

## Global Europe Results Framework Indicator Methodology Note

1. Indicator name
<p><b>GERF 2.33: Number of women of reproductive age, adolescent girls and children under 5 reached by nutrition-related interventions supported by the EU</b></p>
2. Technical details
<p><i>Please use the information provided in OPSYS or the SWD.</i></p> <p><u>Results Dashboard code(s)</u>: <i>Number of (#).</i></p> <p><u>Unit of measure</u>: <i>Number of (#).</i></p> <p><u>Type of indicator</u>: <i>Quantitative (not Qualitative) – Numeric (not Percentage); Actual ex-post (not estimated or ex-ante); Cumulative (not annual); Direct (not indirect).</i></p> <p><u>Level(s) of measurement</u>: <i>Specific Objective – Outcome; Direct Output; Output.</i></p> <p><u>Disaggregation(s)</u>: <i>Sex (Female; Male; Intersex) ; Gender (Woman/girl; Man/boy; Non-binary; Prefer not to say); Age group - Results framework for Nutrition (&lt;5; 10-19; 20+); Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) (Phase 1 – Minimal; Phase 2 – Stressed; Phase 3 – Crisis; Phase 4 – Emergency; Phase 5 – Famine); Geographical location by food insecurity (IPC phase 1; IPC phases 2-5; No IPC classification).</i></p> <p><u>DAC sector code(s)</u>: <i>12240 – Basic nutrition.</i></p> <p><u>OECD Policy Markers</u>: <i>Nutrition (1 or 2)</i></p> <p><u>Main associated SDG</u>: <i>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 people.</i></p> <p><u>Other associated SDGs</u>: <i>1.1 extreme poverty; 1.2 multidimensional poverty; 1.3 social protection; 1.5 resilience to shocks and disasters; 2.1 hunger and access to food; 3.1 maternal mortality; 3.2 death of newborns and small children; 4.1 primary and secondary education; 4.2 pre-primary education; 5.4 unpaid care and domestic work; 8.6 youth not in employment or education; 10.1 income growth of the bottom 40 percent.</i></p> <p><u>Associated GERP Level 1 indicator</u>: <i>1.25 Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age (SDG 2.2.1).</i></p> <p><u>Associated GERP Level 3 indicators</u>:</p> <p><i>3.10 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance directed towards supporting social inclusion and human development</i></p> <p><i>3.11 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance directed towards nutrition</i></p> <p><i>3.13 Number and share of EU- external interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment</i></p> <p><i>3.14 Number and share of EU-funded external interventions promoting disability inclusion</i></p>

3.16 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance qualifying as ODA
3. Policy context and rationale
<p>The indicator allows the EU to capture the reach of nutrition related (i.e. nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive) interventions across sectors and across countries, and in doing so to demonstrate the scale and extent of its nutrition work at global level.</p> <p>The main policy documents providing a framework for this indicator are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the New European Consensus for Development, which recognises nutrition and the efforts against under-nutrition and malnutrition as a main priority;</li> <li>- the Commission Communication <a href="#">‘Enhancing Maternal and Child Nutrition in External Assistance: an EU Policy Framework’</a> (2013);</li> <li>- the Commission’s <a href="#">Action Plan on Nutrition</a>, which targets women of reproductive age and children;</li> <li>- the Commission’s <a href="#">Farm to Fork Strategy</a> (2020);</li> <li>- the Commission Communication <a href="#">‘EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child’</a> (2021).</li> </ul> <p>This indicator is also relevant for the Commission's reporting on its global nutrition commitments (using the OECD-DAC policy marker on nutrition), comprising both a biennial progress report on its action plan on nutrition and its contribution to the Global Nutrition Report created following the 2013 Nutrition for Growth Compact.</p>
4. Logframe inclusion
<p><b>If an intervention generates the result measured by this indicator, then it must be reported in OPSYS.</b> Corporate targets have been set for the indicators used to monitor the Strategic Plan and the Multiannual Financial Framework (see Section 9). Progress towards these targets is reported annually in the Annual Activity Plan (for the Strategic Plan) and the Programme Performance Statements (for the Multiannual Financial Framework). These values are calculated by aggregating the results reported in OPSYS. These reports ultimately contribute to the Annual Management Performance Report submitted by the European Commission to the Council and Parliament during the annual budgetary discharge procedure. If targets are not met, explanations must be provided. Therefore, it is crucial that all results are recorded in OPSYS.</p> <p><b>There are two ways of doing this:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Include the indicator directly in the logframe (recommended approach);</li> <li>2. Match the indicator to the closest logframe indicator (only if the indicator was not originally included in the logframe and modification is not possible).</li> </ol>

Why? The matching functionality in OPSYS only accommodates reporting current values and does not yet support encoding baselines and targets. This is a significant drawback because targets are a valuable piece of information, especially at the beginning of a Multiannual Financial Framework. Indeed, results take time to materialise as they are the last step in the chain, appearing only after programming, commitments, contracting, and spending have occurred. Targets allow to see what results are expected long before they materialise, which is reassuring to the different stakeholders concerned with accountability. **Therefore, include all corporate indicators directly in the logframe whenever possible, and reserve the matching functionality only for cases when this is not feasible.**

## 5. Values to report

The following values must be determined in line with the definitions provided in Section 6.

