

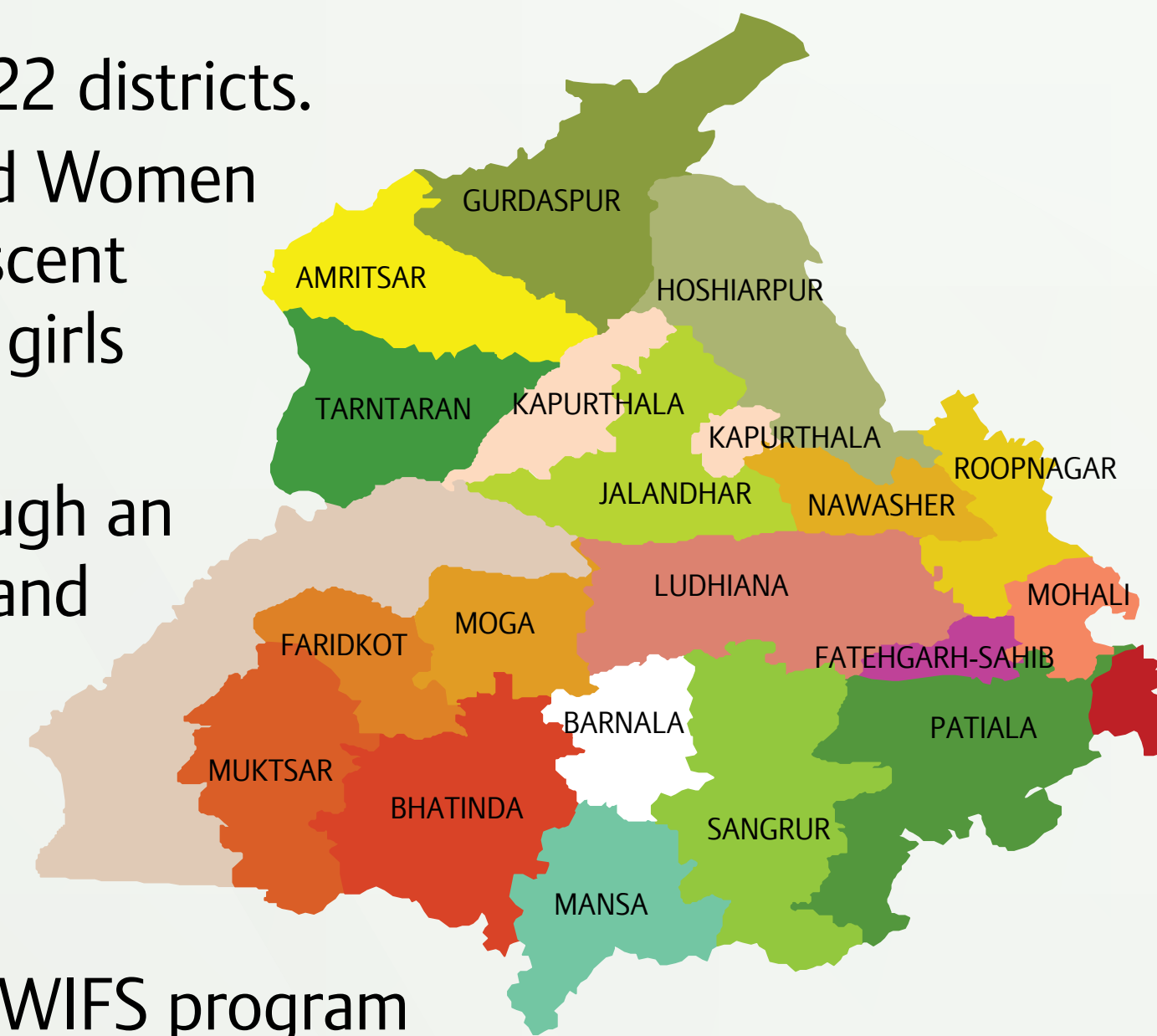
# DEVELOPING A SCALABLE MODEL FOR STRENGTHENING WEEKLY IRON FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENTATION IN PUNJAB: LEARNING FROM BARNALA DISTRICT, PUNJAB

