

# Comoros



**Joined Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement:** December 2013

**National multi-stakeholder platform for nutrition:** The mechanism for multisectoral coordination is currently unofficial

**SUN government focal point/country coordinator:** Mr. Soilihi Abdoul Madjidi, Director of Family Health

## COUNTRY NUTRITION STATUS

### → Annual country nutrition indicators from the Global Nutrition Report:

<https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/africa/eastern-africa/comoros>

### ● National multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

Date established: The mechanism for multisectoral coordination is currently unofficial

- MSP annual action plan exists

### ● Subnational nutrition coordination mechanism

- Subnational MSPs exist
- Subnational MSPs have annual action plans

### ● National nutrition plan

National Nutrition Policy Multisectoral Action Plan 2019–2022

### ● Advocacy and communications framework/plan

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/advocacy-and-comms-plan-comoros>

### SUN networks in-country presence

- SUN Civil Society Network
- SUN Business Network
- UN Nutrition
- SUN Academia Network
- SUN Donor Network
- Others: e.g. youth, parliamentarian, media

### Finance for nutrition

- Resource mobilization strategy exists
- Budget tracking exercise done this year
- Funding gaps identified this year
- Domestic expenditures on nutrition tracked

● Yes ● In process ● No ● Costed ● M&E framework

## COUNTRY PRIORITIES 2022

- Establishing and launching the Multisectoral Committee for Food and Nutrition by the start of 2022.
- Organizing a National Nutrition Day.
- Evaluating and updating the National Nutrition Policy Multisectoral Action Plan 2019–2021.
- Mapping nutrition stakeholders.

## 2021 SHARED COUNTRY GOOD PRACTICE

**Topic:** COVID-19 and nutrition

**Title:** Monitoring global acute malnutrition during a crisis

**About:** In response to COVID-19, a novel approach was introduced in 2020 to monitor children with acute malnutrition at home, using mobile phones and the KoBoToolbox toolkit. Mothers and caregivers were trained to measure children's mid-upper arm circumference.

## PROGRESS TOWARDS SUN 3.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)

### → SO.1 Strengthen and sustain strong policy and advocacy environments

Comoros is on track to achieve its goals. Some technical documents have been prepared and initial training has been carried out. Policy and strategy documents, such as the National Food and Nutrition Policy and the Community Communication Strategy for Nutrition, are in development. The National Nutrition Policy Multisectoral Action Plan 2019–2021 has been budgeted and has 60 per cent of required funding in place. The plan will be evaluated and updated in 2022. Comoros has also committed to improving the nutrition environment through advocacy documents (Comoros Emergency Plan) and technical documents (Protocol for the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition and dietary guidelines).

### → SO.2 Develop and align shared country priorities for action

There were four major developments in 2021: the creation of a national protocol for treating malnutrition; the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit; the United Nations Food Systems Summit; and the translation of the dietary guidelines. High-level commitments for 2022 were also made at the N4G Summit, and agricultural activities that contribute to nutrition were strengthened through the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Some activities in the multisectoral action plan do not have secured funding. In 2022, the mapping of nutrition stakeholders will be prioritized to address the lack of coordination among key stakeholders.

### → SO.3 Build and strengthen country capacity

Support from the SUN Movement through the Technical Assistance to Strengthen Capabilities (TASC) project helped improve the evaluation of the multisectoral action plan. Emphasis was also placed on capacity-building for providers in maternal nutrition and on supplying facilities with iron and folic acid, which pregnant women received at antenatal consultations. Anthropometric measuring equipment and supplies have been purchased and are ready to be distributed at the local level. A media event on breastfeeding (Breastfeeding Week) was also organized with support from the United Nations and the African Union Development Agency New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD).

### → SO.4 Ensure governance of SUN that promotes country leadership and responsibilities of government, aligns the resources of all SUN Movement stakeholders behind country priorities and strengthens 360 mutual accountability

Although a coordination mechanism exists that enables key nutrition stakeholders to be brought together as required, it is unofficial and operates at the request of the nutrition team. Efforts must be made to strengthen the institutional framework for nutrition. The Government covers staff salaries and is helping to establish a nutrition unit within the Department of Family Health. Annual meetings are held with stakeholders and provide an opportunity to review the progress achieved. As the multisectoral platform is unofficial, expenditure is tracked through financial and activity reports that are shared with the Government and partners.