Democratic Republic of the Congo

Joined: June 2013
Demographic data

National Population (million, 2010) 62.2
Children under 5 (million, 2010) 11.2
Adolescent Girls (15-19) (million, 2010) 3.40
Average Number of Births (million, 2010) 2.60
Population growth rate (2010) 2.81%

WHA nutrition target indicators (MICS 2010)

Low birth weight 9.5%
0-5 months Exclusive Breastfeeding 37.0%
Under five stunting 43.5%
Under five wasting 8.5%
Under five overweight 4.9%

Coverage of Nutrition-relevant Factors

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

Programs for vitamin and mineral deficiencies
Zinc Supplementation for Diarrhea -
Pregnant Women Attending 4 or more Antenatal Care Visits 46.7%
Vitamin A supplementation (6-59 months) 84.0%
Households Consuming Adequately Iodized Salt 58.6%

Women’s Empowerment

Female literacy 82.2%
Female employment rate 66.7%
Median age at first marriage 19.7
Access to skilled birth attendant 92.0%
Women who have first birth before age 18 32.9%
Fertility rate 5.1

Other Nutrition-relevant indicators

Rate of urbanization 35.00%
Income share held by lowest 20% 5.50%
Calories per capita per day (kcal/capita/day) -
Energy from non-staples in supply -
Iron availability from animal products (mg/capita/day) 0.5
Access to Improved Sanitation Facilities 28.0%
Open defection 9.8%
Access to Improved Drinking Water Sources 46.5%
Access to Piped Water on Premises 24.0%
Surface Water as Drinking Water Source 16.0%
GDP per capita (current USD, 2013) 454.00
Exports-Agr Products per capita (current USD, 2012) -
Imports-Agr Products per capita (current USD, 2012) -
The newly created Multi-sector platform is the National Nutrition Council (NNC), under the auspices of the prime minister’s focal point. It brings together focal points from seven departments, the Federation of Congolese Enterprises (FCE), civil society, professional agricultural organizations, program managers, research institutions, faith-based organizations and UN agencies. The NNC is responsible for the direction, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of issues related to nutrition.

A decree formalizing its existence must be signed. The inter-ministerial meetings are held monthly but the platform needs to be better organized and better planned.

Efforts are being made to raise awareness of the SUN Movement among the provincial governments, to strengthen their capacity for coordinating planning, monitoring and evaluation.

The United Nations, donors and civil society networks are operational: a single and inclusive platform includes all technical and financial partners (donors, United Nations agencies and bilateral aid). The civil society network has drafted its terms of reference and elected its board of directors. The researcher, private sector and parliamentarian networks exist but are not yet operational.

Financial Tracking and resource mobilization

A participatory approach in the costing of the strategic plan interventions has begun, with technical assistance from the World Bank, UNICEF and an independent consultant. Once completed, the assessment and management tools of the State’s commitments will be integrated into the strategic plan. As regards the mobilization of resources, some ministries have already begun to provide specific budget lines (school canteens are being funded by the Ministry of Education).

The multi-sector strategic plan on nutrition currently being drafted will constitute the common results framework; however the development of this will require the prior definition and costing of priority actions to be identified in the plan.

The programs of the various ministries are aligned with national policy on nutrition but the mechanisms for coordination, monitoring and evaluation are yet to be defined/strengthened.

The partner programs are aligned with national policy on nutrition. The main programs currently include the National Nutrition Program, the National Food Security Program, the National Health Development Plan 2011-2015 and the “My nutrition is my Health” program (2012-2014).
Progress Across Four SUN Processes
Democratic Republic of the Congo

2013\(^1\) and 2014\(^2\) Scoring of Progress Markers

- Bringing people together into a shared space for action: 47% in 2014, 16% in 2013
- Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework: 37% in 2014, 12% in 2013
- Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework: 25% in 2014, 17% in 2013
- Financial Tracking and resource mobilization: 46% in 2014, 26% in 2013

2014 Dashboard for Progress Markers

Stage of Preparedness

- 47% in 2014
- 46% in 2014
- 37% in 2014
- 25% in 2014

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