



# The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement



Annual Progress Report 2018

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# SUN MOVEMENT

Annual Progress Report 2018

# Foreword

## WINNING THE RACE TOWARDS A WORLD FREE OF MALNUTRITION



The Scaling Up Nutrition Movement is stronger and more determined than ever. Launched in 2010, SUN now unites 60 countries, three states in India and thousands of partners and donors from business, civil society, academia, United Nations agencies, parliaments and the media. Our common mission: to eliminate all forms of malnutrition by 2030.

The SUN Movement's ability to focus country-level action on malnutrition and its devastating effects has helped drive a sharp reduction in stunting – or low height for age – among young children around the world. With this impressive result, we are poised to make a lasting impact on global nutrition under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Today, SUN is taking great strides in the race to leave no one behind. And many of the movement's member countries are setting the pace.

Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, and Peru have reported a decline in the number of girls and boys suffering from stunting in 2017–2018. These countries are all on track to meet the World Health Assembly target on stunting reduction. Even more SUN countries are reducing wasting – or low weight for height – while six countries are seeing great progress in the reduction of both stunting and wasting.

Meanwhile, more than one-third of SUN countries are slowing the ticking time bomb of overweight in children. And many member countries can boast exclusive breastfeeding rates above 60 per cent for babies in the first months of life – an important lesson for all countries, rich and poor alike.

In fact, one feature that makes SUN unique is its focus on lessons learned. SUN countries are open to learning what works, learning by doing and learning from one another. In 2017–2018, for example, 53 member countries participated in a joint assessment exercise to determine where they are faring well and where they need to scale up their efforts or change course.

Many of these countries have seen a notable increase in momentum for results. Forty-two SUN countries now have national nutrition plans, which are a key ingredient in driving progress on better nutrition for all.



However, we have a long way to go. The world is still miles away from ensuring food security and good nutrition for every household. In 2017, the number of undernourished people globally was an estimated 821 million, a figure that has been on the rise since 2014. Not enough countries - in the SUN Movement or beyond - are on track to reach the Sustainable Development Goals' target on stunting reduction for children under the age of 5. Nor, given present trends, will we be able to halt the increase in the number of overweight children worldwide.

With these concerns in mind, it is time to take stock and ask ourselves some hard questions. Are SUN countries and networks learning enough from their collective experience, for instance, to accelerate results for people in every member country? How can we reach all children, no matter where they live - whether in Africa, where the number of stunted children is increasing, or in Asia, which is home to 17.5 million overweight girls and boys?

As we consider the answers to such complex questions, we must take action in four areas that will be critical to success.

First, we have to secure the highest possible level of national ownership in making better nutrition a priority. Governments must be fully committed to developing one vision, one plan and one budget to achieve their nutrition goals.

Second, we must accelerate our work on scaling up proven interventions to prevent all forms of malnutrition in the first 1,000 days of life.

Third, we must help countries develop a 'systems approach' to nutrition. This means transforming agriculture and food production into sustainable food systems - with education and social protection incorporated as key elements.

Finally, we must fight socio-economic and gender inequalities to improve nutrition across the life cycle. The nutrition of women, including young girls and adolescents, should be at the centre of all national strategies to break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition.

As the SUN Movement's members move ahead towards a world free of malnutrition, we know that we count on one another to help turn these challenges into opportunities. Let us work, learn and reach the finish line - together.

**Henrietta H. Fore**

*UNICEF Executive Director and SUN Movement Lead Group Chair*

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## List of abbreviations and acronyms

<b>BMS</b>	Breast-milk substitutes
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organisations
<b>COI</b>	Conflict of interest
<b>CFS</b>	Committee on World Food Security
<b>CRF</b>	Common results framework
<b>CSA</b>	Civil Society Alliance
<b>CSN</b>	SUN Civil Society Network
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GNR</b>	Global Nutrition Report
<b>ICE</b>	Independent Comprehensive Evaluation
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>MEAL</b>	The SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning system
<b>MSP</b>	Multi-Stakeholder Platform
<b>N4G</b>	Nutrition for Growth
<b>REACH</b>	Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition
<b>SBN</b>	SUN Business Network
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SDN</b>	SUN Donor Network
<b>SMS</b>	SUN Movement Secretariat
<b>SUN</b>	Scaling Up Nutrition
<b>TST</b>	Transitional Stewardship Team
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNN</b>	UN Network for SUN
<b>WASH</b>	Water, sanitation and hygiene
<b>WHA</b>	World Health Assembly



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## Summary and key messages

### SCALING UP NUTRITION TOGETHER – FOR IMPACT ON PEOPLE, SOCIETIES & COUNTRIES

#### KEY 2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS<sup>1</sup>

Good nutrition is the starting point and the foundation of a sustainable future. Essential to living a healthy and productive life, nutrition often makes the difference in whether women, men, girls and boys – but also communities and nations – thrive. As nutrition is both a maker and marker of sustainable development, the fight against malnutrition in all forms requires coherent and consistent action by multiple stakeholders and sectors, to leave no one behind. This is also underpinned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**WELCOME  
TO THE SUN  
MOVEMENT,  
AFGHANISTAN!**

In 2018, the SUN Movement marks its eighth year and the mid-term period of its Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020). It is driven by 60 countries and the Indian States of Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh. In September 2017, Afghanistan became the Movement's newest member. These countries and states are home to most of the girls and boys who are too short for their age (stunted) or weigh too little for their height (wasted). United with civil society, business, United Nations agencies, donors and academia – SUN Movement member countries and states are committed to making sure that the potential of everyone, everywhere is unleashed by making malnutrition a thing of the past. By joining this country-driven and country-led Movement, members become part of a fast-growing community that is learning – also from one another – how to bring people together, put the right policies and laws in place, strive toward common results and invest for lasting impact.

**The SUN Movement transforms lives and futures, but faster results at scale are needed to reach the [World Health Assembly Global Targets](#) to improve maternal, infant and young child nutrition, and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.**

In 2017-2018, Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia and Peru have reported a decline in the number of stunted children and are on course to meet the stunting target.<sup>2</sup> 14 countries are on track to ensure a significant reduction in wasting<sup>3</sup> –

<sup>1</sup> The reporting period, for the purposes of this summary, covers April 2017 to August 2018.

<sup>2</sup> 50% reduction in the number of children under-5 who are stunted: Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Peru.

<sup>3</sup> Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 3%: Benin, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, Peru, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.



with 6 SUN countries today seeing progress in both areas.<sup>4</sup> More than one-third of all SUN countries are on course to stop the rising rate of children under five years of age who are overweight,<sup>5</sup> and ensure that babies are exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of their lives.<sup>6</sup> However, progress is lagging behind, and across the board, in crucial domains, meaning that scaling up actions to reduce anaemia in women, halt the rise in adult obesity and diabetes and ensure an increase in exclusive breastfeeding is urgently needed.

**EL SALVADOR,  
ESWATINI, GHANA,  
KENYA, KYRGYZSTAN &  
PERU ARE ON TRACK TO  
MEET GLOBAL TARGETS  
FOR BOTH STUNTING  
AND WASTING!**

**The SUN Movement is breaking down silos centrally, regionally and locally – in line with its conviction that working together, in alignment, achieves results far greater than what could be achieved alone.**

Between April and August 2018, 53 SUN countries – the highest number in the Movement’s life-span – have examined their scaling up nutrition efforts, by bringing together stakeholders for the yearly Joint-Assessment. This exercise provides insight into country-level action and is one of the Movement’s unique features and tools, to share progress and challenges and set a course for the future. Afghanistan, as a SUN Movement newcomer, has undertaken a baseline study, to ascertain the status quo.

Governments are uniting their nutrition communities, with 55 SUN countries – 4 more than in 2016-2017 – having an active multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) at the national level. In 33 countries these platforms also work at the sub-national level, supporting local actions and implementation, across sectors such as women’s empowerment, agriculture, water and sanitation, health, social protection and education.

**SUN countries are determining the right people for sustained change, by bringing together multiple stakeholders, also through networks.**

- The SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) encourages the formation of vibrant civil society alliances, with 40 existing in SUN countries today. The network represents over 3,000 organisations locally, nationally and internationally, spanning multiple sectors and backgrounds, including four regional coordination groups. **In 2018, the CSN launched the youth leaders for nutrition**

<sup>4</sup> El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Peru.

<sup>5</sup> Reduce and maintain childhood overweight to less than 3%: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda.

<sup>6</sup> Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 70%: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eswatini, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

programme (#YL4N2018), to support young campaigners develop skills and knowledge to help accelerate progress to end malnutrition.

- The SUN Business Network (SBN) is a global business and nutrition platform for multi-stakeholder collaboration and counts more than 400 multinational and national companies committing to ending malnutrition as members. 28 MSPs now include private sector representatives, with 18 countries today having put in place SBNs. In 2018, the SBN and the Government of Zambia launched a Good Food Logo, guided by a set of criteria to help consumers identify more nutritious food options in stores.
- The UN Network for SUN (UNN) provides a platform for UN agencies to harmonise and coordinate nutrition efforts with all relevant stakeholders, in support of country-level actions and strengthened governmental ownership to attain nutrition targets and achieve the SDGs. Today all 60 SUN countries have established UN Networks, with nominated focal points. 80 per cent – up from 74 per cent in 2016-17 – have appointed UN Network chairs or co-chairs. In 2017-2018, successful UNN advocacy has prompted concrete policy change in Sierra Leone, where a donor/UN-backed televised debate with parliamentarians has led to the enactment of a food safety and nutrition bill.
- The SUN Donor Network (SDN) seeks to ensure political commitment and country-level results. 35 countries have an appointed donor convener to increase, harmonise and align development partners' support for government-led nutrition plans, with SDNs existing in 21 SUN countries today. In 2017-2018, the SDN has scaled up work and partnerships with innovative financing mechanisms, such as the Global Financing Facility, to galvanise more nutrition funding and build bridges with SUN countries.
- To better support evidence-based decision-making and improve the coordination between governments and research institutions, 40 MSPs are working with scientists and academia.
- 41 countries – 7 more than in 2016-2017 – are leveraging the political powers of parliamentarians to cement nutrition as a national priority. This was supported by Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and member of the SUN Movement Lead Group, Martin Chungong, who has encouraged all speakers of parliament to scrutinise national nutrition efforts, annually.
- The media is spreading the nutrition word across 38 SUN countries, with more and more countries across the Movement following suit.
- 31 SUN countries have nominated one, or several, high-level political or social champions for nutrition – from Presidents, Prime Ministers and First Ladies, to sports stars and celebrities.

**SUN countries are striving for coherent policy and legal frameworks and implementing more and more common results – with action plans to bring goals to life – although investments need scaling up.**

- 42 countries have a national nutrition plan in place, bringing together sectors and stakeholders in a whole-of-government approach to address malnutrition.
- 46 SUN countries have in place some form of legal measure related to the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes. Out of which, 22 SUN countries have comprehensive legislation or regulations reflecting all or most provisions of the Code.
- 80 per cent of SUN countries have at least partial maternity protection laws in place – an important component for empowering and enabling working mothers to breastfeed and care for their babies. 24 countries have a minimum of 14 weeks' fully-paid maternity leave, and 5 SUN countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Peru and Senegal) have ratified the International Labour Organization's Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183).
- 18 countries have a high level of constitutional protection of the right to food, with 10 SUN country constitutions explicitly proclaiming the right to food for everyone.<sup>7</sup>
- 56 countries have legislation on universal salt iodisation, whilst 48 countries have legislation on mandatory flour fortification.
- 7 SUN countries have healthy diet-related regulations. Only Zimbabwe has included non-communicable (NCD) disease targets in their national nutrition and development plans, while Cambodia, the Gambia and Senegal have included overweight, obesity and NCDs in their development policies. 14 SUN countries have included the World Health Assembly nutrition targets in theirs.

<sup>7</sup> Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Niger, Philippines, Zimbabwe. FAO database on the Right to Food around the Globe. Available at: [http://www.fao.org/right-to-food-around-the-globe/level-of-recognition/en/?page=3&ipp=10&no\\_cache=1&tx\\_dynalist\\_pi1\[par\]=YToyOntzOjU6ImJveF8xIjtzOjE6IjEiO3M6MToiTCI7czoxOjla3wwjt9](http://www.fao.org/right-to-food-around-the-globe/level-of-recognition/en/?page=3&ipp=10&no_cache=1&tx_dynalist_pi1[par]=YToyOntzOjU6ImJveF8xIjtzOjE6IjEiO3M6MToiTCI7czoxOjla3wwjt9).



- 42 SUN countries report that they have a national common results framework (CRF) in place, and 9 more are in the process of developing or updating theirs. 36 countries have developed action plans to achieve the goals set out in their CRFs. 30 have a monitoring and evaluation framework, with a further 12 under development. 28 CRFs are fully costed.
- 48 countries are tracking public financial allocations for nutrition with 27 countries acknowledging funding gaps. 24 countries report that in-country donors have aligned behind the national reporting of this information.
- The total estimated nutrition-relevant budget allocations across 19 SUN countries have been pegged at 4 per cent of general government expenditure. In order of sectoral spending priority, countries are investing the most in social protection, health, agriculture, water and sanitation, and education, respectively. They are using evidence gathered through budget analysis exercises to advocate for more and better spending.

## A SNAPSHOT OF GLOBAL ACTION IN 2017-2018

- The [2017 Global Nutrition Summit](#), held in Milan on 4 November, convened governments, cities, international agencies, foundations, civil society organisations and businesses to accelerate the global response to malnutrition. This summit – the first global forum of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2026) – galvanised USD 3.4 billion in pledges, in total, including USD 640 million in new commitments towards the eradication of all forms of malnutrition, everywhere.
- For the first time, the [2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering](#) took place in a SUN country – Côte d'Ivoire. From 7 to 9 November, Abidjan welcomed more than 1,000 members of the SUN Movement – making it the largest Global Gathering to date. This Gathering offered a space for countries and stakeholders to share their inspirational progress, at the country level, and encourage global collaboration in the fight against malnutrition.
- On the margins of the seventy-first World Health Assembly, held 21-25 May 2018, the SUN Movement Secretariat hosted a [Nutrition Hub](#) to shed light on the importance of nutrition within the broader health and development agendas. It also served to make sure nutrition is recognised as a strong foundation for universal health coverage. The SUN Nutrition Hub arranged multiple events, in collaboration with civil society, the UN system, the donor community and the private sector. SUN Government Focal Points from Afghanistan, Burundi, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Lesotho, Madagascar, Niger, Sierra Leone and Somalia were in attendance.
- The first-ever [Scaling Up Nutrition Champion Award ceremony](#) was held as part of the 2017 Global Gathering, where nine Scaling Up Nutrition Champion Awards, three Lifetime Achievement Awards and one SUN Country Team Award were given. These champions, and those shortlisted, as part of their prize, were invited to take part in the [EAT Stockholm Food Forum 2018](#), preceded by a first of its kind, three-day Champion Training from 8-10 June, designed to help progress national food and nutrition objectives.

- In July 2018, a total of 46 countries, including SUN countries Benin, Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo and Viet Nam undertook their voluntary national reviews of country-level progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This took place during the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), with the theme "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies", and encompassed in-depth reviews of SDG 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, and 17. Also during the HLPF, the SUN Movement co-organised two side events with global partners, including Sanitation and Water for All, Every Woman Every Child, and the Global Partnership for Education – where focal points from Senegal, Madagascar, Mauritania and Afghanistan had the opportunity to showcase progress and the SUN Movement's multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach, in practice.
- The SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system is being rolled out at the country level, step-by-step, with [country dashboards](#) that look at challenges and strengths in ensuring a future without malnutrition, and progress towards the SDGs. Thematic briefs on priority areas, including the multiple forms of malnutrition, adolescent girls and women, and nutrition in fragile and conflict-affected countries and contexts have also been launched. To ensure this system is fit-for-purpose in countries, in-depth reviews have been kickstarted. These reviews will focus on six SUN countries and will take place between July and December 2018.
- The SUN Movement Coordinator, Gerda Verburg, has rallied political commitment for nutrition in high-level visits to Afghanistan, Indonesia, Fiji, Gabon, Viet Nam, Malawi, the Gambia, Zambia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Chad in the reporting period. Globally, Ms. Verburg has called for stakeholders to align behind the Movement's member countries and collaborate for impact at scale at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the World Health Assembly in Geneva, the EAT Stockholm Food Forum and the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in New York.
- The SUN Movement's Lead Group has spoken up and out for nutrition in 2017-2018, with strong engagement at the Milan Nutrition Summit, the SUN Global Gathering, to mark International Women's Day, cementing nutrition as central to the G7 Whistler Declaration, and encouraging speakers of parliament to scrutinise nutrition on assembly floors through to unblocking challenges in SUN member countries.

## **MOVING FORWARD: MAKING SURE A FUTURE WITH NO MALNUTRITION IS WITHIN REACH**

**As the Movement is currently halfway through its second phase (2016-2020), 2018 is an important moment to review progress and look ahead, to ensure the Movement is fit-for-purpose and makes continuous progress.**

- In January 2018, the SUN Movement Executive Committee agreed on a planning timeline for the period 2018-2020, identifying milestones, including a mid-term review, and a SUN Movement Global Gathering to be held at the end of 2019 or in early 2020. An independent evaluation of progress and impact of the SUN Movement is expected before the end of the current second phase – to inform decisions on the future of the SUN Movement beyond 2020.
- In May 2018, the SUN Movement Executive Committee commissioned a mid-term review to ascertain the extent to which the Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) is implemented and to identify areas for strengthening as well as potential course correction. The independent team conducting the mid-term review commenced its work in early June 2018, through surveys (both at the country level and at the global level of the SUN Movement support system), interviews, country visits, country case studies and a desk review. The final mid-term review report will be made public by 31 December 2018.
- The annual SUN Movement Lead Group meeting – the first for the [recently appointed Lead Group Chair, Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, UNICEF Executive Director](#) – was held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2018, with the theme "Nourishing a Sustainable Future". At this meeting, three topics were discussed – to spur individual Lead Group members' commitments – on areas of key concern to all levels of the Movement, namely: the SUN Movement 2020 and beyond – reviewing progress and looking forward; scaling up gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the Movement; and addressing multiple forms of malnutrition through nutrition-sensitive and sustainable food systems. A new SUN Movement Lead Group composition will be announced by the United Nations Secretary-General in early 2019.



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# Nutrition in 2017-2018

## A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Malnutrition results not just from a lack of sufficient and adequately nutritious and safe food – but from a host of intertwined factors: health, care, education, sanitation and hygiene, access to food and resources, women’s empowerment, and more. It is a universal issue holding back sustainable development with unacceptable human consequences. The opportunity to end malnutrition has never been greater. The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide global and national-level impetus to address malnutrition and expedite progress.

All women, men and children – at all times – should have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

Yet, global hunger is on the rise after steadily decreasing for over a decade, mainly due to conflict and increasing climate-related shocks. One in every nine people were undernourished in 2017. The situation is worsening in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, in particular – with women and girls being most affected. Undernourishment has increased most

### The scale of malnutrition in 2018

- Today, nearly **one in three people the world over suffers from at least one form of malnutrition**: wasting, stunting, vitamin and mineral deficiency, overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- **1.5 billion people** experience one or more forms of micronutrient deficiencies.
- **821 million people** are undernourished.
- **151 million girls and boys** under 5 are too short for their age (stunted), whilst **over 50 million** do not weigh enough for their height (wasted), and over 38 million are overweight – none of these children are growing healthily.
- **Close to 16 million** children under five are affected by both stunting and wasting, and **8 million** by both stunting and overweight.
- **39 per cent of adults** are overweight or obese.
- **One in three women** of reproductive age is anaemic.



rapidly in Western Africa, where 15.1 per cent were undernourished in 2017, compared to 12.8 per cent in 2016.<sup>1</sup>

This trend has not yet been reflected in the proportion of stunted children which has declined by 9 per cent since 2012. However, the number of stunted children is still unacceptably high with 151 million children under five affected in 2017. Despite efforts made, progress to reduce stunting has been insufficient, particularly in the African and Asian regions that are home to nine of ten stunted children.

One in three people globally suffer from one or several forms of malnutrition. Overweight and obesity are growing problems for both adults and children across the world. Low and middle-income countries that are still facing a high burden of undernutrition are now seeing the fastest increases in overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs), due to changes in diets and lifestyles. Childhood undernutrition is associated with a higher risk of overweight, obesity and NCDs later in life.

Increasingly, countries, communities and individuals face multiple forms of malnutrition, which means that undernutrition co-exists with overweight, obesity or diet-related NCDs. This can occur within **individuals** (with the simultaneous presence of two or more types of malnutrition, or the development of multiple types over a lifetime), **households** (with multiple family members affected by different forms of malnutrition), and **populations** (where both undernutrition and overweight can be prevalent in a community, region or nation) – across the life course.<sup>2</sup>

**It is estimated that the 60 SUN countries are home to approximately 64 per cent of all stunted children under five, 49 per cent of wasted children and almost 30 per cent of girls and boys under age five who are overweight.**

<sup>1</sup> FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP AND WHO, (2018). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018. Building climate resilience for food security and nutrition. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/I9553EN/I9553en.pdf> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization, (2017). Double-duty actions for nutrition: policy brief. Available at: <http://www.who.int/iris/handle/10665/255414> [accessed October 2018].



## GOOD NUTRITION: A GAMECHANGER FOR WELLBEING, DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS

This is why the first 1,000 days – from a mother’s pregnancy until her child’s second birthday – are a unique window of opportunity in determining a girl’s or boy’s destiny. Good nutrition builds strong immune systems, supercharging children’s chances of survival, educational attainment and productivity and protecting them their whole lives. Whereas much work has gone into caring for children’s bodies, nutrition is the key to also care for a girl or boy’s brain – the most important thing a child has.

Research shows us that adolescence<sup>3</sup> is a second window of opportunity for nutrition since it is a period of rapid physical and cognitive growth and development. Improved nutrition during adolescence can help address nutritional deficits acquired during the first decade of life, help to fuel educational and economic success and positively impact adolescents’ immediate and future health, and that of their children.<sup>4</sup>

However, good nutrition will only happen when women and girls are empowered. Actions that recognise and address gender and social inequalities are both empowering and effective ways of tackling malnutrition. Nutrition investments provide important entry points to address underlying drivers: educational attainment, household power and income distribution, reproductive rights and health and harmful practices, such as child marriage and gender-based violence. Similarly, an integrated approach to education and health can result in strong nutritional outcomes for all, especially women and girls.

Many countries are set to achieve at least one of the targets set by the global community to track progress on nutritional status to 2030. The level of knowledge on what it takes to deliver results has never been higher. Governments and national stakeholders are, today, better placed to deliver results, with more governance, policies, action plans and targets. There is better data, backed by analysis and intelligence, thus enabling us to progress our understanding of the nature of the burden of malnutrition in all its forms and causes – and therefore guide and inspire action and improve our ability to track progress.

To this end, the time is now to seize this window of opportunity to get on track towards the SDG target of ending hunger and malnutrition, in all its forms, by 2030. To do so, stakeholders in the SUN Movement, and beyond, will need to increase investments to improve nutrition – and to invest more smartly – by focusing on the first 1,000 days and adolescence, recognising their crucial importance for growth and development during the lifecycle. A strong focus on transforming agriculture and the production of food into food systems that deliver healthy diets that drive better nutrition everywhere is fundamental. The poor quality of diets among infants, young children, adolescents and adults needs to change. Addressing multiple forms of malnutrition simultaneously, also by scaling up effective ‘double-duty actions’<sup>5</sup> that have the potential to reduce the burden of undernutrition, as well as overweight, obesity and diet-related NCDs at the same time, is key.<sup>6</sup> All stakeholders must take a more holistic view of malnutrition.

<sup>3</sup> Ages 10-19 years.

<sup>4</sup> World Health Organization, (2018). Guideline: implementing effective actions for improving adolescent nutrition. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/guidelines/effective-actions-improving-adolescent/en/> [accessed November 2018].

<sup>5</sup> Double-duty actions include interventions, programmes and policies that have the potential to simultaneously reduce the risk or burden of both undernutrition (including wasting, stunting and micronutrient deficiency) and overweight, obesity or diet-related NCDs. Double-duty actions are often already used to address single forms of malnutrition but with the potential to address multiple forms.

<sup>6</sup> Supra note 2.

## A SNAPSHOT OF GLOBAL ACTION IN 2017-2018:

# SUN HIGHLIGHTS

**“ Progress in tackling both undernutrition and obesity is possible with targeted commitments, like those made here today. We need further urgent investments so that people, communities and nations can reach their full potential.”**

**– Kofi Annan**



The 2017 Global Nutrition Summit, held in Milan, Italy, on 4 November, convened governments, cities, international agencies, foundations, civil society organisations and businesses to accelerate the global response to malnutrition. This summit – the first global forum of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) – galvanised USD 3.4 billion in pledges, in total, including USD 640 million in new commitments towards the eradication of all forms of malnutrition, everywhere.

At the summit, several SUN countries, including Côte d’Ivoire, El Salvador and Madagascar, also made commitments to expand domestic programmes for improved nutrition for mothers and children. World Bank analysis in 2016 found that an additional initial investment of USD 3.7 billion a year is needed to make progress toward the global targets for stunting, anaemia in women, exclusive breastfeeding and the scaling up of treatment of severe wasting.





For the first time, in 2017, the [SUN Movement Global Gathering](#) took place in a SUN country – Côte d'Ivoire. From 7-9 November, Abidjan welcomed more than 1,000 members of the SUN Movement – making it the largest Global Gathering to date. The Global Gathering brought together all SUN Government Focal Points and representatives of their partners – from civil society, donors, United Nations agencies, the private sector, media, parliamentarians and academia. This flagship event of the SUN Movement is an important moment to take stock of progress and challenges, share innovations and learn from each other – to inspire and encourage further collaboration to take the fight against malnutrition to the next level.

The SUN Global Gathering agenda was decided on by the 60 SUN countries – reflecting their needs and expectations – emphasising the increasing ownership of members.

The Global Gathering set the stage for the launch of the 2017 SUN Movement Progress report as well as the [2017 SUN Movement Nutrition Champion Award Ceremony](#) which recognised the winners of the 2017 SUN Movement Champion Awards, the 2017 Sight and Life Leadership Awards, Lifetime Achievement in Nutrition Awards, as well as the 2017 SUN Country team award – rewarding outstanding individuals for their contributions for nutrition.

During the closing ceremony, the SUN Movement Coordinator, Ms. Gerda Verburg, presented the '[Message from Abidjan](#)' to the Global Gathering host, the Vice President of Côte d'Ivoire, His Excellency Daniel Kablan Duncan, on behalf of the SUN Movement, for the Vice-President to share with African and European Heads of State at the African Union-European Union Summit in Abidjan 29-30 November 2017. The message highlighted the importance of investing in nutrition for a prosperous Africa.



## THE 2017 SUN MOVEMENT GLOBAL GATHERING BY THE NUMBERS

An infographic

FOR THE **1ST** TIME IN A SUN COUNTRY: **CÔTE D'IVOIRE!!**



MORE THAN **70** COUNTRIES & THE INDIAN STATE OF **MAHARASHTRA** REPRESENTED

1,406 badges issued

976 participants

44 members of the press

7 Lead Group members

66 organisers

13 Executive Committee members

71 technical staff and interpreters

12 Ministers & Vice-Ministers

250 day passes

1 Vice-President

1 First Lady

3 FULL DAYS

6 PLENARIES

18 WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY AT LEAST **770** PEOPLE EACH DAY

67 country, network and partner stands in the marketplace

4,291 LIVE VIDEO VIEWS ON FACEBOOK

1 016 387

PEOPLE REACHED ON TWITTER DURING THE FIRST PLENARY

16 NUTRITION CHAMPION AWARDS GIVEN

1,121 OUISNAP VIDEOS MADE

755 copies of the 2017 Progress Report handed out in English, French & Spanish

#SUNGG17 used +200 times each hour

800 COPIES OF THE 2017 GLOBAL NUTRITION REPORT DISSEMINATED

47 ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS FEATURED IN NEWSPAPERS, ONLINE, AND ON TV & RADIO



© for the whole page: SUN Global Gathering





The SUN Movement Secretariat, together with SUN Movement Networks and multiple partners, hosted the first-ever [SUN Nutrition Hub](#) in Villa Le Bocage, Palais des Nations, during the World Health Assembly (WHA) held in May 2018. The Nutrition Hub provided a space for SUN country representatives and diverse stakeholders attending the WHA to come together to share their experience, discuss critical nutrition issues and to facilitate mutual learning for increased impact at the country level.

**Stakeholders co-hosting events at the Nutrition Hub:** SUN Movement Secretariat, SUN Business Network, SUN Civil Society Network, UN Network for SUN, SUN Donor Network, WHO, UNICEF, World Food Programme, Save the Children UK, Emergency Nutrition Network, FilmBlanc, RESULTS Canada, Action Against Hunger, 1000 Days, Safely Fed Canada, ACTION/RESULTS, EAT Foundation, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Women Deliver, World Economic Forum.

**# Events at the SUN Nutrition Hub:**





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The 2017 Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Champions took part in the **EAT Stockholm Food Forum 2018**, preceded by a first of its kind, three-day Champion Training from 8-10 June, supported by EAT and the SUN Movement, designed to help progress national food and nutrition objectives. This eminent group of champions represent a range of countries and fields.

The fifth EAT Stockholm Food Forum, held 11-12 June 2018, brought together some of the brightest minds from science, politics, business and civil society to explore a range of solutions for achieving healthy and sustainable diets for a growing global population and was as an important opportunity for the SUN Champions to showcase their experiences and to demonstrate the progress and challenges of scaling up nutrition, in practice. This Forum was informed by research analysed in the upcoming [EAT-Lancet Commission report on healthy diets from sustainable food systems](#).

#INVESTINNUTRITION

I'M A NUTRITION  
CHAMPION!

ARE YOU?

ScalingUp  
NUTRITION

ENGAGE • INSPIRE • INVEST

SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG



## **THE SUN MOVEMENT AT THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

In 2018, the HLPF focused on several SDGs including goal 6 which has targets for drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Success on the WASH targets is inextricably linked to other goals including those focusing on health, education and nutrition. These are fundamental to the survival and enjoyment of the right to life for everyone, especially children, adolescents, women and girls and people living with disabilities.

During the Forum, SUN Government Focal Points from Afghanistan, Madagascar, Mauritania and Senegal shared their experiences through two key side events:

### **1. Partnering for People: Collaborating across sectors & actors to achieve the SDGs**

Moderated by the SUN Movement Coordinator, this dialogue, held in partnership with Sanitation and Water For All, the Global Partnership for Education, Every Woman Every Child and the SUN Movement showcased country experiences on scaling up the impact of WASH. SUN Focal Points shared their lessons on inclusive multi-sectoral collaboration and policies across WASH, health, nutrition and education.

### **2. Driving gains in health and nutrition through water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)**

This side-event was convened by Action Against Hunger, WaterAid and partners, with the Governments of France, Madagascar, Mali and Zambia. The focus of the meeting was to discuss how to better coordinate and integrate health and nutrition with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in order to maximise outcomes across multiple SDGs. The session highlighted the role that health and nutrition outcomes play as proxy measures for sustainable and equitable access to WASH and discussed some of the challenges to cross-sectoral working and ways forward including how to prioritise action.



In 2017, the SUN Movement Secretariat stepped up efforts to develop a system to support all partners in the SUN Movement to monitor and evaluate the results of our action, hold each other accountable for progress, and learn from our collective efforts – to better support countries in scaling up nutrition actions and impact. This is the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning system: MEAL!

The MEAL system is based on the SUN Movement’s Theory of Change.



### Box 1: Domains aligned with the SUN Theory of Change



The MEAL system uses a set of 79 indicators to capture progress in the six steps of the SUN Movement Theory of Change. These indicators are grouped into 8 thematic domains, as listed in Box 1.

The MEAL system mostly relies on data from internally validated datasets and information collected through SUN countries’ Joint-Assessments and by the SUN Movement Secretariat and SUN Networks.

In 2018, the SUN Secretariat initiated a series of MEAL In-Depth Country Reviews, also known as “Deep Dives”, to obtain a first-hand account of how SUN processes are unfolding at country level. The first ‘deep-dives’ have taken place in El Salvador, Benin, and Madagascar, and others will take place, in selected countries, throughout 2019.

## USING MEAL DATA TO ASSESS SUN MOVEMENT PROGRESS AND INFORM PRIORITY ACTIONS

Information from the baseline study conducted in 2017, which first collated information on all 79 indicators for the 60 SUN countries, is compiled in the [SUN MEAL Baseline Report](#).

MEAL country dashboards have been compiled for all 60 countries to provide an overview of country progress and are available on [scalingupnutrition.org](#).

MEAL data has also been used to develop Focus Area Briefs on the following themes: adolescent girls and women, humanitarian risk contexts, and multiple forms of malnutrition. These briefs highlight challenges which require particular policy attention and investments.

Want to learn more? Go to the updated MEAL webpage at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>



# 2

Chapter

## Scaling up support to SUN countries in 2017-2018

### THE MOVEMENT'S STEWARDSHIP AND SUPPORT SYSTEM

Ensuring good nutrition for everyone, everywhere, is a multi-faceted challenge which requires partnering - driven by leadership at the highest levels.

The SUN Movement was launched in 2010 with the commitment of four governments. Today, it is driven by 60 countries and three Indian States - in addition to a diverse and vast group of change agents. As SUN countries work towards achieving the four strategic objectives of the SUN Movement and a world free from malnutrition, they bring people together to align behind national objectives and strive for common results at scale.

To support SUN member countries, the Movement's support system aims to catalyse strengthened planning, implementation, advocacy, communication and functional capacities with a focus on equity and equality. It does this through fostering sharing and learning between governments and stakeholder groups, through technical assistance and tailored support for countries based on their context - particularly in fragile contexts.

#### Reaching the SUN Movement's strategic objectives



**1. Expand and sustain an enabling political environment**



**2. Prioritise and institutionalise effective actions that contribute to good nutrition**



**3. Implement effective actions aligned with common results**



**4. Effectively use, and significantly increase, financial resources for nutrition**



## HOW DO SUN SUPPORTERS WORK IN 2017-2018?

- The **SUN Movement Lead Group** consists of prominent leaders – representing key stakeholder groups – who have pledged to position nutrition at the highest levels and provide inspiration, action and direction on a global scale. They are figureheads for nutrition and carry out strategic advocacy to ensure it grows as a global priority;
- The **SUN Movement Executive Committee** oversees and supports the implementation of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap and strengthens accountability within the Movement;
- The **SUN Movement Coordinator** leads and strengthens collaboration between stakeholders and advocates for improving nutrition at country, regional and global levels;
- Globally, civil society, the private sector, donors, and UN agencies are organised into **SUN Networks**, which also include network steering committees and secretariats to support the establishment and effectiveness of country (and sub-national) networks. They provide support and technical assistance, ensure timely exchange of information, and monitor and evaluate achievements;
- The **SUN Movement Secretariat** provides support to its members' work and facilitates Movement-wide sharing and learning opportunities. The Secretariat (SMS) enables access to technical assistance and support aligned with the SUN Movement's principles.



SUN Movement Coordinator, Lead Group and Executive Committee and Multi-stakeholder Working Groups (MWG) facilitated by the SUN Movement Secretariat

## THE LEAD GROUP

The SUN Movement Lead Group has the overall responsibility for the Movement's progress towards achieving its strategic objectives, whilst preserving its unique character and core principles. It comprises 27 leaders and changemakers who have committed themselves to help position nutrition at the highest levels, provide inspiration and direction for the Movement and its mission in eradicating malnutrition, everywhere.

Members of the Lead Group act as high-level ambassadors and champions for the work of the Movement, advocating on specific issues relating to the strategy and roadmap to end malnutrition in all its forms.



### Introducing the 2018 SUN Movement Lead Group

The year 2017-2018 has seen Lead Group members harnessing their spheres of influences to [place nutrition at the highest level of political agendas in SUN countries, but also regionally and globally](#). This has been done through:

- Joint missions to SUN countries and opinion pieces in [major news outlets](#);
- [Letters issued to ensure parliamentary engagement](#) for nutrition in legislation and budgets and highlighting the [importance of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment for nutrition results, also focusing on adolescent girls](#);
- Scaling up awareness of the 'ticking timebomb' that [non-communicable diseases represent in the fight against malnutrition](#) and celebrating country successes and champions at the [2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering](#), the [SUN Nutrition Hub](#) at the 2018 World Health Assembly and the [2018 Eat Forum](#), to name a few.

The annual SUN Movement Lead Group meeting – the first for the recently appointed Lead Group Chair, Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, UNICEF Executive Director – was held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly on 26 September 2018. At the meeting, the SUN Lead Group committed to, and encouraged all SUN Movement Countries and stakeholders in the SUN Support System to:

1. **Protect, promote and strengthen the SUN Movement's focus on scaling up nutrition during the 1,000-day window from a mother's pregnancy to her child's second birthday;**
2. **Preserve and strengthen the SUN Movement's approach – as a multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, political movement for nutrition impact and results;**
3. **Secure the highest possible level of national ownership and prioritisation for improving people's nutrition through Lead Group action;**
4. **Champion gender equality and make sure it is a top priority for nutrition across the SUN Movement and in their own constituencies;**
5. **Promote the transformation of agriculture into nutrition-sensitive and sustainable food systems, involving key sectors and stakeholders.**

The outcome document of the meeting can be found at: [https://scalingupnutrition.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/LG2018-Meeting-Outcome-Document\\_ENG.pdf](https://scalingupnutrition.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/LG2018-Meeting-Outcome-Document_ENG.pdf). A renewed SUN Movement Lead Group composition will be announced by the United Nations Secretary-General in early 2019.



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## THE COORDINATOR

“ *Let's build bridges between SUN countries, but also with other countries, to end malnutrition together.*”

- Gerda Verburg



In 2017-2018, the SUN Movement Coordinator, Gerda Verburg, has rallied political commitment for nutrition at the country level and globally. She has undertaken high-level visits to Afghanistan, Indonesia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Viet Nam, The Gambia, Malawi, Zambia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Chad and the Indian States of Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi. Globally, Ms. Verburg has called for stakeholders to align behind the Movement's member countries and collaborate for impact at scale at the World Economic Forum in Davos, the World Health Assembly in Geneva, the EAT Stockholm Food Forum and the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in New York.

She has also spoken up and out for the importance of ensuring everyone's human rights are respected, linked girls' education and nutrition results, and ensured nutrition is seen as a maker and marker for sustainable development.

Learn more: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/sun-supporters/sun-movement-coordinator/>

## SUN MOVEMENT COORDINATOR COUNTRY VISITS IN 2017-2018





## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As part of the SUN Movement's stewardship arrangements, the SUN Movement Executive Committee acts on behalf of the SUN Movement Lead Group to oversee the development and implementation of the Movement's strategy.

Meet its members:

**Shawn BAKER (CHAIR)**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Tumaini MIKINDO (CO-CHAIR)**

Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania (PANITA)

**Francesco BRANCA**

World Health Organization

**Daysi DE MÁRQUEZ**

Consejo Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (CONASAN)

**Jane EDMONDSON**

Department for International Development (DFID), Bangladesh

**Maria-Bernardita FLORES**

National Nutrition Council, Philippines

**Lawrence HADDAD**

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

**Abdoulaye KA**

Cellule de lutte contre la Malnutrition Primature, Senegal

**Uma KOIRALA**

Civil Society Alliance for Nutrition, Nepal (CSANN)

**Lauren LANDIS**

World Food Programme (WFP)

**Martha NEWSOME**

Medical Teams International

**Felix PHIRI**

Ministry of Health, Department of Nutrition, Malawi

**Muhammad Aslam SHAHEEN**

Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform/ Planning Commission of Pakistan

**Meera SHEKAR**

World Bank

**Fokko WIJNTJES**

Royal DSM

**Moin KARIM**

UNOPS *ex officio* member

At their retreat, held in Geneva in January 2018, the SUN Movement Executive Committee agreed on a planning timeline for the period 2018-2020, identifying milestones, including a mid-term review, and a SUN Movement Global Gathering to be held at the end of 2019 or in early 2020. An independent evaluation of progress and impact of the SUN Movement is expected before the end of the current second phase – to inform decisions on the future of the SUN Movement beyond 2020.

Following their retreat, the Executive Committee issued a [Call to Action](#) for all stakeholders to strengthen their contributions and rally behind the Movement’s vision of eradicating all forms of malnutrition by 2030.

In May 2018, the SUN Movement Executive Committee commissioned a mid-term review to ascertain the extent to which the Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) is being implemented and to identify areas for strengthening as well as potential course correction. The independent team conducting the mid-term review commenced its work in early June 2018, through surveys (both at the country level and at the global level of the SUN Movement support system), interviews, country visits, country case studies and a desk review. The final mid-term review report will be made public by 31 December 2018.



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## THE NETWORKS

The SUN Movement Networks are made up of actors from different stakeholder groups (UN, civil society, donors and business). The self-organised oversight mechanisms of these networks steer their workplans, are responsible for alignment with the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap, and transparently report progress and achievements. SUN Networks are supported by facilitators and their secretariats, who coordinate their members' contributions and promote the values and principles of the Movement. In SUN countries, members of the SUN Networks work in support of respective national governments by participating in multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) and aligning their activities behind national goals and targets. For the first time, in 2018, the Secretariats of the SUN Global Networks (UN, Donor, Business and Civil Society) have used the Joint-Assessment to examine their contributions. They have also created functionality indexes to shed light on how they work in countries, in pursuit of nutrition results.

### THE SUN CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK



Civil Society Network (CSN)

[The SUN Civil Society Network \(CSN\)](#) encourages the formation of vibrant civil society alliances, with these currently existing in 40 SUN countries. It comprises a membership of 3,000 international, regional and local organisations spanning multiple sectors and backgrounds including four regional coordination groups in Asia, East and Southern Africa, West Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### 2017-2018 highlights<sup>1</sup>

- 21 Civil Society Alliance grantees will receive funding between 2018 and 2019 from the Multi-Partner Pooled Fund (see more information on page 29). And, since July 2017, the New Venture Advocacy Fund has provided one-year support to 11 SUN Alliances.
- In 2018, the SUN Civil Society Network, in collaboration with Action, Results and Global Citizen, have launched a youth leaders for nutrition programme (#y4n2018) to support 13 young campaigners develop skills and knowledge to help accelerate progress to end malnutrition.
- The Network has developed a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) strategy – based on the Network's theory of change. This framework is supporting the Network to record impact and results and has been used by the new pooled fund for the SUN Movement.
- The senior governance of the Network has been renewed in 2018, with a total of 16 new members to its steering group, representing regional Civil Society Alliance groups, as well as international and national partners. Furthermore, the Network has strengthened its secretariat and successfully secured its funding, up to 2020.
- From June to September 2017, in Tanzania, and with seed funding from a SUN Civil Society Network innovation award scheme, PANITA piloted the use of performance contracts after being inspired by the use of these in Rwanda. The contracts are between the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local government (POLRAG) and the Regional Commissioners and were launched in 2017. So far, Commissioners from 26 Regions have signed them.
- In Kenya, the Alliance has nominated the First Lady as a nutrition champion – and also persuaded the First Ladies of four counties to also be champions for nutrition advocacy in 2018. The Alliance mapped member initiatives across the country and created an open database to help nutrition projects quickly mobilise support or find potential partners.
- In Peru, more than 500 young people from 10 regions have been trained on the status of malnutrition in Peru and how to take action to influence key stakeholders.
- In Guinea, the SUN Civil Society Alliance successfully campaigned for an increase in the nutrition budget and mobilised community tracking of nutrition commitments.

<sup>1</sup> Note that the reporting period for Civil Society Network progress in countries was between April 2017 and June 2018.



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- 9 SUN Civil Society Alliances in the East and Southern Africa regional group are contributing to a regional budget advocacy initiative.
- In Malawi, the Civil Society Organisation Nutrition Alliance (CSONA) conducted nutrition training sessions with Members of Parliament and engaged with the First Lady to enlist her support for increasing nutrition expenditure. CSONA also trained 8 SUN Civil Society Alliances in an introduction to budget analysis and advocacy. The same 8 Alliances in East and Southern Africa are now collaborating on a regional budget analysis and advocacy initiative. The report for this initiative is due to be launched in 2018.
- In Pakistan, the SUN Civil Society Alliance ran a successful budget analysis at national and sub-national levels. Thanks to their work, after the 2018 elections, the Government of Pakistan allocated PKR 10 billion for nutrition, a substantial increase compared to the PKR 100 million allocated in previous year.

### 2018-2019 priorities

The Network strategy aims to support national SUN Civil Society Alliances to achieve their potential through: driving advocacy; strengthening accountability; enabling learning; securing space and resources; inspiring adaptation; and promoting ethics.

The SUN Civil Society Network Secretariat will continue to support Alliances to:

- Ensure a focus on the most marginalised in society and equity approaches to solving the malnutrition crisis;
- Encourage rights-based approaches to malnutrition and food security challenges;
- Engage in critical thinking on how to build national civil society resilience and participation in times of humanitarian response and transition to longer-term development;
- Encourage the participation of young people in international fora relating to nutrition;
- Access the funding and resources they need to campaign for an end to malnutrition.

## THE SUN BUSINESS NETWORK



SUN Business Network (SBN)

put in place Networks.

[The SUN Business Network \(SBN\)](#) is a global platform for business and nutrition – aiming to reduce malnutrition in all its forms, through engaging and supporting business to act, invest and innovate in responsible and sustainable actions and operations for improved nutrition. 28 multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) in SUN Countries now comprise private sector representatives, with 18 countries having

### 2017-2018 highlights

- In 2017-2018, the Network has supported over 30 SUN countries in the development of national SUN Business Networks or in establishing plans to do so. The SUN Business Network has also supported 14 SUN countries to fundraise for the development of national Networks.
- In the last year, over 300 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have entered national SBN pitch competitions across 7 SUN countries. These competitions allow for national SBNs to assess the needs of SMEs and identify promising innovations and investment opportunities for improved access to good nutrition. Winning African SMEs have been awarded a space to pitch their business ideas to investors in the first ever Nutrition Africa Investor Forum, which the SBN is convening with GAIN, Royal DSM and Africa Business Magazine (to be held in October 2018).
- During the reporting period, the SUN Business Network has revised its global membership criteria. From 2018, multinational companies must commit to put in place/establish workplace nutrition policies; improve actions to combat malnutrition in all its forms, including addressing obesity and non-communicable diseases; and give technical assistance to national Networks and SMEs.
- In 2017-2018, the SUN Business Network has doubled the size of its global secretariat and secured funding until 2020 – having revised its impact pathway and results framework. The SUN Business Network will measure its performance across four areas, namely: convening and organising business at the national level around government-led, multi-stakeholder national nutrition strategies; assessing needs to spur action or invest in nutrition (with a focus on SMEs) and linking business with support providers; and, lastly identifying and addressing improvements in the enabling environment to incentivise responsible business actions around addressing malnutrition in all its forms.
- The SUN Business Network team has also established links at the global level with providers of finance, technical assistance or business development services to support SMEs. For example, Ashoka Changemakers, the African Development Bank, and the International Food & Beverage Association have been working with or are committed to scale up collaboration with national Business Networks.

### 2018-2019 priorities

- The Network has partnered with the Access to Nutrition Foundation to develop a tool to support food companies within national Networks to assess their own performance in improving access to nutrition, using a similar methodology used by the Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI). The SUN Business Network in Nigeria will pilot the first version of the tool in early 2019;
- The Network is developing a diagnostic tool for SUN country governments to prioritise actions to improve the enabling environment for businesses to invest responsibly in nutrition;
- The Network plans to roll out its flagship pitch competition and Investor Forum initiatives to the Asia region.



## THE SUN DONOR NETWORK



SUN Donor Network (SDN)

[The SUN Donor Network \(SDN\)](#) strives for transparency and improved coordination between donors and partners globally and encourages donor coordination and alignment with national nutrition plans in SUN countries. The Network brings together bilateral donors, foundations and development banks to develop and implement their own approach to scaling up nutrition. 35 countries have an

appointed donor convener to increase, harmonise and align development partners' support for government-led nutrition plans, with Donor Networks existing in 21 SUN countries today.

### 2017-2018 highlights

- The SUN Donor Network meeting, held in Malawi in July 2018, served as a platform to launch a truly global SUN Donor Network, including all global and national structures. At this launch, participants further enforced the Network's ambitions and drive to increase learning and capacity strengthening – to better promote multi-sectoral country efforts to end malnutrition.
- The SUN Donor Network has renewed their commitment to galvanise new and higher quality financing for nutrition, ensure sustained high-level political leadership, engagement and commitment at global and national levels and strengthened coordination and learning across the Network for improving the scaling up of nutrition at the country level.
- The SUN Donor Network has made significant progress in building partnerships with innovative financing mechanisms, such as the Global Financing Facility, to galvanise more funding for nutrition and bringing these innovative financing mechanisms closer to SUN countries.
- The Network has strengthened donor coordination structures at the country level by distributing and applying guidance and tools to improve performance and encourage more members to contribute actively towards ending malnutrition in all forms.
- During the reporting period, the SUN Donor Network has successfully improved its accountability by ensuring reporting on nutrition-specific and sensitive investments – through the revision of the Corporate Social Responsibility Code for Basic Nutrition, and the development of an OECD Nutrition Policy Marker. The Marker will be reported against from 2020, based on data collected in 2019.
- The SUN Donor Network has also played a key role in strengthening the SUN Movement support system, through financial support towards the newly developed “pooled fund” in support of Civil Society Alliances in SUN countries. This fund has been launched and issued its first call of proposals, after which 21 grantees have been awarded and are being implemented (more information on page 29).

### 2018-2019 priorities

- Globally, the Network will strive for an increase in the amount and quality of financing for nutrition from innovative financing mechanisms and all other sources, including strengthened nutrition financing capacity of SUN structures. In parallel, priority will be given to increasing accountability, transparency and reporting on nutrition financing to better understand trends and fill donor financing gaps;
- Ensure there is effective, coherent and coordinated engagement of donors. This will include strengthening sustained donor leadership and action on nutrition at both global and national levels, making the best out of global opportunities and supporting a more effective governance structure;
- Spread knowledge and learning between global and national Donor Network members and networks, in particular, on nutrition policy and strategy developments, investments, research and donor approaches. This also includes identifying good practices in nutrition-sensitive programming and showcasing where donor harmonisation and alignment with nutrition strategies and common results frameworks has contributed to scaling up nutrition;
- Improve the coordination mechanisms and structures with the wider SUN structures, at the country level, also by strengthening capacities to increase coherent and joint actions in support of multi-stakeholder platforms and national governments.



## THE UN NETWORK FOR SUN



United Nations Network for SUN (UNN)

The [UN Network for SUN \(UNN\)](#) provides a platform for UN agencies to harmonise and coordinate nutrition efforts with all relevant stakeholders, in support of country-level actions and strengthened governmental ownership to attain nutrition targets and achieve the SDGs. Formally established in 2013 by the principals of five UN agencies working in nutrition – FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP, and WHO – the membership is increasingly expanding at the country

level to include other agencies contributing to nutrition outcomes (such as the World Bank, UNDP UNFPA, UN Women, UNAIDS and the ILO). Within the remit of *One UN*, the UN Network helps bring convergence to national multi-sectoral nutrition efforts by harnessing UN agencies' functional and technical expertise, with all SUN countries having established UN Networks today.

### 2017-2018 highlights

- In addition to 60 country-level UN Networks, the number of Networks with chairs/co-chairs increased from 74 to 80 per cent in 2017-2018. REACH (Renewed Efforts against Child Hunger and Undernutrition), a component of the Network's multi-sectoral technical assistance facility, engages in 8 countries.
- Countries implementing joint programming increased from 91 to 95 per cent in 2017-2018, with all joint programmes now encompassing both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive components. An estimated 76 per cent of UN Networks contributed to development or updating of nutrition content of joint UN frameworks (e.g. UNDAFs) and 97 per cent brokered or provided direct technical support to the government, especially to the SUN Focal Point.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> In 2017, 40 out of 60 UN Networks took part in the Annual Reporting Exercise, which covered the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017. While countries responded to a standardised questionnaire, they provided different levels of detail in their qualitative responses. It is therefore possible that other countries have made similar achievements, which were not captured in their UNN Reporting responses.

- In Zimbabwe's Mutasa region, a UN joint programme – implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare and a range of UN agencies and civil society organisations – has led to a decrease in stunting prevalence by almost 19 per cent since the start of the programme in 2014.
- Successful advocacy measures have prompted concrete policy change in SUN countries, including Sierra Leone, where a donor/UN-backed televised debate with parliamentarians led to the enactment of a food safety and nutrition bill. Whereas, Sri Lanka has dedicated its National Nutrition Month on advocacy – calling for national controls on high sugar, salt and fat content in foods and beverages for children.
- Increasingly, the UN Network Secretariat-supported tools have been utilised by country-level Un Networks – to support policy and programmatic decision-making and action. One such tool includes the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Overview (MNO), which is an extensive situational analysis exercise of the nutrition situation in the country, highlighting positive trends and areas of concern related to all forms of malnutrition.
- A Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping exercise, which looks at nutrition-specific and sensitive actions of all relevant stakeholders – from government to the UN to civil society – has been undertaken by 8 countries (including Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and The Gambia). This exercise is being used in Senegal as a baseline for the National Nutrition Plan and will be updated to monitor progress. Similarly, in Myanmar, the findings have been strategically used by stakeholders while developing the new National Nutrition Plan.
- A UN Nutrition Inventory tool has been undertaken in 10 countries, including Chad, Congo and Guinea, enabling the UN Network to look at where and which UN agency is doing what – enabling better coordination and enhanced efficiency. The Inventory has not only helped the UN Network gain traction in countries, but it has also created a catalytic effect, sparking interest among other UN agencies and offices (e.g. UNFPA, UNOPS, UN Women, World Bank, the Regional Coordinators) to engage in the Network.

### 2018-2019 priorities

- Advocating for higher leadership for country-level UN Networks, broadening the membership and enhancing the functionality to bring about increased cohesiveness to the national nutrition agenda, also in non-SUN countries;
- Strengthening mutual accountability for nutrition, by tracking UN collective efforts in support of national nutrition priorities, on all forms of malnutrition, including through the Decade of Action;
- Enhancing efforts in fragile and conflict contexts to bridge the humanitarian-development nexus;
- Combating malnutrition through preventative measures, through efforts focused on adolescents and greater youth outreach;
- Leveraging investments, innovation and UN expertise to accelerate the scale-up of nutrition actions and nutrition governance processes.





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## THE SUN MOVEMENT SECRETARIAT

The SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) supports the implementation of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020), launched in September 2016. It does this by liaising with SUN government focal points and SUN Networks, and ensures Movement-wide sharing and learning, encouraging continuous improvement by all members. The Secretariat enables access to technical assistance and tailored support to SUN countries, as per the Movement's principles of engagement. The Joint-Assessment exercise is a flagship process guided by the Secretariat, which helps countries to reflect and set priorities for the future.

Driven by country demand, the Secretariat brings together the SUN Country Network quarterly, to discuss developments, bottlenecks and challenges, often centred on a thematic area. Since 2017, these meetings have used the webinar model, to allow for deeper and more meaningful discussions and follow-up.

It has also facilitated face-to-face meetings and retreats of the SUN Networks, Executive Committee and Lead Group. The SMS, during the reporting period, has arranged nutrition gatherings, such as the 2017 Global Gathering in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, (see pp. 6-7 for more information), and the World Health Assembly Nutrition Hub, and hosted events on the margins of the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development, and the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly. The Secretariat also held the Movement's first training of 11 champions for nutrition at the EAT Stockholm Food Forum.

