



Ethiopia's National Information Platform for Nutrition (NIPN) – some basic principles

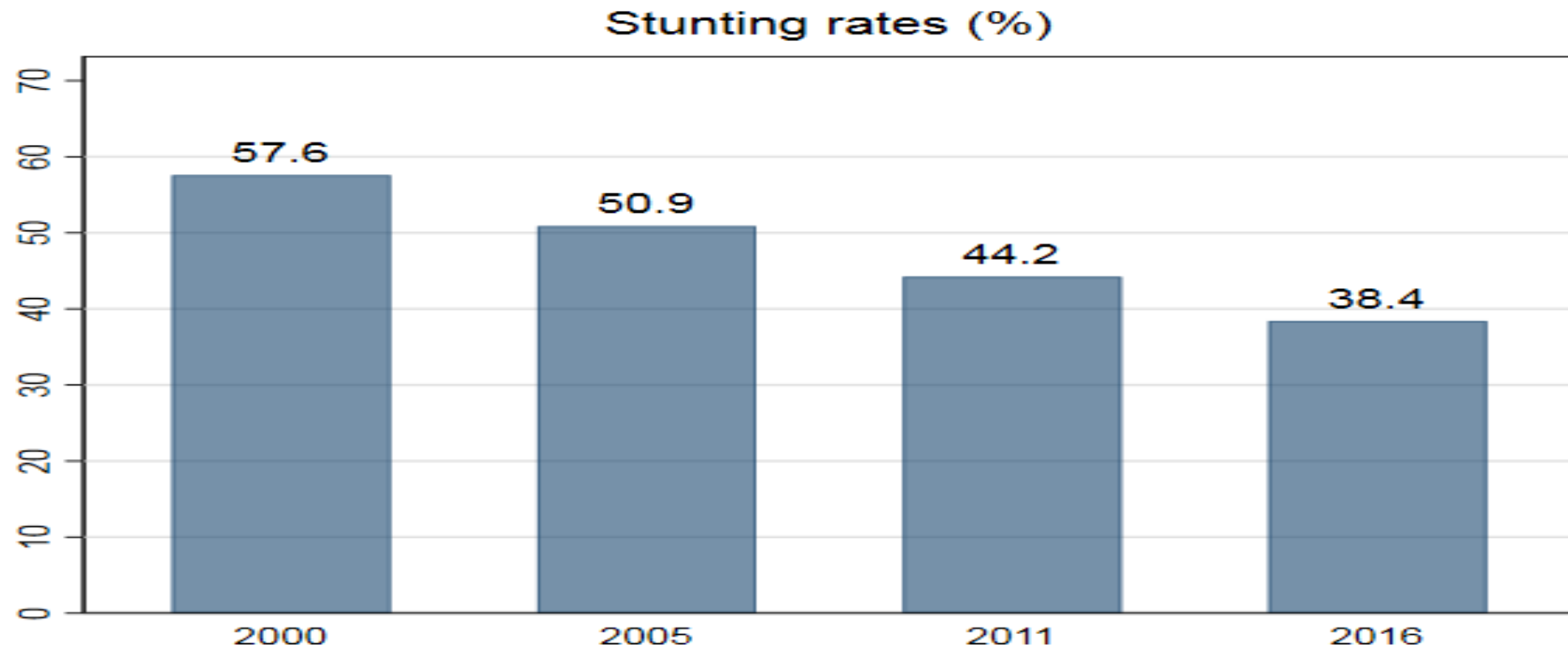
Solomon Eshetu

A/Director, Food Science and Nutrition Research Directorate of EPHI

NIPN launch , Ethiopia Public Health Institute, Addis Ababa

May 31th , 2018

ETHIOPIA HAS SEEN FAST REDUCTIONS IN STUNTING RATES SINCE 2000



BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO REACH THE NNP -2 GOALS

- ❑ Encouraging trends, but more needs to be done
- ❑ Very high political engagement to respond to malnutrition
- ❑ The response engages **all the sectors through** the National Nutrition Programme (NNP-2)
- ❑ NNP 2 highlights the **importance of accountability of all sectors and evidence based decision making**
- ❑ **EPHI is mandated** to lead the monitoring, evaluation and operational research of the NNP
- ❑ The NIPN responds to these NNP priorities

THROUGH NIPN, THE EU SUPPORTS COUNTRIES WHO EMBRACED THE SUN MOVEMENT

- ❑ A global initiative to support the SUN movement, launched by the European Union and co-funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom
- ❑ Currently operational in 10 countries
- ❑ The principle: global approaches and tools adapted to national needs and contexts

NIPN aims to strengthen capacity to analyze data to track progress, inform policies and improve programmes for better nutrition

