SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION, THE DEPLETION OF THE HUMAN BODY FROM A LACK OF FOOD AND NUTRIENTS, HAS QUICKLY BECOME ONE OF THE MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH FOR CHILDREN ACROSS THE DEVELOPING WORLD. GLOBALLY OVER 17 MILLION CHILDREN SUFFER FROM SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION AND THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR MORE SUPPLIES OF THERAPEUTIC FOOD THAT COULD HELP SAVE SOME OF THESE YOUNG LIVES.

In a factory on the outskirts of Nairobi, Insta Products, produces ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), a high calorie fortified peanut based food product. The product is made from a mix of peanut paste, milk powder, sugar, vitamins and minerals and is packaged in life-saving individual sachets that deliver a powerful 500 kilocalories to those suffering from acute malnutrition.

Insta sells these sachets to relief organizations including UNICEF, which distribute RUTF in conflict affected areas and other emergency zones, particularly across the East African region and Yemen.

Insta is currently the only manufacturer of RUTF in East Africa, and a top five supplier to UNICEF globally.

In 2016, the Private Sector Window of GAFSP made a $7 million investment in Insta Products to help the company expand its RUTF capacity, and more than double its sales on the back of an increased supply. The $7 million loan, half of which was made available through GAFSP and IFC, will be supported by an addition $4 million loan from IFU, a Danish government fund.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

This investment will help support timely delivery of 310,000 additional cartons of Insta RUTF to emergency situations and war zones, and help treat more than 300,000 more people from acute malnutrition annually.

Increased RUTF capacity will help Insta reach more children to prevent stunted growth—affecting 35 percent of children in Kenya—and vitamin deficiency, which can have long-term effects on cognitive development, learning capabilities and economic productivity in adulthood.