

Existing rates of: **Wasting: 11.1%** **Stunting: 25%** **Proportion of population underweight: 16.4%**

Source: Government of The Gambia (DHS, 2013)

### 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.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, The Gambia's medium/long term national development policy (Program of Accelerated Growth and Employment) assigns strong importance to nutrition.
- The Gambia has devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- The Gambia has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in The Gambia benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2015.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of The Gambia promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In The Gambia, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.




### Areas for improvement




- Spending on agriculture (5.1% of public spending in 2016), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- The Gambia's spending in its health sector (10.6% of public spending in 2015) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In The Gambia, the law does not give women legal access to agricultural land equal to men. Men and women have equal economic rights, but this is not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- The Gambia does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- Even though The Gambia has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism, clear time-bound nutrition targets are still lacking.
- The Government of The Gambia has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for only 27% of children in 2015.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (41.7% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- Social safety nets in The Gambia 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 <sup>1</sup>	 5.1%	2016	24th
 Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>2</sup>	 10.6%	2015	8th
<b>Policies</b>			
 Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>3</sup>	 Moderate	2016	19th
 Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>3</sup>	 Strong	2013	10th
 Civil registration system — coverage of live births	 72%	2013	18th
 Functioning of social protection systems <sup>3</sup>	 Weak	2015	Joint 11th
<b>Laws</b>			
 Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>3</sup>	 Moderate	2014	Joint 10th
 Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>4</sup>	 Not in Law	2014	Joint 41st
 Equality of women's economic rights <sup>4</sup>	 In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
 Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	Joint 1st

























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

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

<sup>3</sup> Possible scores are:  Very weak/Weak  Moderate  Strong/Very 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	2017	Joint 35th
<b>Policies</b>			
 Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	 27%	2015	38th
 Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	 Yes	2012	Joint 1st
 Population with access to an improved water source	 89.6%	2015	14th
 Population with access to improved sanitation	 41.7%	2015	22nd
 Health care visits for pregnant women	 86.2%	2013	28th
 Nutrition features in national development policy <sup>1</sup>	 Strong	2012-2015	6th
 National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	Joint 1st
 Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	 Yes	2017	Joint 1st
 Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	 No	2017	Joint 43rd
 National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	 Yes	2015	Joint 1st
<b>Laws</b>			
 ICMBMS <sup>^</sup> enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>	 Fully Enshrined	2016	Joint 1st

<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  Few/Many aspects enshrined  Fully enshrined

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