The rolling out of the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) framework for the Movement, has been a key priority in the reporting period, leading to a range of briefs on areas of concern to the Movement – such as humanitarian contexts, adolescent girls and women, and the multiple forms of malnutrition – in addition to country-level dashboards. MEAL country dashboards are designed to support SUN Movement stakeholders at national, sub-national, regional and global levels to assess progress – using a standard set of indicators that cover the eight domains of the Theory of Change. These dashboards aim to identify patterns in performance and inform strategic decisions towards no malnutrition in SUN countries.



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## THE SUN MOVEMENT POOLED FUND

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund, in its second phase, remains a catalytic, last resort, source of small grants to support multi-stakeholder platforms in SUN countries to increase the effectiveness and impact of national efforts to end malnutrition in all its forms. Designed to ensure that no country plan ‘slips through the cracks’ for lack of capacity, it promotes the engagement of additional relevant actors in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder national plans for nutrition. The focus remains on the first 1,000-day window.

The Pooled Fund is aligned with the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) and integrated with the broader SUN Movement stewardship arrangements and processes at national and global levels. It contributes to the achievement of the strategic objectives of the SUN Movement.

The Pooled Fund has two primary areas for work, and thus two windows for funding:

- Window I for strengthening participation by in-country stakeholders in national multi-stakeholder platforms to implement scalable nutrition plans;
- Window II to reinforce the in-country capacity of all SUN Countries through sharing and learning.

For the first call for proposals, the Pooled Fund focused on Window I and was designed to ensure that catalytic and last resort grants reach national SUN Civil Society Alliances in support of their actions to scale up nutrition. It was launched at the beginning of May 2018.

Proposals were received from either an established SUN Civil Society Alliance in a SUN country, or from an emerging civil society alliance. In total, 21 grants were awarded to SUN Civil Society Alliances from 19 SUN countries. The implementation of the projects began in August-September 2018. All projects are to be completed within 12 months from their starting date.

Two other calls for proposals are expected to be launched and activities are to be completed by December 2020. They include expanding the number of grants to national Civil Society Alliances and fostering sharing and learning opportunities among SUN countries – to reinforce in-country capabilities.





## Chapter

## 3

## Scaling up nutrition around the world in 2017-2018

For the first time, the 2018 SUN Movement progress report takes a regional approach. The following sections, where the 60 SUN countries are divided into five regions,<sup>1</sup> look at the evolution of nutrition and diets in countries – for children, adolescents and adults – some underlying drivers towards achieving the SDGs that have an impact on nutrition, but also progress towards the Movement’s strategic objectives, including creating an enabling environment for nutrition actions to take hold in SUN countries.

This chapter uses extensive data from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system, which includes indicators on the nutrition situation, drivers of nutrition and the enabling environment.<sup>2</sup> It also relies on the information shared by the 53 countries who undertook the 2018 Joint-Assessment between April and August, in addition to the baseline study that Afghanistan was asked to undertake, as the Movement’s more recent member.

The year 2017-2018 has given us some important highlights. More countries across the SUN Movement now have sufficient data to enable the assessment of progress toward the World Health Assembly global nutrition targets, recently updated to be achieved by 2030. This means that, today, more SUN countries are considered on track to achieve child-related nutrition indicators (for stunting, wasting, child overweight and exclusive breastfeeding) compared to last year, with progress seen in countries from all regions.

<sup>1</sup> The five regions in this chapter are: West and Central Africa, East and Southern Africa, West and Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

<sup>2</sup> Unless indicated otherwise, all data cited in the report is from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system database. The original data sources are described in the MEAL Framework Baseline Document. Available at: [https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-learning-meal/meal-framework-baseline-document-2017\\_001/](https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-learning-meal/meal-framework-baseline-document-2017_001/) [accessed November 2018].



 **9 countries<sup>3</sup>** are on track to meet the target for stunting (up from 8 countries in 2017)

 **14 countries<sup>4</sup>** are on track to meet the target for wasting (up from 13 countries in 2017).

 **23 countries<sup>6</sup>** are on track to meet the target for child overweight (up from 20 countries in 2017).

 **23 countries<sup>7</sup>** are on track to meet the target for exclusive breastfeeding (up from 17 countries in 2017).

 The **absence of progress on reducing anaemia** among women is worrying. No SUN country is on track to achieve this important target.

 For low birthweight, **efforts are underway to improve the quality of data** used to track progress towards meeting the global target. We hope to be able to report on this in 2019, with more information.

**6 COUNTRIES ARE ON TRACK TO MEET THE TARGETS FOR BOTH STUNTING AND WASTING (UP FROM 5 COUNTRIES IN 2017)<sup>5</sup>**

<sup>3</sup> Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia and Peru.

<sup>4</sup> Benin, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, Peru, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

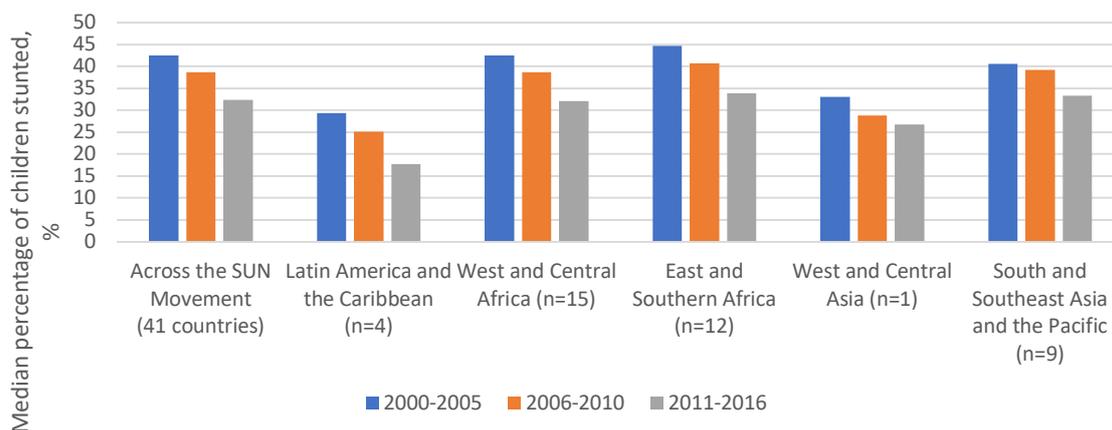
<sup>5</sup> El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan and Peru.

<sup>6</sup> Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Eswatini, Guatemala, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Uganda.

<sup>7</sup> Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, El Salvador, Eswatini, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

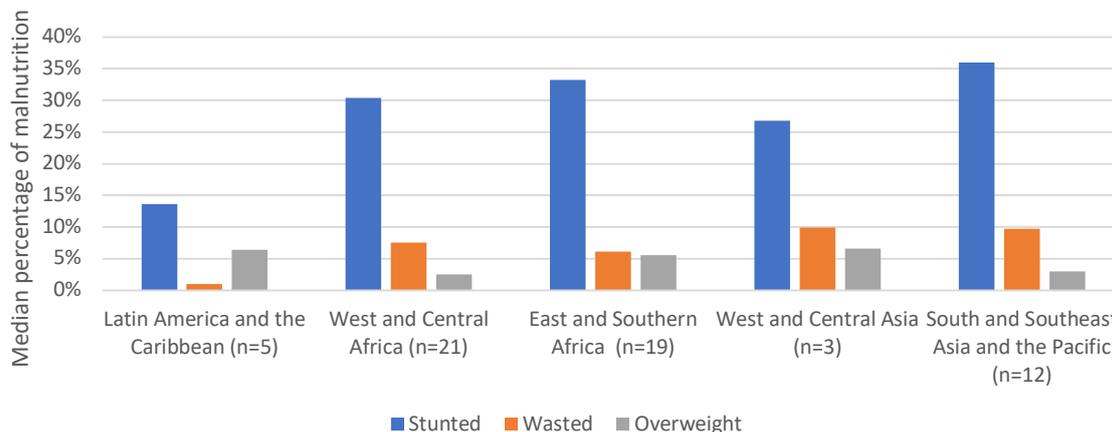
Stunting rates continue to fall in all regions (see graph 1).<sup>8</sup> Nevertheless, stunting still affects one-third of girls and boys under five (median 32 per cent) across the Movement, with 2 out of 3 SUN countries (38/60) facing the challenge of addressing both high stunting and wasting levels among young children. Levels of undernutrition remain particularly high in those countries affected by conflict or climate-driven crises, although these countries also show increasing levels of political commitment to accelerate progress.

**Graph 1: Trends in stunting among children under five years of age in SUN countries, 2000-2016**



However, a growing number of countries are facing the emerging challenge of child overweight, which affects Latin America, Southern Africa and Central Asia, in particular (see graph 2). 4 SUN countries bear the combined burden of a high prevalence in child overweight, stunting and wasting.

**Graph 2: Nutrition status of children under five in SUN countries, by region**

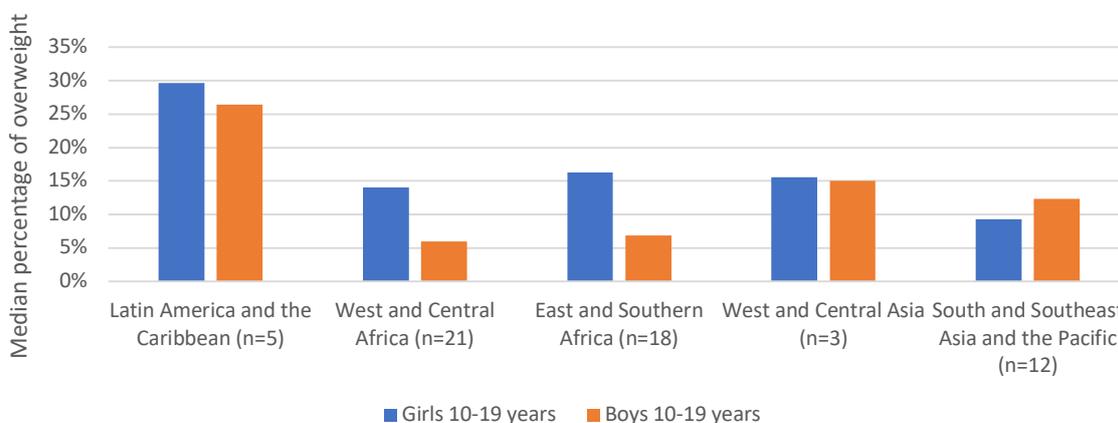


The SUN Movement promotes a lifecycle approach to tackling malnutrition, as girls, boys, women and men have differing nutritional requirements in the course of their lives. For the first time, this report also looks at adolescent nutrition, as this period in life offers a second critical window of opportunity to ensure a nutritious and healthy future for all. The nutrition trends for adolescent girls are of concern: very little reduction in rates of undernutrition has been seen in this age group, at the same time as there are striking increases in overweight and obesity (ranging from 12 per cent in South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific to 29 per cent in Latin

<sup>8</sup> Please note that this graph includes data only for 44 countries for which three data points are available. In West and Central Asia, data is available only for Tajikistan.

America and the Caribbean). The high burden of anaemia is also evident among adolescent girls, particularly in West and Central Africa and South and Southeast Asia.

**Graph 3: Adolescent overweight in SUN countries, by region**



Adult women and men face high levels of malnutrition across the regions. The nutritional needs of women must be urgently addressed, to ensure that no one is left behind and the vicious cycle of malnutrition is not perpetuated from one generation to the next. Today, there are high levels of anaemia (greater than 20 per cent) among women in 56 SUN countries. There are wide variations in the prevalence of obesity for both women and men across regions, with Latin America and Central Asia being most affected. Those SUN countries that today see lower levels of overweight and obesity should take preventive actions.

**Figure 1: Adult overweight and obesity prevalence in SUN countries, by region and sex, 2016**



The regional sections in this chapter also provide insights on the drivers and challenges that impact the nutrition situation, such as exposure to shocks and crises, poverty, health patterns, food security, access to health and sanitation services, and gender dynamics. These sections demonstrate the diversity of challenges which make the fight against malnutrition such a complex enterprise. But SUN countries are united by their commitment to work together in addressing nutrition through actions that achieve meaningful results across these different sectors.

More and more, SUN countries are taking the necessary steps to make sure good nutrition becomes a reality, by ensuring the nutrition environment, at the country level, is enabling for lasting success. To examine efforts, between April and August 2018, the SUN Joint-Assessment took place in a record-breaking 53 countries. The increase in the median of total scores towards achieving the Movement's strategic objectives between 2014-2016 and 2017-2018 in 3 regions and sustained progress in Latin America and the Caribbean and East and Southern Africa is encouraging.

### **SUN COUNTRIES ARE DETERMINING THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR SUSTAINED CHANGE, BY BRINGING TOGETHER MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS**

There have never been more appointed, and more active, nutrition champions, also amongst the media, parliamentarians and academia. A key result from the reporting period and spanning SUN regions, is the amount of countries stepping up work with the media to spread the nutrition word. In 2017-2018, 38 countries (5 more than in 2016-2017) have harnessed the media in their fight against malnutrition. In 41 countries (7 more than in 2016-2017), parliamentarians are tackling nutrition through innovative policies and legislation and 41 countries work with scientists and academia to better support evidence-based decision-making and improve coordination between governments and research institutions. 31 countries (up from 25 in 2016-2017) have nominated one or several high-level or social champions for nutrition – to help ensure nutrition remains high on the political agenda.

### **SUN COUNTRIES ARE WORKING TOWARDS COMMON RESULTS, WITH ACTION PLANS TO BRING GOALS TO LIFE**

42 countries (5 more than in 2016-2017) have finalised a Common Results Framework (CRF) that guides the alignment of sectoral policies and investments towards common nutrition objectives. 30 of these CRFs (6 more than in 2016-2017) have a monitoring and evaluation plan to track progress. 41 CRFs (up from 32 in 2016-2017) are accompanied by an action plan, to bring goals, across sectors and stakeholders, to life.

### **SUN COUNTRIES ARE MAKING AN INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE CASE FOR INVESTING IN NUTRITION**

Across all regions, countries are demonstrating a better use of finance data through improved advocacy, planning and impact. They do this by regularly and transparently tracking nutrition budget allocations against multi-sectoral nutrition plans. 35 countries report tracking public allocations for nutrition in 2017-2018, whereas in 2016-2017, 32 countries reported doing so. Furthermore, 19 countries have undertaken the SUN budget analysis exercise in 2018, up from 4 countries in 2017. This brings the Movement to a total of 50 countries that have conducted a budget analysis for nutrition, a specific value-added component of being a member of the SUN Movement.

### **SUN COUNTRIES ARE STRIVING FOR COHERENT POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS, WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR LASTING HUMAN IMPACT**

The MEAL system, rolled out in 2017-2018, has provided a valuable overview of the current status of SUN countries in enacting legislation for nutrition. MEAL shows us, for instance, that those countries who have been a part of the Movement for longer (in particularly those who joined in 2010-2012) have stronger legislation in place for improved nutrition, including the right to food, mandatory food fortification and fortification standards legislation. Early joiners also tend to have more legal measures in place covering the provisions of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes than countries who joined SUN in recent years.

Looking ahead, it will be important for countries who have joined more recently to work towards strengthening their legal frameworks. Furthermore, as recent experience in several countries has shown, countries must work to enforce and monitor legislation in order to achieve the desired impact.

Areas that require continued and strengthened attention, across the board, are ensuring multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral collaboration that is focused on results, nationally and sub-nationally, and adopting and implementing policies and legislation that protect everyone's nutrition. This includes actions in support of breastfeeding, that address inappropriate marketing practices in relation to complementary foods and promote healthy diets across the lifespan. Finally, all actions must be implemented with specific attention to gender dynamics, with continued efforts to close the gender gap in education and the unfair care burden, and ensure women and men, girls and boys have access to the knowledge and services that empower them to protect and improve their nutrition and that of their families.



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# Scaling up nutrition in West and Central Africa

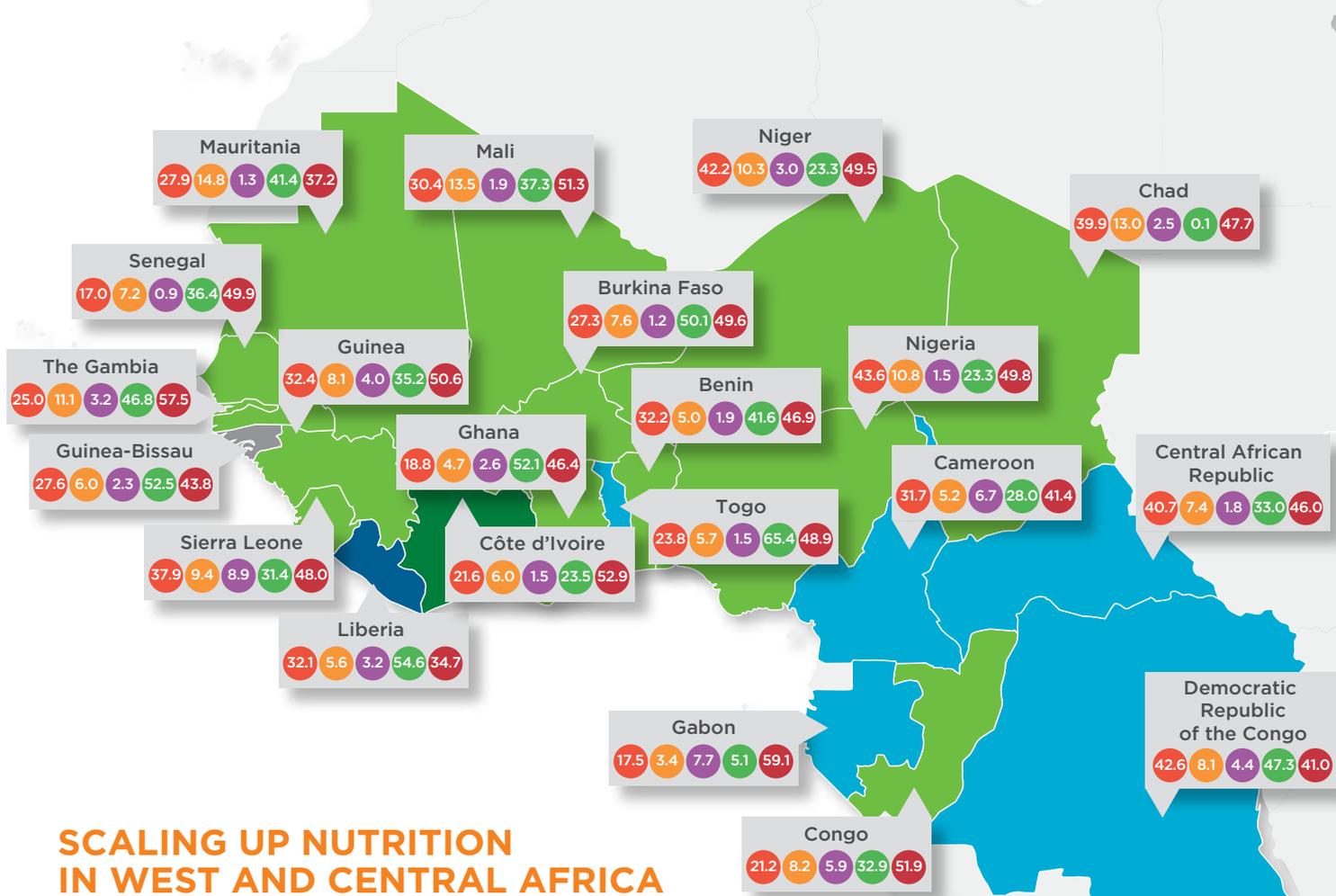
## INTRODUCTION

West and Central Africa is the largest SUN region and comprises 21 countries<sup>1</sup> at different stages of their scaling up nutrition efforts. The region includes some of the earliest members to join the Movement (with 8 countries joining SUN in 2011), and 2 of its most recent members, Gabon and Central African Republic (both of whom joined the Movement in late 2016 and early 2017). 15 countries are francophone, while 5 countries are anglophone. Guinea-Bissau is the only lusophone country.<sup>2</sup>

Most countries in the region have made strides towards creating an enabling environment for country partners to work hand-in-hand for nutrition results. 18 out of 21 countries have created,

<sup>1</sup> West African SUN countries include: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Central African SUN countries include: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Gabon.

<sup>2</sup> Unless cited otherwise, data presented in this section are from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) database. These data have been compiled from various sources, as listed in the SUN MEAL Framework Baseline Document, which is available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.



## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

### Nutrition situation

- Under five stunting (%)
- Under five wasting (%)
- Under five overweight (%)
- 0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding (%)
- Anaemia in women 15-49 years (%)

### Progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives (total weighted, as reported in 2018)\*

- 0 - 25% weighted progress
- 26 - 50% weighted progress
- 51 - 75% weighted progress
- 76 - 100% weighted progress
- weighting not available

\*UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Group joint child malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition, and the Joint-Assessment results completed in 2018 by SUN Countries.

See the Country Profiles at the back of this report for more information.

or are in the process of creating, multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs), and the 2018 Joint-Assessment scores - undertaken by all countries except 1 - show an increase from a median of 52 per cent in 2014-2016 to 61 per cent in 2017-2018. However, economic development challenges,<sup>3</sup> fragile governance and effects of conflict and climate-related stressors threaten progress seen in many countries over the past years.

Looking ahead, concerted efforts to fight these underlying drivers of malnutrition and ensuring the sustainability of actions will be essential to ensure good nutrition for all women, men and children in West and Central Africa.

<sup>3</sup> In March 2018, 14 countries in the region were listed as “least developed countries”, with several countries being landlocked.

## A SNAPSHOT OF NUTRITION AND DIETS ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE

Although trends vary greatly from country to country in this region, certain parallels can be drawn vis-à-vis malnutrition and food security trends.



The stunting picture – in terms of levels and changes – is very diverse. Ghana and Mauritania show the largest percentage of stunting reductions over time.<sup>4</sup> Stunting affects a median of 30 per cent of girls and boys under five in the 21 countries (with a range of 17 to 44 per cent), while the median rate of wasting is at 8 per cent (with a range of 3 to 15 per cent). In both West and Central Africa, the poorest children have significantly higher rates of wasting (around 1.5 times higher) than the richest children.<sup>5</sup> But, several countries are making encouraging progress. Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Liberia are on track to meet the World Health Assembly stunting target, with Benin and Ghana on track to meet the wasting target.

**GHANA IS 1 OF ONLY 6 SUN COUNTRIES ON TRACK TO MEET GLOBAL STUNTING AND WASTING TARGETS**



West and Central Africa has the lowest levels of child overweight (with a median of 2.5 per cent and a range between 0.9 to 8.9 per cent). Almost half of the 23 SUN countries that are on course to halt the rising rate of overweight children under five can be found in West and Central Africa. Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone are on track to meet the WHA overweight target.



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The breastfeeding picture is quite varied. Less than half (or 44 per cent) of infants are breastfed within an hour after birth. About one third of infants are exclusively breastfed (with a median of 33 per cent). Togo is the “leader of the pack” with an exclusive breastfeeding rate of 65.4 per cent, followed by Guinea-Bissau (52.5 per cent) and Ghana (at 52.1 per cent). Chad has a very low exclusive breastfeeding rate of 0.1 per cent.<sup>6</sup> However, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, and Sierra Leone are on track to meet the WHA breastfeeding target. 18 out of 21 countries are performing extremely well in ensuring continued breastfeeding of girls and boys at 1 year old – with 11 countries having rates above 90 per cent.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> FAO, (2017). Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in Africa 2017. The food security and nutrition–conflict nexus: building resilience for food security, nutrition and peace. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i8053e.pdf> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, (2018). Levels and trends in child malnutrition: Key findings of the 2018 edition. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/2018-jme-brochure.pdf?ua=1> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>6</sup> WHO, (2018). Enabling women to breastfeed through better policies and programmes: Global breastfeeding scorecard 2018. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/global-bf-scorecard-2018/en/> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. As per this data the following countries have rates above 90 per cent: Benin, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Rates from Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone fall right below 90 per cent, meaning they are on par.



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Anaemia in girls and women is a key malnutrition concern in West and Central Africa. 57.2 per cent of pregnant women and 47.7 per cent of non-pregnant women suffer from anaemia. There has been little progress towards the target for anaemia, not only in West and Central Africa, but also globally. Liberia and Ghana have made the most progress, however, 12 countries have seen an increase in their anaemia rates. Anaemia also affects half of adolescent girls between the ages of 15 and 19 years (with ranges between 40 and 64 per cent) in the region – based on the 14 countries with data available. 70 per cent of children under five in this region are anaemic (with a range between 58 and 86 per cent, based on the 17 countries with data).



Chad, Central African Republic and Mali have been ranked in the top 10 globally for healthy dietary patterns, while Sierra Leone has been ranked highly (place 8) for consumption of fewer unhealthy items.<sup>8</sup> Today, however, trends show increased consumption of unhealthy foods and nutrients in the region. Between 2000 and 2016 there has been a steady increase in the prevalence of overweight and obesity among adolescents and adults. The median prevalence of overweight and obesity for adolescent girls stands at 14 per cent (6 per cent for adolescent boys), whereas this is at 37 per cent for adult women and 22 per cent among men.



Infant and young child feeding practices across the region are quite poor. Only 7 per cent (median) of children 6-23 months of age receive a minimum acceptable diet (with a range between 3 and 17 per cent) – with only 13 per cent (if looking at the median) receiving minimum diet diversity (with a range between 5 and 34 per cent). Over half of all girls and boys under five (with a median of 52 per cent)<sup>9</sup> suffer from vitamin A deficiency.



The region saw a fall in the prevalence and number of undernourished people between 1999-2001 and 2009-2011, but, in subsequent years (2014-2016), there has been a rise, hitting Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone the hardest.<sup>10</sup> Of the 2 sub-regions, Central Africa's prevalence rate of undernourished people in 2017 was significantly higher (at 26 per cent) than that of West Africa (at 15 per cent).<sup>11</sup>

Countries in West and Central Africa are amongst some of the most food insecure globally. Almost one third of women, men and their families face severe food insecurity in West Africa, while this figure is at almost 50 per cent in Central Africa.<sup>12</sup> Of the 20 countries most dependent on food imports globally, 9 are in the region. In 2017, 13 countries were dependent on external food assistance, with 5 countries having at least 20 per cent of their population in a situation of crisis.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>8</sup> The Lancet, (2015). Global Health, Volume 3, ISSUE 3, Pe132-e142, March 01, 2015. Dietary quality among men and women in 187 countries in 1990 and 2010: a systematic assessment. Available at: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X\(14\)70381-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(14)70381-X/fulltext) [accessed October 2018].

<sup>9</sup> Development Initiatives, (2017). Global Nutrition Report 2017: Nourishing the SDGs. Bristol, UK: Development Initiatives. Available at: [http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report\\_2017-2.pdf](http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report_2017-2.pdf) [accessed November 2018].

<sup>10</sup> Supra note 4.

<sup>11</sup> FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, (2018). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018. Building climate resilience for food security and nutrition. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/I9553EN/i9553en.pdf> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>12</sup> Supra note 4.

<sup>13</sup> Food Security Information Network, (2018). Global Report on Food Crises 2018. Available at: [https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-000069227/download/?\\_ga=2.30744312.697980888.1540906685-920717876.1527583340](https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-000069227/download/?_ga=2.30744312.697980888.1540906685-920717876.1527583340) [accessed October 2018].



## REACHING THE SUN MOVEMENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In 2018, 20 out of 21 countries<sup>19</sup> undertook their Joint-Assessment by bringing together their nutrition communities. These assessments show encouraging progress – with an increase in the median total score from 52 per cent in 2014-2016 to 61 per cent in 2017-2018.



### EXPAND AND SUSTAIN AN ENABLING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

Most countries in the region are progressing in ensuring an enabling environment for nutrition. 16 countries have a functioning multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) in place, with Congo, Gabon and Liberia being in the process of setting up their MSPs.<sup>20</sup> MSPs exist at the decentralised level in 13 countries – with the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mauritania being in the process of decentralising theirs. In Benin, for instance, MSPs exist in 40 out of 77 municipalities today.

Focal points in the region are placed at different levels, within a range of ministries. In 9 SUN countries, the focal point is positioned within the offices of the President (Benin and Congo), Vice President (Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone) or Prime Minister (Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea). This strengthens their ability to convene the nutrition community in the country. In 9 countries, the SUN focal point is placed within the Ministry of Health.

In 2017-2018, national-level MSPs work more across stakeholder groups for the best possible impact. 18 countries report working with civil society, 12 work with businesses, 11 have a UN convener and 13 countries have a donor convener. UN Networks for SUN exist in all countries, with 7 Networks deemed to function well today. Civil Society Alliances exist in 16 countries, with Alliances in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal being highly ranked in terms of functionality. A SUN Business Network exists and works well in Nigeria, with Business Networks in early stages of development in Côte d'Ivoire and Mali.

A key result from 2017-2018 is the mobilisation of high-level advocates for nutrition, which is key to ensure that nutrition remains a top priority. 8 countries have mobilised the media, parliamentarians and champions in 2018, compared to only 3 countries in 2016. An important emerging regional trend is the development of parliamentary networks for nutrition – to harness their legislative and budgetary powers. More countries are also collaborating with academia with 13 out of 20 countries harnessing their role.



The 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering, held in Abidjan in November, brought together a range of high-level advocates for nutrition. Côte d'Ivoire received the SUN Country Team Award at the 2017 SUN Global Gathering, for their dedication and championship for nutrition. Mr. Emmanuel Koffi Ahoutou, Deputy Director of the Office of the Prime Minister and SUN Government Focal Point, and Dr Patricia Ngoran-Theckly, Coordinator of

the National Nutrition Programme and SUN Government Technical Focal Point, accepted the award.

Dr Mohamed Ag Bendech, of Mali, was given a Lifetime Award for his dedication to improve nutrition in his country, but also on the Continent, as a whole.

**CÔTE D'IVOIRE HOSTED MORE THAN 1,000 MEMBERS OF THE SUN MOVEMENT AT THE 2017 GLOBAL GATHERING, WHICH TOOK PLACE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A SUN COUNTRY**



<sup>19</sup> Guinea-Bissau is the only country in the region who did not undertake the SUN Joint-Assessment in 2018.

<sup>20</sup> Central African Republic and Togo have not set up multi-stakeholder platforms.



## PRIORITISING AND INSTITUTIONALISING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD NUTRITION

As is the case for other SUN regions, West and Central Africa varies greatly in their ability to ensure a coherent legal and policy framework for nutrition.



Democratic Republic of the Congo and Niger are the only 2 countries that explicitly guarantee the right to adequate food in their Constitutions. The right to food is implicitly protected as part of broader rights in the Constitutions of Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Togo. Given the ongoing conflicts and climate-related stressors in many of the region's countries, the ability to realise the right to food varies greatly, as is the case for countries with a weak level of constitutional protection.



Across regions, West and Central Africa has the best median score with regards to the integration of malnutrition in National Development Plans. 11 of the 15 top-ranked countries in Africa for the extent to which nutrition features in their national development plans are from this region.<sup>21</sup>



4 out of the 5 SUN countries who have ratified the ILO Maternity Protection Convention 2000, (No. 183) can be found in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal). 15 countries have maternity protection laws or regulations in place. Gabon, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo allow for fathers to take up to 10 days' paid leave upon the birth of their child, covered under family allowance leave. Having said that, more can be done to ensure gender equality and promote and protect breastfeeding in the region. While 13 countries have some legal measures in place to prevent aggressive marketing of breast-milk substitutes, 8 have none. Benin, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana have full provisions in law. Ghana is the region's highest performer when it comes to baby-friendly health facilities, with 35 per cent of facilities designated as baby-friendly, but the median is only 4 per cent among the 9 countries with data for this indicator.



About half of the countries have mandatory food fortification legislation in place for at least one staple food (e.g. wheat or maize) as well as salt and oil. 86 per cent (or 18 out of 21) of countries have mandatory iodised salt legislation in place and over three-quarters of households (median 77 per cent) have access to iodised salt. Central African Republic and Mali (or 2 out of 6 SUN countries across the Movement) have put in place healthy diet policies to restrict the marketing of foods and beverages to children, reduce the salt/sodium consumption and limit saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt.



**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AND MALI ARE 2 OF ONLY 6 SUN COUNTRIES WHO HAVE PUT IN PLACE HEALTHY DIET POLICIES**



## IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALIGNED WITH COMMON RESULTS

More and more, West and Central African SUN countries are aligning actions around common results and strengthening capacities to ensure more coherence. 15 SUN countries have put in place common results frameworks (CRFs), 14 of which have action plans. 13 out of 15 of these CRFs bring together various sectors through nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions. Only 6 CRFs have monitoring and evaluation plans.

In 2018, Guinea and Togo have developed and approved their national nutrition policies, in collaboration with their MSPs, while Benin and Burkina Faso are developing theirs. National plans primarily focus on addressing undernutrition, as reflected by the greater frequency of countries with plans that include WHA targets for stunting, wasting, and anaemia. While this is understandable, given the more common types of malnutrition in the region, it will be important for countries to consider the prevention and control of overweight and obesity throughout the lifecycle.



## EFFECTIVELY USING AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR NUTRITION

16 of the 21 countries have, over the past years, conducted a national budget analysis of spending for nutrition. A key result from 2018 is that a record-breaking 11 countries, the highest number across regions, undertook the SUN financial tracking exercise – with Central African Republic, Gabon, Mali and Sierra Leone doing this for the first time. This shows that countries are increasingly using financial information to advocate for more and better investments to bridge gaps. 10 CRFs are costed, with Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ghana in the process of costing theirs.

### A RECORD-BREAKING 11 WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE UNDERTAKEN THE 2018 BUDGET ANALYSIS EXERCISE

The level of spending for nutrition-specific interventions is the lowest across SUN regions, estimated at a median of USD 0.1 per each girl or boy under five. Only a few countries have a nutrition-specific budget line and when it exists, spending has proven difficult to track. In addition, many fragile countries report that most funding is going to emergency and short-term interventions, while preventive nutrition interventions remain largely under-funded.

Over half of countries in West and Central Africa have seen donor spending for nutrition more than USD 10 per stunted girl or boy under five. However, the total spending by donors on high-impact nutrition-specific interventions is less than USD 1 per child under five in 13 of 21 countries. The ratio of nutrition-specific to nutrition-sensitive donor spending ranges widely (from 19 per cent to 96 per cent), exceeding 50 per cent in 12 out of 21 countries. Overall, less than 50 per cent of countries report financial alignment with donors.

Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali have been added to the list of countries that could benefit from innovative funding sources, such as the Global Financing Facility (GFF). Using investment cases to prompt resource mobilisation is essential to enable and ensure that nutrition is prioritised in national budgets.



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## THE WAY FORWARD: ACCELERATING PROGRESS

Although progress, especially vis-à-vis the SUN Movement strategic objectives, is palpable across the West and Central African region, sustaining and scaling up effective actions are needed for lasting human impact. Priority actions should be to increase the promotion and protection of breastfeeding – especially in the first 6 months, and ensuring more infants and older children receive enough nutritious food. Building social protection floors – or safety nets – will be key, especially with regards to mitigating fragility. Making sure that individuals at the highest levels of the executive power have nutrition at the top of their political agenda will also go a long way – to cement nutrition as a lasting priority also following elections. This could also make a big difference in ensuring enough resources go towards nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions. Working towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and adolescent girls will be essential.



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## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: STORIES OF CHANGE

### **BENIN CAN! SCALING UP NUTRITION AT THE DECENTRALISED LEVEL**

In Benin, the preamble of the Strategic Development Plan for Food and Nutrition (PSDAN), the reference document guiding nutrition efforts, states: “The PSDAN represents a new participatory and accountability approach (...) with project managers being the municipalities themselves, with donors being invited to step in to provide financial support”.

Since 2011, municipalities in Benin have been encouraged to integrate nutrition into their development plans - with a dedicated budget line and a focal point to boost efforts. In 2018, 40 municipalities (out of 77) have decentralised their nutrition efforts and set up a *Cadre Communal de Concertation* (CCC) chaired by the mayor, alongside locally elected officials and decentralised health, education, social protection and agriculture services. These ‘CCCs’ also work with civil society organisations and women’s groups and meet on a quarterly basis to coordinate interventions, monitor activities, review progress, and fundraise.

To accompany these efforts, advocacy targeting all 12 governors of Benin<sup>22</sup> has had a domino effect: many governors have then requested mayors to consider nutrition when drafting their development plans and voting for a budget. The National Association of Benin Municipalities (ANCB) represents these municipalities in the national multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), CAN. In 2014, the Adja - Ouèrè municipality was awarded the prize for best municipality-led nutrition efforts.



<sup>22</sup> The Governor of Couffo, Mr. Christophe Megbedji was nominated to be a SUN Nutrition Champion in 2016.



### **THE UN NETWORK IN SIERRA LEONE SPEARHEADS AND PARTNERS UP FOR POLITICAL NUTRITION DIALOGUE**

The UN Network for SUN took great advocacy strides in Sierra Leone, leading up to the Country's presidential and parliamentary elections, held in March 2018. Seizing windows of opportunity such as the elections and national planning processes, parliamentarians and running candidates were strategically targeted to ensure that nutrition would be placed high on the political agenda of the new Government.

A Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Overview (MNO), which provides a visual narration of the nutrition situation in the country, show that while moderate stunting and wasting has decreased, severe forms have increased. The MNO analyses trends across multiple sectors, including indicators ranging from breastfeeding rates to food insecurity, adolescent pregnancy and women's empowerment. It also highlights which geographical areas are most in need of action.

A comprehensive mapping was also used, looking at nutrition-specific and sensitive programming supported by all relevant stakeholders – from Government to the UN, civil society and donors. This mapping generated valuable coverage data critical to identifying gaps, overlaps and potential areas where efficiencies can be enhanced, to maximise impact.

These findings were complemented by a Policy and Plan Overview (led by the Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger, REACH, Facilitator), which assessed nutrition-specific and sensitive policy commitments, in light of the current needs (MNO) and existing programmes. The discrepancy, once identified, was taken a step further through advocacy.

A critical ingredient of success was the coming together of multiple stakeholders, ranging from donors (especially Irish Aid), civil society, the private sector and UNN – complemented by the hands-on support of the REACH Facilitator, to lobby as 'One' for concrete political nutrition commitments. A breakfast meeting was held with members of parliament, to discuss the country's nutrition needs – culminating in a declaration by parliamentarians during a televised dialogue. This domino effect prompted the enactment of a Food and Feed Safety Bill later that day. Just two weeks after, 14 registered political parties included food and nutrition security, as well as teenage pregnancy and WASH in their respective manifestos. These measures have kept nutrition on the political agenda irrespective of the election outcomes.

## REINVIGORATING DONOR COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN MALI - FOR HUMAN IMPACT

Canada aims to contribute to the strategic objectives of the SUN Movement by strengthening an enabling policy environment and institutionalising effective measures to contribute to eradicate malnutrition in all its forms in Mali. A longstanding supporter of the Movement across the world, Canada sees nutrition and gender equality as key issues of accountability and human dignity. This has led to Canada's Ambassador to Mali, His Excellency Mr. Louis Verret, showing his personal commitment, alongside his team, and has become the donor convenor for the SUN Donor Network in the country.

The SUN Government Focal Point in Mali, Mr. Djibril Bagayoko, took the initiative to revitalise this important group, that also brings together UN agencies, USAID, and the national Civil Society Alliance. Canada's role in this Network is to ensure that more donors, and the right donors are brought together, and that their financial and technical assistance is harmonised and aligned with national plans and policies – always ensuring that nutrition remains a key political priority. A roadmap has been developed for 2018, and monthly meetings are held – showing efforts to sustain commitment and ensure the success of this Network

In July, under the guidance of the Government and the Canadian Ambassador, a high-level meeting was convened. It brought together 19 Malian ministries who collaborate on bringing the Multi-Sectoral National Action Plan for Nutrition to life, alongside multilateral and bilateral development cooperation actors. This event was an important step towards cementing governmental and development cooperation partners' work to scale up nutrition and key to align financial resources and avoid duplication of actions.



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# Scaling up nutrition in East and Southern Africa

## INTRODUCTION

The East and Southern Africa region comprises 19 countries.<sup>1</sup> The region's commitment to scaling up nutrition is clear: almost half of all countries joined the SUN Movement in its earliest stage (2010-2011), while the last country joining the Movement, Sudan, did so in October 2015. Whereas 16 countries in the region are anglophone, the island nations of Comoros and Madagascar are francophone, and Mozambique is lusophone.<sup>2</sup>

All countries have established and formalised their multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs), except Botswana and Comoros - with 16 countries undertaking the 2018 SUN Movement Joint-Assessment.<sup>3</sup> Scores show a similar solid performance over time, since 2014.

Looking ahead, high levels of undernutrition in girls and boys as well as the high prevalence of anaemia in adolescent girls and women needs to be tackled, in tandem with halting the increase in overweight and obese children, adolescents and adults. For this to happen, a strengthened policy and legislative environment must be ensured, and matched with adequate investments.

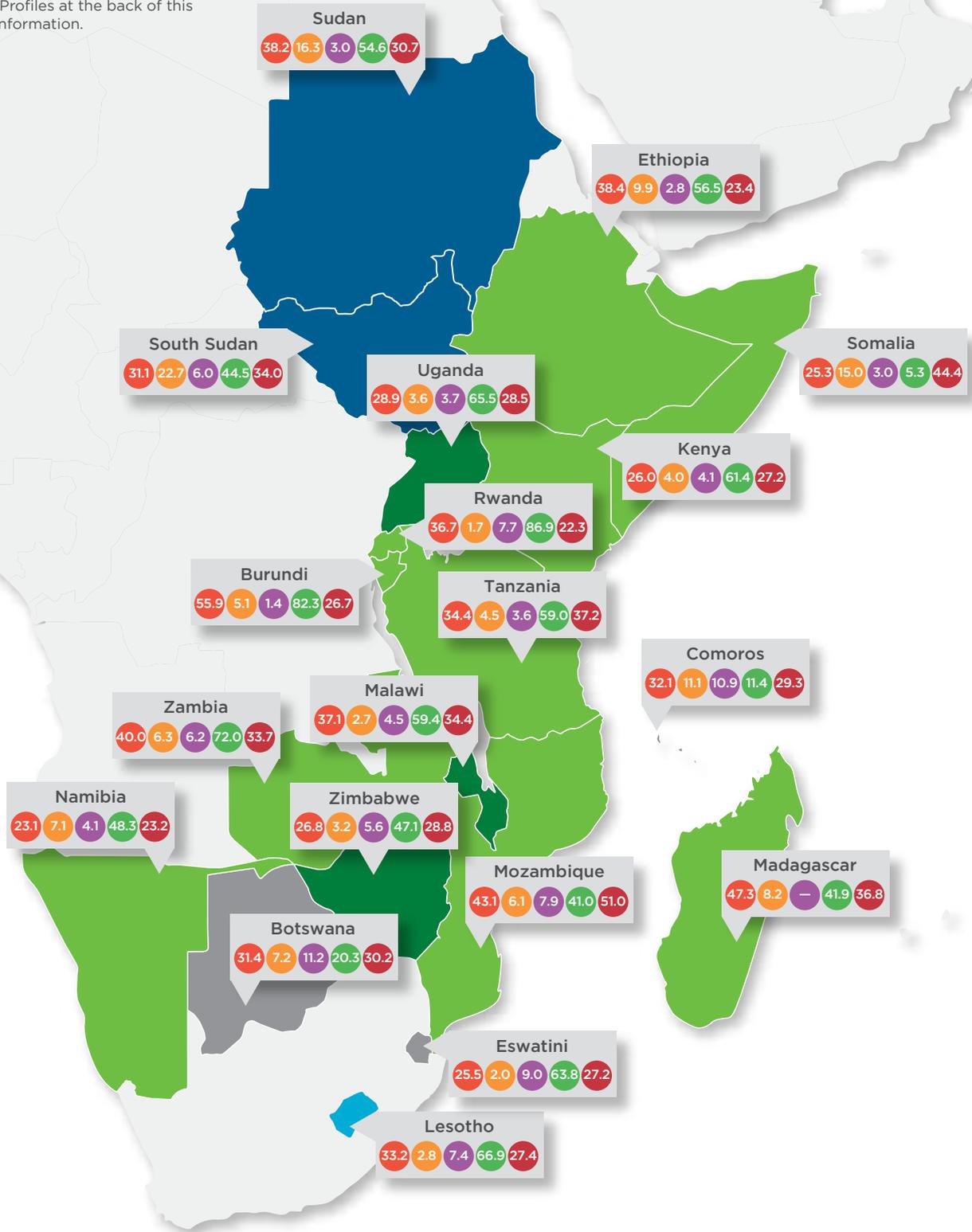
<sup>1</sup> East African SUN countries include: Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Southern African SUN countries include: Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia.

<sup>2</sup> Unless cited otherwise, data presented in this section are from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) database. These data have been compiled from various sources, as listed in the SUN MEAL Framework Baseline Document, which is available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.

<sup>3</sup> In 2018, all countries in the region except Botswana, Comoros and Eswatini undertook the SUN Joint-Assessment.

\*UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Group joint child malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition, and the Joint-Assessment results completed in 2018 by SUN Countries.

See the Country Profiles at the back of this report for more information.



## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Nutrition situation

- Under five stunting (%)
- Under five wasting (%)
- Under five overweight (%)
- 0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding (%)
- Anaemia in women 15-49 years (%)

### Progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives (total weighted, as reported in 2018)\*

- 0 - 25% weighted progress
- 26 - 50% weighted progress
- 51 - 75% weighted progress
- 76 - 100% weighted progress
- weighting not available

## A SNAPSHOT OF NUTRITION AND DIETS ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE



Although countries continue to face a very high burden of acute and chronic child undernutrition, East and Southern Africa also has many of the Movement's better performing countries today, with regards to meeting global nutrition targets. Eswatini and Kenya are 2 of the 6 countries across the Movement on track to meet World Health Assembly targets for both stunting and wasting. Still, one-third of girls and boys under five in East and Southern Africa are stunted (median of 33 per cent).



On average, 6 per cent of girls and boys are wasted, with a very wide range between 2-23 per cent across the region. Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi and Rwanda have low percentages of wasted children - between 1-3 percentage points. However, wasting rates are 11 percentage points higher in Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, countries that are classified as very high humanitarian risk contexts. Large inequities are evident in the East Africa sub-region, in particular, where the poorest children have nearly double the rates of wasting when compared to the richest.<sup>4</sup> This region has 8 out of the 14 SUN countries on track to meet the World Health Assembly wasting target: Eswatini, Lesotho, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

**ESWATINI AND KENYA ARE 2 OF ONLY 6 SUN COUNTRIES ON TRACK TO MEET GLOBAL TARGETS FOR BOTH STUNTING AND WASTING**



A growing double burden of child malnutrition is also seen. 3 of the countries with the highest prevalence of child overweight in the Movement are in this region (Botswana and Comoros at 11 per cent and Eswatini at 9 per cent). On the other hand, however, 50 per cent of the countries, Burundi, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda are on course to maintain childhood overweight to less than 3 per cent and achieve the WHA target.

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, (2018). Levels and trends in child malnutrition: Key findings of the 2018 edition. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/2018-jme-brochure.pdf?ua=1> [accessed October 2018].



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Similar to other regions, between 2000 and 2016, the trend shows a steady increase in the prevalence of adolescent and adult overweight and obesity. Obesity is rapidly increasing and is nearly 10 percentage points higher among women than men. Obesity is of particular concern in Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia and Zimbabwe, where it exceeded 25 per cent among women in 2016. Nutrition-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and hypertension are also major concerns, particularly among middle-income countries.



Other forms of undernutrition are also evident – one-third of pregnant (median 34 per cent) and 29 per cent (median) of non-pregnant women were anaemic in 2016. Anaemia does not start in adulthood but already affects nearly one third of adolescent girls 15-19 years of age and half of children under five. Nearly half of children under five<sup>5</sup> suffer from vitamin A deficiency.



The East and Southern Africa region boasts some of the highest exclusive breastfeeding rates across the SUN Movement – over half of infants 0-5 months are exclusively breastfed and 11 of 19 countries have a greater than 50 per cent exclusive breastfeeding prevalence. 8 countries, have already met, or are on track to achieve, the updated WHA exclusive breastfeeding target for 2030. However, exclusive breastfeeding rates are very low in Somalia (at 5 per cent), Comoros (at 11 per cent) and Botswana (at 20 per cent).



Improving infant and young child feeding practices should be a priority to effectively and sustainably combat malnutrition in all forms – including micronutrient deficiencies. Only 1 in 10 children between 6-23 months receive a minimum acceptable diet (median 10 per cent, range 6 to 38 per cent) and only one in five children (median 22 per cent) receive minimum diet diversity (range 13 to 48 per cent). Large inequities are also evident for young child feeding practices – only 15 per cent of children from the poorest households receive a minimum diet diversity compared to 41 per cent of children from the richest households. Children living in urban areas are also more likely to have minimum diet diversity than those in rural areas.



East Africa is the sub-region with the highest prevalence of undernourishment: 31 per cent of people had insufficient dietary energy consumption in 2017.<sup>6</sup> The level of undernourishment in the Southern Africa sub-region is lower (at 8 per cent). For the 5 SUN countries with data on severe food insecurity levels in 2016, a median of 40 per cent of people faced serious constraints on their ability to obtain sufficient food, the highest across all regions.

<sup>5</sup> Development Initiatives, (2017). Global Nutrition Report 2017: Nourishing the SDGs. Bristol, UK: Development Initiatives. Available at: [http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report\\_2017-2.pdf](http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report_2017-2.pdf) [accessed November 2018].

<sup>6</sup> FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, (2018). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2018. Building climate resilience for food security and nutrition. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/19553EN/19553en.pdf> [accessed October 2018].



## PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SDGs: MAKERS AND MARKERS OF MALNUTRITION

16 countries experienced positive growth in GDP per capita in 2016<sup>7</sup>. However, over 40 per cent of people in East and Southern Africa live below the poverty line, although poverty levels range widely from 15 per cent (Sudan, 2009) to 78 per cent (Madagascar, 2012). Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Uganda are reaching over 50 per cent coverage with social protection programmes to help the most vulnerable.

This region has a median under five mortality rate of 55 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2017, similar to the median for all SUN countries. However, the region includes countries with very low (e.g. Botswana and Rwanda at 38) and very high (e.g. Somalia at 127, South Sudan at 96) under five mortality rates. There is also a strong association between the prevalence between obesity and NCD mortality rates, for both women and men in East and Southern Africa, which makes addressing growing obesity the more important.

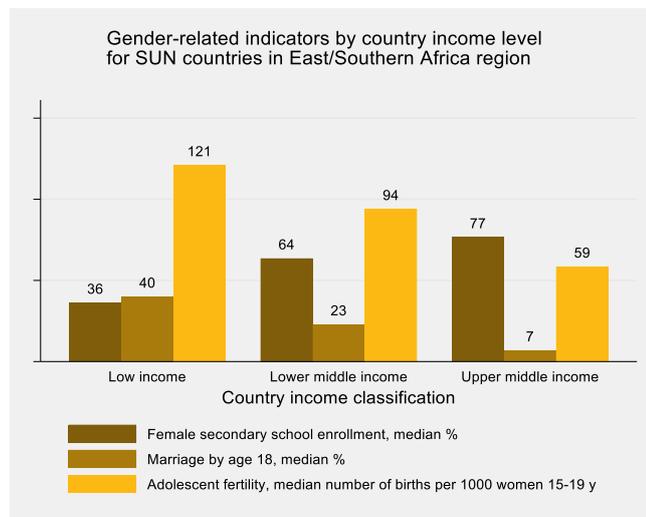
What is most striking is the geographical contrast in humanitarian risk levels. Today, 4 SUN countries in the north-eastern part of Africa are classified as very high-risk, 8 high risk countries can be found along the eastern coast and 2 low and 5 medium risk countries are in the southern/south-western part of the continent. Many countries are affected by natural disasters, conflict and humanitarian crises, including the influx of refugees from neighbouring humanitarian crises. Humanitarian crises contribute to the heightened risk of infectious disease, food insecurity and inadequate access to essential nutrition and health services.

Engaging with partners in the region to improve access to basic water and sanitation services continues to be a priority. Like West and Central Africa, these countries have the lowest proportion of people with access to basic sanitation services, with few signs of progress being made, and the lowest level of access to basic drinking water. Urban populations in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan face particularly difficult living conditions – as over 70 per cent live in slums, where families lack easy access to safe water or adequate sanitation, durable housing and sufficient living space.

A heavy burden of infectious diseases can also be seen in many countries, an important contributor to the prevalence of malnutrition. One in five girls and boys under five have diarrhoea and the incidence of malaria is high in several countries, including Rwanda, Mozambique, Malawi, Uganda, Zambia, South Sudan and Tanzania.

Strong domestic and international investment has stimulated steep declines in HIV infections and deaths from AIDS-related illness. Yet East and Southern Africa remains very much affected by the HIV epidemic, accounting for 45 per cent of the world's HIV infections and 53 per cent of people living with HIV globally.<sup>8</sup>

The status of girls and women in this region, an important driver of child nutrition, is closely associated with the country's income level, as shown in the graph. As country income level increases, more girls enrol in secondary school, fewer girls are married before the age of 18 and fewer adolescent girls have babies. The status of women and girls also varies greatly from country to country. Rwanda is placed as the region's top performer – in 4<sup>th</sup> place – in the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap report 2017, and the only country from sub-Saharan Africa ranked in the global top 10. Namibia (ranked 13<sup>th</sup>) and Burundi (placed 22<sup>nd</sup>, globally) are also hailed for progress in ensuring gender equality.<sup>9</sup> Lesotho and Botswana have fully closed the gender gap in education. Namibia and Eswatini are also performing extremely well in this area.



<sup>7</sup> Only Burundi had negative growth rate of -0.57% in 2016 and there is no data for South Sudan and Somalia.

<sup>8</sup> UNAIDS, (2018). Miles to go: Closing gaps breaking barriers righting injustices. Global AIDS Update 2018. Available at: [http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media\\_asset/miles-to-go\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/miles-to-go_en.pdf) [accessed November 2018].

<sup>9</sup> World Economic Forum, (2017). The Global Gender Gap Report 2017: Sub-Saharan Africa. Available at: <http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2017/sub-saharan-africa/> [accessed November 2018].

## REACHING THE SUN MOVEMENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In 2018, 16 of 19 countries undertook their SUN Joint-Assessment. Regional scores between 2014-16 and 2017-18 show a similar solid performance over time, with an increase in the median total score from 63 per cent in 2014-2016 to 67 per cent in 2017-2018.



### EXPAND AND SUSTAIN AN ENABLING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

The region appears, overall, to be performing well in ensuring an enabling environment for nutrition. 19 countries have formalised multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) at the national level. MSPs at the decentralised level exist in almost 65 per cent of countries across this region – which is key to ensure nutrition results everywhere.

Most focal points (8 in total) are placed in the Ministry of Health. In Zimbabwe, the SUN Focal Point is placed in the President's Office, while the Focal Point in Burundi works within the Vice President's Office. In Lesotho, Madagascar, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda, SUN Focal Points are placed in the Prime Minister's Office. In South Sudan and Sudan, appointed SUN Focal Points act as Under-Secretaries of Health.

East and Southern Africa is working more and more across stakeholder groups for lasting success. 19 SUN countries have UN Networks for SUN and 10 of these are demonstrating good progress. 4 SUN Business Networks have been formally launched and Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Burundi are planning to establish theirs. 15 Civil Society Alliances have been set up, and 9 of these are deemed advanced in 2018. 7 SUN Donor Networks exist in this region, with 16 countries report working with the donor community at large.

A key result from this region is the mobilisation of high-level advocates for nutrition. 13 countries work with the media to spread the nutrition word, with parliamentarians to firmly cement nutrition in budgetary and legislative framework, and with academia to build and sustain the evidence-base on the importance of nutrition, which is key for policy-makers to make informed decisions.



