

Action brief

# Increasing the national budget for nutrition in Mali through budget analysis and civil society advocacy

**Country:** Mali

**Topics:** Mobilization of national resources for nutrition

**Sub-topics:** Financial monitoring (at national and/or subregional level)

**Date:** Decembrer 2022



## Overview



There is a need to bring the importance of nutrition issues to the attention of major donors and decision makers at all levels – especially at the devolved and decentralized levels (regions, cercles and communes) – in order to strengthen the political and financial commitment of leaders to the multisectoral approach to nutrition so that no one is left behind. However, actors in community mobilization for nutrition (government, civil society, private sector, academia and research, etc.) lack the funding to carry out capacity-building activities or advocacy events targeting decision makers and thus to influence specific and sensitive nutrition sectors and their nutrition policies with a strategic focus on prevention.

Many challenges have had to be overcome, including strengthening good governance of the multisectoral approach to nutrition through the “three-one” concept.



This involved a single leader, a single management framework and a single monitoring and evaluation framework, as well as extending SUN Networks to the level of regions, cercles and communes.

Through the SUN Movement Pooled Fund, the Mali Civil Society Alliance obtained funding to provide technical and financial assistance to civil society partners and to strengthen national and regional platforms for coordinating, monitoring and supervising the multisectoral nutrition plan. This has led to improvements in key national-level strategic planning processes, in-depth budget analyses, and enhanced budgeting for nutrition.



## Objectives of the action brief

The objectives were to demonstrate the importance of budget analysis at national and decentralized levels and to encourage the mobilization of national resources for nutrition financing.



## Période couverte

The Mali Civil Society Alliance received its first grant from the SUN Movement Pooled Fund in 2018 for a period of two years, and a second grant was awarded and completed in 2021. Budgetary analysis and financial monitoring exercises were carried out during these periods, and the national budget for nutrition was increased considerably in 2021. Stakeholders continue to advocate for nutrition budgets to be mobilized and used as intended.



## What action was taken?

On the basis of the budget analysis carried out in Mali through the support of the SUN Movement, tangible results have been achieved towards the mobilization of resources for nutrition. A budget line of CFAF 600 million has been set aside each year for the procurement of ready-to-use therapeutic foods in the national budget and for the operation of the Nutrition Coordination Unit. There have been significant successes in resource mobilization efforts at national and subnational levels, with some of the financial commitments already having been realized:

- Increase in the national budget for nutrition
- Financing for the procurement of nutritional inputs to the value of CFAF 600 million (\$1.1 million, confirmed expenditure) in 2020 and CFAF 1.2 billion (\$2.2 million) in 2021 for the procurement of ready-to-use therapeutic foods
- Mobilization of national resources at the district level to finance nutrition-related activities (screening, nutrition demonstrations, etc.)
- Involvement of mining companies through the mobilization of funds to finance part of the local platform's action plan, including nutrition activities
- Mobilization of other donors for the organization of nutrition-related activities to the tune of CFAF 15 million (\$26,000)
- Increased national investment opportunities for nutrition
- Assessment of commitments made at national forums from 2010 to 2019 and analysis of the level of implementation
- Sharing of experiences related to nutrition analysis, advocacy and budget monitoring
- Mobilization of local community resources for nutrition financing
- Mobilization of resources for capacity-building of regional alliances in lobbying/advocacy



