



**COMPACT**  
**2025**

# Accelerating Progress:

## Plan of Action for Compact2025

**Shenggen Fan**

Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

# Overview

- Rwanda has made progress, but it must be accelerated
- It is possible to accelerate progress
- Compact2025 aims to support key recommendations to accelerate progress in Rwanda

# Rwanda is committed to ending hunger and undernutrition

Strategy/Plan	Relation to food security, nutrition
<b>Vision 2020</b>	Includes agric. production, child stunting goals
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Economic Development &amp; Poverty Reduction Strategy</b>	Sets food and nutrition among long-term foundational issues
<b>Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture</b>	Aims to transform, commercialize agriculture; increase rural incomes; reduce poverty
<b>Health Sector Strategic Plan</b>	Identifies nutrition indicators (e.g. Reduce child stunting from 44%-18% from 2013-2018)
<b>Social Protection Sector Strategic Plan</b>	Seeks to reduce social, economic vulnerability for poor, vulnerable, & marginalized groups

# Rwanda has clear strategic directions

## National Food and Nutrition Policy

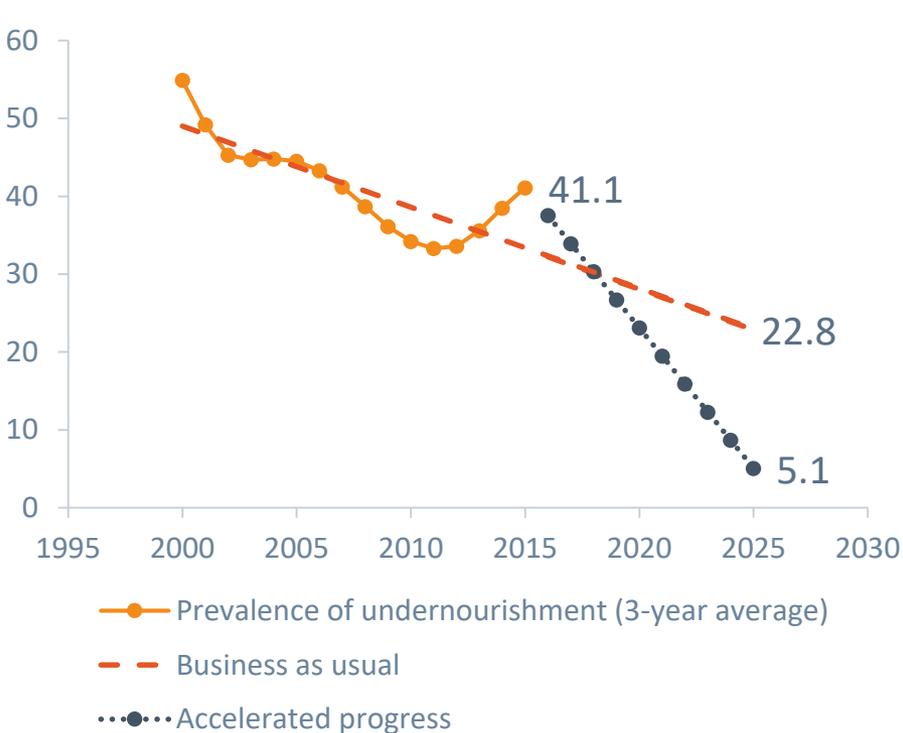
- Preventing stunting in children under two years of age at national scale
- Promoting practices that improve household food security
- Preventing and managing all forms of malnutrition

