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Addressing Gaps between Policy and Practice: Example of Integrating NACS in Uganda

Integrating Nutrition Roundtable

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Improving systems to empower communities

URC's Approach to Nutrition Integration

- **Quality improvement** for nutrition with HIV/AIDS, OVC, and communities
- **Growth monitoring** as part of integrated MNCH programs
- **Implementation research**
- Links to **sustainable livelihoods**



NuLife Project Overview

NuLife – Food and Nutrition Interventions for Uganda: USAID-funded project, 2008-2011

Integrated approach involved **3 strategies:**

1. Policy

- MOH partnership for guideline development, implementation, and scale-up
- Multi-stakeholder engagement

2. Service Delivery

- Quality improvement in clinics
- Strengthening community-facility linkages

3. Production

- Establishing local RUTF production
- Integrated supply chains
- Linking to agricultural livelihoods

Policy and Job Aids

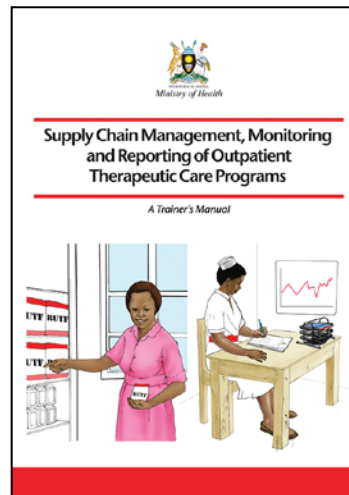
Infant and Young Child Feeding



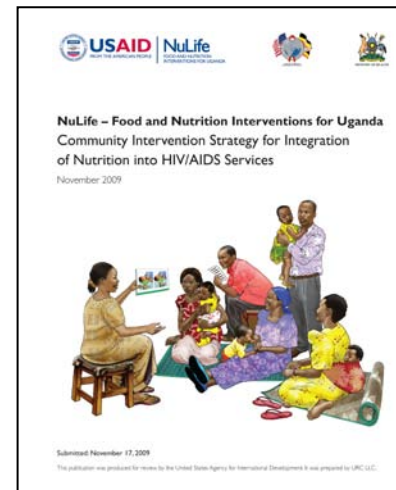
Nutrition Care for PLWHA



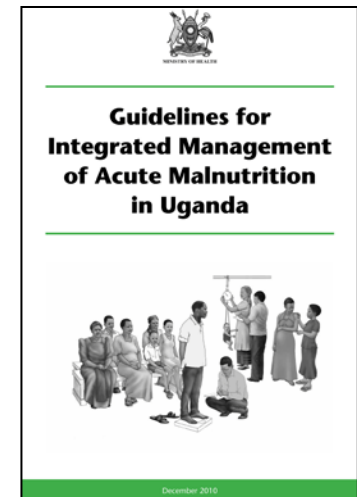
Supply Chain and M&E



Community-Level Integration of Nutrition and HIV

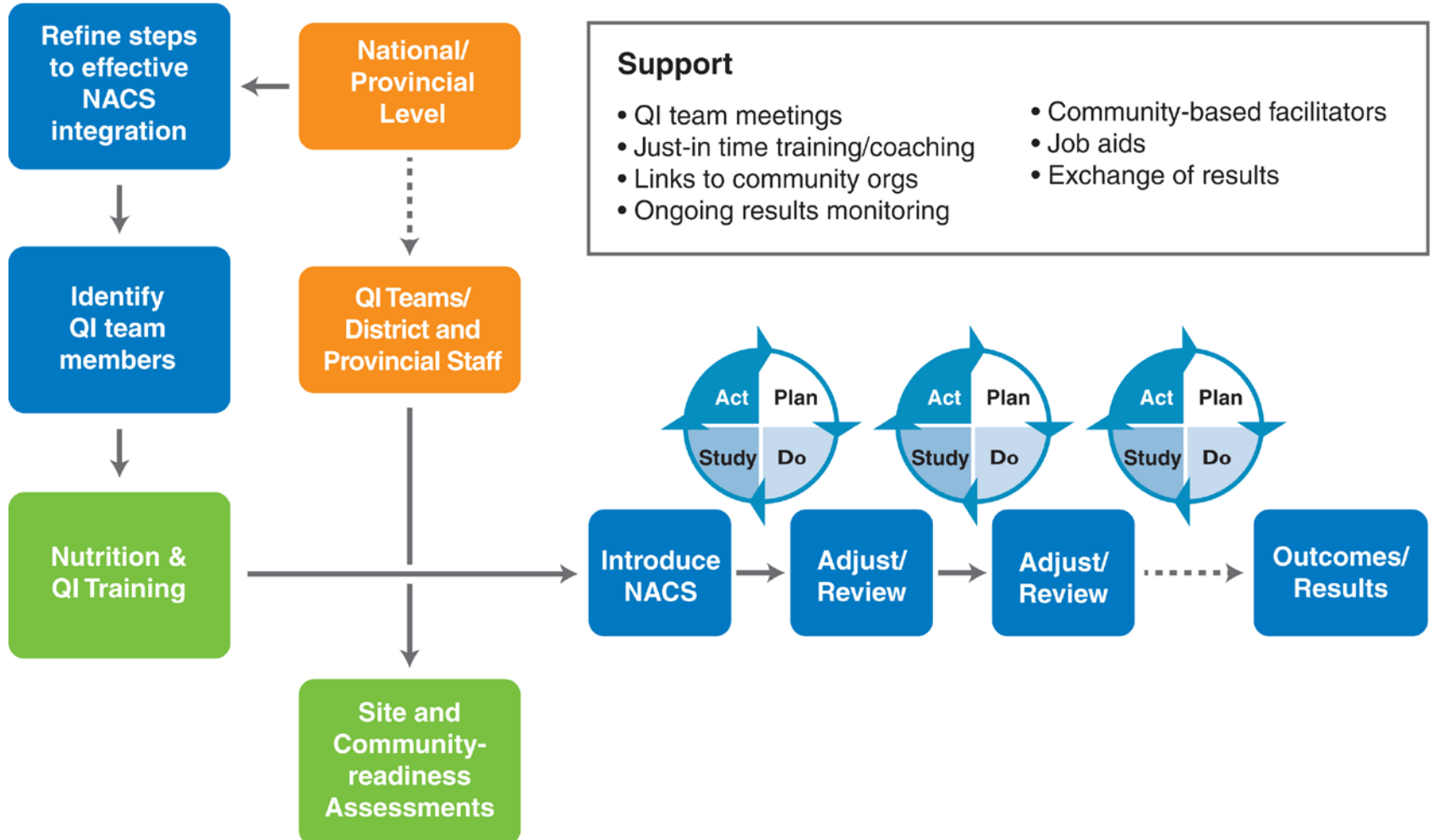


