

Operational targets to advance the Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition

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Member State Informal Consultation
14 April 2025



Comprehensive Implementation Plan (2012-25)

- EB156(37)
 - Recommended adoption of a resolution to extend the comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition to 2030 in order to align with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Proposed 2030 targets



Reduce the number of children who are stunted by 40%, compared to the 2012 baseline



Reduce the prevalence in WRA by 50%, compared to the 2012 baseline



Reduce the prevalence by 30%, compared to the 2012 baseline



Reduce the prevalence to less than 5%



Increase the prevalence **to 60%**



Reduce the prevalence to less than 5%

Comprehensive Implementation Plan (2012-25)

- EB156(37)
 - Decided to request the Director-General, in consultation with Member States, to further **develop operational targets** on the comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, for consideration and adoption by the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly
 - Recommended adoption of resolution with OP3 saying: **[ADOPTS process targets** including: improving dietary diversity in women and children, increasing early initiation of breastfeeding, delivering nutrition counselling that includes infant and young child feeding, providing or ensuring access to iron-containing supplements as necessary during pregnancy, and reducing or preventing the consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages; or other process targets as recommended following the consultation process requested by the Executive Board at its 156th session]



WHO Discussion Paper on Targets

- May 2024 Discussion Paper
 - document progress to date and projections to 2030;
 - reiterate the rationale for the extended 2030 targets proposed in 2018;
 - present a best-case (acceleration) scenario for what could be achieved in 2030 based on the current situation and past progress of exemplar countries;
 - propose potential process indicators with clear linkages to each global nutrition target;
 - propose ambitious but feasible operational targets for 2030 for the proposed process indicators.



Discussion Paper:

2025-2030 World Health Assembly global maternal, infant and young child nutrition targets and proposal for process indicators

Accelerating progress through operational targets

Operational targets could:

- focus action towards the outcome
- facilitate coordination among stakeholders
- align efforts across countries
- global tracking and accountability
- focus resource mobilization and investment planning
- mobilize political will and public support for nutrition actions

Feedback processes (May-Oct)

- Global e-consultation on discussion paper: 13 May - 21 June 2024
- Cross-cutting meetings
 - UN-Nutrition Secretariat
 - Advisory Group on Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (STAGE)
 - WHO/UNICEF Technical Experts on Assessment and Monitoring (TEAM)
 - Global Nutrition Report Stakeholder Group
 - Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Secretariat
- Target-specific alliances
 - Anaemia Action Alliance 
 - Maternal Nutrition Collaboration Platform 
 - Global Breastfeeding Collective 
 - World Obesity Coalition 
 - Wasting Global Action Plan planning group  
- Member State briefings
 - 15 August 2024
 - 26 November 2024

Summary of comments and way forward

- October 2024 Summary
 - 102 online responses
 - Global operational targets would help to accelerate progress
 - Some targets are context-specific
 - Long list of potential operational targets
 - Many operational targets would affect multiple outcomes



2025-2030 World Health Assembly global maternal, infant and young child nutrition targets and proposal for process indicators

Results of the online consultation and way forward

https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/breastfeeding/online-consultation-cip-discussion-paper-responses-2024.pdf?sfvrsn=f0fa14e7_3

Criteria for selecting operational targets

- Causally linked to the nutritional outcomes
- Relevant to all Member States (additional indicators relevant at national level)
- Changeable in a reasonably short timeframe through public health measures
- Effects on multiple nutrition outcomes
- Related to nutrition actions
- Measurable on a continuum to assess progress over time
- Data available for many countries (e.g. >50)

Minimize number of indicators

Proposed operational targets for stunting

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Minimum dietary diversity in children	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum acceptable diet	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Water and sanitation services	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Food insecurity	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Healthcare utilization	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Limited
Women's empowerment	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Limited
Infectious diseases in women	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Childhood illness	Yes	Limited	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Management of childhood illness	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Minimum dietary protein availability	Limited	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Total energy intake per day	Limited	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Consumption of nutrient rich foods (e.g. ASFs)	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Social protection coverage	Limited	Limited	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Household dietary diversity score	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited

