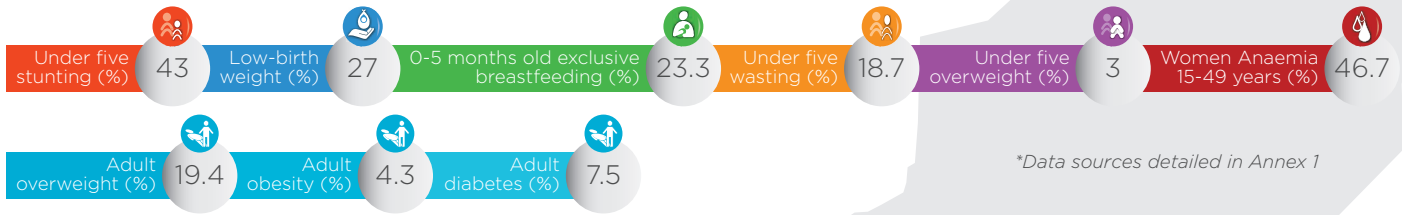




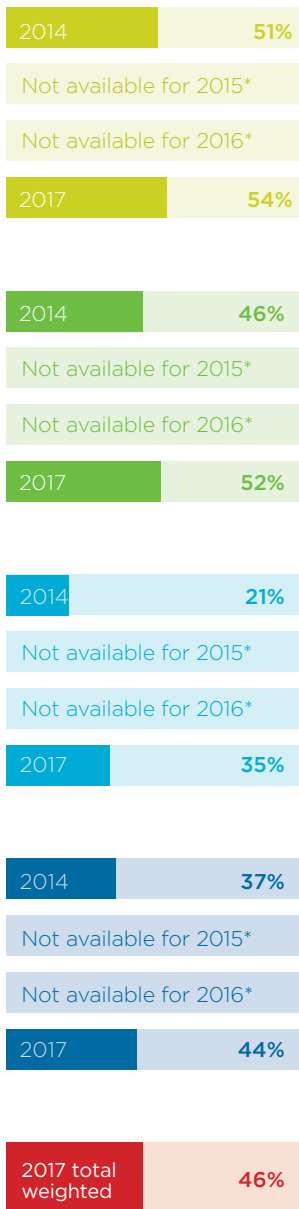
Joined: February 2011
Population: 19.90 million

Niger



*Data sources detailed in Annex 1

Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The 'Nigeriens Nourish Nigeriens (3N)' initiative, led by a high commission attached to the Office of the President, now has multi-sectoral strategic steering committees. The 3N initiative has been subject to an institutional analysis in 2017, to identify what reforms are needed to inject fresh impetus into the "food security and nutrition" group. The forthcoming monitoring framework for the nutrition operational plan will strengthen

reporting and accountability across the board. At the decentralised levels, there are eight regional technical committees responsible for coordinating nutrition interventions, and 35 municipal councils have received training on nutrition assessments and planning. The academic, civil society, private sector, UN and parliamentary networks have appointed focal points, but their functioning needs to be improved.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Food Security Policy (PNSN) and its action plan – currently being finalised under the auspices of a secretariat and specialist sectoral working groups – was developed in an inclusive, participatory manner. The PNSN includes creating a communication strategy and an advocacy plan, and REACH has begun work in this area. The PNSN also makes provisions for the adoption of existing breast-milk

substitute marketing guidelines. Efforts are ongoing to strengthen the law on food fortification. Finally, although the Economic and Social Development Plan 2017-2020 and the Action Plan for Rural Development 2016-2020 incorporate nutrition, the same rule of thumb does not apply systematically across other key sectoral policies and strategies.

Aligning actions around a common results framework

The PNSN multi-sectoral action plan has been converted into an operational plan, including a common results framework. Adoption of the "Convergence Communes" approach has fostered geographical, programmatic and operational collaboration, revealing areas where

there is a need for capacity-strengthening and further Government funding. The operational plan includes assessing human resource capacities and to bring in institutional reform. Work has begun on creating a national nutrition information platform this year, which should be in place in 2018.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Costs have already been estimated for nutrition-specific interventions in the operational plan, with the estimation process ongoing for nutrition-sensitive interventions. The inter-ministerial 3N Policy Committee monitors nutrition-related funding, but no assessment has been made of funding sustainability or effectiveness, or of existing deficits. Since

2016, some national and international malnutrition funding has been diverted to emergency response activities. An operational "profitability analysis" is currently underway to give partners and the Government greater incentive to allocate more funds and fast-track disbursement. There are also plans for a multi-year financial forecast.

2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Improve treatment of people with malnutrition;
- Strengthen the food safety control system;
- Strengthen the national nutrition surveillance system and enhance evaluation of nutrition interventions;
- Mobilise resources for the PNSN strategic plan.