VRIDDHI: SCALING UP RMNCH+A INTERVENTIONS, SUPPORTED BY USAID



## Background

- ❖ WIFS launched in Punjab in 2013 in all 22 districts.
- ❖ Implementing partners are Education and Women & Child Development targeting all adolescent boys and girls in government school and girls out of school.
- ❖ Rapid assessment of WIFS program through an independent agency to identify barriers and challenges for program implementation at different levels.
- ❖ Based on recommendations of the study, WIFS implementation framework which includes guidance on the full package of WIFS program delivery was developed.



### The Positive findings of the study were

1. Procurement procedure in place.
2. Nodal Teacher on WIFS identified in every school.
3. Administration of WIFS to students from class VI to VIII after the mid day meal.

### The recommendations of the study highlighted

1. Data not recorded at the point of service delivery.
2. Compliances of WIFS not verifiable.
3. Review mechanism weak/non existent.
4. Clear messaging & target IEC at all levels.
5. Rapid Response mechanism to handle adverse events.
6. Tracking status of supplies & indenting procedures.
7. Regular screening of anaemic cases & management.



## Standard Operating Procedures for WIFS

Activities on WFS (Wednesday) for Schools	Person Responsible
Announcement in morning assembly	Head-Master/Mistress and Nodal Teacher
Collect class WIFS compilation formats	Class teacher from the Nodal Teacher
Ensure availability of drinking water in the class	Class Teacher
Mark children who have to be excluded on the class register	Class Teacher
Demonstrate in class after the mid-day meal how to consume IFA tablet	Class Teacher
Supervise administration of IFA tablets to each student	Class Teacher
Mark attendance on the WIFS register	Class Teacher
In case of any advance events inform nodal teacher/head mistress	Class Teacher



NHED Session at schools



Regular Screening

## Supporting Supervision & Review



Orientation to Cluster principal and nodal teachers regarding SOP



WIFS Convergence Meeting



DPM, Barnala conducting Supportive supervision



## Objectives

### Specific objective

- ❖ To improve consumption of weekly IFA tablets by 20% over six months from baseline.

### Expected output indicators

- ❖ Develop robust recording at point of service delivery.
- ❖ Streamline supply chain management.
- ❖ Establish efficient review mechanisms.
- ❖ Adherence to WIFS standard operating procedure.
- ❖ Targeted IEC for awareness and demand generation.
- ❖ Monthly Nutrition & Health Education sessions.



## Methods

Baseline and end line data collected using predesigned checklists by ANMs and RBSK teams. Baseline and end-line reports were collected from schools regarding availability of IFA tablets, IEC materials, recording formats etc. Concurrent monitoring of schools by RBSK team during health check up sessions. Data from monitoring checklists were analyzed for process indicators.