Proposed operational targets for anaemia

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Receipt of 90+ iron-containing supplements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Receipt of any iron-containing supplements	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fortification of flour and maize	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Limited
Maternal iron status	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Education on causes of anaemia	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Deworming	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Oral health	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Intake of vitamin C	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Iron consumption	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Doubly fortified salt	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Insecticide treated bednets	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Limited
Screening for iron deficiency	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Pre-conception use of weekly FeFA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Consumption of vegetables and meats	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Promotion of iron-rich foods	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Proposed operational targets for low birth weight

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Minimum dietary diversity in women	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Antenatal care (4+ visits)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Alternative measures of antenatal care	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Gestational weight gain	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Body mass index in adolescents	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Receipt of preconception care	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Smoking cessation	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Mothers' mental health	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Environmental contamination	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Maternal protein status	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Intake of multiple micronutrient supplements	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Health education	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Malaria	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Low-dose aspirin	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Access to family planning services	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

Proposed operational targets for childhood overweight

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Consumption of sweet beverages (children)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Limited
Free sugar as proportion of caloric intake	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Women's consumption of sugary beverages	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Consumption of fruits & vegetables	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Diabetes or hypertension prevalence	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Physical activity levels in children	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Amount of fat consumed	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Availability of healthy foods in schools	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Anxiety over compulsive eating	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Portion size control	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Healthy schools	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Tracking of screen time	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Regulation of snack foods	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Unhealthy food consumption in children 6-23	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Consumption of refined sugars & grains	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Intake from discretionary foods	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Regulations on marketing of foods to children	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Limited
Sales of sugar-sweetened beverages	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Limited
Food environment policies	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Limited
F&V availability in food balance sheets	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Proposed operational targets for exclusive breastfeeding

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Early initiation of breastfeeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Counselling on infant and young child feeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to skilled breastfeeding counselling	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited
Maternity leave policies	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Community support for breastfeeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Births occurring in baby-friendly hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Maternal employment policies	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
Antenatal attitudes on breastfeeding	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Referral info for breastfeeding counselling	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Monitoring of the Code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

