

Nutritionflash Newsletter



Knowledge and developments in nutrition and food security
A service by Capacity for Nutrition (C4N)

From our circle of EC, EU, BMZ and GIZ



Mainstreaming nutrition into programmes: a series of 12 nutrition quick tips to help programme planners integrate nutrition into sector and thematic programmes has been launched by the European Commission Directorate International Partnerships (INTPA). The series cover nutrition-sensitive food production; nutrition-sensitive value chains; creating consumer demand; equality, equity and nutrition; gender, equality and women's empowerment, among others. Developed with support from GIZ (C4N) and available in EN and FR [HERE](#).

Nutrition webinars: nutrition boosts a range of sustainable developments goals and INTPA academy has started a series of nutrition webinars. The first webinars on Setting the Scene and the Nutrition Policy Marker took place earlier this year with the next webinars coming after the summer break. Registration to the INTPA academy [HERE](#).

Updating the evidence gap map on nutrition and food systems: the [first](#) and [second](#) update to the Food Systems and Nutrition Evidence Gap Map (EGM) identified 156 new studies, or about 8% of studies conducted in the field, emphasizing the need to create a 'living EGM'. Read more on the update [here](#). Identified evidence gaps on [women's empowerment within food systems](#) and on [taxes and subsidies to promote a healthy diet](#) have been addressed by rapid evidence assessments. During a webinar on 4 August 4 p.m., the evidence gap map as well as results from the rapid evidence assessments will be presented. You can register [here](#). The EGM is developed support from BMZ through GIZ and will be updated through March 2023. See also article in the [British Medical Journal](#).

Resilient food systems in times of crisis: climate change, agro-ecological depletion, the COVID-19 pandemic, and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine have resulted in a food systems and food and nutrition security crisis. The webinar [the increasing imperative for resilient food systems in times of crisis: what can donors do?](#) provides in-depth analysis and discussion. More on the Global Donor Platform webinar and materials [HERE](#).

G7 Statement on global food security: in response to the food security crisis, the G7 meeting in June pledged USD 4.5 billion more to protect the most vulnerable from hunger and malnutrition and reaffirmed its commitment to lift 500 million people out hunger and malnutrition by 2030. Moreover, the G7 meeting vowed to scale up essential nutrition services in the countries most affected by malnutrition. The G7 [statement](#) also encouraged partners to join the Zero Hunger Coalition.

Zero Hunger Coalition kicks off: the coalition convened its first stakeholder meeting in May. The [EC](#) and [BMZ](#) support the establishment of an interim secretariat by [GAIN](#) through GIZ. For more information, please contact christoph.langenkamp@giz.de.

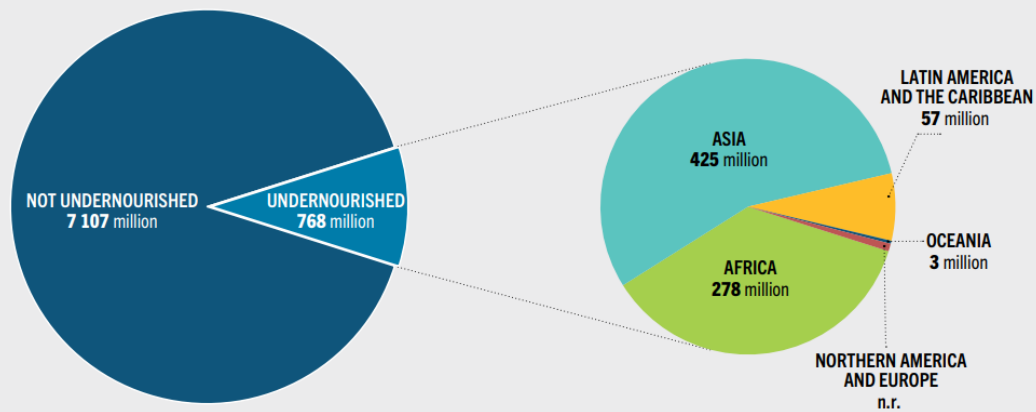
Nearly 3.1 billion people unable to afford a healthy diet: the newly launched [State of Food Security and Nutrition 2022](#) notes the number of people unable to buy a healthy diet has increased by 112 million from 2019 to 2020. This is due to inflation in consumer food prices that originates in the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures put in place to contain it.