WHAT IS A NATIONAL INFORMATION PLATFORM FOR NUTRITION

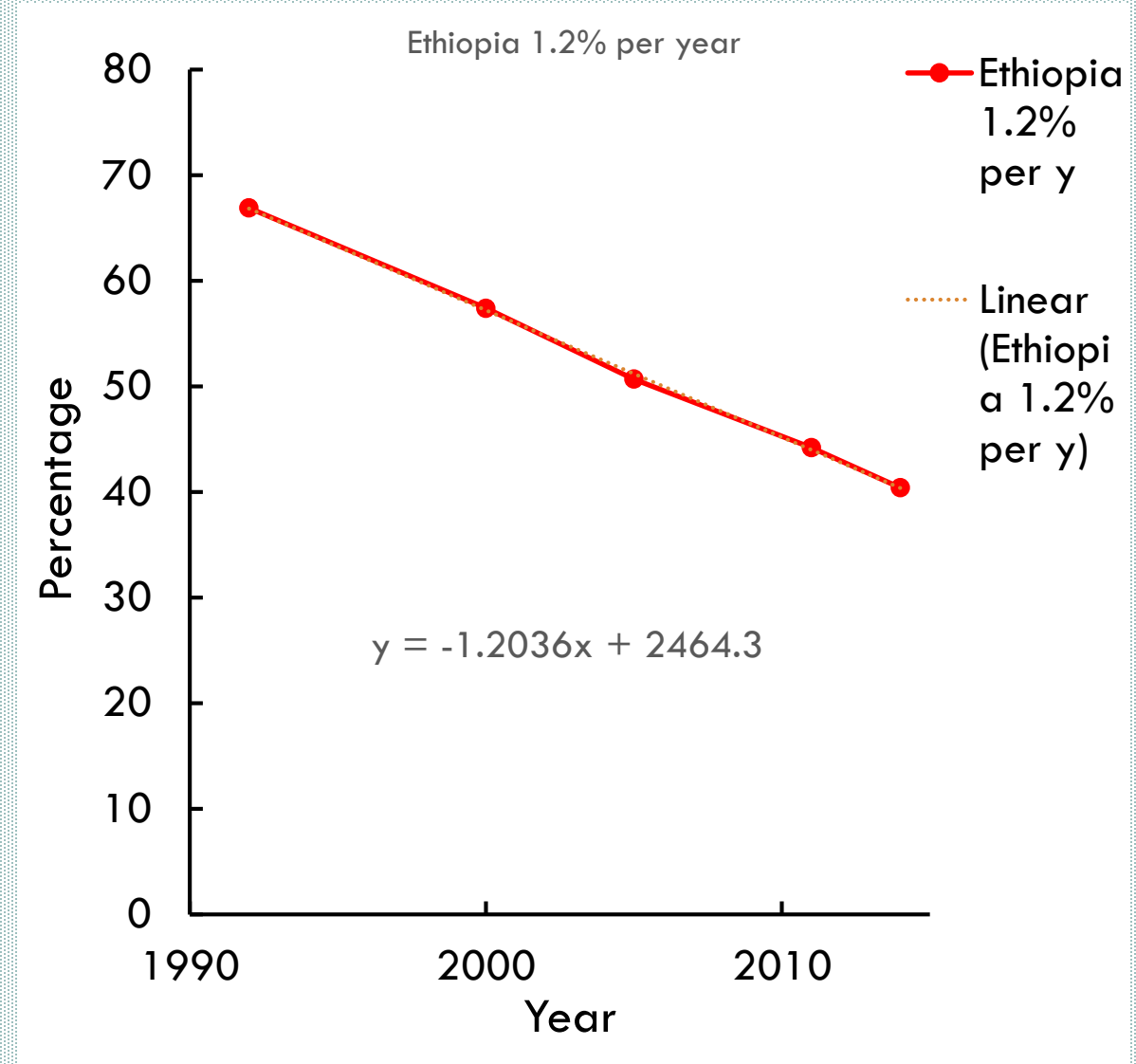
The initiative supports countries to better design evidence-based policies and program by :

- ❑ Setting up a multisectoral **nutrition information platform**
- ❑ Making **better use of existing data** coming from different sectors
- ❑ **Building capacity** of a wide set of multisectoral national stakeholders to manage and analyze these data
- ❑ Translate research findings into **policy and programmatic recommendations**
- ❑ Promote **outreach** of these findings

IN ETHIOPIA, NIPN WILL SUPPORT REACHING THE NNP GOALS

NIPN will allow to **maximize the analysis and interpretation** of existing information and data on nutrition .
Ultimately, this will allow to :

- Improve understanding of the factors that drive nutrition trends
- Identify **gaps** in information that need to be filled
- Identify problems** with the consistency and quality of nutrition related data
- Assess which **interventions** best address these drivers
- Contribute to **monitoring** progress of national nutrition programs and plans
- Answer questions posed by policy makers based on the **government's priorities**



