

# Considering Wasting and Stunting approaches together requires action by diverse stakeholders

Recommendations drawing on the work of the Wasting and Stunting Technical Interest Group (WaSt TIG)

## Policy Makers

Develop **cohesive joint policies** to prevent wasting and stunting and their consequences, including considerations for children who experience concurrence.

Develop prevention strategies with a critical focus on **women's health and nutrition**.

Given the relationship between wasting and stunting, **include wasting treatment as part of stunting policies**.

## Donors

The burden of malnutrition remains unsolved. **Integrating programmes for wasting and stunting** offers one mechanism to further reduce the burden, potentially at a lower cost. **Promote funding for such programmes**.

Preventing malnutrition starts before birth. **Fund nutrition interventions targeted at women of reproductive age, pregnant women and mothers** to prevent infants being born already at-risk.

Evidence gaps prevent the best prevention and treatment for malnourished children. **Fund research for identified priority gaps**.

## Programme Designers & Implementers

Consider ways to **integrate wasting and stunting initiatives** given the potential to improve malnutrition and reduce costs.

Preventing wasting and stunting starts before birth. Interventions should seek to **improve women's health and nutrition, pregnant women's nutritional status as well as mothers of at-risk infants**.

Help us understand how we can improve wasting and stunting together by **sharing evidence of integrated programmes in practice**.

## Researchers

We know how to identify children with the highest risk of mortality, but we don't yet know **the level of treatment and intensity required**. **Work with us to research this**.

We know that **prevention programmes should be integrated**, but we don't yet know how. **Help us research, evaluate and draw out learning on this**.

Use our published **research prioritization list** and **research methods brief** to guide your research and to **build the operational evidence base**.

