

2024 Country Profiles On Nutrition

Sustainable development goals¹

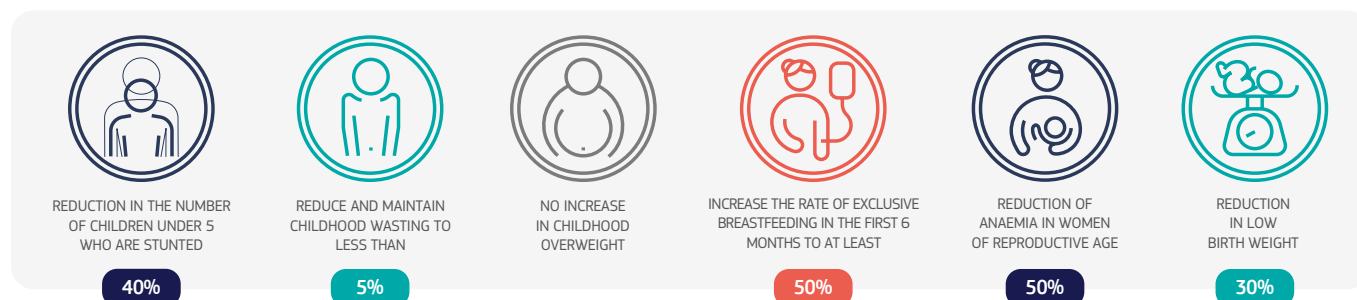
The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Nutrition is at the heart of the SDGs and without adequate and sustained investments in good nutrition, the SDGs will not be realised.

SDG2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. SDG target 2.2: By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

Global nutrition targets 2025²

Malnutrition comes in many forms – undernutrition, overweight including obesity, micronutrient deficiencies. In 2012, the World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution 65.6 endorsed a comprehensive

implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition³, which specified a set of six global nutrition targets to be reached by 2025:



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

EU pledges for nutrition⁴

The European Union (EU) has been actively engaged in fighting malnutrition globally:

- In 2012, the EU pledged to contribute to averting 7 million children under-five from stunting by 2025;
- Between 2014 and 2020, the EU committed over €4.3 billion for nutrition, €835 million more than originally pledged in 2013;
- In 2021, the EU moreover pledged to allocate **€2.5 billion** to reduce all forms of malnutrition (2021-2024).

The EU supports more than 55 countries that have prioritised nutrition in one of the action areas of their multi-annual indicative plans. These countries have a high burden of stunting, and a politically committed government (e.g membership of the SUN Movement).

To monitor the progress made towards the two pledges the EU uses the following methodologies:

- the **Stunting Reduction Calculation Tool (SRCT) methodology⁵** which sets the trend and projection of child stunting (both prevalence and numbers) in each country since 1990;
- the **SUN Resource Tracking methodology⁶** (2014-2020) and the **Nutrition Policy Marker⁷** (2021 onwards) in order to track financial investments in nutrition.

The financial data in the 2024 EU Nutrition Country Profiles excludes some regional, global and policy/research/information commitments that could not be disaggregated by beneficiary country. Data for 2022 are preliminary. The EU country profiles on nutrition complement other nutrition profiles by e.g. the Scaling Up Nutrition movement (SUN) and GNR.



Other key nutrition indicators

Indicator	Definition
EBF (Exclusive Breast Feeding)	Proportion of infants aged 0-6 months fed exclusively with breast milk.
FIES (The Food Insecurity Experience Scale)	A measure of access to food at the level of individuals or households. It measures severity of food insecurity based on people's responses to questions about constraints on their ability to obtain adequate food.
MAD (Minimum Acceptable Diet of children 6-23 months)	Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet (MAD), apart from breast milk. The MAD indicator measures both the minimum feeding frequency and minimum dietary diversity, as appropriate for various age groups.
MDD-W (Minimum Dietary Diversity-Women)	Dichotomous indicator of whether or not women 15-49 years of age have consumed at least five out of ten defined food groups the previous day or night.

Acronyms and key definitions

General acronyms	<p>AARR: Annual Average Reduction Rate of stunting applied in the SRCT</p> <p>EUR: Euro</p> <p>FNS: Food and Nutrition Security</p> <p>GDP: Gross Domestic Product</p> <p>MEAL: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning</p> <p>WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</p>
Acute malnutrition	<p>CMAM: Community Management of Acute Malnutrition</p> <p>GAM: Global Acute Malnutrition</p> <p>SAM: Severe Acute Malnutrition</p>
International organisations	<p>FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</p> <p>GIZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</p> <p>UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund</p> <p>WFP: World Food Programme</p> <p>WHO: World Health Organization</p>
EU initiatives	<p>C4N: (Capacity for Nutrition) is a global technical facility that provides support to the European Commission and the EU Delegations, to government departments in partner countries, to regional and global institutions and initiatives, and to the EU Member States.</p> <p>FIRST: Food and Nutrition Security Impact, Resilience, Sustainability and Transformation programme is a partnership between the EU and FAO.</p> <p>NIPN: National Information Platforms for Nutrition is an initiative of the EU to provide support to countries to strengthen their information systems for nutrition and to improve the analysis of data so as to better inform the strategic decisions they are faced with to prevent malnutrition and its consequences.</p> <p>PRO-ACT: Pro-Resilience Action is an EU Special Measure in response to food insecurity in ACP countries.</p>
International initiatives	<p>ICN2: International Conference on Nutrition held in Rome November 2014.</p> <p>N4G: Nutrition for Growth - the initiative event was held in London 2013 at which the original set of both national and international commitments were made.</p> <p>SUN: Scaling Up Nutrition movement.</p>
Key definitions	<p>First 1 000 days: the period from pregnancy to 24 months of age is a crucial window of opportunity for reducing undernutrition and its adverse effects.</p> <p>IYCF: Proper infant and young child feeding is the early initiation (within one hour of birth) of exclusive breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life, followed by nutritionally adequate and safe complementary foods while breastfeeding continues for up to two years of age or beyond.</p>

1 - <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

2 - <https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/library/stunting-reduction-calculation-tool>

3 - https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwho/pdf_files/WHA65-REC1/A65_REC1-en.pdf

4 - <https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/fostering-better-nutrition>

5 - <https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/library/stunting-reduction-calculation-tool>

6 - https://scalingupnutrition.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/RESOURCE_TRACKING_METHODOLOGY_SUN_DONOR_NETWORK.pdf

7 - [https://one.oecd.org/document/DAC/DAC/STAT\(2020\)46/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DAC/DAC/STAT(2020)46/en/pdf)