## Third Health Sector Strategic Plan

- Reduce by half the number of malnourished children

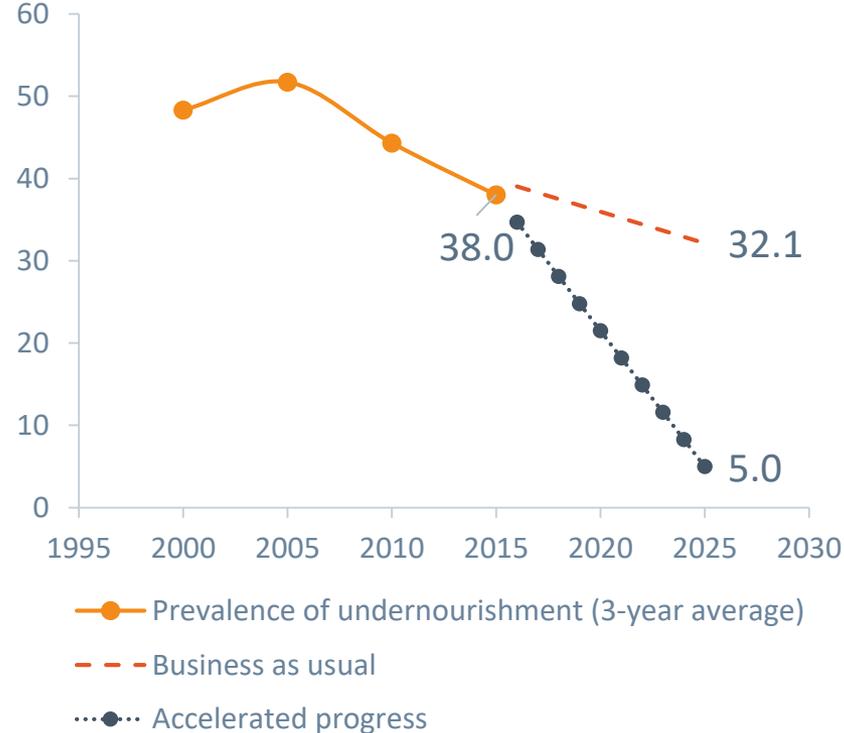
# Progress has been made, but it must be accelerated to end hunger and undernutrition by 2025

Prevalence of undernourishment in Rwanda (%)



Source: FAO 2017

Prevalence of under-5 child stunting in Rwanda (%)



Source: UNICEF/WHO/WB 2017

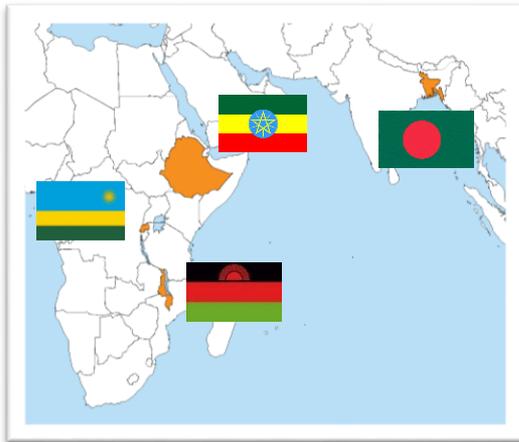
# It is possible to accelerate progress

- Global community has higher priority on ending hunger and undernutrition
- Successful countries have shortened the learning curve
- Greater awareness of cross-sectoral issues
  - Access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) associated with lower prevalence of child stunting
  - Women's empowerment in agriculture → better productivity, agricultural and dietary diversity, food security, nutrition (especially for their young children)
- Promising programs in Rwanda can be scaled up
  - Biofortification: Since 2011, nearly half a million Rwandan farmers have grown high-iron beans, which reduce iron deficiency in women

