

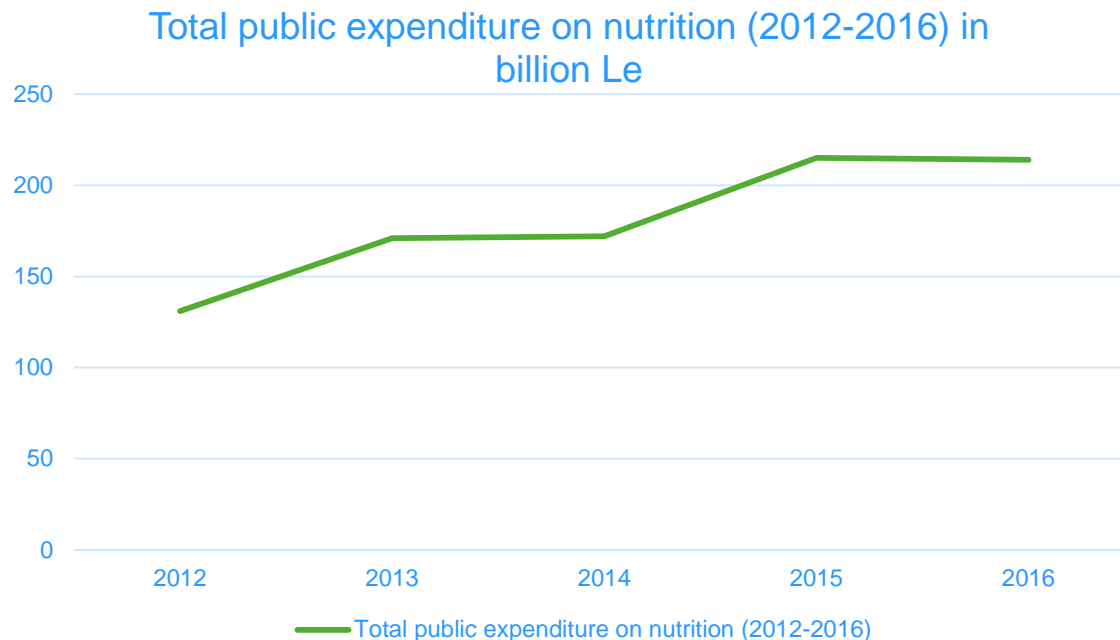
TRACKING GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON NUTRITION IN SIERRA LEONE

2012-2016



Overview

1. Two budget analyses were done in Sierra Leone: tracking 2012-2015 investments in nutrition and of 2016
2. One consolidated analysis/report released each year, inclusive of the government, CSO and development partners' inputs and validation
3. Analysis on progress towards Nutrition for Growth commitments analysis was done in 2016



Involvement of stakeholders

1. National Consultant (Budget Advocacy Network) hired by Action Against Hunger in consultation with SUN Secretariat
2. Kick off meeting facilitated by the SUN Secretariat at the Office of the Vice President (SUN National Coordinator signs letters for the Accountant General Office at Ministry of Finance and other ministries)
3. Bilateral meetings with SUN Focal points in each tracked ministry
4. Second meeting for the validation of selected activities to be tracked
5. Civil society took part in all meetings (under SUN CSP umbrella)
6. Validation of findings meeting facilitated by the SUN Secretariat
7. Circulating draft report for comments to all stakeholders before finalising



**Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Secretariat
Office of the Vice President
Tower Hill, Freetown**

25th May 2016

The Accountant General
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
George Street
Freetown

Dear Sir/Madam,

BUDGET TRACKING OF DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE FOR NUTRITION

On behalf of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Multi-stakeholder Platform (MSP) in Sierra Leone, the SUN Secretariat in collaboration with Action Against Hunger is conducting a budget tracking of domestic expenditure for nutrition. This exercise is crucial to the efforts in improving nutrition in Sierra Leone.

