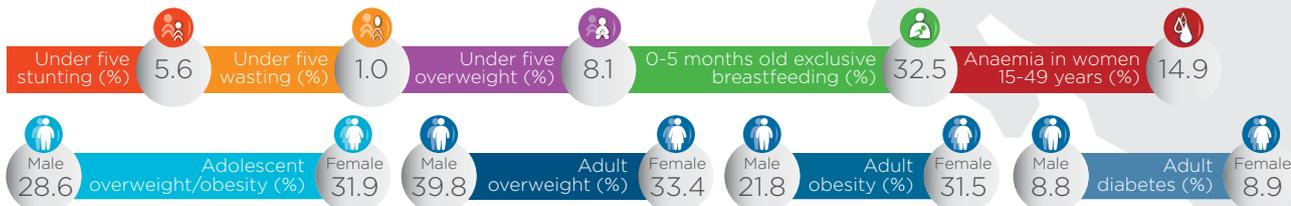




Joined: March 2014
Population: 4.91 million

Costa Rica



Institutional transformations in 2017-2018



Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) has been strengthened and now includes more sectors, including social security and health. UN agencies (FAO, UNOPS, UNRCO) continue to support SUN. A multi-sectoral team from the Ministries of Health and Public Education, the Social Security Fund, and the National Directorate of Education and Nutrition Centres

and Children's Centres for Comprehensive Care (CEN CINAI) have prioritised defining health and nutrition priorities for school children. The National Obesity Prevention Plan for children and adolescents was launched in 2017 and is being implemented. Efforts are underway to include civil society organisations in the MSP.



Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Ministry of Health, as the leading entity for health and nutrition, has promoted the full compliance of legal and regulatory frameworks relevant to nutrition. Multi-sectoral committees have been set up to monitor compliance with the legal framework - including the

National Committees for Breastfeeding and Micronutrients. The monitoring and evaluation of laws and policies is in its early stages in Costa Rica and is undertaken by the Ministry of Planning, which cooperates, when necessary, with nutrition-focused institutions.



Aligning actions around common results

The National Obesity Prevention Plan for Children and Adolescents, launched in 2017, aims to "contribute to stopping the increase in overweight and obesity in children and adolescents, through coordinated multi-sectoral actions with public institutions, academia and the private

sector". The Ministry of Health is implementing the plan, alongside 12 participating institutions. The National Information System for Food and Nutritional Security (SINSAN) is maintained, enabling the monitoring of nutrition achievements.



Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

In Costa Rica, the budget law provides for a separate budget for food services. This includes large-scale investments in education and communication, by the Social Security Fund. New job opportunities have been created for nutrition experts, health promoters and physical

educators for community health promotion programmes. The Government has asked UN agencies to scale up development cooperation for nutrition-relevant areas, with FAO and UNOPS having mobilised resources, to this end.



2018-2019 PRIORITIES

SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/COSTA-RICA

- Ensure and sustain the active commitment of institutions and UN agencies;
- Strengthen the MSP, with participation by the Ministry of Education and UNICEF;
- Map civil society organisations who should be included in the MSP;
- Undertake dialogue to ensure nutrition actions are prioritised.