local NGO staff, MOH staff, hospital and other healthcare workers, community volunteers Distributed self-directed learning modules; introduced pre-service training for healthcare workers Supported BFHI and workplace programs to ensure local institutions and communities would adopt measures for the long-term
Private sector engagement:	• N/A

Including NGO/civil society engagement
 Note: N/A denotes 'not available' as of yet via research
 Source: LINKAGES Project – Country homepage Madagascar and related documents: http://www.linkagesproject.org/country/madagascar.php, accessed 29 April 2008

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (III)

LINKAGES Madagascar

Details on delivered intervention incl. delivery channel/ method:	 Uses multiple delivery channels to reinforce messages and to gain access to mothers through as many means as needed to scale-up Deliver education to intermediaries who then train mothers: Public heath: provide technical and communication training for health workers NGO/community: deliver technical and communication training to community leaders and members of women's groups Deliver education directly to mothers NGO/community: community festivals involving local drama or music groups Mass media: Spots and songs promoting breastfeeding on the local radio channels and in taxis and buses Training for radio disk jockeys in order to promote breastfeeding during live broadcasts Widespread distribution of a gazette newsletter 						
Description of monitoring & evaluation:	 Performed quantitative baseline surveys in 2000 (JSI) and 1996 (BASICS) for two original districts Performed endline survey in project districts in November 2005 Performed rapid assessments at program and control sites in October 2000, October 2001, October 2002, and November 2004 						
Lessons learned (intervention & overarching processes):	 Ensured integration across channels, with policy and healthcare facilities, and into healthcare lifecycle Adopted opportunistic approach of leveraging every available delivery channel Integrated intervention delivery into existing channels increasing cost-effectiveness More cost-effective to weave BF/CF messages into broader training than to delivery separate BF/CF-specific training Simple, action-oriented messages tailored to the local context facilitate behavior change LINKAGES customized tools at community-level Integrating BF and CF messages into all health and nutrition touchpoints creates cost-effective behavior change LINKAGES's focus on the healthcare lifecycle wove BF and CF messages into existing delivery channels 						
Contacts:	 Victoria Quinn, Senior Vice President of Programmes, HKI, former AED Country Coordinator for Madagascar, vquinn@hki.org Agnes Guyon, Regional Advisor, AED, former LINKAGES Ethiopia, aguyon@aed.org Key documents available on http://www.linkagesproject.org/country/madagascar.php 						

Preliminary

Source: LINKAGES Project – Country homepage Madagascar and related documents: <u>http://www.linkagesproject.org/country/madagascar.php</u>, accessed 29 April 2008

LINKAGES reached scale by employing multiple delivery channels

Program overview

LINKAGES is a multi-country, USAID-funded program to bring BF and CF to scale

- 10 year-long program (1996-2006)
- covered 7 countries

Approached based on several key themes

- Integrated action across policy, facility, community
- Integrate messages into all touchpoints in a woman's healthcare lifecycle
- Integrate BF and CF into broader nutrition messages
- Leveraged all existing channels to reach mothers, including via healthcare workers

Employed a cross-sector partnership that fostered action at national, provincial, and district levels

Employed multifaceted behavior change strategy leveraging many existing channels

Invested in greatly in M&E frequently surveying and documenting progress

Lessons learned

Integrate intervention delivery into existing channels and programs to increase cost-effectiveness

- More cost-effective to weave BF/CF messages into broader training than to delivery separate BF/CFspecific training
- LINKAGES cost-benefit ratio for BF promotion is \$30.77 per DALY averted

Create simple, action-oriented messages tailored to the local context to facilitate behavior change

• LINKAGES customized tools at community-level

Integrate BF and CF messages into all health and nutrition touchpoints to create cost-effective behavior change

• LINKAGES's focus on the healthcare lifecycle wove BF and CF messages into existing delivery channels

Preliminary Case study: LINKAGES, Madagascar LINKAGES Madagascar created a multi-sector partnership to gain stakeholders agreement on a single goal, messages

