Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The objective of the Additional Financing for Integrated Financial Management and Information System (IFMIS) Project for The Gambia is to increase the Government’s capacity in public resource management. Although the IFMIS can provide information on budget execution rates, there is no specific platform where this information is collated to track investments in nutrition interventions. The national nutrition strategic plan, which expired in 2015, was the key document used to identify resource gaps for nutrition. This highlights the need to develop a new costed nutrition strategic plan.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Nutrition is mainstreamed into many sectoral policies and programmes. A nutrition bottleneck analysis has been conducted by the MSP to inform a review of the 2010-2020 National Nutrition Policy. This will eventually lead to an updated 2017-2025 National Nutrition Policy, to be accompanied by a costed strategic plan. Over the past year, a new policy on early childhood development (ECD) and school feeding has been developed, with the involvement of the MSP. A Social and Behaviour Change Communication Strategy for 2016-2020 has also been developed. Lastly, the awareness of law enforcement agents – such as police and custom officials – on existing regulations for food fortification and salt iodisation has been raised.

Aligning actions around a common results framework

Although a common results framework (CRF) for nutrition is yet to be defined, the MSP has been involved in the development of the 2018-2021 National Development Plan and the 2017-2021 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), ensuring nutrition components are now included. The intention is to develop a CRF, following the review of the National Nutrition Policy and subsequent development of a new nutrition strategic plan.

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