

BRIEF



Affordable Investment in Stronger Economies and a Productive Workforce

An Investment in Development

Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS) is one of the best-value investments that countries can make in their development, driving healthier communities and stronger economies. As crises around the globe continue to impact food systems and much more, women and girls are disproportionately affected by malnutrition—and their poor nutrition has generational consequences for families, communities, and entire nations. MMS is a proven and powerful intervention with a transformational impact on health and development.

*Throughout this document, both MMS and UNIMMAP MMS are referenced, however, **UNIMMAP MMS is the only internationally recognized formula that is backed by over 25 years of evidence** in support of its effectiveness and ability to improve pregnancy outcomes in low- and middle-income countries.*

Stronger Economies

Access to MMS boosts local and global economies. Women lose years of their lives to poor health and malnutrition, which affect their ability to be present and productive at home, in the workforce, and in their communities. For every dollar invested in MMS, there is an economic gain of up to \$37.

Generational Impact

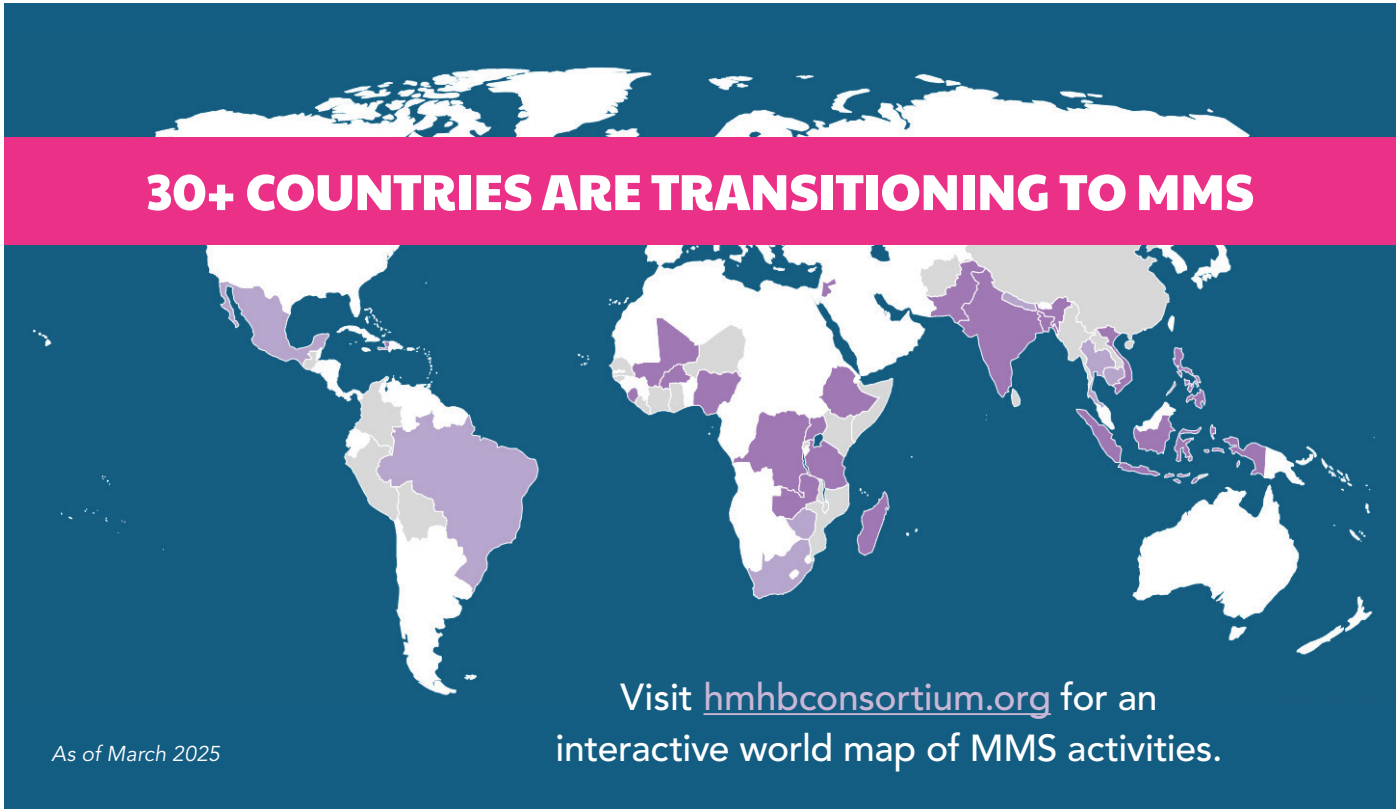
MMS helps children break free from the intergenerational effects of poverty by setting them up for a lifetime of better health. Poor nutrition in the early days of a child's life can cause irreversible damage to their growing brain, affecting their ability to attend and stay in school, do well in school, or earn a good living. MMS provides the foundation for millions of pregnant women and their babies to live better, healthier lives.

An Affordable and Cost-effective Investment

MMS is an affordable and cost-effective product that can be delivered at scale. UNIMMAP MMS can be produced at a little over \$0.01 per dose, or \$2-3 per woman per pregnancy—a similar price to iron-folic acid (IFA). This makes MMS one of the most cost-effective nutrition interventions available to governments and their partners, with the added benefit of being a more effective product than IFA. And in 2023, MMS was named one of the 12 best investments in global development by the Copenhagen Consensus, a think tank composed of leading economists that specializes in identifying the most effective solutions for global development challenges.

MMS helps mothers, children, and communities not just survive, but thrive.

Together, we can all go #FurtherWith15.



30+ COUNTRIES ARE TRANSITIONING TO MMS

Visit hmhbconsortium.org for an interactive world map of MMS activities.

As of March 2025

The Opportunity

- Demand for MMS has never been greater. More than 30 countries have introduced or scaled up MMS in their health care systems. At least 50 countries are interested or actively considering introduction.
- 16 million women in 16 high burden countries will receive a package of antenatal care interventions, including MMS, through UNICEF’s new *Improving Maternal Nutrition Acceleration Plan*.
- Resources, tools, and technical support are available to support introduction and scale up of MMS.

Learn More

The evidence is clear, and so is the need. Now through 2030, it is estimated that more than 130 million women will need MMS annually. That number will continue to grow, as more countries around the globe introduce and scale up MMS in their antenatal care systems.

UN organizations, philanthropies, foundations, and implementing partners are working together with country governments to support with supply, research, investments, and programming to make MMS available and accessible to pregnant women.

The global movement to improve maternal and newborn health has begun. Get involved and learn more: www.furtherwith15.org.