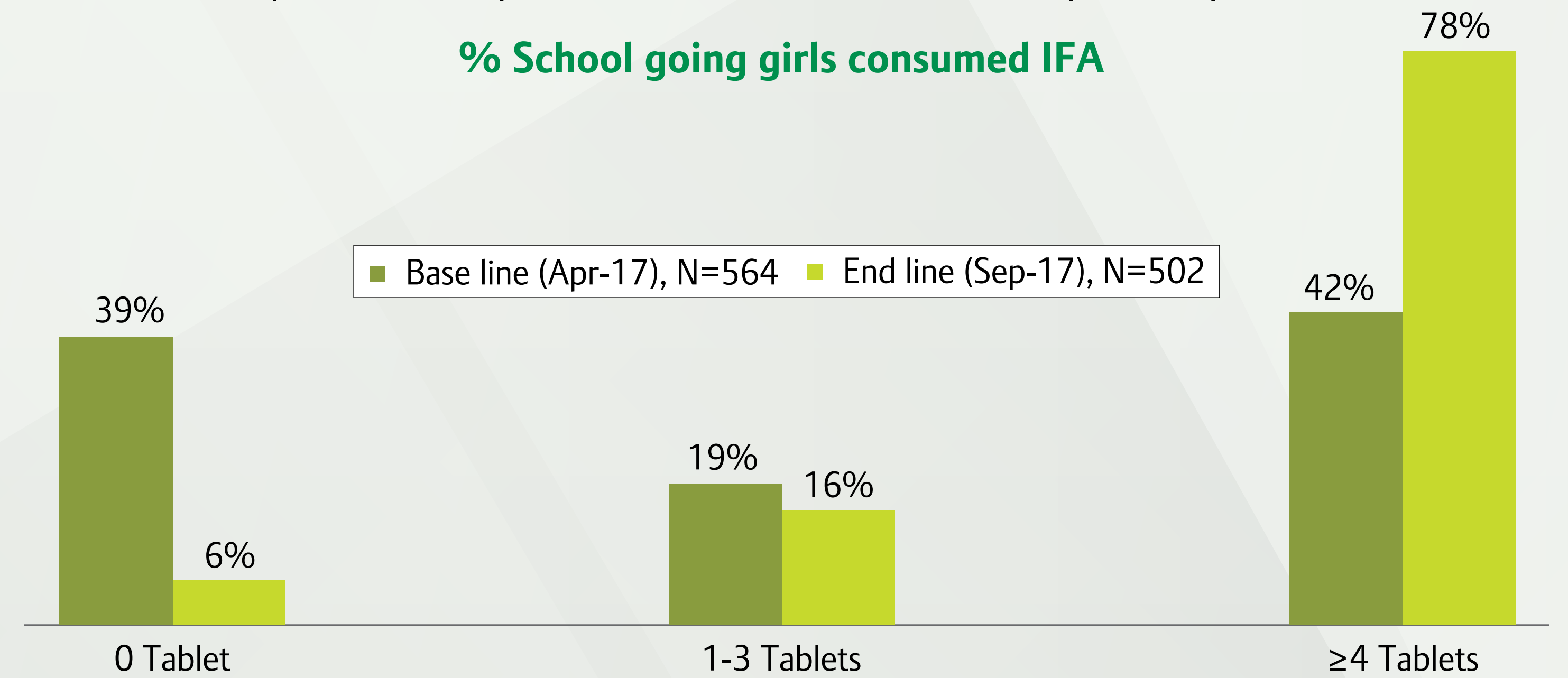
### Results of output indicators

Expected Output Indicators	Base-line (%) (Apr 2017) (N-118)	End-line (%) (Sept 2017) (N-118)
Availability of IFA tablets in schools	69	100
Availability of WIFS register and reporting formats in schools	0	100
Submission of WIFS monthly reports by schools	0	87
Display of IEC materials in schools	0	92
Display of Rapid Response Team contact number in schools	0	83
Nutrition & Health Education sessions organized in schools	0	87



## Results

WIFS consumption went up from 42% to 78% between Apr to Sep 2017.



## Conclusions

- ❖ Strengthening of supply chain, review and supportive supervision, printing of IEC, registers and reporting formats resulted in improvement of WIFS compliance.
- ❖ 44 lacs approved in state NHM PIP 2017-18 towards strengthening WIFS in all 22 districts.



## Acknowledgement of Support

The authors would like to acknowledge the support of hundreds of health workers, RBSK team, nodal teachers, nodal officials of Health and Education at block, district and state levels who have helped develop this model.

## Contact

IPE Global Limited  
IPE Global House,  
B-84, Defence Colony,  
New Delhi - 110 024, India  
Website: www.rmcha.in  
Phone: +91 11 40755900

