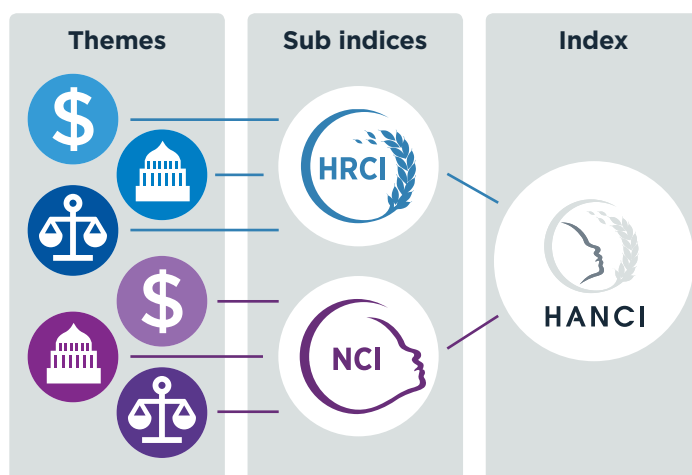
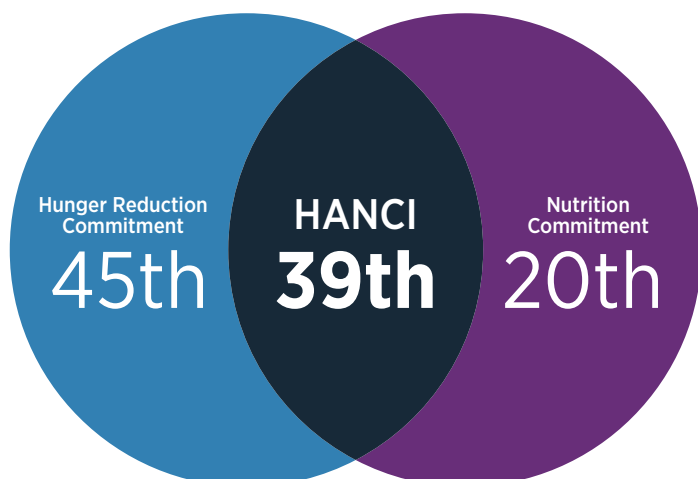


Key data for Afghanistan



1. Guatemala	8. Gambia	15. Vietnam	22. Ethiopia	29. Sierra Leone	36. Togo	43. Myanmar
2. Peru	9. Burkina Faso	16. Bangladesh	23. Niger	30. Zambia	37. Mauritania	44. Sudan
3. Malawi	10. Ghana	17. Uganda	24. Mali	31. Liberia	38. Cameroon	45. Guinea Bissau
4. Brazil	11. Philippines	18. South Africa	25. Mozambique	32. Burundi	39. Afghanistan	
5. Madagascar	12. Indonesia	19. India	26. Cambodia	33. Cote d'Ivoire	40. Yemen	
6. Nepal	13. Rwanda	20. China	27. Kenya	34. Nigeria	41. Congo,DR	
7. Tanzania	14. Senegal	21. Benin	28. Pakistan	35. Lesotho	42. Angola	



Existing rates of: **Stunting: 59%** **Wasting: 9%** **Proportion of population underweight: 33%** Source: Afghanistan DHS (2010)

HANCI compares 45 developing countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. All the countries compared in the index have high rates of hunger and undernutrition. The comparative approach of the index means that country scores are calculated in relation to the political commitment of the other countries in the index.

Strong Performance

- Afghanistan gives some policy attention to nutrition, and shows reasonable performance on selected outcome indicators.
- The government promotes complementary feeding practices of children aged 6–9 months and continued breastfeeding of children at ages 12–15 and 20–23 months.
- Further, 100% of children aged 6–59 months received 2 two high doses of vitamin A supplements within the last year.
- Recent nutrition surveys provide Afghan policymakers with good quality evidence to inform policy. The most recent were the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (2010/11) and the Demographic and Health Survey (2010).
- Afghanistan has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing Breastmilk Substitutes in domestic law.

Areas for improvement

- Afghanistan's investment in agriculture is low at 3.7% of total public spending.
- The agricultural research and extension system is weak and does not address the needs of poor farmers.
- Although a near majority of poor rural households have access to some land, tenure is often insecure.
- Despite equal legal rights, discriminatory practices militate against women's access to and ownership of land.
- Just 28.5% of the population have access to improved sanitation and 60.6% to improved drinking water.
- Social protection systems cover few people and limited risks.
- Clear scope exists to improve the civil registration system; currently 37.4% of life births are covered.
- Only 47.9% of women aged 15–49 were attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel.
- There are no economic rights for women in law and Afghan law may codify systematic discrimination based on sex.
- Afghanistan does not have a separate budget line for nutrition which makes it difficult to maintain public oversight.
- A right to food could be more clearly enshrined in the Constitution of Afghanistan.

Key data for Afghanistan



Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	3.7%	2010	30th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹	3.3%	2011	44th
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) ²	Weak	2012	Joint 42nd
Access to agricultural research and extension services ²	Moderate	2011	Joint 38th
Civil registration system – coverage of live births (latest year)	37.4%	2011	Joint 33rd
Functioning of social protection systems ²	Very Weak	2012	41st
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	Weak	2006	18th
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	In Law, not in Practice	2012	6th
Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	Not in Law	2011	30th
Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	No	2006	Joint 31st

¹ No benchmark.

² Possible scores are: ● Very Weak ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong ● Very Strong.

³ Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong.

⁴ Possible scores are: ● Not in Law ● In Law Not in Practice ● In Law & Practice.

Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	NCI Rank of 45
Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)	No	2012	27th
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	100%	2011	Joint 1st
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	60.6%	2011	Joint 33rd
Population with access to improved sanitation	28.5%	2011	28th
Health care visits for pregnant women	47.9%	2011	44th
Nutrition features in national development policies ¹	Moderate	2013	18th
National nutrition plan (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Multi-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Laws			
International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes Enshrined in domestic law ²	Fully Enshrined	2011	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

² Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Voluntary Adoption ● Aspects Enshrined ● Fully enshrined.

* For full details see www.hancindex.org