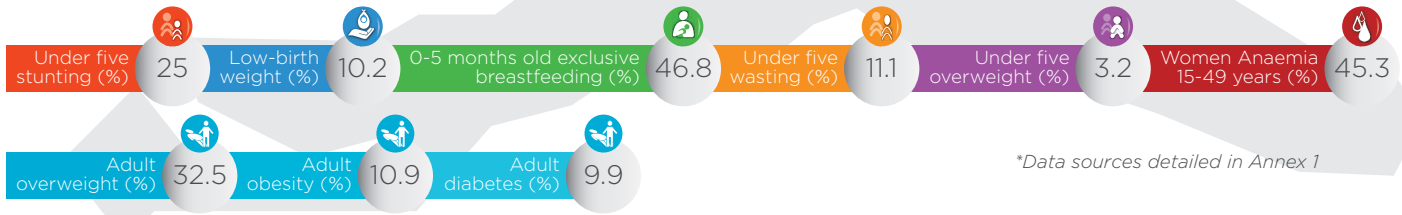




Joined: July 2011
Population: 1.98 million

The Gambia



*Data sources detailed in Annex 1

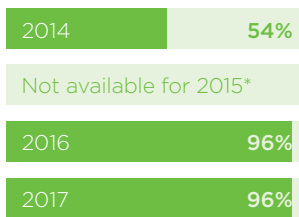
Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Gambia's multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) continues to work well, with quarterly meetings convened. In the past year, the National Nutrition Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC) has seen the inclusion of the Women's Bureau as well as the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

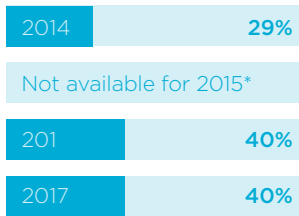
unit. Despite this, there is a need for stronger engagement with civil society, academia, and the private sector. The involvement of regional structures such as the Regional Technical Advisory Committees (TAC) should also be strengthened.



Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Nutrition is mainstreamed into many sectoral policies and programmes. A nutrition bottleneck analysis has been conducted by the MSP to inform a review of the 2010-2020 National Nutrition Policy. This will eventually lead to an updated 2017-2025 National Nutrition Policy, to be accompanied by a costed strategic plan. Over the past year, a new policy on early childhood development

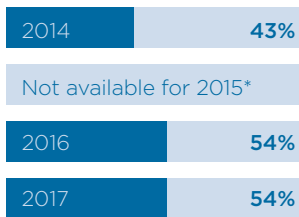
(ECD) and school feeding has been developed, with the involvement of the MSP. A Social and Behaviour Change Communication Strategy for 2016-2020 has also been developed. Lastly, the awareness of law enforcement agents - such as police and custom officials - on existing regulations for food fortification and salt iodisation has been raised.



Aligning actions around a common results framework

Although a common results framework (CRF) for nutrition is yet to be defined, the MSP has been involved in the development of the 2018-2021 National Development Plan and the 2017-2021 United Nations Development Assistance

Framework (UNDAF), ensuring nutrition components are now included. The intention is to develop a CRF, following the review of the National Nutrition Policy and subsequent development of a new nutrition strategic plan.



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The objective of the Additional Financing for Integrated Financial Management and Information System (IFMIS) Project for The Gambia is to increase the Government's capacity in public resource management. Although the IFMIS can provide information on budget execution rates, there is no specific platform

where this information is collated to track investments in nutrition interventions. The national nutrition strategic plan, which expired in 2015, was the key document used to identify resource gaps for nutrition. This highlights the need to develop a new costed nutrition strategic plan.



2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Develop a common results framework;
- Improve the tracking of investments in nutrition;
- Encourage the involvement and active participation of civil society and the business community in the MSP;
- Conduct a capacity assessment of MSP members.