**Baseline value:** the value measured for the indicator in the baseline year. The baseline value is the value against which progress will be assessed.

**Current value:**

- **For logframe indicators:** the most recent value for the indicator at the time of reporting. The current value includes the baseline value which is reported separately for logframe indicators in OPSYS.
- **For matched indicators:** the most recent value for the results achieved at the time of reporting since the start of implementation of the intervention. This value is obtained by taking the most recent value for the indicator at the time of reporting and subtracting off the baseline value which is not reported separately for matched indicators in OPSYS.

Current values will be collected at least once a year and reported cumulatively throughout the implementation period.

**Final target value:** the expected value for the indicator in the target year.

**Intermediate target values (milestones).** A tool has been developed in OPSYS to generate intermediate targets automatically<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> This has been done in the context of the Primary Intervention Questionnaire (PIQ) for the EAMR. Three new KPIs provide an overall assessment of ongoing interventions (current performance and future performance) and completed interventions (final performance). Scores will be calculated for all INTPA and NEAR interventions participating in the annual results data collection exercise.

- *KPI 10* reflects the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing interventions. The information on relevance is provided by the Operational Manager's response to a question in a survey. The information on efficiency and effectiveness is provided either by the logframe data, if sufficient data is available, or the response to a question in a survey, if not.
- *KPI 11* reflects expectations regarding the most probable levels of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability that can be achieved by ongoing interventions in the future. In this case, all the information is provided by the Operational Manager's responses to questions in a survey.
- *KPI 12* reflects the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of completed interventions. The information on relevance is provided by the Operational Manager's response to a question in a survey. The information on efficiency and effectiveness is provided by the logframe data if sufficient data is available, or the response to a question in a survey, if not.

- **For outputs:** the intermediate targets are generated using a linear interpolation between the baseline and target values because it is assumed that outputs materialise sooner and more progressively over implementation (than outcomes).
- **For outcomes:** the expected progression over the course of implementation will vary across interventions. During the creation of a logframe, the expected outcome profile must be selected (OPSYS offers four options<sup>2</sup>) and this selection triggers the generation of intermediate targets for all 30 June and 31 December dates between the baseline and target dates for all output and outcome quantitative indicators. All automatically generated intermediate targets values and dates can be subsequently modified by the Operational Manager or the Implementing Partner with the approval of the Operational Manager.

## 5. Calculation of values

*Specify all assumptions made, list definitions for all technical terms, provide any relevant guidance on (double) counting, and include checklist for quality control.*

The value for this indicator is calculated by counting the number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance, using the technical definitions and counting guidance provided below. Please double check your calculations using the quality control checklist below.

### **Technical definitions**

The beneficiaries to be counted for this indicator include:

- women of reproductive age (15-49 year-olds), paying particular attention to pregnant and lactating women;
- adolescent girls (age range based on national definitions, generally 10-19 year-olds);
- infants and children under 5 years of age<sup>3</sup>.

To be counted, the individuals must have been reached by EU assistance through nutrition related interventions (either 'nutrition-specific' or 'nutrition-sensitive') during the reporting year.

According to the [OECD DAC Nutrition Policy Marker Guidelines](#) an intervention can be classified as ***nutrition-related*** when it is intended to address the immediate or underlying determinants of malnutrition. This can encompass a range of projects across a variety of sectors, including humanitarian interventions, maternal health, WASH and agriculture.

An intervention is eligible for the nutrition policy marker if:

- it is reported under the 12240 basic nutrition purpose code.

OR

<sup>2</sup> a. *steady progress*: The outcomes are achieved continuously throughout implementation; b. *accelerating progress*: The outcomes are achieved towards the end of implementation; c. *no progress until end*: The outcomes are mostly achieved at the end of implementation; d. *none of the above*.

<sup>3</sup> The 2008 Lancet Series on Nutrition identified the first '1 000 days' (i.e. from conception to 2 years-old) as a 'crucial window of opportunity' for preventing and addressing undernutrition.

- it contributes to a nutrition-sensitive outcome AND the project documentation includes an explicit nutrition objective or indicator.

Nutrition-related interventions cover all activities identified by the nutrition policy marker and include both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions.