The 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering, recognised 3 laureates from East and Southern Africa. Hon. Ms. Spectacular Gumbira – a Junior Parliamentarian from Zimbabwe – has distinguished herself as an outspoken nutrition champion. Ms. Feno Velotahiana, President of the Malagasy Media Network for Nutrition, has helped spearhead mass awareness around malnutrition. Ms. Tisungeni Zimpita from Malawi, has, as the National Civil Society Alliance Coordinator, helped bring consistency among civil society actors to speak with one voice on issues of nutrition in her country.



"We need more young people in these forums, maybe we are wrong, but adults should listen to us because we can give a different perspective of life, a new point of view. You should listen to us."

SPECTACULAR GUMBIRA  
Junior Parliamentarian, Zimbabwe  
SUN 2017 Nutrition Champion

#InvestInNutrition #NutritionChampions #EatForum28





## PRIORITISING AND INSTITUTIONALISING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD NUTRITION

As is the case for other SUN regions, the East and Southern Africa varies greatly in their ability to ensure a coherent legal and policy framework for nutrition.



Kenya, Malawi and Zimbabwe explicitly guarantee the right to adequate food in their Constitutions. This right is implicitly protected, through broader human rights, in the Constitutions of Burundi, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique and Tanzania.<sup>10</sup> Other SUN countries have weak protection, while in Botswana and Comoros there is no constitutional protection to the right to food.<sup>11</sup>



Overall, legislation that protects breastfeeding needs strengthening. Only Madagascar, Somalia, Zimbabwe and Comoros have maternity protection laws or regulations in place, with 10 having partial protection for mothers who

work. On the other hand, in Kenya, men get two weeks of paid paternity leave – one of the best across the SUN Movement – and in Madagascar, fathers can take up to 10 days paid leave upon the birth of their children.

As of 2018, Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe have full provisions of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes in law. 6 countries have legal measures with many Code provisions in place, 2 have legal measures incorporating few Code provisions in law, and Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Somalia, South Sudan have none. A key result is that Rwanda has many legal provisions in place – an upgrade from few provisions in 2016. The same rings true for Ethiopia, which was previously seen as having no legal measures to protect from aggressive marketing of breast-milk substitutes and has today been upgraded to having few provisions in law. Madagascar, Namibia and Eswatini report over half of their health facilities being certified as baby-friendly, however, the median for the region is only 4 per cent across the 16 countries who have data.<sup>12</sup>

**ZIMBABWE IS THE ONLY SUN COUNTRY TO INCLUDE NCD TARGETS IN BOTH NATIONAL NUTRITION AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS**



Mozambique and Eswatini have put in place policies to reduce the impact on children of marketing of foods and beverages high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt – an important step toward efforts to prevent a further increase in child overweight and obesity. Eswatini is the only country in the region who has fully achieved healthy diet policies for their women, men and families.



<sup>10</sup> FAO, (2017). Right to Food around the Globe database. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/right-to-food-around-the-globe/> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>11</sup> There is no constitutional protection of the right to food in these countries and they are not yet a State party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

<sup>12</sup> WHO, (2017). National Implementation of the Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/bfhi-national-implementation2017/en/> [accessed November 2018].



Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda are SUN Movement leaders in terms of putting in place mandatory food fortification legislation. However, 8 countries have no documented mandatory legislation for any food vehicles. Legislation plays a key role in ensuring household access to iodised salt: coverage of this essential nutrition intervention is lower (68 per cent) in countries without mandatory legislation in place compared to those that do (80 per cent).



## IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALIGNED WITH COMMON RESULTS

East and Southern African countries have made great strides in aligning actions around common results at national, regional and sub-national levels. Today, 13 countries have put in place common results frameworks (CRFs) – with South Sudan, Somalia and Zambia in the process of developing or updating theirs. These 13 CRFs contain both nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions. 12 out of the 13 CRFs are accompanied by action plans. In Tanzania, the CRF has provided guidance to the implementation of the National Nutrition Plans – helping to translate its priorities into measurable targets of nutrition-sensitive actions, although the alignment of all sectors remains a challenge.

10 CRFs also have monitoring and evaluation frameworks. 5 countries are in the process of strengthening this element. Malawi has seen great progress in this area, with their harmonised monitoring framework, which was created in 2016, and a web-based National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Information System from 2017, that better aligns with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III and World Health Assembly targets. Zimbabwe has created a near real-time monitoring system, which will house data on a web-based dashboard to help plan and monitor implementation of community workplans. In Kenya, the 2012-17 National Nutrition Action Plan (NNAP), which was recently reviewed, served as the country's CRF. In Burundi, the review of the 2014-2017 multi-sectoral food security and nutrition strategic plan (PSMSAN) is expected to highlight important lessons for the development of PSMSAN II.

SUN countries in East and Southern Africa still focus primarily on undernutrition, as reflected by the greater frequency of including WHA targets for stunting, wasting, low birthweight and anaemia in their national nutrition plans – with Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda and Zimbabwe faring particularly well in their inclusion. As of 2016, only 5 countries have mentioned targets for child overweight, and 4 countries have targets for adult overweight/obesity in their national nutrition plans.



## EFFECTIVELY USING AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR NUTRITION

5 countries have conducted a national budget analysis of spending for nutrition in 2018, with Somalia and Zimbabwe undertaking this exercise for the first time. Except for Botswana, the level of spending for nutrition-specific interventions in the region is very low. However, Uganda's budget analysis has showed them to be a leader in the ratio of nutrition-specific to nutrition-sensitive spending (at 11 per cent). A key result of 2017-2018, however, is that more countries are scaling up financing for nutrition. 9 countries have costed their common results frameworks (CRFs) and 9 have identified funding gaps and sought to address them. In the reporting period, for instance, The Government of Tanzania has increased the nutrition budget by TSZ 4 billion, also through securing resources from external sources.

Botswana and Zambia are exceptional in terms of the share of government spending in the agriculture sector, relative to its contribution to economic value added. They represent the only countries in the whole SUN Movement with an Agriculture Orientation Index (AOI) greater than 1, reflecting a higher orientation toward the agriculture sector – a key sector in need of transformation for food systems to be sustainable. In Zimbabwe, the budget for the health sector has been raised by one-third during the reporting period, as a result of advocacy efforts.

Based on the latest analysis of donor funding for nutrition in SUN countries (from 2015), donor spending per stunted child under five for nutrition is the lowest, on average, of all SUN regions. This may be due – in part – to the high population<sup>13</sup> and the presence of 2 upper middle-income countries.

Overall, the total spending per girl or boy under five by donors on high-impact nutrition-specific interventions is less than USD 1.00 in 11 of 19 countries. The ratio of donor spending for nutrition-specific to nutrition-sensitive interventions ranges widely across the region (from 7.5 per cent to 80 per cent) and is greater than 70 per cent in Burundi and Rwanda. The ratio is more than 50 per cent for Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda. Overall, countries in both regions of sub-Saharan Africa receive less donor support for high-impact nutrition practices compared to South Asia.<sup>14</sup>



### THE WAY FORWARD: ACCELERATING PROGRESS

The East and Southern Africa region is diverse, with many countries, counties and communities facing a very high burden of acute and chronic child undernutrition and food insecurity. On the other hand, there are many bright stars who are making progress in key areas, such as exclusive breastfeeding and building social protection floors to protect the most vulnerable – an important lesson many countries in the SUN Movement can learn from. With overweight, obesity and diet-related diseases on the increase, countries must strengthen legislation and policies to address this head-on, without diverting attention and resources from efforts to reduce chronic high levels of undernutrition. Donors, in particular, need to rally around this region, in support of effective nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions. Ensuring adequate investments in women and girls – at work and in school – has the potential to turn the needle for a better nourished future in East and Southern Africa.

<sup>13</sup> It is a well-known phenomenon that donors cannot supply a large enough volume of development cooperation to the largest-population countries. (SUN Econometric Analysis Report, September 2018)

<sup>14</sup> SUN Econometric Analysis, 2018.

# share YOUR STORY

## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA: STORIES OF CHANGE

### PARLIAMENTARIANS TO THE RESCUE: INCREASING NUTRITION INVESTMENTS IN ZIMBABWE

In a bid to increase domestic investment in nutrition, the Zimbabwe Civil Society Organisations' Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance (ZCSOSUNA) – with support from Save the Children UK – involved junior parliamentarians to advocate for adequate governmental financial resources for nutrition. Honourable Spectacular Gumbira has distinguished herself as an outspoken nutrition champion amongst her peers in lobbying for increased nutrition financing in the country and beyond. Her call to the government is simple and on point: investing in nutrition is one of the smartest economic decisions a country can make, taking into consideration the fact that good nutrition is the foundation for human and economic development. Honourable Gumbira was given the 2017 SUN Champion award at the Global Gathering in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

After presenting evidence that the current governmental health and nutrition investment was inadequate for many Zimbabweans to members of the parliamentary portfolio committee on the Sustainable Development Goals, they promised to scrutinise the 2018 budget before approval and indicated that they will not approve a budget that does not address health and good nutrition. In 2018, the Finance Minister increased the health allocation, in which nutrition is embedded, by nearly a third – from ZWL 408 million to ZWL 520 million after Members of Parliament refused to pass allotments they deemed too low to address needs of all citizens.





### **GIVING CONSUMERS A CHOICE: ZAMBIA FOOD BUSINESS LAUNCHES GOOD FOOD LOGO**

In April 2018, a Good Food Logo was launched in Zambia, as a joint initiative between the Government and the SUN Business Network. This launch took place at the 2018 National Food and Nutrition Summit, with the theme Investing in Food and Nutrition for Accelerated National Development: Walk the Talk for Nutrition. Today, 40 per cent of girls and boys under 5 are stunted, at the same time as overweight, obesity and NCDs are on the rise in the country.

This logo is a mark or seal that will be applied on eligible products that meet predefined criteria, across various food groups, to help consumers identify nutritious foods in stores and support them in making better food choices. The nutrition criteria have undergone extensive scrutiny and has been developed by a set of technical experts from government (National Food and Nutrition Commission, Food and Drug authority and Zambia Bureau of standards), nutritionists, academia and scientist – with input from private sector.

This initiative has come about as a result of shift in focus in Zambia, from fighting undernutrition to addressing malnutrition in all its forms, acknowledging that an imbalance of nutrient intake can have different manifestations, even within the same person, during the lifecycle.

Addressing these manifestations of malnutrition demands new concepts and models and making sure consumers are given a choice, a healthier choice – for themselves and their families.

## RWANDA COMMITS TO REDUCE STUNTING AND IMPROVE NUTRITION

In May 2018, Prime Minister of Rwanda, His Excellency Edouard Ngirente, launched a nationwide campaign against malnutrition, which aims to completely eradicate stunting among children and ensure better feeding habits. Given the long-term negative effects of stunting on human development, addressing chronic malnutrition will support Rwanda in attaining its aspiration to become a middle-income country.

This multi-sectoral stunting prevention and reduction programme – supported by the World Bank and includes grant financing by Power of Nutrition and the Global Financing Facility (GFF) – will have a particular focus on high-stunting districts, vulnerable populations, and the first critical 1,000 days – beyond which stunting becomes largely irreversible. Launched in Nyabihu District, the programme aims to scale up coverage of high-impact health and nutrition interventions across 13 high-burden stunting districts, improve the coverage and quality of childcare, feeding and hygiene practices.

The campaign will also look at strengthening food availability and dietary diversity among other targets. Nyabihu is one of the country's top producers of Irish potatoes. Yet, it is one of the districts with the highest rates of malnutrition in the country, a phenomenon that's largely blamed on lack of knowledge on healthy feeding. The 2015 Demographic Health Survey (DHS) showed that Nyabihu has the highest rate of preventable stunting in children under five. Nyabihu recorded 59 per cent stunting rate, far above the national average of 36.7 per cent.

*“Though the rates of stunting have been going down over the years, our conviction is that we are not doing enough to move faster. As the country our aim is to stamp out malnutrition with zero case of stunting among Rwandan children,”* Prime Minister Ngirente said.





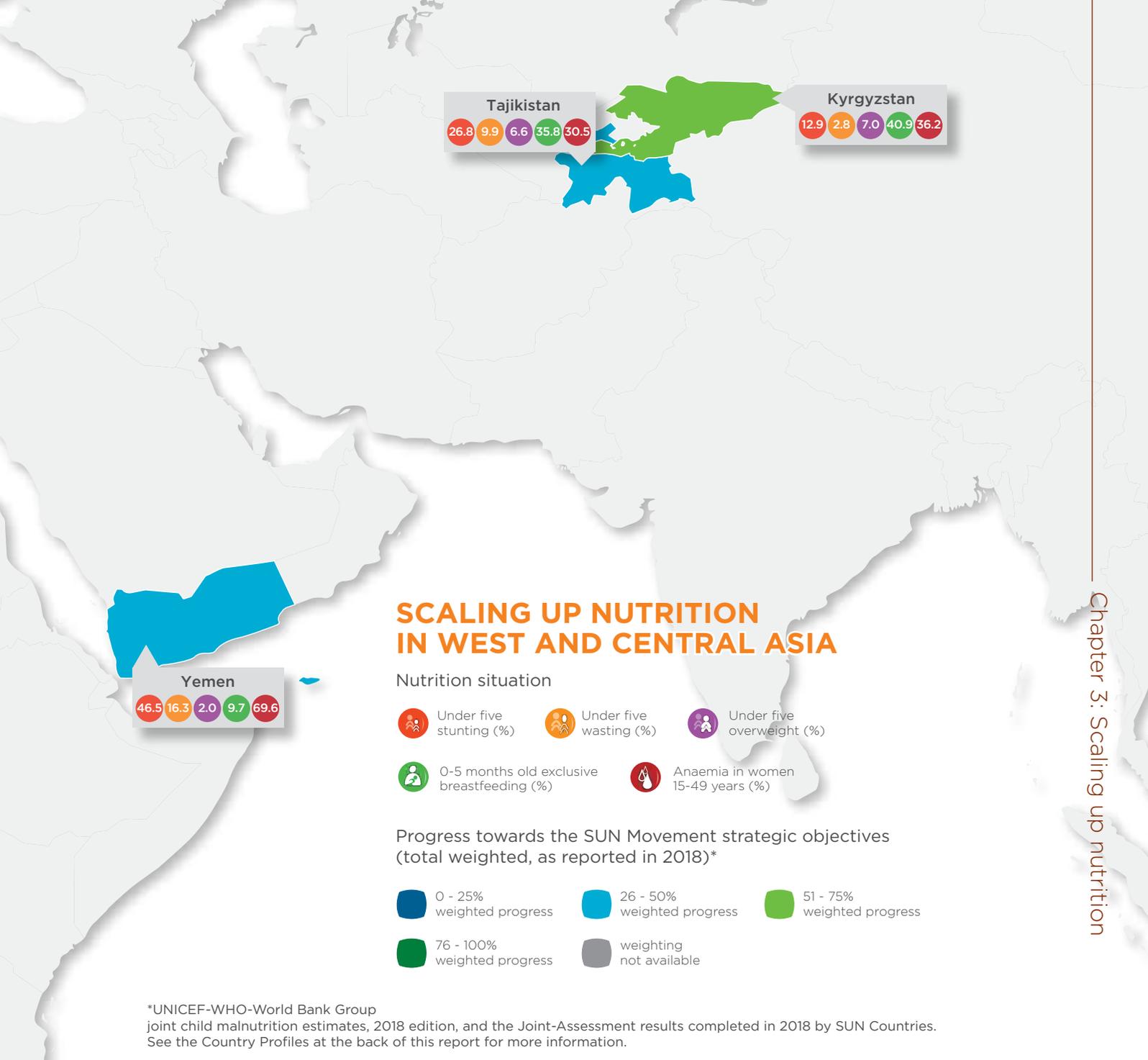
## Scaling up nutrition in West and Central Asia

### INTRODUCTION

The West and Central Asia region is the smallest region in the SUN Movement and comprises 3 diverse countries - Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in Central Asia and Yemen in West Asia (which overlaps the Middle East region). All 3 countries joined the SUN Movement between 2011 and 2013.<sup>1</sup>

Although these countries are very diverse, they stand united in their commitment to scale up nutrition. All 3 countries have formalised multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) for nutrition in place and undertook the 2018 SUN Movement Joint-Assessment. These countries report marked progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives - with an increase of 20 percentage points in the median score between 2014-16 and 2017-18.

<sup>1</sup> Unless cited otherwise, data presented in this are from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) database. These data have been compiled from various sources, as listed in the SUN MEAL Framework Baseline Document, which is available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.



Looking ahead, however, challenges in scaling up nutrition in this region remain, including a complicated economic and political climate faced by all 3 countries that could hamper further progress. Yemen, in particular, is in need of urgent and concerted efforts to halt the projected worst famine seen the world over in 100 years, which could render 13 million at risk of starvation.



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## A SNAPSHOT OF NUTRITION AND DIETS ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE



Malnutrition trends range widely across West and Central Asia. Impressively, Kyrgyzstan is 1 of 6 SUN countries that are on track to achieve the World Health Assembly targets for both stunting and wasting in children (rates today stand at 13 and 3 per cent, respectively). Kyrgyzstan is, however, struggling to halt the rise in overweight

**KYRGYZSTAN IS 1 OF ONLY 6 SUN COUNTRIES ON TRACK TO MEET GLOBAL TARGETS FOR BOTH STUNTING AND WASTING**



in girls and boys under five, which stands at 7 per cent. Tajikistan faces multiple burdens of malnutrition among children under five – with moderate levels of child undernutrition (17 per cent stunting, 6 per cent wasting), and overweight (at 3 per cent). Whereas overweight is not a concern for children in Yemen, the country faces region faces a high prevalence of acute and chronic child malnutrition. Nearly half of all children under five are stunted (47 per cent) and 16 per cent of girls and boys are wasted.



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The breastfeeding picture in West and Central Asia is also quite varied. Kyrgyzstan is a leader in early breastfeeding initiation rates (at 83 per cent) and about half of infants in Tajikistan and Yemen start breastfeeding within an hour of birth. Exclusive breastfeeding rates among infants between 0-5 months are just under the SUN country average (which today is at 43 per cent) – 36 per cent in Tajikistan and 41 per cent in Kyrgyzstan. Only 1 in 10 infants in Yemen benefit from this life-saving intervention in a context where it is much needed, due to the humanitarian crisis and high prevalence of diarrhoea among young children (38 per cent).<sup>2</sup>



Anaemia in women and girls is a key concern in these 3 countries, with Tajikistan being the only SUN country in West and Central Asia considered to be making some progress in reducing anaemia levels. Over one third of pregnant (median 40 per cent) and non-pregnant women (median 36 per cent) were anaemic in 2016. In Yemen, 63 per cent of pregnant and 70 per cent of non-pregnant women were anaemic in the same year. Anaemia does not start in adulthood, but already affects adolescent girls between 15 and 19 years in both Kyrgyzstan and Yemen (at similar levels to women overall), and children under five in Tajikistan (42 per cent), Kyrgyzstan (43 per cent) and Yemen (86 per cent). About 16 per cent of children under five in these countries<sup>3</sup> also suffer from vitamin A deficiency.

<sup>2</sup> WHO, (2018). Enabling women to breastfeed through better policies and programmes: Global breastfeeding scorecard 2018. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/global-bf-scorecard-2018/en/> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>3</sup> Development Initiatives, (2017). Global Nutrition Report 2017: Nourishing the SDGs. Bristol, UK: Development Initiatives. Available at: [http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report\\_2017-2.pdf](http://165.227.233.32/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Report_2017-2.pdf) [accessed November 2018].



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As is the case across most SUN countries and regions today, a trend of steadily increasing overweight and obesity among adolescents and adults, alike, has been seen in all 3 countries between 2000 and 2016. Although obesity is rapidly increasing for both sexes, it is currently higher among women (at 19 per cent) than men (at 12 per cent) in the region. Nutrition-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as diabetes and hypertension, are also of significant concern in these countries.



Infant and young child feeding practices in West and Central Asia are just above the average for all SUN countries – with approximately 1 in 5 children between 6 and 23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet (median 20 per cent, range 15 to 33 per cent) and about one-third of children receive minimum diet diversity (median 35 per cent, range 21 to 38 per cent). These practices directly contribute to undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies among young children in this region. Large inequities are also evident in this region – only 24 per cent of children from the poorest households receive minimum diet diversity compared to 41 per cent of children from the richest households. Children living in rural areas are also less likely to have minimum diet diversity. Kyrgyzstan is one of only a few SUN countries that has demonstrated significant progress in improving the proportion of children 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet, which has increased from 16 per cent in 2012 to 33 per cent in 2014.



Whereas, on the one hand, levels of undernourishment are, overall, high in Tajikistan and Yemen (at 33 and 26 per cent, respectively), the level of undernourishment is low in Kyrgyzstan (at 6 per cent). Food insecurity is also high in Yemen (as 60 per cent are considered moderately or severely food insecure), while Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have some of the lowest severe food insecurity rates across SUN countries (at 4.4 and 7.8 per cent, respectively). Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Yemen are all heavily dependent on food imports, due to limited arable land in the case of the two Central Asian countries, whilst Yemen faces these challenges as a result of the ongoing conflict. In October 2018, the United Nations raised a warning that famine could overwhelm Yemen in the next 3 months, with 13 million people at risk of starvation.<sup>4</sup>

**YEMEN COULD BE FACING THE WORST FAMINE IN 100 YEARS, THE UN HAS WARNED**

<sup>4</sup> The Guardian, (2018). Yemen on brink of 'world's worst famine in 100 years' if war continues. Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/oct/15/yemen-on-brink-worst-famine-100-years-un> [accessed October 2018].



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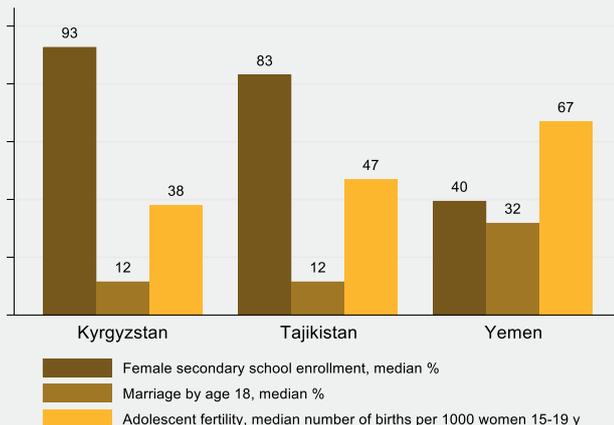


## PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SDGs: MAKERS AND MARKERS OF GOOD NUTRITION

The 2 Central Asian countries are progressing towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, with Yemen being a unique case, given the ongoing conflict.

Nearly 20 per cent of women, men and their families in Yemen live below the poverty line (per 2014 data) compared to less than 5 per cent in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (2015 data). Whereas the under-five mortality rate is on the decrease in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, as it is globally, Yemen has returned to 2010 levels (55 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016). Non-communicable disease (NCD) mortality rates are very high in Yemen, high in Kyrgyzstan and moderate in Tajikistan. Similarly, both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have seen positive economic growth over the past years, while Yemen has seen a sharp decline in its economy during this period. Living conditions are very poor for a large proportion of the urban population in Yemen, where over 60 per cent live in slums. The status of girls and women in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is above average for SUN countries (see figure 1). Over 80 per cent of girls are enrolled in secondary school, only 12 per cent of girls are married before the age of 18 and adolescent fertility is relatively low. In Yemen, the situation is less positive for girls and women, with only 40 per cent of girls enrolled in secondary school and much higher rates of early marriage and adolescent fertility.

**Figure 1: Gender-related indicators for SUN countries in West/Central Asia**



## REACHING THE SUN MOVEMENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In 2018, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Yemen all undertook their Joint-Assessment by bringing together their nutrition communities. Promisingly, these Joint-Assessments show encouraging progress for all 3 countries, with an increase in the median total score from 39 per cent to 59 per cent between 2014-16 and 2017-18.



### EXPAND AND SUSTAIN AN ENABLING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

All 3 countries in the West and Central Asia region have formalised multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) in place, at the national level. Kyrgyzstan is decentralising their MSP into 3 regions, following the formalisation of the national-level MSP in June 2016. In all 3 countries, SUN focal points are placed at high levels within Ministries: in Kyrgyzstan the focal point is the Vice-Prime Minister and Chair of the Food Security and Nutrition Council, in Tajikistan the focal point is the First Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection and the Yemeni focal point is currently the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.

The region increasingly works with a more diverse group of stakeholders. For instance, in Tajikistan, the MSP now includes the Chamber of Industry and Trade, the Committee for Religious Affairs, and civil society organisations. In Yemen, the MSP Steering Committee has recently renewed its composition to ensure participation of high-level influential bodies and members from relevant sectors. In terms of SUN Networks, in 2017-2018, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have set up all four SUN Networks (UN, civil society, business and donor), whilst Yemen is in the process of formally establishing networks for business, civil society and the UN. Kyrgyzstan has created a SUN Academic Network, while Tajikistan and Yemen also collaborate with scientists and academia to grow the evidence base. All 3 countries work with the media to spread the word about the importance of nutrition, which has been a key result in Yemen in 2017-2018. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have scaled up their work with parliamentarians, champions and advocates to cement nutrition as a national priority over the past year. In 2017-2018, all 3 countries have made strides and concerted efforts to better coordinate the development of new national nutrition plans and strategies.



### PRIORITISING AND INSTITUTIONALISING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD NUTRITION

The West and Central Asia region varies greatly in their ability to ensure a coherent legal and policy framework for nutrition - which is key to ensure the shift from inspiration to lasting human impact.



Whereas the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan implicitly protects the right to adequate food through broader human rights, the Constitutions of Tajikistan and Yemen both have directive principles that (aim to) contribute to the realisation of the right to adequate food. The current situation in Yemen, however, has led to challenges with political decision-making, which affects the development and enforcement of legislation.



In 2017-2018, the SUN Secretariat in Yemen has prepared a project aiming to stock-take nutrition-related laws and legislation in all relevant sectors. Although nutrition is a priority area across all 3 countries, the extent to which it is mentioned in their National Development Plans (NDP) varies, with Tajikistan's National Development Strategy 2030 being a good practice as food security and nutrition are clear components therein.

**TAJIKISTAN IS RATED VERY HIGHLY FOR THE INTEGRATION OF UNDERNUTRITION INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**



Countries in the region have yet to adopt the ILO's Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No.183).<sup>5</sup> Tajikistan meets the recommended paid maternity leave recommendations – to facilitate a decent work-life balance.<sup>6</sup> Yemen ratified the ILO Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156) decades before the ongoing conflict broke out. All 3 countries have put in place legislation to support breastfeeding. Yemen has put in place full legal provisions for the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have put in place many provisions in law under this important Code. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are SUN Movement leaders with regards to baby-friendly health facilities. In Tajikistan, 70 per cent of health facilities are certified as baby-friendly, which is the case for 38 per cent of health facilities in Kyrgyzstan, much higher than the median of 3 per cent across SUN Movement countries (where data is available).



All 3 countries have mandatory salt fortification legislation in place and the household coverage of iodised salt is at 49 per cent in Yemen, an impressive 99 per cent in Kyrgyzstan and 84 per cent in Tajikistan. Although Tajikistan was among the first countries in Central Asia to adopt a national law on iodisation of table salt (2002, amended in 2007), iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) remain a health challenge especially in the south and in mountainous areas of Tajikistan. Fortification of imported food, such as flour, in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is an area for concern as sufficient standards have not been put in place, or, where they have, been followed – leading to a prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies (especially iron, which is a cause of anaemia). In Tajikistan, in 2017-2018, nutrition specialists across sectors have developed a draft law on the fortification of staple foods. SUN Networks in Kyrgyzstan also have been working together, during the reporting period, to ensure the endorsement and enforcement of laws on flour fortification and the prevention of iodine deficiency. Whereas Kyrgyzstan and Yemen have mandatory wheat flour fortification legislation in place, only Yemen has put in place standards on wheat flour fortification. Yemen also has mandatory oil fortification legislation and standards (since 2001).



Tajikistan is the only country in the region reported to have put in place policies to reduce the impact on children of marketing of foods and beverages high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt. Tackling the marketing of unhealthy food and drinks is essential to prevent a further rise in overweight and obese girls and boys in the region.



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<sup>5</sup> Tajikistan has ratified the ILO Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952 (No. 103).

<sup>6</sup> Supra note 2.



## IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALIGNED WITH COMMON RESULTS

SUN countries in the West and Central Asia region are scaling up work to align actions around common results. A review of nutrition policies, strategies and guidelines by MQSUN+ during the reporting period has culminated in recommendations for the new National Food Security and Nutrition Programme for 2018-2022 in Kyrgyzstan. All six World Health Assembly targets have been integrated into this new programme, as well as into the Health Development Strategy until 2030, for which MSP members provided input to better harmonise nutrition indicators for better results.

In Tajikistan, the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan's Common Results Framework (CRF) is expected to be finalised by the end of 2018 and endorsed by mid-2019. However, key components of the CRF such as capacity building and training on nutrition are already being implemented. Work is ongoing to integrate CRF targets into sector-specific plans and policies at national and sub-national levels. This Plan will include fully costed nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific activities.

In Yemen, the costed Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan is being finalised and will be accompanied by a CRF for all sectors including agriculture, health, education, water, the environment, and fishery.

Across the region, holistic assessments and common monitoring systems need strengthening to ensure common nutrition goals are achieved.



## EFFECTIVELY USING AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR NUTRITION

In 2017-2018, both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have taken part in the annual SUN Movement budget analysis exercise that looks at nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive spending for the second time. Yemen undertook theirs in 2016. The most recent information shows that nutrition-specific spending is low in 2 out of the 3 countries. Based on the latest analysis of donor funding for nutrition in SUN countries (2015), spending per stunted child under-five for nutrition in SUN countries in this region ranges widely – from USD 1.76 per stunted child in Tajikistan to USD 30.60 in Yemen. The total spending per child under-five by donors on high-impact nutrition-specific interventions is also very high in Yemen (at USD 6.65).

In Yemen, recent trends show that civil society organisations attract international donor funding and remain crucial for the implementation of nutrition actions. However, the operational expenses of technical departments in some government sectors are no longer funded, and the ongoing conflict makes it difficult to ensure long-term financial support. Most of Yemen's nutrition projects, indicators and financial details have been uploaded onto 'Map-Yemen', which will become available for users by the end of 2018.

In Kyrgyzstan, the Government allocates a limited amount of funding for nutrition that is tracked. The lack of a system for a comprehensive monitoring of nutrition expenditure – that also takes into account donor financing – renders the tracking of nutrition-sensitive actions very difficult. Kyrgyzstan has the second highest ratio of donor spending across SUN Movement countries (95 per cent) towards nutrition-specific to nutrition-sensitive interventions.<sup>7</sup> There are no financial mechanisms in place to ensure continuity of humanitarian and development financing.

In 2017-2018, the financial contributions of development partners in Tajikistan were collected and integrated into the SUN financial tracking template, for the first time. This tracking exercise now includes budget expenditures for safe drinking water, vaccination, school feeding, food provision in hospitals, and sanitation and hygiene. Other aspects of funding and resource mobilisation will be addressed upon approval of the CRF.

<sup>7</sup> Only Guinea-Bissau is higher, at 96 per cent.



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## THE WAY FORWARD: ACCELERATING PROGRESS

Considering the 3 countries that form the West and Central Asia region of the SUN Movement are so diverse, there is no blue-print nor quick-fix solutions to ensure all women, men, girls and boys get the opportunity to enjoy good nutrition.

Urgent action and financial resources are needed in Yemen to prevent the worst famine seen the world over in 100 years and ensure that actions are taken to curb undernutrition, in particular. Looking ahead, the multi-sectoral nutrition plan will be finalised, and implemented, which is an important step in the right direction. Sectoral frameworks also need strengthening to this end, as does the capacity of institutions and nutrition-related sectors to implement nutrition-sensitive interventions. Formalising networks will also be key to bring more stakeholders onboard. Addressing gender norms and traditions, and ensuring women and girls take part in peacebuilding will be key to ensure better nutrition for Yemen.

In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, there are more common areas to be scaled up, such as ensuring fortification standards are in place and enforced - with political ownership and leadership being key to ensure the nutrition agenda remains a top priority. Tajikistan can further embrace the multi-stakeholder approach, including working closely with civil society. The finalisation of the CRF and setting up an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism will be important for both countries.

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## ADVANCING NUTRITION IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS: EXPERIENCE FROM YEMEN

Yemen joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in 2012 with high-level commitment. Despite progress, the political crisis and outbreak of civil war in 2015 have made it challenging to move Yemen's nutrition agenda forward. MQSUN+ (and the predecessor project MQSUN)\* has provided support to Yemen since 2013 to analyse the nutrition context and support prioritisation throughout the fluctuating nutrition and political context. Most recently, the SUN Yemen Secretariat (SUN-Yemen) has been collaborating with MQSUN+ to update their multi-sectoral nutrition plan.

Given the fragile context, MQSUN+'s support has centred on strong remote technical guidance, structure and tools to enable SUN-Yemen to facilitate the in-country action and collaboration throughout the process. SUN-Yemen has highlighted this support as a valuable opportunity for capacity building: Abdulkarim Nasser, Acting Head of SUN Yemen Secretariat, notes that *"MQSUN+ has provided SUN-Yemen with valuable inputs and consultancy. The activities related to updating the Multisector Nutrition Plan have developed SUN-Yemen functional capacities"*.

MQSUN+ recognises the commitment and growing empowerment of SUN-Yemen and that this work has been a true collaboration. Beyond the most recent phase of MQSUN+ support, Yemen leveraged the MQSUN+ outputs and technical guidance to convene stakeholders, gather consensus and collect information and data necessary to move its nutrition agenda forward.

The strong ownership demonstrated by SUN-Yemen has been pivotal to advancing nutrition commitments as a national development priority amidst the protracted crises. SUN-Yemen has highlighted key areas for UN partners and continued MQSUN+ collaboration in advance of their initiatives. *"MQSUN+ could provide SUN-Yemen with essential technical support in accomplishing the most urgent activities, such as establishing SUN-Yemen Networks. The SUN-Yemen annual workplan is available and clear; however, there is lack of operational support that could transform SUN-Yemen's work plan into real actions on the ground."*

Countries in conflict are often focused on their humanitarian response. However, through the SUN Movement mechanism and supplementary technical assistance, countries like Yemen can form strong collaboration with in-country partners to drive forward humanitarian and development progress for tackling malnutrition.



\*Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition (MQSUN) and now MQSUN+ (2016-2020) provides technical assistance to DFID, SUN countries and the SUN Movement Secretariat to catalyse multisectoral country efforts to scale up nutrition impact.



### ACTIVISM BRINGS FORTIFIED FLOUR TO SUUSAMYR, KYRGYZSTAN

Ainagul Muratalieva has never seriously thought about fortification. To her, a simple sense of fullness was equal to good nutrition. She is the head of a local community-based non-governmental organisation. Ainagul and her family live in the remote village of Kozhomgul in Suusamyр valley, located behind the Too-Ashuu mountain pass, 20 km away from the road. Although it may seem that her village is located not far from the road, it is hard to reach the nearest large settlement – there is no regular transport and people have to take taxis, as the road to the nearest large settlement takes 2 hours and it is very expensive to get there.

In 2016, in Kozhomgul village representatives of KACS SUN – a civil society network within the national multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) for nutrition – arranged a workshop for their members on good nutrition – also focusing on the importance of fortified flour.

According to Tursun Mamyрbaeva, a nutrition specialist, *“flour fortification is one of the cheapest and most effective ways to prevent iron, zinc and folic acid deficiencies. It has been proven that flour fortification reduces the risk of iron deficiency and anaemia and decreases the incidence of neural tube defects in children by between 30 and 70 per cent”*.

Ainagul participated in this workshop and found out that there is no fortified flour available in her and neighboring villages, despite the Kyrgyz Law “On the mandatory fortification of baking flour”. After the workshop, village activists took the decision that their families should have the opportunity to buy fortified flour. Ainagul and her friends tried to negotiate with shop sellers in 7 ayil okmotus (municipalities) to only supply fortified flour.

Sellers arranged supply of fortified flour, but at a very high price. Then, the women decided to ask the taxi drivers to deliver fortified flour. However, the taxi drivers charged 100 Kyrgyz Som for delivery of each flour bag. Ainagul almost gave up. Luckily, KACS SUN, offered their help. The MSP unites civil society organisations, academia, public and international organisation and businesses, ensuring a fast exchange of information, access to each other’s resources and the opportunity to share a common language and joint actions.

For a few months, the Civil Society Alliance negotiated with the Millers’ Association regarding the lack of fortified flour. After the inspection of shops in 7 villages, they compared the size of the population and their flour needs. The Chairperson of the Millers’ Association, Rustam Zhunushev, discovered those manufacturers ready to help residents of the 7 villages in Suusamyр ayil okmotu (municipality). Akun, the largest producing flour company, came to the rescue.

Since autumn 2017, Ainagul has collected information about the flour required for shops, she gives this information to Akun, and she acts as the guarantor, to ensure the company gets the profits. In each village, Ainagul has help.

Today, fortified flour is sold in all 7 villages. Whereas, during the first month, the residents purchased 1,5 tons of fortified flour, they now consume 7 tons of fortified flour each month, and prices have dropped significantly.

All this has become possible due to advocacy of the SUN Civil Society Alliance among the residents of 7 villages in Suusamyр ayil okmotu. They have helped residents realise the importance of good health, especially, among mothers and children, through the consumption of flour fortified with iron, zinc and folic acid. Moreover, this has become a reality, and an important result for the MSP, which brings together the Government, civil society and businesses.

## LOOKING AT MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION IN PRACTICE: A PERSPECTIVE FROM MQSUN+'S LOCAL CONSULTANT IN TAJIKISTAN



Mutriba Latypova and SUN Coordinator Gerda Verburg

The government of Tajikistan joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in September 2013. Since 2014, the DFID-funded Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition (MQSUN)\* and, now, the MQSUN+ project has been providing technical assistance to the country to review existing policy, conduct a nutrition gap analysis, map key stakeholders, and, recently, develop and operationalise their common results framework (CRF).

Since 2017, the MQSUN+ national consultant, Mutriba Latypova, has been supporting the CRF development. *“My role as an MQSUN+ national consultant is to help the country bridge the gap in the nutrition sector, to share global knowledge, and help the country to develop a technically-sound nutrition plan—taking into account global experience, lessons learnt and knowledge.”*

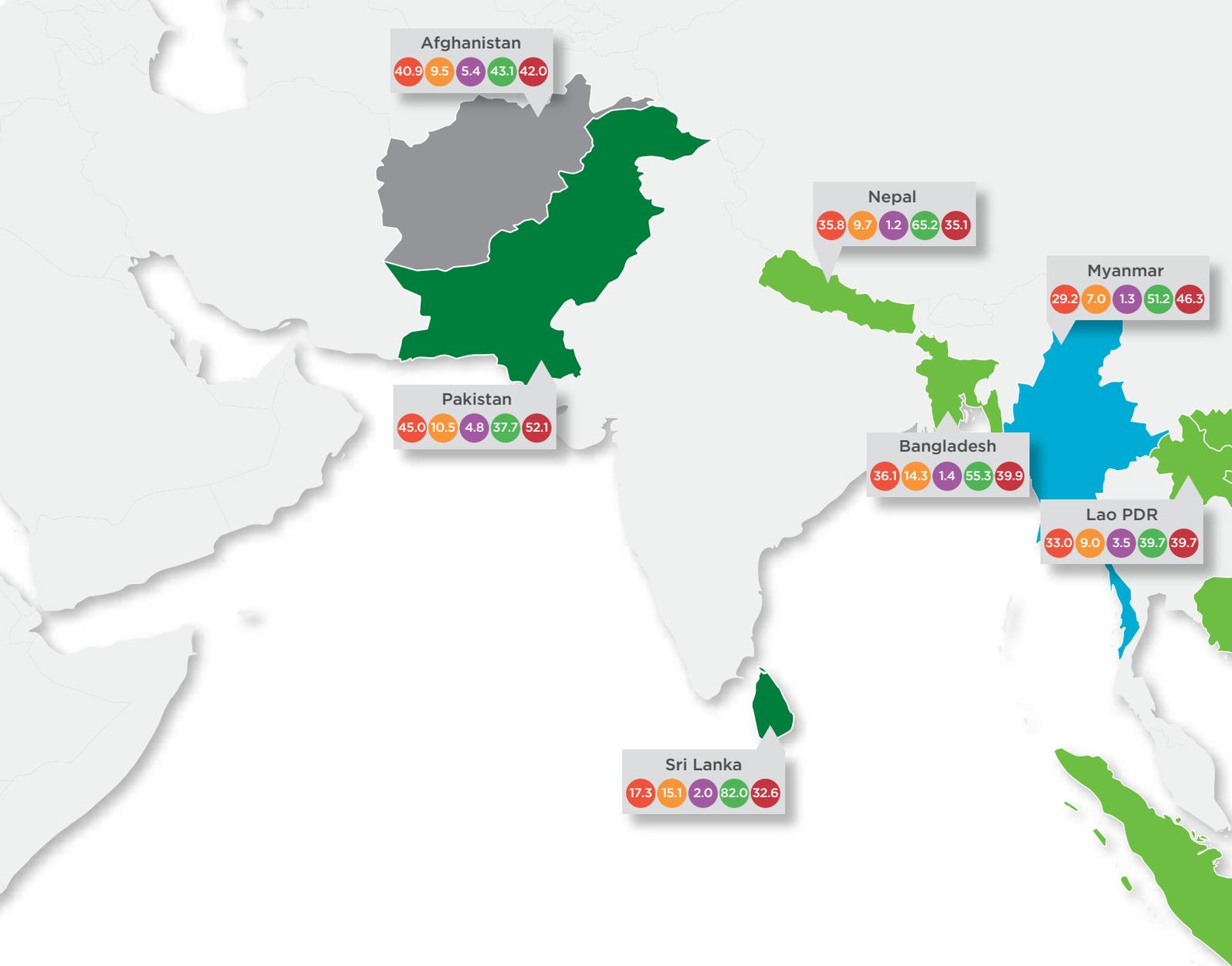
By playing such an integral role in the technical assistance team, Ms. Latypova has noted that her own capacity has been strengthened – in multi-sectoral planning and all its intricacies. *“Professionally, I have grown in understanding more about nutrition programming—nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions—and learnt how to work with consultants and colleagues within the country and outside.”*

This experience has been significant not only for her own professional development, but for the continued role she can now play in supporting country efforts to advance their nutrition agenda. From her support with MQSUN+, she has noted continuing progress in multi-sectoral nutrition collaboration, including the formation of sectoral working groups and a recent national advocacy workshop. She sees the next steps for the country to be finalising their multi-sectoral nutrition plan, reinforcing new and existing nutrition networks and forums, and continuing to advocate for nutrition across key sectors and stakeholders.



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\*Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition (MQSUN) and now MQSUN+ (2016-2020) provides technical assistance to DFID, SUN countries and the SUN Movement Secretariat to catalyse multisectoral country efforts to scale up nutrition impact.



## Scaling up nutrition in South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific

### INTRODUCTION

The South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific region encompasses 12 countries,<sup>1</sup> and three Indian states,<sup>2</sup> all committed to scaling up nutrition. These countries and States have joined the SUN Movement at various times in the Movement's lifespan – ranging from Bangladesh joining in 2010, the year the SUN Movement was launched, to as recently as this past year, when Afghanistan joined.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> South Asian SUN countries include: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The three Indian States of Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh are also members of the SUN Movement. Southeast Asian SUN countries include: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines and Viet Nam. Papua New Guinea is the only SUN country in the Pacific.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that the below analysis mainly concerns the 12 countries, and not the Indian States.

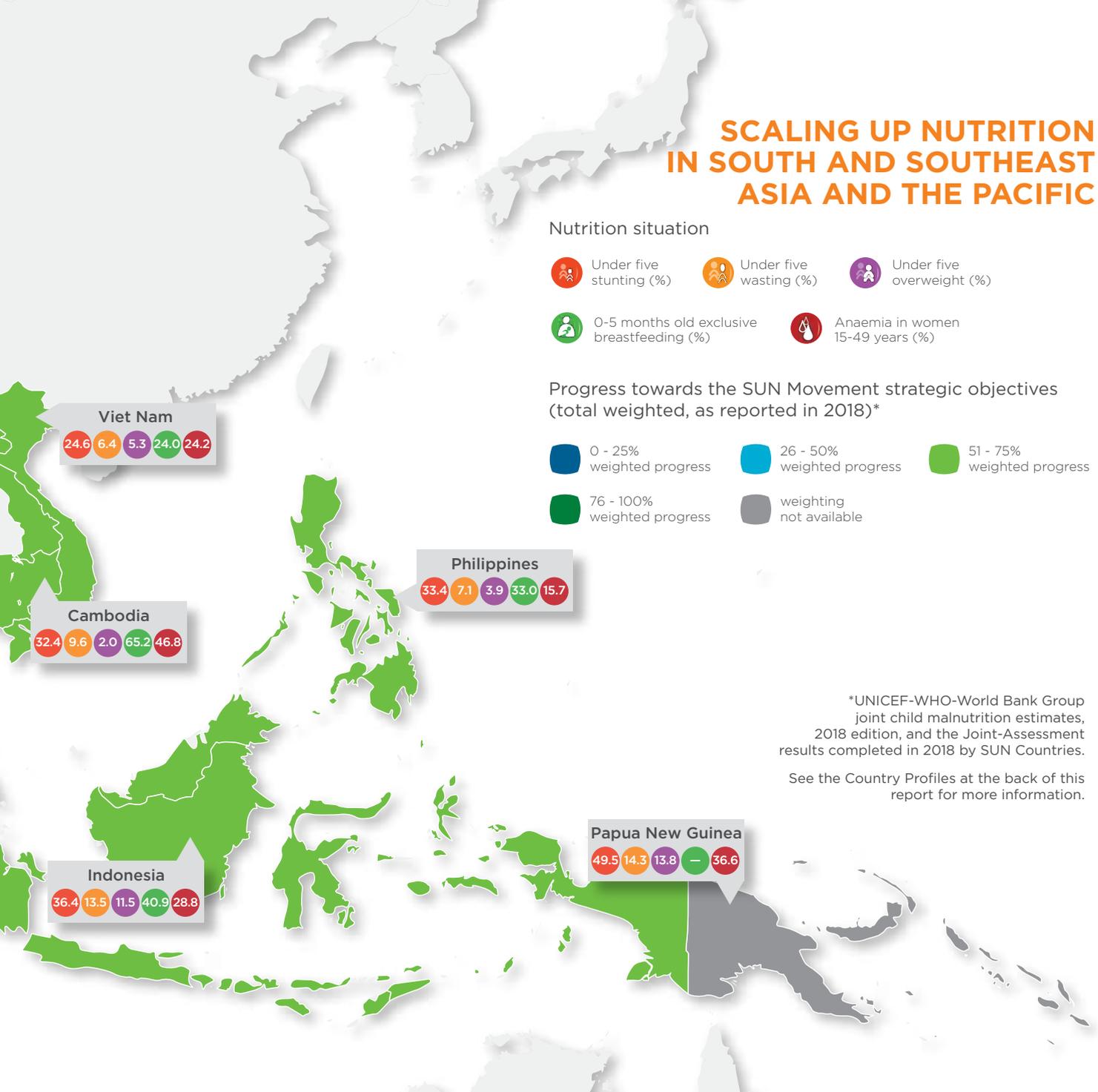
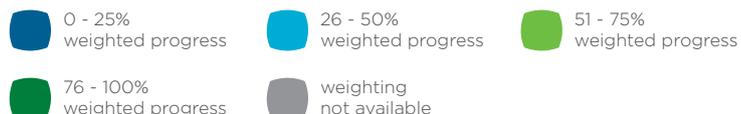
<sup>3</sup> Unless cited otherwise, data presented in this section are from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) database. These data have been compiled from various sources, as listed in the SUN MEAL Framework Baseline Document, which is available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.

# SCALING UP NUTRITION IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## Nutrition situation



## Progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives (total weighted, as reported in 2018)\*



\*UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Group joint child malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition, and the Joint-Assessment results completed in 2018 by SUN Countries.

See the Country Profiles at the back of this report for more information.

All 12 countries<sup>4</sup> have established a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), with 11 countries having undertaken their SUN Movement Joint-Assessment in 2018. Scores towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives show a marked increase from a median of 52 per cent in 2014-2016 to 65 per cent between 2017-2018.

Looking ahead, it will be essential to address undernutrition (child stunting and wasting, in particular), while also preventing any further increase in overweight and obesity among children, adolescents and adults. Prioritising gender equality, ensuring the best possible infant and young child feeding practices and investing in maternal nutrition are essential going forward. Furthermore, tracking inequities within countries is needed to ensure that progress towards good nutrition for all becomes reality.

<sup>4</sup> Papua New Guinea has yet to formalise their multi-stakeholder platform.



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## A SNAPSHOT OF NUTRITION AND DIETS ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE

Although this is a region that is making considerable progress in certain areas, South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific faces difficult hurdles.



Child stunting, despite improvements, is at a median of 36 per cent – the highest of any SUN region. The regional average also masks wide disparities in national stunting levels – Papua New Guinea has the highest stunting prevalence in this region (almost 50 per cent), while Sri Lanka has the lowest stunting prevalence rate (17.3 per cent). Only Bangladesh is on track to achieve the World Health Assembly (WHA) stunting target.<sup>5</sup>

**BANGLADESH IS 1 OF ONLY 7 SUN COUNTRIES ON TRACK TO MEET GLOBAL STUNTING TARGETS**



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With a median prevalence of 9.7 per cent, child wasting continues to be a high priority – especially for South Asian and Pacific nations. Several countries in these two sub-regions have high rates of wasting – including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Papua New Guinea. 9 of 12 countries are experiencing high levels of both child stunting and wasting at the same time. Among the 8 countries with data for tracking progress in wasting reduction, only Nepal and Viet Nam are showing some progress. No country in this region is on track to meet the WHA wasting target of 3 per cent by 2030.



Some countries are seeing growing levels of overweight among girls and boys under five. This ‘double burden’ of malnutrition is more prevalent in middle-income countries. Across the SUN Movement, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea have the highest levels of overweight girls and boys, at 12 and 14 per cent, respectively. However, this region has some of the lowest prevalence rates of overweight in children, with a median of 3 per cent. Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar and Nepal are on track to meet the WHA child overweight target.



The breastfeeding picture is quite varied. While half of newborns are put to the breast within an hour of birth, and a median of 43 per cent of infants under 6 months of age are exclusively breastfed, there are large gaps between the highest and lowest performing countries. Sri Lanka is the SUN Movement’s highest performer globally (at 82 per cent) in exclusive breastfeeding rates. Although Myanmar and Sri Lanka are on track to meet the WHA breastfeeding target, greater effort will be necessary by other countries to reach the new WHA target of 70 per cent by 2030, which means scaling up breastfeeding should continue to be a priority in this region.

**MYANMAR AND SRI LANKA ARE ON TRACK TO MEET THE GLOBAL BREASTFEEDING TARGET**

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, (2018). Levels and trends in child malnutrition: Key findings of the 2018 edition. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/2018-ime-brochure.pdf?ua=1> [accessed October 2018]. Stunting progress is not available for 4 countries in this region (Afghanistan, Lao PDR, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea). Philippines is considered as making no progress based on the most recent data available (2015).



Although Bangladesh, Nepal and Philippines have seen some progress in reducing anaemia among women of reproductive age, other countries have seen less success. Women bear a heavy burden of anaemia in this region, estimated at 43 per cent amongst pregnant women and almost 38 per cent among non-pregnant women of reproductive age. However, this region also boasts the highest median coverage, across the Movement, of women who report receiving at least 90 iron tablets during their most recent pregnancy (at 47 per cent). For greater impact, the focus needs to be on ensuring women have access to prenatal care, including micronutrient supplements, early in their pregnancy and receive a sufficient amount throughout.



South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific has the highest prevalence of underweight adolescents and adults across SUN regions. Levels of underweight adolescent girls (median 10 per cent) and boys (16 per cent) have remained steady. However, there has been a marked increase in overweight and obesity among adolescent girls (from 4 to 9 per cent, median) and boys (from 3 to 12 per cent, median) between 2010 and 2016. A unique feature of this region is that adolescent girls and boys face similar levels of overweight and obesity, whereas, elsewhere in the Movement, girls tend to have higher levels than boys. Among adults, underweight continues to affect 14 per cent of women and 15 per cent of men in 2016 (slightly lower than the 2000 estimates which were at 19 and 20 per cent, respectively), while the median prevalence of overweight and obesity has increased by approximately 10 percentage points in both women and men. Currently, a median of 29 per cent of women and 21 per cent of men are considered overweight or obese.



Inadequate infant and young child feeding practices play a key role in the high prevalence of undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. Whereas some progress has been seen in ensuring exclusive breastfeeding, in contrast, during the critical period from 6 to 23 months of age, only 1 in 4 children receives a minimum acceptable diet (median 27 per cent across 8 countries with data) and 2 in 5 receive minimum diet diversity (median 40 per cent across 9 countries with data). The gap between the richest and poorest is particularly stark for this region – 28 per cent of children from the poorest households receive minimum diet diversity as opposed to 52 per cent of the richest children. Nepal and Cambodia have shown encouraging signs of progress between 2010 and 2016 in improving complementary feeding practices.<sup>6</sup> Data from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar and Nepal reveals that over half of children under five are anaemic (range 51 to 58 per cent).



While over two-thirds of households are consuming iodised salt (median 69 per cent), national coverage for this essential nutrition intervention ranges widely from 52 to 95 per cent. All SUN countries except Viet Nam appear to have adequate iodine intake for women, men and their families. Legislation to promote consumption of iodised salt is essential in this context.<sup>7</sup>



An estimated 486 million people are undernourished in the region as a whole – SUN country or not – with little progress seen over the past two years.<sup>8</sup> In fact, an increased prevalence of undernourishment was evident in Afghanistan, Cambodia and Philippines between 2000 and 2016. These 3 countries had the highest prevalence of severe food insecurity in the region in 2016, at 16 per cent, 14 per cent and 13 per cent, respectively. There are various challenges facing this region that have an impact on food security, including natural disasters such as the susceptibility to typhoons, earthquakes and flooding, as well as other humanitarian risks. 5 countries in this region are classified as high humanitarian risk contexts, with Afghanistan and Myanmar considered very high-risk contexts.

<sup>6</sup> Based on analysis of UNICEF's Global IYCF Database, the percentage of children 6-23 months old that received a minimum acceptable diet increased from 24 to 36 per cent in Nepal (2011 to 2016) and from 24 to 30 per cent in Cambodia (2010 to 2014). The percentage of children 6-23 months that received minimum diet diversity increased from 27 to 45 per cent in Nepal and from 30 to 40 per cent in Cambodia.

<sup>7</sup> Iodine Global Network, (2018). Iodine deficiency comes back to Vietnam. Available at: <http://www.ign.org/p142003459.html> [accessed November 2018].

<sup>8</sup> FAO, (2018). Asia and the Pacific Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2018 – Accelerating progress towards the SDGs. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/CA0950EN/CA0950EN.pdf> [accessed October 2018].



## PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SDGS: MAKERS AND MARKERS OF GOOD NUTRITION

10 countries are considered lower middle-income and 2 are low-income countries. Based on 2016 data, all countries are experiencing positive economic growth, with an average annual GDP growth of 5 per cent per capita. The median rate of poverty in the region is at 7.5 per cent. The coverage of social protection programmes, important tools to reduce poverty and inequity, also varies widely in this region from 3 to 49 per cent (median 26 per cent).

The median under five mortality rate has steadily declined from 47.5 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2010 to 33 in 2017. However, a new study reveals that this rate is around 2.5 times higher among the poorest girls and boys compared to the richest – the highest level of inequity across all regions with low and middle-income countries.<sup>9</sup> Among adults, the mortality rate attributed to NCDs is closely associated with levels of overweight and obesity in this region, reflecting the importance of taking action now to prevent further increases in overweight and obesity across all age groups.

