THE CASE FOR INVESTING IN CHRONIC MALNUTRITION

Chronic malnutrition is a preventable disease caused by an inadequate nutrient intake in the first 1,000 days of a child’s life (from a woman’s pregnancy until age two).

GLOBALLY, MALNUTRITION COSTS US$3.5 TRILLION TO THE ECONOMY EVERY YEAR.

REDUCED ABILITY TO LEARN: 70% of the brain is formed within the 1,000 days.

WEAK IMMUNE SYSTEM: higher risk of dying from infectious diseases.

STUNTED PHYSICAL GROWTH: low-height-for-age.

MALNUTRITION SLOWS ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PERPETUATES POVERTY

$1 INVESTED IN NUTRITION = $11 RETURN
The investments in interventions to reduce chronic malnutrition by 1/3 globally would generate about $417 billion in economic benefits. Every dollar invested in nutrition generates $11 in benefits to local economies.

SCALE OF THE PROBLEM:
144 MILLION CHILDREN GLOBALLY, 1 IN EVERY 3 CHILDREN UNDER 5 IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA.
UNITLIFE is the United Nations initiative fighting chronic malnutrition through innovation.

UNITLIFE finances nutritious food systems that work for the most vulnerable people, empowering mothers to nourish their children.