- Nutrition-specific activities address the immediate determinants of malnutrition which include adequate food and nutrient intake, feeding, caregiving and parenting practices, and low burden of infectious diseases. Activities reported under the basic nutrition purpose code (12240) are generally considered as nutrition-specific interventions, but nutrition-specific activities are not limited to those reported under code 12240. Example: a project aiming ‘to provide nutritional supplements and reduce the wasting rate of children under 5 years old’ or ‘to reduce acute malnutrition’.
- Nutrition-sensitive activities address the underlying determinants of malnutrition which include adequate caregiving resources at the maternal, household and community levels and access to health services and a safe and hygienic environment, incorporating specific nutrition goals and actions. Nutrition-sensitive programmes can be delivered across sectors including agriculture, education, social protection, and water supply and hygiene. Example: a project aiming to improve nutrition through improving the availability of food and the reduction of the levels of household food insecurity.

Examples of such nutrition related interventions include dietary diversification, advice and training on nutrition and food use and social protection measures meeting nutrition-sensitive criteria. Mass communication measures, e.g. general distribution of health nutrition leaflets, are excluded.

### **Counting guidance**

1. The count should include interventions that are nutrition-specific (the provision of nutrients and other food), nutrition-sensitive (often involving agricultural support on how to grow nutrient-rich food), and educational in some cases. Mass communication measures are excluded.
2. If the intervention only targets children under the age of 5, adolescent girls and/or women of reproductive age, the numbers can be taken directly from the intervention information.
3. If the intervention targets a wider age group, and/or men, it will be necessary to distinguish between the target population and the people counted under this indicator. The number of children under the age of 5, adolescent girls and the number of women reached can be estimated by using population statistics to calculate the percentage of each group in the total population and applying the percentages to the target population. Round the output of the calculation to the nearest whole number. Record the calculations in the calculation method field to facilitate quality control.
4. The Gender Action Plan III (GAP III) requires the reporting of gender-disaggregated values if possible and sex-disaggregated values if not. Use intervention data to provide the disaggregation.
5. Double-counting is not allowed: a person can be counted only once in the same reporting period. This means that if the same person benefits from one or more

forms of support over one or more years in the same reporting period, from the same intervention or different interventions, this person should be counted only once. To avoid the double counting of people over time, two approaches are possible. If it is possible to reliably estimate the number of people supported in the first year, and the number of new people supported in the following years (i.e. not yet supported during the reporting period in question), these numbers can be added up without the risk of double counting. However, if this information is not available, the maximum result of the reporting period should be used instead. Record the calculations in the calculation method field to facilitate quality control of the values reported. Report the geographic location of the people in the comment field to facilitate quality control of double counting.

6. However, there are exceptions to the double-counting rule: people counted under GERF 2.33 can also be counted under the following GERF indicators if the relevant conditions are met:
- GERF 2.1 *Number of smallholders reached with EU supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land;*
  - GERF 2.20 *Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support;*
  - GERF 2.33 *Number of women of reproductive age, adolescent girls and children under 5 reached by nutrition-related interventions supported by the EU;*
  - GERF 2.39 *Number of people directly benefiting from EU supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality.*

#### **Quality control checklist**

1. Has the indicator been included directly in the logframe? Reserve the OPSYS matching functionality only for cases when this is not feasible.
2. If the indicator has been included directly in the logframe, does the current value *include* the baseline value? If the indicator has been matched to a logframe indicator, does the current value *exclude* the baseline value?
3. Is the intervention nutrition-related? If the intervention is marked as nutrition-related in OPSYS with the nutrition policy marker and/or with the 12240 Basic Nutrition sector code, then it can be considered nutrition-related. However, this list may not be exhaustive, so you may also report interventions providing nutrition support that were not marked as such.
4. Do the individuals qualify for inclusion? Only count women of reproductive age (15-49 year-olds), adolescent girls (10-19 year-olds, or national definition) and children under 5 years of age.
5. Does the GERF value exclude individuals reached solely through mass publicity campaigns, e.g. general distribution of health nutrition leaflets?
6. Is the GERF value a whole number? The number of people cannot be a decimal number.
7. Have gender (or sex) disaggregated values been reported? Gender (or sex) disaggregation is mandatory.
8. Does the GERF value include the people counted under GERF 2.1 *Number of smallholders reached with EU-supported interventions aimed to increase their*

*sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land*, if they also qualify for this indicator? This type of double counting is exceptionally permitted in this case.

9. Does the GERF value include the people counted under GERF 2.32 *Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance*, if they also qualify for this indicator? This type of double counting is exceptionally permitted in this case.
10. Does the intervention focus on migration? If so, this result should also be reported under GERF 2.20 *Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support*, if all conditions are verified. Double counting with GERF 2.20 is allowed.
11. Does the intervention focus on inequalities? If so, this result should also be reported under GERF 2.39 *Number of people directly benefiting from EU supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality*, if all conditions are verified. Double counting with GERF 2.39 is allowed.
12. Has any other double counting been avoided? People should be counted only once, except for the cases mentioned above.
13. Have all calculations been recorded in the calculation method field? Has all relevant information, including the geographic location of results, been reported in the comment field?

