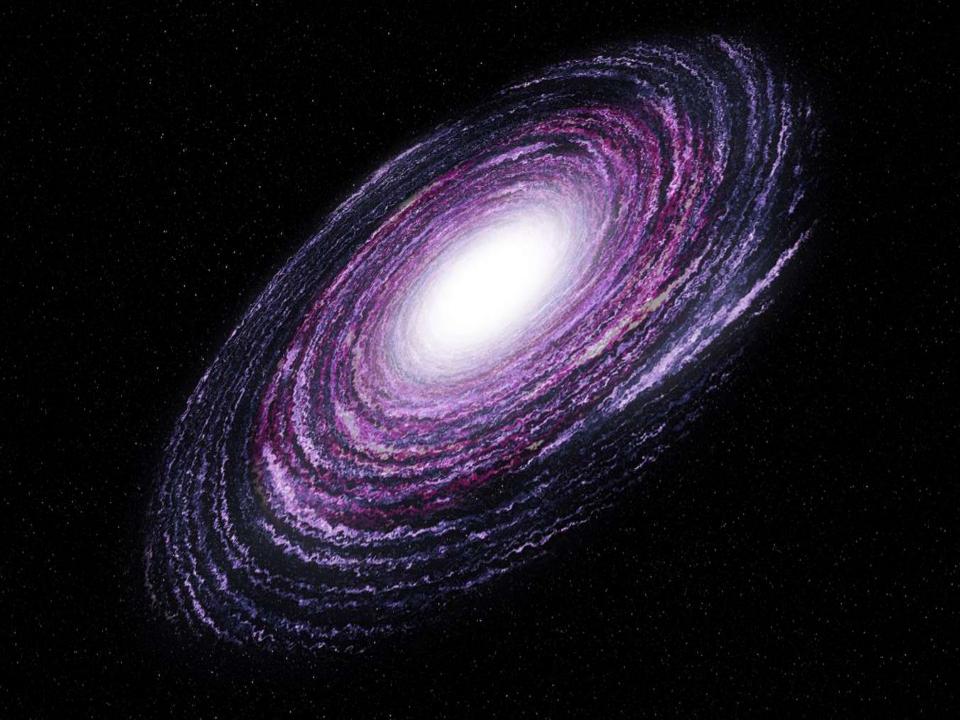
## Can we afford not to invest in children?

Chris Desmond May, 2013







Period of inaction



#### Investment thinking?

- Investments in what?
  - Single intervention or sets of interventions?
- Returns
  - Immediate, short, long-term outcomes?
  - Multiple outcomes?
- Narrow focus changes conclusions
  - What you do
  - How much you should spend

