

ESTIMATING COUNTRY-LEVEL NUTRITION INVESTMENTS

GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF A TWO-COUNTRY STUDY

AUTHORS: A. Pomeroy-Stevens¹, A. D'Agostino¹, M. B. Shrestha², A. Muzoora³, N. Adero³, M. Shrestha²

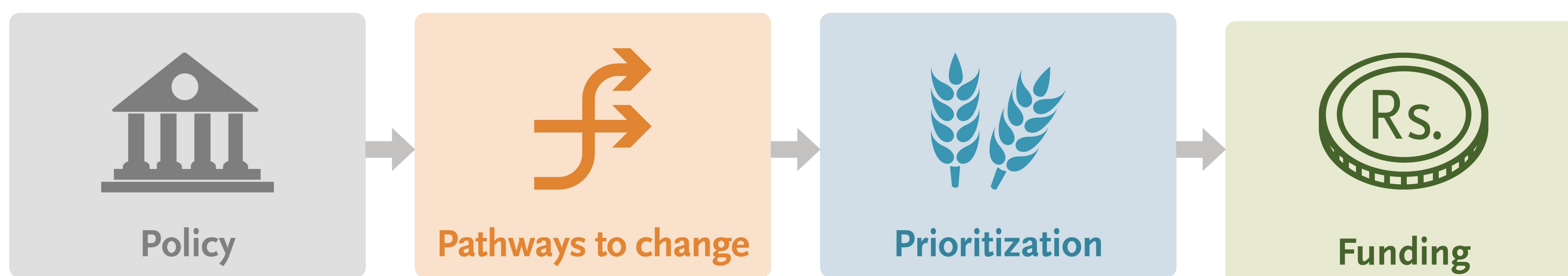
¹SPRING project, Arlington, VA, JSI; ²SPRING consultant, Nepal, Kathmandu, HKI Nepal; ³SPRING/Uganda, Kampala, Uganda, JSI

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT NUTRITION INVESTMENT?

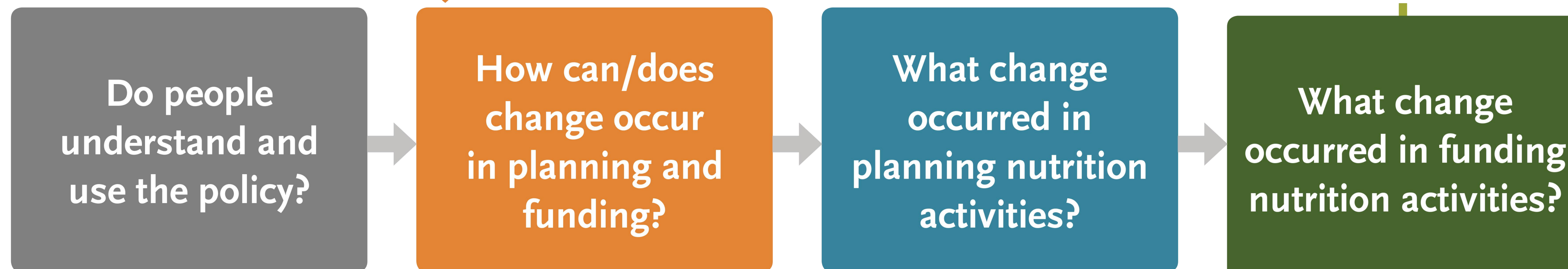
Because increased funding for nutrition means gains in healthy and productive life years: global estimates state that for every **USD \$1** spent on nutrition, countries can save **USD \$18** of that cost through improved health and economic benefits.*

“PATHWAYS TO BETTER NUTRITION” (PBN) STUDY

SPRING'S PBN STUDY TRACKED:



BY ASKING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:



SPRING's PBN study took a **360-degree view of the planning process** by interviewing stakeholders from the government, donors, UN groups, civil society, private sector, and academia, at the national level and in selected districts in **Nepal and Uganda**. The studies used a **longitudinal mixed-methods design** during a two-year period.