Except for Papua New Guinea, most countries are making good progress toward targets for water and about half met the 2015 Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target for sanitation. However, there is a clear association in this region between lower levels of population access to basic sanitation services and higher prevalence of child diarrhoea, a contributor to undernutrition.

The status of women and girls varies across this region. In Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Lao PDR and Nepal, over one-third of girls are married or in a union before the age of 18 years. In Afghanistan, Cambodia, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea, only 35 to 41 per cent of girls are enrolled in secondary school. According to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index, South Asia, as a sub-region, has the lowest score with an average remaining gender gap of 34 per cent.<sup>10</sup> Having said that, South Asia has also made the fastest progress on closing its gender gap of any world region. Philippines, finds itself in the top 10 performers across the world, having closed over 79 per cent of their gender gap, overall, and having fully closed their gender gap in education. Myanmar (ranked in 83rd place), a part of this Index for the first time, in the reporting period, has closed its gender gap in secondary and tertiary school enrolment.

<sup>9</sup> Chao et al., (2018). National and regional under-5 mortality rate by economic status for low-income and middle-income countries: a systematic assessment. *Lancet Global Health*; 6: e535-47. Available at: <https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/National-and-regional-U5MR.pdf> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>10</sup> World Economic Forum, (2017). The Global Gender Gap Report 2017. Available at: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017> [accessed November 2018].

## REACHING THE SUN MOVEMENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In 2018, 11 of 12 countries<sup>11</sup> undertook the SUN Movement Joint-Assessment by bringing together various stakeholders. Afghanistan, the newest SUN country, undertook a baseline study to ascertain the status quo. This section outlines some of the findings on the challenges and progress made in the countries.



### EXPAND AND SUSTAIN AN ENABLING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

All 12 countries have functioning multi-stakeholder platforms (MSP) in place, showing country-level commitment to the SUN approach. MSPs work at the decentralised level in 7 countries, with Afghanistan and Viet Nam in the process of decentralising theirs.

All countries have SUN focal points, working at various levels, including within the office of the Chief Executive in Afghanistan, the office of the Prime Minister in Cambodia, and the President's Office in Sri Lanka. In Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and Viet Nam, the focal points work within the Ministry of Health.

In this region, the MSPs have cast their nets wide to make sure the right stakeholders rally around country-level nutrition results. SUN Civil Society Alliances are gaining greater visibility and presence, with 8 countries reporting having advanced Alliances, and 2 countries have Alliances that are just starting up.<sup>12</sup> All countries have SUN Donor Networks and UN Networks for SUN in place. 9 countries report working with businesses and Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Lao People's Democratic Republic have formally launched their SUN Business Networks – with networks in Myanmar, Viet Nam and Sri Lanka in the pipeline.

9 of 12 countries report working with academia, to strengthen the research base for making policy and programme decisions, and 9 countries work with the media – which is essential to ensure information about healthy diets and nutrition reaches policy-makers and households, alike. Advocates for nutrition are key to ensure the fight for good nutrition for everyone, everywhere remains high on the political agenda. 7 countries report working with parliamentarians and nutrition champions, to this end.



At the 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering, the Movement presented 2 eminent individuals with SUN Nutrition Champion Awards, recognising the efforts of Hon. Ms. Saira Iftikhar, a Member of Parliament from Pakistan and Hon. Prof. Dr. Geeta Bhakta Joshi, a former member of the National Planning

Commission in Nepal who has helped put nutrition front and centre of national development.



<sup>11</sup> Papua New Guinea is the only country in this region who did not undertake their 2018 Joint-Assessment. Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh do not undertake Joint-Assessments.

<sup>12</sup> Afghanistan and Viet Nam do not, as yet, have SUN Civil Society Networks.



## PRIORITISING AND INSTITUTIONALISING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD NUTRITION

Policies, legislation and actions – with governments in the driver’s seat – are essential to scale up nutrition. The South and Southeast Asia and Pacific region are slowly but surely progressing towards ensuring a coherent policy and legislative framework for improved nutrition.



Nepal and Philippines have explicit constitutional protection of the right to adequate food, while the Constitution of Indonesia implicitly guarantees the right to adequate food, through broader human rights.



There appears to be a movement in this region towards the alignment of national nutrition plans with international targets relevant to nutrition and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In Nepal, the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan has integrated SDG and WHA targets. This region ranks the highest across the Movement when it comes to including WHA targets into national nutrition plans.



Making maternity protection legislation effective, extending it to all women, and ensuring its implementation, including paid leave and adequate number of nursing breaks, is key to ensure women who work have an opportunity to raise a healthy, well-nourished family. Bangladesh and Viet Nam have full maternity protection in place, with 6 countries having partial legislation to protect mothers at work. No country in this region has ratified the ILO Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183). All countries have put in place legislation to prevent the inappropriate marketing of breast-milk substitutes and 7 countries have full provisions in law in line with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes<sup>13</sup>. Implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative faces many challenges, with data from 10 SUN countries in this region revealing a median of 12 per cent of healthcare facilities and maternity wards being considered baby-friendly.<sup>14</sup>



None of the countries in this region have policies in place to reduce the impact of marketing of food and beverages on children. This is particularly important for stemming the increase in child overweight and obesity.

**MAHARASHTRA HAS PUT IN PLACE A MID-DAY MEAL PROGRAMME, ALIGNED WITH THE NATIONAL NUTRITION PROGRAMME, TO BOOST SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND BETTER THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN**

<sup>13</sup> 3 countries have many provisions in line with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and 2 countries have few provisions in place.

<sup>14</sup> WHO, (2017). National Implementation of the Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/bfhi-national-implementation2017/en/> [accessed November 2018].



## IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALIGNED WITH COMMON RESULTS

All countries have, or are developing, a Common Results Framework (CRF). All active CRFs in this region include nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions and are accompanied by action plans and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

The region has made strides towards better integrating overweight and obesity in National Development Plans. In Indonesia, SUN Networks are supporting, contributing to and participating in setting national priorities and ensuring nutrition is included, also beyond the 2019 Government Annual Workplan (RKP 2019) and National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN 2015-2019).

Countries highlight that national nutrition plans are meant to act at, and target, sub-national levels. Monitoring at sub-national levels is taking place and there are plans to increase coverage and health surveys for better understanding of collective progress. Some have noted the need for better country linkages or collaboration between sub-national and national levels.

The region fares well in putting in place information systems for nutrition. Viet Nam's National Nutrition Surveillance System (NNSS) has helped inform planning and monitoring of progress toward the goals set out in the National Nutrition Plan of Action. Provincial profiles generated from the annual surveys have contributed to increased awareness of child malnutrition rates and feeding practices among provincial governments.



## EFFECTIVELY USING AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR NUTRITION

Many mechanisms are in place in this region to track and help facilitate financing for nutrition. Only Viet Nam took part in the 2018 SUN budget analysis exercise, having also undertaken this in 2015 and 2016.

All countries have either costed, or are in the process of costing, their Common Results Frameworks (CRFs). 9 out of 11 countries are estimating financing gaps, to be filled by government, external partners/donors or non-governmental actors. 9 countries have noted an alignment between donors and the CRFs.

Many countries have reported increases in funds available and public expenditure for nutrition – hopefully indicating that nutrition is increasingly recognised as a priority. In many cases, nutrition spending is included in national budgets and plans. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms exist for financing activities, but that could be strengthened.

Data on national budget spending for nutrition in 2016 are available for 7 countries. These governments budgeted a median of USD 7.40 per child under five for nutrition-specific interventions in 2016 – the second highest amount across the SUN regions. However, the ratio of spending on nutrition-specific to nutrition-sensitive spending was estimated at only 5.5 per cent (median). This may reflect both an absence of nutrition programmes and interventions in national budgets, and an inherent difficulty in tracking nutrition-specific activities when they are integrated into sectoral programmes.

An analysis of donor funding for nutrition shows some encouraging trends for the region overall, in terms of an increase in average spending per stunted child under five from USD 8.80 in 2013 to USD 14.30 in 2015. Donor spending per child under five for high-impact nutrition-specific interventions has also increased from USD 0.80 in 2013 to USD 1.88 in 2015. However, the ratio of donor spending for nutrition-specific versus nutrition-sensitive interventions decreased from 69 per cent in 2013 to 30 per cent in 2015.



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## THE WAY FORWARD: ACCELERATING PROGRESS

The adoption of a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach to fight malnutrition, in all its forms, and sub-nationally, is clearly high in South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific, which bodes well for the future of this region. More and more, countries work across sectors and stakeholders in support of government-led plans and programmes – also backed by donor support. To make sure no one is left behind and to ensure global nutrition targets, including the World Health Assembly targets, are met by 2030, however, many countries are still to overcome many obstacles. This includes tackling pervasive undernutrition in the region, while also preventing a rise in overweight and obesity. This challenge cuts across all age groups, from young children to adolescents and adults. Reducing child undernutrition will require actions to improve maternal nutrition, the quality and quantity of diets for young children and the sanitation and hygienic environments in which families live. As no country in the region has fully put in place healthy diet policies, looking ahead, this will be a key area to scale up. Ensuring the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality, will be essential for lasting success and a healthy, well-nourished future in South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific.



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## A ROLE FOR BUSINESSES TO PLAY: LAO PDR LAUNCHES BUSINESS NETWORK

Businesses are rooted in their communities, and when their communities suffer from malnutrition they can have a role in uplifting them. With a focus on food security and reducing levels of malnutrition, Lao PDR launched its SUN Business Network in June 2018.

220 participants and 19 businesses have registered to this new initiative. It will be a unique platform for businesses to provide local solutions for improving access to and the availability of nutritious food, products and services. The Network aims to identify ways to mobilise businesses to invest in nutrition and sustainable operations. Businesses have also been enticed to join with free membership and access to networking events, updates on nutrition news, workshops, publicity on international forums, and access to Corporate Social Responsibility programmes.

*“Businesses increasingly recognise that nutrition is closely linked to business growth and that malnutrition has a major impact on economic development, productivity and performance,”* said H.E. Leo Faber, the EU Ambassador to Lao PDR.

Cross-country learning has begun, when delegates from the SUN Business Network Laos met with the SUN Business Network global team (GAIN and the World Food Programme), and representatives from Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

This solid foundation creates an attractive space for companies to take part in nutrition efforts and establishes the groundwork for new projects and partnerships to take hold.



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### **GEARING UP TO MAKE MYANMAR BREASTFEEDING FRIENDLY**

Myanmar is implementing a **becoming breastfeeding friendly (BBF)** project with the support from Yale University. BBF is a methodology based on Breastfeeding Gear Model (BFGM) to create an evidence-based toolbox to help guide the development and tracking of large-scale, well-coordinated, multi-sectoral, national breastfeeding promotion programmes.

The BFGM stipulates that eight “gears” - Advocacy, Political Will, Legislation & Policies, Funding & Resources, Training & Programme Delivery, Promotion, Research & Evaluation, and Coordination, Goals & Monitoring - must be at work and in harmony for large-scale improvement in a country’s national breastfeeding programme. The BBF requires the formation of an in-country working group, comprising experts from different areas, to identify gaps, score the ‘gears’ and provide policy recommendations.

The BBF is a joint-initiative, as the BBF in-country working group is formed with representatives from government ministries, UN agencies, civil society organisations and a parliamentarian. The Working Group is chaired by Dr. May Khin Than, Director of the National Nutrition Center (NNC), from the Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) and co-chaired by Dr. Swe Le Mar, Assistant Director from NNC and Soe Nyi Nyi, Nutrition Advocacy Advisor for the Secretariat of the SUN Civil Society Alliance in Myanmar, which is hosted by Save the Children.

The BBF is deemed very important for the Civil Society Alliance and the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), as it provides a great opportunity to inform the Government on how to strengthen policies to ensure breastfeeding is promoted, protected and supported in Myanmar.

## ACHIEVING THE SDGs THROUGH SHARING AND LEARNING AND SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: AFGHAN FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION AGENDA STAKEHOLDERS GO TO BANGLADESH



In 2018, a 12-member, high-level delegation from the Afghan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSeN-A) visited Bangladesh to learn about multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination and governance in food security and nutrition. The delegation, headed by H.E. Nasrullah Arsalai, Director General of the Afghan Council of Ministers' Secretariat and SUN Focal Point, spent five days in Bangladesh to learn about the Bangladesh experience in strengthening the policy, investment,

monitoring and governance frameworks in food security and nutrition, so that this could be taken back to Afghanistan. This South-South cooperation study visit was carried out under the joint FAO - European Union initiative on "Food and Nutrition Security, Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation (FIRST)" Programme.

Recognising the importance of addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, the Government of Afghanistan launched the AFSeN-A in October 2017, following joining the SUN Movement, "to ensure that no Afghan suffers from hunger and every Afghan is well nourished at all times".

Bangladesh was chosen for this tour as a result of its unique multi-sectoral coordination mechanism and inclusive approach on food security and nutrition involving different stakeholders, at all levels. The team visited 16 different institutions including research institutes, departments, ministries, authorities, and universities, where they learnt, first-hand, about the progress Bangladesh has made in a variety of sectors. There was some focus in some key areas that could be successfully used in context of Afghanistan, such as nutrition-sensitive and climate-sensitive agriculture; fortification and bio-fortification; targeted programmes for vulnerable people; the development of environment-friendly pesticides and stress tolerant crop varieties; and the development of local technology to help farmers.

Following the visit, the delegation has developed a series of conclusions that will provide policy and decision-makers with insights as how to improve food security and nutrition-related actions in Afghanistan, which will eventually lead to the elaboration of a cooperation plan in this area between the two countries.



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# Scaling up nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean

## INTRODUCTION

4 countries in Latin America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Peru) and 1 in the Caribbean (Haiti) are members of the SUN Movement. The region's commitment to scaling up nutrition is clear, with Guatemala and Peru being two of the SUN Movement's 'earliest risers', with the other 3 following suit between 2011 and 2014.<sup>1</sup>

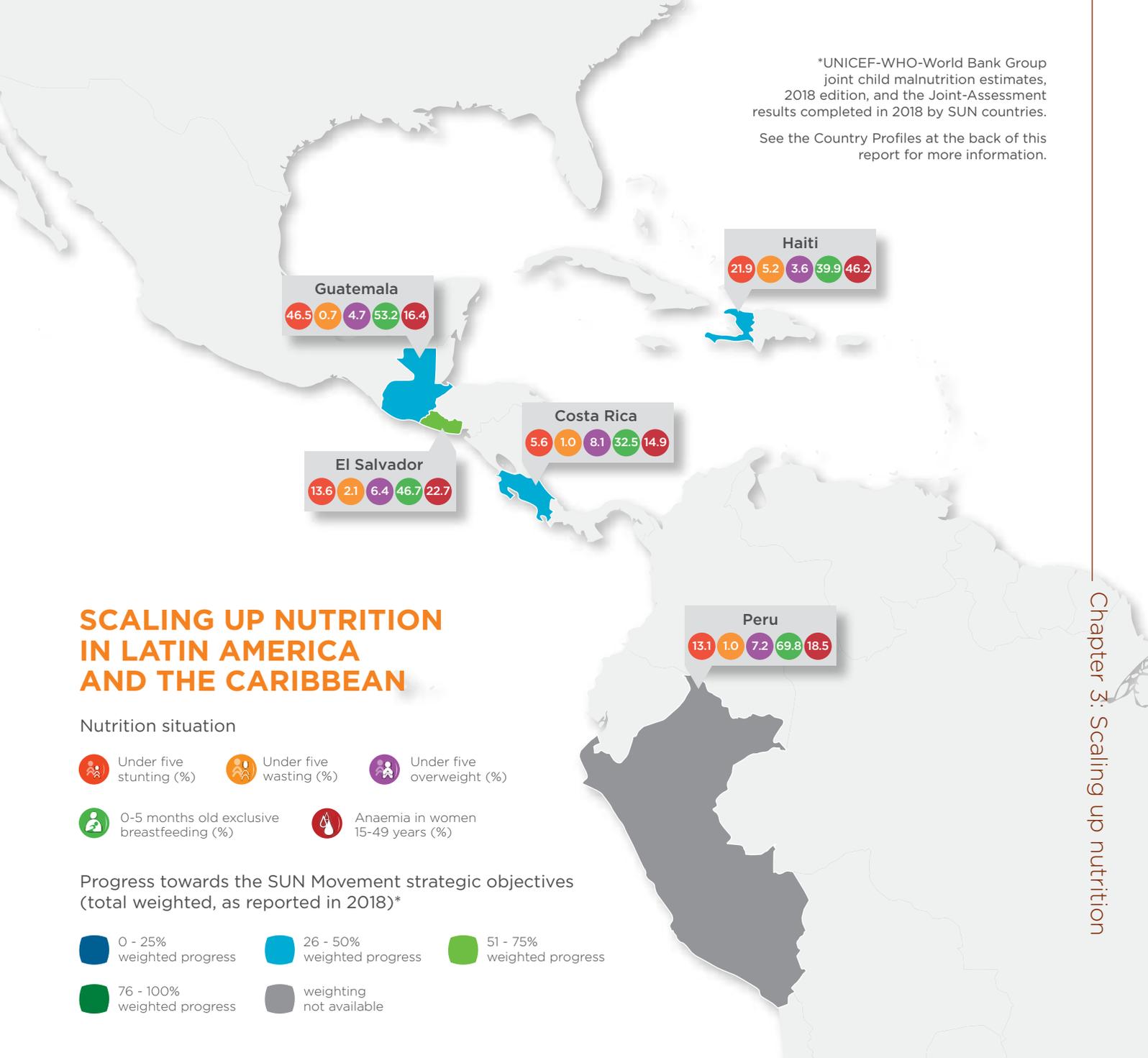
These 5 countries are diverse in terms of their historical, geographical and economic contexts. They range from low-income to upper middle-income countries and are at various levels of risk vis-à-vis humanitarian crises disasters, ranging from low to very high risk. However, what unites this region is their efforts to reduce malnutrition, in all its forms, through multi-sectoral approaches. All countries in the region have established a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) – with 4 out of 5 countries having undertaken their SUN Movement Joint-Assessment in 2018.<sup>2</sup> Progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives has been maintained since 2016.

<sup>1</sup> Unless cited otherwise, data presented in this section are from the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) database. These data have been compiled from various sources, as listed in the SUN MEAL Framework Baseline Document, which is available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.

<sup>2</sup> In 2018, all countries in the region except Peru undertook the SUN Joint-Assessment.

\*UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Group joint child malnutrition estimates, 2018 edition, and the Joint-Assessment results completed in 2018 by SUN countries.

See the Country Profiles at the back of this report for more information.



## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### Nutrition situation

- Under five stunting (%)
- Under five wasting (%)
- Under five overweight (%)
- 0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding (%)
- Anaemia in women 15-49 years (%)

### Progress towards the SUN Movement strategic objectives (total weighted, as reported in 2018)\*

- 0 - 25% weighted progress
- 26 - 50% weighted progress
- 51 - 75% weighted progress
- 76 - 100% weighted progress
- weighting not available

Looking ahead, accelerated action will be needed to curb overweight, obesity and undernutrition, alike, and ensure a healthy, nutritious future for all women, men and their families.



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2018 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report

## A SNAPSHOT OF NUTRITION AND DIETS ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE

Although trends vary greatly from country to country in this region, certain parallels can be drawn vis-à-vis malnutrition and food security trends.



Girls' and boys' nutrition status under five years old varies from country to country in Latin America and the Caribbean. Stunting levels are some of the lowest across the SUN Movement in Costa Rica, El Salvador and Peru (lower than 15 per cent), but high in Haiti (at 22 per cent) and very high in Guatemala (46 per cent of children).

**EL SALVADOR AND PERU ARE 2 OF ONLY 6 SUN COUNTRIES ON TRACK TO MEET GLOBAL TARGETS FOR BOTH STUNTING AND WASTING**



Low levels of wasting in children is seen across this region, with Costa Rica, Guatemala and Peru having a prevalence of wasted girls and boys that stands at 1 per cent, or below. Wasting is more prevalent in El Salvador and Haiti – which today is at 2.1 per cent and 5.2 per cent, respectively. Both El Salvador and Peru, however, are on track to meet World Health Assembly targets for both stunting and wasting.



A unique feature of this region is the notable increase in children who are overweight – with Haiti being a regional outlier with undernutrition still being the main concern. In the Latin American countries, the percentage of overweight girls and boys ranges between 5 and 8 per cent, exceeding the WHA 2030 target of reducing and maintaining childhood overweight to less than 3 per cent.

**“WHILE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS UNDERNUTRITION [IN LATIN AMERICA] HAVE MADE MARKED IMPROVEMENTS, CHILDHOOD OBESITY IS ON THE RISE AS A RESULT OF DIETS THAT FAVOUR ENERGY-DENSE, NUTRIENT-POOR FOODS AND THE ADOPTION OF A SEDENTARY LIFESTYLE.”<sup>2</sup>**



Close to half of infants 0-5 months of age are exclusively breastfed (with a median of 47 per cent). Peru is the region's highest performer, with an exclusive breastfeeding rate of 69.8 per cent,<sup>4</sup> followed by Guatemala (at 53.2 per cent) and El Salvador (at 46.7 per cent). Haiti and Costa Rica's exclusive breastfeeding rates are at 39.9 and 32.5 per cent, respectively – which means that promoting breastfeeding of infants should be prioritised in these countries, in particular. About half (median 55 per cent) of infants are breastfed within an hour after delivery (with a range of 42 to 63 per cent) – although children from the richest households and those in urban areas are less likely to initiate breastfeeding early. SUN countries in this region are also doing well in terms of continued breastfeeding until a girl or boy reaches 1 year. Guatemala performs exceptionally well – with a rate that stands at 85.3 per cent, followed by Peru (at 79.6 per cent) and Haiti (at 76.9 per cent).

<sup>3</sup> Corvalan et al., (2017). “Nutrition status of children in Latin America” Obesity Reviews 18 (Suppl. 2), pp. 7–18.

<sup>4</sup> WHO, (2018). Enabling women to breastfeed through better policies and programmes: Global breastfeeding scorecard 2018. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/global-bf-scorecard-2018/en/> [accessed November 2018].



All countries share the problem of anaemia in women, affecting a median of 26 per cent of pregnant and 18 per cent of non-pregnant women. Haiti bears the highest burden, with anaemia affecting 65 per cent of children under five, 56 per cent of adolescent girls between 15 and 19 years old, and 46 per cent of women. Efforts to address high levels of anaemia among women include the promotion of iron supplements for women during pregnancy. Peru, Guatemala and Haiti are reaching over 70 per cent of women with at least some iron supplements during pregnancy.



Overweight and obesity in adults has also become an important health issue for Latin America and the Caribbean, with the region having the highest prevalence of overweight and obesity across the SUN Movement. The prevalence of overweight and obesity is greater than 60 per cent among adult women in every country. Prevalence among adult men and adolescent girls and boys is also very high. The increasing levels of overweight and obesity reflect improvements in socio-economic conditions, increases in women's employment, rapid urbanisation, changes in the food system and increased use of private transportation that interact in complex ways and influence diet and activity patterns.<sup>5</sup> Along with the increase in overweight and obesity comes an increase in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) – diabetes is estimated to affect an average of 10 per cent of men and women in the region and all 5 countries are off track to achieve the NCD target for reducing diabetes.



Infant and young child feeding practices are important contributors to child malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. A high proportion of children 6-23 months of age in Latin American SUN countries receive a minimum acceptable diet and minimum diet diversity (with a range between 52 and 65 per cent for minimum acceptable diet and minimum diet diversity rates between 59 to 78 per cent). The picture is different for children in Haiti, however, where only 14 per cent receive a minimum acceptable diet and 23 per cent receive minimum diet diversity, similar to most other countries across the Movement.



Iodised salt is another important action to improve micronutrient status of children and their families. The coverage of iodised salt is high (above 85 per cent) in Peru and Guatemala but very low in Haiti (at 16 per cent).



In comparison to other SUN Movement countries, the Latin America and Caribbean region has the lowest prevalence of undernourishment. However, undernourishment levels and food insecurity are closely associated with levels of humanitarian risk in this region. The prevalence of undernourishment in 2016 was the highest in Haiti (46 per cent), a very high-risk context, in contrast to Costa Rica (4 per cent), a low risk context. Food insecurity remains a concern in Haiti where most households depend on home production for food consumption, and agriculture is slowly recovering from Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and the year-long drought in 2015-2016. Peru and El Salvador are considered as medium humanitarian risk contexts – the latest data available for El Salvador suggest that 12 per cent of the population experienced severe food insecurity in 2016. Also considered at a high risk of humanitarian crises and disasters, Guatemala faces serious challenges in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 on Zero Hunger, which includes the elimination of all forms of malnutrition by 2030. Almost half the population cannot afford the cost of the basic food basket – resulting in one of the highest prevalence of stunting in girls and boys under 5 in the world – and the highest in Latin America and the Caribbean.

<sup>5</sup> Supra note 3.



## PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SDGs: MAKERS AND MARKERS OF GOOD NUTRITION

Many Latin American and Caribbean countries are making significant strides toward achieving the SDGs and can lead the way towards better nutrition, also through South-South Cooperation. The 4 Latin American countries are SUN Movement leaders in their efforts to eradicate extreme poverty, end preventable deaths of children under five years and reduce premature mortality from NCDs.

Less than 10 per cent of the population lives below the international poverty line in the 4 Latin American countries.<sup>6</sup> These countries are at the forefront of developing countries' efforts to ensure the social protection of women, men and their families – by implementing various types of transfers, such as conditional cash transfer programmes and social pensions, and expanding health protection. Social assistance programmes cover a large proportion of vulnerable populations in these countries (median 59 per cent coverage overall, with 78 per cent coverage of the poorest households). In contrast, in Haiti, the level of poverty is much higher (25 per cent in 2012) and there are no social assistance programmes to protect poor households.

While social protection programmes have played an important role in addressing poverty and proved essential to decrease undernutrition, there is, however, a concern that these programmes will need to be adapted to avoid an inadvertent contribution towards the risk of overweight. The presence of a double – or multiple – burden of malnutrition requires designing policies and programmes to address nutrition status at both ends of the spectrum – from undernutrition to overweight. Presently, in some countries, there are efforts to address the growing obesity epidemic by modifying social and nutrition programmes or improving public school environments in general. However, in other countries such as Guatemala and Peru, social programmes are still mainly oriented to fighting undernutrition.<sup>7</sup>

In terms of SDG drivers of nutrition, the 4 Latin American countries are also leaders in ensuring a high proportion of their population have access to basic water services, in contrast to Haiti where 64 per cent of households have access to these services.

As is the case of every SUN region, Latin America also sees great disparity between the 'haves' and 'have nots'. Considering this region has a high percentage of indigenous women, men and children (estimated at 13 per cent), addressing indigenous peoples' equal rights, socio-economic development and access to food and nutrition is key to ensure improvements in nutrition in all countries, overall and leave no one behind.

Girls and women in Latin America and the Caribbean often enjoy more equality than elsewhere in the SUN Movement. This region has the highest proportion of girls enrolled in secondary school (median 88 per cent versus 44 per cent for SUN countries), a low proportion of girls married by the age of 18 (regional median 22 per cent versus 31 per cent for SUN countries) and low adolescent fertility rate (median 63 births per 1,000 women 15-19 years, versus 87 for SUN countries). Interestingly, however, no SUN country in Latin America or the Caribbean region is placed in the top 20 positions of the 2017 World Economic Forum Gender Gap ranking – Costa Rica is placed in the 41st position, with Peru finding itself placed 48th, and is the highest climber since the last ranking. El Salvador is placed in the 68th position, with Guatemala having been placed in the 110th position in 2017 – lower than many SUN countries and the lowest ranked in the region.<sup>8</sup>



<sup>6</sup> World Bank, (2018). Poverty and Equity Database. Available at: <https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/poverty-and-equity-database> [accessed March 2018].

<sup>7</sup> Supra note 3.

<sup>8</sup> World Economic Forum, (2017). The Global Gender Gap Report 2017. Available at: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017> [accessed November 2018].

## REACHING THE SUN MOVEMENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In 2018, 4 out of 5 countries in the region undertook the Joint-Assessment, where, across the board, the overall scores have been sustained at similar levels since 2016.



### EXPAND AND SUSTAIN AN ENABLING POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

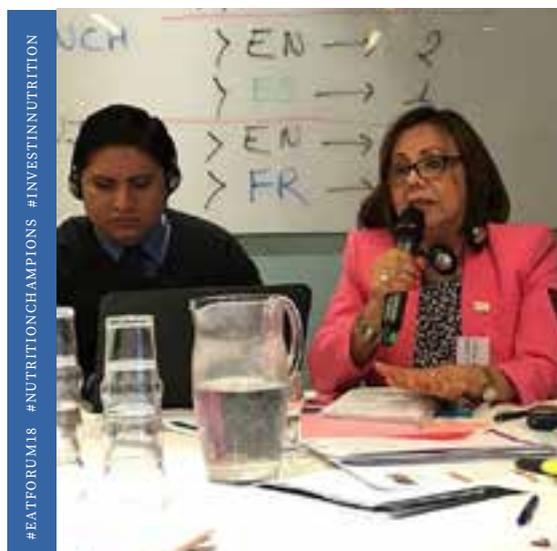
SUN countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are progressing in the creation of an enabling environment for nutrition. 3 countries have a functioning multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), with Costa Rica and Haiti having an interim MSP today. In El Salvador and Guatemala, the MSP also exists at the decentralised level.

In 3 of 5 countries, the SUN Focal Point is positioned within the Ministry of Health (Costa Rica, El Salvador and Haiti), while the Peruvian Focal Point is placed in the Ministry of Social Development. In Guatemala, the Focal Point can be found within the President's Office - which strengthens their ability to convene the nutrition community in the country.

All SUN countries have ensured the right stakeholders take part in nutrition actions. All countries have a UN Network and the functionality of these Networks has improved since 2016 (when first assessed). Guatemala and Haiti report working with the private sector on an informal basis. Based on data from 2017, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru have well-functioning Civil Society Networks. Only Guatemala has a donor convenor today.

When it comes to rallying high-level advocates for nutrition, 3 countries report having mobilised at least two of the three types (the media, parliamentarians and nutrition champions) in 2018. A key result from the reporting period, Haiti now harnesses the media - for the first time. Most countries are collaborating with academia as well, with 4 out of 5 countries reporting working with academics in 2018, which is key to equip nutrition decision-makers with the evidence they need to make informed policy choices at the national level.

The 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering, held in Abidjan in November, brought together a range of high-level advocates for nutrition, also from the Latin America and the Caribbean. The First Lady of Haiti, H.E. Martine Moïse attended this Global Gathering and committed to ensuring nutrition and gender equality remain high on the political agenda in her country. The SUN Movement also recognised 9 Scaling Up Nutrition Champions, at an official Award Ceremony during the Global Gathering. Ms. Ana Josefa Blanco Noyola from El Salvador, Executive Director of CALMA - a breastfeeding support centre - is one of our eminent ambassadors for nutrition. Ms. Blanco Noyola has worked tirelessly to support the right to breastfeed and has been an important player in developing a normative framework for breastfeeding in El Salvador.



"Language cannot be a barrier. We have to put in place the necessary mechanisms to collaborate among #NutritionChampions to share experiences and knowledge to achieve our objectives."

**ANA JOSEFA BLANCO NOYOLA**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CENTRE, CALMA, EL SALVADOR



## PRIORITISING AND INSTITUTIONALISING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD NUTRITION

Government policies, legislation and actions play a key role in reducing undernourishment. They are also essential to curb the trend of increasing overweight and obesity and improving nutrition outcomes. The Latin America and Caribbean region appears to be progressing well in ensuring a coherent and consistent policy and legal framework, across the board.



Costa Rica, Guatemala and Haiti have explicit constitutional protection of the right to adequate food, while the Constitutions of both El Salvador and Peru implicitly guarantee the right to adequate food through broader human rights.



Guatemala has given significant attention to nutrition in its most recent national multi-year development policy, *Política General de Gobierno 2016-2020*.<sup>9</sup> However, Peru's recent national development plan, *Plan Bicentenario: El Perú Hacia el 2021*, scored much lower in terms of the extent to which nutrition was featured. Based on an earlier assessment,<sup>10</sup> all countries in the region need to scale up the integration of overweight and obesity in national development plans in order to achieve the global targets.

**IN THE 2017 HANCI ASSESSMENT OVER GOVERNMENTAL COMMITMENT TO TACKLING HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION, GUATEMALA IS RANKED 1<sup>ST</sup> WITH PERU BEING PLACED 3<sup>RD</sup>**



Legislation for the promotion and protection of breastfeeding needs to be strengthened, to give girls and boys the best possible start in life. Only Costa Rica and Peru have maternity protection laws in place, while the other 3 have partial protection. In May 2016, Peru ratified the ILO Maternity Protection Convention (No. 183), 2000, the only country in the region to do so, and now women workers have 14 weeks' maternity leave (49 days of prenatal leave and 49 days postnatal leave.) The use of breast-milk substitutes is common in this region, with many infants who only receive substitutes.<sup>11</sup> While 4 countries in the region have many (El Salvador, Guatemala, Peru and Costa Rica) legal measures in place to protect people from aggressive marketing of breast-milk substitutes, through the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, Haiti has none. Implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative is important for ensuring that health facilities promote, protect and support breastfeeding. Costa Rica leads the region in its coverage for baby-friendly-certified health facilities (at 44 per cent), but the other 2 countries with data report only 4-5 per cent in this key area.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>9</sup> IDS, (2017). Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index 2017. Available at: <http://www.hancindex.org/> [accessed November 2018].

<sup>10</sup> IDS, (2015). As reported in the Global Nutrition Report 2017.

<sup>11</sup> UNICEF, (2016) From the First Hour of Life: Making the case for improved infant and young child feeding everywhere. New York: UNICEF.

<sup>12</sup> WHO, (2017). National Implementation of the Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative, 2017. Geneva: World Health Organization. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/bfhi-national-implementation2017/en/> [accessed November 2018].



Countries have also demonstrated their commitment to address micronutrient deficiencies through progressive fortification legislation. All 5 countries in this region have mandatory food fortification legislation in place for wheat and salt. Three also have mandatory fortification legislation for maize, with Haiti also having put in place fortification legislation for oil.

### HAITI HAS PUT IN PLACE FORTIFICATION LEGISLATION FOR OIL

Advertising strongly influences consumer choices and plays a role in changing diets in Latin America and the Caribbean, including for children. Although no country in the region has, fully, put in place healthy diet policies, Peru is the only country in this region to have put in place so-called healthy policies to reduce the impact on children of marketing of foods and beverages high in saturated fats, trans-fatty acids, free sugars or salt. Costa Rica has policies in place to reduce salt/sodium consumption and both Peru and Costa Rica have policies to limit saturated fats and eliminate trans-fats in the food supply.



### IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE ACTIONS ALIGNED WITH COMMON RESULTS

Agreeing on common results is key to ensure nutrition results for all women, men and their families, and all countries in Latin America have put in place a Common Results Framework (CRF). The Latin American countries have agreed and aligned their common nutrition goals across ministries and sectors – with high-level political support palpable in all cases. Impressively, the CRFs in Peru, El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica include both nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific goals and targets and are accompanied by both action plans and monitoring and evaluation plans.

National nutrition information systems are essential to assess the status quo and measure changes in the nutritional status of women, men and their families – but also to track progress and prioritise actions going forward. The Latin American countries also stand out with regards to information systems, as they all have put in place these systems or are, currently, in the process of developing them.

Priority actions at the national level are also drilled down to the local level in Latin America, in particular, with strategic and operational plans of multi-sectoral policies existing at the sub-national level in Guatemala, El Salvador and Peru, including monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

Peru continues to be a SUN Movement leader in generating real-time reports on progress of multi-sectoral programmes for improved nutrition. Their *REDinforma* website continues to be an inspiration and model for how to create dashboards with up-to-date information on the current status of programmes, based on logical, evidence-based models.



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## EFFECTIVELY USING AND SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR NUTRITION

Many countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region are scaling up nutrition investments, although only Peru's Common Results Framework (CRF) is costed today. The 4 Latin American countries have conducted a national budget analysis of spending for nutrition. Among those countries, the level of budget spending for nutrition-specific interventions ranges widely (from USD 6.50 to USD 244.80 per child under five). However, the median for this region, at USD 81.50 per girl or boy under five, is the highest in the SUN Movement today. Guatemala conducted a budget analysis in 2018 for the third time.

Based on the latest analysis of donor funding for nutrition in SUN countries (from 2015, with no data for Costa Rica), donor spending for nutrition varies widely, from country to country. In 3 of the 4 countries with data, donor spending for nutrition exceeds USD 10 per stunted child under five. Haiti is exceptional in this regard, where donors spend USD 12.28 per child under five, with donor spending on high-impact nutrition-specific interventions being estimated at less than USD 1.00 per child under five in the other countries. The percentage of donor disbursements for nutrition-specific versus nutrition-sensitive spending ranges widely across the region, from 5 per cent in Peru and 28 per cent in Haiti to 68 per cent in El Salvador and 93 per cent in Guatemala.

It is necessary to strengthen administrative and financial institutions' capacities for action and to analyse gaps to better implement programmes in this region. Scaling up high-level political support for nutrition is therefore needed to ensure more and better used financial resources.



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## THE WAY FORWARD: ACCELERATING PROGRESS

Across the Latin America and Caribbean region, much work has gone into fighting undernutrition. As the history and economies of these 5 countries vary widely, the fight is not over in Guatemala and Haiti particular, with regards to curbing stunting in both countries and wasting of young Haitian girls and boys, with accelerated action needed. Furthermore, given the sharp increases seen across most of the Latin American countries, fighting overweight and obesity must form an integral part of scaling up nutrition and social protection efforts going forward. Much more can be done to transform agriculture and food production into sustainable, nutrition-sensitive food systems – also in the face of increasing climate change and climate-related shocks frequently seen across this region. By promoting exclusive breastfeeding for infant girls and boys and diverse, nutrient-rich diets for young children, their nutritional status can set them off on a virtuous trajectory that could last a lifetime. As food preferences are often set from an early age, taking steps to limit the marketing of unhealthy foods and beverages to children is also recommended. Making sure that all members of the population have equal access to and can afford healthy, nutritious food, including indigenous populations, will be essential to ensure a Latin America and Caribbean region free from all forms of malnutrition looking ahead.

# share YOUR STORY

## SCALING UP NUTRITION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: STORIES OF CHANGE

### **COSTA RICA FLIES THE FLAG FOR HEALTHY EATING HABITS**

On 16 October 2018, as part of World Food Day celebrations, the Government of Costa Rica announced that they are implementing a series of measures to promote healthy eating habits and combat the epidemic of overweight and obesity.

A letter of commitment to comprehensively address overweight and obesity in girls, boys and adolescents of Costa Rica was signed in the Government Council by 10 ministers, witnessed by the President of the Republic, H.E. Mr. Carlos Alvarado Quesada, the FAO Coordinator for the Mesoamerican Sub-region, Mr. Tito Díaz Muñoz, and the Costa Rica Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) representative, Ms. María Dolores Pérez. Furthermore, the Government issued an Executive Decree declaring community and workplace interventions for public benefit – with the objective of promoting individual and collective health. A Presidential Directive was issued the same day, for employees of public institutions to work with occupational health managers to develop plans to gradually improve food services, be they in-house or provided by third parties, and to develop health-promotion strategies. These actions will be coordinated by the Ministry of Health, categorised as the “Environmental Blue Flag Programme for Community Health”.



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### **WEIGHT DIVIDED BY HEIGHT WITH GREAT SUCCESS IN EL SALVADOR**

In 2016, the 4th national height census and the 1st national weight census were carried out for first-grade school children in all public and private schools in El Salvador – coordinated by the National Committee of Nutrition and Food Security (CONASAN). This census revealed that wasting has decreased from 15.5 per cent in 2007 to 9.0 per cent in 2016. However, the census also revealed a high prevalence of overweight and obesity is a problem in this key group of girls and boys.

The Government has taken measures, at the national level, to continue to reduce wasting through policies and programmes, and, at the same time, scale up efforts to combat overweight and obesity – which can only be described as an epidemic. To promote food security and nutrition in vulnerable municipalities, the President of the Republic, H.E. Salvador Sánchez Cerén, alongside the Minister of Health, Dr. Violeta Menjivar, participated at the launch of the Departmental Committee of Food Security and Nutrition (CODESAN) of Ahuachapán, in June 2018. This initiative is estimated to benefit more than 23,000 inhabitants in 8 at risk municipalities. Several good practices can be drawn from the implementation at the decentralised level and the formation of the second CODESAN at the national level: 1) How to design an optimal operational plan, with a fit-for-purpose monitoring and evaluation system; 2) the importance of implementing registry and information systems at the local level; 3) how multi-sectoral design and participation can work if regulated properly; 4) and, lastly, the effectiveness of estimating responsibly the investments needed for both development and sustainability.

## STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENCE OF FARMERS IN THE DRY CORRIDOR OF GUATEMALA

Central America is one of the regions most vulnerable to disaster risks, due to its geographical location, high climate variability, exposure to extreme hazards and institutional and socio-economic vulnerabilities. The 'Dry Corridor', is one of the areas most affected by extreme hazards, in particular natural hazards, which defines a group of ecosystems in the eco-region of dry tropical forests in Central America. This area covers most of central pre-mountain region of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guanacaste in Costa Rica and Panama's Arco Seco area.

In 2018, the authorities of the Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security of Guatemala (SESAN) have coordinated the development of a Plan to strengthen the resilience of small farmers of this 'Dry Corridor'. Considering Guatemala is ranked fourth in the world with regards to vulnerability to natural disasters, and that recurrent droughts cause atrocious losses in grain crops, SESAN has developed a comprehensive Plan, alongside a long-term initiative to strengthen capacities and support small farmers to become resilient - through diversification of their crops and livelihoods.



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# 4

Chapter

## Making sure a world with no malnutrition is within reach together

### THE WAY FORWARD



and we should share these successes more systematically. The Movement has great potential to grow further as a platform for country-to-country cooperation, and for learning and sharing what works, as almost every country is sorting out how to address the multiple burdens of malnutrition.

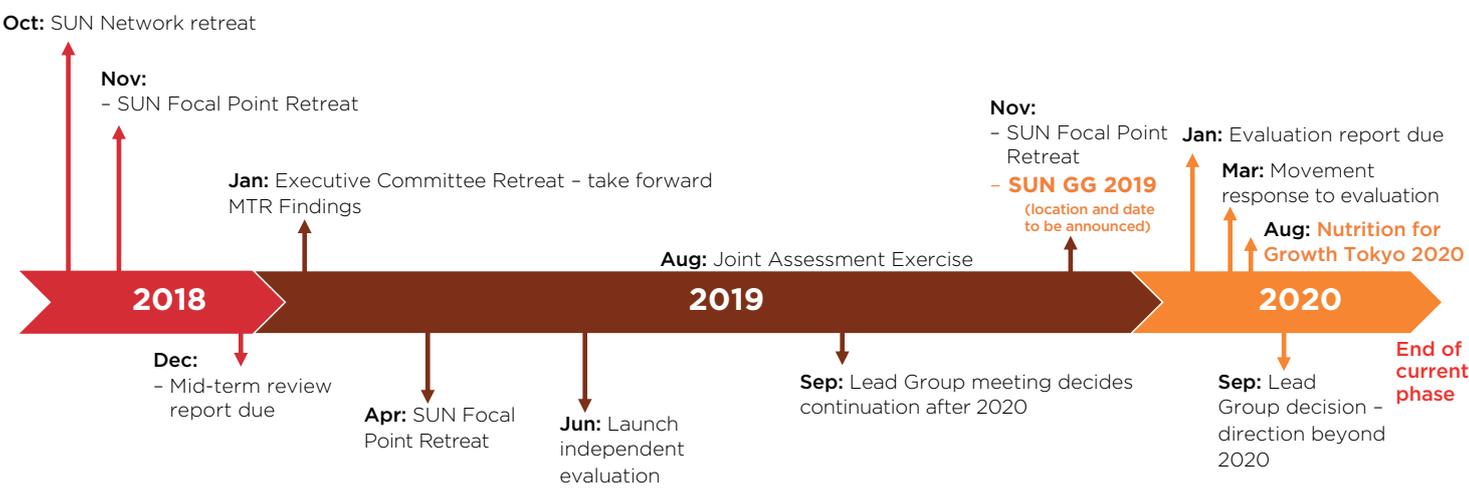
The SUN Movement will focus on its ability to not only create momentum but achieve sustainable impact for women, men and children, everywhere. I invite all our actors and partners to make their strategies and behaviours 'SDG-proof', meaning being able to effectively collaborate towards joint and crosscutting goals, leaving silos behind and keeping a clear focus on country-level structural and institutional impact on nutrition.

This progress report demonstrates the unique character of the SUN Movement. It is a country-owned and country-led, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder initiative that puts Governments in the driver's seat, which must be consolidated and strengthened. For this to happen, each nutrition actor is invited to see where their contributions best fit to bring pieces of the nutrition jigsaw together at national and sub-national levels in an impactful and structural way.

Tremendous gains have been made,



# Milestones: end 2018-2020



At the end of December 2018, the mid-term review of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) will be available for all stakeholders to reflect on. In January 2019, the SUN Executive Committee – mandated by the Lead Group – will gather for their retreat to set the direction for the SUN support system to strengthen member country impact in addressing malnutrition. In June 2019, an Independent and Comprehensive Evaluation of the SUN Movement will be launched, to be completed in January 2020. SUN Movement members will all come together to discuss progress, challenges and chart a bold new direction at the next SUN Global Gathering which will take place at the end of 2019 or in early 2020.

This is a key opportunity to determine the scope and ambition of the SUN Movement, moving toward strong policy and financial commitments at the Nutrition for Growth event in Tokyo in 2020, and to guide the way forward for the SUN Movement beyond 2020 – when our SUN Movement celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## LOOKING TO 2019

Several priority areas have been singled out by the SUN Lead Group at their annual meeting held in the margins of the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the United Nations. This gives the [SUN support system](#) its focus and provides further impetus and ambition for SUN member countries to:

### **PROTECT, PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN THE FOCUS ON SCALING UP NUTRITION DURING THE 1,000-DAY WINDOW FROM A MOTHER'S PREGNANCY TO HER CHILD'S SECOND BIRTHDAY**

A rights-based approach focusing on girls' and women's nutrition across the lifecycle – including a focus on adolescence as the second window of opportunity – needs to be at the centre of national nutrition strategies. Adolescent girls should be empowered as agents of change for improved nutrition and young people engaged as nutrition champions.

### **PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE SUN MOVEMENT'S APPROACH – AS A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER, MULTI-SECTORAL, POLITICAL MOVEMENT FOR NUTRITION IMPACT AND RESULTS**

It is essential that the Movement is supported by the highest-level of commitment and strong institutional alignment from its membership, including SUN Networks. All stakeholders in the Movement need to prevent or overcome a silo mentality. Embracing strong cross-network linkages in support of government leadership for nutrition, including coordinating development and humanitarian plans and programmes in fragile contexts is what is needed. All actors need to build capacity to coordinate and implement nutrition plans in SUN countries that have structural impact, supported by domestic funding and institutional change.





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**SECURE THE HIGHEST-POSSIBLE LEVEL OF NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PRIORITISATION FOR IMPROVING NUTRITION**

The SUN Movement will support governments as they develop one vision, one plan and one budget to achieve their goals. The political placement of SUN Government Focal Points is essential in supporting this, as they need the mandate to convene sectors and stakeholders and ensure nutrition is prioritised as a key enabler for sustainable development. The engagement of parliamentarians needs to become stronger and focus more on political commitment to build human capital, by investing in the nutrition, health and education of all.

**ENSURE GENDER EQUALITY AND THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IS MADE A TOP PRIORITY AND IS MAINSTREAMED IN THE SUN MOVEMENT APPROACH AND IN SUN COUNTRIES**

The gap between rhetoric and impact by ensuring gender equality and empowerment of women and girls must be closed and is key across the SUN Movement and in SUN member countries. All stakeholders in the Movement must work with their constituencies to incorporate socio-economic equality into policy, legislation and programmes.

**TRANSFORM AGRICULTURE INTO A FOOD SYSTEMS APPROACH, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN, FROM FARM TO PLATE, AND DEVELOP A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO NUTRITION - ENCOMPASSING HEALTH, FOOD, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

The SUN Movement will encourage food, agriculture and nutrition actors to integrate a sustainable and nutrition sensitive food systems approach into national nutrition plans. This might broaden the policy and legislative focus in SUN countries to those that will impact the availability, diversity, affordability and desirability of nutritious foods. All actors, including the private sector, need to be accountable to make this transformation happen.

The progress report shows that our 8-year-old Movement is making progress in fighting malnutrition, year after year - thanks to the thousands of people dedicated to make malnutrition a thing of the past. A quite challenging opportunity. In 2020 we will celebrate our 10th anniversary, and, at the same time, decide the future direction of our Scaling Up Nutrition approach and Movement. Standing on the shoulders of these who laid the foundations and learning from successes and failures of our SUN member countries, we will continue to collaborate, share, learn, and inspire each other to engage, inspire and invest in a prosperous future, leaving no one behind.

**Gerda Verburg, SUN Movement Coordinator**



## Chapter

## 5

## Country Profiles

This chapter provides an overview of progress toward achieving the SUN Movement's strategic objectives in 60 SUN Profiles in 2017-2018. In 2018, a record-breaking 53 countries undertook the Joint-Assessment. They did this with the participation of the different constituencies reflected within their national SUN Movement platforms. These include participants from sectoral ministries and parts of government, as well as representatives of donor agencies, civil society organisations, UN agencies and businesses.

As part of this Joint-Assessment, stakeholders in countries were asked to score themselves, individually and collectively, against four processes which form the structure of the country profiles that follow in the coming pages. The SUN Movement Joint-Assessment is voluntary and provides an opportunity for stakeholders to reflect on progress in the past year and ensure efforts to defeat malnutrition are well-aligned and effective.



## GUIDE TO THE COUNTRY PROFILES

The Country Profiles aim to provide a snapshot of progress in SUN countries and consist of three main elements depending on the information available for each country.

- 1. The nutrition situation:** An overview of the country's current nutrition status in relation to the 2030 World Health Assembly targets for maternal, infant and young child nutrition and the relevant targets for preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases;
- 2. Institutional transformations:** A bar graph depiction of the percentage score agreed by in- country stakeholders on how they are progressing toward the SUN processes from each year that they have completed a Joint-Assessment. The narrative describing progress in relation to each process accompanies the bar charts;
- 3. Priorities for 2018-2019:** A snapshot of the country priorities for the coming year, as agreed by stakeholders during the Joint-Assessment. For countries that did not complete a Joint-Assessment, their profile depicts the nutrition situation and the scores from their previous exercises. However, there is no narrative under each process or priorities for 2018-19 if content has not been submitted to the SUN Movement Secretariat.

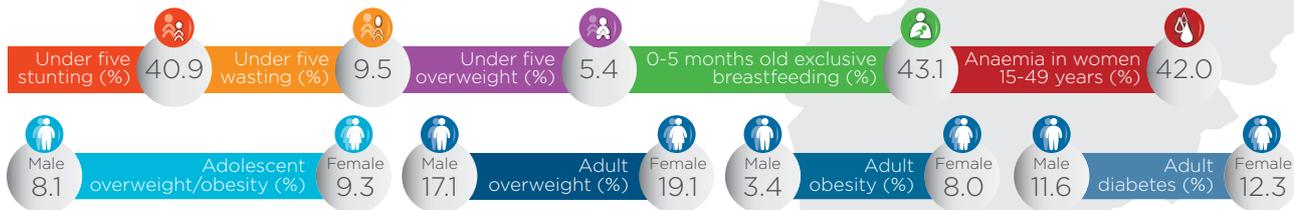
For detailed information on the SUN Movement Monitoring Framework and analysis of the 2018 Joint-Assessment Exercise, please refer to Annex 2.

All Country Profiles and country Joint-Assessment reports can be found at: [www.scalingupnutrition.org](http://www.scalingupnutrition.org).



Joined: September 2017  
Population: 35.53 million

# Afghanistan



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014\*

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in September 2017 and subsequently launched the Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda (AFSeN-A) - a policy and strategic framework addressing hunger, food security and nutrition. The Director-General

of the Council of Ministers' Secretariat from the Office of the Chief Executive is the SUN Government Focal Point and coordinates the AFSeN-A which involves the UN, private sector, donors, and civil society. SUN networks are currently being officially established and conveners identified.

Not available for 2014\*

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The AFSeN-A is the basis for the development of the AFSeN's Strategic Plan and serves as a policy statement by the Government to address hunger and malnutrition. AFSeN-A outlines roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders at central and subnational levels. Legislation and laws are in place on issues such

as food fortification and food safety as well as the Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes. Existing nutrition policies, strategies and plans span sectors such as agriculture, education, health, social welfare/protection, women's affairs, poverty reduction, and national development.

Not available for 2014\*

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

### Aligning actions around common results

The Government, with the support of MQSUN+, is in the process of developing a multi-sectoral strategic plan to address malnutrition and food insecurity. The strategic plan, which will complement existing sector-specific nutrition strategies and frameworks, will define a Common Results Framework (CRF)

including goals, objectives, indicators, and a set of interventions by sector. The CRF will assist stakeholders in elaborating the roles and responsibilities towards achieving common goals and objectives. There is further a need to establish a food security and nutrition information system.

Not available for 2014\*

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A financial tracking mechanism for nutrition is yet to be developed. However, as part of the work on finalising the multi-sectoral strategic plan, a financial tracking mechanism will be established. A recent stakeholder mapping and analysis of the AFSeN-A identified gaps in terms of developing, implementing and

monitoring plans and budgets at the sub-national level. No donor convener has been assigned yet, but the Nutrition and Food Security Development Partner Forum has been established to harmonise and align development partners' efforts around nutrition.

2018 total weighted —

\* Please note that the narrative on this page, since Afghanistan joined the SUN Movement in September 2017, is not based on the Joint-Assessment, but a baseline study - which new SUN Movement members are asked to undertake.

## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

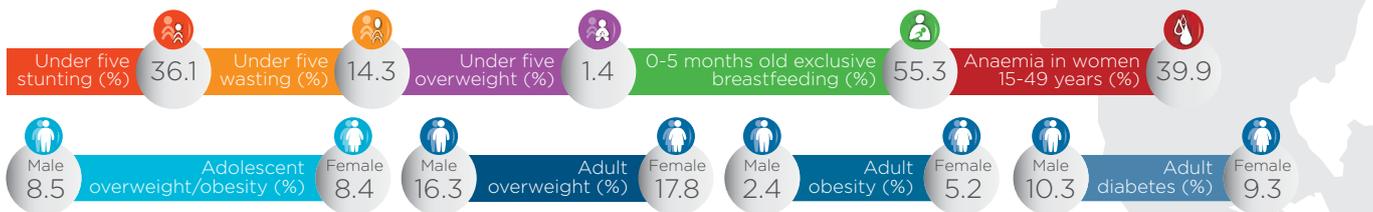
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/AFGHANISTAN](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/AFGHANISTAN)

- Finalise the multi-sectoral nutrition strategic plan and Common Results Framework;
- Develop a nutrition financial tracking system;
- Establish 10 sub-national/provincial AFSeN-A committees;
- Establish SUN Civil Society and Business Networks;
- Develop a public awareness and advocacy framework and plan.