## 6. Examples of calculations

### **Example 1**

The EU supports a scheme distributing iron-folate supplements to pregnant women during antenatal health days as part of a national roll-out supported through a multi-donor trust fund. These supplements were provided to 80% of the pregnant population of the country (around 50 000 women, according to national statistics). In this case, the number of pregnant women reached is  $0.8 * 50\ 000 = 40\ 000$ .

### **Example 2**

The EU is supporting the treatment of severely malnourished children in two centres in the northern part of country X over a four-year period. Health centres do not keep track of individual children. In this case, the number of children under the age of 5 reached by the scheme is determined by looking at the highest annual value reported over the four-year period for children that have been treated and that have recovered (defaulters<sup>4</sup> and deaths must not be counted).

### **Example 3**

The EU is providing support to scale up maternal and newborn health outcomes in two states in Nigeria. According to the final report, the annual figures for the specific treatments are as follows:

<b>Category: per region/year</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
<i>Women receiving iron-folate supplementation</i>		

<sup>4</sup> Patients/children are considered defaulters when they drop out of the treatment/programme before being cured (and are still alive). For instance, in the case of outpatient care, someone not showing up for two consecutive sessions would typically count as a 'defaulter'.

State of Adamawa	84 432	236 592
State of Kebbi	67 174	172 466
<i>Children under 5 receiving micro-nutrient powder</i>		
State of Adamawa	0	0
State of Kebbi	0	5 414

The highest annual values are marked in grey.

The total value reported is  $236\,592 + 172\,466 + 5\,414 = 414\,472$ .

#### **Example 4**

The EU is supporting the diversification of food production by households through an initiative on kitchen gardens. The intervention provides 20 000 women with training, tools, seeds and nutrition education. In this case, the number of women reached is reported, but the number of children under the age of 5 and adolescent girls in the same households are not reported as they are considered as indirect beneficiaries.

#### **Example 5**

The EU is supporting a nutrition-sensitive social protection intervention in the form of a budget support scheme to provide a regular and unconditional monthly cash transfer to all pregnant women and mothers of children up to the age of 5. These cash transfers are initially launched in four priority districts. The maximum reach in any given year is 160 000 women of reproductive age. As the women and not the children are the direct recipients of the cash transfers, only the mothers should be counted. The children should be considered as potential indirect beneficiaries and therefore not included.

### 7. Data sources and issues

*Please use the data source categories specified in OPSYS.*

EU intervention monitoring and reporting systems: *Progress and final reports for the EU-funded intervention; EU-funded feasibility or appraisal reports; Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention.*

*Include any issues relating to the availability and quality of the data.*

### 8. Reporting process & Corporate reporting

The data collected on this indicator will be reported in OPSYS by the Implementing Partner. The values encoded in OPSYS will be verified, possibly modified and ultimately validated by the Operational Manager. Once a year the results reported will be frozen for corporate reporting. The methodological services in HQ that are responsible for GERF corporate reporting will perform quality control on the frozen data and aggregate as needed to meet the different corporate reporting requirements.

This indicator is used for corporate reporting in the following contexts:

- *NDICI via the Annual Report*
- *NDICI via the Programme Statements*
- *INTPA Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report*
  - *NEAR Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report*
  - *FPI Strategic Plan*



This indicator has been included in the following other Results Measurement Frameworks:

- *EFSD+*
- *GAP III*
- *IPA III*
- *TEI-MORE*

#### 9. Other uses

GERF 2.33 can be found in the following thematic results chains:

- [Climate Change and environment](#)
- [Food and Nutrition Security and sustainable Agriculture](#)

GERF 2.33 can be found in the following groups of EU predefined indicators available in OPSYS, along with other related indicators:

- Nutrition
- Sustainable Aquatic and Agri-Food Systems

For more information, see: [Predefined indicators for design and monitoring of EU-funded interventions | Capacity4dev \(europa.eu\)](#)

External bodies using the same or similar indicator:

- DFID uses this indicator in its December 2017 single departmental plan: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/540193/Nutrition.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/540193/Nutrition.pdf).
- G8 New Alliance – the USA Feed the Future initiative includes a number of similar indicators in its [Feed the Future Indicator Handbook: March 2018](#).
- UNICEF reports on coverage of nutrition-specific interventions, e.g. *Tracking progress on child and maternal nutrition. A survival and development priority*. UNICEF 2009.
- The World Bank includes the indicator "People with access to a basic package of health, nutrition, or reproductive health services (number)" as one of its corporate indicators: [Corporate Scorecards October 2017](#).

#### 10. Other issues