## **Identifying Efficient Interventions**

#### Identifying Efficient Interventions

- Family strengthening
  - SAFE
  - Cash transfers
- Early intervention

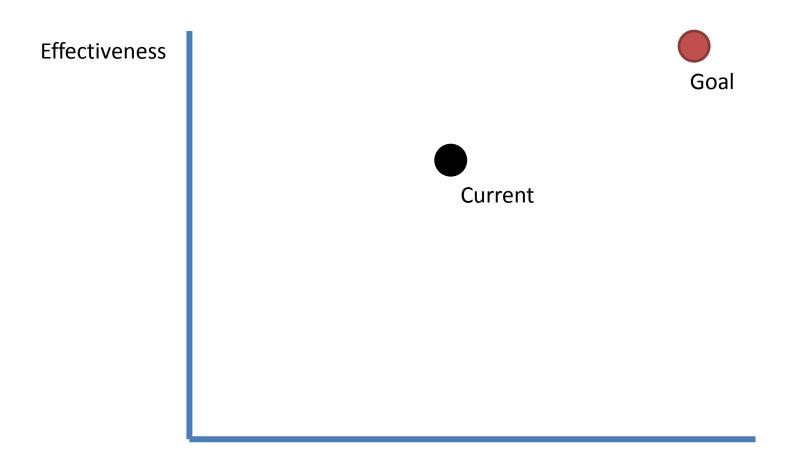
#### **Early Intervention**

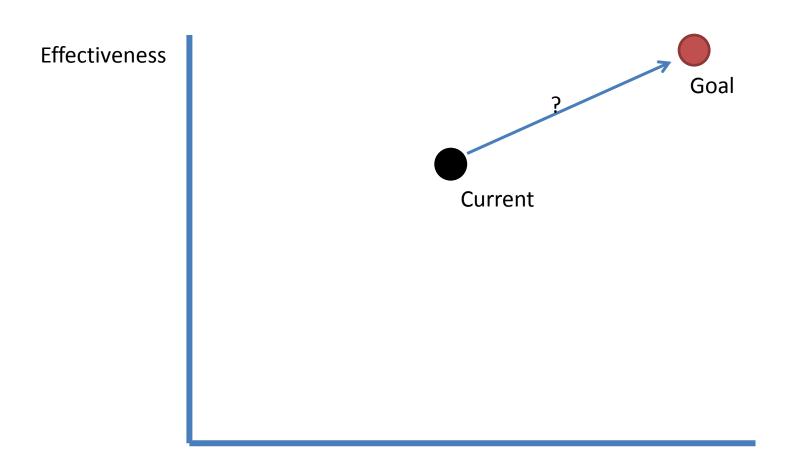
- Prevent or respond?
  - Efficiency gains
  - Suffering avoided
- But what constitute early?
  - Every ten year old was once a one year old
  - No ten year old will be a one year old again
  - Contact as early entry point
- PMTCT programs as early contact?

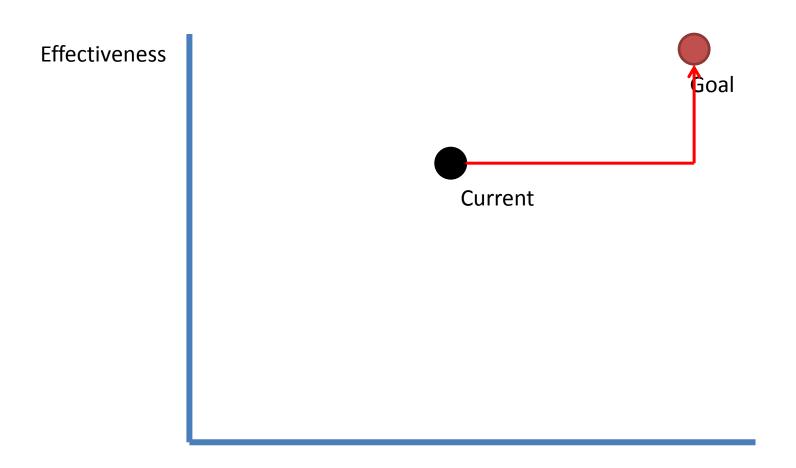
#### So what's the problem?

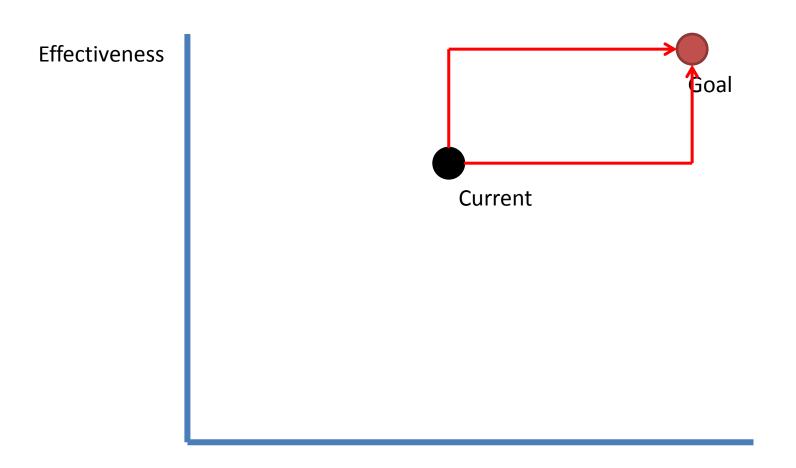
- Costly not to invest, particularly when you consider all outcomes, including over the long-term
- Both more efficient and kinder to invest early
- Evidence on when to invest and in what
- So why is there not enough spent or why do we think there is a risk of spending cuts?
  - Don't care? Don't accept the responsibility?
  - Don't understand the benefits?
  - Eyes on the prize!
- Trade-off denial: Destinations and pathways

