



STUNTING

Stunting is the **impaired growth** and development that children experience from **poor nutrition**, repeated infection, and inadequate psychosocial stimulation.

Children are defined as stunted if their height-for-age is more than two standard deviations below the WHO Child Growth Standards median.



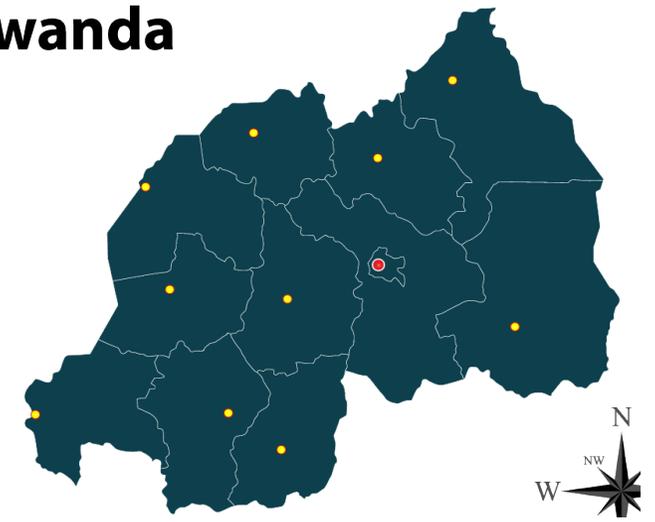
Adverse consequences of malnutrition in childhood and pregnancy

- Lower child survival
- Reduced long-term well being
- Decline in human capital, economic productivity, and national development
- Improvements in nutrition have coincided with economic growth – a 13% reduction in stunting was seen in the last decade.
- However, the most recent figures still show a stunting prevalence of 38%, one of the highest in the world (ranked 110 out of 132 countries)





Rwanda



- Highest population density in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Small
- Landlocked
- One of the world's poorest countries
- 62% of the population lives on less than \$1.25 per day (USAID 2017)

sOME numbers...

1/3 of Rwandan population experiences food insecurity

2% of children under **5** suffer from acute malnutrition (wasting)

18% of children **6-8** months experience stunting

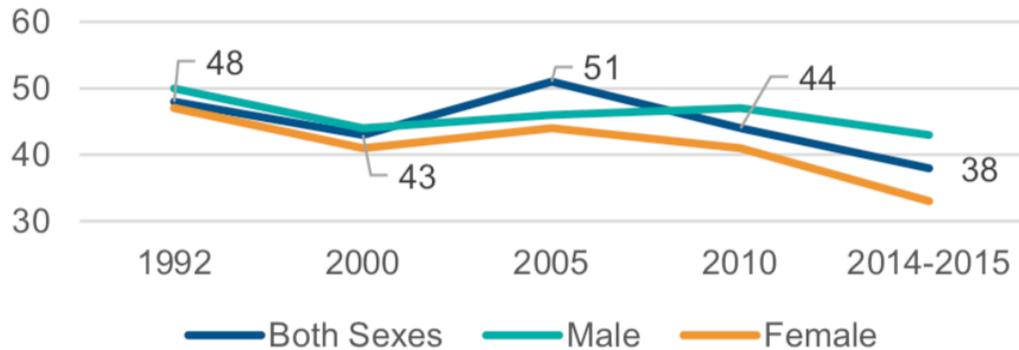
49% of children **18-23** months experience stunting

Western Rwanda's stunting rate is **45%** (highest in Rwanda); Kigali's is **23%** (lowest in Rwanda). This is representative of higher rates of stunting nationally in rural areas.

47% of children whose mothers have no education experience stunting, compared to **19%** of those whose mothers have a secondary education or higher

(Source: NISR, MOH, ICF International 2015)

STUNTING: CHILDREN UNDER 5



Data Source: Rwanda Demographic & Health Surveys

*Data for 1992, 2000, and 2005 disaggregated gender are not adjusted according to 2006 WHO growth standards.

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MEET MIRA AND MORGAN

Mira and Morgan live at a childcare center in Rusine Village in the Gicumbi District of Rwanda.



A transformation



- One cow costs US\$600, and supplies enough milk to supplement the porridge of up to 40 children.
- Many children have no food in the morning at home – nothing until they get to school.
- Some school serve a porridge called igikoma that is often the only meal the child gets until evening.

The wonder dish...and so much more



- ▶ Igikoma is made of sorghum, soya, and maize flour mixed with hot water and a little sugar if available
- ▶ The extra fresh milk from Mira adds nutrition that the child may otherwise never have received.
- ▶ As Mira has calves, a cow can be given to the next preschool so the program will grow and become self sustainable.
- ▶ Manure fertilizes additional crops like mango and plantain.

Vision 2020

- Rwanda's long term development goals
- Strategic transformation of Rwanda from low-income, ag-based economy to knowledge-based, service-oriented economy
- Build on success of the last decade
- High growth (8% real GDP growth average)
- Rapid poverty reduction
- Reduced inequality
- 2/3 drop in child mortality
- Near-universal primary school enrollment

