# THE UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE FIGHTING CHRONIC MALNUTRITION THROUGH INNOVATION

## WHAT IS CHRONIC MALNUTRITION?

One of the most common diseases affecting children globally, but the least known and therefore the most underfunded.

Children who receive inadequate nutrient intake during the first 1,000 days of their lives suffer from chronic malnutrition. These children face severe irreversible consequences - a stunted growth, impaired brain development and a weaker immune system. They are unable to reach their full potential to do well in school, earn more as adults and support the future economic development of their countries.



TODAY:

144

MILLIONS OF CHRONICALLY MALNOURISHED CHILDREN

#### **2025 WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY TARGET:**

30%

FEWER CHRONICALLY
MALNOURISHED CHILDREN

\*data adjusted for 2020

#### **OUR MISSION**

With 144 million chronically malnourished children in the world - 1 in 5 children under the age of 5 — the burden of chronic malnutrition is staggering and the current health and economic crisis linked to Covid-19 is likely to deteriorate nutritional status of the most vulnerable. UNITLIFE supports projects at the intersection of nutrition, nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart agriculture, and the empowerment of women, with the primary goal of improving the nutritional status of children and future mothers. UNITLIFE supports the internationally-agreed target to reduce the number of chronically malnourished children by 1/3 by 2025.

#### OUR APPROACH

UNITLIFE leverages innovative financing mechanisms and cutting-edge technologies to raise additional funds to combat the disease. UNITLIFE allocates this funding through competitive process, basing funding decisions on recommendations from an independent panel of international nutrition experts. This ensures a technically strong, transparent and credible selection process. Projects with sustainability component that support national strategies and build on existing initiatives are prioritized to maximize impact.



# UNITLIFE'S INNOVATIVE FINANCE MODEL

### The future of development is local.

## By 2022, 60% of global GDP will be digitized.

UNITLIFE harnesses the power of local businesses and the digital economy, while connecting nutrition with innovation. To complete this nexus, the team operates from Station F, world's largest start-up campus in Paris, France where creativity, entrepreneurship and capital thrive.

UNITLIFE works with fintech companies, mobile money providers and telecom operators to channel sustainable microdonations towards ending chronic malnutrition. We also mobilize individuals in a global solidarity movement via the "UNITLIFE: Saving the Next Generation" App enabling them to support the cause and get real-time information on the projects they contribute to. UNITLIFE also joins forces with providers of contactless payments and intelligent voice assistants for instantaneous and secure payments.



This project provides 10,000 of pregnant women with essential nutrients in Niger





\*the App is in the finalisation phase



SUSTAINABLE

MICRO-DONATIONS





CONTACTLESS **PAYMENTS** 



INTELLIGENT VOICE ASSISTANT



MATCHING **SCHEME** 



E-COMMERCE **E-SPORTS** 



**ARTS AUCTIONS** 

UNITLIFE was created by the UN Capital Development Fund and UN Women, with the former hosting the Secretariat. The fund is governed by a multi-stakeholder board, including the permanent seat members - Government of France and UN Women. The President of UNITLIFE is Dr. Philippe Douste-Blazy, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Health Minister of France, who has also served as Under Secretary-General and Special Advisor on Innovative Financing at the United Nations.

UNITLIFE was announced by the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron and the President of the World Bank, Jim Kim, during the One Planet Summit on 12 December 2017 in Paris.

UNITLIFE contributes to 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goals 2, 5, 13.

