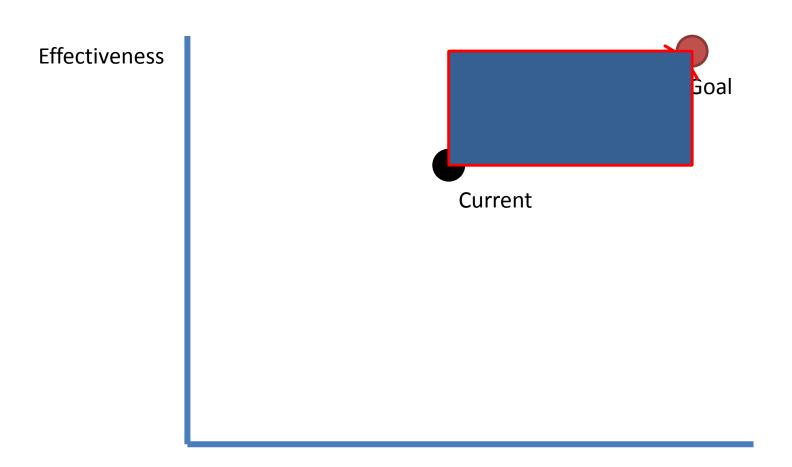
- Easy to say where you want to go
- Not so easy to decide how to get there
- Pathway denial we just need to get there

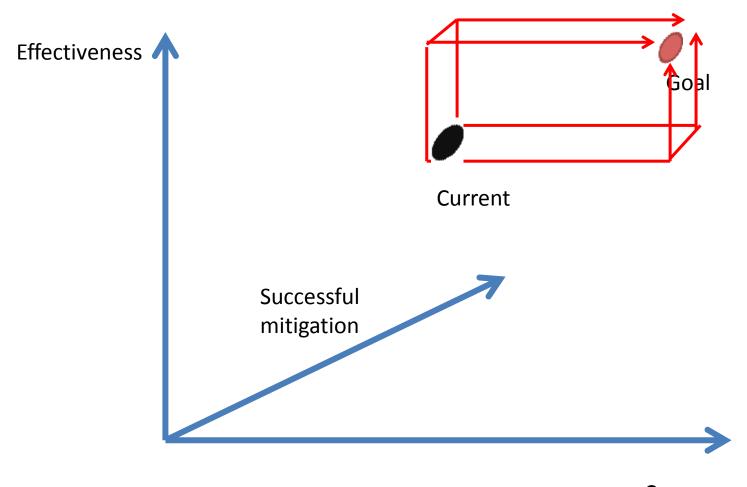


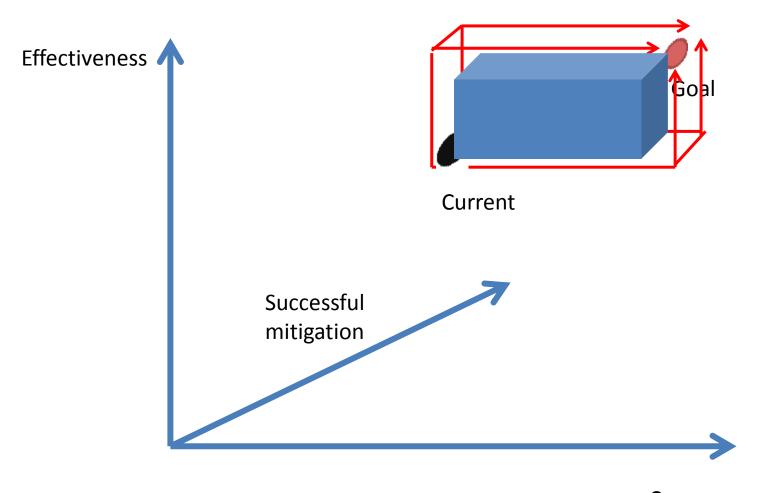












Coverage

## A real world example?

# Is Option B+ the right use of limited resources?

#### Resource limited settings

- As resources get tighter or demands get greater, do we:
  - All shout loader for our constituencies?
  - How about when our constituency is part of a person?
  - Or give more attention to supporting an open and democratic policy making process?