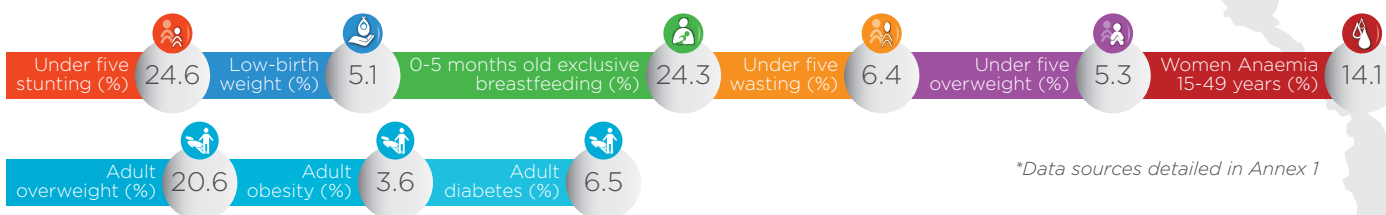




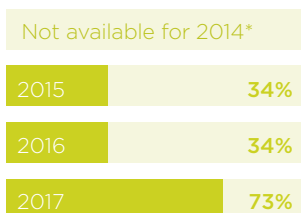
Joined: January 2014
Population: 93.57 million

Viet Nam



*Data sources detailed in Annex 1

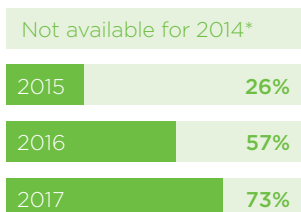
Institutional transformations in 2016-2017



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Viet Nam is keen to re-establish the National Nutrition Steering Committee, as highlighted in the new 2017-2025 National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN) which contains a clear coordination mechanism to enable effective multi-sectoral cooperation, to encourage higher accountability of the Government's executive and the non-health (nutrition-sensitive) sectors.

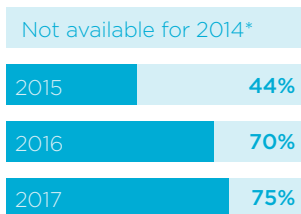
The new NPAN was initially planned to be approved at the ministerial level. Following the SUN Movement Coordinator's visit to Viet Nam in February 2017 and the encouragement provided, the plan is now to be endorsed by the Deputy Prime Minister in-charge, unlocking an opportunity for a higher level of commitment and oversight.



Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Advertisement Law enforced by Decree 100/2014 on marketing of breast-milk substitutes (BMS) has been disseminated by the Ministry of Health through organised training for health inspectors across the country. Private companies have lobbied for reducing the advertising ban on breast-milk substitutes to

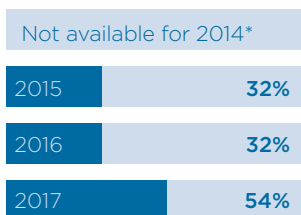
children under 12 months, however, the Government has successfully objected, maintaining the initial legislative provision of 24 months. In 2016, the Ministry of Health also issued Circular 38/2016 on breastfeeding support in health facilities and Decree 09/2016 on mandatory food fortification.



Aligning actions around a common results framework

The NPAN for 2017-2025 is currently being finalised and will serve as national ministerial guidelines for mainstreaming nutrition into sector policies. The SUN Movement's checklist on the criteria and characteristics of 'good' national nutritional plans was used during the NPAN development.

Although the definition of roles and tasks was initiated at the early stage of development of the National Nutrition Strategy 2011-2020, the new NPAN revises the roles of actors, based on the needs and national priorities.



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The NPAN 2017-2025 has been costed, with support from UNICEF and the SUN Movement Secretariat. Challenges remain in building the ownership of non-health sectors to track and report on the resources mobilised for nutrition. Although there is no long-term resource mobilisation strategy for nutrition, gaps have been identified and resources have

been mobilised at national and sub-national levels. With funds from external partners declining, contributions from the private sector present certain challenges due to conflict of interest - as donations are often made in the form of cooperation between dairy companies and governmental health agencies.



2017-2018 PRIORITIES

- Advocate for more investments into nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions, including the role of nutrition champions and the media;
- Focus on guidelines at the sub-national level to implement the new NPAN with adequate resources mobilised;
- Set up a SUN Business Network and identify a donor convener for the SUN Donor Network, with the support of the global networks.