GAIN Partner network	National/ provincial-level objectives	 Develop information, communication, education, and advocacy signature 			
 Discussion forum 	District-level objectives				
Partners					
Governn Ministry of		International and national NGOs	Donors e.g. USAID projects, UNICEF, World Bank		
 Provide funding Develop policies Develop guidelines for health facilities Implement activities through MoH management teams Coordinate public health facilities and training 		 Implement community and training activities 	 Provide funding Share cost to develop and disseminate training, media, communication materials Join forces to increase scale and scope (LINKAGES and Jereo Salama Isika project) 		

GAIN enabled completion of national nutrition policy and development of national community-based nutrition program

1. GAIN=Groupe d'Actions Intersectoriel pour la Nutrition (Inter-sectoral nutrition action group)

Key activities

> Source: Guyon A. et al: LINKAGES Project Madagascar – Final Report: Using the Essential Nutrition Actions Approach to Improve the Nutritional Practices of Women and Children at Scale in Antananarivo and Fianarantsoa Provinces of Madagascar: Results and Trends 2000 to 2005, USAID/AED 2006 REACH_Acting at Scale_Case Studies_BF and CF_v1.ppt

Preliminary Case study: LINKAGES, Madagascar LINKAGES' community-based behavior change led to 70% BF adoption rate among targeted mothers

Successful practice

- Create targeted messages
 - Based on formative research identifying barriers to change
 - Action-oriented
 - Practical
- · Create consistent messages and materials
- · Saturate target audiences with messages
 - Employ all media currently used by target beneficiaries
 - e.g. radio, community meetings, etc
- Create simple training for health workers and community volunteers
- Support peer groups and other existing community support mechanisms

Benefit

- Messages will be better understood, leading to greater uptake
- Enhances credibility of message
- Beneficiaries will more quickly internalize new information
- Counselors will absorb and deliver key messages more quickly
- Mothers will more readily adopt new behavior if supported by the community

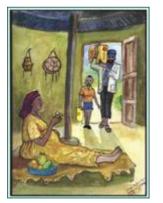
Source: "Community-based strategies for breastfeeding promotion and support in developing countries." WHO, 2003. "Experience LINKAGES: Program Approach." LINKAGES, 2004. http://www.linkagesproject.org/publications/index.php?series=4

Simple tools facilitate behavior change

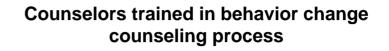
Card for Ghana Card Two Exclusive BREASTYREEONO Desatileding & Infant Feeding: Counselie Cards

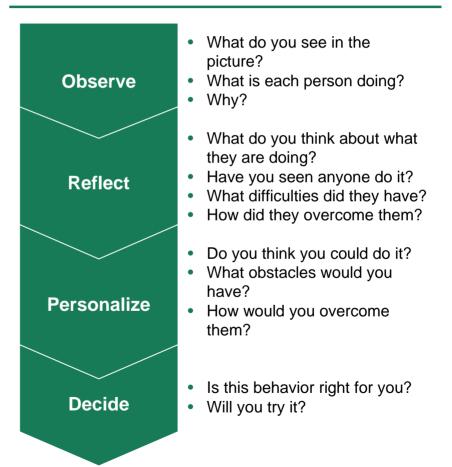
Card for mothers in

Design tailored for specific audiences



Card for fathers in Ethiopia





Source: "Experience LINKAGES: Behavior change communication." LINKAGES, 2003. <u>http://www.linkagesproject.org/publications/index.php?series=4;</u> "LINKAGES Tools: Counseling cards." LINKAGES, no date. <u>http://www.linkagesproject.org/tools/ccards.php</u>