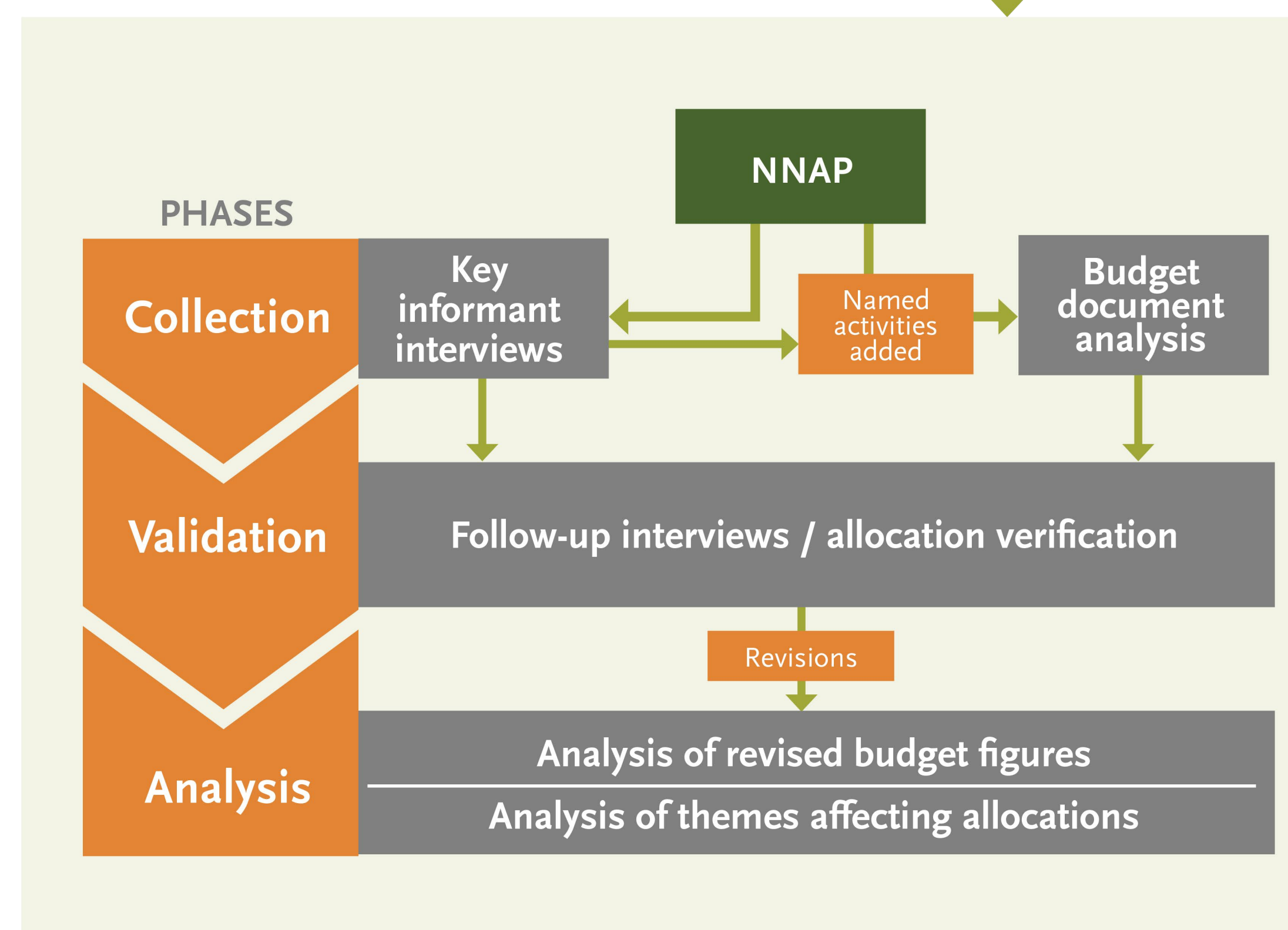
SPRING **collected** allocations and expenditures for 2013–2014 and 2015–2016 from—

- the official government budget (“**On-Budget**”, includes both government and external partner [EDP] funding)
- Ministry of Finance databases on extra-budgetary funding (“**Off-Budget**”, EDP funding only).

SPRING conducted in-depth **validation** with stakeholders for each fiscal year.

Analysis applied central bank inflation rates and exchange rates to provide figures in current year local currency and USD.

