

Nutrition financing needs analysis based on budget allocations and expenditures to implement the PSMN

September 10-11, 2024



Workshop Report

Background

For several decades now, Senegal has shown a very strong political commitment to the fight against malnutrition. The country has carried out major reforms, including institutional arrangements, to channel its efforts in this area. The National Nutrition Development Council (CNDN) recently developed its second Multisectoral Nutrition Strategic Plan (PSMN) for the period 2024-2028, with a view to implementing the National Nutrition Development Policy (PNDN). The lack of adequate financial resources is one of the major challenges anticipated by the CNDN in implementing the 2024-2028 PSMN, which already has a funding gap of CFA 136.4 billion.

In the search for tangible actions to fill this gap, the CNDN plans to adopt a resource mobilization strategy to ensure sustainable funding for the nutrition interventions set out in the 2024-2028 PSMN. Implementing this strategy will help Senegal fulfill its various international commitments and make bold progress towards achieving the strategic objectives set for 2028.

The CNDN has therefore requested technical support from the nutrition financing capacity development platform FCDP to develop its resource mobilization strategy. The FCDP is an initiative of the Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) movement which aims to support capacity building in SUN countries to improve their access to funding and effective use of resources to accelerate impact on nutrition outcomes. The platform is hosted by Results for Development (R4D) in partnership with Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation (HSDF) and Spark Health Africa (SHA).

As part of its support to Senegal, the FCDP carried out a budget analysis of the implementation of the 2018-2023 PSMN. The study results will enable the CNDN to gain a better understanding of the magnitude and nature of nutrition funding gaps in Senegal, the corresponding sectors and nutrition interventions, and the budget planning, execution and reporting processes used by the various sectoral ministries to implement nutrition interventions, including identifying sources of additional funding.

The budget analysis results were discussed with representatives of around ten ministerial departments involved in the PSMN implementation, the Local Governments' Coalition for Nutrition and development and implementation partners (Appendix 1) during a workshop held from September 10 to 11, 2024. Around fifty participants met at this workshop, which aimed to articulate the nutrition funding needs for the PSMN implementation, explore sustainable funding options and develop advocacy arguments for financial resource mobilization. Table 1 below shows the structure of the workshop agenda.

Table 1: Workshop Agenda

September 10, 2024	September 11, 2024
<p>Introductory session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the workshop objectives and agenda • Questions and answers 	<p>Introductory session</p> <p>Day 1 summary</p>
<p>SESSION 1: Review of nutrition funding trends 2018-2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder of PSMN 1 strategic axes and budget • Results of the PSMN 1 budget analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implementation status and funding gaps ○ Lessons learned from the experience of implementing sectors in mobilizing resources for nutrition • Questions and answers 	<p>SESSION 1: Closing the funding gap for the new MSP II 2024-2028</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition funding prospects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government financial commitments to nutrition, interventions covered ○ Main gaps and corresponding interventions • Discussions on innovative public, private and partner funding opportunities
<p>SESSION 2: 2018-2023 budget analysis finalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work: Sectoral review of budget execution data 	<p>SESSION 2: Developing an action plan to mobilize resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work to draw up a detailed action plan
<p>SESSION 3: Challenges in mobilizing resources for nutrition and possible solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel discussion with the Local Governments’ Coalition for Nutrition, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance and Budget • Plenary session: sharing the experience of sectoral ministries 	<p>SESSION 2: Developing an action plan to mobilize resources (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of group work outputs and consolidation of the action plan
<p>SESSION 4: Cross-views on resource monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open conversation: Sectoral ministries experience sharing, and lessons learned from monitoring financial resources 	<p>SESSION 3: Developing an advocacy strategy for nutrition financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the targets to be reached, activities and resources required
<p>Closing session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights of day 1 discussions • Key messages to share with partners for Day 2 	<p>Next steps</p>



Lessons learned

The experience sharing and rich exchange of views between participants led to the following lessons.

