

PROGRESS & INSIGHTS

PROGRESS TOWARDS SCALING-UP
IMPLEMENTATION OF SQ-LNS

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PROGRESS TOWARDS SCALING-UP IMPLEMENTATION OF SQ-LNS

SQ-LNS added to the list of evidence-based interventions to improve maternal and child nutrition in the **Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Nutrition**

2021



2022

Convening of stakeholders in Washington, DC

2022

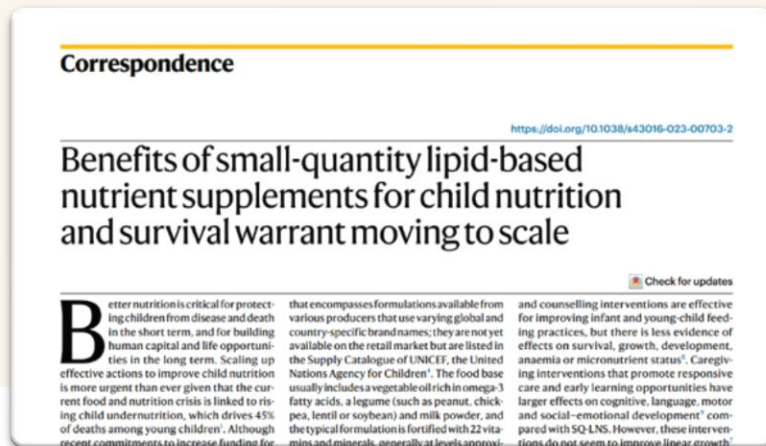
SQ-LNS was included in the Child Nutrition Fund

2023

SQ-LNS was included in the Copenhagen Consensus' Halftime for the SDGs report on Nutrition with a benefit:cost ratio of 13.7:1

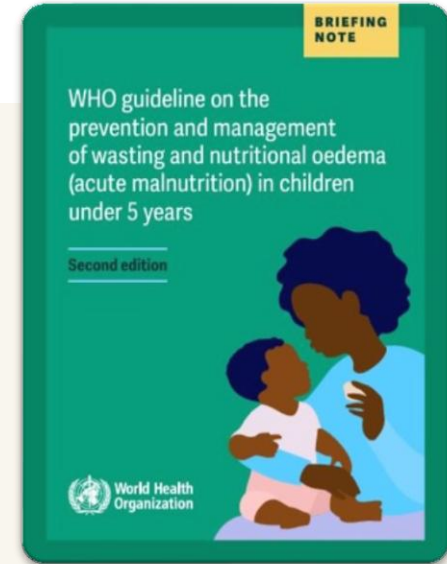
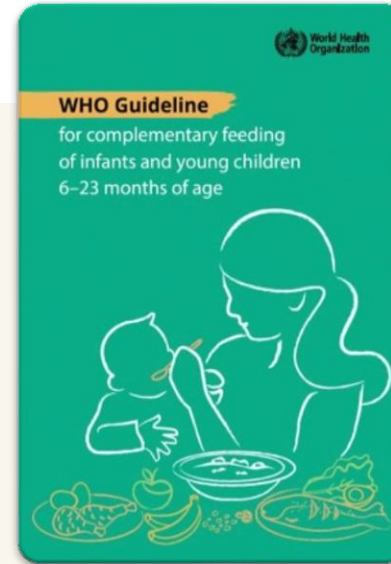
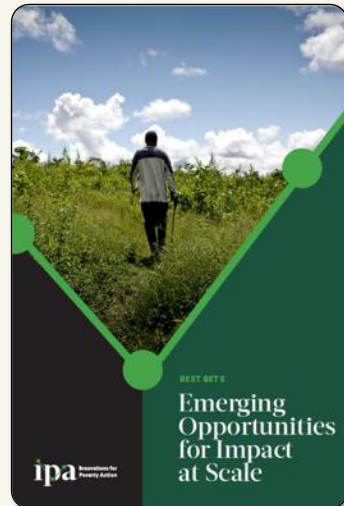
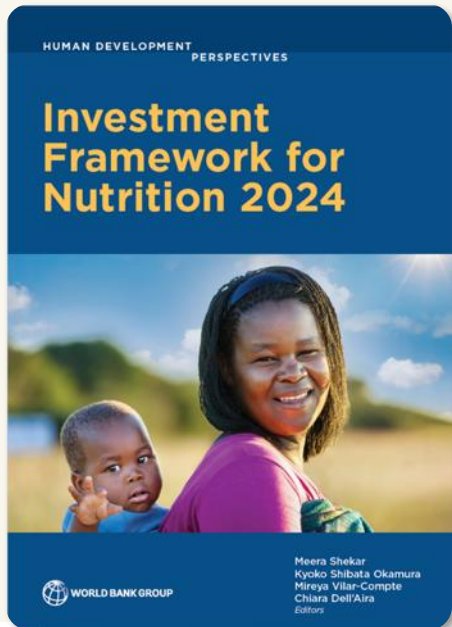
2023

