

Project Evaluation Series

**Cluster evaluation of
“Establishing a Hunger-free Initiative for
West Africa”
and
“Mainstreaming Nutrition in CAADP and
Agriculture Policies and Programmes in
Sub-Saharan Africa”**

**Project codes: GCP/RAF/476/GER
and GCP/RAF/477/GER**

Annex 9. Country review - Nigeria

1. Nigeria's Agriculture Sector Food Security and Nutrition Strategy 2016-2025 was developed with long term support to MoA through GER477 in 2015. Key informants for Nigeria included MoA, MoH and FAO staff members in Abuja, Nigeria. The following findings illustrate Nigeria's challenges:
2. Leadership – Final decisions on department structure in charge of nutrition policy implementation are outstanding, i.e. the possibility of creating a dedicated Nutrition Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture. Key informants voiced concerns with the complexity of governance structure, i.e. Oversight committee and lead ministry, to hold the respective line ministries accountable for the implementation and achievements.
3. Implementation plan & technical knowledge – Concerns were expressed about the translation of policy content into real time practical action due to the large coverage in country and its decentralized system, and lack of government extension and decentralized staff capacity to adjust interventions to reflect nutrition integration.
4. Monitoring & evaluation – The policy brings opportunities to improve data collection and monitoring processes, especially on nutrition data. Collaboration with other partners (i.e. UNICEF and CDC) to support data collection systems are foreseen etc. See below information system).
5. Budget design and allocation – There are outstanding needs to clarify budget allocations for the implementation, i.e. within existing allocations of line ministries, or within additional resources made available.
6. Nutrition Marker review – Nigeria scored 12.25pts out of 13.75pts - as the Nigeria Policy falls short of the following criteria: Intervention axis of market expansion and multi-sectoral strategies are not explicitly referred to (2 x 0.5pts), absence of financing plan (0.5pts). The policy integrates nutrition well.
7. Other Notes – Key informants feedback in Nigeria indicated that social protection was somewhat of a new concept, and a separate National Social Protection Policy is under development. The Nigeria policy integrates nutrition-sensitive indicators in the monitoring framework of the strategy, as well as linked the strategy to their regular nutrition information system. It is unclear if nutrition-sensitive indicators, i.e. MDDW, FCS/HDDS, FIES, etc. have been included in the regular nutrition surveys or the application of the CH/CILSS regular food security assessments as well.
8. Conclusion: Nigeria has received continuing support through GER 477, and needs final political decision on department structures to launch the implementation of the policy. It's Nutrition Marker score is a reflection of good understanding of the integration of nutrition in the policy. Additional political mobilization for the final decision on structure and support to implementation capacity should be considered.