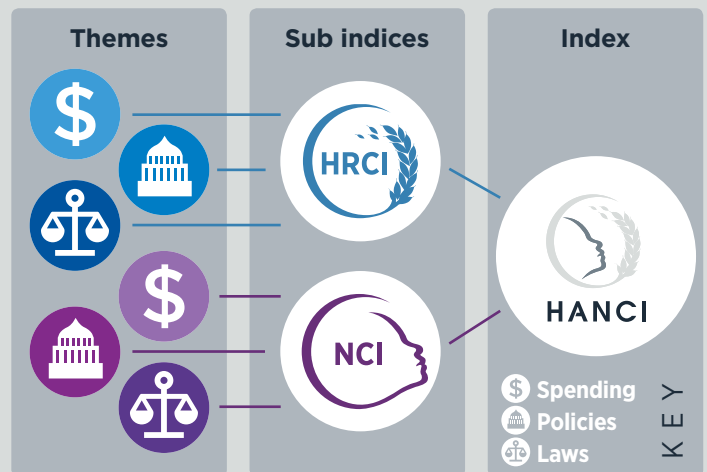
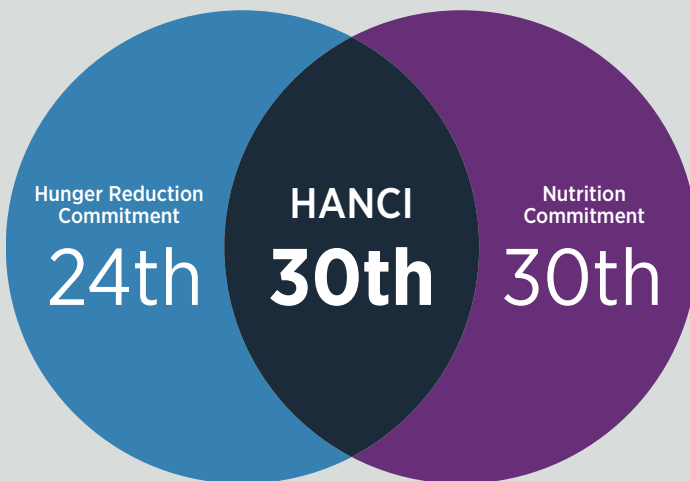


 **Key data for Benin**



Existing rates of: **Wasting: 4.5%** **Stunting: 34%** **Proportion of population underweight: 18%**

Source: Government of Benin (MICS, 2014)













Strong Performance




- The Government encourages varied agricultural research and extension services, and local farmer organisations are involved in setting policy priorities. The extension system is effective and properly reaches out to poor farmers. Government policies, strategies and mechanisms seek to ensure gender equity in access to extension services.
- Benin has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in Benin benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2017.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Benin promotes complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 95% of children in 2015.




Areas for improvement




- Spending on agriculture (9.3% of public spending in 2016) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Benin's spending in its health sector (3.4% of public spending in 2015) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In Benin, 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.
- Benin does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- Benin does not yet have a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (13.9% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Benin, constitutional protection of the right to social security is weak.
- Social safety nets in Benin are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.




Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
 Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending ¹	 9.3%	2016	12th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending ²	 3.4%	2015	Joint 38th
Policies			
 Access to land (security of tenure) ³	 Moderate	2016	Joint 37th
 Access to agricultural research and extension services ³	 Strong	2013	Joint 2nd
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 84.8%	2014	8th
 Functioning of social protection systems ³	 Weak	2016	Joint 22nd
Laws			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ³	 Moderate	2014	Joint 10th
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ⁴	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 4th
 Equality of women's economic rights ⁴	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
 Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	 No	2006	Joint 34th

























¹ Possible scores are:  <75% of AU's commitments set out in the Maputo Declaration  >=75 % and <100%  >=100%

² Possible scores are:  <75% of AU's commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration  >=75 % and <100%  >=100%

³ Possible scores are:  Very weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very 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	2017	Joint 35th
Policies			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 95%	2015	12th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2010	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 75.5%	2015	30th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 13.9%	2015	42nd
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 82.8%	2014	Joint 30th
 Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	 Moderate	2011-2015	20th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 No	2017	Joint 42nd
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 Yes	2016	Joint 1st
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	Joint 1st
Laws			
 ICMSB [^] enshrined in domestic law ²	 Fully Enshrined	2016	Joint 1st

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

² Possible scores are:  Not enshrined in law  Few/Many aspects enshrined  Fully enshrined

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes