Lesotho

**Joined:** July 2014

**Population:** 2.13 million

SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/LESOTHO

**2019 TOTAL WEIGHTED**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 stunting (%)</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 5 overweight (%)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 5 wasting (%)</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low birth weight (%)</td>
<td>16.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-5 months old breastfeeding (%)</td>
<td>66.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adolescent overweight/obesity (%)</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>9.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult overweight (%)</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>27.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult diabetes (%)</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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**2019-2020 PRIORITIES**

- Establishing a functional Multi-Stakeholder Platform;
- Developing of clear financial frameworks;
- Prioritising nutrition specific sensitive interventions and their implementation;
- Building an enabling environment through advocacy, communication and knowledge sharing;
- Improving nutrition related policies and legislation.

**INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATIONS 2018–2019**

**Bringing people together into a shared space for action**

- 2014: Not available
- 2015: 4%
- 2016: Not available
- 2017: 28%
- 2018: 45%
- 2019: 50%

**Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework**

- 2014: Not available
- 2015: 8%
- 2016: Not available
- 2017: 34%
- 2018: 59%
- 2019: 63%

**Aligning actions around common results**

- 2014: Not available
- 2015: 8%
- 2016: Not available
- 2017: 26%
- 2018: 40%
- 2019: 64%

**Financing tracking and resource mobilisation**

- 2014: Not available
- 2015: 0%
- 2016: Not available
- 2017: 4%
- 2018: 13%
- 2019: 32%

**Lesotho**

Lesotho is committed to the implementation of a national nutrition agenda.

Progress achieved so far has been in relation to development of the relevant policy and legal frameworks. Enforcement has been slow.

The draft Food Fortification Regulation is now complete and is awaiting finalisation.

Advocacy and communication activities have supported nutrition activities at the national level.

Unfortunately, budget allocations have not been sufficient to meet the commitments made towards addressing malnutrition at a national or subnational level.

Nutrition stakeholders have aligned actions on a number of research activities and studies, which will inform objectives and commitments going forward.

Several initiatives have been undertaken, mostly focused on resource mobilization rather than the tracking of nutrition investments.

In 2020, Lesotho is committed to improve resource mobilisation through contributions to nutrition from the business sector and are, a range of incentives for the private sector to get involved, and the development of innovative financing mechanisms including corporate social responsibility.

Progress has been made towards establishment of the SUN national networks and the UN, Civil Society, Business and Media are now in place. However, lack of funding is a key barrier to their functionality.

Setting up all SUN national networks is a prerequisite to establishing the multi-stakeholder platform, and so it is a priority to make progress on this in the coming year.

Nutrition stakeholders have aligned actions on a number of research activities and studies, which will inform objectives and commitments going forward.

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Lesotho joined the Scaling Up Nutrition movement in July 2014, and has a population of 2.13 million people as of 2019.