Nigeria

Joined: November 2011
Demographic data

National Population (million, 2010) 159.7
Children under 5 (million, 2010) 28.0
Adolescent Girls (15-19) (million, 2010) 8.00
Average Number of Births (million, 2010) 6.30
Population growth rate (2010) 2.69%

WHA nutrition target indicators (DHS 2013)

Low birth weight 8.1%
0-5 months Exclusive Breastfeeding 17.4%
Under five stunting 36.4%
Under five wasting 18.1%
Under five overweight 4.9%

Coverage of Nutrition-relevant Factors

Infant and young child feeding practice
6-23 months with Minimum Acceptable Diet 10.2%
6-23 months with Minimum Diet Diversity 19.3%

Programs for vitamin and mineral deficiencies
Zinc Supplementation for Diarrhea 2.3%
Pregnant Women Attending 4 or more Antenatal Care Visits 51.1%
Vitamin A supplementation (6-59 months) 78.0%
Households Consuming Adequately Iodized Salt -

Women’s Empowerment
Female literacy 53.1%
Female employment rate 63.4%
Median age at first marriage 18.3
Access to skilled birth attendant 38.1%
Women who have first birth before age 18 22.5%
Fertility rate 5.5%

Other Nutrition-relevant indicators
Rate of urbanization 48.61%
Income share held by lowest 20% 5.89%
Calories per capita per day (kcal/capita/day) 2,691.7
Energy from non-staples in supply 29.76%
Iron availability from animal products (mg/capita/day) 1.0
Access to Improved Sanitation Facilities 34.0%
Open defecation 28.7%
Access to Improved Drinking Water Sources 59.6%
Access to Piped Water on Premises 2.9%
Surface Water as Drinking Water Source 13.9%
GDP per capita (current USD, 2013) 3,010.00
Exports-Agr Products per capita (current USD, 2012) 0.05
Imports-Agr Products per capita (current USD, 2012) 0.07
The national budget is mapped and currently there are ongoing efforts of a budget line specifically for nutrition in line ministries at national and state levels. The establishment of the financial tracking system is a priority in order to identify the funding gaps for scaling up nutrition interventions. The UN and the CSO report that they regularly assess the financial feasibility of their own plan and track and account for spending. However, there is no overall mechanism to track financial contributions to nutrition. A sustainable funding strategy to support national plans is needed.

The analysis of the nutritional context and the stock taking of existing policies and regulations have enabled to update policies in nutrition-related areas such as agriculture, food security and public health.

Nigeria has updated its Infant and Youth Child Feeding Policy and the Micronutrient Deficiency Control Guidelines and is currently advocating for its implementation. There are significant provisions for the implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes in the law. The laws for mandatory fortification of wheat flour, maize flour and vegetable oil is in place. Nigeria achieved universal salt iodization (USI) certification in 2005.

Nutrition-sensitive policies and strategies cover key sectors and National ministerial guidelines that support mainstreaming nutrition in sectors exist, though proper coordination of nutrition policies and regulations should be strengthened.

A Societal Mobilization, Advocacy and Communication (SMAC) strategy has been developed and aligned with the national nutrition plan.

The Government of Nigeria has updated its National Plan of Action on Food and Nutrition which dated back to 2004. The document is fully supported by the Government and the line ministries but has not yet being circulated to a wider group of stakeholders. The plan is based on the agreed upon common results and includes a Monitoring and Evaluation framework.

Implementation is starting to be tracked and sectors and ministries have different mechanisms for regular tracking.

The Nutrition Division, located in the Federal Ministry of Health, is the current convening Government body responsible for scaling up nutrition by which the appointed FP and its technical FP, bring together various government ministries and departments including the Ministries of Health, Education, Agriculture, Women Affairs, Finance, Information, Science and Technology, and Water Resources and the Planning Commission. However, it is has been recognised that regular meetings and a better internal coordination can lead to more accountability and engagement.

Government officials are also engaged through the Nutrition Partners Forum, which meets with external partners including national and international NGOs, United Nations agencies, donors, businesses and the media, private sector actors, to discuss strategy development and undertake decisions relating to funding and also to nutrition emergencies.

A National Committee on Food and Nutrition, convened by the National Planning Commission, is being reactivated and strengthened to assess and enhance various policies on food and nutrition and to plan for related national programmes.

DFID and UNICEF act as donor conveners. The UN agencies have a coordinating mechanism and donors do have a coordination plan. The Civil Society Convener for the SUN CSO Alliance is Save the Children. The Private Sector has its own business platform – the Chamber of Commerce – and engages in scaling up nutrition through the National Fortification Alliance.

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The existing nutrition interventions will need to be aligned with this plan. Efforts are currently ongoing to increase the coverage of specific nutrition interventions including CMAM. In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture is promoting the production of high-energy food and food fortification with the engagement of local enterprises.

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Progress Across Four SUN Processes
Nigeria

2012¹ and 2014² Scoring of Progress Markers

- Bringing people together into a shared space for action
  - 2012: 50%
  - 2014: 29%

- Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework
  - 2012: 10%
  - 2014: 28%

- Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework
  - 2012: 9%
  - 2014: 0%

- Financial Tracking and resource mobilization
  - 2012: 0%
  - 2014: 0%

2014 Dashboard for Progress Markers

Stage of Preparedness

- PM1: 50%
- PM2: 13%
- PM3: 46%
- PM4: 28%
- PM5: 29%
- PM6: 0%

¹Externally assessed by the SUN Movement Secretariat
²Internally assessed by in-country self-assessment exercise