Comoros

Joined: December 2013
Population: 0.78 million

Institutional transformations in 2016-2017

Bringing people together into a shared space for action
A temporary multi-sectoral committee has been established, pending creation of the formal structure provided for in the draft decree submitted to the Government in 2014 (which is currently being revised for re-submission). The temporary committee is chaired by the Ministry of Health Family Health Department (DSF) and its membership includes representatives of the Ministry of Production, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of the Economy and Trade. In line with the DSF’s workplan, the committee holds meetings to draft documents and advocate with the authorities. Each island has a nutrition focal point, who coordinates local health department activities. Some non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other organisations attend nutrition-related meetings. In February 2017, a meeting was held to discuss the creation of a multi-sectoral platform involving civil society and coordinated by the Comoros Consumers’ Federation (FCC). A Parliament focal point has been appointed.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework
The national multi-sectoral food and nutrition policy is currently being revised, in conjunction with other sectors (gender equality, social welfare, agriculture, water and sanitation). There is already a community nutrition communication strategy, and work on an infant and young child feeding strategy is currently ongoing. The amended food bill has been submitted to Parliament. Advocacy ongoing to revise the draft decree on creation of the platform, and to ensure that nutrition is included in key policies (such as the national health policy, Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development, Five-year Investment Plan). On the legislative front, the country has yet to operationalise the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.

Aligning actions around a common results framework
Most of the activities relating to a common results framework are yet to be implemented as the platform is yet to be established.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation
The DSF has provided estimated costings for activities contained in the annual workplan. Each partner has an overview of its allocated funding. There has been no financial feasibility assessment for national plans to implement nutrition improvement activities.

2017–2018 PRIORITIES

• Sign the decree to establish the multi-sectoral platform (MSP);
• Produce the platform’s annual workplan;
• Map nutrition stakeholders and interventions;
• Mobilise financial resources for nutrition.