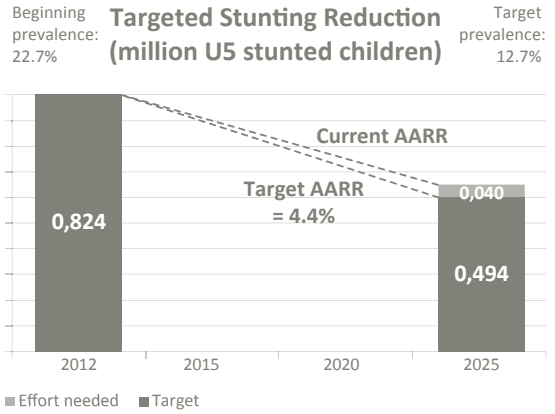


# Ghana

Joined: March 2011

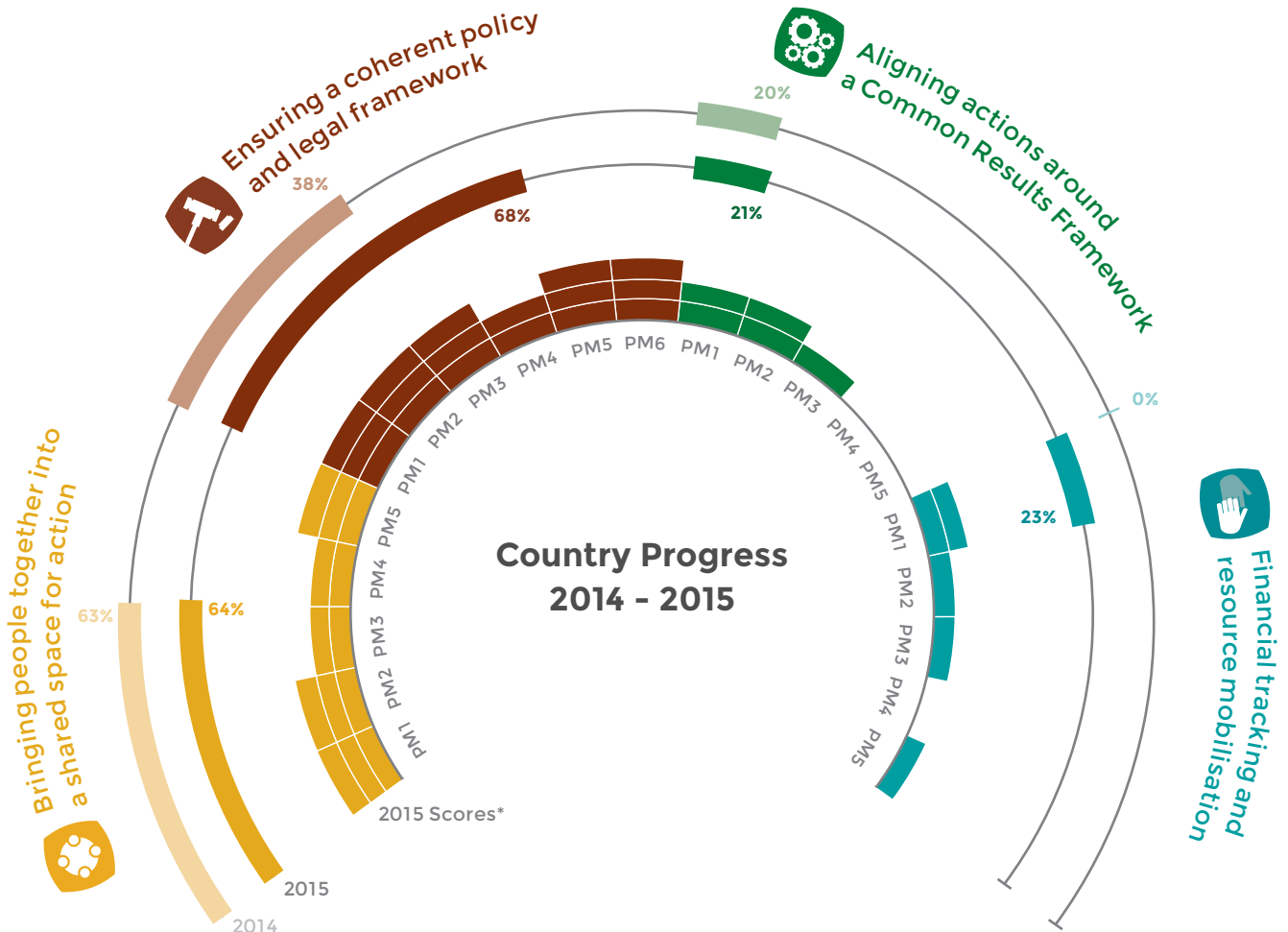
## Highlights

- Ghana's development of a capacity building plan will integrate recommendations of several nutrition-related capacity assessments undertaken in the last couple of years.
- The Ghana SUN Academic Platform supports the SUN Movement agenda through the development of various concept papers and capacity building initiatives.
- The Coalition of Civil Society Organisations has trained and engaged over 40 media houses on nutrition reporting, resulting in increasing media reportage, discussions and programmes on nutrition in both print and electronic media, including a nutrition education programme on Ghana Television. A music video allowed to popularise the 1,000 days of the child campaign.



Under five stunting:	18.8%
Low-birth weight:	10.0%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding:	52.3%
Under five wasting:	4.7%
Under five overweight:	2.6%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years:	56.4%

\*data sources detailed in Annex 1



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

## Bold text denotes progress reported in the last year



The Cross Sectoral Planning Group (CSPG), a well structured multi-sectoral platform (MSP), is in place with support from six technical working groups, each with Terms of Reference. These groups include representation from key government, United Nations (UN), civil society organisation (CSO), academia, business and donor networks.

The Business Network is not yet fully operational, however, the private sector continues to be engaged by different stakeholders in their programmes. There is on-going work by the CSPG to engage parliamentarians. Government agencies, in collaboration with a number of UN organisations, development partners and CSOs are engaging more directly with regional and district level players in Ghana's three Northern regions.

New members, particularly from nutrition-sensitive government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) have played a more active role in CSPGs activities over the last year.

Opportunities are available to strengthen communication

between members of the CSPG and the six technical working groups. CSPG is in the process of strengthening coordination with a number of measures and has developed and shared a roadmap as a basis for aligning actions.

The capacity building working group of the CSPG has initiated the development of a capacity building plan. The plan will take into consideration, various capacity assessments undertaken in the nutrition sector, including a landscape analysis on "Country Readiness to Accelerate the Reduction of Maternal and Child Under-nutrition" by WHO, a functional assessment by UNREACH among others, and capacity building objectives in sector and district nutrition scale-up plans.

The CSO platform has regular intra-network meetings with as many as 140 Non-Governmental Organisations who are committed to scaling up nutrition. The CSOs have also documented the nutrition governance coordination mechanism in Ghana.