Aligning sectoral plans objectives with those of the PSMN is essential to encourage the nutrition domestication into sectoral policies. Participants noted that sectoral policy letters did not always include nutrition dimensions. This lack of explicit links between the PSMN objectives and those of the ministerial departments makes it difficult to understand the role of nutrition in achieving the objectives of Senegal's public policies. Hence the need to harmonize the objectives set out in the PSMN and those of sectoral policies so that each ministry prioritizes nutrition interventions in its routine activities.

The systematic inclusion of nutrition in the Multiyear Expenditure Planning Documents (DPPD) facilitates domestic resource raising. The DPPDs constitute reference budgetary programming frameworks for raising resources from the state budget. They are important tools for budget predictability. Participants indicated that the systematic inclusion of nutrition in the DPPDs is an effective strategy for securing public funding for nutrition in the medium term. To achieve this, the CNDN should monitor the revision cycle of the DPPDs and ensure that the new generations take on prioritized interventions of the ministries' sectoral action plans. In addition, the CNDN and ministries should also work together to ensure that nutrition activities are included in the budgeted annual work plans at the start of each budget cycle. Finally, a reference to nutrition in the circular on the finance bill preparation sent by the Prime Minister to the various ministerial departments is a powerful lever for allocating adequate resources to nutrition interventions.

The creation of specific nutrition lines in the State and local authority budgets makes it possible to secure resources and move towards sustainable funding. According to the participants, the inclusion of specific lines for nutrition in the State and local authority budgets is a good strategy for mobilizing public resources. This practice is already effective in areas such as health. Its application to nutrition provides an important means of increasing domestic funding for nutrition interventions, and therefore a guarantee of sustainability.

As to potential funding sources, some participants pointed out the existing opportunities for special investment budgets and decentralized cooperation, particularly at the level of local governments.

Priority interventions articulation and links with donors' areas of interest is necessary in order to attract their funding.

Articulating funding needs is a crucial step in affirming the government's role in stewarding nutrition financing. Discussions during the session devoted to “**Challenges in mobilizing resources for nutrition and possible solutions**” highlighted the need to clearly demonstrate how nutrition interventions contribute to achieving the mandates of donors who could potentially fund them - WHO, UNICEF, WB, WFP, to name a few.

Concurrently, efforts to demonstrate the impact of nutrition on all development sectors need to be pursued as part of the strengthening of budget advocacy for adequate funding of nutrition interventions.

Existing processes and digital tools can be used to facilitate the collection and reporting of financial data on nutrition. Much of the discussion focused on budget monitoring mechanisms and financial information reporting. Participants discussed the need to adapt existing financial reporting templates to include relevant nutrition financing indicators. These adaptations can be rapidly deployed and do not require substantial additional resources, as the sectoral ministries have well-established processes and high-performance digital solutions such as DHIS for the health sector and the digital platforms developed by the Ministry of Communication, Telecommunications and Digital Technologies. These tools are capable of collecting financial information on nutrition simultaneously with other sectoral performance data. The aim is to routinize the monitoring and analysis of nutrition budget implementation in the country in order to facilitate stewardship.

Continuous CNDN - sectoral ministries dialogue platform is needed to consolidate accountability. Ownership of nutrition financing by the sectoral ministries is part of the essential stages of institutionalization. This is a complex, long-term process. The exchanges between participants revealed the extent to which additional efforts must be made by the CNDN and the sectoral ministries to reach nutrition institutionalization in Senegal. Above all, they highlighted the urgent need for continuous stakeholders' dialogue, which will enable the CNDN, government body responsible for coordinating the nutrition policy implementation, to have comprehensive and reliable financial information on nutrition interventions. This political dialogue, beyond the formality of information exchanges, constitutes the structuring framework for increased financial accountability. However, this requires stakeholders to clearly identify respective responsibilities and expectations, receive clear institutional empowerment for each stakeholder to fully play its role, agree on clear performance measurement, and agree on clear consequences arising from each stakeholder's performance.

