Mandate and Mission

Action Against Hunger has been operating in Kenya since 2006. In 2018, less than half of children suffering from severe and moderate acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment in Kenya, with vast regional and county disparities. Among the drivers of malnutrition are poor care and feeding practices for young children. Working at community, county, and national levels, Action Against Hunger aims to strengthen systems in place and increase access to lifesaving malnutrition treatment.

Strategic Objectives

Objective 1: To improve the quality and coverage of services for management of acute malnutrition.

Objective 2: To enhance the delivery of nutrition-sensitive interventions for populations at risk.

Objective 3: To identify and anticipate nutritional risks through research on:

- Preventing undernutrition
- Treating undernutrition
- Effectiveness of our response
Objective 1: To improve the quality and coverage of services for management of acute malnutrition

Increasing detection and early presentation

We are prioritizing interventions that identify children suffering from acute malnutrition earlier, resulting in those children getting treatment faster. Early detection of acute malnutrition can decrease mortality and morbidity of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and reduce program costs.

We do this through our research ICCM +Nut (Integrated Community Case Management of Nutrition) and by introducing the Family MUAC approach:

- **Innovative Family MUAC project**
- **3,000 Mothers trained to measure MUAC**

Increasing availability and accessibility of treatment

We are reinforcing the capacity of health care providers (incl. Community Health Workers) and local government partners to improve the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and coverage of services for the management of acute malnutrition in order to reach more children who are in need of treatment.

We do this thanks to:

- **15,583 Admissions to CMAM projects**
- **290 Health and Nutrition education sessions**

Improving information systems for effective decision making

We are working in collaboration with local partners to strengthen existing methodologies for collecting nutritional data, and how to improve on those methodologies. Furthermore, we are reinforcing the national health management information systems (or other information systems) to more efficiently analyze and utilize data to trigger actions or shifts in nutrition programming to ensure that interventions are reaching those most in need.

In Kenya, we work closely with the National drought Management Authority (NDMA) to increase accuracy and reliability of data collected and increase confidence to use it for decision making.

We do this through:

- **18 NDMA monitors trained on collecting MUAC surveillance data & IMAM surge.**
- **6 Technical assessments conducted in 2018: 2 SMARTs, 3 coverage assessments, and 1 WaSH KAP**

Objective 2: To enhance the delivery of nutrition-sensitive interventions for populations at risk

Increase disaster and seasonal resilience for nutrition

Frequent environmental shocks and high seasonal fluctuation has led to recurrent droughts and floods, increasing the vulnerability of communities to food security and undernutrition so building resilience for nutrition is crucial. Action Against Hunger supports the capacity of household and communities to minimize the impact of shocks and stresses on the GAM rate or to quickly return to the pre-disaster situation.

We are working with the government to update emergency preparedness and response plans. We are also helping communities anticipate and adapt to shocks by distributing hygiene/livelihoods kits to discharged SAM cases.

People actively engaged in reducing their future vulnerabilities to the drivers of shocks

- **1,192 People actively engaged in reducing their future vulnerabilities to the drivers of shocks**
Our Niche: System Strengthening

Action Against Hunger started operating in West Pokot in 2011 to respond to emergency nutrition and health needs resulting from a severe drought. Since, we have implemented 6 key nutrition projects in partnership with the MOH, National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), local NGOs such as Kenya Red Cross Society and community-based organizations like SIKOM and Youth Bunge.

The Advocacy, Systems strengthening and Capacity Enhancement for Nutrition Transformation (ASCENT) project was designed to address acute shocks and stresses resulting from the recurrent drought depriving children <5 yrs, pregnant and lactating women, girls and boys of their livelihoods hence exposing them to food and nutrition insecurity.

The System Enhancements for Transformative Health project (SETH) funded by Canada, is currently operating under the same assumption that system strengthening has powerful ripple effects on the long-term wellbeing of communities.

Thanks to our continued support and trainings throughout the years, the local government is now able to provide services, conduct surveys by themselves, and monitor progress by analyzing data and producing reports.