

ANGOLA

Nutrition situation in Angola

AT A GLANCE

Angola has a population of 36.7 million people, projected to reach 45 million by 2030 and expected to double by 2050¹. Around half of the population in 2018 were living in extreme poverty. The country has made progress in reducing child stunting, but rates have deteriorated since the 2014 socio-economic crisis. Other forms of malnutrition coexist in Angola, including wasting, anaemia and rising levels of overweight and obesity across all age groups. Trends mask large geographic and socio-economic disparities; malnutrition affects the most vulnerable layers of society and significant gender inequalities persist². The food security situation remains a major concern among vulnerable households. Southern

provinces continue experiencing extreme weather events resulting in insufficient food supplies and recurrent negative impact on livelihoods, often aggravated by rising food prices. Healthy diets are not affordable for the majority (94%) of the population³; only 12% of children aged 6-23 months eat a minimum acceptable diet. Recent projections indicate that the country will not meet global nutrition targets. The social and economic costs of malnutrition are serious, impacting entire generations and likely to diminish the productive capacity and performance of Angolans. Angola has a Gender Inequality Index value of 0.520 and is ranked at 133 of 166 countries in 2022.

DATA ON ALL FORMS OF MALNUTRITION



The data reported in the 2023 EU Nutrition Country Profiles is drawn from the UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates and the Global Nutrition Report (GNR).

NUTRITION GOVERNANCE

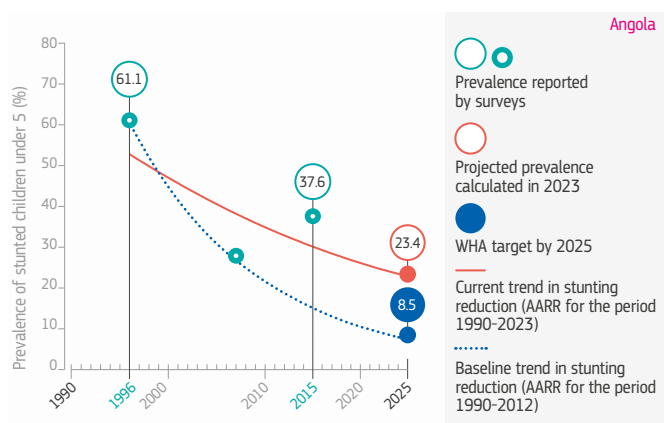
- Angola has not yet joined the Scaling Up Nutrition movement.
- Commitment to nutrition started in 2005 when the country established key milestones to institutionalise food and nutrition security, including a high level multisectoral council for food and nutrition security and a national strategy. However, the framework was poorly implemented, later compounded by the economic crisis and diminishing public spending.
- Angola recently developed a national multisectoral nutrition action plan to address all forms of malnutrition (under the coordination of the Ministry of Health) and the second national strategy for food and nutrition security (ENSAN II 2021-2030), both of which have yet to be approved.
- The national development plan 2018-2022 underscored the importance of integrating nutrition across different sectors. The lack of nutrition data, weak information systems and poor national resource mobilisation constitute significant challenges.
- No legislation exists regarding food fortification in Angola.
- Moreover, there is no alignment of nutrition objectives in national policies in health and nutrition which are not systematically reflected in the general state budget.

Example of EU support

The EU delegation in Angola launched in 2021 a call for proposal to support to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) as Independent Actors of Good Governance and promoters of Human Development in Angola (EUR 7 million allocations for 2021-2024, out of which approximately 2.7 for nutrition). Its aim is to contribute to improved nutrition of women and children in Angola (prioritising areas with the highest prevalence of child stunting) through empowered civil society and strengthened nutritional governance. Specifically, actions are aimed to enhance the role of civil society actors to effectively engage with Government of Angola to develop, implement and monitor improved nutrition services focused on women, children, adolescents and other vulnerable groups as well as to advocate for scale up of successful community-driven nutrition models. By building capacities of local CSOs, improving coordination mechanisms, strengthening advocacy and accountability roles and long-term sustainability of civil society actors, the projects will contribute to the priority areas 2 (governance) and 3 (Human development) of the EU's 2021-2027 Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) for Angola as well as to the achievement of SDGs 2,3,5 and 16.

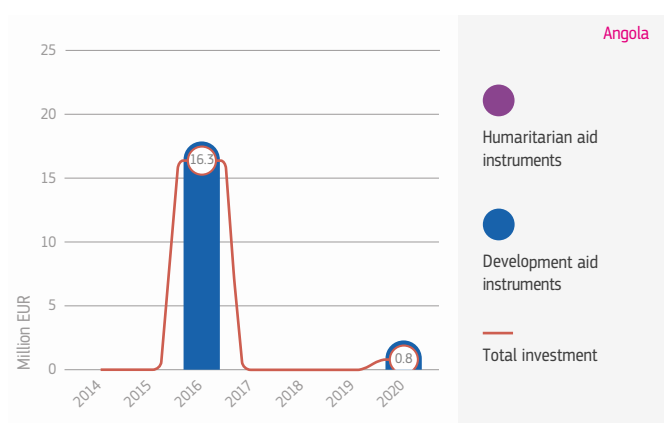


Progress on the two EU pledges for nutrition



TREND, PROJECTION AND TARGETS IN THE PREVALENCE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN (U5) STUNTED

Angola has experienced a marked decline in the prevalence of stunting since the mid 1990s, but the number of stunted children has not decreased much due to population growth. The rate of decline in the number of children stunted has decelerated notably from 6.9% in 2012 to 2.8% in 2022. If this trend persists, approximately 1.5 million children are expected to be stunted in 2025.



EU FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TO NUTRITION 2014-2020 – A TOTAL OF EUR 17 MILLION

The EU contributes up to EUR 65 million (of which EUR 16.3 million for nutrition) to the FRESAN programme. It aims to contribute to reducing hunger, poverty and vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity in three central and southern Angolan provinces most affected by climate change, including Cunene, Namibe and Huila. The role of FRESAN in these provinces is both strategic and synergistic as it complements other actions focused more on addressing health and humanitarian issues. DG ECHO regularly provides emergency humanitarian aid in the country; in 2021 nearly EUR 4 million were allocated to an urgent action to treat life-threatening malnutrition among children under five years of age in most drought-affected provinces of Angola⁴.

Planning for nutrition 2021-2027

During the 2021 global Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), the Government of Angola committed to continue to allocate at least 10% of its public resources annually to the agriculture sector in line with the Malabo Declaration of 2014, ensuring food and nutrition security. Relevant measures found in the national pathway document include, for instance, women's and youth empowerment to advance equitable livelihoods and the contribution of livestock, fisheries and forest sectors to promote diverse and healthy diets for all, especially vulnerable groups such as children and women. This is in line with the vision and objectives outlined in the second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2021-2030 (ENSAN II).

Nutrition forms part of the 360-degree approach of the EU's Global Gateway. The EU in Angola is building on past achievements to support integrated approaches to nutrition. Through its sustainable economic diversification (priority area 1) and human development (priority area 3), the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027 for Angola is leveraging sectors/domains that have the potential to address key underlying determinants of malnutrition across the life cycle in Angola. The reduction of gender and income inequalities is crosscutting and remain central to achieving nutrition security in Angola. In this regard, the Team Europe Initiative⁵ on economic diversification – including the transformation of the informal economy into the

formal economy – provides a relevant framework to improve nutrition related outcomes of vulnerable groups. Building on lessons learned from the FRESAN programme (implemented in a Team Europe approach with Portugal and focused on resilience and food security), local micro, small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in food processing, storage and distribution will offer entry points to reduce inequalities, promote healthy diets, enhance women's empowerment, and create new skills and jobs for the youth, by strengthening technical and vocational education and training. For this, local micro, small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in food processing, storage and distribution, would offer entry points to reduce inequalities, promote healthy diets, enhance women's empowerment and create new skills and jobs for the youth, by strengthening technical and vocational education and training. Further development of up-to-date, reliable, and comprehensive food and nutrition security information will remain key to situation analysis and development of context-specific strategies to strengthen community-level resilience in southern Angola and achieve durable results in food and nutrition security. Finally, there is a need to continue to address the critical issue of nutrition governance and to support the inclusion and implementation of nutrition actions at the local level. This requires a strengthened role and capacity of Civil Society Organisations in local governance for nutrition (see case study above).

1 - UNDESA World Population Prospects 2022, population estimate July 2023

2 - 38% early childbearing by age 18; 10% female secondary education enrolment (GNR 2019).

3 - Angola stands out for extremely high food prices relative to any other country with an informal and expanding food system. This is primarily a result of an overall low food supply and a high currency exchange rate from substantial oil revenue (Nature Food vol. 3, p.764-779 (2022)).

4 - Data in this section excludes some regional, global and policy/research/information commitments that could not be disaggregated by beneficiary country. The European Commission applied the methodology of the SUN Donor Network for nutrition resource tracking 2014-2020 and the OECD DAC's nutrition policy marker from 2021 onwards.

5 - With Belgium, France, Germany, Portugal and the European Investment Bank.