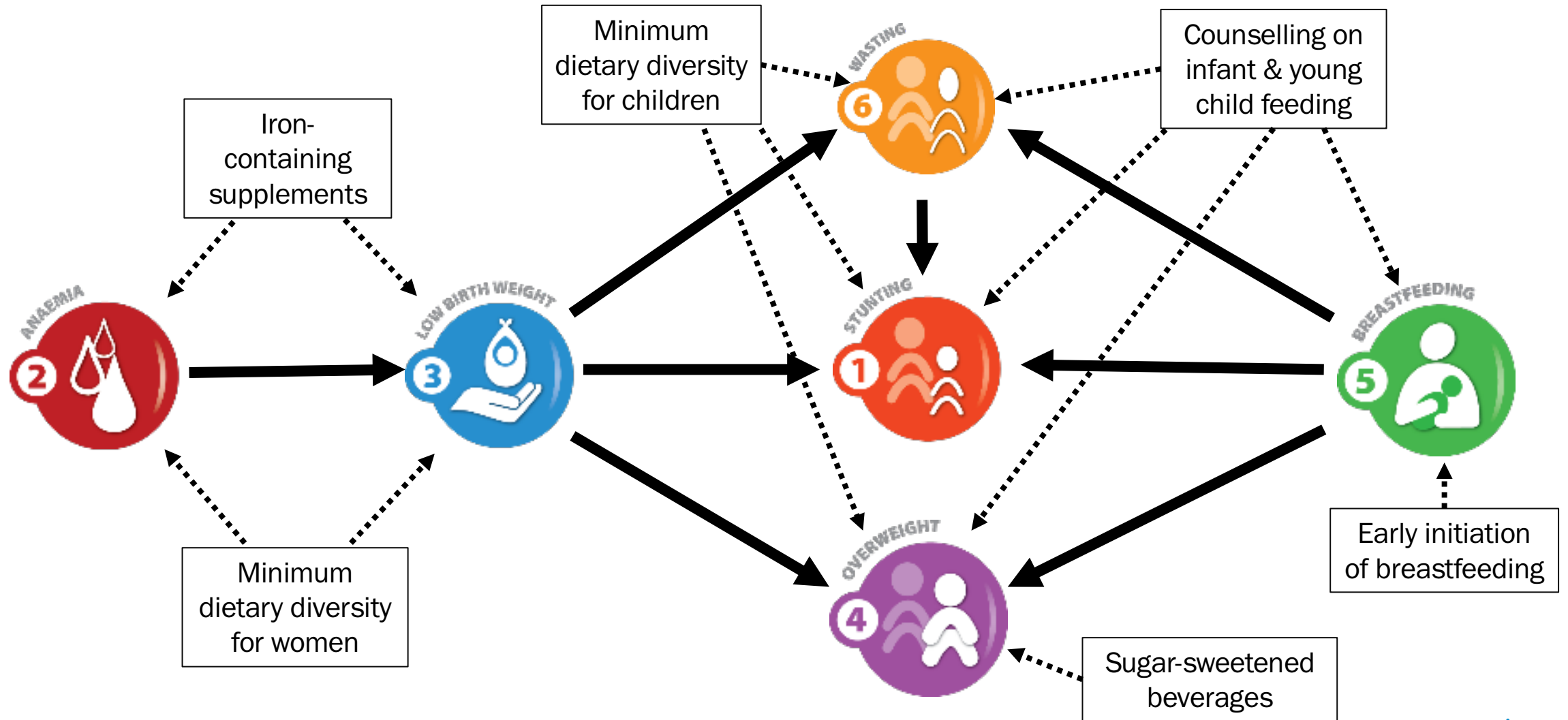
Proposed operational targets for wasting

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Counselling on infant and young child feeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum dietary diversity in children	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Treatment of severe acute malnutrition	Limited	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum meal frequency	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recovery rate from Severe Acute Malnutrition	No	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Coverage of CMAM	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited
Adequacy of therapeutic supplies for SAM	No	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Percent screened for wasting	Yes	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Coverage of growth monitoring	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Income generation for women	Limited	Unclear	No	Yes	No	Unclear	No
Water and sanitation services	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Coverage of nutritional supplements	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Parental nutrition education	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Support for maternal mental health	Limited	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No

Proposed operational targets

Proposed indicator	Causal link	Global relevance	Short-term Viability	Multiple outcomes	Nutrition focused	Continuum measurement	Data availability
Minimum dietary diversity in children	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Receipt of 90+ iron-containing supplements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum dietary diversity in women	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Consumption of sweet beverages (children)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Limited
Early initiation of breastfeeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Counselling on infant and young child feeding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Relationships among targets



Proposed operational targets

Process indicator	Baseline data source	Current coverage/prevalence	2030 operational target
% of children aged 6 to 23 months consuming minimum dietary diversity	UNICEF IYCF database	34.3%	Increase by 20%*
% of women consuming at least 90 iron-containing supplements during pregnancy	Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)	36.4%	Increase by 50%*
% of women consuming minimum dietary diversity	Global Diet Quality Project	65.8%	Increase by 30%†
% of children aged 6 to 23 months consuming sweet beverages on the previous day	MICS and DHS	31.6%	Decrease by 25%†
% of newborns being put to the breast in the first hour after birth	UNICEF IYCF database	45.8%	Increase by 25%*
% of caregivers counselled on infant and young child feeding	UNICEF Nutridash survey	39.3%	Increase by 65%†

* Based on projected coverage at the best performing quintile of past progress

† Based on best performing quintile of coverage

Thank you