Methodology and analysis

SUN 3 step approach:

- **Step 1: Identify nutrition activities**
 - Reference to policy and strategy documents;
 - Reference to government budget/expenditure documents (Recurrent and Development Expenditure Estimates for Financial Year 2016 – 2018);
 - Discussions with stakeholders (one opening meeting, bilateral meetings with all tracked ministries, consultation of nutrition experts);
- **Step 2: Assess whether activities are nutrition sensitive or specific**
 - Directly targeting nutrition (specific);
 - Targeting the underlying causes of nutrition (sensitive);
- **Step 3: Allocate a portion of expenditure to activities**
 - 100% for specific;
 - 25% for sensitive (unless there is reason to do otherwise);

How the findings were used?



To advocate for increased funding for nutrition and adherence to financial and policy commitments (1)

Nutrition for Growth Paper (financial, policy, nutrition targets) national launch event

Presentation of findings at SUN Global Gathering in Nairobi (2016)

Presentation of results hosted by SUN Secretariat at Vice President Office

Presentation of results at Food and Nutrition Donors meeting and SUN Global Gathering in Abidjan;

Social media and outreach activities;



Nutrition for Growth: Sierra Leone's progress on its commitments 3 years later

In 2013, at the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit in London¹, leaders from governments, international organisations, private sector and the civil society gathered to place nutrition at the centre of the global development agenda. 94 stakeholders willing to urgently scale up nutrition endorsed the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact and respectively committed to their own specific targets, with the overall objective to prevent 20 million children from being stunted and to save 1.7 million lives by 2020.

As a signatory to the Compact², the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) recognised malnutrition as a major cause of the high maternal and infant mortality rate in the country and committed to:

- Reduce the prevalence of stunting from 25.7% to 11.7% and wasting from 6.9% to 2% by 2020, while increasing exclusive breastfeeding from 32% to 70%;
- Finalize and endorse the five year Nutrition and Food Security costed plan by July 2013 and prioritize fundraising to ensure successful implementation;
- Increase the Government's financial allocation to nutrition and food security and create a specific budget line for nutrition in budgets for the Ministries of Health and Sanitation, Agriculture and other relevant ministries;
- Establish legal frameworks and enforce the Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes and food fortification;
- Scale up community support networks for nutrition and food security.

The GoSL developed and adopted the Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (FNSIP) for years 2013 to 2017. The SUN Secretariat coordinated the elaboration of the plan in collaboration with partners from civil society, donors and United Nations agencies. The FNSIP aims at addressing all nutrition-related sectors, such as health, food security, water, sanitation, hygiene, and education, and includes a wide range of nutrition-sensitive as well as nutrition-specific interventions.

In May 2014, a year after the GoSL committed to scale up nutrition at the N4G Summit, Sierra Leone was hit by the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak. Analysing progress on funding for nutrition since 2013 thus has to be made in the light of this health emergency and the considerable means required to address it. The GoSL had to put substantial efforts in the EVD emergency response, which inevitably resulted in a prioritisation of funding for EVD related activities, at the detriment of other sectors such as nutrition.

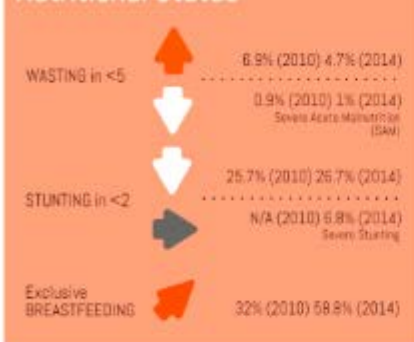
Sierra Leone

First steps towards 2020 nutrition targets

Nutrition for Growth commitments*



Nutritional status



What budget for nutrition?



New nutrition budget lines

Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) ✓
Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security ✓

Costed Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (\$117.2m)

Code of Marketing of Breast-milk substitutes



A Core Cook Committee was established in 2011 a position paper for the regulation was prepared and supported by the Directorate of Food and Nutrition Services. However, no request was made for the allocation of health for the authorization to draft the law. As a result, the Code regulation has not been presented to Parliament yet, and thus, was not endorsed.

Community Networks



* The Government of Sierra Leone signed up to these commitments at the Nutrition for Growth Summit in June 2013. However, a year after, the country was affected by the most widespread Ebola outbreak in the virus's history. It is therefore likely the country's efforts to scale up nutrition were slowed down by the need for the GoSL to respond to the outbreak as a priority.

