

SIERRA LEONE

Call for Commitments for Nutrition



www.ScalingUpNutrition.org

Demographic data (2010, WPP 2012)

Population: 5.8 million
 Children under 5: 0.9 million
 Population growth rate: 2.33%

Nutrition data (SMART 2010)

Stunting: 34.1%
 Wasting: 6.9%
 Low Birth Weight: 10.5%
 Overweight: 9.6%
 Exclusive Breastfeeding: 31.6%

Cost of Nutrition Plans

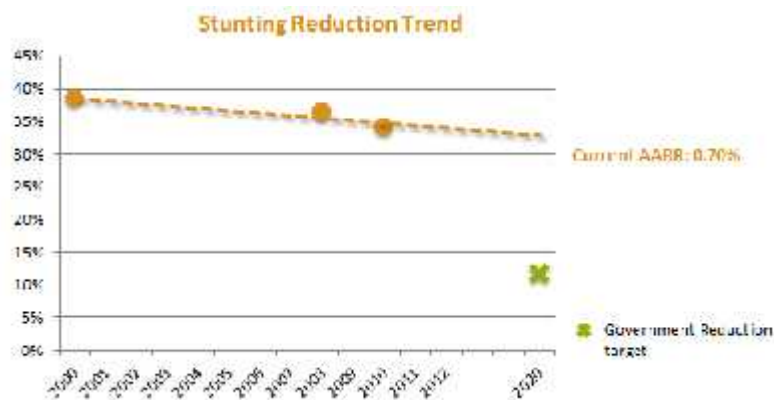
Total Cost (5 years) \$117.2 million
 Annual Cost: \$ 23.4 million
 Per Capita Annual Cost: \$ 3.4

Break-down:

Nutrition-specific interventions: 46.7%
 Nutrition-sensitive approaches: 19.8%
 Strengthening Governance: 33.5%

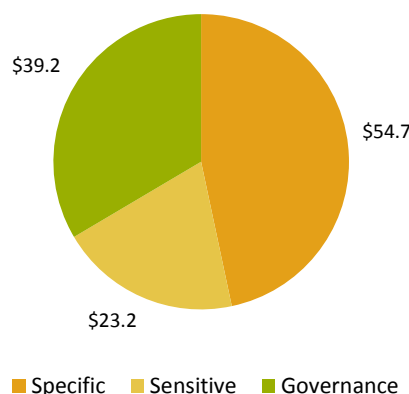
Funding Gap

5 year funding gap: \$81 million



* Annual Average Rate of Reduction, Data Source: WHO, SMART 2010

Total Programme Costs by Programme Type (millions of USD)



Coverage of Nutrition-Specific Interventions

Good nutrition practices	
Exclusive breastfeeding (0-6 months)	31.6% ¹
Complementary feeding with at least 4 groups per day (6-23 months)	27.4% ¹
Vitamin and mineral intake	
Zinc treatment for diarrhoea	6.1% ¹
Pregnant women attending 4 or more ANC visits (proxy for iron and folate supplementation)	74.7% ¹
De-worming (12-59 months)	85.8% ³
Vitamin A supplementation (6-59 months)	99.0% ²
Presence of iodised salt in the house	62.6% ¹

Comprehensive data on coverage of treatment for acute malnutrition, and micronutrient fortification are not available

Source: ¹MICS 2010; ²UNICEF 2013 ³SMART 2010

Sierra Leone in the SUN Movement

Sierra Leone joined the SUN Movement in January 2012 and appointed the Vice President of the Republic of Sierra Leone as the SUN Focal Point. There is a high-level government Food and Nutrition Steering Committee, comprised of relevant ministries, development partners and other stakeholders, in the Vice-President's office and a newly appointed SUN Coordinator managing the Secretariat. Irish Aid and USAID are the Donor Conveners in Sierra Leone. A Nutrition Working Group was set up in 2011, chaired by Irish Aid and USAID, and acts as a multi-sectoral platform for sharing information and updates in food and nutrition security, and providing support for stakeholder mapping.