Joined: September 2010  
Population: 164.7 million

# Bangladesh



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The revitalised Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC), led by the Prime Minister, had its first meeting in August 2017. The Minister of Health and the nutrition community made the “Unite4Nutrition” call to action, aiming to address undernutrition collectively. This momentum continued in 2018 with

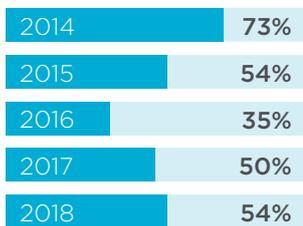
National Nutrition Week, which drew mass public and parliamentary attention to nutrition. A National Adolescent Nutrition Campaign and Convention was organised to address adolescent nutrition and child marriage. A new SUN government focal point was appointed in May 2018.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

An analysis of national nutrition indicators using the Global Nutrition Monitoring Framework has been completed. A National Nutrition Policy, Second National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN2), Country Investment Plan (CIP), BMS Act and Regulations, Food Safety Act and Regulations, Food Labelling

regulation 2017, Fortification of Edible Oil with Vitamin A Act, National Guidelines on Nutrition in Emergencies, and a School Meal Strategy are all in place. NPAN2 (2016-2025) was approved by the Honourable Prime Minister and will be implemented using a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach.



### Aligning actions around common results

NPAN2 acts as a set of guidelines for implementation, with its monitoring and evaluation framework functioning as the Common Result Framework. The BNNC acts as supra-ministerial nutrition coordinator and monitoring body for NPAN2. CIP2 (2016-2020), which focuses on nutrition-sensitive food systems, was

developed in line with the SDGs and national targets. Priority indicators for the National Nutrition Services Operational Plan were defined and an information system designed to track progress in all 64 districts. A Monitoring Information System for fortified edible oil has also been developed.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The BNNC started tracking the budget and expenditure of NPAN2 through inter-ministerial coordination. The CIP regularly monitored the budget allocated to nutrition across various sectors. For the first time, a cross-ministerial Public Expenditure Review on Nutrition has been initiated by the Finance Division.

With support from UNICEF, this will guide policy revision to ensure adequate allocation of resources to meet the goals of NPAN2. The World Bank and UNICEF have jointly estimated the cost-effectiveness and economic benefit of expanding the coverage of direct nutrition interventions.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

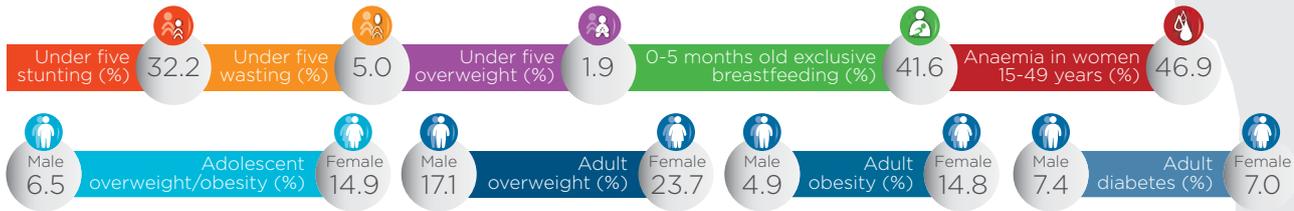
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BANGLADESH](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BANGLADESH)

- Implement short-term priorities as outlined in the NPAN2;
- Strengthen the BNNC office through human resource allocations and capacity development;
- Strengthen the nutrition information system;
- Improve evidence building for nutrition interventions;
- Finalise and operationalise CIP2;
- Finalise the SUN Business Network Strategy and establish SUN Business and Academic Networks.

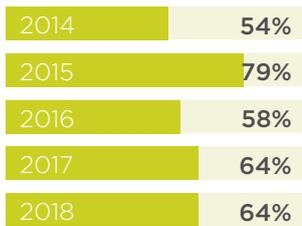


Joined: December 2011  
Population: 11.18 million

# Benin



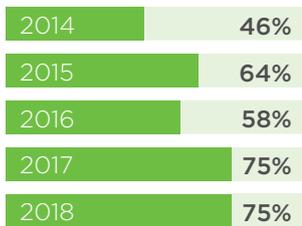
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Food and Nutrition Council (CAN), a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platform, has this year developed a workplan that is currently being implemented. Participation in its meetings has been increased and its accountability strengthened. Participatory local governance is also developing through

multi-stakeholder platforms at county and village levels, which coordinate their efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2. Consultation frameworks are in place in 40 towns and 3 counties, and there are Food and Nutrition Oversight Committees (CSAN) in some 800 villages.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The national nutrition policy is being developed, informed by a diagnostic analysis of sectoral policies. Many sectoral policies, such as health, agriculture, pregnant women and nursing mothers, children and adolescents, school meals, have nutrition components. This is pending verification of their consistency with the

national nutrition policy. Nutrition advocacy is moving ahead, due to a national communication strategy, the creation of a network of parliamentarians and the training of journalists, resulting in the integration of nutrition into national and town-level development plans.



### Aligning actions around common results

The common results framework (CRF) for chronic malnutrition 2015-2016 has now been budgeted for and implemented at the national and town level by all sectoral stakeholders through annual workplans, coordinated by CAN regional offices. Partners such as United Nations agencies, donors and civil society have aligned

their programmes with national and sectoral priorities. Monitoring and evaluation systems are in place, supported by performance reviews of ministries. However there is not yet joint monitoring of the CRF with all partners, despite regular six-monthly reviews.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Results-based National Nutrition Plan (PANAR) is budgeted for and monitoring of public spending on nutrition is in place, albeit excluding non-governmental partners and some TFPs. As part of the strategic plan, nutrition-related funding will be tracked over 5 years. Advocacy

continues through African and world nutrition days, as well as parliamentarians, and funding for nutrition projects is gradually increasing. However, the disbursement of government funding needs to be improved.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

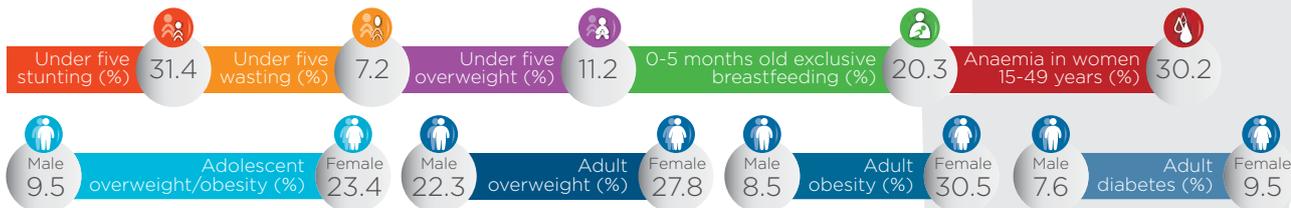
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BENIN](https://scalingupnutrition.org/benin)

- Finalise the National Nutrition Plan and update and cost the Strategic Food and Nutrition Development Plan (PSDAN);
- Establish an operational joint monitoring and evaluation system for the CRF;
- Finalise the operationalisation of the CRF at the town level;
- Establish a system to map annual funding and organise a resource mobilisation roundtable;
- Increase the amount of resources allocated to school meals and develop actions for the early years.



Joined: April 2015  
Population: 2.29 million

# Botswana



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



Bringing people together into a shared space for action



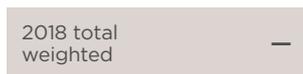
Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework



Aligning actions around common results



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation



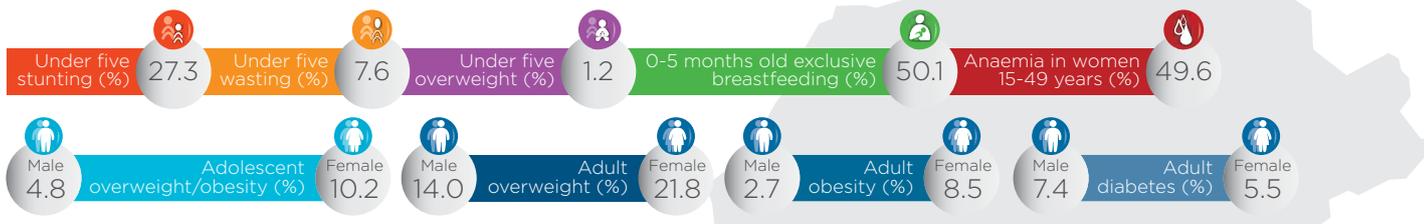
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BOTSWANA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BOTSWANA)



Joined: June 2011  
Population: 19.19 million

# Burkina Faso



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A Mother and Child Food and Nutrition Technical Secretariat has been created in the Health Ministry to strengthen coordination. Formalised by Decree, this secretariat receives official government funding. Regional Nutrition Consultation Councils (CRCN) and Regional Food Security Councils (CRSA) are barely

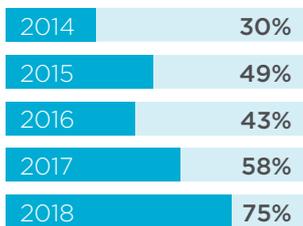
operational and lack a framework for dialogue with national-level institutions. Guidelines have been created for the integration of nutrition into town-level and regional development plans. Finally, networks are increasingly operational and have contributed to development of advocacy materials.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES) and the National Health Development Plan (PND) include nutrition, and the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy was adopted in 2018. The new multi-sectoral nutrition policy 2018-2027 is still pending adoption by the Council of Ministers. It includes

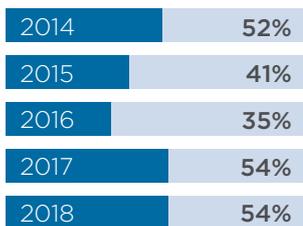
gender, adolescence, women's empowerment, Early childhood development and nutrition in emergencies. Lastly, the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan 2018-2020, which is in the process of being adopted, in addition to a revision of the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.



### Aligning actions around common results

Despite the medium and long-term objectives of the common results framework, the lack of workplans with measurable targets to guide implementation is an obstacle to their scaling up. There is no formal system for monitoring contributions to the collective progress of the

multi-stakeholder platform. However, a new national nutrition information platform (PNIN) has been established with the full involvement of key stakeholders including the Department of Sectoral Statistics. Its website will disseminate and monitor results.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Budget analysis of the multi-sectoral strategic plan 2016-2020 identified available funding and gaps in need of filling to be identified, in preparation for the donor roundtable. Lobbying of parliamentarians has led to the creation and effective funding of a budget line. The Government and donors have also announced

increased allocations in order to buy therapeutic foods, to scale up the Infant and Young Child Feeding Plan (ANJE) and to operationalise the Technical Secretariat. However, the take-up rate of funds allocated to nutrition remains weak, due to cumbersome administrative procedures.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

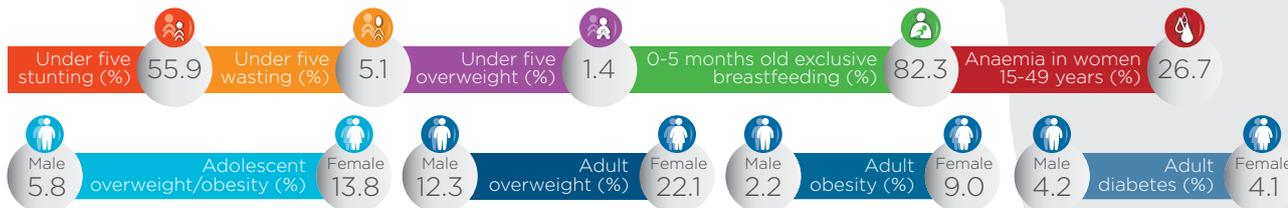
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BURKINA-FASO](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BURKINA-FASO)

- Start implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- Finalise the establishment of the national nutrition information platform;
- Develop a detailed multi-sectoral annual workplan;
- Operationalise capacity-building and communication plans;
- Operationalise coordination through the Ministry of Health Food and Nutrition Technical Secretariat (STAN);
- Strengthen action plans for nutrition in emergencies and advocacy for funding.



Joined: February 2013  
Population: 10.86 million

# Burundi



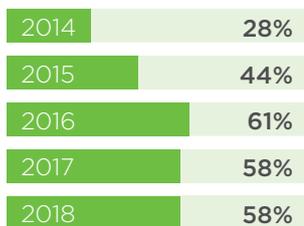
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The multi-stakeholder platform has met regularly throughout this reporting period. The thematic groups that make up the High-Level Steering Committee are operational and dynamic, despite financial constraints and gaps in coordination. The process of decentralising the platform that supports planning and action

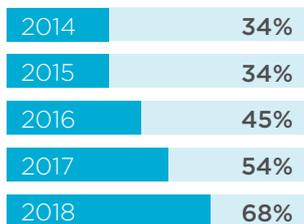
at the local level has been extended to province and commune levels. Work on formalising the parliamentary network for strengthening nutrition is advanced, but the journalist network is yet to be established. The United Nations network seeks to include UNFPA and UN Women.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

National normative planning documents (Vision 2025, National Development Plan) include nutrition indicators. There is a national food fortification strategy and a national advocacy and communication strategy. A process of revising the law on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes has begun. However, operationalisation

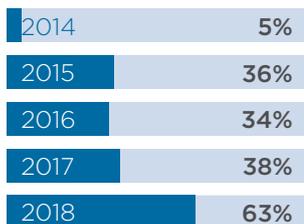
of the legislation is difficult. The terms of reference for the review of the multi-sectoral food security and nutrition strategic plan (PSMSAN) are being developed. The results of this review will be used to inform the design of the second generation of the strategic plan.



### Aligning actions around common results

All stakeholders have currently agreed on the multi-sectoral interventions needed to effectively combat malnutrition, despite a lack of detailed annual workplans in the various networks. The existence of PSMSAN 2014-2017 (extended into 2018) defines common implementation

goals and its review will allow for lessons learned to inform the design of PSMSAN II. However, without a nutrition-specific information system or communication plan, it is difficult to monitor and measure progress, despite the identification of gaps through intervention mapping.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Burundi has seen a slight increase in financial resources for nutrition despite a challenging socio-political context. The National Development Plan includes food security and nutrition, the costing of which is being finalised. Allocations for nutrition-sensitive activities are available at the sectoral level and the Burundian

Government produces a monitoring report on the disbursements of funds targeted at these interventions. However, information from social and financial audits is not publicly available and so it is difficult to learn from this. Advocacy continues for the addition of a nutrition budget line.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BURUNDI](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/BURUNDI)

- Development of a costed PSMSAN II;
- Establishment of an integrated communication and advocacy plan;
- Operationalise a mechanism for mobilisation, coordination and monitoring of financial resources and communication;
- Development of a nutrition education strategy;
- Appoint nutrition champions;
- Establish a UN Network, media network and formalise the parliamentary network;
- Create a strategy for domestic and external resource mobilisation.



Joined: June 2014  
Population: 16.01 million

# Cambodia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

SUN Networks, including the Government, civil society, the UN and donors, regularly attend the meetings of the Technical Working Group for Social Protection, Food Security and Nutrition; Food Security Forum; Nutrition Working Group; the Sub Working Group on Nutrition and WASH; and the 2018 SUN annual

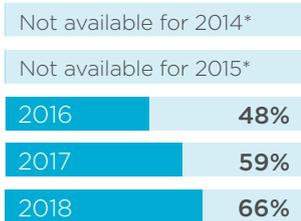
meeting. This ensures effective coordination on social protection, food security and nutrition among the different networks. The mid-term review of the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN) 2014-2018 has raised the limited links between the national and sub-national level.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) is tasked by the Government to formulate and coordinate national strategies and policies on food security and nutrition. Several such policies and strategies are in place. Guidelines for the treatment of acute malnutrition have been updated to align them

with WHO recommendations. Formulation of the Food Safety Law is considered an urgent issue and the prevention of the double burden of malnutrition is also needed. The National Mother, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Strategy 2018-2020 is being drafted and there are new standards for iodised salt.



### Aligning actions around common results

Under CARD's leadership, the Civil Society Alliance (CSA), UN and donor networks actively participated in the development of joint monitoring indicators and worked under the same framework to tackle major causes of malnutrition. In April 2018, the CSA conducted training on national nutrition policies and legislation

based on information submitted by CARD, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Planning. The mid-term review of the NSFSN highlighted the need to ensure better linkages with line ministries and sub-national government, to define responsibilities and outcomes, and improve information flows.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The government is working to ensure greater predictability, transparency and accountability of budgeting. SUN Networks are working with the Ministry of Health on an investment case for maternal, new-born and child health and nutrition. There are shortfalls in securing funding for some costed areas, such as for the Fast Track Roadmap for

Improving Nutrition 2014-2020 (funded at only 30%). Some programmes relied on external funding through concessional loans from financial institutions such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The UN Network is supporting the Government in tracking the funds allocated for nutrition.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

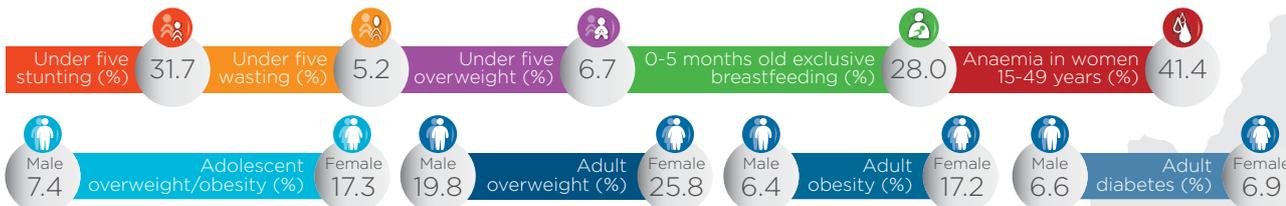
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CAMBODIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CAMBODIA)

- Develop the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023 and strengthen sub-national linkages to ensure effective implementation;
- Advocate for increased investments by the Cambodian Government and the private sector for funding for food security and nutrition;
- Establish a SUN Business Network;
- Continue research and analysis to improve monitoring and response in case of vulnerability.



Joined: February 2013  
Population: 24.05 million

# Cameroon



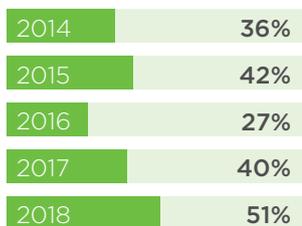
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Sectoral Interministerial Committee to Combat Malnutrition has met twice and has an annual work plan. The Multi-Stakeholder Platform meets monthly and has two focal points: one political and one technical. Each network also has its own action plan, with the exception of the private sector and the

media, which have not yet been formed as Networks. Regional nutrition work groups are in place in the four most acutely affected regions of the country. However, decentralised local authorities are not yet very involved in the coordination, planning and implementation of nutrition actions.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

To make nutrition a national priority, the Multi-Stakeholder Platform has lobbied parliamentarians, ministers and communities. This led to adoption of the Zero Hunger by 2030 strategy and the country programming frameworks policy. There are plans to develop an advocacy

strategy to help the operationalisation of these policies. The application of legal and political frameworks for nutrition, jointly developed with all national nutrition stakeholders, is regularly monitored on the ground to ensure the effectiveness of nutrition actions.



### Aligning actions around common results

A Common Results Framework, for which a budget is currently being devised, has developed based on the criteria and characteristics of 'good' national nutrition plans. It is used as an accountability framework for all sectors and will be shortly submitted for Government approval. Its implementation has already

begun, with action plans in place for each network. A national capacity-building plan supported by the academic network is also being implemented. Monitoring and evaluation (SMART, DHIS2) was carried out to document implementation and draw on lessons learned to improve nutrition impacts.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Common Results Framework, currently being budgeted for, will help further mobilise Government and donor resources. Despite there being Government allocations for nutrition-sensitive actions, there is no Governmental budget line dedicated to nutrition. In July 2018, a nutrition forum allowed for

the organisation of a donor round table to mobilise funds. Lastly, as part of the Global Financing Facility project, which aims to improve the performance of the health system, nutrition financing will be mobilised under the national investment portfolio.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

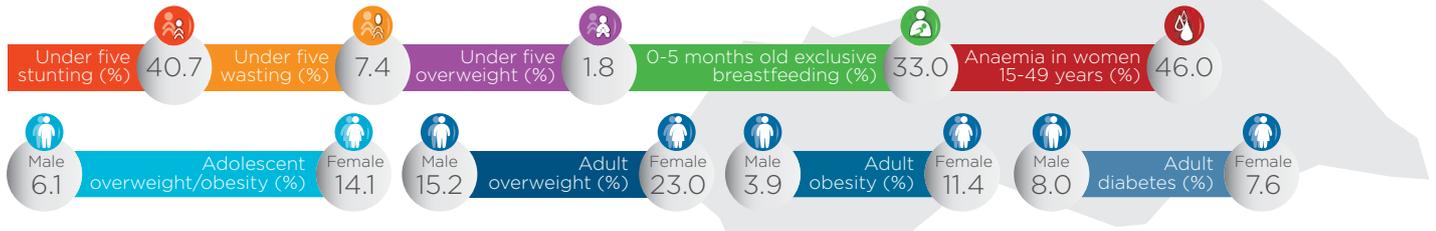
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CAMEROON](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CAMEROON)

- Create a budget for the operational plan and approval of strategic documents;
- Implementation of activities planned for 2018 by the various SUN platforms;
- SUN focal point to strengthen coordination;
- Organisation of a national workshop on chronic malnutrition;
- Organisation of a national forum on nutrition in July 2019.

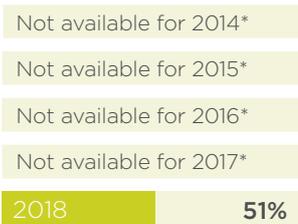


Joined: February 2017  
Population: 4.66 million

# Central African Republic



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The coordination mechanism is well established and operational, with a Food and Nutrition Security Multi-Sectoral Technical Committee in place, which will soon be regulated by a Prime Ministerial decree. This technical committee is to become a national multi-stakeholder platform that includes all relevant actors.

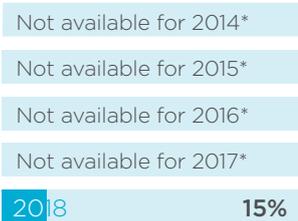
Not all networks are functional as of yet. This platform is to be decentralised to municipal level. An annual action plan has been developed and provides activities per technical department, with the support of United Nations technical and financial partners.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The establishment and mobilisation of the multi-sectoral technical committee has contributed to: the development of the national food and nutrition security policy; the drafting of a 2018 food and nutrition security action plan; and creation of a specific road-map for nutrition activities related to the Plan for Recovery and

the Consolidation of Peace in CAR 2017-2021 (RCPCA). There are other plans and strategies that incorporate nutrition in certain sectoral ministries, such as agriculture, poverty reduction and development, health and education. There is no communication and advocacy strategy.



### Aligning actions around common results

Pending establishment of the Common Results Framework, an annual action plan related to the RCPCA has been developed. This roadmap is a first step and

evaluation will help strengthen consolidation of a future Common Results Framework. The Multi-Stakeholder Platform will help in its development.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The 2018 action plan has not yet been budgeted for, with the financial resources needed not clearly identified, including from the Government's own funds. Ongoing budget analysis will lead to the

development of forecasting tools for better programming and advocacy, in order to ensure regular multi-year funding and effective monitoring and evaluation of activity implementation.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

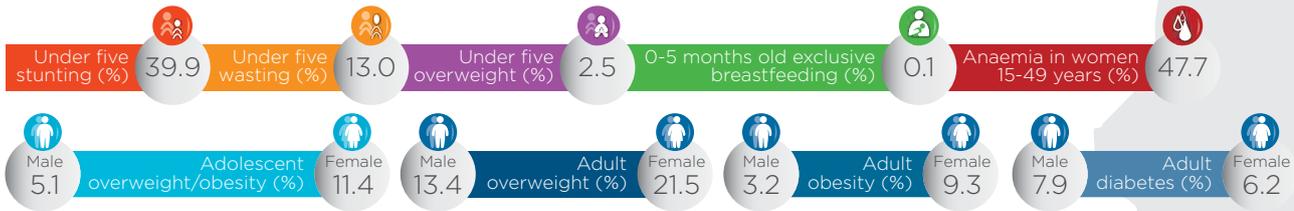
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CENTRAL-AFRICAN-REPUBLIC](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CENTRAL-AFRICAN-REPUBLIC)

- Strengthen the legal and institutional framework for nutrition;
- Promote and protect infant and young child feeding;
- Integrate nutritional interventions into primary health care;
- Develop community-based nutrition interventions;
- Strengthen food supplementation and fortification and improve the feeding of specific vulnerable groups;
- Strengthen the nutritional surveillance system and capacity to respond to nutrition emergencies.

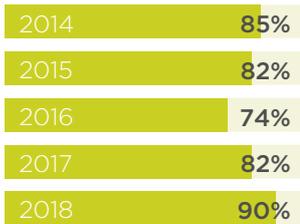


Joined: May 2013  
Population: 14.90 million

# Chad



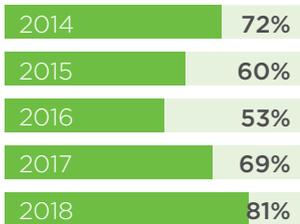
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The National Food and Nutrition Council (CNNA) is operational and held its first meeting in September 2017. Its permanent, multi-stakeholder technical committee includes 8 networks: parliamentarians, journalists, champions, United Nations, donors, scientists, civil society, and the private sector, and meets monthly. The 5

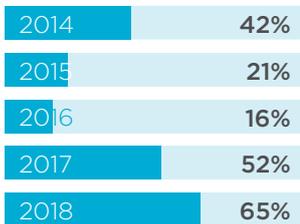
regional food and nutrition committees (CRNAs) in the pilot regions are operational, with focal points appointed to each committee. An inter-network action plan has existed since 2017 based on their respective work-plans, but a monitoring mechanism is yet to be created.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Inter-sectoral Nutrition and Food Action Plan (PAINA) and the Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy were adopted in September 2017. The breast-milk substitutes marketing code was updated in 2017 and is in the process of being adopted. A costed chapter on nutrition is included in the 2017-2021 National

Development Plan. The minimum package of activities offered by health centres now incorporates nutrition indicators. A national prevention and management system for food and nutrition crises has been set up and a process for the development of national food recommendations has been launched.



### Aligning actions around common results

The CNNA adopted the PAINA in September 2017 and the PAINA common results framework is currently being finalised. Technical and financial partners, civil society and the United Nations are working in alignment with Government objectives, with budgeted action plans. Several mappings have taken place (for

example of the nutrition cluster and donors) in order to have an overview of all actors' interventions. A WASH in nutrition strategy and a nutrition communication and advocacy strategy have been developed and validated. A 2018-2021 United Nations nutrition agenda has also been developed and validated.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

An analysis of PAINA funding shortfalls has been made. Since data on funding for nutrition interventions are not held centrally, it is difficult to estimate shortfalls for such interventions. However, each stakeholder analysed its needs and funding gaps. For State institutions,

monitoring of budget lines is still approximate and requires significant improvements. Some donors, such as the European Union, have promised funding within the food and nutrition security framework of the 11th European Development Fund.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CHAD](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CHAD)

- Recruitment of a consultant to finalise the common results framework;
- Adoption of a code for the marketing of breast-milk substitutes;
- Final validation of the communication and advocacy strategy by the CTPNA;
- Establishment of CRNAs in new regions;
- Finalisation of the food and nutrition guide and national food recommendations;
- Development of a tool for planning, mapping and monitoring;
- Carry out research into the cost of diets.



Joined: December 2013  
Population: 0.81 million

# Comoros



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



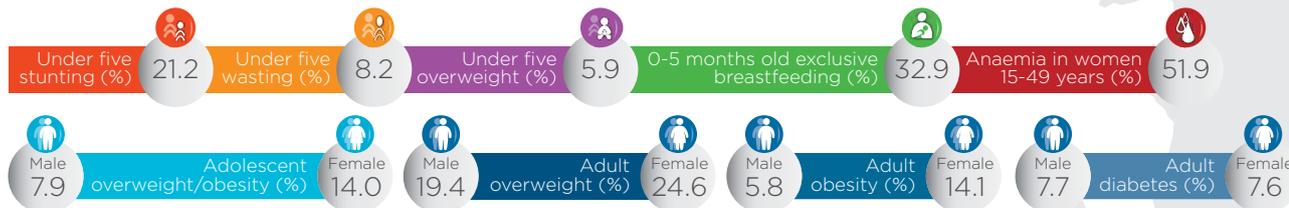
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COMOROS](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COMOROS)

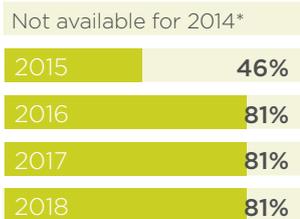


Joined: October 2013  
Population: 5.26 million

# Congo



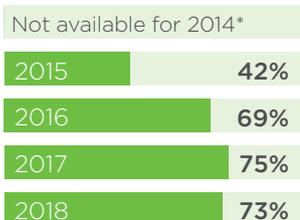
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The National Ad Hoc Committee to Combat Malnutrition, established in 2017 with government stakeholders, parliamentarians and the United Nations, was joined this year by national civil society organisations active in regions experiencing emergencies. It met several times this year to monitor implementation

of nutrition-related interventions and enhance advocacy in these regions. The decree that will create the National Food and Nutrition Council and establish its role, organisation and operation is yet to be enacted, but the draft provides for the creation of decentralised bodies within the platform.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Over the past year, the National Food and Nutritional Security Policy (PNSAN) has been developed and approved, supported by a national communication strategy for Behaviour Change Communications and by advocacy. The National

Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022 refers to the National Agricultural Investment Programme, food and nutrition security and a multi-sectoral strategic framework to combat malnutrition.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Operational Plan to Combat Malnutrition in the Congo 2016-2018 comprises programmed and budgeted activities, monitoring and evaluation indicators,

roles and responsibilities and a schedule of activities. Its implementation is, however, incomplete.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Monitoring financial commitments and disbursement of funds in support of

interventions to improve nutrition is not taking place.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

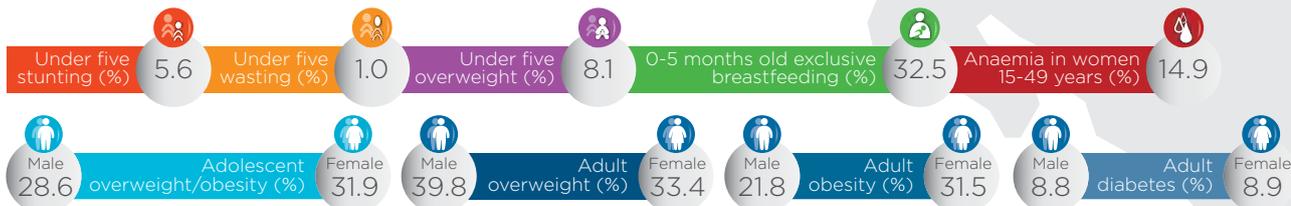
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CONGO](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/CONGO)

- Development of the plan to build human resource capacity for better nutrition interventions;
- Conduct a diagnosis of the nutrition situation in the Republic of Congo;
- Hold a workshop to evaluate the execution of the operational plan to combat malnutrition;
- Development of a resource mobilisation strategy;
- Organisation of a donor roundtable.

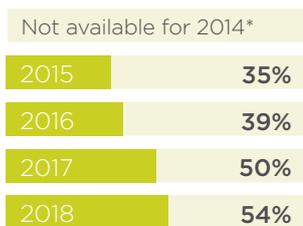


Joined: March 2014  
Population: 4.91 million

# Costa Rica



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) has been strengthened and now includes more sectors, including social security and health. UN agencies (FAO, UNOPS, UNRCO) continue to support SUN. A multi-sectoral team from the Ministries of Health and Public Education, the Social Security Fund, and the National Directorate of Education and Nutrition Centres

and Children's Centres for Comprehensive Care (CEN CINAI) have prioritised defining health and nutrition priorities for school children. The National Obesity Prevention Plan for children and adolescents was launched in 2017 and is being implemented. Efforts are underway to include civil society organisations in the MSP.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Ministry of Health, as the leading entity for health and nutrition, has promoted the full compliance of legal and regulatory frameworks relevant to nutrition. Multi-sectoral committees have been set up to monitor compliance with the legal framework - including the

National Committees for Breastfeeding and Micronutrients. The monitoring and evaluation of laws and policies is in its early stages in Costa Rica and is undertaken by the Ministry of Planning, which cooperates, when necessary, with nutrition-focused institutions.



### Aligning actions around common results

The National Obesity Prevention Plan for Children and Adolescents, launched in 2017, aims to "contribute to stopping the increase in overweight and obesity in children and adolescents, through coordinated multi-sectoral actions with public institutions, academia and the private

sector". The Ministry of Health is implementing the plan, alongside 12 participating institutions. The National Information System for Food and Nutritional Security (SINSAN) is maintained, enabling the monitoring of nutrition achievements.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In Costa Rica, the budget law provides for a separate budget for food services. This includes large-scale investments in education and communication, by the Social Security Fund. New job opportunities have been created for nutrition experts, health promoters and physical

educators for community health promotion programmes. The Government has asked UN agencies to scale up development cooperation for nutrition-relevant areas, with FAO and UNOPS having mobilised resources, to this end.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COSTA-RICA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COSTA-RICA)

- Ensure and sustain the active commitment of institutions and UN agencies;
- Strengthen the MSP, with participation by the Ministry of Education and UNICEF;
- Map civil society organisations who should be included in the MSP;
- Undertake dialogue to ensure nutrition actions are prioritised.



Joined: June 2013  
Population: 24.30 million

# Côte d'Ivoire



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A decision-making committee and a technical committee for nutrition are both operational. To facilitate coordination, the multi-stakeholder platform was strengthened with the establishment of a parliamentary network and a Business Network, which is under development. An institutional and organisational analysis

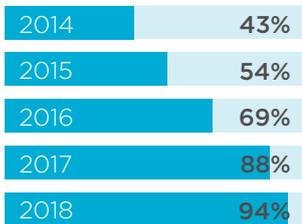
of the territorial administration and local authority agencies has been conducted. The draft decree establishing regional nutrition committees has been disseminated. Holding the SUN Movement Global Gathering in Abidjan raised the profile of nutrition, helping make it a national priority for all stakeholders.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Policies, strategies and laws have been updated and a report on the strategic examination of zero hunger and its roadmap are available. Replacing a previous inter-ministerial order, a decree now makes it mandatory to enrich flour with iron and folic acid, oil with vitamin A, and salt with iodine. The multi-sectoral

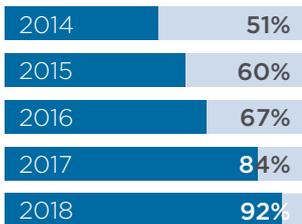
breastfeeding policy and plan are in the process of being validated. To facilitate implementation of the convergence strategy, an implementation guide for Community Nutrition Reinforcement Activity Centres (FRANC) has been developed and Operational Action Plans (PAO) created for stakeholders.



### Aligning actions around common results

Refinement of indicators in the validated common results framework is under way and a multi-sectoral monitoring and evaluation framework for the National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan (PNMN) has been created, to complement the mapping of nutrition interventions and stakeholders. An Annual Operational Plan for

the north has been developed, validated and approved. A national nutrition information platform (NPIN) is under development. Finally, the State has committed to establishing a Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger, following a high-level visit from the Vice President of Brazil.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Nutrition forms part of the National Development Plan and relevant ministries' Public Investment Programme (PIP). A \$60 million multi-sectoral early year nutrition and development project has been set up, financed by a \$50 million loan from the World Bank and a \$10 million donation from Power of Nutrition. The

State and technical and financial partners contribute to the funding of PNMN 2016-2020 and NPIN. PNMN is included in the Prime Ministerial budget. Mechanisms for monitoring and tracking allocations are included in global systems established by the State and are yet to be refined.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

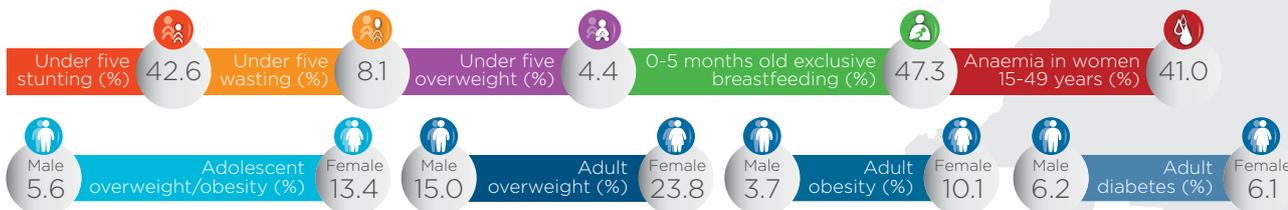
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COTE-DIVOIRE](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COTE-DIVOIRE)

- Establish an environment conducive to breastfeeding through the development of a policy, a communication plan, regulatory texts and a national monitoring committee;
- Ensure the decentralisation of the PNMN through existing regional committees, create an operational manual on the convergence strategy and implementation of the FRANCs.



Joined: May 2013  
Population: 81.34 million

# Democratic Republic of the Congo



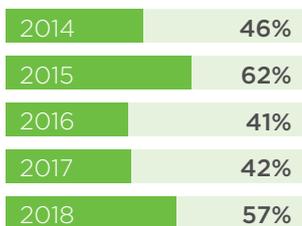
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Platform National Coordination Framework (CNPMN), under the direction of the SUN Movement Executive Secretariat (SUN-DRC), is operational and meets quarterly. The provincial multi-sectoral nutrition

coordination framework has, so far, only been established in two of the 26 provinces. Stakeholders have aligned their actions to the 2017-2018 operational action plan. Activity monitoring is difficult, due to a lack of funding.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The stocktaking and analysis of existing policies and laws is an ongoing multi-sectoral consultative process. Dialogue and advocacy to strengthen nutrition are regularly undertaken with technical and financial partners, as well as political leaders. There are no national communication and advocacy strategies to

support nutrition in place. Much effort is still needed to ensure the enforcement of existing legal frameworks, such as the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and laws on the protection of maternity and parental leave. Their application will require good governance practices.



### Aligning actions around common results

In 2017, the operational action plan was developed, based on the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan. But this only includes nutrition-specific interventions. Harmonisation of the Common Results Framework and the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic

Nutrition Plan 2016-2020 is ongoing. The national nutrition surveillance, food security and early warning system informs the Government about food emergencies in all provinces. However, multi-sectoral collaboration in the fight against malnutrition remains a challenge.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A cost estimate for actions set out in the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan has been made by the Government, national stakeholders and United Nations agencies. The Government allocated a budget to SUN-DRC for 2015-2017 to execute activities in the SUN-RDC roadmap, but this funding was never

disbursed. Advocacy is therefore being intensified to secure the disbursement of these Government funds and to optimise financing opportunities. Development partners need to collaborate further with the Government and align with the national plan to combat malnutrition.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

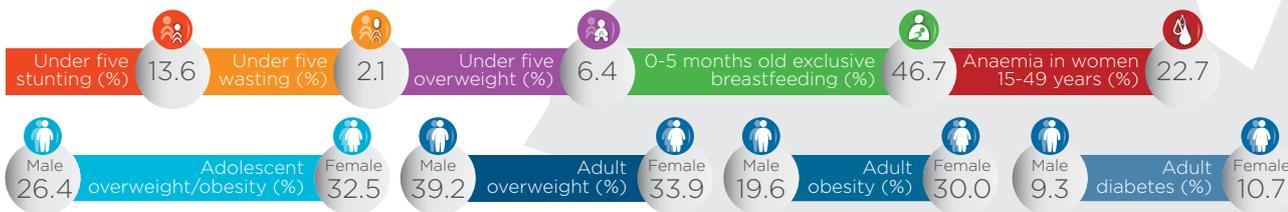
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLIC-OF-THE-CONGO](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLIC-OF-THE-CONGO)

- Mobilisation of funds for nutrition-sensitive interventions as part of the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan;
- Engagement of parliamentarians for legislative lobbying in support of nutrition;
- Development and implementation of multi-sectoral advocacy and communication strategies for nutrition.

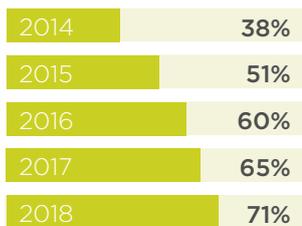


Joined: September 2012  
Population: 6.38 million

# El Salvador



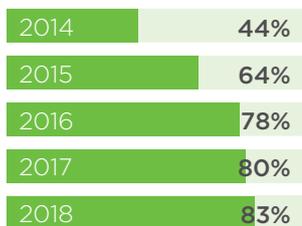
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

El Salvador has, in 2017-2018, expanded the governance model to implement the National Food and Nutritional Security Policy (SAN) – by including new departmental and municipal committees in territories with the highest rates of chronic malnutrition and obesity. The monitoring of food security and nutrition indicators,

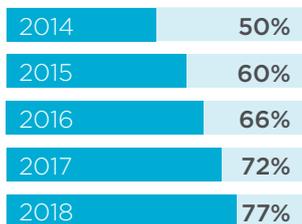
through the food and nutritional security observatory (OBSAN), is ongoing, aiming to strengthen decision-making in the design and monitoring of public policies. Dialogue and awareness-raising with the private sector has continued, by sharing the results of the recent national height and weight census.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

In the past year, the SAN was updated after extensive consultations with various sectors, territories, indigenous people and women's groups. CONASAN, civil society organisations and FAO advocated for the approval of the Law on Food and Nutritional Sovereignty and Security, which is

still pending approval. Raising awareness among stakeholder of the importance of food security and nutrition is still needed, as is the case for ensuring a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach – especially among new legislators, municipal governments and presidential candidates.



### Aligning actions around common results

Initiatives – across Governmental bodies and sectors – are aligned with national goals, as per policies and agreements. Progress has been made in expanding the food security and nutrition policies to priority territories – based on the results of the national height and weight census. The National Council for Food

and Nutritional Security (CONASAN) and development cooperation agencies work hand-in-hand to implement strategies in line with the country's overall goals. Capacity strengthening is needed to better manage indicators and monitor food security and nutrition actions across territories.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Development cooperation agencies and civil society have joined forces with the Government to implement national food security and nutrition goals. Technical and financial support has also helped to promote nutrition in the public agenda, develop skills and raise awareness, at various levels. Coordination resources

have been managed for relevant food and nutritional security actions. The institutional, administrative and financial capacities of CONASAN must be strengthened, its scope extended, and the analysis of budget gaps completed to implement the new policy.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

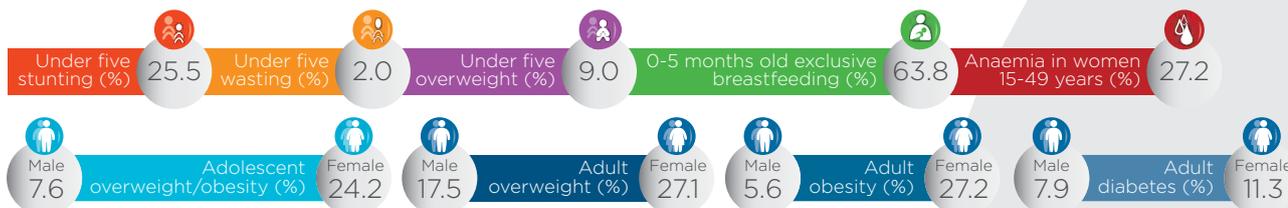
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/EL-SALVADOR](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/EL-SALVADOR)

- Raise awareness of the National Food and Nutritional Security Plan and design new Strategic Plan;
- Expand the policy governance model;
- Raise awareness of food security and nutrition among legislators and presidential candidates;
- Continue to monitor food security and nutrition and strengthen data collection, analysis and usage;
- Continue to implement the Education and Social Communication Strategy to change feeding behaviours;
- Advocate for the approval of laws, including the Law on Food and Nutritional Sovereignty and Security.



Joined: November 2013  
Population: 1.37 million

# Eswatini



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014\*

**Bringing people together into a shared space for action**

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

Not available for 2014\*

**Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework**

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

Not available for 2014\*

**Aligning actions around common results**

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

Not available for 2014\*

**Financing tracking and resource mobilisation**

Not available for 2015\*

Not available for 2016\*

Not available for 2017\*

Not available for 2018\*

2018 total weighted

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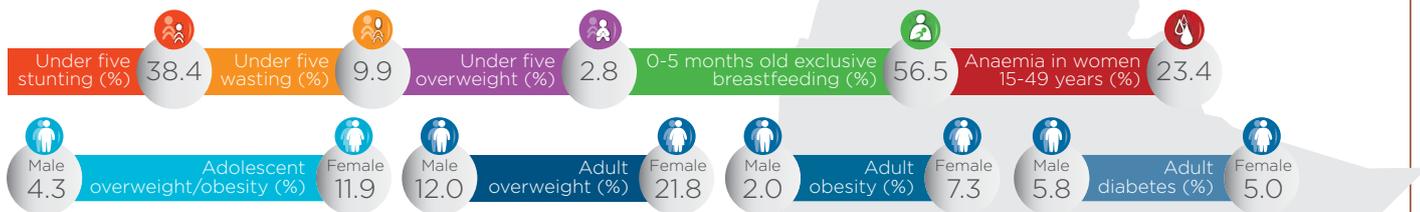
## 2018–2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ESWATINI](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ESWATINI)



Joined: September 2010  
Population: 104.96 million

# Ethiopia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) has been politically endorsed. In addition, a federal and regional coordination body has been established. However, the MSP coordination mechanisms are not fully functional at the sub-national level. The MSP has finalised the food and nutrition policy. This will enable the establishment

of a national food and nutrition council and governing body, responsible for providing leadership for the implementation of food and nutrition strategies. The Government has endorsed the Seqota Declaration, a commitment to end stunting by 2030.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Nutrition Plan I (NNP) was fully implemented and NNP II was finalised through a consultative process with government and non-governmental stakeholders. Different advocacy activities have been undertaken to influence decision-makers: parliamentarians involved in the development of the NNP II;

the Deputy Prime Minister; ministers and regional presidents involved in executing the Seqota Declaration (SD) and the former First lady, a SUN Nutrition Champion, engaged in the implementation of NNP. In addition, a maternity leave extension policy was fully implemented, and a food fortification strategy approved.



### Aligning actions around common results

The NNPII and the SD enabled the relevant sectors to plan and implement nutrition-sensitive and -specific interventions. The NNP II also provides a Common Results Framework to help the Government and stakeholders to plan and allocate adequate resources for its execution. SUN Networks support efforts to ensure

a comprehensive and enabling environment to accelerate progress toward achieving NNP and SD goals. There are plans to establish a web-based monitoring system to collect data on the performance of NNP II implementing stakeholders and obtain relevant data to improve decision-making.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The national-level nutrition financing analysis has been completed for 2017, and the estimated resources required for the implementation of the NNP II and SD over the next 5 years have been identified. The Government and relevant national stakeholders have made the

commitment to support the implementation of the NNP II and the SD, but there is still a huge resource gap if they are to be fully executed. Although the Ethiopian Government has made some allocations on an annual basis, there is no multi-year commitment to finance the NNP II.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

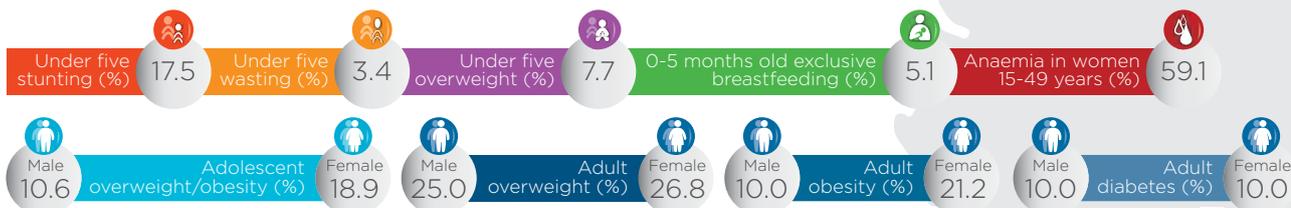
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ETHIOPIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ETHIOPIA)

- Strengthening SUN networks;
- Searching for financing for the NNP II and implementation of the Seqota Declaration as well tracking of existing investment;
- Utilisation of the Common Results Framework for planning, performance tracking and reporting;
- Mainstreaming of guidelines for development in nutrition sectors;
- Policy analysis to identify gaps on nutrition actions.



Joined: December 2016  
Population: 2.03 million

# Gabon



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Although the text formalising its existence is still under development, the multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder Food and Nutrition Security Platform (SAN) meets monthly. It has enabled its members to participate in the development, validation and planning of the National Food and Nutritional Security Policy (PNSAN),

with representatives of academia joining for the first time. Furthermore, it has enabled collaboration on the development or implementation of projects, such as outdoor classes or dietary recommendations, and allowed for the discussion of challenges.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The legal and normative framework in support of food and nutrition security needs to be strengthened, and a large number of existing pieces of legislation need to be updated. A number of national guidelines and national bodies—such as

on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, infant and young child feeding, and parental leave—provide for their application in the fields of food security, consumption, public health and sanitation.



### Aligning actions around common results

A general roadmap, developed following the 2015 situation review, serves as the

Common Results Framework and feeds into annual roadmaps.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In 2018, Gabon received technical assistance to develop its budget analysis capacity. This highlighted the lack of budget lines, sectoral action plans and the need for a monitoring mechanism to enable long-term investment in nutrition.

One of the purposes of the multi-sectoral platform is to seek out funding, which is also the case for the Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition (REACH) partnership, which is currently being set up in Gabon.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

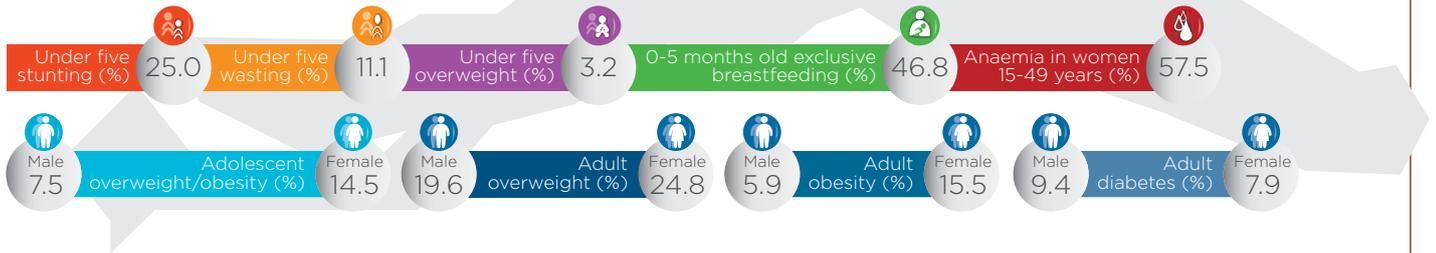
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GABON](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GABON)

- Formalise the multi-stakeholder platform;
- Unify the efforts of United Nations agencies through the REACH partnership;
- Lobby for the mobilisation of funds and scaling up implementation of the PNSAN;
- Design nutrition-related programmes;
- Expand awareness and nutrition-related actions at the decentralised level.



Joined: July 2011  
Population: 2.10 million

# The Gambia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The current National Nutrition Committee is chaired by the Vice President. The national Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) has expanded to include institutions such as: The Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industries, for the business community; the University of The Gambia; the Association of Health

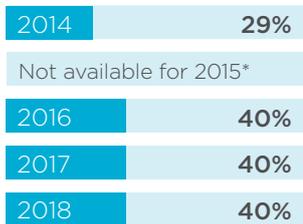
Journalists and The Association of Non Governmental Organizations. They are working together to conduct the mid-term review of the National Nutrition Policy 2010-2020 and develop a new policy for 2018-2025. It is necessary to obtain financial reporting from all sectors to effectively track investment.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Assembly Committee is composed of representatives from the Ministry of Health, Agriculture, Women, Youth and Children. The MSP members supported the development and review of the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan. There are efforts to develop

a National Food Fortification Policy and promote relevant legislations. A costed strategic plan and business plan needs to be developed. It continues to be challenging to advocate for mainstreaming nutrition into other relevant policies and programmes.



### Aligning actions around common results

There is no Common Results Framework, but the MSP has proposed that one should be developed now that the national nutrition policy has been finalised. Several

surveys are currently being finalised in order to provide information on the progress of programme implementation.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government has been steadily increasing allocations for nutrition over the reporting period, but these allocations are mainly for Personal Emoluments. Donors and partners are giving high levels of support to nutrition-related initiatives, but at the national level the country cannot clearly identify the extent

of resource coverage in terms of programming. It is also difficult to identify gaps. Most donors who pledged to support nutrition interventions are disbursing funds regularly, and even though the Government's commitments are minimal, it is honouring them to a certain extent.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GAMBIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GAMBIA)

- Development of a Common Results Framework;
- Obtain financial reporting from all sectors to enable adequate tracking of investment in nutrition;
- Ensure the business sector is represented in the MSP;
- Incorporate nutrition into all relevant sectoral policies and programmes;
- Develop a costed strategic plan and business plan.



Joined: March 2011  
Population: 28.83 million

# Ghana



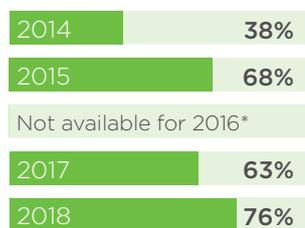
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-sectoral engagement continues, as the number of institutions actively participating in the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) structures increase, including the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Half of all regions have established MSPs. No

Business Network has been established, but the private sector is increasingly involved in supporting nutrition-sensitive programmes. The First Lady, a high-level champion of nutrition, launched the Girls Iron Folate Tablet Supplementation Programme, targeting adolescent girls in Southern Ghana.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Substantial progress has been made: MSP stakeholders have contributed to the development of key national documents, such as the President's Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP) and the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework, which include food and

nutrition security priorities. Government initiatives, such as "Planting for Food and Jobs" and "One-District-One-Factory" have integrated nutrition to their strategic plans. A campaign coordinated by the Ghana Standards Authority resulted in *Obaasima*, a seal that certifies fortified food products.



### Aligning actions around common results

The President will now present the CPESDP to Parliament, which includes updates on food and nutrition security alongside advice on policy operationalisation and district planning. Key national indicators captured in the National Development Results Framework are jointly

monitored by all stakeholders, although key nutrition indicators are obtained from survey data only every three years. Although social audit capacity needs enhancing, multi-stakeholder-led evaluation reports are well distributed and regularly inform programming.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Costed estimations of nutrition-related actions exist in relevant sectors, but budget and expenditure tracking remains a challenge. The Ministry of Finance is coding all nutrition-relevant programme costs in order to track allocations and expenditures. A nutrition budget tracking exercise was carried out between

February and May 2018, involving key stakeholders in numerous sectors. Priority government initiatives have received pledges from donors, and the Ministry of Finance will follow up to ensure they are actualised through its bilateral and debt management systems.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

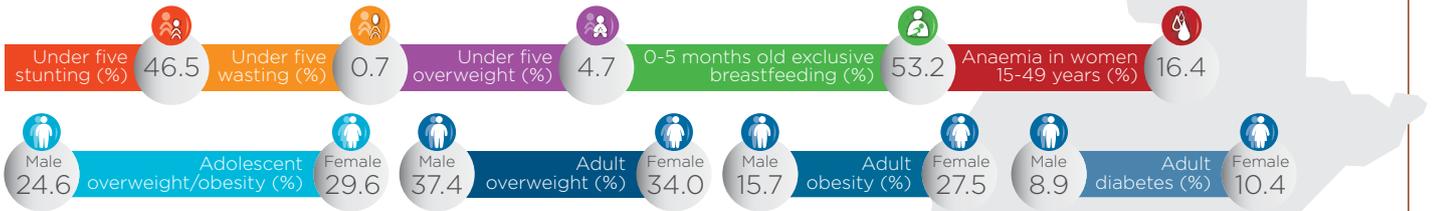
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GHANA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GHANA)

- Create a database to improve monitoring of actions;
- Convene regular meetings, maintaining focal points from institutions and strengthen leadership;
- Intensify local-level coordination;
- Establish a SUN Business Network;
- Strengthen advocacy efforts by identifying champions and finalising communication strategies.