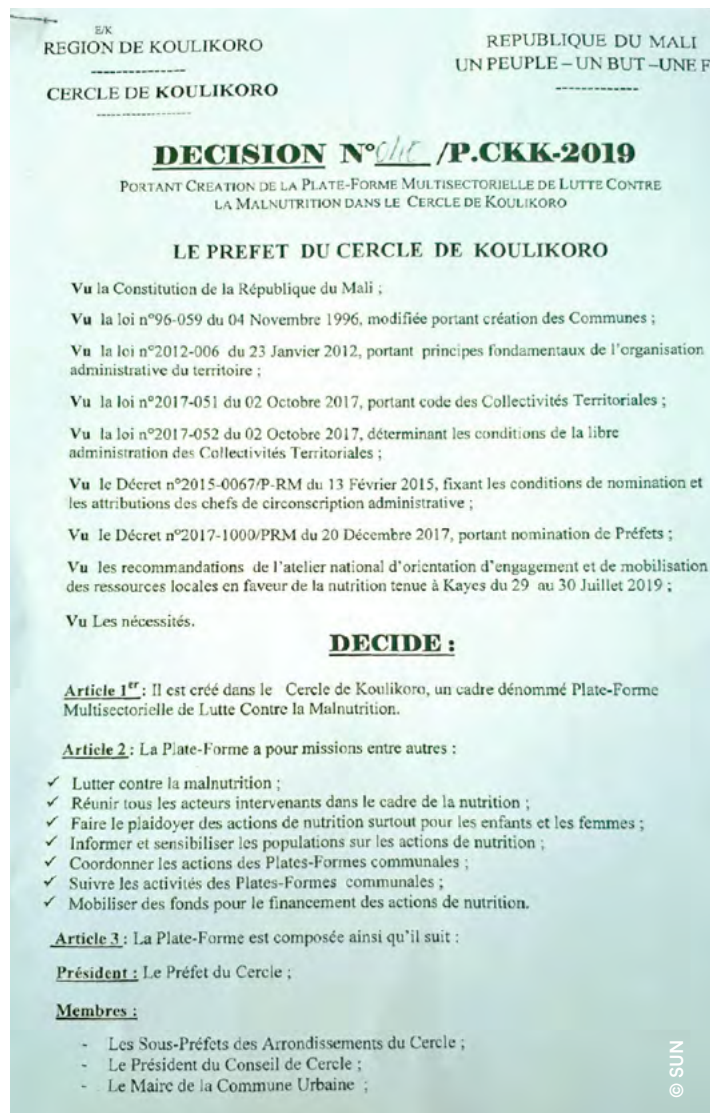
## What would the country do differently?

- Study the sectoral weighting of specific nutrition and sensitive nutrition in the prevention of all forms of malnutrition.
- Improve evidence gathering for fact-based decision-making on the financial governance of the multisectoral approach to nutrition.
- Conduct budget analysis in regions, cercles and communes with a high prevalence of stunting and regions with low levels of dietary diversity.
- Update the profile tool to strengthen advocacy at all levels.



## Adaptation and applicability

- The strengthening of good governance through the operation of the three subnational coordination frameworks: the Communal Committee for Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CCOCSAD); the Local Committee for Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CLOCSAD); and the Regional Committee for Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CROCSAD)
- The availability of funding and budgets to enable the implementation of budget analysis and financial monitoring exercises
- Political stability to facilitate the necessary exchanges with the parties concerned, even in remote areas
- Political will and commitment to nutrition at the highest level
- Engaged civil society partners and networks



## Further information

Joint Annual Assessment of Mali (2021)

Budget analysis for nutrition: experience of MQSUN+ in Mali



<https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20180703/mali-joins-call-increased-efforts-end-plight-child-undernutrition-0>



<https://www.maliweb.net/sante/rapport-danalyse-des-budgets-de-letat-dans-la-perspective-de-la-nutrition-et-wash-le-budget-de-la-nutrition-est-dilue-dans-celui-de-la-sante-et-ne-represente-qua-peine-1-de-ce-bu-2963323.html>



## Next steps

- Advocating for continued financial and technical support in terms of financial analysis for nutrition in order to stay on track for the mobilization of national resources
- Setting up a group of budget analysis trainers with a multisectoral vision focused on the communal level

Scaling Up  
**NUTRITION**

ENGAGE • INSPIRE • INVEST

Scaling Up Nutrition Movement  
c/o SUN Movement Secretariat  
Villa Le Bocage, Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland  
+41 (0) 22 917 7283  
info@scalingupnutrition.org  
www.scalingupnutrition.org