Achieving sustainable and more nutritious diets during the global food crisis: while the current crisis requires immediate global response, accelerating the development of resilient and sustainable food systems is similarly pressing. Focusing on the most vulnerable countries, a new research project, implemented by [IFPRI](#), will create evidence-based and costed country roadmaps for medium and long-term investments in agriculture and food systems, with focus on Ethiopia, Malawi and Nigeria. The project is financed by the EC and BMZ through GIZ. For more information please contact boran.altincicek@giz.de

In a graph

Location of people affected by hunger in 2021

FIGURE 3 MORE THAN HALF (425 MILLION) OF THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD AFFECTED BY HUNGER IN 2021 WERE IN ASIA AND MORE THAN ONE-THIRD (278 MILLION) IN AFRICA



NOTES: Projected values based on the middle of the projected range. The full ranges of the projected 2021 values can be found in **Annex 2**. n.r. = not reported, as the prevalence is less than 2.5 percent.
SOURCE: FAO.

SOURCE: State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022, FAO

In more detail

Municipal information platforms for nutrition

Insights and lessons from Momostenango, Guatemala



Internationally, interest is increasing in understanding how stakeholders at decentralised level can engage in the policy-making of public administrations and make use of data and information for better nutrition results. However, decentralised information platforms for nutrition are still rare, making it difficult for decision makers to adopt an evidence-based approach.

In the municipality of Momostenango, the **National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN)** project supported development of a decentralised nutrition information platform. Before the project ended, the pilot information system was scaled up in seven other municipalities of the department, at the request of the Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security of the Presidency of the Republic.

The NIPN report **Implementing decentralised information platforms for nutrition – insights and lessons from Momostenango, Guatemala** provides learning for nutrition specialists and decision-makers into the nexus between nutrition, food security, health, governance, and data utilisation. The report provides details on the implementation process and includes several findings and recommendations along the project components, of which a few are listed below:

Information management and analysis: routine data from the sectors is better exploited at the decentralised level. While the majority of routine data is scattered, difficult to access, or only partially used because it is reported in a vertical flow of information, a municipal information system on food and nutrition security, incorporating the data of various sectors and actors and published on a one-stop multi-sectoral platform, allows the decentralised food and nutrition security stakeholders to exchange and triangulate information and develop a common understanding of what to do.

Capacity building: Strengthening the institutionalisation of the municipal information platform is key

to ensure continuity and consolidates decentralised multi-sectoral teams; while empowering and strengthening the competencies of technical teams and decision and policy makers in analysis and use of information contribute to sustainability. Focusing on functional skills such as partnership-building and facilitation of processes should be a high priority. However, boosting the capacity of civil society to participate effectively is equally important.

Information use and demand creation: Demonstrating concretely on a small scale, how information can guide interventions and mobilise resources to benefit the most vulnerable is critical to create demand for nutrition information. Promoting the platform's concrete application contributes to convince stakeholders of its potential and helps advocacy for central-level funding to scale up nutrition interventions. Supporting processes that foster constructive engagement among stakeholders is a continuous effort.

The report is based on a review of key documents, literature review and interviews with stakeholders from national, departmental and municipal level. For more information, please contact Melissa Scott in C4N at melissa.scott@giz.de

New literature

Act now before Ukraine war plunges millions into malnutrition. Osendarp, Saskia et.al. Nature, vol 640, April 2022.

While the reaction to the unfolding food crisis has focused on hunger, the article authors note that 'If untreated malnutrition can increase the risk of illness and death in the short term and ultimately have multi-generational effects and irreversible effects. In fact, providing nutrition interventions in early life leads to extremely high estimated returns on investment — up to US\$35 for every \$1 spent³. ' Full article [HERE](#).

How Can Nutrition Research Better Reflect the Relationship Between Wasting and Stunting in Children? Learnings from the Wasting and Stunting Project. Kate Sadler et.al. The Journal of Nutrition, June 2022.

Reviews by the Emergency Nutrition Network in 2013 and 2014 found that wasting was commonly seen as a short-term, emergency problem, and stunting as a chronic, developmental problem. This was surprising, as evidence suggested these forms of malnutrition share common risk factors and are often seen in the same child. This article discusses key aspects of improvement to future design of nutritional research. Full article [HERE](#).

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A young indigenous mother and her baby is getting ready to
participate to nutrition fair organised in Todos Santos,
Huehuetenango, Guatemala.

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