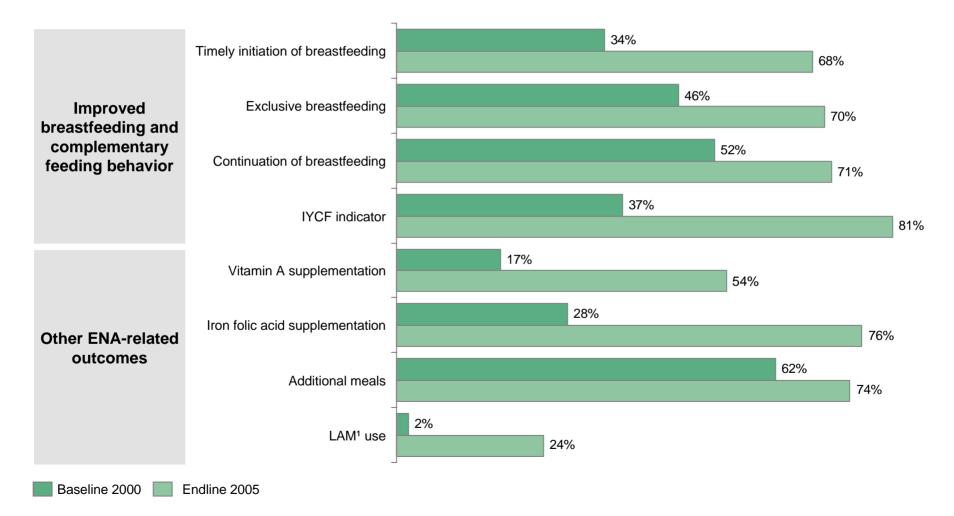
Preliminary Case study: LINKAGES, Madagascar LINKAGES' multi-faceted M&E system enabled ongoing impact tracking

ΤοοΙ	Purpose	Approach Used Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) or other large-sample- size survey sources for key indicators 			
Baseline surveys	 To establish initial indicators and understand existing behaviors 				
Rapid assessment procedure (RAP) surveys	 To generate feedback for program improvements To understand individual NGO partners' and overall program's progress towards end goals 	 Annual, small-sample-size surveys using cluster sampling 			
Endline surveys	 To evaluate intervention effectiveness 	 Using same questionnaires / questions as baseline 			
Ad hoc analyses	 To evaluate various program elements 	 Depending on need, e.g. Performance monitoring of various program contributors, Media campaign effectiveness evaluations Cost-effectiveness analyses 			
Routine data collection	 To leverage/support national health information system statistical surveys 	 Integrate program data collection into national system 			

Source: "Experience LINKAGES: Results." LINKAGES, 2006. <u>http://www.linkagesproject.org/publications/index.php?series=4</u>

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LINKAGES Madagascar generated measurable impact



1. LAM=Lactational Amenorrhea Method: using breastfeeding for prevention of pregnancy and birth spacing. Source: "LINKAGES World Madagascar." LINKAGES, no date.

Integrated model was more cost effective than peer programs

\$393K budget for breastfeeding promotion reflects 42% of total program budget

and peer programs US\$ 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 EBF per newly EBF EBF replication cost EBF per target CF per newly EBF Ghana: cost per Brazil: cost per newly per newly EBF audience mother mother newly EBF mother EBF mother mother

Unit cost for EBF¹ and CF¹ component of LINKAGES Madagascar and peer programs

1. EBF = exclusive breastfeeding; CF = complementary feeding

2. Replication cost exclude program start-up cost (development costs for training modules, IEC materials and mass media messages) and M&E cost

Source: "Experience LINKAGES: Cost and Effectiveness." LINKAGES, 2005. <u>http://www.linkagesproject.org/publications/index.php?series=4;</u> "Cost and effectiveness analysis of LINKAGES infant and young child feeding program in Madagascar." Abt Associates, 2004.

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (I)