Representatives from UNICEF, WFP, the World Bank, USAID, the Gates Foundation, and UC Davis encourage scaling-up SQ-LNS



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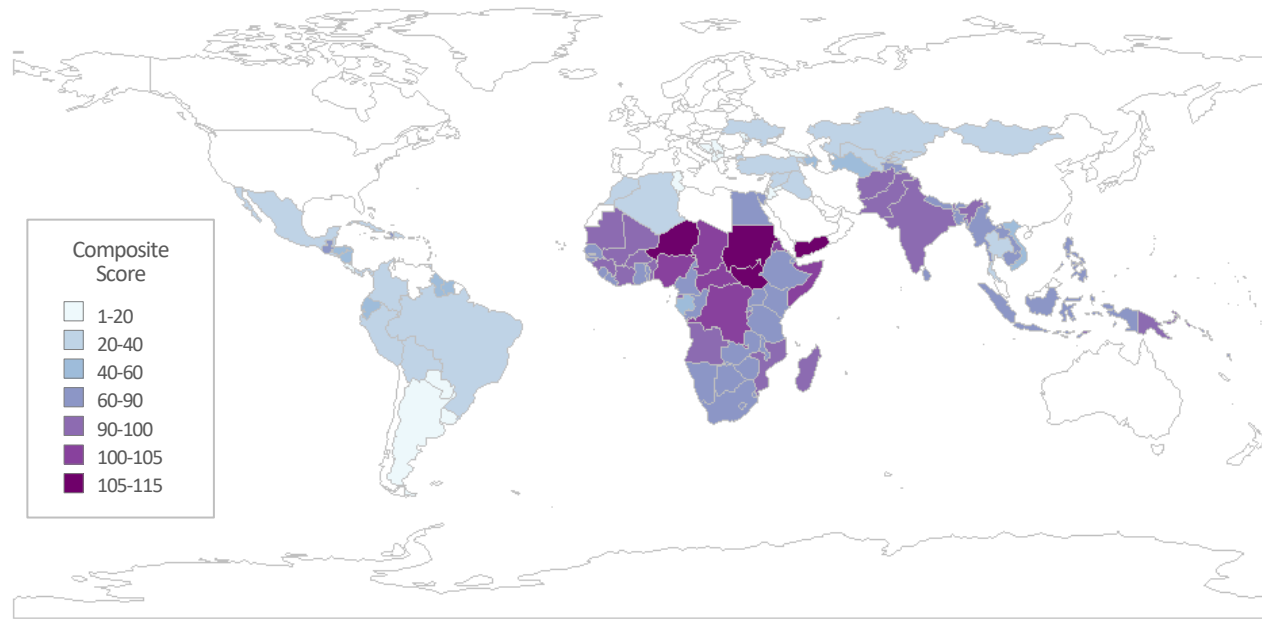
2023
SQ-LNS included in WHO Guidelines for complementary feeding and prevention and management of wasting



2023
Innovations for Poverty Action lists SQ-LNS as a “Best Bet”

2024
World Bank Investment Framework for Nutrition lists SQ-LNS as one of the top interventions for investment, based on cost-effectiveness

PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS



Composite score based on the prevalence of stunting, wasting, and all-cause mortality

- SQ-LNS is not intended for all children in all contexts.
- SQ-LNS should be targeted to children with nutrient gaps living in settings where the risk of undernutrition is high.
- Analysis by Noori et al. identified priority countries with elevated mortality and high prevalences of wasting and stunting among children 6-23 months of age.

