



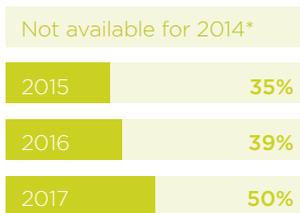
Joined: March 2014
Population: 4.81 million

Costa Rica



*Data sources detailed in Annex 1

Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The UN Network for SUN has been in place since early 2017, comprising the Pan-American Health Organization, FAO, and the UN Coordinator's Office. The joint workplan of the UN agencies and the Government gives priority to identifying additional actors and overcoming difficulties encountered, by including actors such as UNICEF.

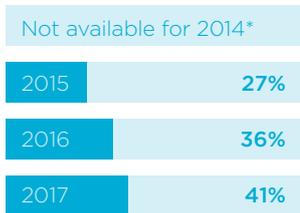
Joint terms of reference have been agreed upon, and 10 meetings have been held. A roundtable is now being organised to fine-tune nutrition-related decisions and objectives, and the work will be decentralised. The appointment of the SUN focal point has been endorsed, as appointed by the previous Health Minister in 2014.



Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Planning Ministry approved the creation of a Department for Nutrition and Sport, nested in the Ministry of Health, greatly strengthening nutrition governance. The Ministry of Health promotes compliance with the legal and regulatory framework for nutrition, with regards breastfeeding and the improvement of micronutrient-rich foods. A draft bill of on the right to food has been promoted,

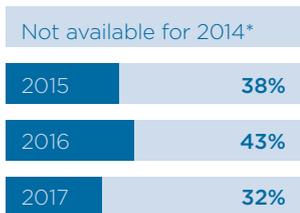
spearheaded by the University of Costa Rica and with the involvement of the Ministries of Health, Public Education, Agriculture and Livestock Farming, the National Women's Institute, community-based organisations, academia, parliamentarians, and the UN, among others. This law has so far gained the support of more than 50 per cent of parliamentarians, and is hoped to be discussed in the Legislative Assembly.



Aligning actions around a common results framework

The first weight and height census among schoolchildren revealed that an alarming 34 per cent of children were overweight or obese in 2016. The Ministry of Health is developing a National Child and Adolescent Obesity Prevention, Plan with the active involvement of SUN members. The census also justified the implementation of local obesity-prevention projects among schoolchildren and the continuation of preventive nutrition services with

the National Directorate of Education and Nutrition Centers and Children's Centers for Comprehensive Care. The Plan complements the 2015-2018 National Development Plan and the 2015-2019 National Health Plan, as each mainstream nutrition. The SUN Movement and the UN Network for SUN in Costa Rica have agreed on a participatory analysis of nutrition to increase momentum and move towards a common results framework.



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A budget is available within the institutions to plan and implement nutrition-related activities each year, as in the case of the Ministry of Public Education's school canteens. There is no tracking of budget implementation by budget line but it is expected that, once the Department for

Nutrition and Sport is up and running within the Ministry of Health, tracking of resources will commence. The nutrition investment report has been produced through the national budget and applying the SUN Movement's methodology.



2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Strengthen the multi-stakeholder platform with key social actors;
- Hold a round table on achievements and gaps in nutrition;
- Conduct a situation analysis on nutrition among children and adolescents;
- Recommend successful strategies and identify solutions to challenges;
- Establish a national plan for the prevention of obesity among schoolchildren;
- Ensure the UN network remains active;
- Create a joint working agenda between the Government and the UN system.