









### **PRIORITY NEEDS**

The nutrition situation of refugee and migrant children remains an issue of concern, in particular children under 5 years of age, especially those under 2, and pregnant of breastfeeding women, as they have inherently heightened nutrition needs and are most at risk of malnutrition. In the current emergency, limited access to food, safe drinking water, health services and unhygienic environments lead to reduced dietary intake and increased risk of infections, overall leading to malnutrition, and an increased risk of death.

Preventing malnutrition among these vulnerable groups is the foremost priority of the R4V Nutation sector. If prevention fails, treatment is a must. In 2021, priorities of the sector include:

- Strengthen partner's capacities to adapt and carry out sectoral activities in the context of COVID-19.
- 2) Collect data to understand the nutrition situation the vulnerable groups in the pandemic context
- 3) Mobilize additional support for the Nutrition sector response, highlighting its important, added value and life-saving impact.

## **RESPONSE STRATEGY**

Scope of the sector response: Addressing the specific nutritional needs of vulnerable groups, according to age and condition, to prevent all forms of malnutrition, identify and treat malnutrition, and improve survival, is at the core of the nutrition response in the region. Target population groups include the most nutritionally vulnerable, particularly children (under the age of five and under the age of two) and pregnant and lactating women

# At the regional level, response priorities are:

- Provision of technical support and guidance to National and Sub-regional Platforms in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of response activities at the country level;
- Capacity development of National and Subregional Platforms in key sectoral topics;
- Facilitation of knowledge sharing and exchange of countries' experiences, lessons learnt and best practices.
  - lactating women and provision of micronutrient supplementation (iron and folic acid).
- 2) Identification and treatment of acute malnutrition, through screening refugee and migrant children under the age of five to monitor their nutritional status and identify cases of acute malnutrition and refer identified cases to adequate treatment and follow-up until nutritional recovery.

# At the country level, the main priorities are:

1) Prevention of malnutrition in vulnerable groups, through infant and young child feeding counseling, targeting caregivers of children aged 0-23 months (with a focus on breastfeeding support; micronutrient supplementation for children under the age of five, to fortify foods that are not sufficiently nutritionally diversified; and promotion of an adequate diet in pregnant and

Adapting activities to the COVID-19 context according to global guidelines is key to avoid infection risks.

#### **Funding situation**

The R4V Nutrition sector faces a critical funding gap, limiting implementation and scale-up of nutrition interventions. Only additional support from the donor community will guarantee that children and women are reached with nutrition life-saving interventions.

R4VINFO 1