Joined: December 2010  
Population: 16.91 million

# Guatemala



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

In Guatemala, nutrition is a priority, which also rings true for sectors in the National Food and Nutritional Security System (SINASAN). Local participation varies between towns, and coordination amongst them works well - led by municipal authorities - where compliance with strategic plans is monitored

and inter-institutional coordination is strengthened. Sharing of experiences, where possible, for replication in other towns needs scaling up. Also, the internal coordination must be strengthened to be effective locally, and spaces for coordination should be boosted.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

One of the main achievements in the reporting period was the approval of the Law on School Feeding. Government institutions and the private sector have created breastfeeding-friendly spaces. The response plan for seasonal hunger has been approved in 2018. Other areas high

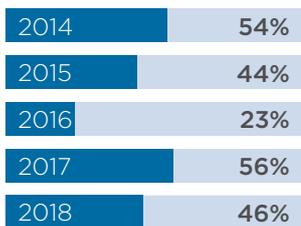
on the political agenda includes: food labelling, food donations, family farming and water bills, and a reform of the Law on the National Food and Nutritional Security System. Monitoring of the legal framework must be strengthened, alongside multi-sectoral analysis.



### Aligning actions around common results

The food and nutritional security policy, law and regulations promote and form the common results framework (CRF) in Guatemala. Results management is crucial for implementing public sector actions. Based on the evaluation of programmes and capacity for implementation, there is

insufficient progress in monitoring policies and the legal framework, in general, in terms of food security and nutrition. Developing measurement standards for evaluations remains a challenge. Other challenges include setting up a CRF and a lacking permanent monitoring system.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

There are attempts to mobilise resources in Guatemala - using loans approved by Congress to implement policies, programmes, projects and strategies aimed at improving nutrition. Although financial gaps have been identified, the

national budget has not been approved, leaving programmes underfunded. This makes it difficult to coordinate interventions and ensure they reach the most vulnerable areas.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

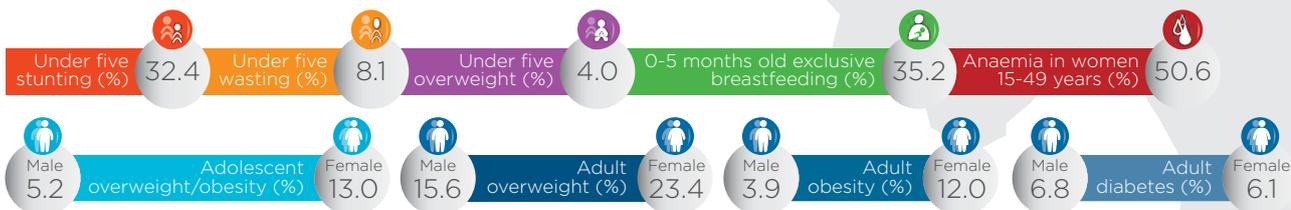
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUATEMALA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUATEMALA)

- Better integrate the multi-stakeholder platform and promote alignment with SINASAN;
- Organise a high-level event on nutrition on the margins of the Ibero-American Summit in November 2018;
- Assess the design of the National Food and Nutritional Security Policy;
- Include food security and nutrition in presidential campaigns;
- Increase high-level political commitment to nutrition and leveraging the visit of the SUN Movement Coordinator.

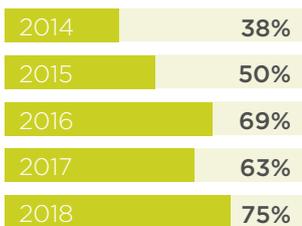


Joined: May 2013  
Population: 12.72 million

# Guinea



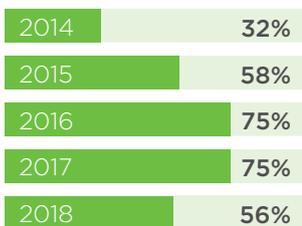
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

In 2017- 2018, the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) – the Technical Nutrition and Food Working Group – has occasionally met to continue its nutrition advocacy aimed at the Government and parliamentarians, communities and the private sector. MSP members have contributed to the review of the National Nutrition

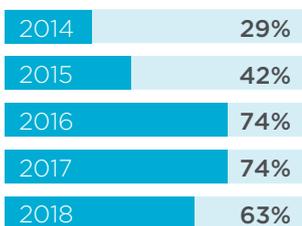
Policy, the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Food and Nutrition and its budgeting, and jointly funded the SMART 2017 nutrition survey. Coordination is decentralised in 7 of the 8 regions of Guinea, and nutrition is included in many municipalities' priorities.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Food and Nutrition Policy is being developed, drawing on many recently-developed laws in support of nutrition – such as the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and the Order on Food Fortification – operationalised

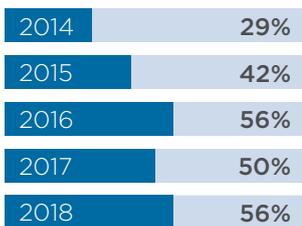
by decentralised services. A National Community Health Policy was adopted in 2018, which focuses on primary health-care and the prevention of chronic malnutrition, to ensure municipalities make nutrition one of their top priorities.



### Aligning actions around common results

In addition to an evaluation, of the implementation of the 2014-2016 Multi-Sectoral Plan by different stakeholders, a 2016-2020 Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan is being finalised. This plan will provide

costed actions and outline roles and responsibilities of the various partners (the UN, civil society, sectoral ministries) – with which partners' action plans or annual workplans are aligned.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A 2018 budget analysis has identified financial investments in nutrition-sensitive sectors within the National Development

Budget and ensured the costing of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan, which is currently being finalised.



## 2018–2019 PRIORITIES

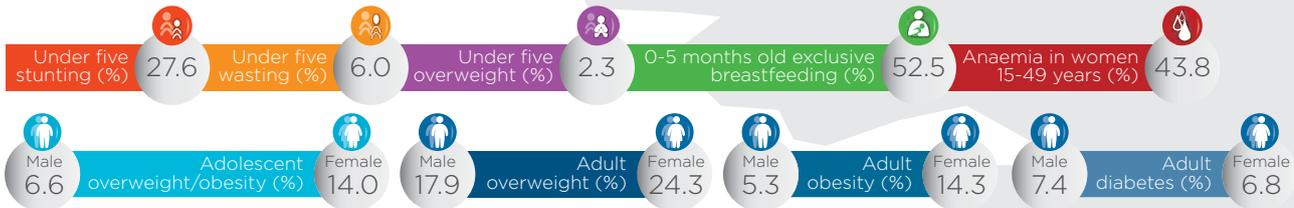
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUINEA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUINEA)

- Review the National Food and Nutrition Policy and the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan;
- Develop a communication plan and an advocacy plan for resource mobilisation;
- Review the mapping of nutrition-related stakeholders and interventions;
- Organise roundtables to validate the policy and ensure financing of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan;
- Undertake a socio-anthropological study on the reasons behind adding water into the diets of infants (0-6 months).

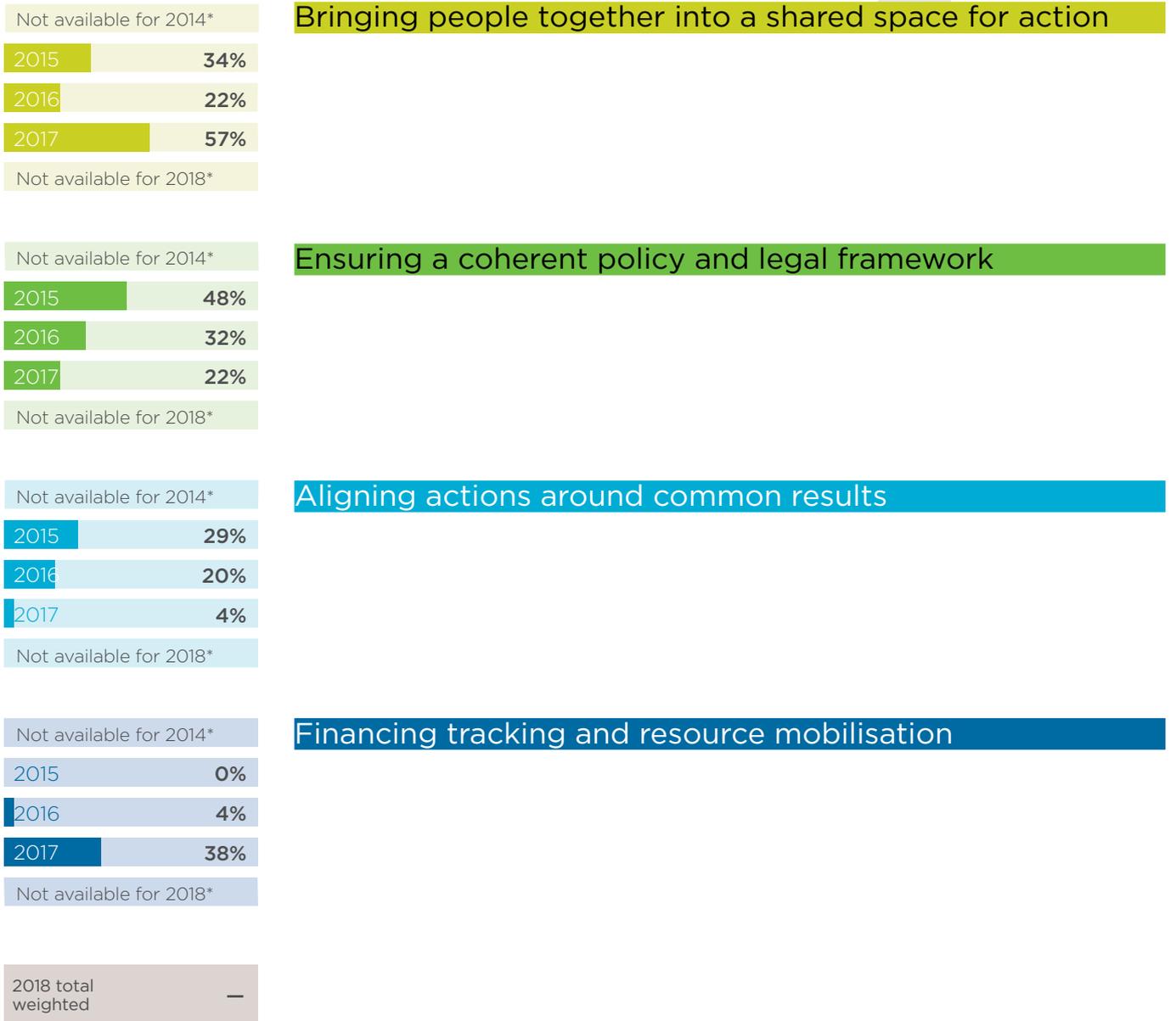


Joined: March 2014  
Population: 1.86 million

# Guinea-Bissau



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



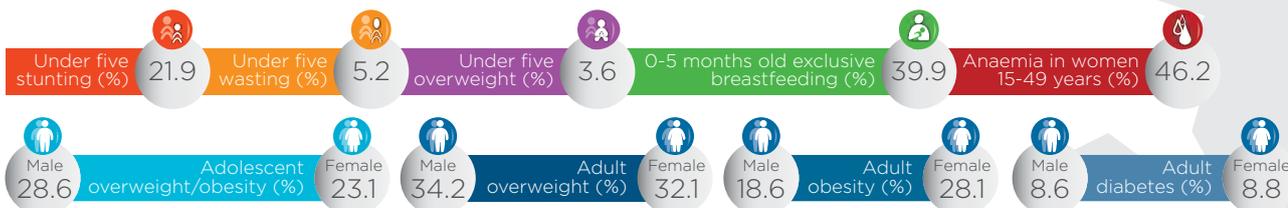
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUINEA-BISSAU](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/GUINEA-BISSAU)



Joined: June 2012  
Population: 10.98 million

# Haiti



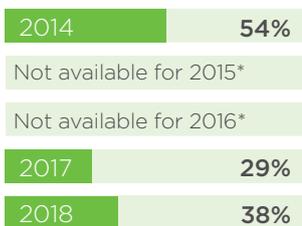
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

In Haiti, there are various platforms where stakeholders focus on strengthening nutrition, such as the Technical Committee on Nutrition, the Working Group on Food Fortification, the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group and the National Directorate of Drinking Water and Sanitation. Furthermore, the

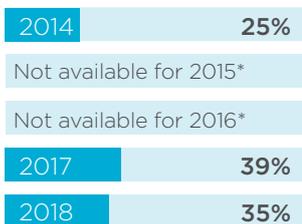
participation in these by sectoral ministries and their ownership of the SUN approach is an asset, aiding the effective implementation of interventions. However, multi-sectoral relationships between academia, the private sector and the policy-making level of the Haitian Government need to be strengthened.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

A policy on the prohibition of the marketing of breast-milk substitutes during natural disasters was created in order to reduce the risk of diseases being contracted. The adoption of orders implementing the Law on the Fortification of Foods with Micronutrients, the National Nutrition Policy and the National

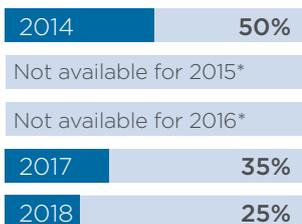
Nutrition Strategy will help ensure the adequate implementation of activities, despite there being certain difficulties regarding their enforcement. Haiti has no nutrition advocacy policy, but a nutrition communication plan and a breastfeeding communication plan exist.



### Aligning actions around common results

The joint monitoring of priority actions is sectoral, despite the lack of a Common Results Framework (CRF). A stakeholder mapping has been conducted, to ensure decisions regarding the geographical coverage of interventions are well informed, and that interventions meet the identified needs and target groups.

Despite the existence of objectives, there is a lack of coherence between objectives and the strategies chosen to implement them. The Technical Committee on Nutrition facilitates the review and analysis of the outcomes of various stakeholders' actions, based on individual reports.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Although interventions to tackle malnutrition are costed, this is not standardised. The Governmental allocation for nutrition is unknown, and it is difficult to review spending because of a lacking common system. While there is external funding, this funding is inadequate, because

disbursements are not channelled through existing mechanisms. In addition, planning depends on project cycles and is rather short-term. Advocacy is needed in order to push for the replenishment of the national nutrition budget line.



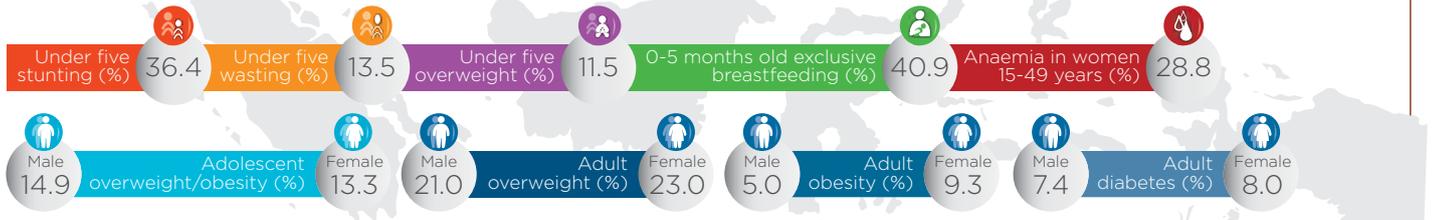
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/HAITI](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/HAITI)



Joined: December 2011  
Population: 263.99 million

# Indonesia



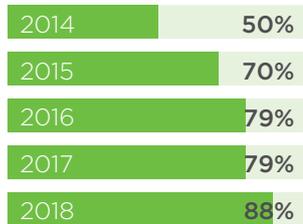
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Indonesia's multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) has been re-endorsed by the President and Vice President, through the Integrated Nutrition Intervention for Stunting Reduction. The SUN Country Network includes 19 government ministries, 11 donor/UN organisations, 29 civil society institutions, 24 universities or professional

organisations, and 29 business institutions. The sub-national government engages through channels such as workshops and technical meetings. However, integration at the sub-national level and participation from non-health sectors still needs to be increased.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Stunting reduction is a national priority in the Government Annual Workplan 2018 and has been aligned with the SDGs. The national government also led an analysis of existing food and nutrition policies to improve the quality of their implementation. The Strategic Policy on Food and Nutrition and the Food and Nutrition

Action Plan 2017-2019 were signed into legislation. Communication and advocacy efforts continued, including media messaging, workshops at the sub-national level, and civil society representation to Members of Parliament. Food fortification regulation is currently being revised.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Common Results Framework (CRF) for Integrated Nutrition Intervention has been developed and agreed upon by all SUN Country Network members. Medium and long-term implementation objectives have been identified and an assessment of capacities at national and sub-national levels is underway. The CRF still needs

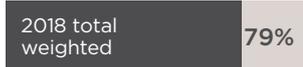
to be refined to focus on the most effective interventions. Bappenas and the Vice President's Office have led the development of a monitoring and evaluation system, which will track implementation progress. A community-based health surveillance system is currently in use.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The estimated costs for implementation of the Integrated Nutrition Intervention within the Government has been developed, finalised, and shared with members. Funding for health and nutrition interventions is increasing. A budget tagging and tracking system has been initiated through an integrated application

system for planning and budgeting. The mapping of financial gaps in each district is ongoing, non-government sectors have been requested to fill these gaps. There is a need for further advocacy, information dissemination, and technical support regarding budget planning and disbursement.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

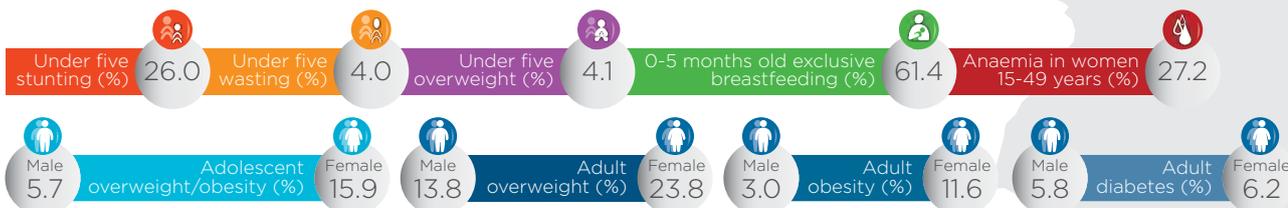
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/INDONESIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/INDONESIA)

- Implement an improved budget tagging and tracking system;
- Align public messages and campaigns on stunting reduction and prevention;
- Improve multi-sectoral coordination on nutrition-specific interventions;
- Develop a better system to share lessons learnt and findings amongst SUN network members;
- Develop an Integrated Nutrition Intervention monitoring and evaluation system.

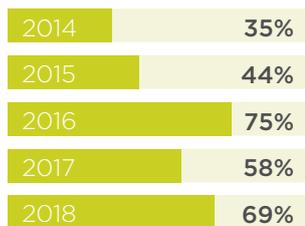


Joined: August 2012  
Population: 49.70 million

# Kenya



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Strengthened, better-structured, multi-sectoral coordination in Kenya has been made possible by the signing and endorsement of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework. Seven counties have established Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) for nutrition and food security in 2017-18.

Networks that have been set up include an Academia Network and a Government Network, which was reactivated and expanded over the past year. The Civil Society Network is strong, and although the Donor Network has been inactive during the reporting period, individual donors take part in SUN activities.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

All stakeholders have been included in policy and legislative development and review, including the 2012-17 National Nutrition Action Plan (NNAP), which was reviewed during the reporting period. A new iteration of this is currently being developed. A National School Meals and Nutrition Strategy has been launched.

2017-18 has proved to be an important year for the operationalisation of a range of policies and legislation, including the 2017 Breastfeeding Protection and Workplace Support Bill and the re-issuance of a Food and Nutrition Security Bill, currently being discussed in Parliament.



### Aligning actions around common results

The NNAP served as Kenya's Common Results Framework (CRF), and its review has raised important lessons - including the need to ensure regular reviews and monitoring for better implementation and results. The recently launched Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework also contains clear roles

and responsibilities that are assigned to different sectors and stakeholders. Although tracking and reporting on nutrition-specific achievements is advanced, reporting on nutrition-sensitive actions needs improvement. Further mapping of gender gaps should also take place.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A nutrition costing tool has been adapted for use in Kenya. In 2017-18, costing of CRFs has taken place at the sub-national level. Civil society has been instrumental in tracking and reporting financing for nutrition nationally and in some counties, but more awareness raising on costing and financial tracking tools is needed.

The Kenyan Government has shown leadership in prioritising and building consensus on identified funding gaps, but partners have not always been guided by identified needs, as resources invested are scarce or insufficient, both domestically and externally.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

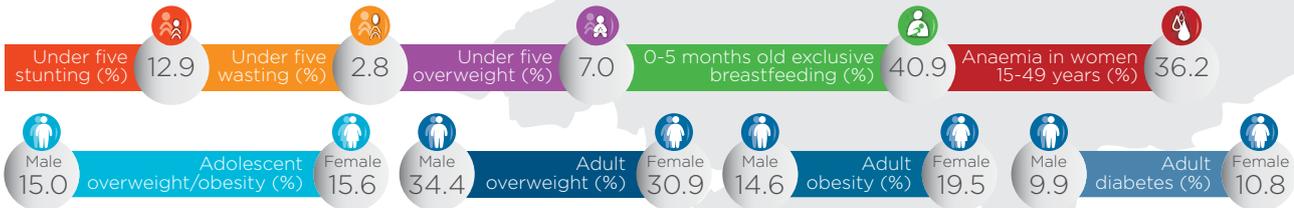
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/KENYA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/KENYA)

- Support the launch and rollout of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework;
- Support the development of a new National Nutrition Action Plan for 2018-2022;
- Develop guidelines for key line ministries to assist their support for nutrition security with a multi-sectoral plan and a budget for lobbying;
- Hold a high-level advocacy event for nutrition;
- Identify nutrition champions and conduct training of these champions.



Joined: December 2011

# Kyrgyzstan



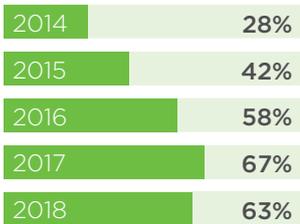
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The first Vice-Prime Minister and Chair of the Food Security and Nutrition Council has been appointed country coordinator of the SUN Movement. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration has been appointed technical coordinator. Terms of reference for the country coordinator, SUN Networks, and

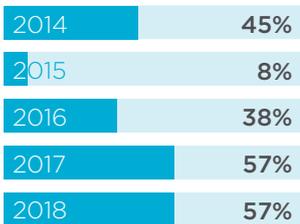
the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) have been developed. A decentralisation process for the MSP has been initiated with orientation meetings held in three regions. Coordination and communication between the Government and other SUN stakeholders needs further strengthening.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

A review of nutrition policies, strategies and guidelines conducted by MQSUN+ provided recommendations for the new National Food Security and Nutrition Programme for 2018-2022. There is a need for greater harmonisation across existing programmes. Two large monitoring

exercises were conducted: monitoring the implementation of the laws on prevention of iodine deficiencies and technical regulations on safety of iodized salts; and the law on the fortification of flour. Key findings were presented to members of the SUN Movement for further consideration.



### Aligning actions around common results

A multi-sectoral working group was established with representatives of ministries and agencies for the development of the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme for 2018-2022. Six World Health Assembly indicators have been integrated into the new programme, as well as into the Health Development

Strategy up to 2030, for which MSP members provided input in terms of harmonisation of indicators for achieving nutritional results. Despite measures to improve nutrition, holistic assessments of actions to improve nutrition need to be prioritised.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government allocates a limited amount of funding for nutrition, which is tracked. However, there is no system for the comprehensive monitoring of nutrition expenditure that takes into account parallel financing from donor organisations. This is particularly difficult in terms

of nutrition-sensitive actions, partly due to a lack of clear criteria for their costing. There are no financial mechanisms available to ensure continuity between humanitarian financing and financing for development.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

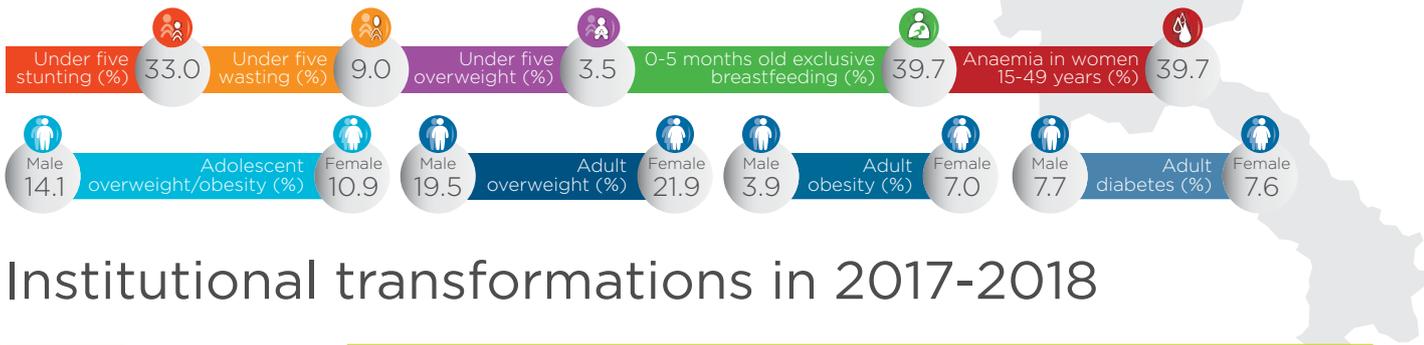
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/KYRGYZSTAN](https://scalingupnutrition.org/kyrgyzstan)

- Expansion of the MSP, including at the sub-national level with the development of mechanisms for decentralisation;
- Development of the National Food Security and Nutrition Programme 2018-2022;
- Capacity-building of the MSP in development, analysis, tracking and accountability of nutrition financing.



Joined: April 2011  
Population: 6.86 million

# Lao PDR



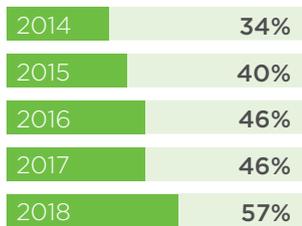
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Lao PDR has various multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) operating at national and sub-national levels. The SUN Business Network was launched in June 2018 - with 220 participants and 19 businesses registered. All provinces have a nutrition committee and 10 provincial nutrition coordinators have been recruited to

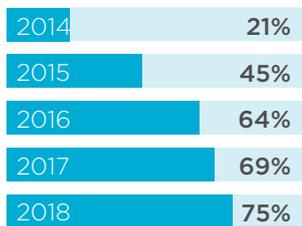
facilitate multi-stakeholder coordination at the sub-national level. Quarterly meetings are being held with representatives from different sectors: education, agriculture, planning, health and WASH. Updates on the nutrition situation are submitted biannually to the National Assembly.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Nutrition Committee Secretariat has facilitated the integration of nutrition priorities into national policy, plans and budgets. The Ministry of Health has facilitated the development of various specific nutrition guidelines, including the National Guideline of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition. Guidelines in support of the International Code on

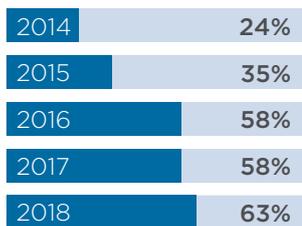
Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes have been developed with the support of various agencies and has been endorsed by the Government. Studies have been conducted to inform the Food Fortification Strategic Plan and mid-term review of the National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN) 2016-2020.



### Aligning actions around common results

The National Assembly has endorsed efforts to align national indicators with Sustainable Development Goal 2 on zero hunger. It has also prioritised preventing stunting and underweight in children under 5 in both the National Socio-Economic Development Plan and the Graduation from the Least Developed Country

plan. The Lao Social Indicator Survey has also been released in this period, the results of which will inform an update of the Common Results Framework. The National Nutrition Platform has been initiated, and the mapping of nutrition stakeholders and actions will be updated in 2018.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Lao PDR Government and key donors are increasing efforts to provide longer-term funding for nutrition. This can be seen in national budget allocations for some priority nutrition actions, such as for procurement of nutrition commodities, capacity building and monitoring. Budget allocations for nutrition-sensitive

agriculture have increased due to new projects, such as the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme. Efforts to improve disbursement tracking are ongoing. Donors have continued to support the development of the National Plan of Action on Nutrition 2016-2020.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

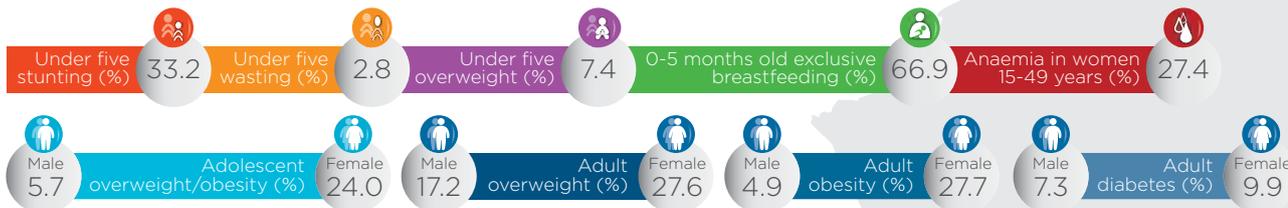
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LAOS](https://scalingupnutrition.org/laos)

- Ensure domestic support is aligned with the NPAN 2016-2020;
- Launch the NPAN mid-term review and ensure it prioritises districts with a high prevalence of malnutrition, including the double burden;
- Establish an improved forum for sharing of good practices as well as evidence-based lessons learned;
- Strengthen routine nutrition information management systems and multi-sectoral surveillance systems.



Joined: July 2014  
Population: 2.23 million

# Lesotho



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) operates through the Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office (FNCO), but its terms of reference have not yet been developed. There are SUN Networks established for business, research and academia, media,

civil society and the UN, however the UN Network is the only one that is fully functional. Planning is ongoing for a high-level nutrition forum, to be held in October 2018.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

During the reporting period, Lesotho has seen progress in ensuring that policies and legal frameworks are coherent, but it is not yet possible to operationalise or enforce many. Legislation on food fortification, as set out in the nutrition policy, is underway, including bio-fortifications

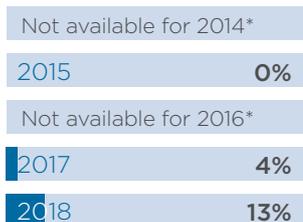
currently promoted including bio-fortified beans. A social and behaviour change communication strategy for nutrition has been developed, with assistance from UNICEF. This includes a plan for implementation.



### Aligning actions around common results

Nutrition has been included in the National Strategic Development Plan for 2017-2018 to 2021-2022), for the first time. The Lesotho nutrition strategy has also been developed and will be costed in the near future. The FNCO has engaged experts from multiple sectors at both

national district levels to conduct a Zero Hunger strategic review, using a consultative process. The Zero Hunger strategic review and the national nutrition strategy will help facilitate a focused Common Results Framework for the National Nutrition Plan, as well as aligned programming.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

There were no reported changes in 2017-2018.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

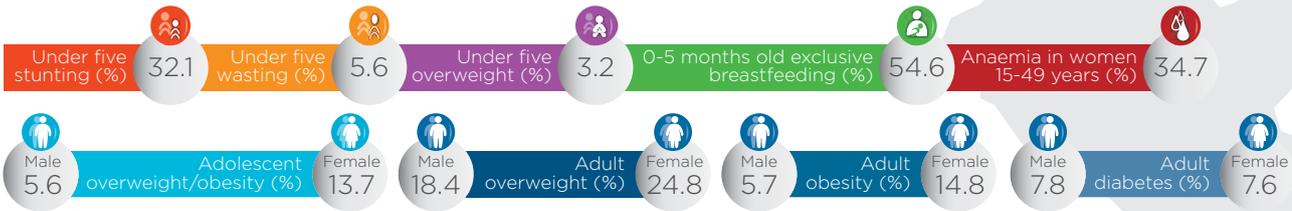
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LESOTHO](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LESOTHO)

- Ensure all SUN Networks are fully functional;
- Operationalise the social and behaviour change communication strategy for nutrition;
- Operationalise policy and legal frameworks in order scale up nutrition at the national and sub-national level;
- Improve financial tracking and scale up resource mobilisation.



Joined: February 2014  
Population: 4.73 million

# Liberia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) has now been established in Liberia, which provides structure for members to engage in regular meetings. While the MSP gradually expands, involving new line ministries - including the Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Education and Commerce - continued growth will be

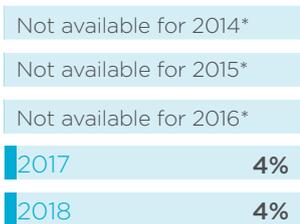
required to ensure multi-sectoral scope. The UN Network for SUN and the SUN Civil Society Network are active in MSP meetings, although business and donor networks are yet to be established. Liberia has an interim SUN Focal Point, awaiting formal appointment by the Office of the President.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

An updated National Nutrition Policy is currently being reviewed by line Ministers, signalling an increased commitment to the multi-sectoral approach. The drafting process has involved more stakeholders than in the past, with the MSP contributing to the policy's development. The country has now adopted fortification

standards for flour, cooking oil and salt, with the establishment of the National Fortification Alliance. Regulations for the marketing of breast-milk substitutes are being developed, with parliamentarians and the Minister of Health currently reviewing the legislation.



### Aligning actions around common results

While policies across sectors remain fragmented, stakeholders recognise the value of harmonising policy and legal frameworks, and, as such, have planned reviews of existing actions to ensure they correlate with national targets. Significant effort

will be needed to ensure these actions are aligned. However, some nutrition-specific interventions have been scaled up, such as community-based infant and young child feeding counselling, which is now offered in 12 of 16 counties.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

At present, nutrition interventions are primarily funded by external donors, with limited domestic resources allocated to the sector. Liberia is in a recovery period following the Ebola outbreak, meaning that planning for multi-year funding will start in 2018-2019. It will be essential to

increase advocacy efforts during this period so that nutrition interventions are allocated adequate financing. The Liberian Government provides human resources to support and facilitate nutrition interventions, highlighting its interest in supporting the sector.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

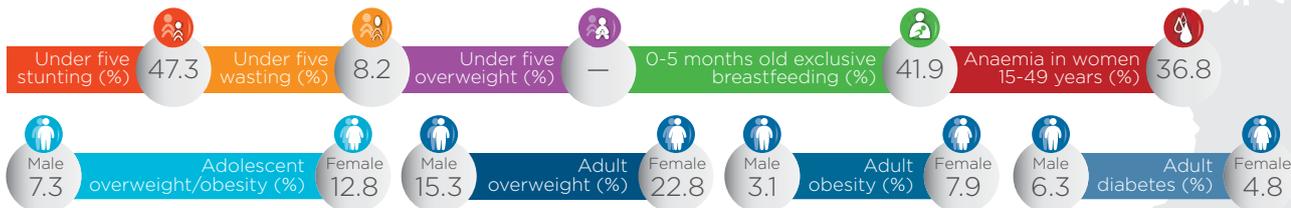
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LIBERIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LIBERIA)

- Obtain approval to formally appoint the SUN Government Focal Point;
- Engage newly-elected parliamentarians to increase advocacy efforts for nutrition;
- Develop and review a National Nutrition Policy and multi-sectoral strategic plan;
- Continue facilitating the expansion and functionality of the established multi-stakeholder platform.



Joined: February 2012  
Population: 25.57 million

# Madagascar



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The platform connects sectoral ministries—population, communication, health, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, education, water, commerce, industry, justice and defence—with civil society, research, private sector (Anjaramasoandro), donors and United Nations networks. All participated in the development of the National

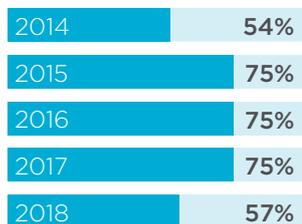
Nutrition Plan (PNN) and National Plan (PNAN III) and have a joint action plan. Each ministry has a committee and budget item dedicated to nutrition. The integration of the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sectors is an example of excellent multi-sectoral collaboration.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The PNN has been updated to align it with various texts and laws, including the Universal Salt Iodisation Law and the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, as well as the systematic monitoring of school pupils. Various bodies promoting nutrition, such as the National Food Fortification

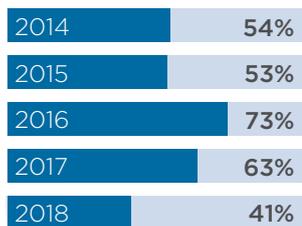
Alliance, infant support bodies and friends of WASH, have been revitalised to operationalise these changes. Texts and laws related to food and nutrition security have been inventoried by the Malagasy Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.



### Aligning actions around common results

The various platforms for the United Nations, donors and researchers have all aligned their workplans with national priorities. Furthermore, the Strategic Dialogue Group (of Government and donors) includes nutrition among the topics it covers. The Implementation Plan (PMO) and the National Monitoring

and Evaluation Plan (PNSE) are being finalised. They comprise multi-annual thematic programming and a Common Results Framework (CRF). Regional nutrition groups monitor regional CCRs and evaluation actions. Intervention and stakeholder mapping is updated annually.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Budget analysis of domestic spending allocated to nutrition interventions, both sensitive and specific, is ongoing. Some ministries' nutrition budgets, such as in the education and health sectors, have been strengthened beyond the gradual increase in State funding. A 10-year

funding agreement has been made with the World Bank to reduce chronic malnutrition, as has a 5-year basic education support project. Costing of PNAN III is expected after the finalisation of the PMO and PNSE.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

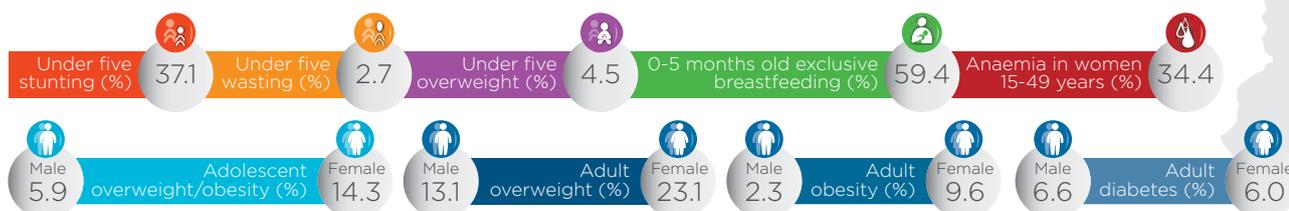
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MADAGASCAR](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MADAGASCAR)

- Finalise the PMO, the PNSE and the costing of PNAN III;
- Joint resource mobilisation;
- National update of the nutrition situation;
- Reinvigoration of all platforms and extension of civil society networks to the regional level;
- Impact evaluation of nutrition intervention.



Joined: March 2011  
Population: 18.62 million

# Malawi



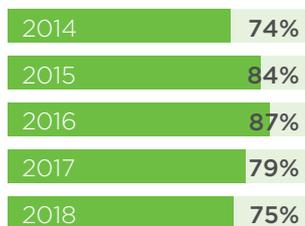
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-Stakeholder Coordination Platforms (MSP) function at national, district and local levels, are institutionalised within government structures and have established convening boards. MSPs regularly support evidence-based decision-making, contributing to the review and development of Government policies and

strategic documents. A website has been launched to facilitate the MSP's ability to share information, providing a platform for research dissemination and communication. The First Lady remains a key nutrition champion, participating in advocacy forums, policy launches and in events.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Nutrition is a key priority in the Malawi Growth Development Strategy (MGDS) III (2017-2022). The National Multisector Nutrition Policy (NMSNP) was developed and approved, which has placed gender equality as a key priority area, including advocating for maternity leave. The Food

and Nutrition Bill is still awaiting cabinet approval. Malawi has mechanisms in place to monitor and enforce the Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and has also rolled out a Fortification Logo for centrally processed foods to enforce the mandatory fortification legislation.



### Aligning actions around common results

Progress continues to be made: a harmonised monitoring framework was created in 2016 and a web-based National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Information System was developed in 2017, aligning with MGDS III and World Health Assembly targets. The system tracks indicators from all sectors and partners at district

level in real time, monitoring nutrition-sensitive and specific interventions. It is also aligned with the recently developed Nutrition Resource Tracking System (NURTS). A district capacity assessment resulted in an increase of Nutrition Officers, there are now up to 4 persons per district.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government has costed nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions in its NMSNP, Strategic Plan and in its community-based management of acute malnutrition operational plan. There is no resource mobilisation strategy in place and unpredictability in funding continues. However, advocacy to increase

the Government's allocation to nutrition interventions is ongoing. Developing the NURTS in 2016 was a success for resource tracking, but irregular data inputting from stakeholders negatively impacts its reliability, making it less useful for advocacy and to support funding predictions.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

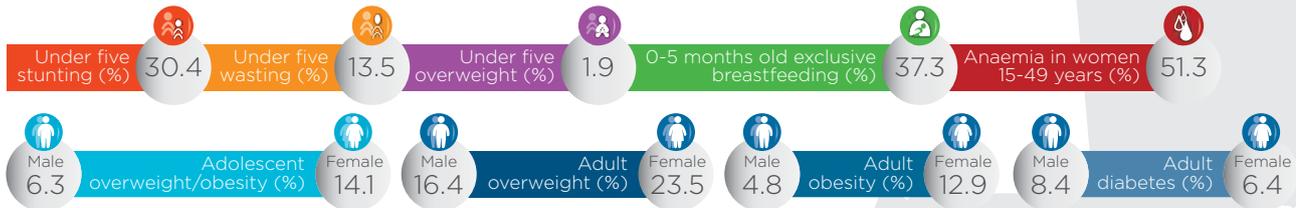
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MALAWI](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MALAWI)

- Launch and operationalise the National Multi-Sector Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan at all levels;
- Ensure Parliament approves the Food and Nutrition Bill;
- Develop and operationalise an adolescent nutrition strategy;
- Operationalise the Agriculture Sector Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan.

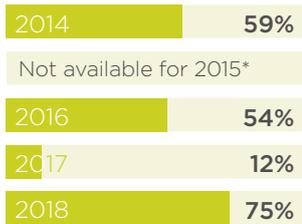


Joined: March 2011  
Population: 18.54 million

# Mali



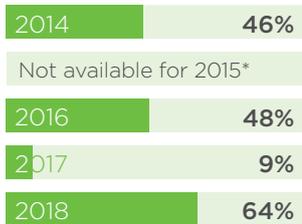
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Nutrition Coordination Cell has been strengthened by officials. The Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Technical Committee (CTIN) is operational and has met four times. The National Nutrition Council has not yet met. New CTIN focal points and alternates have been appointed and will soon have training on their roles and

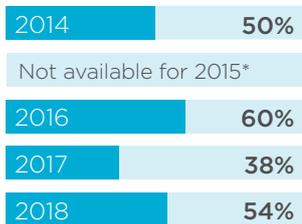
responsibilities. Coordination bodies exist at both decentralised and local levels, and are clearly defined in the national nutrition policy. However operational capacity at decentralised and local levels remains low. Networks for the private sector and academic have been created.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Several studies have taken stock of how nutrition is taken into account in different sectors. For example, there has been a strategic reflection on zero hunger, a study on the cost of hunger and the creation of country resilience priorities. A review of existing sectoral policies and programmes has identified gaps therein,

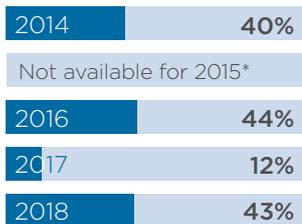
suggesting how they could become nutrition-sensitive. The draft constitution now recognises that food and nutrition is a constitutional right. Lastly, regional coalitions have been set up to build capacities and several lobbying meetings have been held with parliamentarians.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Nutrition Coordination Cell and each network have annual work plans that form part of the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (PAMN), which is considered to be the Common Results Framework. The mid-term review of November 2016 also ensures partners were aligned, although

work still needs to be done to establish systems for monitoring and evaluation, accountability, knowledge management and capacity building for key actors at every level. A mechanism to do so will be implemented shortly, to support the new plan for 2019-2023.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In 2017, the annual cost of funding the PAMN was USD 129,119,465, with 48 percent still available for mobilisation. Despite this, there is no budget tracking system to monitor the mobilisation and use of resources. A retrospective analysis of PAMN funding for 2014-2018 is currently ongoing, with

budget analysis having identified available funding sources and achievements. In addition, the revitalisation of the donor network, supported by training of sectoral focal points and the meeting of Secretary Generals, are ideal levers to align financial resources and avoid duplication.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

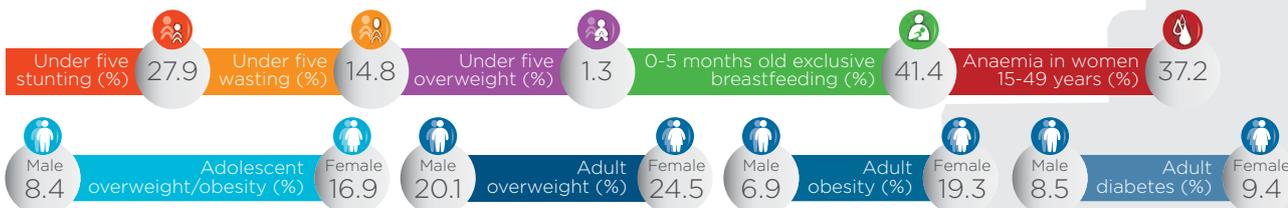
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MALI](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MALI)

- Conduct a final evaluation of the PAMN 2014-2018 and propose a new plan for 2019-2023;
- Leadership of multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms;
- Development of monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms for the PAMN and leadership of sectoral nutrition groups to monitor the performance of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions;
- Organise a national nutrition forum between January and March 2019;
- Organise a round table to mobilise funding for the PAMN;
- Strengthen SUN network.

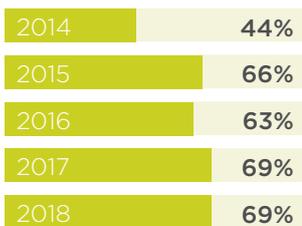


Joined: May 2011  
Population: 4.42 million

# Mauritania



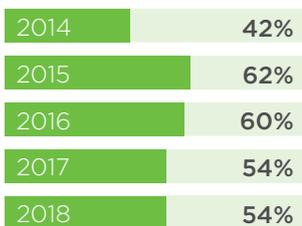
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A revised decree, pending signature, will make the National Nutrition Development Council more operational. There is a working nutrition coordination framework at the regional level, with 5 regional committees. The appointment of a new SUN Government Focal Point has energised multi-sectoral coordination, despite

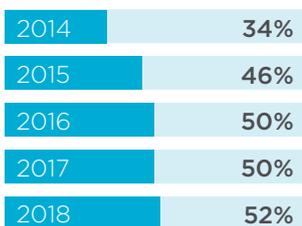
challenges. The SUN Civil Society Network is very dynamic, having supported a network of women parliamentarians advocating for nutrition and a network of nutrition-aware journalists. Networks for donor, scientific and academic communities and the private sector are not yet established.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Various gains have been made through the development of policies and strategies and the adoption of implementation decrees. However, their application remains inadequate and they are often not adhered to. The National Health

Policy and the National Health Development Plan have been evaluated to ensure lessons learned are used to improve future planning. Reviews of this type have not been systematically applied at national level.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Nutrition 2016-2025 includes a 10-year plan for scaling up interventions that promote best practice for feeding infants and young children. The challenge is to finalise the process of creating an inventory of existing interventions, as this will lay the foundations for regular

multi-sectoral coordination at central and local levels. There is no comprehensive consultation and monitoring framework, but the sector responsible for tackling acute severe malnutrition has a coordination framework harmonised with priority areas, and a system for activity tracking.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government funding needed to support nutrition-specific interventions over the next 10 years has been budgeted for and funding gaps have been identified. Despite constant growth in State investment and efforts by the Government as well as technical and financial partners, the bulk of funding is still allocated to

emergency and short-term interventions. Preventive nutrition interventions remain underfunded. As a result, a major challenge is still the mobilisation of predictable resources on a long-term basis, to strengthen interventions that focus on a multi-sectoral preventive approach.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

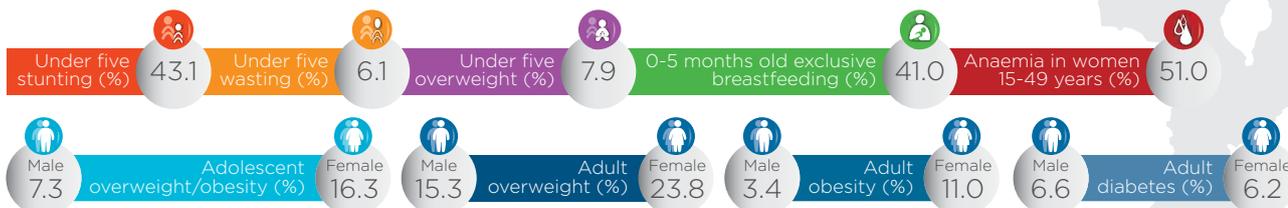
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MAURITANIA](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MAURITANIA)

- Ensure the signing of the revised decree for the National Nutrition Development Council;
- Create an inventory of existing interventions to help achieve common results and lay the foundations for multi-sectoral coordination;
- Strengthen the operation of multi-sectoral coordination frameworks at national and regional levels by introducing tools and systems for operations and reporting;
- Continue advocacy for nutrition.



Joined: August 2011  
Population: 29.67 million

# Mozambique



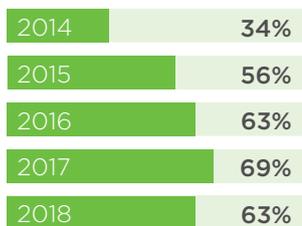
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The National Council for Nutrition and Food Security (CONSAN) has been established under the Prime Minister's Office, convening eight Ministers, leaders of the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN) and relevant councils and institutes, and representatives from civil society, academia, and business. Technical working groups for the 2010-2020 Programme for the

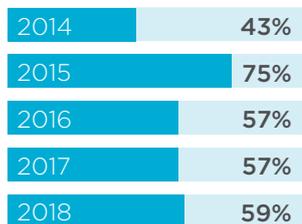
Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition (GT-PAMRDC) exist in every province, with five approved budget lines, but decentralisation faces technical and financial constraints, which are being assessed by UNICEF and SETSAN. The SUN Civil Society Network received three years' funding from the European Union, with Networks established in a further six provinces and 15 districts.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

An in-depth review of PAMRDC and an evaluation of the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy II (ESAN II) will inform ESAN III. They found little alignment between PAMRDC sectoral activities and indicators, and the need for guidance for provinces to adapt the PAMRDC. Advocacy is being bolstered by a Cost

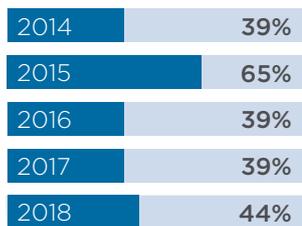
of Hunger assessment, a Fill the Nutrition Gap study and a nutrition advocacy campaign by the First Lady and managed by the Ministry of Rural Development. A new communication plan will highlight SETSAN actions and fill gaps identified in nutrition education and communication materials.



### Aligning actions around common results

Although the PAMRDC provides medium and short-term direction, it has not been adopted functionally as a Common Results Framework, meaning partner actions are not always in line with national strategies. To strengthen information sharing and improve alignment of actions, SETSAN has established a webpage where civil

society other actors can register their projects. A national information system is also being created, informed by an assessment that is currently underway. A workshop has been held to share, catalogue, map and align behaviour change communication approaches.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

SETSAN has stepped up advocacy to increase sectoral government funding for nutrition, distributed through sectoral economic and social plans. A new Task Force of SETSAN and senior partner representatives will take decisions and quickly fill resource gaps. A major challenge is identifying what funds are

allocated to nutrition, but stakeholders now have access to the public financial management system. Budget lines for nutrition are being examined, under a DFID-funded project. A cost-effectiveness analysis has been supported by USAID and Duke University.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

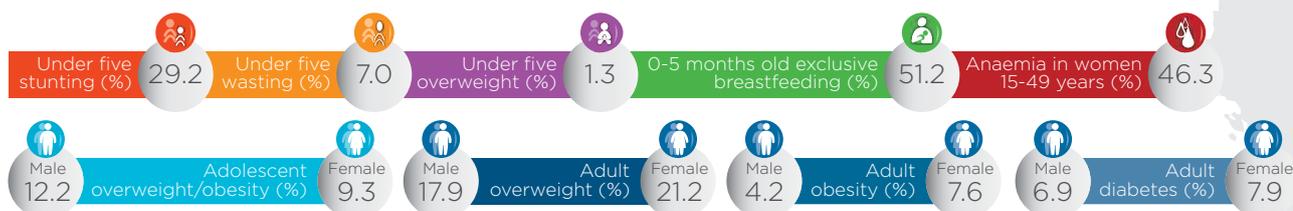
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MOZAMBIQUE](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/MOZAMBIQUE)

- A Food and Nutrition Security Forum will take place in November 2018, under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Mozambique;
- Approval and implementation of the new Food and Nutrition Security Strategy III;
- Strengthen the integration of nutrition and food security funding into sectoral economic and social plans and ensure they are correctly budgeted for;
- Accelerate the process of creating and training district technical groups.



Joined: April 2013  
Population: 53.37 million

# Myanmar



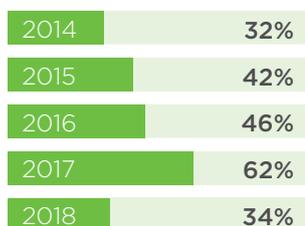
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) in Myanmar operates based on terms of reference and a workplan. In July 2017, a high-level Sector Coordinating Group on Nutrition was formed. Between mid-2016 and mid-2018, the Nutrition Stocktaking Report and the costed and prioritised Multisectoral National Plan of Action on

Nutrition (MS-NPAN 2018-2023) were developed, based on a consultation that used a multi-sectoral, multi-agency approach. The SUN civil society network expanded its membership and elected a new Steering Committee in October 2017. The first SUN Parliament meeting was held on 7 August 2018.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Policies enacted by different line ministries have explicitly stated that improving nutrition is a core concern and focus. The Nutrition Stocktaking Report reviewed and analysed relevant key policies and their positive or negative potential on nutrition. A technical working group has been established as a national oversight

mechanism to monitor adherence to the Order of Marketing of Formulated Food for Infant and Young Child law (adopted from ICOM-BMS). With FAO's support, the Ministry of Agriculture is working to align the Myanmar Agriculture Policy with national nutrition priorities.



### Aligning actions around common results

SUN MSP partners – the Civil Society Alliance, the UN and donors, and Government ministries – have jointly developed the costed Multi-sectoral National Plan of Action on Nutrition (MS-NPAN 2018-2023). The plan was finalised following a number of intense consultative sessions over a one-year period. It involves 4

relevant government ministries: Health and Sports; Education; Social Welfare; Relief and Resettlement and Agriculture. The MS-NPAN will be the common results framework within which partners will work and contribute. The overall goal is to “Reduce all forms of malnutrition in mothers, children and adolescent girls”.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

There is no financial tracking system for nutrition in development plans, nor for the predictability of the multi-year funding needed to sustain the implementation of nutrition activities. Government, UN and CSA organisations are each using their own financial and budget tracking systems for nutrition programming. The

MS-NPAN was costed as part of the plan's development but due to lack of data on costs for nutrition or other activities, some assumptions had to be made. The expectation is that this will lay the foundation and groundwork for future financial monitoring and tracking of nutrition.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

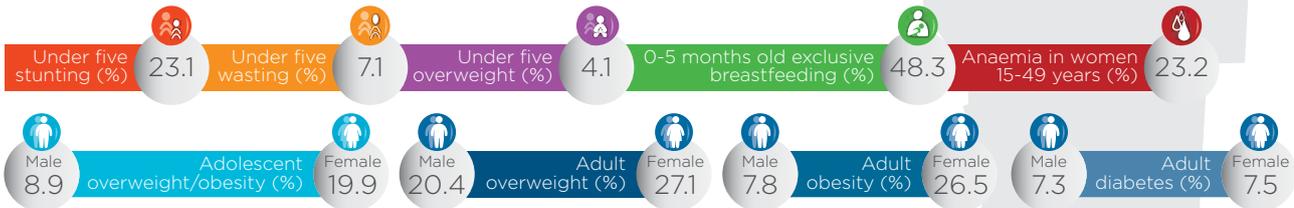
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- Implement activities as specified for the inception period or year one of the five-year costed Multi-sectoral Plan of Action (MS-NPAN);
- Conduct a capacity assessment in terms of coordination, governance and operations at national and sub national levels;
- Carry out a prioritisation assessment of States and Regions;
- Establishment of the monitoring and evaluation System;
- Financial tracking and resource mobilisation.