BUDGET ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

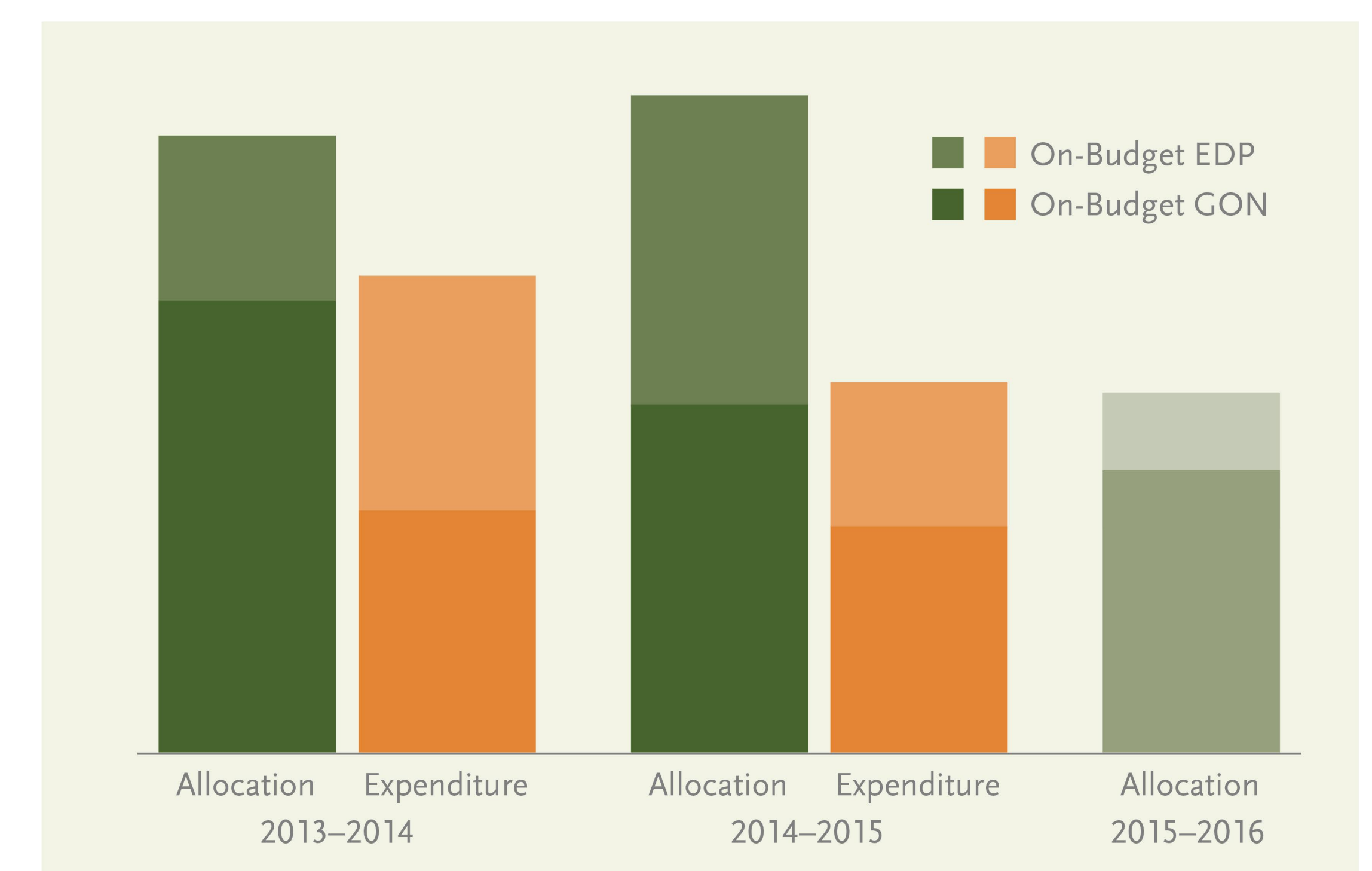


RESULTS

The results of the PBN study found that, in both countries, the national plan has played an important role in **increasing knowledge, perceptions, and behaviors** related to planning and financing for nutrition; only in Nepal did it increase investments for nutrition-related activities.

