Landscape Analysis on Countries' Readiness to Accelerate Action in Nutrition

www.who.int/nutrition/landscape_analysis

The Landscape Analysis assesses countries' readiness to accelerate action in nutrition, with a focus on the 36 high-burden countries where 90% of the world's stunted children live. "Readiness analysis" is frequently used in the private sector for assessing where investing resources is likely to give the greatest return and for determining how best to invest in order to yield the maximum benefits. An analysis of readiness to act had not been systematically developed across a broad spectrum of countries in the area of food and nutrition programmes before. The Landscape Analysis was therefore developed to systematically assess the readiness of stakeholders' commitment and capacity to implement the evidence-based interventions in the high-burden countries. It builds on the work and experiences of countries in developing and implementing national nutrition policies and plans developed as a follow-up to the 1992 International Conference on Nutrition (ICN) and follows the Lancet Nutrition Series on maternal and child undernutrition (January 2008) which identified a set of interventions proven to be effective in addressing maternal and child undernutrition.

The 3 components of the Landscape Analysis are:

1) Development of country typologies for "readiness"

This systematic desk analysis of data available at the global level for the 36 high-burden countries uses multiple statistical methods to define country typologies of "readiness" in order to understand where best to invest and how to invest in order to accelerate action.

2) In-depth Country Assessments

In-depth reviews are being conducted to assess challenges that countries are facing and opportunities that exist in order to identify and prioritize actions and recommendations for scaling-up effective nutrition interventions. The Country Assessments are done in a participatory fashion by an interagency team with national and international team members. As of May 2010, in-depth country assessments have been conducted in 12 countries: Burkina Faso, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Peru, South Africa and Timor-Leste.

3) Nutrition Landscape Information System (NLIS)

Bringing together all existing WHO Global Nutrition Databases dynamically, as well as other existing food and nutrition-related data from partner agencies. NLIS is a web-based tool which provides nutrition and nutrition-related health and development data in the form of automated country profiles and user-defined downloadable data. Data presented in the country profiles are structured by the UNICEF conceptual framework for causes of malnutrition and intend to give an overview snapshot of a country's nutrition, health, and development at the national level.

NLIS is available from www.who.int/nutrition/nlis

The Landscape Analysis is an ongoing project. For more information and subscription to future updates, contact: nutrition@who.int

1The following are 36 high-burden countries with more than 20% stunting rates that were the focus of the Lancet Nutrition Series for investigating the effects of nutrition interventions:

Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Viet Nam, Yemen, Turkey, Zambia.