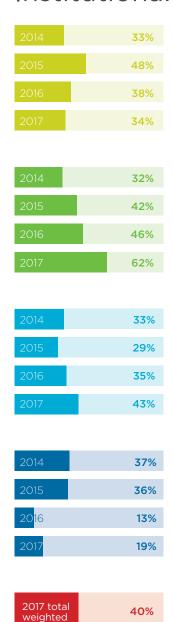


Myanmar



Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) in Myanmar holds quarterly meetings and has terms of reference and workplans in place since 2016. The MSP was expanded in 2016-2017, with new partners including the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT), the Three Millennium Development Goal (MDG3) Fund and the World Bank. Plans are in motion to engage the

private sector. In January 2017, a high-level inter-ministerial nutrition coordination committee was created by the State Counsellor and mandated the convening body to report to the National Development Assistance Coordination Unit (DACU). Engagement with parliamentarians has begun at the national, in the State of Kayin and in the Magway region.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

A nutrition stocktaking exercise has reviewed all nutrition-relevant policies and strategies at the national and sectoral level, identified 20 core nutrition actions, and examined their implementation. These results will influence decision-making, with a high-level forum planned in late 2017. Advocacy efforts by the MSP have commenced, as part of

the stocktaking exercise, to fully align the Myanmar Agriculture Policy with national nutrition priorities. A technical working group has been established as the national body to put in place and oversee the national monitoring and enforcement system for the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.

Aligning actions around a common results framework

Plans are underway to update the National Nutrition Agenda – or the National Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition (NPAFN) 2011-2016, which serves as the national ministerial guide for strategies and action plans for mainstreaming nutrition into sectoral policies is planned. The Myanmar National Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Security (MNAPFNS) will be used as a reference to develop the new costed Multi-sectoral National Plan of Action for

Nutrition for the next five years, with the support of the the UN Network, Donor Network and SUN Civil Society Alliance. The stocktaking exercise revealed the need to address gaps in sectoral nutrition and food security information systems and reporting mechanisms. The 2015-2016 Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS) was the first DHS conducted in the country and a detailed report was made available in March 2017.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In addition to the nutrition-specific section of the National Nutrition Agenda, nutrition components of the Ministry of Health's recent new-born and child health strategy have been costed. However, the translation of costed plans into action with adequate budget decisions still demands effort. Although public expenditure reporting

systems exist within the Government, there are systemic difficulties in accessing the public expenditure data and developing sectoral costings for nutrition. Plans are underway to coordinate the tracking and reporting of expenditures, and to link the external components with the national planning systems, under DACU.

2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Develop and cost the national multi-sectoral plan for nutrition, and ensure endorsement at the highest level within the Government to enable alignment of policies and programmes;
- Mobilise external resources through the MSP and the high-level coordination committee under DACU;
- Continue advocacy for an increase of domestic allocations, reporting and tracking for nutrition.