Media advocacy is very strong with regular programming on radio, television and mobile phones. CSOs have also begun engaging parliamentarians to raise the importance of nutrition.

Bringing people together into a shared space for action



Ghana has completed its first multi-sectoral national nutrition policy (NNP).

This policy is currently being translated into a national nutrition scale up plan with all sectors being asked to scale up nutrition in their development plans by aligning to the policy objectives and policy measures. A number of sector policies and strategies and plans have since been reviewed and updated to align with the NNP. UN agencies are providing financial and technical support for this.

There is still a need to ensure legal coherence as certain laws (food fortification, baby foods, salt iodisation and other food standards) may need to be amended or legislative instruments developed to assist with the smooth implementation of the nutrition policy and national nutrition scale up plan.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework



Some sectors have completed their plans and are awaiting full consolidation. Others are also being assisted to align their plans to the NNP. Ghana continues to build inter-sector dialogues on nutrition including nutrition-education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)-nutrition and nutrition-social protection.

A draft common results framework (CRF) is in place, whilst the development of an M&E plan has been initiated. CSOs are in the process of aligning to the national nutrition scale up plan. The UN has provided technical and financial support to the multi-sector nutrition planning process at national and sub-national levels and for key nutrition relevant sectors, such as, Health, Agriculture, Social Protection, WASH, and Education.

Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework



Ghana has begun developing an expenditure tracking system. A draft framework (tracking system) still needs to be populated. The planning and costing process is on-going.

The on-going budget tracking exercise, planning and costing processes and development of the funding scenarios are all part of government efforts towards resource mobilisation. This includes assessing the financial requirements needed to scale up, advocate for and mobilise the necessary resources as well as to track the allocations and expenditures made for nutrition-related programmes. Ghana is also developing

a resource mobilisation strategy to secure sustainable funding for the national nutrition scale up plan. The process of tagging nutrition sensitive programmes within the country's financial system is on-going. This will complement the Appropriation Act which seeks to ensure continued Government multi-year funding for nutrition.

The UN system continues to play a technical and financial role in supporting government through the UNDAF. CSO's also play a supportive role in lobbying parliamentarians to provide more funding to nutrition.

Financial tracking and resource mobilisation