THE ROLE OF NUCLEAR TECHNIQUES IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE THE

GLOBAL BREASTFEEDING TARGET

TARGET:

At least 50% of all infants **exclusively breastfed** for the **first 6 months by 2025**

(SET BY WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY IN 2012)

The IAEA supports Member States to assess **breastfeeding promotion programmes** and to verify the **accuracy of reported exclusive breastfeeding** in the first 6 months

CURRENT SITUATION

Globally only **40%** of all infants under 6 months are exclusively breastfed

Universal breastfeeding could avert up to **823 000** deaths of children under 5 each year

BREASTFEEDING

BENEFITS TO BABY

- Increases **intelligence**
- Protects against **gastrointestinal and respiratory infections**
- Potentially reduces risk of **overweight and diabetes**
- Reduces **all-cause mortality**

BREASTFEEDING

BENEFITS TO MOTHER

- Improves **birth spacing**
- Protects against **breast cancer**
- Potentially protects against **ovarian cancer and type 2 diabetes**

THE IAEA SUPPORTS THE APPLICATION OF STABLE ISOTOPES

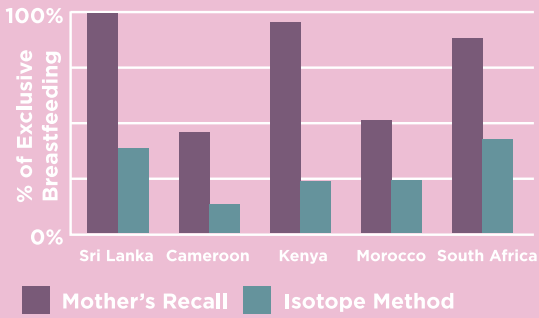
STABLE ISOTOPES...

ASSESS breastfeeding practices

QUANTIFY breast milk intake

VERIFY reported exclusive breastfeeding

PROGRESS TOWARD BREASTFEEDING TARGET DEPENDS ON MEASUREMENT METHOD



Exclusive breastfeeding **rates are lower** when the objective isotope method is used compared to mother's recall

The IAEA contributes **evidence** on breastfeeding practices **to monitor the progress** of achieving global breastfeeding targets

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IAEA Human Health Programme

IAEA 60 Years Atoms for Peace and Development