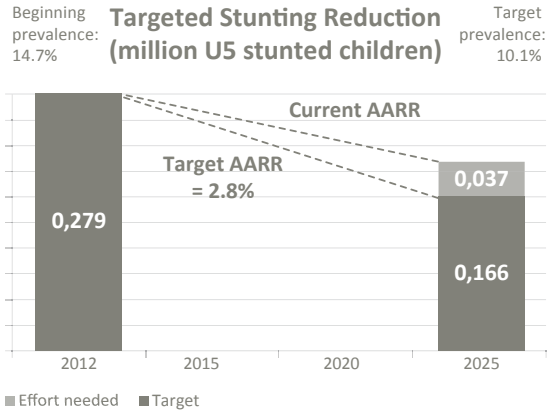


Sri Lanka

Joined: October 2012

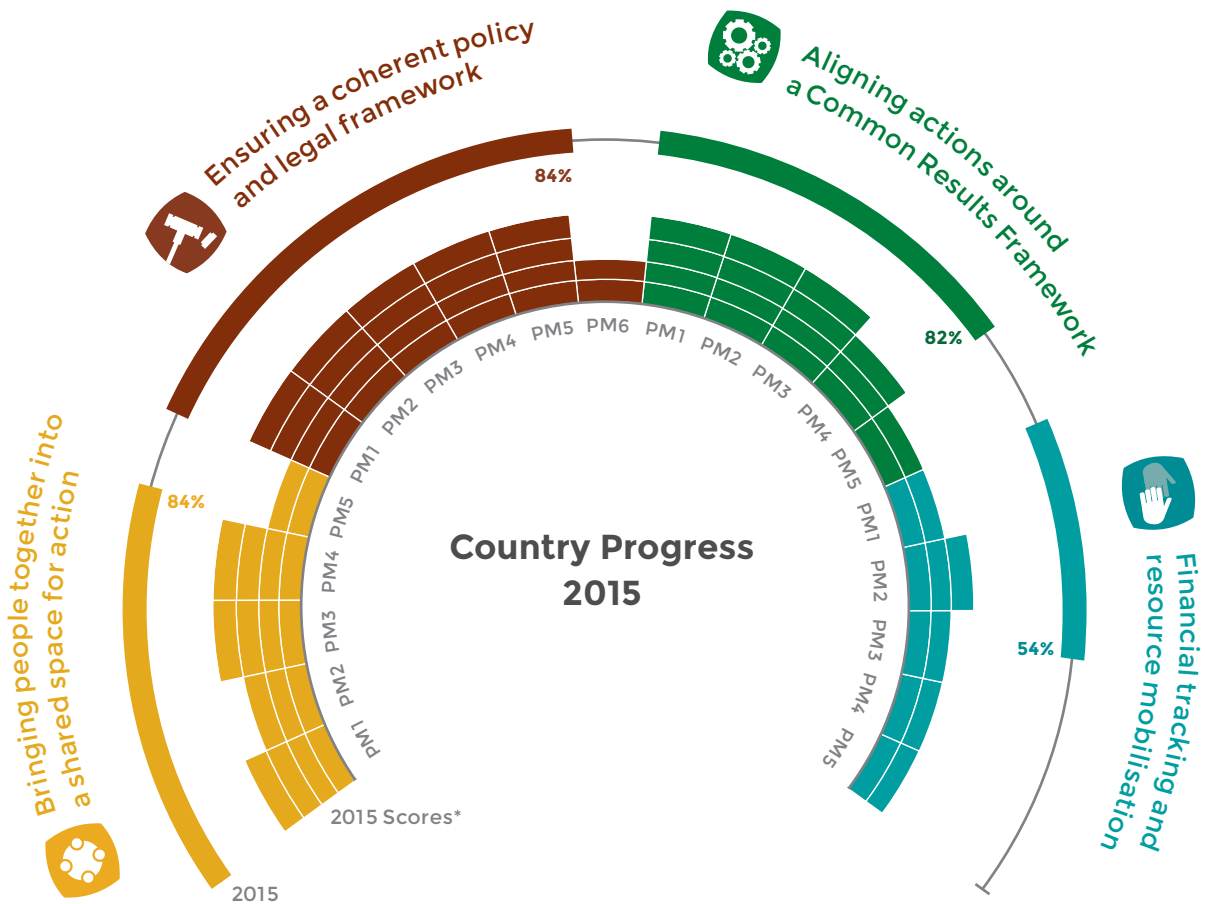
Highlights

- The Government of Sri Lanka declared the month of June as the National Nutrition Month and aligned several advocacy campaigns and high-level events to demonstrate the importance of nutrition to the general public.
- A National Nutrition Policy Review Committee has been convened with multi-stakeholder participation and finalised Terms of Reference to critically evaluate the NNP and align the reviewed policy with the Global Targets 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals with strengthened mechanisms for the implementation process.
- Draft Advocacy Action Plans for Civil Society Organisations are under development on the specific themes of Food Security and Communication for Better Nutrition.



