Policy Briefs

<u>White Paper #1: Micronutrient Resilience and</u> <u>Climate Change</u>

Read White Paper #1 Here

Climate emergencies are nutrition emergencies. This new report examines the climate change-nutrition discourse and the central role of micronutrients. The impacts and disruptions associated with climate change-including the rise in atmospheric carbon dioxide, greater land degradation, more extreme weather, and rising sea levels, to name just a few-are jeopardizing people's micronutrient status. In addition, at the same time that climatic shocks and crises threaten individuals' nutrition security, climate change-induced rises in the prevalence of waterborne diseases may increase human micronutrient needs. Climate change demands we build resilience — and one crucial component of that is micronutrient resilience.

White Paper #2: Women's Equality and Nutrition

Read White Paper #2 Here

In an era of overlapping crises, women worldwide are facing a crisis of micronutrient malnutrition. Empowering women while investing in their improved nutrition will have a multiplying effect on the resilience of women, their families and communities. This white paper advocates for mainstreaming women's empowerment and equality into all nutrition programming, both direct and indirect, and addressing women's nutrition at all life stages, regardless of their reproductive choices through health, education, and social protection systems.

<u>White Paper #3: Micronutrient Resilience, the</u> <u>Immune System and the Gut Microbiome</u>

<u>Read White Paper #3 Here</u>A well-functioning human immune system fits the very definition of resilience: the capacity to recover from shocks. In this case, the shocks include a whole range of pathogens – harmful microbes – to which humans are continually exposed over the course of their lives.

It is now clear that nutrition has a direct effect on all aspects of people's immune response. By acting on what is known so far about nutrition and the immune system, and by urgently pursuing answers to the many questions that remain, we can begin to apply nutrition interventions in ways that will help break the cycle of malnutrition and disease.

White Paper #4: Strengthening Micronutrient Resilience

Read White Paper #4 HereA confluence of overlapping crises and shocks has led to an unprecedented global food crisis threatening global food and nutrition security. According to the latest State of Food Security and Nutrition (SOFI) report, approximately 735 million people worldwide faced hunger in 2022—an astounding 122 million more than 2019.

This white paper details the importance of including micronutrient nutrition in development and humanitarian assistance programs, and lays out some key actions by national governments, donors, and multi-lateral agencies that are needed to improve population micronutrient health.

DInA Brief: From Information to Action: Using Micronutrient Data to Drive Policy Change

<u>Read Policy Brief HereMicronutrient</u> deficiencies are a significant global health problem, leading to severe and irreversible health consequences. The lack of reliable national data for all population groups hamper efforts to

estimate the true burden of these deficiencies accurately.

This policy brief highlights the critical importance of collecting, utilizing, and communicating micronutrient data to inform public policy and national health strategies. It provides specific insights into how data-driven policy and program implementation can lead to improved nutrition outcomes and provides key recommendations to strengthen the data ecosystem for micronutrients.

ST4N Brief: Nutrition resilience during crises: Strengthening systems to safeguard the nutrition of vulnerable children and women

Read Summary Brief HereOver the past three years, millions of vulnerable people have suffered from the harsh impacts of a devastating polycrisis—largely caused by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climatic and economic crises, and new and protracted conflicts that have deepened food and nutrition insecurity.

This brief provides a summary of an upcoming report that describes the impact of the polycrisis on nutrition outcomes, nutritious diets, nutrition-related services, and feeding and care practices. It also highlights the experiences of different countries, offering valuable lessons regarding the resilience of systems to safeguard nutrition in times of crisis. Lastly, the report builds upon these findings and lessons learned to propose policy and programmatic recommendations for strengthening the nutrition resilience of systems, before, during, and after a crisis.

<u>HMHB Brief: Nutrition resilience of mothers and</u> <u>their babies</u> <u>Antenatal MMS: One of the best bets for global</u> <u>development</u>

Read Advocacy Brief HereMaternal nutrition plays a crucial

role in the health and well-being of communities and nations. However, poor nutrition continues to rob girls and women of their full potential, preventing them from growing, learning, working, and thriving. This harmful cycle starts before birth, continues through childhood, and can be passed on through motherhood.

Urgent action is needed now to implement and scale up access to proven solutions, like antenatal multiple micronutrient supplementation (MMS), that support mothers for a more resilient future.