Sierra Leone Plans for Nutrition

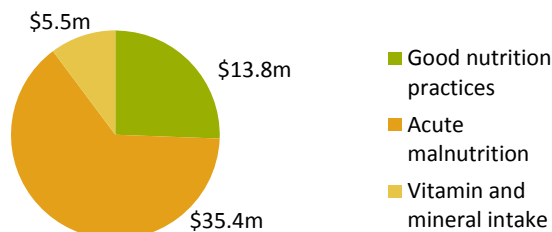
The Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Plan (FNSPIP) was developed by all relevant sectors in conjunction with the Nutrition Working Group. The FNSPIP will be launched in October 2013. The FNSPIP has a strong multi-sectoral focus and is aligned with the agriculture sectoral plan (Smallholder Commercialisation Programme) and water initiatives (Water Policy).

Cost of Nutrition Plans

The total cost of the FNSPIP over five years is approximately \$117 million. This is an average of \$23 million per year, with a per capita annual cost of just over \$3.

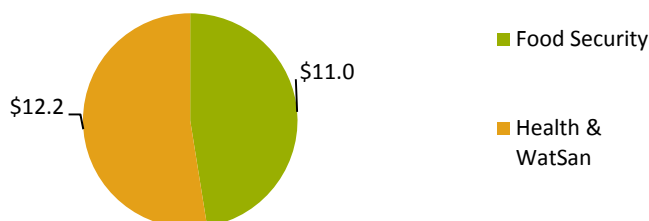
Costs of Nutrition-Specific Interventions Over 5 Years

Nutrition-specific interventions cost \$55 million, representing 47% of the total cost of the FNSPIP.



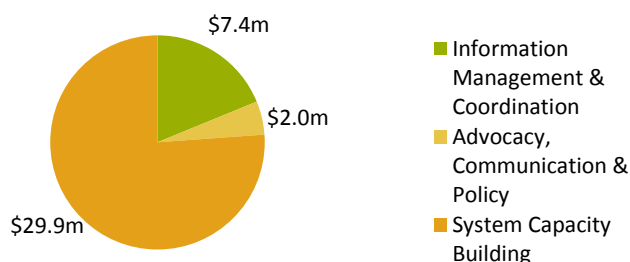
Costs for Nutrition-Sensitive Approaches Over 5 Years

Nutrition-sensitive approaches represent \$23 million, or 20% of the total plan costs.



Costs for Strengthening Governance Over 5 Years

Strengthening governance to implement nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive approaches accounts for \$39 million, or almost 34% of the total cost of the FNSPIP.



Priorities, Implementation & Accountability

Two major challenges remain for Sierra Leone: leveraging greater resources for nutrition and strengthening coordination for nutrition. These two areas are crucial to effective implementation of the plan and scaling up nutrition at district level.

Domestic & Donor Financing Commitments

Government finances many of the system costs for nutrition. This include costs for training, staffing and operations—costs which are not fully reflected in the costs of the plan. The cost of scale up to full coverage has not been estimated.

At the launch of the SUN Movement in Sierra Leone in October 2nd 2012, the signing of the commitment to reducing hunger and malnutrition by Government was witnessed by the United Nations and donors (Irish Aid and USAID). USAID does not provide bilateral funds to Sierra Leone but channels funds (\$4.2 million a year) through its Sustainable Nutrition and Agriculture Promotion (SNAP) programme, which is currently running until 2015. Food security and nutrition is at the core of Irish Aid's Sierra Leone strategy. There is no bilateral funding and their envelope of €5-6 million per year is channelled through civil society and United Nations organisations.

Funding Gap

The current funding gap for scaling up nutrition in Sierra Leone has been estimated at around \$81 million for 5 years. The overwhelming view is that the resource shortfall is substantial.