Photo: Aurelio Ayala III

IYCN USAID's Infant & Young Child Nutrition Project

National interpretations

Responding to the 2009 WHO guidelines in Nigeria and other countries

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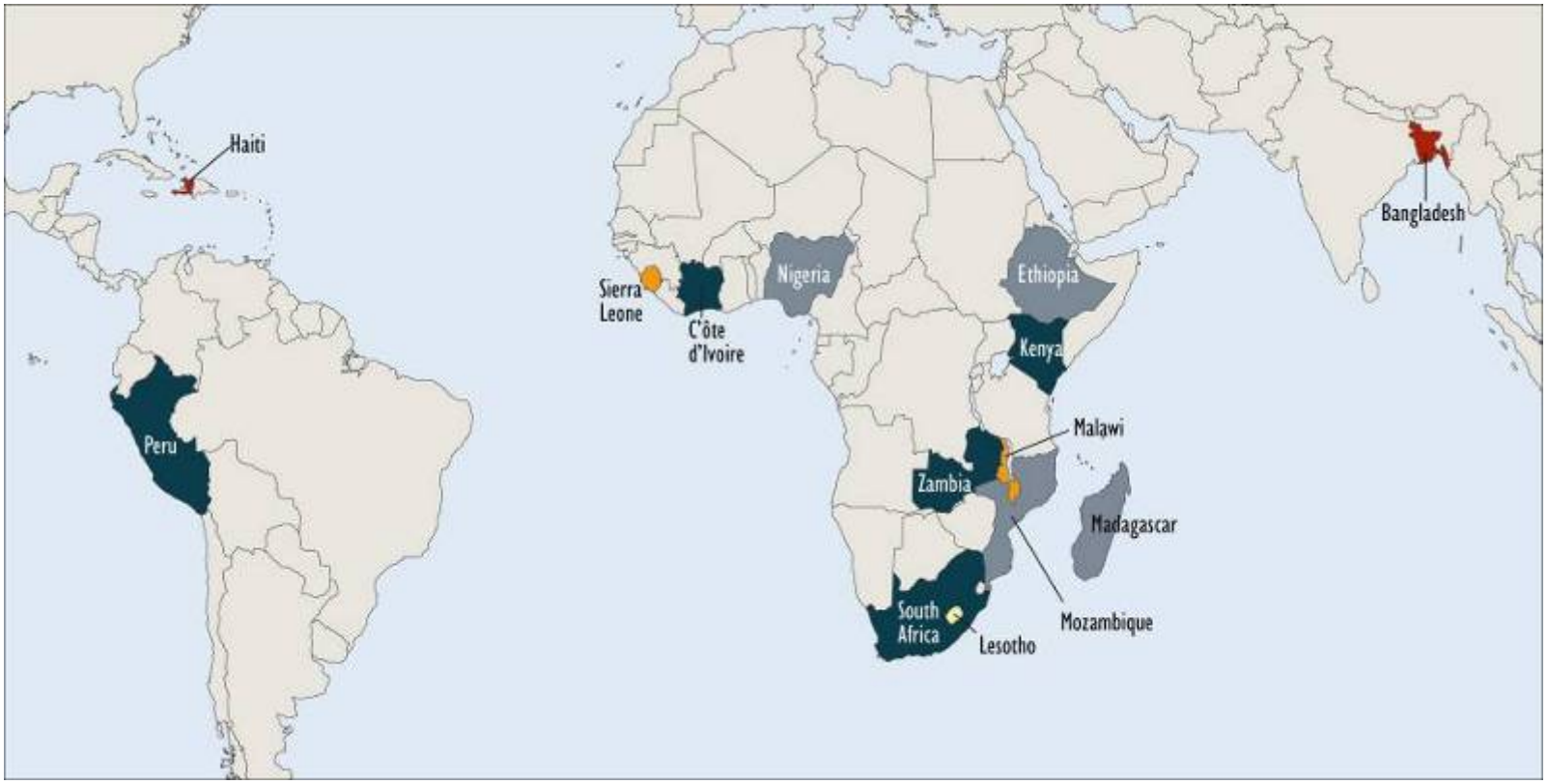
USAID's Infant & Young Child Nutrition Project



Nutrition and HIV in Nigeria

- HIV prevalence among pregnant women: 4.6%
- Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months: 13.1%
- No strong recommendation on exclusive breastfeeding.
- Still in the process of implementing the 2006 WHO guidelines.

Photo: Oluseyi Akintola

Sources: ANC Surveillance Survey, 2008; DHS, 2008

Reaching a consensus: May 7, 2010

HIV-infected mothers should exclusively breastfeed their infants for the first 6 months of life, introduce complementary feeds at 6 months and continue breastfeeding for 12 months.