Integration Management of Acute Malnutrition



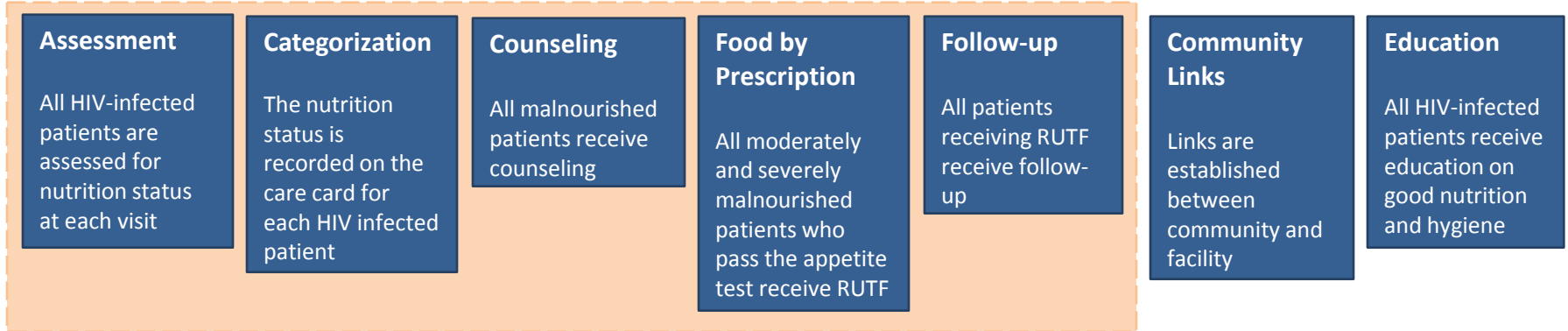
Service Delivery

Rapid and Systematic Integration of NACS

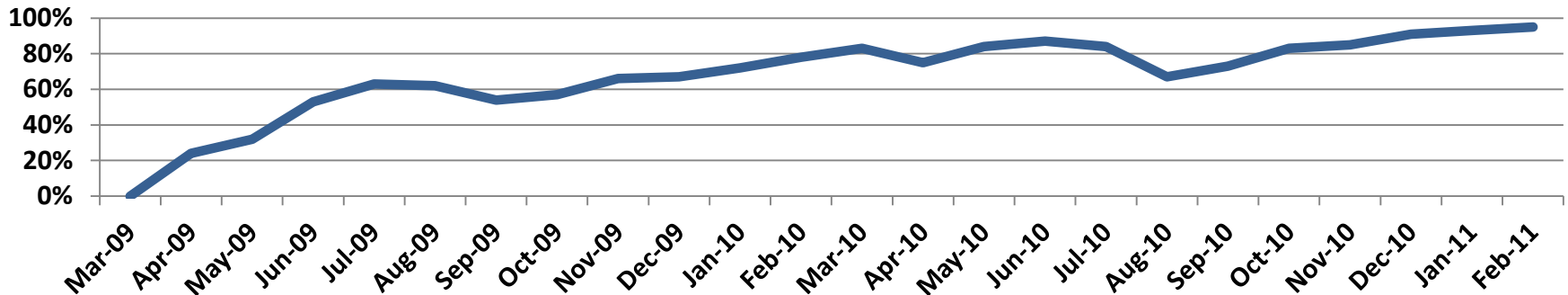


Service Delivery

7 Steps for Nutrition Integration



Percentage of Clients Assessed for Malnutrition with MUAC at Each Visit to 54 NuLife-Supported Facilities*



*Clinics saw an average of 17,491 clients per month.

Production

- **Local Production**

- Capacity building in Reco Industries, Ltd.
- Nutriset patent licensure for RUTAFAs
- Uganda National Bureau of Standards certification



- **Sustainability**

- RUTAFAs on Uganda's Essential Drugs List
- Livelihoods linkages for farmers (4,000 farmers – 50% women, 20% HIV+)



Conclusions

- **Break down complex guidelines** into smaller steps
 - Helps solve operational challenges
 - Builds sustainable integration
- **Measure results** for each step
 - Engages local stakeholders
 - Is a strong incentive for improvement
 - Provides evidence on what works
- **Evidence** is critical
 - To guide policy
 - To ensure nutrition programming stays at the forefront of integrated development programs

Acknowledgements



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

NuLife
FOOD AND NUTRITION
INTERVENTIONS FOR UGANDA



Presentation available at

www.unc-chs.com