AIN-C, Honduras

Intervention:	Exclusive breastfeeding								
Program name:	AIN-C (Atención Integral	AIN-C (Atención Integral a la Niñez en la Comunidad)			Education component				
Location:	Honduras			Setting:		x	Rural	x	Urban
Start year:	1990	Duration:	18 years (ongoing)	Ongoing	?	x	Yes		(periurban) No
Target group:	All children <2 years in p Covered >90% of in-uter		targeted communities, which co	omprised 50%	6 of total po	pula	ation		
Total costs:	Cost / community: \sim \$917-1,010 (1st year), \sim \$354-457 (2nd year), \sim \$61-144 (3rd and following years) ¹ Other resources used:			Unpaid comr	nunity volu	ntee	ers		
Metrics:	 Simple, community-level monitoring with charts based on simple metrics # <2s years listed in the register Monthly weigh-in attendance Growth results (adequate, inadequate, trend over 2 months) 								
Lead & partner organizations:	 Honduran government (Secretariat of Health) led project Partnership with NGOs for implementation Technical assistance through USAID's BASICS II program and others Funded in part by World Bank and initially by USAID and other bilaterals 								
Description of specific country situation & social context:	 Malnutrition and poverty present a challenge especially when compared to the average of the region 17% of children under 5 moderately or severely underweight compared to average of 7% for Latin America and Caribbean (2006) Relatively high poverty level (21% with income beneath US\$1 per day compared to 9% average in Latin America and Caribbean) HIV/AIDS is a larger issue in Honduras relative to other Central American settings (60% of total cases) Political environment is favorable for program implementation Relatively stable political and economic setting Committed government that started the program in 1990 when malnutrition persevered even though child mortality had decreased 								

1. Fiedler J L: "A Cost Analysis of the Honduras Community-Based Integrated Child Care Program." World Bank, 2003. Converted with the exchange rate 0.05868 HNL/USD from 01.07.2002. Source: Expert interviews; literature review; REACH analysis; USAID country profile Honduras; Save the Children country; MDG Monitor <u>www.mdgmonitor.org</u>

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (II)

AIN-C, Honduras

Policy and coordination processes and organization ¹ :	• N/A
Communication, advocacy and change management:	• N/A
Measuring, tracking and reporting progress:	 Employed a community-based M&E model that fed up into national health information systems Provided tools and training to community volunteers Community-level data could be used as indicators for program operations, e.g. coverage, participation, nutritional status Reporting results to communities compelled ongoing action Community volunteers share periodic community statistics with communities to encourage compliance
Funding and resource mobilization:	• N/A
Capacity building:	 Built sustainable healthcare worker and community volunteer capacity Employed a simple training manual, used consistently with healthcare workers and community volunteers Community volunteers selected by communities so as to have long-term legitimacy
Private sector engagement:	• N/A

1. Including NGO/civil society engagement Note: N/A denotes 'not available' as of yet via research Source: Expert interviews; literature review; REACH analysis

Case study: Exclusive breastfeeding (III)

AIN-C, Honduras

Details on delivered intervention incl. delivery channel/ method:	 3-step delivery approach: Train the trainer Public heath/NGOs: provide technical and communication training for health workers, so they can counsel mothers at health visits and train volunteers for community growth promotion Reach out to communities through volunteers NGO/Public health: deliver technical and communication training to community volunteers Monitor growth and react with appropriate counseling Community volunteer (team): Conduct regular growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) sessions including face-to-face counseling according to results Visit families at home if necessary (e.g. because they do not attend GMP sessions) Share results with community, so they can encourage further action at community-level if pointing to other than nutritional deficits 					
Description of monitoring & evaluation:	 Simple, community-level monitoring with charts based on simple metrics # <2s years listed in the register Monthly weigh-in attendance Growth results (adequate, inadequate, trend over 2 months) 					
Lessons learned (intervention & overarching processes):	 Leveraging volunteers is a cost-effective way to increase coverage Appropriate volunteer management kept motivation up, e.g. giving the volunteer's job a realistic time frame and a clear task description, creating volunteer teams, providing social rewards (e.g. a thank-you-letter signed by the president) as incentives Growth monitoring is a good framework as long as growth faltering is addressed immediately Showing positive results is important to turn initial resistance into commitment and support Community involvement mobilized demand for health services 					
Contacts:	 Marcia Griffiths, President, The Manoff Group, Inc., mgriffiths@manoffgroup.com 	Key docu- ments:	 Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform— the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005. 			