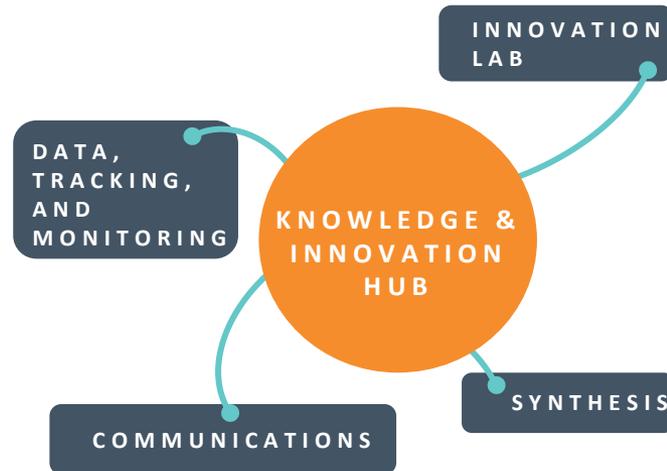


# Compact2025's approaches for accelerating progress

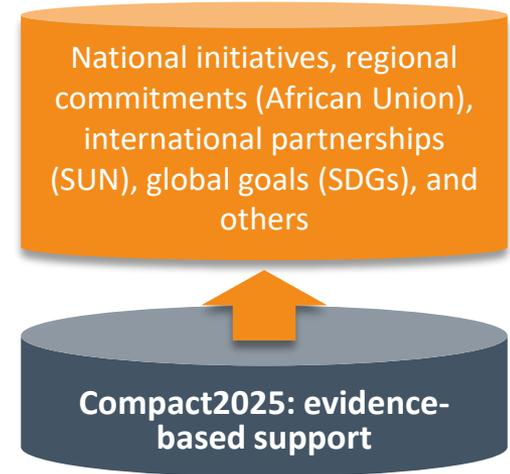
## Engaging countries



## Stimulating knowledge and innovation



## Supporting initiatives and partnerships



# Facilitating South-South learning workshop in Bangkok

- Shared lessons on Thailand’s success and experiences from other countries with over 50 stakeholders from Africa and Asia, including C2025 Focal Countries
- Key points from meeting include
  - Nutrition efforts must be country-driven
  - Research is critical for producing knowledge and policy advice for government
  - Community-led mobilization with M&E, supported by modern technologies, can improve tracking at all levels
  - The private sector can play a key role in supporting nutrition efforts given the right policy environment
  - Mutual learning by bringing together different countries, stakeholders is critical



# **Recommendations for accelerating progress in Rwanda—and how Compact2025 aims to support them**

# A look back one year ago

## Compact2025 Rwanda Roundtable Discussion (March 24, 2016)

- Convened over 100 stakeholders to discuss how to accelerate progress
- Participants offered five key recommendations
  - Improve coordination
  - Fill data and knowledge gaps
  - Strengthen capacity
  - Communicate and advocate for better nutrition outcomes
  - Enhance successful policies and programs



# Improve coordination

## National Food and Nutrition Coordination Secretariat

- Designed to coordinate across stakeholders to improve implementation of nutrition programs
- Objectives
  - Provide strategic oversight and ensure efficient and effective coordination for all food and nutrition interventions in Rwanda
  - Provide policy advice in all food and nutrition related matters
  - Raise awareness of key stakeholders on food and nutrition and advocate for resource mobilization
  - Monitor and evaluate all food and nutrition interventions

# Improve coordination

## Compact2025's plans

### Proposed actions include

- Conduct review of evidence on effectiveness of food and nutrition interventions, programs, and policies
- Work with the Secretariat and relevant ministries to identify current and potential roles and how to effectively work together
- Support implementation of policies at sub-national levels as part of the District Plans to Eliminate Malnutrition (DPEM)
- Assist the Secretariat to establish an M&E framework for food and nutrition programs and rigorously evaluate at least one flagship program to rigorously evaluate

## Fill data and knowledge gaps

- 2016 RTD participants identified a lack of evidence-based programs and interventions as a key constraint to accelerating progress
- More evidence is needed on
  - Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of programs and packages of interventions is needed
  - How to make programs more nutrition-sensitive
  - How to work multisectorally and across different types of stakeholders to design and implement effective food and nutrition programs
  - How to achieve nutrition outcomes at scale

# Fill data and knowledge gaps

## Compact2025's plans

### Proposed actions include

- Assess
  - Coordination and coherence in nutrition as part of on-going Stories of Change work
  - Prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies among children and predictors of these deficiencies
  - Predictors of child stunting
- Identify effective interventions to address child undernutrition
- Work with implementers to redesign programs to be more nutrition-sensitive

## Strengthen capacity

- Greater capacity to plan and implement nutrition strategies across stakeholders and levels of government was recommended
- Training opportunities for students in nutrition, agriculture, and rural development are key
- Dimensions of capacity development include technical knowledge, generating and using evidence, advocacy, and beyond

# Strengthen capacity

## Compact2025's plans

### Proposed actions include

- Conduct trainings in nutrition for ministry staff, civil society organizations, district health workers, front-line workers, and others
- Work with university teachers to mainstream nutrition coursework into relevant curriculums
- Create fellowships for locally trained nutritionists to work with CGIAR scientists

## Communicate and advocate for better nutrition outcomes

- More evidence is needed on the underlying factors of undernutrition and potential strategies to address them to effectively advocate for better outcomes
- Once identified, clear advocacy messages can be generated and disseminated through various media, e.g. TV, radio, and theatre

# Communicate and advocate for better nutrition outcomes

Compact2025's plans

## Proposed actions include

- With SNV, expand Voices of Change Partnership (V4CP) program, which
  - Aims to strengthen CSO capacity to use evidence to advocate for better food security and nutrition outcomes
  - Promotes prioritization of nutrition interventions at the district level

## Enhance successful policies and programs

- Scaling up and targeting successful nutrition-sensitive programs can contribute to health, nutrition, and well-being outcomes

### **Compact2025's proposed actions include**

- Establishing a competitive grants program to enhance effectiveness of programs to achieve nutrition outcomes

**Compact2025 uses research, innovation, and partnerships to help eliminate hunger and undernutrition in Rwanda and beyond**



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