Sierra Leone

Trends of government funding for nutrition

Nutrition expenditure in 2015



2012-2015 trends

While spending for nutrition increase

NUTRITION SPECIFIC		NUTRITION SENSITIVE	
2012	2015	2012	2015
\$7,000	\$59,680	\$30.25m	\$47.58m

...GoSL priority for nutrition remains almost the same

	2012	2015
(% of the national budget)	3.91%	4.82%

* If we look at the real growth and thus take into account the inflation between 2012 and 2015, these two figures are brought down to \$44,180 and \$35.2m, respectively.

The Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (FNSIP) costed plan

Estimated cost 2013 - 2017: \$117.2m
Funding gap identified: \$81m

The Government of Sierra Leone contribution to the FNSIP

Year	Contribution (%)
2013	37%
2014	26%
2015	32%

The FNSIP activities are not aligned with dedicated budget lines against which expenditure can be reported. This makes ACCOUNTABILITY for the FNSIP implementation more difficult. These figures consequently may vary an estimation.

Ministries contribution to the FNSIP

MoEST	\$75,000 (2012) \$30,000 (2015)
MoHS	\$12m (2012) \$17m (2015)
MoSWGCA	\$536,000 (2012) \$3m (2015)
MoAFFS	\$14m (2012) \$25m (2015)

MoEST: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MoHS: Ministry of Health and Sanitation
MoSWGCA: Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs
MoAFFS: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security

New nutrition budget lines

MoHS nutrition budget line was created in 2014 for:

- Promoting Infant and Young Child Feeding and food hygiene.
- Promoting micronutrient fortification and food.
- Improving identification, monitoring and growth systems.
- Advocacy for scaling up nutrition and coordination.

MoAFFS nutrition budget line was created in 2014...

...but the line has not been used to record any activity since it was created. No expenditure is linked to this budget line so far.

2016

The annual budget for 2016 planned to triple funding for nutrition-specific activities...

...But as of May 2016, no funds have been released yet for the year.

This points out a **DISBURSEMENT ISSUE**, that needs to be addressed to enable actual funding of nutrition activities.



* Sources: Defeat Policy Management, Tracking government expenditure on nutrition in Sierra Leone, Plating the SDG three step approach, Alex Jones, May 2015, Briefing paper 2013-2016. The trends of Government funding for nutrition in Sierra Leone.

To track and manage the use of nutrition funds (2)

Government and development partners regularly refer to the tracking tool in various coordination forums when it comes to nutrition financing

In 2017, the analysis allowed to see the gap between funds budgeted for nutrition and actual expenditures made by the government

Other ministries expressed interest to be part of this process (Marine Resources, Social and Environmental protection)

Recommendation for the next year – include tracking of development partners' (UN family and donors) investment in nutrition

Weighted nutrition sensitive

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
MaEST	86,154,467,141	104,723,910,444	119,902,524,198	147,038,355,562	137,052,793,346	-
MaHS	30,074,645,783	35,054,011,352	32,742,753,211	43,139,821,868	52,161,066,541	-
MaSWGCA	589,045,171	1,317,664,069	2,096,965,144	1,885,693,250	2,491,788,575	-
MaAFFS	9,390,344,578	9,085,070,782	11,658,142,380	13,702,825,759	16,510,233,877	-
MaWR	5,206,923,501	20,482,534,636	5,439,728,725	9,476,989,406	5,187,480,779	-
MaSCA					9,038,568,049	
MaFMR					1,076,425,000	
Total	131,415,426,174	170,663,191,281	171,840,113,658	215,243,685,845	223,518,356,167	-