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



Questions

based on
governments'
priorities



NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



Questions

based on
governments'
priorities



Input data

From routine
and ad-hoc surveys,
programme monitoring,
resource tracking

NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



Questions

based on
governments'
priorities

Analysis

of the nutrition
specific/sensitive drivers
of changes in malnutrition
over time and space



Input data

From routine
and ad-hoc surveys,
programme monitoring,
resource tracking

NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



Questions

based on
governments'
priorities

Findings

develop plausible
evidence of the
effectiveness of
interventions

Analysis

of the nutrition
specific/sensitive drivers
of changes in malnutrition
over time and space



Input data

From routine
and ad-hoc surveys,
programme monitoring,
resource tracking

NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



National stakeholders
and policy makers

Nutrition policies
and programmes
design and monitoring



NIPN advisory committee
Formulation of questions for analysis
and dissemination of results



Questions
based on
governments'
priorities

Findings

develop plausible
evidence of the
effectiveness of
interventions

Analysis

of the nutrition
specific/sensitive drivers
of changes in malnutrition
over time and space

NIPN staff
Data quality assessment,
data management and analysis



Input data

From routine
and ad-hoc surveys,
programme monitoring,
resource tracking



Outputs
Inform policy
makers and
improve
programmes

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF NIPN IN ETHIOPIA

- ❑ **Country ownership**; embedded within national NNP structures
- ❑ Makes the best use of **current information systems & existing coordination mechanisms**
- ❑ **Responds to needs of the NNP** ; Enhances multi-sectoral efforts: supports national policies and multi-sectoral plans for better nutrition
- ❑ **Strengthens capacity and supports the skills**, means and analytical methods
- ❑ **Complements or is synergistic with other initiatives** (such as the UNISE or EPHI's National Data Management Center)
- ❑ **Moving from a project towards a system approach**

NIPN TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS NEEDED

NIPN Advisory Committee

Convenes meeting of the NIPN Advisory Committee; promotes the outputs of the NIPN to line ministries; acts as liaison to national coordinating group for nutrition and agencies

Senior Policy Advisor

Project director

With strong skills in statistical analysis of data in health and nutrition, ability to write reports, and skills in training and capacity building.

Technical Advisor

Project Coordinator

To lead and manage the NIPN team with line management responsibility for the NIPN staff and an understanding of data analysis.

Data

Analysis

Interpretation

Reporting

Support

Computer & data manager

Statisticians

Nutritionists

Communications expert

Finance manager

Data technicians

Epidemiologists

Agriculturalists

Editor

Human resources

WASH

Secretarial support

Social protection

THE NIPN PROJECT WORKS TOWARDS ESTABLISHING A NUTRITION INFORMATION SYSTEM.

The three major expected outcomes of the project :

- ❑ EPHI and sectoral ministries and partners contributing to the NNP-II have the **capacity to operate and maintain** the National Information Platform for Nutrition
- ❑ Ethiopia **tracks progress in meeting the objectives of the NNP** and in **monitoring nutrition investments**
- ❑ The NNCB and sectoral decision makers in nutrition have a better understanding and are making **better use of evidence generated**

WHO IS INVOLVED IN NIPN?

1. **Hosted** by EPHI /the FSNRD of EPHI , but working with many sectors and universities
2. **Guided** by NNP M&E and OR SC and a high level advisory committee
3. **Working with all NNP partners: Multisectoral and multilevel engagement**
4. **Supported** by
 - The International Food Policy Research Institute (**IFPRI**)
 - A Global Support Facility (**GSF**)

NIPN WILL PROMOTE MULTISECTOR INVOLVEMENT FOR NUTRITION

- ❑ NIPN will trigger **long term involvement and interest** of all stakeholders
- ❑ NIPN will **pro-actively reach out** to sectors currently less involved in the nutrition research agenda
- ❑ The multisectoral stakeholders will be **guided on data quality issues** and how to improve future data collection for nutrition monitoring

NIPN WILL APPLY A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH (1)

1. Institutional/operational : NIPN functions within the existing NNP governance setup

- Is guided by the **NNP M&E and OR SC and AC**
- Embedded in EPHI, will work in collaboration with all relevant directorates at EPHI including with the **EPHI National Data Management Center for Health**

2. Technical: Focus on feasibility rather than technical complicated processes

- User-friendly tools and operational guidelines
- Intensive outreach campaigns
- A learning by doing approach will be applied
- NIPN research will be demand driven

NIPN WILL APPLY A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH (2)

3. Focus on long term capacity building

- IFPRI support includes a focus on creating long-term capacities for improved **nutrition analysis, policy and communication**
- Partnerships with **local academic institutions** will be established.
- The multisectoral stakeholders will be guided on how **to improve quality of data** for improved nutrition monitoring

4. Intensive involvement of all the sectors

- Through various collaborative actions, it is expected that **NIPN will be owned by all of the NNP stakeholders.**



Thank You !