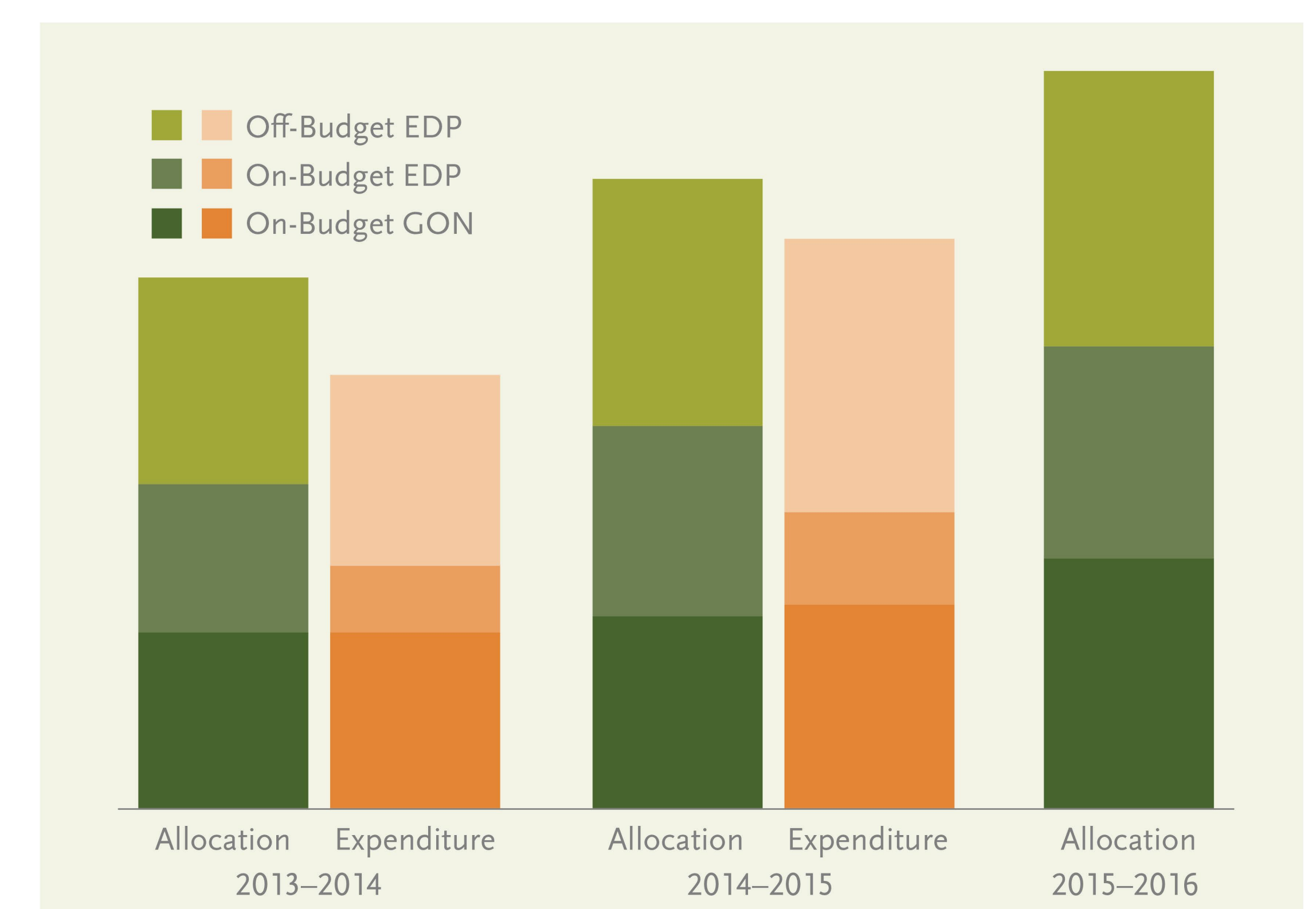
UGANDA

Although sector ministries and government planning agencies have begun to find ways to increase funding for nutrition, these efforts have not yet affected the budget—allocations for nutrition were flat (2 percent change after adjusting for inflation) between 2013–2014 and 2014–2015.



NEPAL

Increased priority in the sector ministries and EDPs has resulted in yearly increases in nutrition-related funding of about 17 percent. Approximately one-fourth of this funding in 2015–2016 flowed from projects related to MSNP.



GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS WORK

We need a more accurate global picture of nutrition funding. SPRING's approach has produced some of the first comprehensive estimates of nutrition investments in Nepal and Uganda, and is among some of the first efforts anywhere to track nutrition funding. To further improve global and country estimates of nutrition funding, SPRING has—

- co-convoked (with Results for Development, the SUN Secretariat, and MQSUN) a **group of global technical experts** to provide guidance to those responsible for analyzing nutrition financing
- promoted continued collection and analysis of nutrition funding data in Nepal and Uganda via **capacity building trainings for ministries, data dissemination events, and one-on-one meetings**
- developed a **nutrition budgeting analysis tool and user's guide** (www.spring-nutrition.org/budget-tool) that provides background information, step-by-step guidance, and an excel-based template for undertaking the budget analysis process. The tool can be used across multiple ministries or donors to provide a more comprehensive picture of national nutrition allocations, or can be used within a single organization.

* Hoddinott, John, Harold Alderman, Jere R. Behrman, Lawrence Haddad, and Susan Horton. 2013. "The Economic Rationale for Investing in Stunting Reduction." *GCC Working Paper Series*, no. 13-08.



This poster is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-11-00031 (SPRING), managed by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI) with partners Helen Keller International, the Manoff Group, Save the Children, and the International Food Policy Research Institute. The contents are the responsibility of JSI, and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