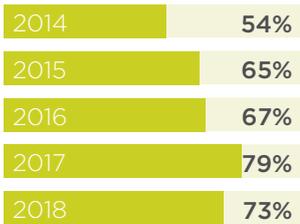


Joined: September 2011  
Population: 2.53 million

# Namibia



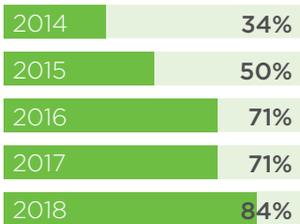
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Political leaders continue to pay particular attention to nutrition and food security. The Office of the Prime Minister is working towards full ownership of nutrition coordination, having revived the Food Security and Nutrition Council (FSNC). Chaired by the former Prime Minister and current Deputy Prime Minister, the Namibia

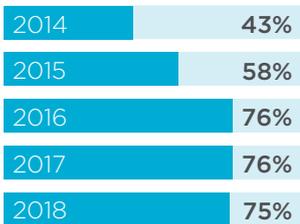
Alliance for Improved Nutrition (NAFIN) serves as the multi-stakeholder, multi-sector (MSP) platform. Members participate actively in their quarterly meetings and play an important advisory role to the FSNC. However, local and regional MSP structures need strengthening.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The revised Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP) has now been finalised. A Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn Child Health Strategy was developed and costed in 2018. The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture finalised the Namibian School Feeding Policy, and regulations for the marketing of breast-milk substitutes

are undergoing legal review: both will be presented to the Cabinet for ratification. Following the development of an advocacy booklet, NAFIN is continuing to work to improve its engagement with parliamentarians, in an effort to sustain political support for nutrition.



### Aligning actions around common results

While a Common Results Framework under the SUN Country Implementation Plan exists, it will need to be updated based on the revised FNSP. The UN network supported the Office of the Prime Minister to integrate nutrition indicators into its Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring System. A

Network-supported assessment of how drought impacts the nutritional status of vulnerable populations is expected to inform policy response. Looking ahead, it is recommended that local and regional MSP structures create terms of reference to improve accountability at the sub-national level.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

As a middle-income country, Namibia's nutrition financing is primarily a domestic responsibility. Though recent unfavourable economic conditions have negatively impacted the health budget and nutrition financing, NAFIN maintains an annual budget. The Government's budget has no nutrition-specific budget line;

nutrition activities are funded through other budget lines. To bridge gaps in human resources and the lack of nutritionists, Namibia University of Science and Technology worked with NAFIN and the UN Network to launch a 4-year nutrition degree: 35 students enrolled in the first year.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

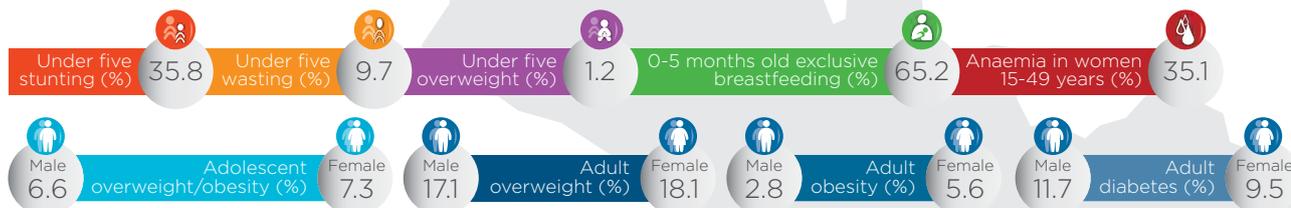
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NAMIBIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NAMIBIA)

- Streamline and strengthen the accountability mechanism of the NAFIN with the government;
- Develop an annual workplan for the NAFIN;
- Develop reporting procedures for different structures of the NAFIN;
- Develop and build the capacity of the different areas of work of the NAFIN, including the CSO, academia and business network.

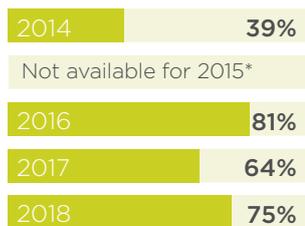


Joined: May 2011

# Nepal



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The National Nutrition and Food Security Coordination Committee (NNFSCC) is coordinating work around the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP II). SUN stakeholders are included in NNFSCC meetings. The High-Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (HLNFSSC) and the National Nutrition

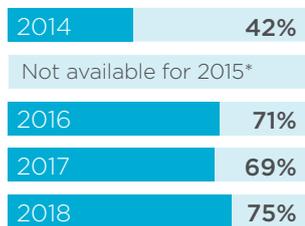
and Food Security Secretariat (NNFSS) support policy development. As Nepal is in a transition phase, moving from a unitary to federal structure, provincial Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees are being established. The MSNP is operational in 62 districts, through coordination committees.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

In November 2017 the MSNP II (2018-2022) was approved by the Cabinet. The plan is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and World Health Assembly targets. The process that led to the formulation of the MSNP II included a 'deprivation' analysis, causality analysis, formulation of a common results

framework, identification of coverage status, and gap analysis. The Right to Food Act, the Food Safety Policy, and the Food Security and Food Sovereignty Policy have all been finalised. Food-based dietary guidelines have been reviewed, and the Nutrition Cluster operating guidelines have been revised.



### Aligning actions around common results

The MSNP II is a framework to align nutrition programming for common results. Although roles and responsibilities for all relevant sectors and stakeholders are clearly defined and implementation guidelines have been developed, this will need to be revised based on recent changes in the Nepalese Government's

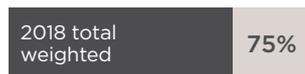
structure. All nutrition-related projects and programmes have been aligned with the MSNP II to increase geographical coverage, currently at 62 of 77 districts. All Government sectors at each level have their own annual workplan and budget for MSNP objectives, targets and activities.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The MSNP II is envisioned as a tool for resource mobilisation. Financial resource gaps have been identified, and based on this gap analysis, the Government has agreed to contribute 60 per cent of the requirements of the MSNP II, while 40 per cent will be covered by development partners over the next five years, from

2018 to 2022. The total budget is estimated at USD 470 million, and costed annual workplans are available at federal, provincial and local government levels. Each ministry has a Line Ministry Budget Information System (LMBIS), which includes allocations towards the MSNP.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

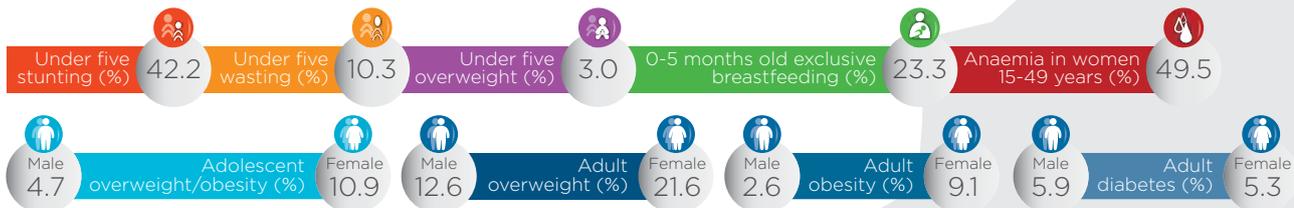
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NEPAL](https://scalingupnutrition.org/nepal)

- Strengthen the engagement of private sector;
- Develop implementation guidelines for the MSNP at all levels;
- Establish MSNP structures at provincial and local government levels in areas where they are yet to be set up;
- Advocacy for resources to meet the requirement of MSNP II.



Joined: February 2011  
Population: 21.48 million

# Niger



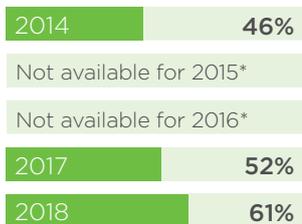
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) remains informal but will be formalised by the end of 2018 with the formation of the Technical Committee, which will be mandated to manage, monitor and report on the National Nutritional Security Policy (PNSN) and its action plan. The PNSN will feed into discussions in meetings

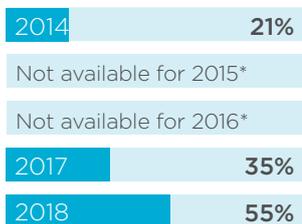
of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Steering Committee and the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee (CIO), chaired by the President and attended by the Prime Minister. The various networks need to be revitalised and strengthened, in terms of human and financial resources.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Some implementing regulations require review in order to be made operational. An order has existed since 1998 on the regulation of the marketing of breast-milk substitutes but was not applied. It has since become a Governmental decree. A communication and social mobilisation strategy for nutrition has been developed

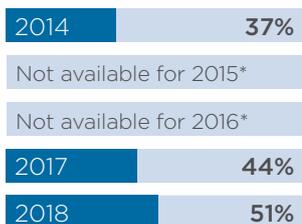
within the Nigériens Nourishing Nigériens (3N) initiative and the national strategy for infant and young child feeding has been revised. A national policy is pending Government adoption, and its multi-sectoral action plan will provide for the development of communication and advocacy plans and tools.



### Aligning actions around common results

The PNSN and its action plan, which sets out the common framework for stakeholder responsibilities, is pending adoption, but most actions are being implemented. The action plan's monitoring and evaluation framework is due to be finalised in 2019 and will enable reporting. A lack of common medium-term objectives

and a clear specification make it impossible to synergise reflections, actions and advocacy from the various networks. A national nutrition information platform is in operation. It has conducted analyses of the nutrition situation and information systems, and also trained stakeholders.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Despite an evaluation of the funding of regular nutrition interventions, no analysis of sustainability, or of gaps nor effectiveness has been made. During the reporting period, certain strategies have been developed to mobilise extra resources: the integration of nutrition into the Economic and Social Development

Plan, which was the subject of a resource mobilisation round table; integration of nutrition into programme budgets of State sectors, and a budgeted action plan for the PNSN. Finally, mechanisms to ensure a continuum between humanitarian and development funding are being considered.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

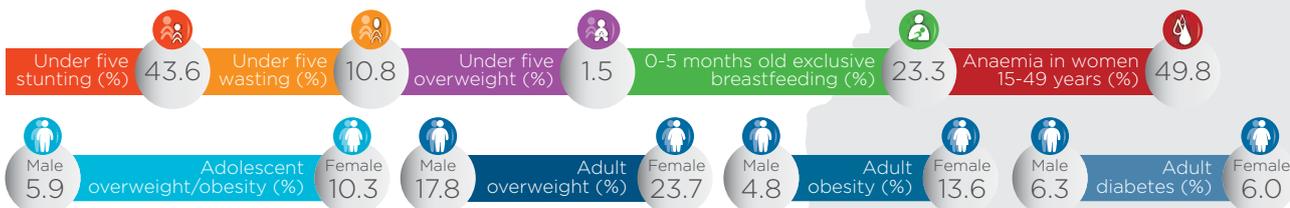
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NIGER](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NIGER)

- Adoption of the PNSN and its action plan;
- Mobilisation of resources for implementation of the PNSN plan;
- Boost the SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform, including establishment of a SUN Donor Network ;
- Evaluate pilot interventions—for example on convergence communes, adolescent nutrition—for their possible scaling up.

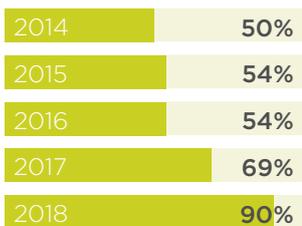


Joined: November 2011  
Population: 190.89 million

# Nigeria



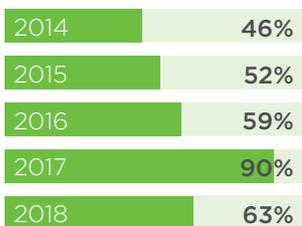
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) convene at the national level on a quarterly basis, via the National Committee for Food and Nutrition (NCFN). They are established in every state via the State Committees. Multi-sectoral coordination is also achieved through the National Fortification Alliance and Nutrition

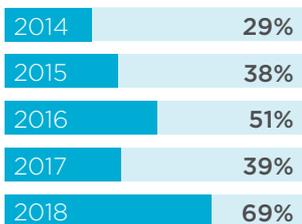
in Emergency Working Group. Nutrition is afforded high profile support in Nigeria with the recent establishment in November 2017 of the National Council on Nutrition (NCN) inside the Office of the Vice President. The First Lady is also a nutrition advocate.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The establishment of the NCN followed the adoption in 2016 of a Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP), a health-centric policy coordinated by the Ministry of Budget and National Planning. The Government is committing to nutrition in many of its programmes. Linking agriculture, local business, education and

nutrition, the Vice President launched Nigeria's National Home Grown School Feeding Programme, which provides free school meals made from locally procured food from smallholder farmers. While food fortification has been mandatory since 2002, enforcement of this legislation must be improved.



### Aligning actions around common results

All stakeholders have a common set of priorities derived from the FNSP, as well as the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition and the Agricultural Sector Food Security and Nutrition Strategy. A multisectoral Common Results Framework—which is awaiting approval from the Federal Executive Council—was

established, to outline stakeholder roles and responsibilities in carrying out activities. While multi-sectoral actors have an established system for collecting routine data, including drafting the NCFN progress reports quarterly, a platform for collecting data has not yet been established.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The National Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition at National and sub-National levels (NSPAN) has been finalised and costed. Investment in nutrition is not solid, but ministries, departments and agencies have dedicated nutrition budget lines and nutrition divisions do exist in most of them. The Civil Society

Network (CS-SUNN) conducted a budget tracking exercise at the national level and in Kaduna, Nasarawa and Niger states. Advocacy from the CS-SUNN has led to increased nutrition financing in 3 states, but efforts must be sustained to increase domestic financing more broadly.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

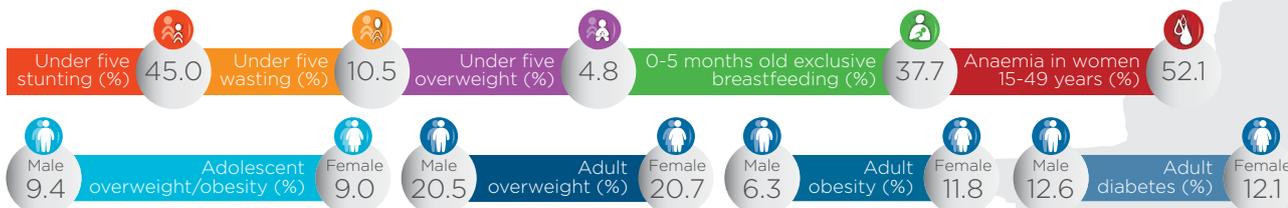
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NIGERIA](https://scalingupnutrition.org/nigeria)

- Advocate for additional nutrition resources via domestic financing, and improve resource tracking;
- Mobilise stakeholders to form an Academia and Research Network;
- Roll out the Partnership in Improving Nutrition Systems (PINS) project on improved results orientation;
- Roll out the NutriPitch programme, which provides entrepreneurs with access to financiers for nutrition-related business plan.

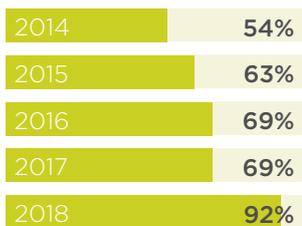


Joined: January 2013  
Population: 197.02 million

# Pakistan



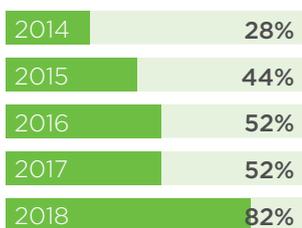
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A national SUN Secretariat is complemented by provincial SUN units and steering committees at the sub-national level. The UN launched the One UN Programme for 2018-2022 (OP-III) and the Civil Society Alliance (CSA) increased to 156 members. Joint high-level missions have been conducted in three provinces,

resulting in action plans and allocation of resource to address stunting. An engagement plan for business partners has been developed for engagement activities through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The SUNAR network, which comprises academics and researchers, has developed a strategic plan.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Pakistan Multi-Stakeholder Nutrition Strategy 2018-2025 has been launched and will guide nutrition actions across ministries and departments. Vitamin A guidelines, the Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Communication Strategy, IYCF in Emergency Guidelines and

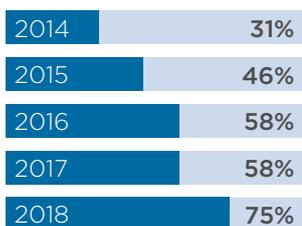
Pakistan Dietary Guidelines have also been approved. The Federal Government has analysed how it could improve the nutritional status of adolescent girls. The CSA has carried out a nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive policy gap analyse at national and provincial levels.



### Aligning actions around common results

Multi-sectoral nutrition strategies at the national and sub-national levels serve as reference points for all stakeholders that are working together to scale up nutrition. Relevant sectors have developed their strategic plans and SUN networks are supporting and filling gaps. The OP-III

2018-2022 articulates the collective vision and response of the UN to national development priorities, in this case for nutrition. Monitoring and evaluation frameworks are being developed to track progress and support collective situation analysis.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Provincial nutrition plans are costed and mid-term evaluations will provide insight into funding gaps. Federal level financial tracking mainly covers allocation of funds. To engage provincial authorities training was provided on Public Finance for Nutrition (PF4N). Commitments from donors have been sustained and even

increased in certain areas. Making best use of the funds is challenging, which may result in cancellation of previous grant commitments. Advocacy meetings have been conducted with policy-makers and parliamentarians at national and provincial levels to seek additional funding for nutrition.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

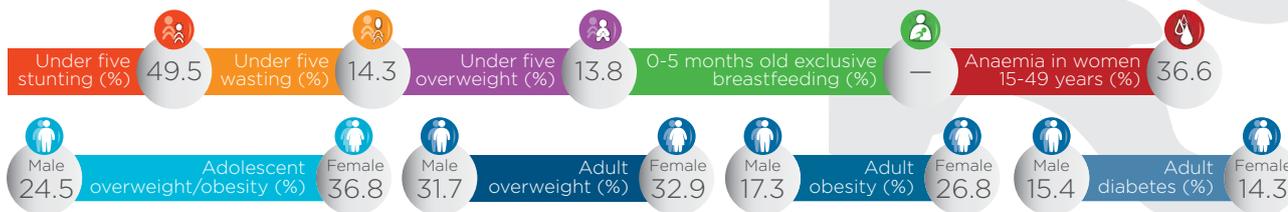
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NAMIBIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/NAMIBIA)

- Establish a high-level forum led by the Government in order to improve inter-provincial and inter-ministerial coordination;
- Ensure a multi-sectoral information management system links ministries and provinces through the MEAL system;
- Establish a National Centre for Human Nutrition;
- Strengthen food regulatory authorities at the sub-national level;
- Conduct an awareness-raising campaign for nutrition behaviour change;
- Focus on Early Childhood Development and the first 1,000.



Joined: April 2016  
Population: 8.25 million

# Papua New Guinea



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014\*  
Not available for 2015\*  
Not available for 2016\*  
Not available for 2017\*  
Not available for 2018\*

**Bringing people together into a shared space for action**

Not available for 2014\*  
Not available for 2015\*  
Not available for 2016\*  
Not available for 2017\*  
Not available for 2018\*

**Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework**

Not available for 2014\*  
Not available for 2015\*  
Not available for 2016\*  
Not available for 2017\*  
Not available for 2018\*

**Aligning actions around common results**

Not available for 2014\*  
Not available for 2015\*  
Not available for 2016\*  
Not available for 2017\*  
Not available for 2018\*

**Financing tracking and resource mobilisation**

2018 total weighted —

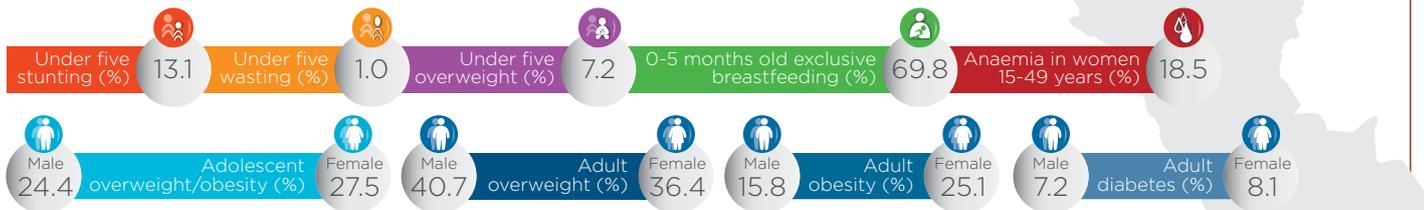
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/PAPUA-NEW-GUINEA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/PAPUA-NEW-GUINEA)

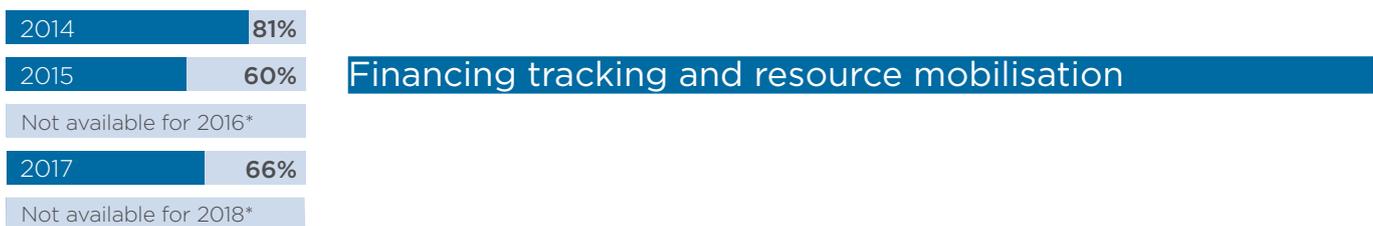
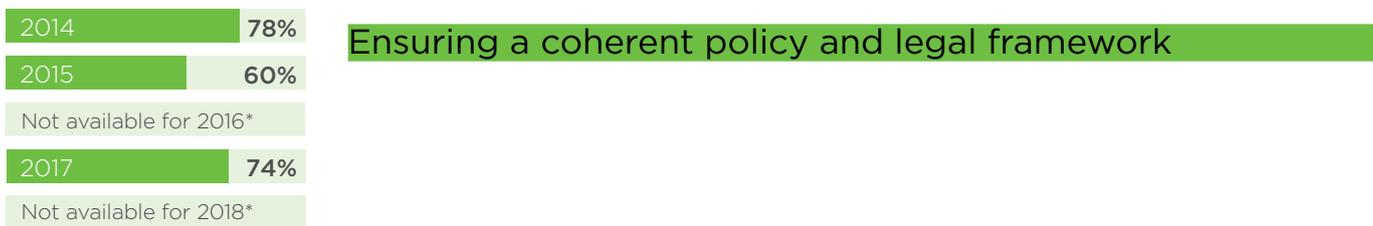
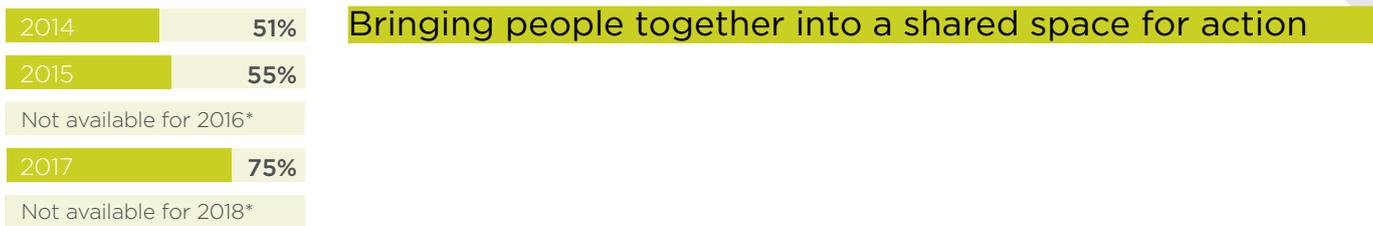


Joined: November 2010  
Population: 32.17 million

# Peru



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



2018 total weighted —

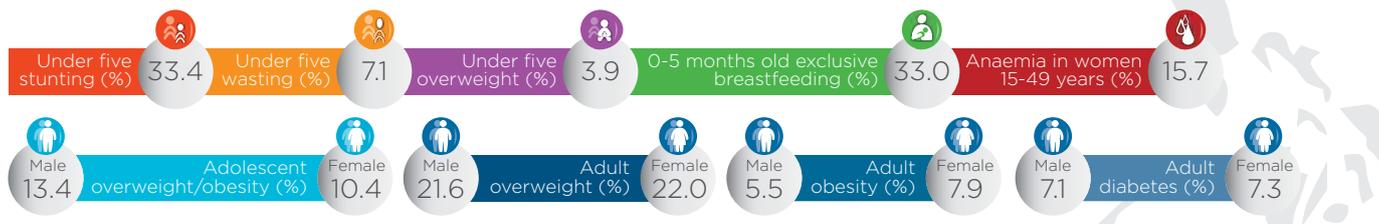
## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/PERU](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/PERU)



Joined: May 2014  
Population: 104.92 million

# Philippines



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) comprises existing structures for policy, planning, programme formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, for example the National Nutrition Council Governing Board, Technical Committee and technical working groups. However the terms of reference of the MSP need

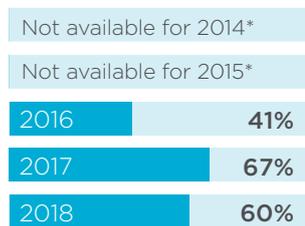
to be made more explicit, and contextualised within the SUN Movement. Following the 2017 Global Gathering, a SUN Core Group has been set up. SUN Civil Society and UN Networks have been created, but there is as of yet no Business nor Donor Networks.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Important gains towards ensuring an enabling policy and legal environment have been made during the reporting period, including the passing of taxation laws on sugary drinks, the advancement of bills on the first 1,000 days, and ensuring nutrition is a priority in national and local budgets. The review and enforcement of

the PPAN—using the SUN checklist—and other policies and legislation has been carried out by civil society organisations. However the MSP is constrained by a lack of coordination vis-à-vis coherent policy and legislative inputs, their operationalization and enforcement.



### Aligning actions around common results

The PPAN and the 2019-2022 Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition (RPN) is to be launched between July and December 2018 across the Philippines. This, along with an addition to a draft Common Results Framework (CRF), serves as a common reference point for all sectors and stakeholders, to ensure scaling up

of nutrition in the country. The CRF, however, is still to be finalised and requires enhancement. Deeper, better collaboration amongst different governmental agencies and stakeholders including business and civil society organisations (CSOs) is needed.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Nutrition is a priority investment in the 2018-2019 national budget framework. Funding predictability for ongoing programmes and projects is ensured through 3-year forward estimates. Government agencies are, however, required to show a high level of absorptive capacity for continuous funding. A

system that consolidates, integrates and assesses nutrition-specific and -sensitive allocations and expenditures is needed. Development partners rely on country programmes for long-term funding, despite the Philippines being a middle-income country—leading to more technical than financial assistance.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

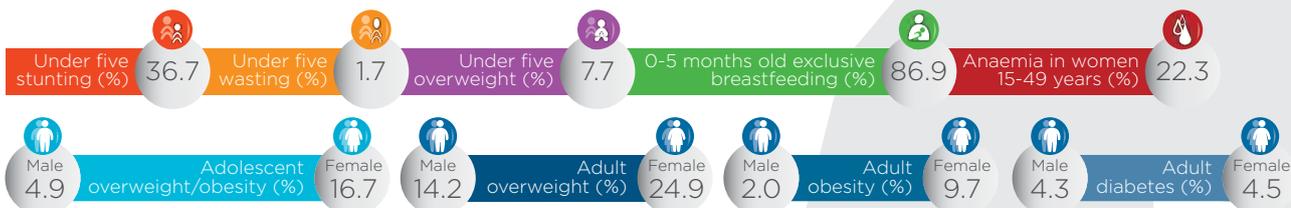
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/PHILIPPINES](https://scalingupnutrition.org/philippines)

- Create SUN Business and Donor Networks;
- Define the MSP plan and ensure it includes policy implementation;
- Develop a long-term resource mobilisation strategy;
- Strengthen collaboration with the Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council for maternity protection policy coherence and involve Congress in the SUN Movement;
- Finalise and enhance the PPAN CRF, ensuring it includes monitoring and evaluation;
- Ensure gender sensitivity, preparedness and response for disasters.



Joined: December 2011  
Population: 12.21 million

# Rwanda



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Government-led Food Security, Nutrition and WASH (FSNWASH) policy will be housed by the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion and led by the National Early Childhood Development Program (NECDP). A SUN Government Focal Point has been nominated in the reporting period. The UN Network for SUN is fully

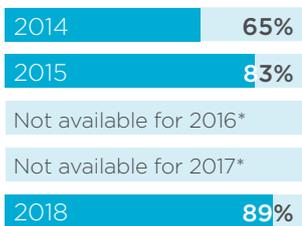
functional, with joint programmes and projects planned annually. The SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) has expanded, including a move to chair the East Africa Civil Society Network. The SUN Donor Network has been formalised during the reporting period and NECDP plans to formalise a business network.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan and Policy came to an end in June 2018 and its next iteration will be the FSNWASH policy, to harmonise across sectors. Each district has a District Plan to Eliminate Malnutrition (DPEM) Committee. UN and donor groups have jointly advocated for the creation of a

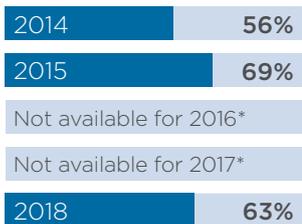
national nutrition coordination body, the NECDP, which is developing a national advocacy strategy. The National Food and Drug Authority was created in early 2018 to oversee food safety. Laws are needed to support the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Joint Action Plan to End Malnutrition acts as the Common Results Framework and outlines the roles of government ministries and a monitoring and evaluation system. The MINAGRI Strategic Plan for Agricultural Transformation IV (PSTA IV) and the Ministry of Health's Health Sector Strategic Plan IV (HSSP IV)

were both launched in 2018 and include nutrition activities. The SUN Networks for the UN, donors and the Government are supporting DPEMs, but coordination needs to be improved. Data collection systems are in place for nutrition indicators, including for children receiving fortified foods.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan and Policy was costed, but financial tracking of development partners has been complicated. More funding for nutrition and WASH was needed at district level. The CSN conducted a public expenditure analysis of food and nutrition programmes in Rwanda. The UN Network

for SUN financed the Nutrition Secretariat for its first year. The World Bank identified nutrition as a major national need and launched a significant multi-sectoral investment. MINAGRI provided supplies during a 2017 drought in the Eastern Province to help alleviate a nutrition crisis.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

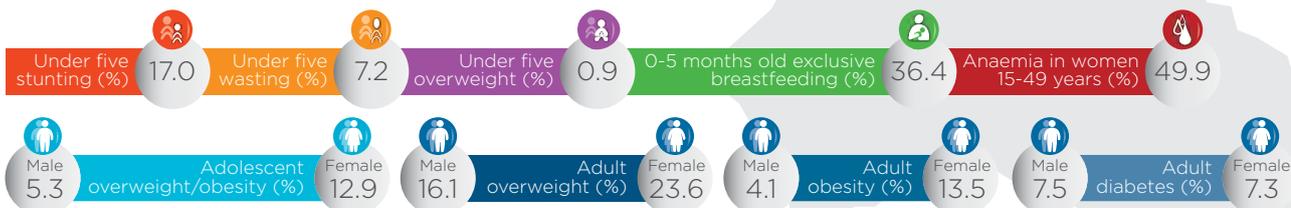
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/RWANDA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/RWANDA)

- Review and revise the National Food Security, Nutrition and WASH strategic plan and policy;
- Improve progress reporting and financial tracking;
- Ensure multi-sectoral coordination, particularly at the district level and between donor networks;
- Establish a formal SUN Business Network;
- Develop a national advocacy strategy to increase financing for nutrition.



Joined: June 2011  
Population: 15.85 million

# Senegal



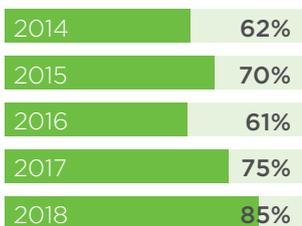
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The various actors have worked together to develop strategic plans in 2017-2018. A SUN Network for parliamentarians has been formed. The Japanese International Cooperation Agency has joined the UN Network for SUN's platform, and the Initiative for Food and Nutrition in Africa has been set up. At the local level, farmer

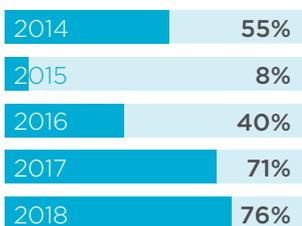
organisations and local actors have worked together to operationalise the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan for Nutrition (PSMN). Progress is limited by the failure to establish SUN Networks for academia and for the private sector, and infrequent meetings of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Strategic documents have been developed, such as: the PSMN, involving 12 sectoral plans; plans for monitoring and evaluation (PSE-PSMN) and communication of the PSMN; the draft decree on the marketing of food products intended for children; the strategic food and nutrition plan (PSAN); and the reports from joint

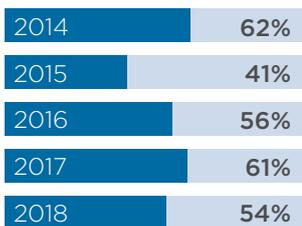
agriculture reviews. This been carried out in a coordinated manner, working with different stakeholders on the basis of in-depth analyses of the national context, overall policy development, particular evidence and lessons learned from implementation.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Common Results Framework for the PSMN has been established by consensus. This clearly sets out objectives, budgets by strategic objective, areas of intervention, responsibilities and coordination, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms at every level. These mechanisms will ensure joint monitoring, both centrally

and locally, and are intended to ensure stakeholder accountability. The PSMN also provides a capacity-building plan for the sectors responsible for implementation. Major challenges remain, including the availability of conclusive evidence on very prevalent issues, such as anaemia.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A study of PSMN financing is ongoing and the budgets of the 12 sectoral nutrition action plans have been classified using the nomenclature of the Multi-Annual Spending Programming Document, adopted by the national Government. A resource mobilisation plan and budget monitoring systems by sectors and other

stakeholders will be developed after the PSMN financing study is finalised. The next step will be the donor conference, to secure funding pledges. This will also enable an evaluation of the amount of funds available in the national budget, through the budget line dedicated to nutrition.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

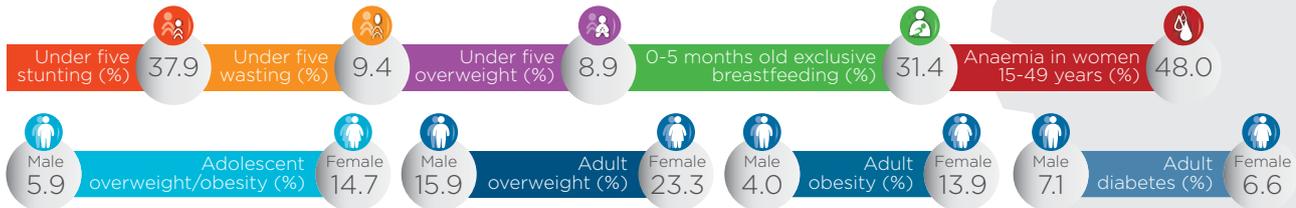
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SENEGAL](https://scalingupnutrition.org/senegal)

- Finalise the PSMN financing study;
- Hold a PSMN financing donor conference;
- Operationalise the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Communication Plan for the PSMN;
- Scale up nutrition-specific interventions;
- Support the implementation of sectoral action plans.



Joined: January 2012  
Population: 7.56 million

# Sierra Leone



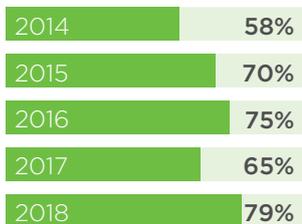
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) exist at national and district levels. From 23 to 25 November 2017, a National Nutrition Fair was held, bringing together all stakeholder groups including local councils and traditional leaders. This highlighted the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration. An updated multi-sectoral nutrition

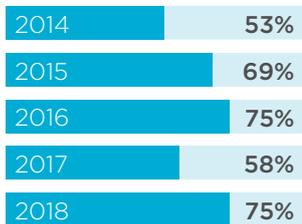
overview was completed in October 2017 and will feed into a review of the National Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (NFNSIP). The UN Network for SUN/REACH supports stakeholder and action mapping, while the SUN Business Network gained additional members.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The NFNSIP 2018-2022 will be finalised in late 2018. Launched in October 2017, the Policy and Plan Overview is an effort to ascertain the extent to which the country's legal, policy, strategy and planning frameworks reflect nutrition targets. Parliamentary awareness has been raised on nutrition issues, which

has resulted in the signing of a declaration of commitment to food and nutrition security. Ahead of the elections, food and nutrition was included in manifestos of 14 political parties as priority for national development. Food-Based Dietary Guidelines have been finalised and the Food Safety Bill has been endorsed.



### Aligning actions around common results

The revised NFNSIP will serve as the new Common Results Framework and clearly sets out the roles and responsibilities of each sector. The UN Development Assistance Framework is aligned to the NFNSIP, fitting with the Government's 'New Direction' policies. A comprehensive list of core nutrition actions (CNAs)

was agreed upon. The Vice-President recommends that an intra-ministerial committee should precede meetings of the Food and Nutrition Steering Committee. Annual nutrition action plans need to be mainstreamed at district level and implemented by involving District Planning Officers.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government committed to increasing its overall financial allocation to nutrition and to also create budget lines for nutrition in other line ministries. Going forward, significant technical and financial resources will be required from the Government, donors and UN agencies: there should be effective coordination

in this regard. The Government should identify clear priority areas and actions to tackle constraints and access opportunities. The annual budget tracking report for government expenditure on nutrition explored the extent to which commitments have been upheld.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

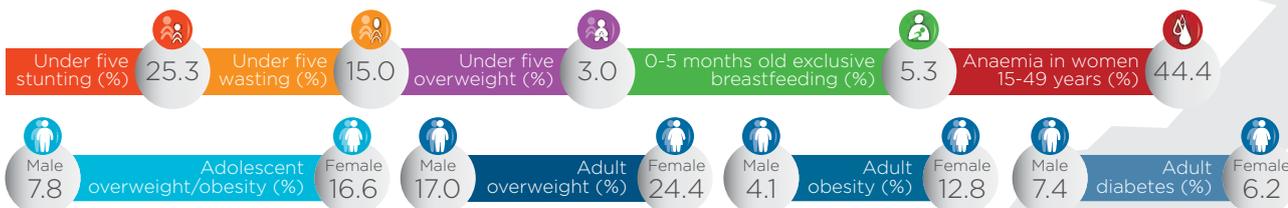
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SIERRA-LEONE](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SIERRA-LEONE)

- Finalise the National Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (NFNSIP) 2018-2022;
- Support awareness-raising of nutrition issues for newly elected political leaders;
- Organise the annual National Nutrition Fair;
- Establish a SUN Parliamentary Network;
- Identify Nutrition Champions.



Joined: June 2014  
Population: 14.74 million

# Somalia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Somalia SUN Movement Secretariat is hosted by the Office of the Prime Minister and oversees overall coordination. A sub-national SUN office has been established in Puntland, which has developed its SUN policy. Furthermore, in October 2017, Somaliland nominated a SUN Government Focal Point. Meetings have

been held with the Somalia Chamber of Commerce, and as a result a SUN Business Network was established in September 2018. SUN stakeholders are also part of the UN Nutrition Cluster meetings every quarter. UNFPA has joined the UN Network for SUN.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Nutrition is a priority for the Government and is integrated in the National Development Plan (NDP), where it has its own chapter. A dedicated roadmap for social human development is in place, with nutrition indicators and SUN milestones set out for 2018-2020. A bill on the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes

has been finalised and is awaiting endorsement by Parliament. The Health Sector Strategic Plan 2018-2021 has been revised and now includes nutrition activities, while the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock integrated nutrition into its sectoral strategy.



### Aligning actions around common results

The costed Common Results Framework (CRF) was set to be finalised in September 2018. The CRF will be the guiding document for the implementation of annual priorities. A national monitoring and evaluation framework was adopted through the Ministry of Planning, which guides the

alignment of nutrition targets with other deliverables. Priority nutrition actions are sequenced and implemented in line with the NDP at both national and sub-national levels. Gaps in terms of delivery and capacity are continuously assessed.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

While the national nutrition action plan has been budgeted for, a new costed CRF is expected to be finalised this year. Health and Agricultural Strategic Plans are costed, including for nutrition activities. Turning pledges into disbursement,

both from donors and the Government, has resulted in funding gaps, and there is a lack of longer term predictable funding. Various working groups are coordinating the costing of humanitarian nutrition interventions.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

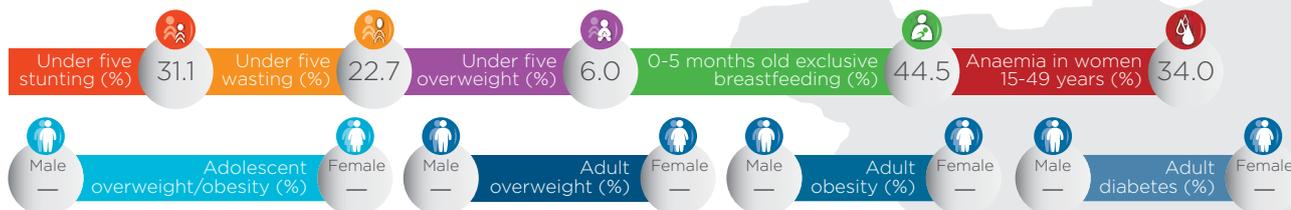
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SOMALIA](https://scalingupnutrition.org/somalia)

- Review, develop, harmonise and operationalise nutrition policies and strategies;
- Enhance coordination within the MSP and strengthen the capacity of SUN Networks;
- Establish a centre of excellence for nutrition, with the capacity to deliver pre-service training and knowledge management;
- Engage Nutrition Champions, parliamentarians and the media on nutrition issues;
- Build national investment cases, supported by data and evidence, to drive nutrition advocacy.



Joined: June 2013  
Population: 12.58 million

# South Sudan



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
2016	11%
2017	30%
2018	50%

### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) continues to provide overall coordination among national and external nutrition stakeholders, while the SUN steering committee ensures additional oversight. The Nutrition Cluster and Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) are further mobilising and bringing people together

for integrated action at the national and sub-national level. The SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) was established in September 2017 and now counts thirty-five members. While nutrition is a priority for the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture, additional political support is required.

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
2016	0%
2017	16%
2018	21%

### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Consultation for development of a National Nutrition and Food Policy has been initiated. However, challenges remain in terms of alignment: the humanitarian Nutrition Cluster, through its annual response planning, has largely driven coordination. Increased collaboration with the wider nutrition sector,

in partnership with the Government, is required. Although nutrition guidelines are periodically reviewed, policy analysis and formulation is needed to enable an effective legislative process. Advocacy was undertaken towards the Government, parliamentarians, donors and the CSA - to prioritise nutrition.

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
2016	0%
2017	36%
2018	0%

### Aligning actions around common results

A Common Results Framework is yet to be developed. However, nutrition actions are integrated into the health sector, which has an annual nutrition workplan. Humanitarian nutrition interventions are defined and are part of the Humanitarian Response Plan. Nutrition outcomes are

mainly tracked through the Nutrition Information System (NIS) managed by the Nutrition Cluster, UNICEF and WFP. The Government is finalising the District Health Information Software (DHIS 2), which will converge all parallel databases.

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
2016	0%
2017	4%
2018	12%

### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Due to the protracted emergency context, the limited resources available are largely focused on humanitarian nutrition actions. Due to the complex and ongoing, emergency, the humanitarian cluster currently leads on prioritisation and donor engagement. Joint costing is yet to be carried out, but joint advocacy

has resulted in mobilisation of some multi-year funding. There is no overall financial tracking system for nutrition in place within the Government. Currently, UN agencies, through the Nutrition Cluster, track donors' funding contributions for nutrition.

2018 total weighted	21%
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## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

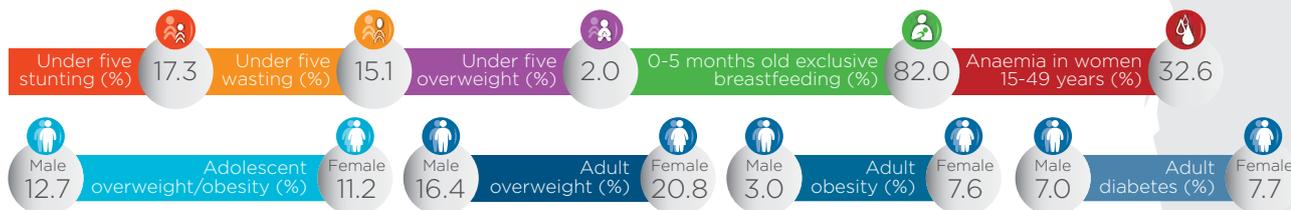
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SOUTH-SUDAN](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SOUTH-SUDAN)

- Finalise the National Nutrition and Food Policy;
- Maximise the engagement of the Multi-Sectoral Platform for the SUN Movement;
- Ensure effective advocacy, especially with regards to resource mobilisation and financial tracking.



Joined: October 2012  
Population: 20.88 million

# Sri Lanka



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Endorsed by the President, the Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN) is active at national and sub-national levels, with a second phase under development (MSAPN 2018-2025). Networks are set up for the Government, UN and civil society, which engage with MSAPN implementation. The SUN Civil Society

Alliance (CSA) has worked with 12 out of 25 districts during this period, while the Government's nutrition programme covers the whole country. The CSA also conducted a study on nutrition policy implementation, which was submitted to the Ministry of Health, Nutrition, and Indigenous Medicine.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Nutrition Policy will be updated in 2019 after a national strategic review in 2018, which identified gaps in policies and strategies related to food security and nutrition. A monitoring and evaluation framework is also being developed for MSAPN 2018-2025. Policies now

include mandatory fortification of wheat flour, voluntary fortification of rice, and a regulatory system for sugary beverages. To address weak enforcement of the Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes, Government and CSA partners carried out monitoring at the community level.



### Aligning actions around common results

The MSAPN is the common results framework used to facilitate the implementation of nutrition interventions. The National Nutrition Secretariat reviews the MSAPN implementation continuously and has also provided capacity development for divisional level officials on the National Nutrition Information System.

The Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine and the SUN CSA also conducted capacity development at the sub-national level. Furthermore, the CSA prepared a common action plan for SUN CSA Sri Lanka. Demographic Health Survey findings were disseminated in this period.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Funds for implementing nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions were increased during this period and are distributed through the national budget. The National Nutrition Secretariat facilitated this at the sub-national level. Financial tracking is reported through the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), and a

joint analysis is forthcoming. As the MSP has faced some financing issues, development partners are exploring the potential for use of non-traditional funding sources. Although government allocations were released at the beginning of the year, disbursements are delayed.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

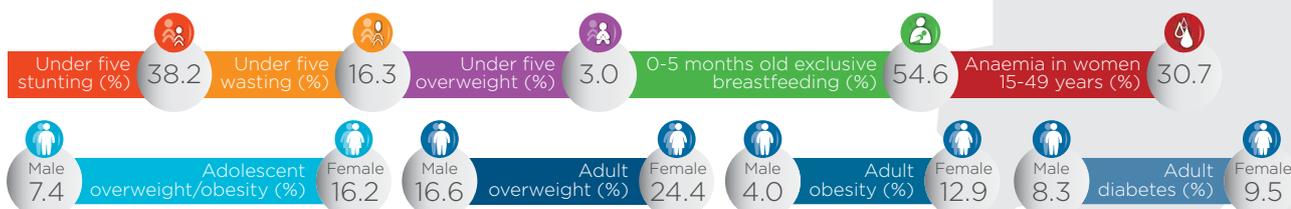
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SRI-LANKA](https://scalingupnutrition.org/sri-lanka)

- Launch the Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition 2018 - 2025;
- Upgrade and use National Nutrition Information System (NNIS) as a planning and monitoring tool, particularly at the sub-national level;
- Map nutrition activities and stakeholder contributions;
- Implement a media campaign to enhance awareness of nutrition among the public;
- Strengthen Government, Civil Society, and UN networks and establish Donor & Business networks.



Joined: October 2015  
Population: 40.53 million

# Sudan



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
Not available for 2016*	
2017	13%
2018	25%

### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Progress has been made by officially appointing a Government focal point and conveners of networks and stakeholder groups. The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) has expanded to include additional members from civil society, the private sector, media, parliament and academia. A donor network was established in early

2018. Plans are underway to expand MSP structures at the sub-national level. For this, communication between central and local levels needs strengthening. Also, there is a need to define MSP workplans, which include the priorities, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
Not available for 2016*	
2017	25%
2018	25%

### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

An updated National Nutrition Policy is currently being drafted. The next National Development Policy framework will further prioritise nutrition. While work is ongoing to formulate new policies and legislation, implementing existing policies and enforcing the law remains a challenge. Stronger links between academia

and policy-makers will be pursued. Advocacy for mandatory food fortification has been carried out, targeting parliamentarians and the private sector. Meanwhile, the focus is on ensuring appropriate maternal protection laws and implementing the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (BMS).

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
Not available for 2016*	
2017	25%
2018	31%

### Aligning actions around common results

The National Nutrition Strategic Plan 2014-2025 serves as the Common Results Framework. Although there is no overarching monitoring mechanism, donor-funded programmes typically have structured monitoring and evaluation frameworks. In general, monitoring and reporting on nutrition-sensitive

interventions is challenging. During the reporting period joint sector assessments, studies, and impact evaluations were carried out at national and sub-national level. The donor network began to develop a tool for mapping their nutrition interventions in order to align with national policies and priorities.

Not available for 2014*	
Not available for 2015*	
Not available for 2016*	
2017	29%
2018	17%

### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Despite efforts to track finances sectoral data gaps exist. A financial tracking study is therefore planned. Sustainable multi-year funding is not available, making it difficult to adequately plan and implement as activities are funded on an ad-hoc basis. Once developed, costed nutrition plans are expected to generate

additional resources, this will be advocated for via parliamentarians. A national nutrition investment case has illustrated where funding for nutrition would be most effective, and a cost-benefit analysis for wheat flour fortification has been conducted.

2018 total weighted	25%
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## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

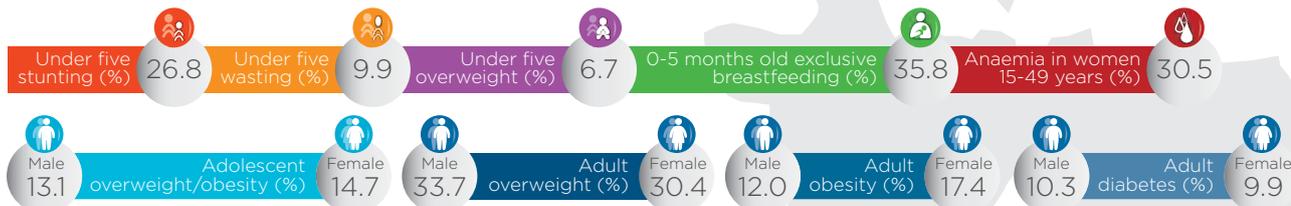
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SUDAN](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/SUDAN)

- Develop a national multi-sectoral nutrition plan;
- Strengthen the national coordination mechanism for nutrition;
- Update policies and strategies on nutrition.



Joined: September 2013  
Population: 8.92 million

# Tajikistan



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council (MSCC), which functions as the SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) has expanded to include the Chamber of Industry and Trade, the Committee for Religious Affairs, and civil society organisations. Through inter-ministerial working groups, the MSCC has supported the

development of a national multi-sectoral nutrition plan. A national SUN Secretariat was also established under the MSCC. The second National Nutrition Forum brought government and development partners together in July 2017, and was followed by the first regional nutrition forum in Khatlon province.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Food security and nutrition is a clear priority in the National Development Strategy (NDS) to 2030. In September 2017, the Strategy for Sustainable Development of School Feeding until 2027 was adopted. The MSCC has been engaged in the development and revision of the draft Law on the Fortification of Staple Foods

which, when finalised, will be resubmitted to Parliament for review. There is a need to establish a mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of implementation of laws at the sub-national level, as well as local food manufacturers' adherence to national standards.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Common Results Framework (CRF) is expected to be finalised and endorsed by mid-2019. However, key components of the CRF, such as capacity building and training on nutrition, are already being implemented. Work is ongoing to integrate CRF targets into sector-specific

plans and into policies at national and sub-national levels. Establishing a common monitoring system is a priority, as currently various monitoring mechanisms exist, many of which are similar yet unconnected.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Tajikistan took part in the financial tracking SUN process using the '3 Steps' approach. In 2018, for the first time, the financial contributions of development partners and donors were collected and integrated into a financial tracking template. Thanks to the concerted efforts of the national SUN Secretariat and the

Ministry of Finance, the tracking exercise included budget expenditures for safe drinking water, vaccinations, school feeding, food provision in hospitals, and sanitation and hygiene. Other aspects of funding and resource mobilisation will be addressed upon approval of the CRF.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

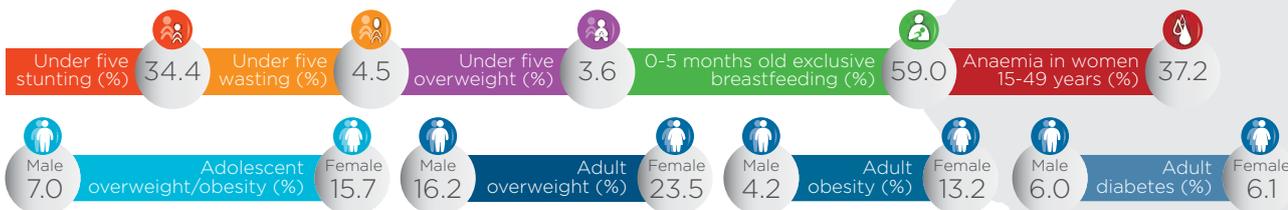
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TAJIKISTAN](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TAJIKISTAN)

- Finalisation of the CRF, including an action plan and costing and integration into the sectoral plans;
- Organisation of National Nutrition Forums III and IV;
- Development and implementation of the 'First 1,000 golden days' Strategy;
- Setting up an effective operational monitoring and evaluation mechanism to support the MSP's monitoring of CRF implementation.



Joined: June 2011  
Population: 57.31 million

# Tanzania



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) exist at national, regional and local government levels in Tanzania. A key achievement in 2017-18 was the implementation review of the National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP) 2016-2021, carried out at a review meeting held in September 2017. During the reporting

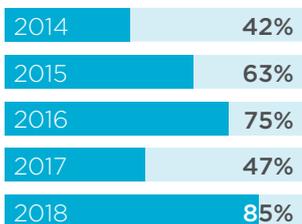
period, terms of reference have been reviewed, developed and endorsed for: a high-level steering committee on nutrition; a national multi-stakeholder nutrition technical working group; NMNAP thematic working groups, and regional and council-level steering committees.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The development of the Nutrition Compact agreement is a major achievement as it holds regional commissioners accountable to the achievement of nutrition results, as stipulated in the NMNAP and its Common Results and Accountability Framework (CRRAF). The agreement will run through 2021 and includes

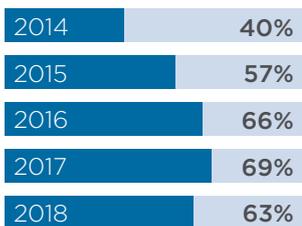
an annual assessment and review of its implementation. Furthermore, the Members of Parliament Nutrition Champion Group's strategic plan 2018-2023 has been revised and the 4th Joint Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review meeting created a platform for stakeholders to share good practice in implementation.



