Congo
Joined: October 2013

Highlights

• A multi-sectoral technical unit under the authority of the Minister, Secretary General of the President’s Office, is responsible for coordinating nutrition and SUN processes until the decree to form the National Council on the Fight against Nutrition has been adopted.

• The appointment of two focal points - one political and one technical - has made it possible to refocus attention on nutrition and its coordination.

• The multi-sectoral strategic framework to fight against malnutrition has been developed in an inclusive way, ensuring a consensus-based selection of the priority interventions to be implemented. The same applies to its operational plan, which is in the adoption phase.

Under five stunting: 25.0%
Low-birth weight: 10.0%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding: 20.5%
Under five wasting: 5.9%
Under five overweight: 3.6%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years: 50.7%

*Data sources detailed in Annex 1

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The operational plan resulting from this strategic framework has been drawn up and is in the process of being validated prior to finalisation.

Finally, it is envisaged that a monitoring and evaluation plan will complete the mechanism, in order to create a common results framework and a basis for monitoring the implementation and evaluation of the various multi-sectoral interventions. Discussions are constantly under way to improve data collection and analysis on food security and nutrition.

The Republic of Congo will estimate the financial costs associated with the draft operational plan, in order to be able to mobilise the necessary internal and external resources for its implementation.

The workshop of May 2015 made it possible to collectively validate the strategic framework for the fight against malnutrition and identify the key strategic pillars for priority implementation. These involve: strengthening the institutional, normative and legislative framework of the fight against malnutrition; extending the scope of direct interventions favourable to nutrition; implementing an operational communication system for development; improving the food security of households as well as capacity-building in nutrition actions and research. This framework was then disseminated among the 18 ministries concerned.

The Republic of Congo’s efforts in matters of nutrition during the course of the current year. The Focal Point regularly convenes meetings of the multi-sectoral technical cell, a forum for exchanges regarding the implementation of SUN Movement processes.

Although the multi-sectoral and multi-player platform is not yet formally in place, the strategic framework for the fight against malnutrition – for 2025 – provides for the creation of a National Council for the Fight against Malnutrition, which would have its own technical secretariat.

National legislation on nutrition includes measures to promote breastfeeding (provisions relating to maternity leave) and fortified foods, but is also characterized by the absence of any text relating to marketing regulations for breast milk substitutes.

Analysis of sectoral policies on nutrition and food has begun, thanks to completion of the ‘initial assessment’, proposed by the SUN Movement Secretariat when the Republic of Congo joined. Nevertheless this work is worth pursuing. The national policy for social action and the national agricultural and nutritional investment programme - which are still in the process of being created - incorporate various aspects relating to nutrition.

Financial tracking and resource mobilisation

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Progress reported through in-country self-assessment exercise

Progress reported in the last year

Bold text denotes progress reported in the last year