Under five stunting:	14.7%
Low-birth weight:	18.1%
0-5 months old exclusive breastfeeding:	75.8%
Under five wasting:	21.4%
Under five overweight:	0.6%
Women Anaemia 15-49 years:	25.7%

**data sources detailed in Annex 1*



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

Bold text denotes progress reported in the last year



The National Nutrition Council (NNC) of Sri Lanka is chaired by the President and the Additional Secretary of the Presidential Secretariat is the appointed SUN Government Focal Point. The National Steering Committee on Nutrition is the implementation body of the NNC that brings together 17 Ministries (including Planning, Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock, Health, Women's Affairs/Empowerment, Education, Social Services, Poverty alleviation, and Trade and Industry) in close collaboration with civil society, non-governmental organisations and is supported by United Nations (UN) Agencies.

UN agencies and the World Bank, support the Government of Sri Lanka to achieve improved food and nutrition security. The Scaling Up Nutrition People's Forum is the established Civil Society Alliance that supports implementation of actions at the ground level with Save the Children as the main implementing partner. **Recently, a Media Awareness Forum was conducted to sensitise stakeholders from the media industry; including editors, journalists, program directors, television and radio presenters and to discuss the ethics of media in advertising campaigns and nutrition awareness.**

Bringing people together into a shared space for action



The National Nutrition Policy (NNP) 2010 – 2018 provides a platform for inter-sectoral coordination in order to accelerate efforts to achieve optimum nutrition for all. The NNP is linked with a workable National Nutrition Strategic Plan (2009) which identifies the key health related and non-health interventions aimed at improving nutritional status.

Nutrition is also mainstreamed in the sectoral policies, including:

- **National Agriculture Policy**
- **National Livestock Development Policy and Strategies**
- **School Canteen Policy**
- **Non Communicable Disease Policy**
- **Early Child Care Development Policy**

A multi-stakholder NNP Review Committee has been established and meeting was convened to finalise the Terms of Reference (ToR). The ToR outlines the Committee's role to critically evaluate the NNP and ensures that the NNP is aligned with the Global World Health Assembly Targets 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with strengthened mechanisms for implementation.

Draft Advocacy Action Plans for Civil Society Organisations are under development on the specific themes of Food Security and Communication for Better Nutrition. The national legislation covers the Food Act, salt iodisation, food labelling, food advertisement, consumer protection and the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes. Maternity leave covers 6 months paid in the public sector and 3 months in the private sector.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework



The Multi-sectoral Action Plan on Nutrition (MsAPN) is the Common Results Framework (CRF) that sets targets and milestones to reduce the prevalence of under-nutrition, anaemia and stunting amongst key population groups, as well as to improve food security and provide access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene to households-at-risk. The MsAPN has been jointly agreed upon by the 17 Ministries and in-country partners. Currently, the MsAPN is being reviewed by experts to avoid dilution, foster prioritisation and enhance on-going nutrition

related activities at the national, provincial, district and divisional levels. The national multi-sector institutional environment is also reflected at the provincial level in two provinces, its expansion to all nine provinces is expected. A monitoring cell will track the overall implementation based on the World Health Organisation results-based framework, and have been agreed by line ministries to facilitate joint analysis of information gathered. A monitoring guidance note was also developed to be used at the district level and a database is being created to monitor activities.

Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework



The MsAPN has been partially costed. Nutrition-specific interventions of this plan are being costed with the help of the World Bank through the One Health Tool. Financing is provided by different sources including government and donors. A dedicated budget line for nutrition was opened up in the Ministry of Health and

the finances were allocated from the Treasury. In order to implement the MsAPN, each ministry was instructed by the Treasury to create a separate budget line for nutrition, through a pooling of resources (public-private partnerships, allocations from provincial funds).

Financial tracking and resource mobilisation