

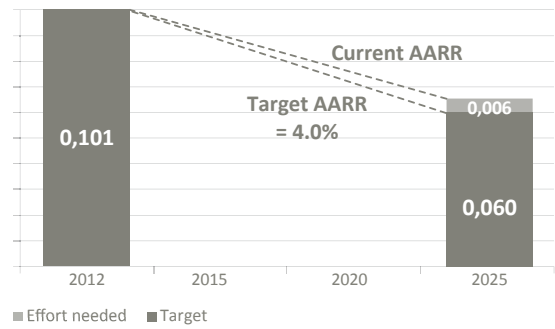
Lesotho

Joined: July 2014

Highlights

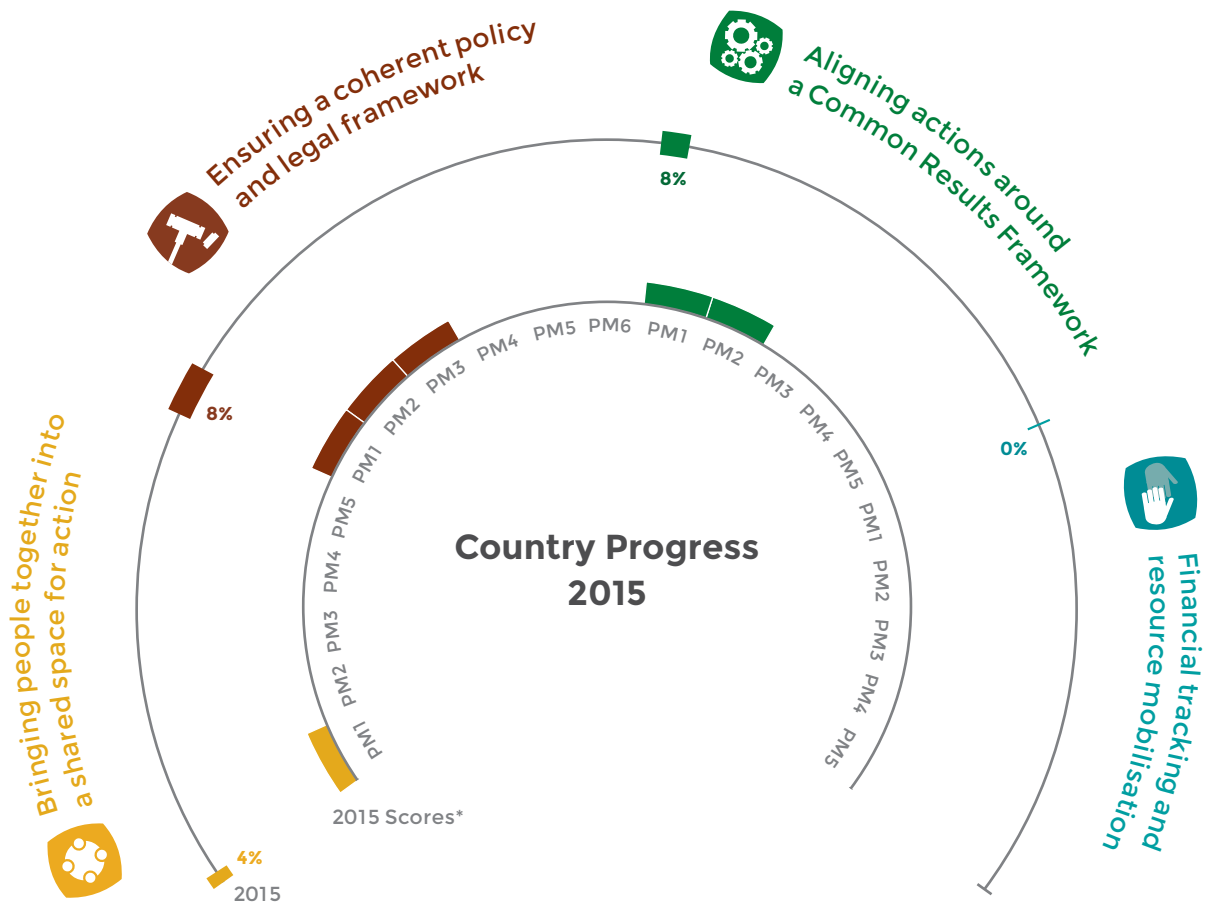
- An all-inclusive multi-sectoral and multi-actor national 'Cross-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan' exists, which serves as the Common Results Framework and sets out the role of various stakeholders in the implementation of nutrition programme's. It includes a monitoring and evaluation framework and standard reporting tools and an implementation plan.
- King Letsie is currently the African Union's champion for nutrition.

Beginning prevalence: 39.0% **Targeted Stunting Reduction (million U5 stunted children)** Target prevalence: 22.8%



Under five stunting:	39.0%
Low-birth weight:	9.3%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding:	53.5%
Under five wasting:	3.9%
Under five overweight:	7.3%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years:	26.8%

*data sources detailed in Annex 1



*See page 29 for more information about 2015 scoring against each progress marker



The Food and Nutrition Coordinating Office (FNCO) based under the Prime Minister's Office is mandated to provide visionary policy direction, technical guidance, coordination, oversight, monitoring and evaluation and resource mobilisation of food and nutrition programmes. It is also responsible for coordinating the implementation of the National Nutrition Policy (currently drafted). The FNCO convenes various government sectors, non-governmental organisations and development partners

and organised in four multi-sectoral task teams: nutrition technical team; policy sub-committee; Research sub-committee and a Micronutrient task force. Lesotho has not yet established partnerships with business but recognises that business has a crucial role to play in advocacy initiatives that are beneficial for scaling up nutrition efforts. Lesotho has organised an advocacy meeting with various stakeholders to be held in 2015 in order to sensitise stakeholders to the Principles of the SUN Movement.



A thorough analysis of existing nutrition-relevant policies and programmes has been undertaken before the development of the national nutrition policy, which has been drafted. Nutrition has been integrated into a number of policies including the Lesotho Food Security Policy and Strategic Guidelines (2003), the National HIV and

AIDS Policy, the Agriculture Sector Strategy and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, which was adopted alongside the 2020 National Vision. A number of nutrition relevant legislation has been drafted under health and trade ministries for health, food safety and food standards.



A National Action Plan for Food Security (2007 - 2017) supports improved planning and implementation of food and nutrition activities undertaken by line ministries with FNCO coordination and support from various United Nations agencies and NGOs.

With technical support from development partners, all relevant national stakeholders were consulted in 2014 to elaborate a 'Cross-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan' (CSNAP)

which has many attributes of a common results framework (CRF). It is an all-inclusive national nutrition plan with a multi-sectoral approach to the implementation of nutrition programmes by different stakeholders. The CSNAP clearly outlines how programmes can be aligned to national nutrition-relevant policies and sets out the role of various stakeholders. It also includes a monitoring and evaluation framework and standard reporting tools.



The cost of the CSNAP has not been estimated, which has impeded the mobilisation of resources. The 2015 Budget Analysis Exercise undertaken this year, revealed that significant budget allocations for nutrition exist even though their breakdown does not allow reliable estimates of the share for nutrition. The Ministry of Health, with support from the Clinton Health Access Initiative, carries

out annual mapping of financial resources which compares expenditures and projective budget information across governments and development partners to identify the level of resources available. This mapping can be improved to better capture nutrition sensitive allocations. Finally, Lesotho will soon start a Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) Study in order to help mobilise funds.