Noori N, Stewart CP, McDonald CM, Wessells KR, Root ED, Dewey KG. Identifying priority countries for scaling up small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplements. *BMJ Glob Health*. 2025 Dec 11;10(12):e019353. doi: 10.1136/bmjgh-2025-019353.

OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE



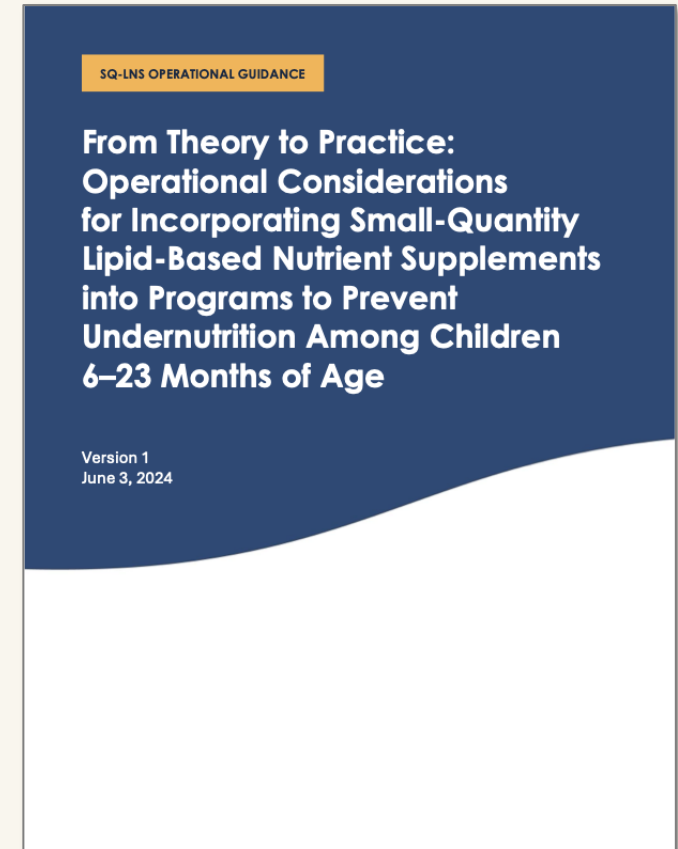
Practical guidance for policymakers and program managers on integrating SQ-LNS



Includes evidence-based **best practices** for design, implementation, and monitoring



Features **case studies** highlighting context-specific differences



Website to download Operational Guidance: <https://sqlns.ucdavis.edu/operational-guidance>

HOW THE SQ-LNS TASK FORCE WORKS

The SQ-LNS Task Force is working to catalyze efforts to scale-up SQ-LNS for the prevention of undernutrition among children 6-23 months of age in nutritionally vulnerable settings



CURRENT PRIORITIES

Through several Working Groups, the Task Force aims to:

Collate, further develop, and disseminate **technical and operational guidance** to support program implementers

Provide **technical assistance for the design, monitoring and evaluation** of programs involving integration of SQ-LNS into various delivery platforms

Facilitate **operational and implementation-based research** on high-priority questions

Identify **strategies to improve cost-effectiveness**

Advocate, communicate, and raise awareness for inclusion of SQ-LNS in comprehensive programs to reduce child undernutrition



TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Action Against Hunger (ACF)
- Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA)
- Boston University
- Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)
- Columbia University
- Eleanor Crook Foundation
- Gates Foundation
- Helen Keller International (HKI)
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)
- Mary Dinah Foundation
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
- Results for Development (R4D)
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Sight & Life
- UNICEF
- University of California Davis & San Francisco
- World Bank
- World Food Programme

KEY RESOURCES

Policy briefs

- SQ-LNS: A high-impact, cost-effective tool to prevent child malnutrition and save lives
- Aligning prevention and treatment of wasting among children 6-23 months of age: the potential role of SQ-LNS

Technical brief

- Costs and cost-effectiveness of SQ-LNS

Information briefs

- Recommendations on SQ-LNS in the WHO 2023 Guidelines on complementary feeding and child wasting
- SQ-LNS for children 6-23 months of age in the World Bank Investment Framework for Nutrition

Operational guidance

- From theory to practice: operational considerations for incorporating SQ-LNS into programs to prevent undernutrition among children 6-23 months of age



All resources can be downloaded from sqlns.ucdavis.edu