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Subject: Linking growth indicators with disability

Posted by [SPOON](#) on Wed, 13 Mar 2019 00:24:16 GMT

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The inclusion of children with disabilities in the efforts to combat malnutrition is not only ethical, but imperative for aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals' leave-no-one-behind Agenda--an aspiration shared by the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement. Children with disabilities, especially those with feeding difficulties, suffer at an alarming rate from preventable malnutrition and dangerous feeding practices (e.g., supine feeding, rapid feeding, inappropriate food textures) that place them at risk for aspiration, pneumonia, and premature death. There is a longstanding gap in growth data collection and data-driven programming for children with disabilities, who are often not counted.

In order to achieve global nutrition targets (SDG2), it is essential that disability status be collected on children 0-5 and linked to growth indicators. This allows us to disaggregate global and national feeding and nutrition data by disability to further understand the links between disability and nutrition and monitor progress for this population.

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