### Aligning actions around common results

The existence of the CRRAF has provided guidance on the implementation of the national nutrition plan at national, regional and local levels, helping to translate NMNAP priorities into actionable and measurable annual targets for each key result area. However, the alignment

of nutrition sensitive sectors (Agriculture, Health, WASH, Education, Social Protection) according to NMNAP remains a major challenge. In 2018, training has strengthened the capacity of nutrition officers to plan, budget and implement nutrition interventions.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The government has increased by TZS 4 billion the nutrition budget for 2017-2018, having mobilised additional funds through partners. However, only 19 per cent of the planned financial targets were met in the previous fiscal year, 2016-2017. The inclusion of the nutrition cost centre is one of the most promising

achievements that will help ensure better financial tracking, accountability and transparency at regional and local levels. A resource mobilisation working group has been formed and is led by a SUN national focal point, but a resource mobilisation strategy is yet to be put in place.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

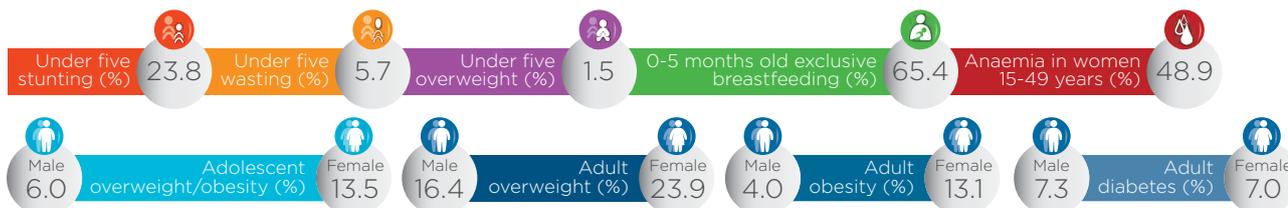
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TANZANIA](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TANZANIA)

- Strengthen advocacy on the implementation of the NMNAP and the use of the CRRAF across all levels (national and subnational);
- Strengthen the capacity of national, regional and local government authorities on planning, coordination and tracking of nutrition financing;
- Ensure planned and approved funds for nutrition are being disbursed in a timely manner and monitored;
- Strengthen multi-sectoral coordination at all levels in accordance with the NMNAP coordination structure.



Joined: March 2014  
Population: 7.80 million

# Togo



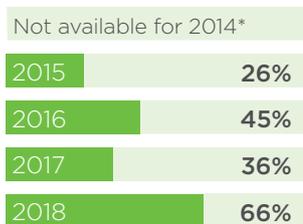
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A task force has been set up by decree within the Ministry of Planning and Development to coordinate the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP). This demonstrates general recognition of the importance of having a multi-sectoral policy and of planning for nutrition within a Common Results Framework. Nutrition

was integrated into the new National Development Plan 2017-2022 (NDP). The focal points designated by various sectors and partners do not meet regularly, due to lack of funding. The UN Network for SUN and the SUN Business Network work relatively well.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

All stakeholders took part in processes to validate of the National Agricultural Investment and Food and Nutrition Security Programme, the development of the 2017-2022 NDP, and the Strategic Communication Plan to Combat Malnutrition and Malaria. A national nutrition policy has just been adopted and will

be multi-sectoral, unlike its predecessor. Analysis of the nutrition situation and evaluation of the previous National Strategic Food and Nutrition Plan 2012-2015 have allowed for the definition of overall outline of the new multi-sectoral strategic nutrition plan.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Common Results Framework will be developed this year. The various relevant sectors and stakeholders have been consulted and involved in various reviews and analyses since October 2017. They have also been involved in the mapping of stakeholders and actions in the field

of nutrition, with a view to facilitating alignment of their actions and reducing any identified gaps. A mapping of stakeholders, actions and nutrition gaps in terms of gender equality has also been conducted.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In April 2017, a budget analysis exercise was conducted with technical assistance from a consultant in order to define budget allocations for interventions that contributed to nutrition. Sectoral ministries do not yet have dedicated

nutrition-related budget lines. External allocations, however, including from partners, are included in the ministries' annual action plans, although these allocations are not always made on time.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

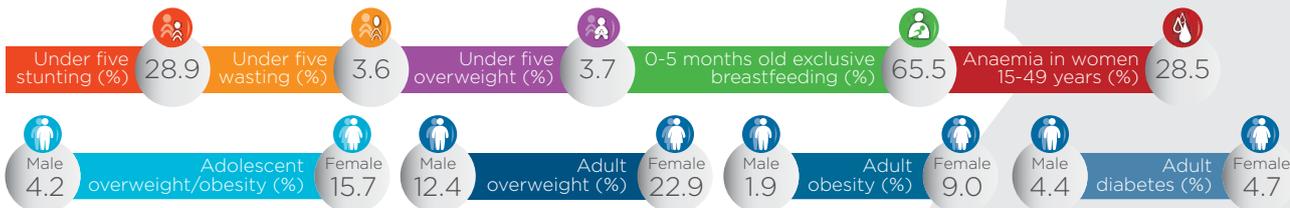
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TOGO](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/TOGO)

- Accelerate the process that will establish the multi-stakeholder platform;
- Finalise and validate the new multi-sectoral strategic nutrition policy and plan;
- Develop a Common Results Framework.

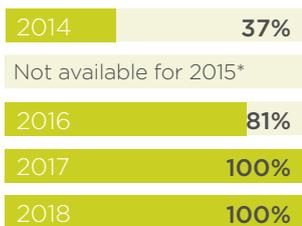


Joined: March 2011  
Population: 42.86 million

# Uganda



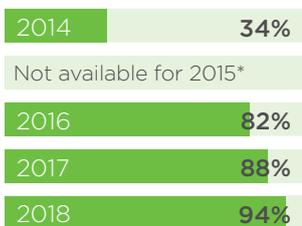
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Technical Coordination Committee (MSNTC) meets quarterly, led by a Permanent Secretary based in the Office of the Prime Minister. This Committee is responsible for ensuring joint planning and budgeting for nutrition. A National Nutrition Forum is held annually, helping to raise the

profile of nutrition - particularly among parliamentarians - and is chaired by the Prime Minister. The establishment of a Multi-Stakeholder Nutrition Advocacy Platform (MSNAP) has resulted in increased commitment to nutrition by legislators and parliamentarians.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

As the first Nutrition Action Plan came to a close in 2017, the process to develop the second Nutrition Action Plan for 2018 to 2025 began during the reporting period, involving consultations with multi-sectoral stakeholders at regional and national levels. The Ministry of Health has

developed the Uganda Nutrition in Emergencies and Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Strategic Response Plan 2018-2023, although this is still awaiting sector approval. None of the regulations on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes are operational as of yet.



### Aligning actions around common results

Significant progress has been made in supporting district-level multi-sector coordination. A website has been set up via the Office of the Prime Minister to provide resources to strengthen multi-sectoral nutrition governance. A nutrition database was established, providing reports which helps districts

align their own plans with national priorities. Facilitated by the MSNTC, an Orientation Guide was provided to 89 districts to enhance local-level coordination: 80 districts have now developed Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plans for 2018-2020, aligned with their 2015-2020 District Development Plans.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive budget lines have been established in Sector Development Plans for 2015-2020. However, costing of high-impact nutrition interventions is still required and tracking of nutrition-disaggregated expenditures has not been undertaken, neither from Government nor donor contributions.

This will be a priority in 2019 in order to identify resource gaps. To boost resource mobilisation, the MSNAP has developed a Joint Nutrition Advocacy and Communication Plan for 2017-2022 and provided training on advocacy to the Parliamentary Forum on Nutrition in January 2018.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/UGANDA](https://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/UGANDA)

- Make firm financial commitments for nutrition, within priority programme areas, in order to tackle malnutrition;
- Align plans and budgets to make them nutrition-sensitive;
- Track current levels of investments in multi-sectoral nutrition interventions, with the aim of identifying funding gaps;
- Commit to mutual accountability mechanisms in monitoring of multi-sectoral nutrition programmes.



Joined: January 2014  
Population: 95.54 million

# Viet Nam



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

On 31 January 2018, Viet Nam's SUN Movement was officially launched at an event that also kicked off the implementation of the Prime Minister's Directive on strengthening multi-sectoral nutrition collaboration. The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP), active since 2010, meets every six weeks and the National Plan

of Action for Nutrition (NPAN) was also approved during the reporting period. However, the lack of a national coordination committee for nutrition hampers progress in Viet Nam. A Business Network is expected to be set up in 2018, and there is as of yet no Donor Network.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The NPAN can be viewed as ministerial guidelines for mainstreaming nutrition into sectoral policies. Notable policy and legislative improvements during the period include a Resolution of 25 October 2017 (No. 20-NQ/TW) on enhancing the protection, care and promotion of

people's health, which was followed by a Prime Minister Directive of 21 December 2017 (No. 46/CT-TTg) on enhancement of nutrition in the new situation. During the reporting period a Zero Hunger Plan has been developed and rolled out.



### Aligning actions around common results

Although limited progress has been seen in Viet Nam for aligning actions around common results during the reporting period, the NPAN has been rolled out nationally and has spurred the development and implementation of sub-national plans of action on nutrition. The

NPAN does not, however, have a detailed workplan, except for a National Nutrition Programme for the health sector, which has measurable targets to guide implementation at both national and sub-national levels.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Little progress towards effective financial tracking and resource mobilisation has been seen in Viet Nam over the past year, although it has been acknowledged that more domestic investment will be

crucial if the country is to reach the goal of eliminating malnutrition by 2030. More advocacy is needed to turn the plethora of policies that have been adopted into action and investments.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

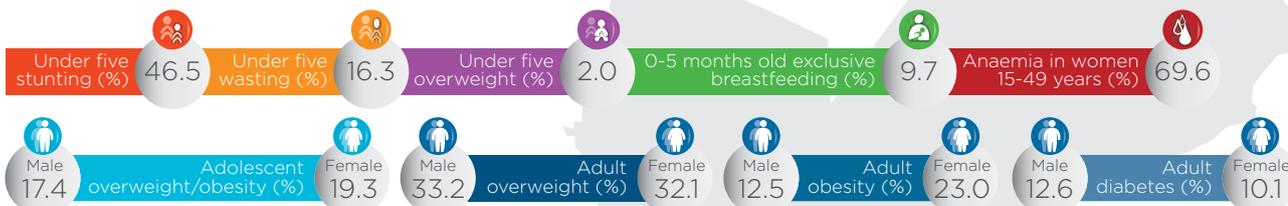
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/VIETNAM](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/VIETNAM)

- Ensure tracking of financial data for nutrition;
- Reinforcement of existing policies and regulations to ensure an enabling environment for the promotion of breastfeeding;
- Put in place a high-level coordination mechanism for SUN Viet Nam, with the involvement of key ministries;
- Set up a SUN Business Network.

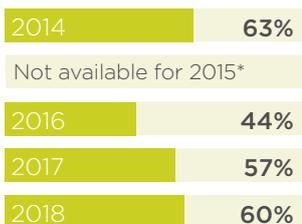


Joined: November 2012  
Population: 28.25 million

# Yemen



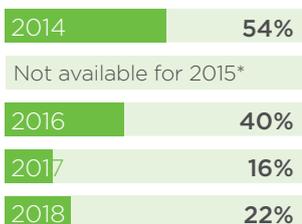
## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Ongoing conflict and political crises continue to pose significant challenges for nutrition coordination, and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation has negatively impacted nutrition indicators in Yemen. This has led SUN to work increasingly with technical-level representatives across various sectors.

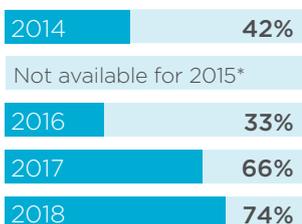
However the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) Steering Committee has recently renewed its composition to ensure participation of high-level influential bodies and members from relevant sectors. Planning has begun to formally establish SUN networks for businesses, civil society and the UN.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The current situation in Yemen has led to fragmentation of the State, with political decision makers having little influence and parliament having no role. Also, the fact that the judiciary lacks power makes it very challenging to enforce and protect

laws and legislation. However, the Ministry of Health is still able to enforce the Law on the Protection of Breastfeeding. The SUN Secretariat has prepared a project to identify nutrition-related laws and legislation in all relevant sectors.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) is currently being finalised and will be accompanied by a common results framework for all sectors. Sectors such as health, education, water, environment, fish, and agriculture fed into the costed MSNP. A contextual analysis of nutrition status has been prepared in partnership

with MQSUN+ and will serve as a reference for all sectors and entities working in nutrition. Importantly, most nutrition stakeholders also operate within the humanitarian cluster approach in terms of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, facilitating coordination.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

An annual nutrition budget analysis was conducted and the costed plan of each government sector is reflected in the draft MSNP. Civil society organisations attracted international donor funding, which remains crucial for its implementation. The ongoing conflict makes it difficult to ensure long-term funding: for

example, the operational expenses of technical departments in some government sectors were suspended. Most of Yemen's nutrition projects, indicators and financial details have been uploaded to 'Map-Yemen', which will be available for users by the end of 2018.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

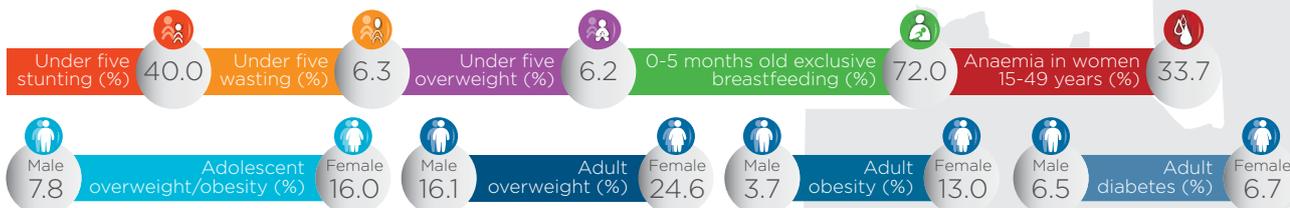
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/YEMEN](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/YEMEN)

- Finalise and put into action the multi-sectoral nutrition plan;
- Strengthen institutional frameworks for nutrition in relevant sectors;
- Strengthen the capacity of government institutions and all nutrition-related sectors to implement nutrition-sensitive interventions;
- Establish SUN networks for businesses, civil society, and the UN;
- Mobilise necessary financial resources.



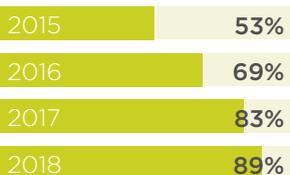
Joined: December 2010  
Population: 17.04 million

# Zambia



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Not available for 2014\*

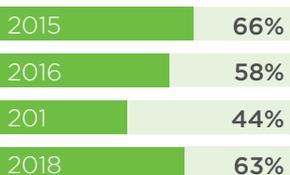


### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The national Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) continues to expand, adding new ministry departments as well as the Ministry of Gender and the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. Terms of reference have been established for national, provincial, district and ward level coordinating committees. 10 additional

District Nutrition Coordinating Committees were set up during this period, raising the total to 34. An Academia and Research Network has been established but is not very active; all other Networks are active. The Vice President and some traditional Chiefs serve as nutrition advocates.

Not available for 2014\*

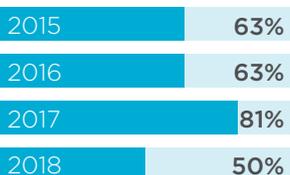


### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Progress remains slow in finalising Bills, such as the Food and Nutrition Bill, Food Safety Bill and the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes. During the National Food and Nutrition Summit in April 2018, the Government adopted a Consensus Statement, committing the National Food and Nutrition Commission

to the development of a roadmap for implementing measurable, multisectoral actions on nutrition. Nutrition implementation guidelines for the Ministry of Community Development were finalised and disseminated to sub-national ministerial structures.

Not available for 2014\*

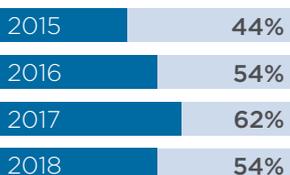


### Aligning actions around common results

There is a National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2021, and although no Common Results Framework has been established, monitoring mechanisms are partially in place via a Joint Annual Assessment and quarterly multisector activity report forms. 6 line Ministers signed up to the '1st 1,000 Most

Critical Days Programme' (MCDP) Phase II (2019-2021), which builds on MCDP Phase I and aims to reduce stunting. Based on a review of MCDP I and a mapping and gap analysis undertaken in 80 districts, MCDP II focuses expanded efforts on 5 strategic objectives and 14 key result areas.

Not available for 2014\*



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government collects information on nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive budget lines in 9 line ministries. However, the size of the actual funding gap for nutrition remains unclear. This must be established and then used to develop a resource mobilisation strategy. Following advocacy efforts by the UN and donor

networks, the Special Committee of Permanent Secretaries on Nutrition—comprised of 10 Ministers—succeeded in increasing nutrition investments for the 2019-2021 government budget cycle. Six ministries and Nutrition Cooperating Partners have signed a Joint Financing Arrangement.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

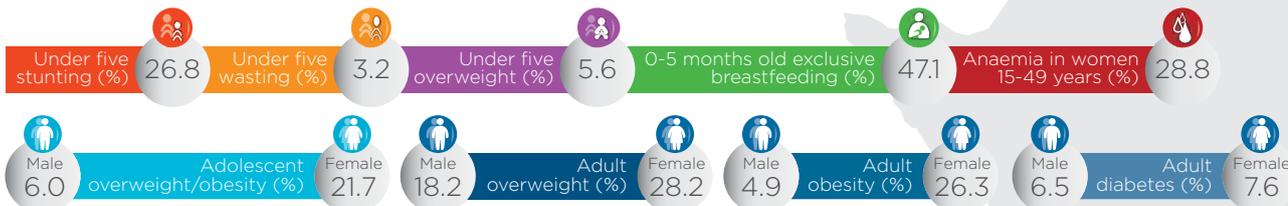
[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ZAMBIA](https://scalingupnutrition.org/zambia)

- Mobilise support to facilitate the accelerated implementation of the MCDP II;
- Build consensus on the Common Results Framework in 2018 and update the monitoring and evaluation system;
- Advocate for increased government funding to nutrition;
- Seek high-level follow up to ensure the Food and Nutrition Bill reaches Parliament;
- Strengthen budget tracking mechanisms.



Joined: June 2011  
Population: 16.53 million

# Zimbabwe



## Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



### Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Zimbabwe continues to scale up its regional coordinating platforms, with 32 districts having joined the Multi-Sectoral Community Based Model (MCBM), a platform chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture. This is up from 15 in 2016. Multi-sectoral engagement has expanded, with the creation of a SUN Research

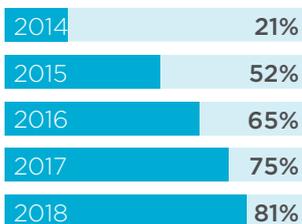
and Academia Platform in March 2018, a media tour in December 2017 by the Food and Nutrition Council (FNC), and cooperation with the education sector on school feeding. The Vice President, a senator and a junior parliamentarian are champions for nutrition and lend the sector high-level support.



### Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The operationalisation of several nutrition-sensitive policies and legislation has continued. Food fortification for maize meal, sugar, cooking oil and wheat flour became mandatory from 1 July 2017 and guidelines have been provided to help businesses comply with legislation. The Government reviewed its 'command

agriculture' policy, a programme run in cooperation with the private sector, updating it to include livestock and other crops. Finally, the process to update the 1924 Health Act has begun, with public and multi-sectoral consultations held to review the new Public Health Bill due to be adopted in 2018.



### Aligning actions around common results

The Government conducted a National Nutrition Survey, updating data from 2010 at the national and district level and providing a new baseline for programme planning on food and nutrition security. A near real-time monitoring system has been developed, which will house data on a web-based dashboard to help plan

and monitor implementation of community workplans. Furthermore, the multi-sectoral platform helped develop multi-sectoral Core Nutrition Actions (CNAs), which incorporate maternal nutrition, school feeding and diversified crop and livestock production. These indicators are used in 19 districts.



### Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In June 2017, government, urban council and parliamentarian stakeholders formed a coalition to advocate for more funding for primary health care and nutrition. Members were trained in budget advocacy and are subsequently lobbying for increased financing at Parliamentary consultation meetings. An assessment

of the 2018 government budget was conducted and concluded that funding for nutrition is inadequate. Due to advocacy efforts, the budget for the health sector was raised by one third. However, improved tracking of nutrition financing requirements is needed to enhance sustained financing.



## 2018-2019 PRIORITIES

[SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ZIMBABWE](http://SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/ZIMBABWE)

- Develop and strengthen innovative knowledge management systems;
- Strengthen research and evidence-based programming, including exchange platforms;
- Improve budget analysis and resource tracking capacities, including technical assistance;
- Strengthen the Business Network;
- Improve dietary diversity via local product innovation, value-addition and behaviour change.

## SUN COUNTRY PROGRESS IN A RANGE OF PROCESSES

SUN country	The country has a functioning MSP	The MSP is decentralised	The MSP works with civil society	The MSP works with business	The MSP has a UN agency convener	The MSP has a donor convener	The MSP works with the media
Afghanistan	•	Ongoing	•	•	Ongoing		
Bangladesh	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Benin	•	•	•	•		•	
Botswana							
Burkina Faso	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Burundi	•	•	•		•		Ongoing
Cambodia	•		•	•	•	•	
Cameroon	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Central African Republic		Ongoing	•				
Chad	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Comoros							
Congo							
Costa Rica	Ongoing				•		
Côte d'Ivoire	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	Ongoing	•	Ongoing	•	•	•
El Salvador	•	•	•				
Eswatini	•		•		•	•	
Ethiopia	•		•		•	•	
Gabon	•		•	•	•		Ongoing
The Gambia	•	•	•				•
Ghana	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Guatemala	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Guinea	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Guinea-Bissau	•		•	•	•		Ongoing
Haiti	Ongoing		•	•			•
Indonesia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kenya	•	•	•	•	•		•
Kyrgyzstan	•	Ongoing	•	•	•	•	•
Lao PDR	•	•	•	•	•	•	

SUN country	The MSP works with parliamentarians	The MSP works with academia	Nutrition champions have been nominated	The country has a CRF	The country's CRF includes an M&E framework	The CRF has been costed	Public allocations for nutrition are tracked
Afghanistan				Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Bangladesh	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Benin	•	•		•		Ongoing	Ongoing
Botswana							•
Burkina Faso	•	Ongoing	•	•	Ongoing	•	•
Burundi	Ongoing	•		•			•
Cambodia				•	•	•	•
Cameroon	•	•		•		Ongoing	
Central African Republic							
Chad	•	•	•	•	Ongoing	•	•
Comoros	•						
Congo				•	•	Ongoing	•
Costa Rica		•		•	•		•
Côte d'Ivoire	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	•	•	Ongoing		Ongoing	•
El Salvador	•		•	•	•		•
Eswatini							
Ethiopia		•	•	•	•	•	•
Gabon	Ongoing	•	•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
The Gambia	•	•	•				
Ghana	•	•	•	•	•	Ongoing	•
Guatemala	•	•	•	•	•		•
Guinea	•	•	•	•	Ongoing	•	
Guinea-Bissau	Ongoing	•		•			
Haiti		•					
Indonesia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kenya	Ongoing	•	•	•	•	•	•
Kyrgyzstan	•	•	•	•	•		
Lao PDR	•			•	•	•	•

SUN country	The country has a functioning MSP	The MSP is decentralised	The MSP works with civil society	The MSP works with business	The MSP has a UN agency convener	The MSP has a donor convener	The MSP works with the media
Lesotho	•	•	•				•
Liberia			•				
Madagascar	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Malawi	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mali	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Mauritania	•	Ongoing	•				•
Mozambique	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Myanmar	•		•		•	•	•
Namibia	•	Ongoing	•	•	•	•	•
Nepal	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Niger	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ongoing
Nigeria	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Papua New Guinea	•		•	•	•	•	•
Pakistan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Peru	•		•		•		•
Philippines	•	•	•	•	•		•
Rwanda	•		•		•	•	•
Senegal	•	•	•		•	•	•
Sierra Leone	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Somalia	•	•	•		•		
South Sudan	•		•		•		•
Sudan	•		•	•	•	•	•
Sri Lanka	•	•	•		•		•
Tajikistan	•		•	•	•	•	•
Tanzania	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Togo	Ongoing					•	•
Uganda	•	•	•	•		•	•
Viet Nam	•	Ongoing	•	•	•	•	•
Yemen	•		•	•	•	•	•
Zambia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Zimbabwe	•	•	•		•	•	•

SUN country	The MSP works with parliamentarians	The MSP works with academia	Nutrition champions have been nominated	The country has a CRF	The country's CRF includes an M&E framework	The CRF has been costed	Public allocations for nutrition are tracked
Lesotho		•	•	•	•		
Liberia							
Madagascar	•		•	•	•	•	•
Malawi	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mali	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Mauritania		•					•
Mozambique	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Myanmar	•		•	•	•	•	
Namibia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Nepal	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Niger	•	•		•		•	
Nigeria	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Papua New Guinea		•					
Pakistan	•	•	•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
Peru	•	•		•	•	•	•
Philippines	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Rwanda	•			•	•	•	•
Senegal	•			•	Ongoing	•	Ongoing
Sierra Leone	•		•	•	•	•	•
Somalia	•	•		Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	
South Sudan	•		•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
Sudan	•	•		•	Ongoing	Ongoing	
Sri Lanka	•	•		•	•	•	•
Tajikistan	•	•	•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
Tanzania	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Togo				Ongoing			•
Uganda	•	•		•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Viet Nam	•	•	•	•	•	Ongoing	•
Yemen		•		Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
Zambia	•	•	•	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	•
Zimbabwe	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ongoing



## Annexes

### ANNEX 1

## TECHNICAL NOTES: INDICATORS AND SOURCES OF DATA REPORTED IN THE 2018 PROGRESS REPORT

The data used in the 2018 Progress Report are based on the indicators included in the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system. These 79 indicators provide an overview of the current situation for a wide range of desired results across the various domains in which the SUN Movement seeks to catalyse change and deliver nutrition impact. A brief description of each indicator, data source, year and availability for SUN countries is provided in the table below.

The SUN Country Profiles report on the most recent nutrition statistics, including five of the six Global Targets to improve Maternal, Infant, and Young Child Nutrition, adopted by the World Health Assembly (WHA), which were recently updated and extended until 2030, and three nutrition-related targets of the Global Monitoring Framework for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable diseases (NCDs).

### WHA GLOBAL NUTRITION TARGETS<sup>1</sup>

- Under-five **stunting**, under-five **wasting**, and under-five **overweight** statistics are based on population survey data from the UNICEF, WHO and World Bank inter-agency database updated in May 2018.<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Low birthweight data are currently under review and therefore this target is not reported on this year.

<sup>2</sup> UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, (2018). Levels and trends in child malnutrition: Key findings of the 2018 edition. Available at: <http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/2018-ime-brochure.pdf?ua=1> [accessed October 2018].

<sup>3</sup> Upon country request, recently updated final survey report results were used for the country profiles of Benin, Lao PDR, Madagascar and Togo.



- **Exclusive breastfeeding** statistics are based on population survey data from the UNICEF Global Database for Infant and Young Child Feeding, updated in May 2018.<sup>4</sup>
- **Anaemia in women:** Anaemia statistics are based on the global modeled estimates for women of reproductive age (15 to 49 years of age) for the reference year 2016, as reported by the WHO's Global Health Observatory data repository.<sup>5</sup>

### **NCD GLOBAL TARGETS:**

- **Adolescent overweight and obesity:** Statistics on the percentage of adolescent girls and boys (10 to 19 years of age) who are above one and two standard deviations from the median BMI-for-age of the WHO Growth Reference for school-aged children and adolescents are based on modeled estimates for the reference year 2016 by the NCD Risk Factor Collaboration.
- **Adult overweight and obesity:** Statistics on the percentage of adults age 18 years and older who have a body mass index of >25 (overweight), or >30 (obesity) are based on modeled estimates for the reference year 2016, as reported in the WHO's Global Health Observatory data repository.
- **Adult diabetes:** Statistics for diabetes are based on the global standard indicator that estimates the proportion of adults (18+ years of age) with raised blood glucose (defined as fasting plasma glucose  $\geq 7.0$  mmol/L or on medication for raised blood glucose). The data are modeled estimates for the reference year 2014, based on population-based surveys and surveillance systems, and reported by WHO's Global Health Observatory data repository.

<sup>4</sup> UNICEF, Division of Data Research and Policy, (2018). Global UNICEF Global Databases: Infant and Young Child Feeding: Exclusive breastfeeding, New York, May 2018.

<sup>5</sup> WHO Global Health Observatory, (2017). Prevalence of anaemia in women. Available at: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.GSWCAH28v> [accessed October 2018].

## SUN MOVEMENT MONITORING, EVALUATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND LEARNING (MEAL) SYSTEM: INDICATORS AND DATA SOURCES

Domain & indicator	Data source & year	Coverage <sup>6</sup>
<b>Domain 1: Enabling environment for nutrition</b>		
1.1 Existence of Multi-Stakeholder Platforms	SUN Joint -Assessment, 2018 & SMS	60/100%
1.2 Existence and functionality of networks	SUN Networks	56/95%
a. UN Network Functionality Index	UN Network, 2018	60/100%
b. SUN Business Network Functionality Index	SUN Business Network, 2018	57/95%
c. SUN Civil Society Network Functionality Index	SUN Civil Society Network, 2018	60/100%
1.3 SUN Movement processes score	SUN Joint-Assessment, 2015-2018	58/97%
1.4 Existence of WHA targets in nutrition plans	SMS & Nutrition International, 2016	44/75%
1.5 Existence of NCD targets in nutrition plans	SMS & Nutrition International, 2016	44/75%
1.6 Information systems for nutrition index	SMS & Nutrition International, 2016 (2018 for new countries)	60/100%
1.7 Integration of undernutrition in national development plans	Institute of Development Studies (IDS) 2015	56/95%
1.8 Integration of over-nutrition in national development plans	Institute of Development Studies (IDS) 2015	56/95%
1.9 Mobilisation of high-level advocates	SUN Joint -Assessment, 2018	60/100%
<b>Domain 2: Finance for nutrition</b>		
2.1 National budget spending for nutrition	SMS, 2016	42/70%
a. Budget analysis completeness		42/70%
b. Budget spending per child U5 for nutrition-specific		32/53%
c. Percentage for nutrition-specific spending		32/53%
2.2 Donor funding for nutrition	OECD data from 2013 and 2015 (InvestinNutrition.org)	59/98%
a. Spending per stunted child U5 for nutrition		59/98%
b. Spending per child U5 for high impact interventions		59/98%
c. Percentage for nutrition-specific spending		59/98%
2.3 The agriculture orientation index	SDG Indicators Global Database	38/63%

<sup>6</sup> Number and percentage of SUN countries with data available.

Domain & indicator	Data source & year	Coverage <sup>6</sup>
<b>Domain 3: Interventions and food supply</b>		
3.1 Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) certified health facilities	WHO, National Implementation of the BFHI, 2017	48/80%
3.2 Severe acute malnutrition treatment	UNICEF/CMN/ACF International, 2012	38/63%
3.3 Vitamin A supplementation (children 6-59 mon)	UNICEF Global Database, April 2018.	46/77%
3.4 Antenatal iron supplementation (90+ tablets)	ICF International, DHS Program STATcompiler, 2018	46/77%
3.5 Health worker density	WHO Global Health Observatory Data Repository 2018.	57/95%
3.6 Households consuming iodized salt	UNICEF Global Databases, May 2018.	57/95%
3.7 ORS and Zinc treatment for child diarrhoea	UNICEF Global Databases, February 2018.	52/87%
3.8 Deworming treatment (children 12-59 mon)	ICF International, 2018. The DHS Program STATcompiler	48/80%
3.9 Insecticide treated net use (children 0-5 y)	UNICEF Global Databases, February 2018	50/83%
3.10 Immunization coverage (DTP3 in 1-year-olds)	WHO and UNICEF, ref year 2017 (July 2018).	60/100%
3.11 Family planning needs met (modern)	UN Population Division, World Contraceptive Use 2017	59/98%
3.12 Calories from non-staples in food supply	FAO, FAOSTAT data, ref year 2012.	54/90%
3.13 Availability of fruits and vegetables (grams)	FAO, FAOSTAT data, ref year 2013	54/90%
3.14 Fortified Food Supply	FFI, GAIN, IGN, MN Forum (2016).	59/98%
3.15 Social protection programme coverage	World Bank ASPIRE, 2017	45/75%
<b>Domain 4: Enacted legislation</b>		
4.1 International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes	WHO, UNICEF, IBFAN, National Implementation of the International Code, Status Report 2018.	60/100%
4.2 Maternity protection legislation	International Labour Organization, reported by GNR 2017	57/95%
4.3 Constitutional Right to Food legislation	FAO, The Right to Food around the Globe, 2017	60/100%
4.4 Restrictions on marketing of food & beverages to children	WHO, NCD Progress Monitor, 2017	60/100%
4.5 Mandatory food fortification legislation	FFI, GAIN, IGN, MN Forum, Global Fortification Data Exchange, 2018	60/100%
4.6 Fortification standards	FFI, GAIN, IGN, MN Forum, Global Fortification Data Exchange, 2018	60/100%

Domain & indicator	Data source & year	Coverage <sup>6</sup>
<b>Domain 5: SDG drivers of nutrition</b>		
5.1 Diarrhoea in children U5	ICF International, 2018. The DHS Program STATcompiler	59/98%
5.2 Access to a basic drinking water service	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2017	60/100%
5.3 Access to a basic sanitation service	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), 2017	60/100%
5.4 Malaria incidence (per 1000 population)	SDG Indicators Global Database, ref year 2016	59/98%
5.5 Measles cases reported (children U5)	WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting on Immunization, ref year 2016	59/98%
5.6 Adolescent fertility (per 1000 women 15-19 years)	UN Population Division, World Fertility Data 2017.	60/100%
5.7 New HIV infections (per 1000 uninfected population)	WHO Global Health Observatory, ref year 2017	55/92%
5.8 Tuberculosis incidence (per 100,000 population)	WHO Global Health Observatory, ref year 2017	60/100%
5.9 Undernourishment prevalence	FAO Statistics Division, ref year 2016	53/88%
5.10 Moderate/severe food insecurity	FAO Statistics Division, ref year 2016	24/40%
5.11 Early marriage (before age 18)	UNICEF global databases, March 2018	59/98%
5.12 Female secondary school enrolment	UNESCO, World Bank Global Database	56/93%
5.13 Violent discipline among children 2-14 years	UNICEF Global Database, November 2017	35/58%
5.14 Growth in household income	World Bank Global Database of Shared Prosperity	19/32%
5.15 Urban population living in slums	SDG Indicators Global Database, ref year 2014	55/92%
<b>Domain 6: IYCF and dietary intake</b>		
6.1 Exclusive breastfeeding (infants 0-5 mos)	UNICEF Global Databases, May 2018	59/98%
6.2 Early initiation of breastfeeding	UNICEF Global Databases, May 2018	59/98%
6.3 Minimum Acceptable Diet (children 6-23 mos)	UNICEF Global Databases, May 2018	47/78%
6.4 Minimum Diet Diversity (children 6-23 mos)	UNICEF Global Databases, May 2018	52/87%
6.5 Fruit and vegetable intake (g/day in adults)	Global Dietary Database, ref year 2010	59/98%
6.6 Sodium intake (g/day in adults)	GNR 2017 dataset, Powles et al. (2013), ref year 2010	60/100%

Domain & indicator	Data source & year	Coverage <sup>6</sup>
6.7 Urinary iodine concentration (median µg/l)	Iodine Global Network, Global Scorecard, 2017	50/83%
6.8 Population consumption of fortified food	Aaron et al. (2017)	6/10%
<b>Domain 7: Nutrition status</b>		
7.1 Stunting (children U5)	UNICEF-WHO-World Bank, Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, May 2018	60/100%
7.2 Low birthweight	UNICEF Global Database, October 2014	56/95%
7.3 Overweight (children U5)	UNICEF-WHO-World Bank, Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, May 2018	60/100%
7.4 Wasting (children U5)	UNICEF-WHO-World Bank, Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, May 2018	60/100%
7.5 & 7.6 Anaemia among pregnant & non-pregnant women	WHO Global Health Observatory, ref year 2016	60/100%
7.7 Low BMI (adults)	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, ref year 2016	59/98%
7.8 Overweight and obesity (adults)	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, ref year 2016	59/98%
7.9 Overweight and obesity (adolescents 10-19 years)	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, ref year 2016	59/98%
7.10 Diabetes (adults)	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, ref year 2014	59/98%
7.11 Hypertension (adults)	NCD Risk Factor Collaboration, ref year 2015	59/98%
<b>Domain 8: SDGs linked to nutrition</b>		
8.1 Population below the poverty line	World Bank Poverty and Equity Database, 2018	59/98%
8.2 U5 Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	UNICEF Global Database, UN Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME), ref year 2017	60/100%
8.3 NCD Mortality Rate (per 100,000 population)	WHO Global Health Observatory, ref year 2016	60/100%
8.4 Early child development status (36-59 mos)	SDG Indicators Global Database & MICS reports	28/47%
8.5 Annual GDP growth per capita	World Bank, World Development Indicators, ref year 2016	58/97%

Full definitions of each indicator and links to data sources are available at: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-and-learning-meal/>.



## ANNEX 2

# MONITORING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES ACROSS THE SUN MOVEMENT

The 2018 SUN Movement Progress Report draws on outcome monitoring to present the current state of the SUN Movement. It assesses progress by gauging how SUN countries and SUN Networks are adapting their behaviours to deliver on the four strategic objectives in the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020):

1. **Expand and sustain an enabling political environment;**
2. **Prioritise and institutionalise effective actions that contribute to good nutrition;**
3. **Implement effective actions aligned with common results;**
4. **Effectively use, and significantly increase, financial resources for nutrition.**

The report takes into account the complex, unpredictable and non-linear nature of progress faced by stakeholders in addressing nutrition, as part of their collective commitment, SUN country network meetings and webinars and the annual Joint-Assessment undertaken by SUN countries. It looks at how the behaviour of actors at the country level (i.e. government, donors, civil society, business and the United Nations) is changing towards the attainment of the four strategic objectives of the SUN Movement. This Joint-Assessment also provides a platform for mutual accountability, which enables future sharing and learning within the SUN Movement. The format of the report from the Joint-Assessment is also organised around the four strategic objectives, as mentioned above.

The methodology used recognises that stakeholders (people, organisations and networks) are driving change processes. In monitoring progress, it focuses on a set of progress markers<sup>1</sup> that illustrate behavioural outcomes expected to be displayed by various stakeholders. Progress markers have been established for each of the four processes. Each stakeholder analyses the relationships, actions, activities, policies and practices associated with each progress marker over the last year. The achievements in relation to each marker are scored using a five-point scale (i.e. change of behaviour being not applicable/not started (score = 0), started (1), ongoing (2), nearly completed (3) or completed (4)).

The first progress markers within each of the four processes represent types of behavioural outcomes that are 'easier' to achieve, while the later progress markers within each process represent more difficult and ambitious change.<sup>2</sup> To reflect this, the scores for each progress marker are totalled and weighed,<sup>3</sup> with the early (and easier achieved) progress markers given less weight than the more advanced (and more challenging) markers.

Monitoring progress in the SUN Movement using Joint-Assessments completed directly by SUN countries helps them assess – and then improve – their effectiveness. As such, the Joint-Assessment process helps stakeholders take ownership of and benefit from the monitoring of progress and to be mutually accountable for their collective actions.

While progress in the Movement has been monitored since 2012, until 2014, assessments of each strategic objective were based on information from bi-monthly country calls. Since then, all SUN countries have been encouraged to undertake the Joint-Assessment, with the invaluable contributions of all stakeholders involved in the Movement – to gain a comprehensive overview of progress achieved, whilst assessing and scoring themselves.

1 Please see to the list of Processes and Progress Markers in Table 2.

2 Please see the SUN Movement Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, available at: <http://scalingupnutrition.org/monitoring2013>.

3 Please see Table 3.

## ASSESSING 2017-2018 PROGRESS IN THE SUN MOVEMENT

Assessing progress in the SUN Movement is country-led, with the support of the national and global SUN Networks and the SUN Movement Secretariat. By August 2018, 53 SUN countries had undertaken their Joint-Assessments (see figure 1). 35 of these countries have undertaken the same Joint-Assessment the past four years (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018), as shown in figure 2. SUN countries unable to undertake the Joint-Assessments in 2018 are presented as profiles without data. The countries that have joined the SUN Movement within the last year are a part of this year's individual country profiles, based on the baseline studies undertaken.

The title of the monitoring exercise was changed in 2016, from self-assessment to the SUN Movement Joint-Assessment, noting that it is a collective exercise focusing on joint reflection and priorities for the future. The progress markers were adjusted in 2016, to focus more on implementation and results, while maintaining comparability of scores, over time, for each country.

This year, the Joint-Assessment was tweaked to ensure alignment with the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system. Additional questions were asked for each and every process, to gather data from countries on ways to foster accountability, scale up nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions, ensure gender equality, and how emergencies and disasters affect the attainment of the four strategic objectives.

The results of the Joint-Assessment reports are summarised in the country profiles of this report.

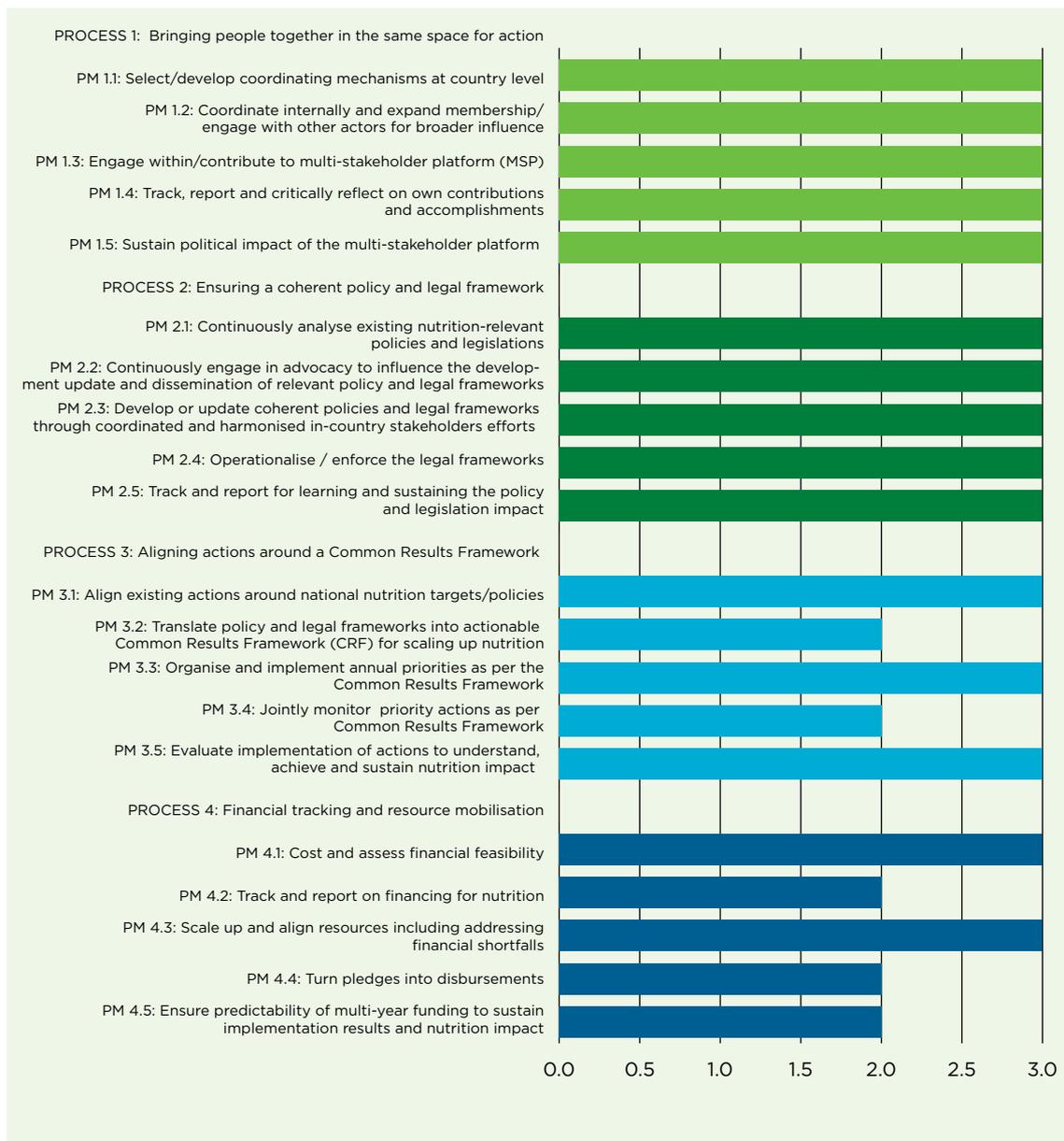


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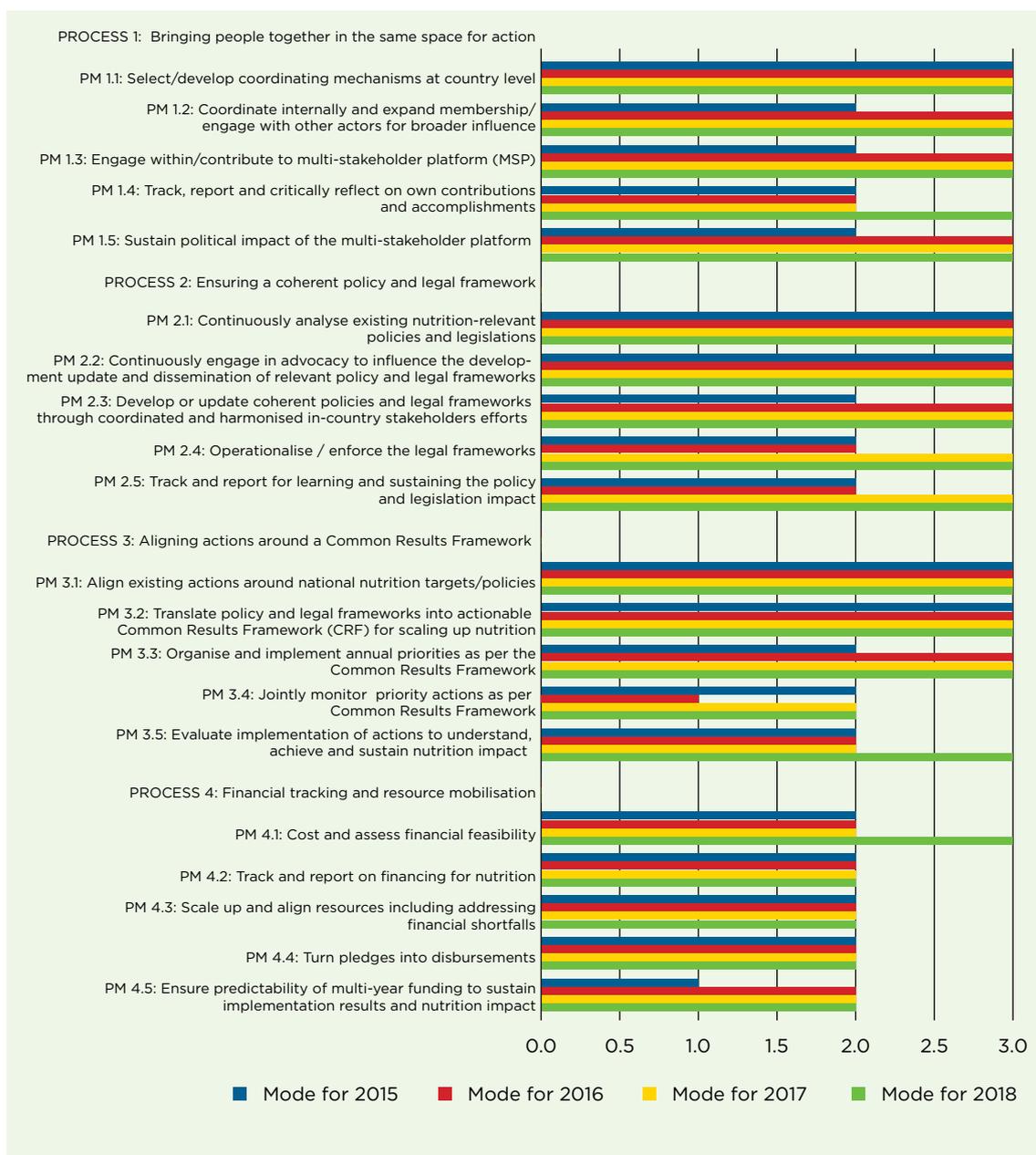
## KEY MESSAGES FROM THE MONITORING

Observations of emerging overall patterns of change have relevance for the SUN Movement, as a whole, and are highlighted in this report. To understand the current state of the SUN Movement, analysis is based on the mode (frequency of a particular score) for progress markers from the 53 countries, as per figure 1 below. An improvement can be seen across the SUN Movement by comparing the modes of the 35 countries that have data for four years, as reflected in Figure 2.

**Figure 1: 2018 progress in the SUN Movement: Joint-Assessments from 53 countries**



**Figure 2: Joint-Assessments from 35 countries with 4 data points (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)**



## UNDERSTANDING SOME OF THE CHALLENGES IN INTERPRETING AND COMPARING SCORES, ACROSS COUNTRIES AND OVER TIME

Analysis of results, as per Joint-Assessments by countries throughout time and for 2018, suggests that in-country stakeholders are generally more self-critical when assessing their progress markers than the SUN Movement Secretariat has been in the previous years (2012 and 2013). With the turnover of teams in countries and with the evolution in the understanding of what is expected in terms of changes that comes with the maturity of SUN countries, it is possible that changes in scoring don't reflect changes on the ground.

SUN Joint-Assessments involve a great deal of reflection, especially on aspects of progress that cannot easily be captured from outside of a country. A Joint-Assessment appears to reflect the heterogeneity of different actors that are involved, while external assessments, even when validated in-country, tend to reflect the perspective of the main stakeholder.

A progress marker score of between 0 and 4 is expected to indicate the presence of changes in particular behaviours. However, some Joint-Assessment scores for particular markers appear to be influenced by the value attached to it by those completing the Joint-Assessments. Such subjectivity is expected when the monitoring of outcomes is based on the *outcome mapping* approach. The assessment asks whether a particular behaviour is "starting", "ongoing" or "in place", where those responsible for the assessment are invited to make an assessment based on their own judgment.

This implies that Joint-Assessment scores should not be used to compare progress *amongst countries*. But they can aid with the identification and interpretation of emerging patterns of institutional transformations within a country. Scores will still need to be interpreted with great care, given that the approach is influenced by the interplay between stakeholders, the complexity of issues being tackled and the uniqueness of each country setting. Many within the SUN Country Network believe that if in-country stakeholders apply the same Joint-Assessment approach year after year, they will be better placed to describe the challenges they face and the successes in efforts to tackle them.



**Table 1: Data analysed for the 2018 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report**

		2014 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2015 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2017 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2018 Joint-Assessment reporting
1	<b>Afghanistan</b>	Joined SUN in 2017-2018	Joined SUN in 2017-2018	Joined SUN in 2017-2018	Joined SUN in 2017-2018	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS
2	<b>Bangladesh</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
3	<b>Benin</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
4	<b>Botswana</b>	Joined SUN in 2014-2015	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
5	<b>Burkina Faso</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
6	<b>Burundi</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
7	<b>Cambodia</b>	Joined SUN in 2014-2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
8	<b>Cameroon</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
9	<b>Central African Republic</b>	Joined SUN in 2016-2017	Joined SUN in 2016-2017	Joined SUN in 2016-2017	Joined SUN in 2016-2017	Report submitted by country
10	<b>Chad</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
11	<b>Comoros</b>	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
12	<b>Congo</b>	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
13	<b>Costa Rica</b>	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
14	<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
15	<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
16	<b>El Salvador</b>	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
17	<b>Eswatini</b>	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country

		2014 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2015 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2017 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2018 Joint-Assessment reporting
18	Ethiopia	Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country
19	Gabon	Joined SUN in 2016 -2017	Joined SUN in 2016 -2017	Joined SUN in 2016 -2017	Joined SUN in 2016 -2017	Report submitted by country
20	The Gambia	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
21	Ghana	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
22	Guatemala	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
23	Guinea	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
24	Guinea-Bissau	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
25	Haiti	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
26	Indonesia	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
27	Kenya	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
28	Kyrgyzstan	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
29	Lao PDR	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
30	Lesotho	Joined SUN in 2014-2015	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
31	Liberia	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
32	Madagascar	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
33	Malawi	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
34	Mali	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
35	Mauritania	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country

		2014 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2015 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2017 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2018 Joint-Assessment reporting
36	Mozambique	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
37	Myanmar	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
38	Namibia	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
39	Nepal	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
40	Niger	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
41	Nigeria	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
42	Pakistan	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
43	Papua New Guinea	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
44	Peru	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
45	Philippines	Joined SUN in 2014-2015	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
46	Rwanda	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report not submitted by country	Report submitted by country
47	Senegal	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
48	Somalia	Joined SUN IN 2014-2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
49	South Sudan	No baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
50	Sierra Leone	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
51	Sri Lanka	Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
52	Sudan	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Joined SUN in 2015-2016	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
53	Tajikistan	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country

		2014 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2015 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2017 Joint-Assessment Reporting	2018 Joint-Assessment reporting
54	Tanzania	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
55	Togo	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
56	Uganda	Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
57	Viet Nam	Submitted Baseline/ Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
58	Yemen	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
59	Zambia	Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
60	Zimbabwe	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country



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**Table 2: Processes and Progress Markers for SUN Country Joint-Assessment Reporting 2018**

<b>Process 1: Bringing people in the same space</b>	
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 1</b>	Select/develop coordinating mechanisms at country level
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 2</b>	Coordinate internally and expand membership/engage with other actors for broader influence
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 3</b>	Engage within/contribute to the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 4</b>	Track, report and critically reflect on own contributions and accomplishments
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 5</b>	Sustain political impact of the multi-stakeholder platform
<b>Process 2: Coherent policy and legal framework</b>	
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 1</b>	Continuously analyse existing nutrition-relevant policies and legislation
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 2</b>	Continuously engage in advocacy to influence the development, update and dissemination of relevant policy and legal frameworks
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 3</b>	Develop or update coherent policies and legal frameworks through coordinated and harmonised in-country stakeholder efforts
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 4</b>	Operationalise/enforce the legal frameworks
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 5</b>	Track and report for learning and sustaining the policy and legislation impact
<b>Process 3: Common Results Framework for National Nutrition Plan (aligned programming)</b>	
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 1</b>	Align existing actions around national nutrition targets/policies
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 2</b>	Translate policy and legal frameworks into actionable Common Results Framework (CRF) for scaling up nutrition
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 3</b>	Organise and implement annual priorities as per the Common Results Framework
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 4</b>	Jointly monitor priority actions as per the Common Results Framework
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 5</b>	Evaluate implementation of actions to understand, achieve and sustain nutrition impact
<b>Process 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilisation</b>	
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 1</b>	Cost and assess financial feasibility
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 2</b>	Track and report on financing for nutrition
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 3</b>	Scale up and align resources including addressing financial shortfalls
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 4</b>	Turn pledges into disbursements
<b>Progress Marker (PM) 5</b>	Ensure predictability of multi-year funding to sustain implementation results and nutrition impact

**Table 3: Weights for Progress Markers in each process**

	Weight PM1	Weight PM2	Weight PM3	Weight PM4	Weight PM5	Sum of weights (round up)
<b>Process 1</b>						
	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
<b>Process 2</b>						
	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
<b>Process 3</b>						
	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
<b>Process 4</b>						
	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%











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