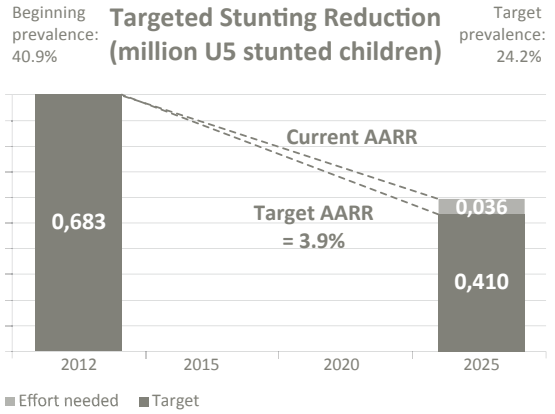


Cambodia

Joined: June 2014

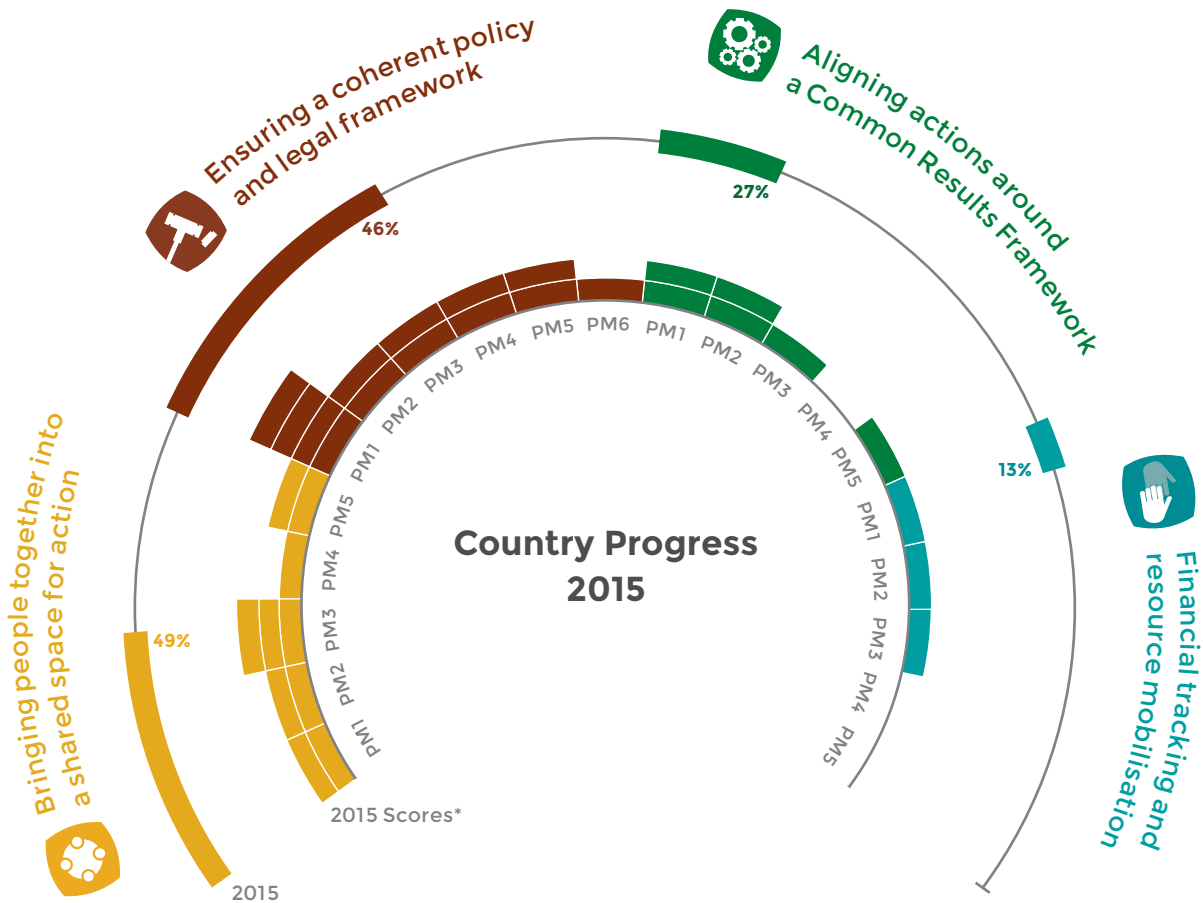
Highlights

- Cambodia's Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency Phase III (2014-2018) has set a broad policy direction for improving food security and nutrition.
- A National Oversight Board was established to support adherence to the legislation of breastmilk substitute's codes.
- The Ministry of Health has developed its conceptual budget for nutrition interventions.
- Joint monitoring indicators between different ministries have been accepted and tracked.



