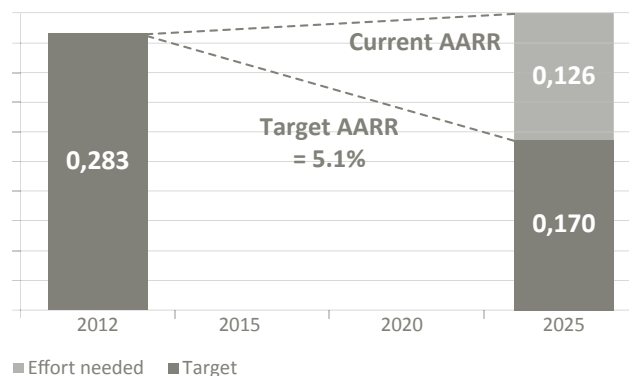


Liberia

Joined: February 2014

Beginning prevalence: 41.8% **Targeted Stunting Reduction (million U5 stunted children)** Target prevalence: 21.07%



Under five stunting:	32.1%
Low-birth weight:	9.7%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding:	55.2%
Under five wasting:	5.6%
Under five overweight:	3.2%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years:	49.3%

**data sources detailed in Annex 1*

Highlights

- Nutrition has been mainstreamed into policies for economic growth and development, poverty reduction, food and agriculture, health care, education and social development.
- The 2012 poverty reduction strategy places nutrition as a national priority and in the overall development agenda.
- The Investment Program for Agriculture (derived from CAADP) includes a specific component on food and nutrition to achieve nutritious food production and the provision of nutrition supplements.

Bold text denotes progress reported in the last year



Liberia joined the SUN Movement in 2014 and although a multi-stakeholder platform has not yet been established, the Nutrition Division of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW) is convening across sectors and with multiple stakeholder groups to address nutrition issues. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is acting as an interim Donor Convener.

Prior to the Ebola epidemic, a letter was sent from the MOHSW to the President of Liberia for the endorsement of

a SUN Secretariat and the nomination of both a focal point and a donor convener although **activities were stalled due to the Ebola epidemic and state of emergency. Soon after the Ebola situation improved, the MOHSW revitalised its commitment for the establishment of a national secretariat and the nomination of a SUN Government Focal Point. The main priorities for nutrition in Liberia include the reduction of stunting, scale up of nutrition specific interventions, and the integration and expansion of nutrition-sensitive interventions.**

Bringing people together into a shared space for action



The multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition Strategy developed in 2010 is in line with the National Nutrition Policy developed in 2009. It identifies the national priorities to be addressed in a harmonised manner to ensure food security and good nutrition for all Liberians. Nutrition has been mainstreamed into policies for economic growth and development, poverty reduction, food and agriculture, health care, education and social development and include:

- **The 2012 poverty reduction strategy, which places nutrition as a national priority and in the overall development agenda.**
- **The Investment Program for Agriculture (derived from CAADP). It includes a specific component on food and nutrition to achieve nutritious food production and the provision of nutrition supplements.**

Nutrition-sensitive documents and plans exist and there are recommendations to review and consolidate both food and nutrition policies and strategies.

The Ebola situation, among others, was identified as hampering progress on the ground and the pace at which these aspiring commitments were expected to be honored. Completion of these documents should have been part of the planned priorities among the sectors.

The national strategy for Food Security and Nutrition was revised by the Ministry of Agriculture and the **Ministry of Education has developed a draft School Health and Nutrition strategy which will be reviewed by the government and relevant stakeholders.**

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework



All sectors have different frameworks of implementation and reporting. The process of a common reporting framework is underway; meanwhile, the Nutrition Division of the MOHSW is currently coordinating reports of activities by the line Ministries and partners through monthly National Nutrition Cluster Coordination meetings.

The Ministry of Education and the MOHSW are in the process of harmonising all plans to address malnutrition. The MOHSW is already engaged in the process of developing a multi-sectoral, national nutrition implementation plan that fully embraces both nutrition-specific interventions as well as nutrition-sensitive actions.

Nutrition interventions have been a part of the essential package of services since 2011 and stunting reduction remains the key national priority. In order to reduce the stunting rate, a set of Essential Nutrition Actions (ENAs) are being rolled out in five of Liberia's 15 Counties. **Nutrition partners are proactively involved in developing emergency plans to continue supporting these Counties even in the wake of the Ebola situation. Liberia has plans to scale up ENAs to the other ten Counties.**

ENA training included all health workers and community volunteers.

Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework



The Government of Liberia is committed to tracking the domestic and external resources mobilised for nutrition. **It has been agreed that all sectors will develop a costed plan for nutrition.**

Financial tracking and resource mobilisation