Outputs

The workshop provided an opportunity to refine the PSMN expenditure data collected by the FCDP team from the Ministry of Finance and Budget. It was also an opportunity to gather additional information. All

the ministries, except the Higher Education, Research and Innovation Sector, provided refined data on nutritional expenditure.

The presentations made by the FCDP and CNDN teams described the PSMN nutritional expenditure landscape. Discussions during the various sessions enabled the stakeholders to reach a consensus on Senegal's main priorities in terms of nutrition financing. These priorities were set out in a plan describing the major actions to be taken and the support required to implement them. The participants also developed a draft advocacy strategy that will guide awareness-raising activities with a view to increasing the mobilization of the financial resources needed to implement the 2024-2028 PSMN interventions.

The objectives of the workshop, i.e. articulating the nutrition financing need, developing financing options and advocacy arguments for resource mobilization, were thus achieved.

Next steps

The workshop marked a major stage in the stakeholders' engagement and building of an intra-governmental consensus on nutrition financing priorities, thanks to the commitment of the participants and the vigorous discussions and proposed solutions. The CNDN intends to build on the momentum generated at the workshop to elevate the nutrition financing both in the political discourse and sectoral ministries' practices.

To this end, a number of actions will be implemented under the leadership of the CNDN to expand the results already achieved. These include

1. Collecting the remaining data on PSMN expenditure by the sectoral ministries
2. Include the additional information collected in the budget analysis report
3. Develop and implement the communication and advocacy plan
4. Write up the resource mobilization strategy

Annex 1: Participant list

Name	Organization	Title
Binetou Biaye	BOM	Organization Advisor
Mouhamed Massy Ba	CNCR	Project Officer Thies
Aminata Ndoye	CNDN	Executive Secretary
El Hadj Momar Thiam	CNDN	RSOE
Joseph Mbor Diène	CNDN	CCCSC
Malick Faye	CNDN	RFC
Mamadou Mané	CNDN	GPP
Mamadou Thiam	CONGAD	Representant
Aboubacry Lom	FCDP	Consultant
Cheickna Toure	FCDP	Program Director
Diarra Kamara	GFF	Liaison Officer
Macoumba Diouf	GSCTN	President
Amadou Djibril Diallo	GSCTN	Vice President
Aissatou Diouf	MASAE	DAGE
Djibril Thiaw	MASAE	DAPSA
Sokhna Maimouna Fall	MASAE	DAPSA
Ahmed Fadel Bayo	MCTN	Manager
Aissatou Florence Sagna	MCTN	CEP
Abdoulaye Déthié Sarr	MESRI	CEPS

Mamadou Saidou Sow	MESRI	CEPS
Mame Fatou Dieng	METE	DAGE
Adji Rokhaya Niaye	METE	DPVE
Moustapha Ba	MFB	DPB
Adji Astou Dieng	MFS	DAGE
Diarra Boussou Mar	MFS	DGPSN
Koubby Sileye Ndiaye	MFS	CEP
Bocar Abdalallah Sall	MHA	M&E Officer CPCSP
Momar Boucar Ndiaye	MIC	CEPSE
Singuyam Youssoupha Diouf	MIC	CEP
Aminata Ba	MJSC	CEP
Seynabou Diack	MMESS	CEP
Tiguida Keita	MMESS	DAGE
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Amy Ndiaye	MPIMP	CEP
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Madioula Traoré	MSAS	DPSB/DAGE
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Ndeye Fatou Gueye	MSSC	DAGE
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Oumar Diop	MTA	CEP
Youssoupha Nidaye	MTA	DAGE
Ramatoulaye Faye	MUCTAT	CEPSE
Renette Anta Pereira Borges De Almeida	MUCTAT	DAGE
Balla Diedhiou	Nutrition International	Country Director
Seydou Ndiaye	Plateforme OSC SUN	Coordinator
Adjaratou Ndiaye	Primature	One Health
Caroline Thiam	SE-CNSA	DEPSE
Grace Ezan	SE-CNSA	Nutritionist
Keyndou Acrachi	UNICEF	Nutrition
Idrissa Issoufi	USAID	AG/Nutrition Unit