Preliminary Case study: AIN-C, Honduras AIN-C Honduras scaled up BF and CF with the help of community-based growth monitoring

Program overview

National community-based, integrated, preventive child care program in Honduras

- Owned and conceptualized by Government of Honduras
- · technical support through various bilaterals and NGOs

Delivered BF and CF counseling through community and public health system channels

Identified and trained community volunteers to weigh children and counsel mothers in BF and CF

Engaged community volunteers to perform M&E and communicate results in community

- Regular growth monitoring for children
- Trained to refer at-risk children to public health care facilities or NGOs
- Sharing milestone results helped to compel community to continue

Lessons learned

Mobilize the community to facilitate cost-effective scale-up

 Volunteers can effectively counsel women, monitor and communicate results, refer at-risk children for facility health care

Communicate impact data to foster participation and commitment

- Employed community-based growth monitoring to track impact
- Evidence of positive growth impact compelled community to adopt BF / CF behaviors

Create incentives to ensure ongoing community volunteer motivation and actions

- Scope the task clearly and accurately
- Create a team environment to foster volunteer commitment
- Provide social rewards as incentives, e.g. thank-youletter signed by the president

Preliminary Case study: AIN-C, Honduras AIN-C's community-based approach empowered the community and facilitated BF/CF scale-up

Successful community-based M&E practices

- Regular supervision and counseling
 - Community volunteers (team) know development of participating children and can detect irregularities easily
- Close relationships between community volunteer and beneficiaries

- Close interaction between public health and community
 - Community volunteer is trained, supervised and supported by local nurse

Benefits

- Enables early detection of growth faltering and facilitates rapid remedial action
 - e.g. counseling, house visits, referral to health services
- Counseling is more easily accepted when delivered by trusted community member
- Tailored solutions promote better uptake

• Enables rapid linkage to proper healthcare when illness emerges

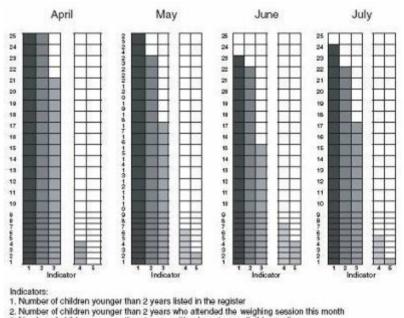
Source: Expert interviews; Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform-the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005.; REACH analysis

Preliminary Case study: AIN-C, Honduras A simple M&E system enables community volunteers to track progress and provides indicators for program operations

Community volunteers maintain a simple system

- Indicators cover
 - Coverage / participation
 - Weight gain
- · Less complicated than typical growth charts
- · Results are directly visible
- Does not require advanced mathematic skills
- Results can easily be used
 - To target household visits
 - To communicate necessary actions
 - To mobilize the community
 - To report to the health system

The results are displayed in a simple chart



3. Number of children younger than 2 years with adequate growth this month

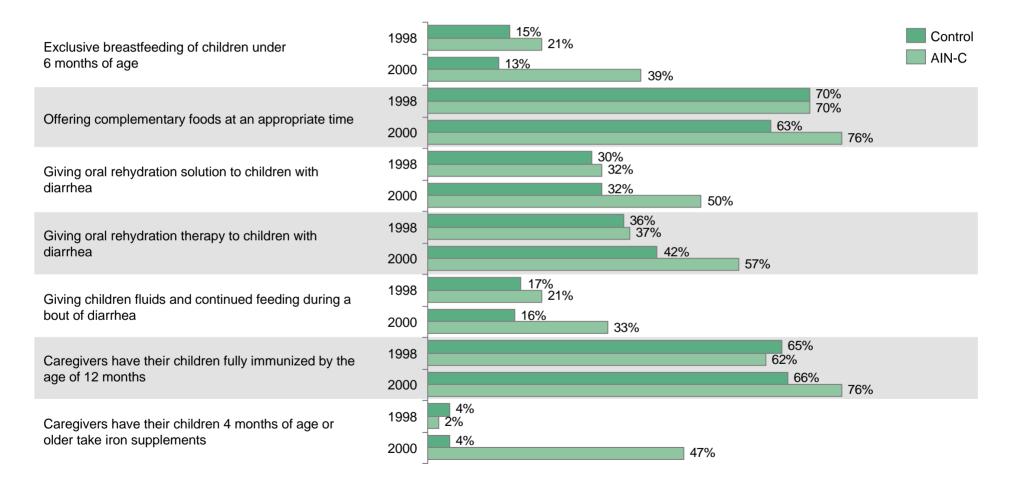
4. Number of children younger than 2 years with inadequate growth this month

5. Number of children younger than 2 years with inadequate growth this month and last month

Source: Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform-the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005.

