Guinea-Bissau

Joined: March 2014

Highlights

- A multi-sectoral functional group meets every two months for an exchange on nutrition.
- Three national documents provide an overall framework for the implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition interventions: the National Nutrition Policy (PNN); the Strategic Agricultural Investment Plan (PNIA); the National Strategic Nutrition Plan, the financial estimates for which have not been done yet.
- The laws on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, the fortification of food and the establishment of the Multi-stakeholder Platform have been submitted to parliament and are awaiting signature.

Under five stunting: 27.6%
Low-birth weight: 21.3%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding: 52.5%
Under five wasting: 6.0%
Under five overweight: 2.3%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years: 44.6%

*data sources detailed in Annex 1

*See page 29 for more information about 2015 scoring against each progress marker
The Strategic Nutrition Plan, which is currently being drafted, is a joint action plan for the implementation of a national nutrition policy. It provides for joint follow-up and evaluation mechanisms and a common results framework. The technical working group on nutrition has been working on this last issue, taking part in identifying common nutrition objectives at the national level, supporting the organisation of the common results framework and capacity building, with the support of the United Nations.

Projects are under way to enhance address malnutrition in schools through the promotion of gardens, the distribution of food and training in nutrition for teachers, but these programmes will finish at the end of 2015. Salt-producing communities are also supported in the marketing of their products. Regarding social protection, the EU is working with community health agencies to provide free universal access to health care a project to reduce maternal and infant mortality and a garden and school canteen component.

The National Agricultural Investment Plan was revised in late 2013 by all stakeholders involved, in order to take into account aspects overlooked in the previous policy, including nutrition.

The National Nutrition Policy, adopted in February 2014, envisages a multi-sectoral coordination platform, the National Nutrition Committee, including all stakeholders at the central, regional and community levels. Until this institution is established, a working group, under the aegis of the Ministry of Health, brings together various sectors of government, the United Nations agencies and donors to share information on nutrition. Since 2011, the participants of the technical group also attend meetings of the Food and Nutritional Security Group (GSAN), which, under the rotating presidency of the WFP and the FAO, has brought together more than 30 institutions (NGOs, United Nations, technical and financial partners, state structures).

The National Alliance for Food Fortification (ANFA) initiated the salt iodisation strategy in 2012, with the support of UNICEF. It was officially established by an inter-ministerial decree in April 2014.

The Civil Society Network for Food and Nutritional Sovereignty and Security (RESSAN) has been in existence since November 2013. It was set up to coordinate the actions of its members intervening in food security and nutrition.

The United Nations agencies have incorporated nutrition into their joint strategic planning document, UNDAF 2016-2020.

The 2016 – 2020 Strategic Nutrition Plan is currently being drafted. It will promote nutritious food for the public, food availability and household income.

The National Nutrition Policy, adopted in February 2014, provides a policy framework for the implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition interventions. It was drawn up and validated using a participatory and inclusive approach by the various partners involved in nutrition in the country.

The technical working group on nutrition advocates better integration of nutrition in sectoral policies. Programmes and strategies contribute to nutrition in the areas of agriculture and food security, education and health.

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