Under five stunting:	32.4%
Low-birth weight:	8.2%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding:	65.0%
Under five wasting:	9.6%
Under five overweight:	2.0%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years:	43.8%

**data sources detailed in Annex 1*



*See page 29 for more information about 2015 scoring against each progress marker



The Royal Government of Cambodia has mandated the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) to facilitate effective coordination, policy guidance, monitoring and information management for agriculture and rural development, social protection, food security and nutrition. The Technical Working Group (TWG) for Social Protection & Food Security and Nutrition is chaired by CARD and receives facilitation support from several UN agencies (WFP, FAO, UNICEF). The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provides a platform for the TWG to identify priorities, harmonise activities, address technical issues, mobilise resources and monitor progress.

The TWG meets on a regular basis and a TWG Secretariat has been established with participation from line ministries and multiple stakeholder groups to improve coordination.

The Civil Society Network is being developed with Helen Keller International (HKI) appointed by CARD to lead the network. The establishment of institutionalised business and donor networks remains under discussion although in March 2015, over 250 representatives from all stakeholder groups came together and endorsed a Declaration on Nutrition. The declaration highlights the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN) (2014-2018) behind which all stakeholders are aligning their support.



Cambodia's Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency Phase III (2014-18) includes nutrition and has set a broad policy direction for improving food security and nutrition. The Rectangular Strategy identifies priorities for enhancing availability, improving access, and utilisation of food.

The NSFSN, launched by the Prime Minister in 2014, was developed to complement the existing sector strategies and plans to fill gaps and include updates to international

recommendations for nutrition. The NSFSN is an advocacy instrument for additional funding and enhanced coordination and integrated action for improved food and nutrition security. With leadership from the Ministry of Health, an evaluation of breastmilk substitutes and salt iodisation legislation was completed. Violations were reported and following this, a National Oversight Board was established to support adherence to legislation against the promotion of breastmilk substitute.



In order to align the NSFSN indicator framework with the National Strategic Development Plan 2014-2018 result framework, as well as indicator frameworks from other national strategies and plans, the following monitoring and evaluation implementation process was agreed:

- i. **Monitoring of specific interventions and programmes is carried out by implementing sectors and will report statistics to CARD.**
- ii. **CARD will follow up with sector ministries, to compile and integrate sector reports, and assess the overall impact on the NSFSN goal and objectives. CARD will publish an annual M&E report for the NSFSN.**

iii. Annual progress review workshop of the NSFSN will be organised by CARD to discuss the M&E report to inform policymakers, implementers and development partners in the framework of the Cambodian Development Cooperation Forum (CDCF) who will appraise the overall planning of FSN related interventions and future resource allocations.

iv. An independent mid-term review of the NSFSN will be carried out at the end of 2016 to support a more informed dialogue on further development of the strategy.

The NSFSN currently includes 14 Joint Monitoring Indicators which provide a framework for setting medium-term goals based on outcomes prioritised in the Rectangular Strategy.



Efforts to track financial expenditure include a recent analysis led by the Ministry of Health with support from the World Health Organisation and the Clinton Health Access Initiative. This analysis titled "Estimating health Expenditure in Cambodia – National Health Accounts Report (2012)" was published in October 2014 and showed that Cambodia was spending 1.3% of Gross Domestic Product on health in 2012. The analysis showed that 0.4% of the spending on health was spent on nutritional deficiencies.

A recent evaluation (UNICEF, WFP, CARD) estimates the economic burden of malnutrition in Cambodia is a loss

between USD 250 and 420 million per year (approx. 1.5-2.5% of GDP). Following this, the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Planning with support from CARD, UNICEF and HKI, developed a conceptual budget for Cambodia's Fast Track Road Map for Improving Nutrition (FTRM). The FTRM provides partners with a framework to assess the feasibility and affordability of interventions and a platform to further discuss relative costs, opportunities and challenges. Cost estimates of the FTRM over the 6 years of implementation are 40 million USD.

Cambodia is planning the development of a guideline to integrate into the training curricula of Commune Councils to scale-up food security and nutrition in the local planning and budgeting process.