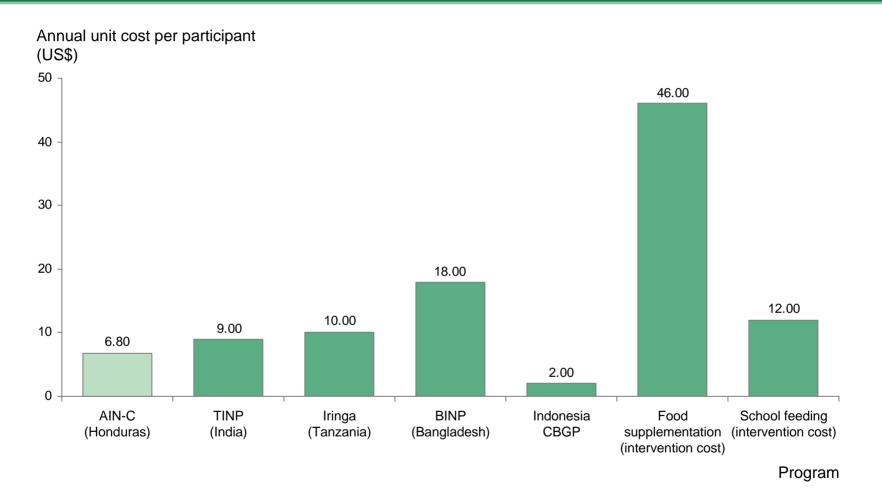
AIN-C results were positive

Program communities met or exceeded control groups on virtually all indicators



Source: Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform-the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005.

AIN-C's unit cost is low compared to other programs



AIN-C unit cost also decreases during the first 3 years of program due to increased training and supervision at the beginning

1. Total program cost per community: ~\$917-1,010 (1st year), ~\$354-457 (2nd year), ~\$61-144 (3rd and following years)

Source: Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform-the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005.; Fiedler J L: "A Cost Analysis of the Honduras Community-Based Integrated Child Care Program." World Bank, 2003.

Preliminary Case study: AIN-C, Honduras AIN-C's success attributed to several design steps that increased community acceptance

Design feature	Description	Benefit
Evidence-based decision making	 Uses data on child growth status to mobilize the community towards positive health and nutrition actions Growth data are sensitive to improved actions 	 Create evidence that change is possible Offers entry point to act on socio-economic issues¹
Equity	Targeted to all children under two in the community	Enrollment of all avoids stigmatization
Empowerment	 Household is made responsible for improvement In cases where household tries and fails, community is asked to take on some responsibility If community's resources are inadequate, external sources (such as food aid programs, cash transfer programs, and welfare programs) can be sought 	 Encourages family responsibility and the right to keep its children healthy and well fed
Ownership	 Conceived and developed within the Secretariat of Health by Hondurans Encourages community ownership of implementation Establishes target outcomes for communities to meet, rather than prescriptive steps on how to implement 	 Strong commitment to program creates sustainability and will more likely create impact
Concrete guidance	 Provides practical details in the volunteer's manual Trainers' and supervisors' jobs are built upon volunteers' work 	 Eases training and implementation creates seamless connection between community work and health system

1. lack of adequate child care, HIV/AIDS, poor water and sanitation, alcoholism, domestic abuse, illiteracy and educational failure, agricultural productivity, gender relations, etc Source: Griffiths M, McGuire J S: "A new dimension for health reform-the integrated community child health program in Honduras." In: La Forgia G M (Ed.): "Health System Innovations in Central America." World Bank, 2005.

Experts consulted during preparation

- Joy Del Rosso, Manoff Group, Senior Nutritionist
- Agnes Guyon, AED/LINKAGES Program Officer
- Moazzem Hossain, UNICEF Child Survival and Nutrition Advisor
- Miriam Labbok, University of North Carolina