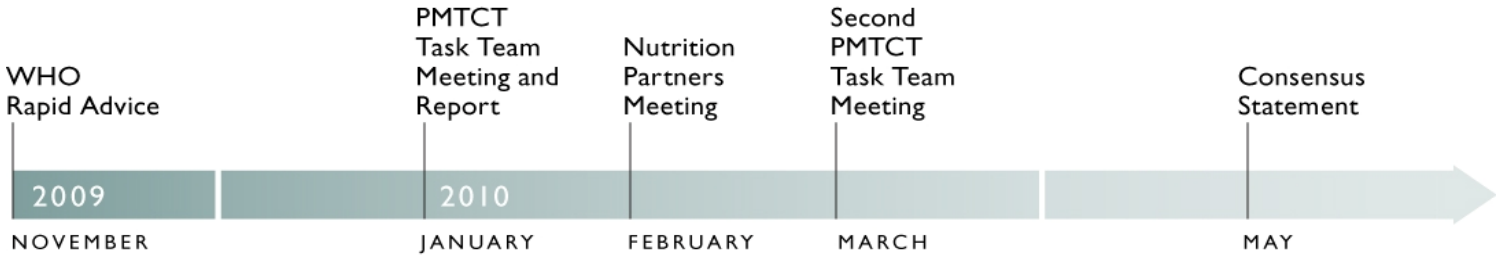
Photo: PATH/Evelyn Hockstein

PMTCT and nutrition stakeholders

- National HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Programme (NASCP)
- National Nutrition Unit
- National PMTCT Task Team
- UNICEF, World Health Organization, USAID
- Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Nigeria
- Pediatric Association of Nigeria
- Infant & Young Child Nutrition Project

How did stakeholders work together?

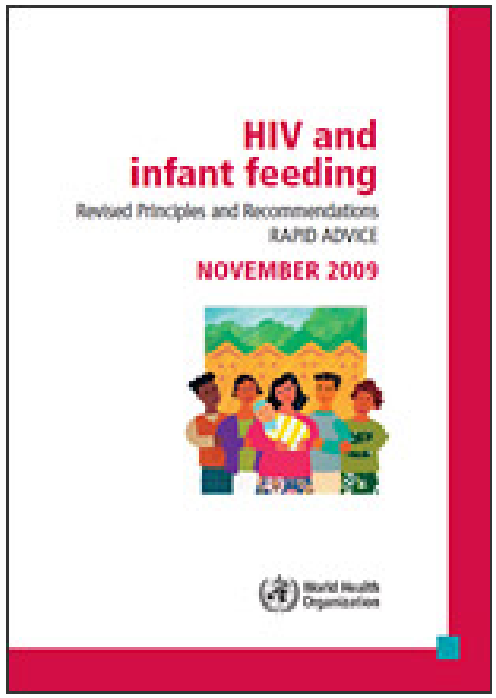
- Held series of PMTCT Task Team and Nutrition Division meetings from **January to May 2010**.
- Advocated with nutrition community to participate in national dialogue.
- Clarified recommendations and discussed them within the country context.



Interpreting recommendation 2

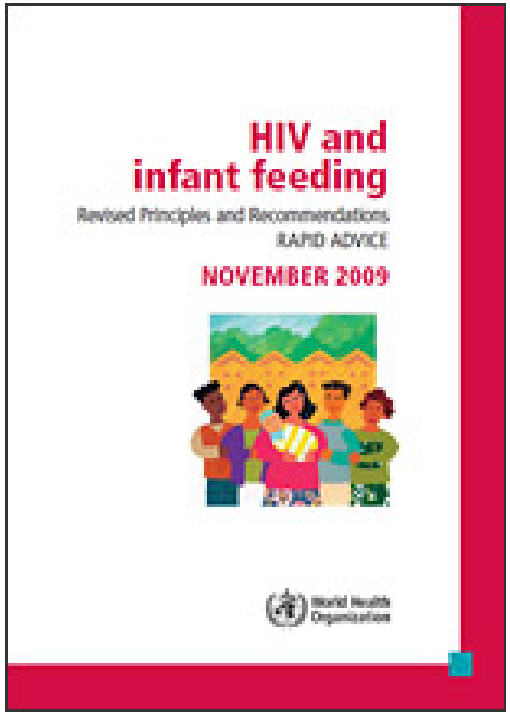
- Confusion around recommendation on breastfeeding to 12 months.
- Final consensus: continued breastfeeding to 12 months.

"Strong recommendation. High quality of evidence for first 6 months; low quality of evidence for recommendation re. 12 months."



Interpreting recommendation 5

- Confusion around AFASS (acceptable, feasible, affordable, sustainable, and safe) versus one country feeding option.
- Final consensus: Nigeria should adopt one message supporting breastfeeding.



Zambia response

- National process led by PMTCT.
- At first, recommended no more than 12 months breastfeeding.
- Advocacy from nutrition community led to national 24 month recommendation.
- Concern remains about criteria for stopping breastfeeding at 12 months.

Photo: Kali Erickson

Lessons learned

- Don’t rush the process.
- Encourage nutrition colleagues to engage in national dialogue.
- Bring nutrition and PMTCT stakeholders together early on.
- Build a broad understanding of the recommendations among stakeholders.
- Consider the country context.

Photo: Oluseyi Akintola

What's next?

- Finalize the national consensus statement.
- Develop national communication strategy.
- Incorporate recommendations into national guidelines and training curricula.
- Implement in facilities and communities.

Photo: Oluseyi Akintola

Thank you

Photo: David and Lucile Packard Foundation