The CMAM Surge Approach: 
Helping health systems cope with seasonal CMAM surges

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CMAM Surge: What is it? What is it not?

**What it is**

- An 8 step process to help health systems better anticipate and manage *seasonal* surges in caseloads of acute malnutrition
- Should be embedded within the wider government health system, driven by health district
- Can cover SAM and MAM but SAM more straightforward

**What it is not**

- Not really a coverage booster—focused on the cases that arrive at the health facility (but may increase uptake by improving service quality)
- Not a complete health system strengthening package – but improves planning, efficient use of resources, prevents health system ‘burn out’
- Not simply an NGO emergency approach
Getting health systems ready for **seasonal peaks**

**Kenya**

**Uganda**

**Niger**
CMAM Surge: progress to date

• **Toolkit** in French and English [here](#)

• **Implementation:**
  – **Kenya**: initial pilot; govt now scaling up in 8 counties; review completed
  – **Niger**: expanding in Tahoua; CMAM + malaria
  – **Ethiopia**: starting now; evaluation & cost-effectiveness study in 2018
  – **Uganda**: handing over to government (we are leaving)
  – **Chad, Sudan** – piloting some aspects

• **Workshops / training** for East Africa and for Niger in 2016

• **Cost-effectiveness framework**
CMAM Surge: What could it be?

*Has potential to:*

- Encompass other seasonal illnesses especially malaria and diarrhoea that tend to peak with acute malnutrition
- Link better to wider early warning/early action systems and funding mechanisms (from District-level upwards still somewhat untested)
- Provide important early warning information for broader response
- Link to the many other ‘surge’ initiatives, particularly:
  - Surge mechanisms to provide health staff from national level
  - Any surge mechanisms for RUTF / meds pre-positioning
  - Others??
Next steps: CMAM Surge 2017-18

- Impact evaluation, cost effectiveness analysis, learning review in Ethiopia and Niger Oct 2017 – Dec 2018 (OFDA) – building the evidence base

- Learning briefs based on country experience: Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia (Dec 2017) and Niger (April 2018) – will be circulated

- Workshop/ ToT planned for mid 2018 – participants welcome

- Relaunch the ‘light touch’ technical steering committee active during global guideline development – please get in touch if you are interested

- Concern seeking funds to have a small team to support CMAM Surge implementation, development of approach, synthesis of learning – concept note available
Looking for your thoughts

• Your plans?
• Experience to date?
• Support needed?
• What can you offer?