Tracking tool for routine exercise

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Nutrition sensitive expenditure through MoHS							
2	Programme	First 7 digits of the C	2012	2013	2014	2015	Budget 2016	Expenditure 2016
3	Central policy and administration		597,000,933	12,843,987,631	307,794,590	3,191,839,719	3,908,700,000	4,061,407,890
4	<i>Office of the Director of Medical Services</i>	3040002	56,423,711	236,098,000	9,500,000	351,293,180	213,200,000	120,000,000
5	<i>Directorate of Primary Health Care</i>	3040003	39,675,000	140,900,000	29,700,000	169,700,000	752,000,000	75,000,000
6	<i>Directorate of Hospital and Laboratory Services</i>	3040004	38,167,550	10,975,031,858		32,100,000	133,500,000	199,567,500
7	<i>Directorate of Support Services</i>	3040005	38,390,844	264,240,000	75,400,000	258,900,000	183,500,000	80,000,000
8	<i>Directorate of Planning and Information</i>	3040006	27,371,000	97,500,000	55,800,000	150,000,000	596,000,000	130,000,000
9	<i>Directorate of Nursing Services</i>	3040009	24,520,757	109,248,000	21,700,000	205,512,250	67,000,000	60,000,000
10	<i>Directorate of Disease Prevention and Control</i>	3040010	43,342,000	76,981,000	27,250,000	324,250,000	63,500,000	30,000,000
11	<i>Health Human Resources</i>	3040102	225,768,071	758,988,773	88,444,590	1,220,084,289	200,000,000	2,841,840,390
12	<i>National School of Midwifery</i>	3040103	30,000,000	95,000,000		130,000,000	900,000,000	250,000,000
13	<i>Nurses and Midwives Board</i>	3040105	30,000,000	90,000,000		150,000,000	200,000,000	75,000,000
14	<i>Disease Prevention and Control</i>	3040109	43,342,000			200,000,000	600,000,000	200,000,000
15	National Programmes		921,554,636	3,549,099,969	970,026,379	561,402,500	34,676,600,000	3,210,250,000
16	<i>National Dental Services</i>	3040602		116,300,000		50,000,000	180,000,000	60,000,000
17	<i>National Safe Blood Services</i>	3040603		50,000,000		290,000,000	300,000,000	95,250,000.00
18	<i>Drugs & Medical Supplies</i>	3040703	878,808,776	2,695,800,969	751,976,379	106,000,000	33,946,600,000	2,980,000,000.00
19	<i>Central Medical Services</i>	3040704	42,745,860	86,999,000	218,050,000	115,402,500	150,000,000	75,000,000.00
20	<i>National Pharmaceutical Procurement Unit/Transport</i>	3040708		600,000,000			100,000,000	-
21	Primary Health Care		1,342,591,113	3,722,809,065	897,456,687	6,506,743,662	12,459,100,000	528,596,000
22	<i>Environmental health and sanitation</i>	3040201	224,021,600	83,485,000	19,000,000	350,652,500	112,000,000	58,600,000
23	<i>Health education</i>	3040202	23,698,619	109,650,000	11,000,000	235,500,000	99,200,000	70,000,000

MoEST nut tracker

MoHS nut tracker

MoSWGCA nut tracker

MoAFFS nut tracker

NaCSA

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To promote national ownership and advocate for routine tracking activities (3)



SUN Secretariat and government uses the findings in their advocacy

SUN CSP Sierra Leone involved in both budget tracking activities

SUN CSP member presented the findings at SUN GG in 2017

SUN CSP included the replication of the exercise into Nutrition Advocacy
Fund proposal for 2018 and donors in country encourage replication of this activity yearly

Lessons learnt

1. There is no wrong strategy of how the results can be used: two different strategies used in two years (social mobilization and vocal advocacy vs. high level lobby and bilateral meetings)
2. Involve wide audiences from the beginning of the project, including design, launch of the project, data collection and dissemination
3. Hire a national consultant or consultancy firm that has already done similar exercises and ask for facilitation of the exercise from a well respected and established nutrition body
4. Develop and maintains a strong relationship (and encourage local civil society to do so) with the Ministry of Finance in order to facilitate similar tracking in the future

Lessons learnt

1. Know when best to use the findings: use international events as well as national processes as hooks for your advocacy (eg. National elections, parliamentary discussions etc.)
2. Develop tools for routine tracking which will make it easier for future, but allow for flexibility in those tools as budget analysis is an evolving process
3. Consider best time of the year when to conduct your analysis depending on the findings you want to achieve and the budget/financial cycles in your country

Jovita Sandaite

advocacyexpert@sl.missions-acf.org

Sierra Leone

