

# Influencing the Nutrition Agenda

## Session Introduction

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# What *is* "the nutrition agenda"?

*(relevant text from USAID's MSN Strategy, IR 2.2: Increased Political Will and Resources for Nutrition Programs)*

- **“National governments must prioritize nutrition and demonstrate their commitment with policies, human and financial resources, and legal frameworks including equitable rights.”**
- “Critical to the effectiveness of programs across sectors are key systems that support human resources and financial management, quality assurance and improvement approaches, good governance, as well as the timely delivery of services.”
- “Political will must be reflected through financial support, particularly in national budgets and at sub-national levels in decentralized contexts.”



# The nutrition agenda

- Making good nutrition for all a priority
- Creating policy, legal, regulatory frameworks for nutrition programs and services
- Funding them, in national budgets and at sub-national levels
- Building the capacity of organizations and individuals in positions to improve nutrition



# What is the state of nutrition policies?

- Of 119 WHO member states included in the WHO Global Nutrition Policy Review (2013)
  - 64% had an officially adopted nutrition policy document
  - majority involved at least health, education, and agriculture/food sectors
  - 17% located responsibility for nutrition coordination in the President or Prime Minister's office, most in Ministry of Health
- Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) launched in 2010, promoting and supporting 55 countries to develop multi-sectoral national nutrition action plans and share their progress
  - 14 countries had completed an estimate of allocation or expenditure for nutrition (GNR 2015) (up from 3 in '14)



# A West Africa regional view of nutrition policy

- All 10 countries represented here at the GLEE are SUN countries
- All have committed to working across sectors, developing national policies and multi-year action plans, and most have created designated multi-sectoral platforms
- Some report to MOH (3), some to the Prime Minister's (2), President's (3), or VP's (1) office
- Financing: most do not track budgets or expenditures for nutrition



# We know what it takes...the question is always *how*

What is needed for “the **conversion of momentum into results** on the ground”? (p. 22)

- ...“knowledge and **evidence**, politics and **governance**, and capacity and **resources**.” (p. 24)
- ...“national, cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder ...**coordination** across ministries, promote **public-private partnerships**, build country **capacity** (p.23)



Thank you!

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