

Guatemala



Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Nutrition governance was improved in 2016 with the creation of the Presidential Commission to Reduce Chronic Malnutrition, which reports directly to the President, comprising ministers and the Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security (SESAN). With civil society and the institutions responsible, the Presidential Commission promotes reducing chronic malnutrition. The Commission complements the National Food and Nutritional Security Council (CONASAN), which is responsible for coordination

among ministries and other organisations. CONASAN comprises the ministries of Health, Agriculture and Social Inclusion, and SESAN. It is responsible for coordinating inter-ministerial action, with the support of 22 departmental and 314 municipal food and nutritional security commissions. The President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales, has been a member of the SUN Movement Lead Group and, despite government changes, the focal point remains in place.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Legislative proposal 5236, proposed by the Food and Nutritional Security Commission of the Congress, the "Law on Provisions to Facilitate the Coordination of Actions Aimed at Reducing Child Malnutrition", updates the Law on the National Food and Nutritional Security System, revised between 2016 and 2017. This proposal needs to be submitted for CONASAN's assessment. The Parliamentary Front against Hunger promotes the implementation of a law that advocates for local food at schools to bolster the country's rural economy.

Aligning actions around a common results framework

The common results framework comprises the 2016-2020 National Strategy for the Prevention of Chronic Malnutrition (ENPDC) and the 2017 Response Plan to Address Seasonal Hunger (PRAHE). The institutions involved produce annual operational food safety and nutrition plans

(POASAN) with actions and budgets under the ENPDC and PRAHE. The operational analysis centre, designed by SESAN, includes a methodology for implement the ENPDC locally with all actors.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The budgets for the POASAN are in line with a results-based management approach. When drawing up the POASAN, government institutions analysed the budget approved by the Congress identified shortfalls that could be partly covered by resources from donors such as the European Union or the Andalusian Agency for International Development

Cooperation (AACID), among others, or with loans from the World Bank. The UN Resident Coordinator has offered financial support to cover part of the gaps in the PRAHE. SESAN conducts monthly financial tracking of budget implementation for the POASAN, and this can be accessed publicly via the Ministry of Public Finances' webpage.

2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Produce guidelines that will enable a common results framework to be organised and managed at sub-national level;
- Take advantage of high-level events, associations and communication channels to influence commitments, generate investments and improve data gathering;
- Develop, update, and implement advocacy and communication strategies:
- Analyse the enabling environment for nutrition, such as political commitment or an analysis of the stakeholder groups involved;
- Develop or revise mechanisms to tackle equity dimensions of nutrition plans, policies and strategies;
- Ensure the involvement of representatives from marginalised and vulnerable communities in decision-making processes.