



Existing rates of: **Wasting:** 3.9% **Stunting:** 39% **Proportion of population underweight:** 13.5%

Source: Gov. of Lesotho (DHS, 2009)

### Strong Performance

**Lesotho has** devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.

**The Government** of Lesotho promotes complementary feeding practices.

**In Lesotho** 91.8% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2009.

### Areas for improvement

**Spending on** agriculture (1.72% of public spending in 2013), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).

**Lesotho's spending** in its health sector (14.5% of public spending in 2012) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Abuja Declaration (15% of public spending).

**In Lesotho**, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.

**Lesotho does** not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.

**Even though** Lesotho has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy, clear time-bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism are still lacking.

**Policymakers in** Lesotho do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2009.

**The Government** of Lesotho has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.

**The Government** of Lesotho has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 66% of children in 2013.

**Weak access** to improved sanitation facilities (29.6% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.

**In Lesotho**, constitutional protection of the right to social security is weak.



## Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	1.72%	2013	39th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	14.5%	2012	8th
<b>Policies</b>			
Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>2</sup>	Moderate	2013	Joint 17th
Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>2</sup>	Moderate	2013	Joint 27th
Civil registration system — coverage of live births	45.1%	2009	31st
Functioning of social protection systems <sup>2</sup>	Weak	2014	Joint 22nd
<b>Laws</b>			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>3</sup>	Moderate	2011	Joint 8th
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>4</sup>	In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 4th
Equality of women's economic rights <sup>4</sup>	In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 1st
Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	No	2006	Joint 31st

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are: ● <75% of agriculture (Maputo) and health (Abuja) spending pledges ● >=75% and <100% ● >=100%

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong

<sup>3</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong

<sup>4</sup> 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	Joint 28th
<b>Policies</b>			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	66%	2013	33rd
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	81.3%	2012	18th
Population with access to improved sanitation	29.6%	2012	Joint 26th
Health care visits for pregnant women	91.8%	2009	20th
Nutrition features in national development policy <sup>1</sup>	Moderate	2013-2017	20th
National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)	Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	No	2014	Joint 39th
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	No	2012	Joint 37th
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	No	2009	Joint 34th
<b>Laws</b>			
ICMBS <sup>^</sup> Enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>	Not Enshrined in Law	2014	Joint 38th

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

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Voluntary Adoption ● Fully enshrined.

<sup>^</sup> International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes