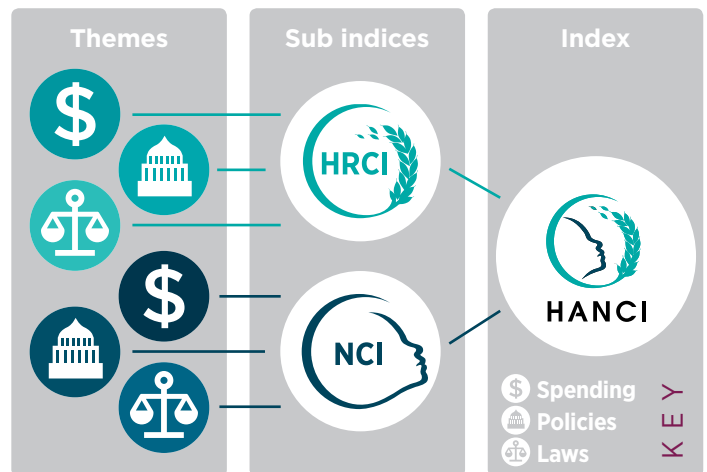
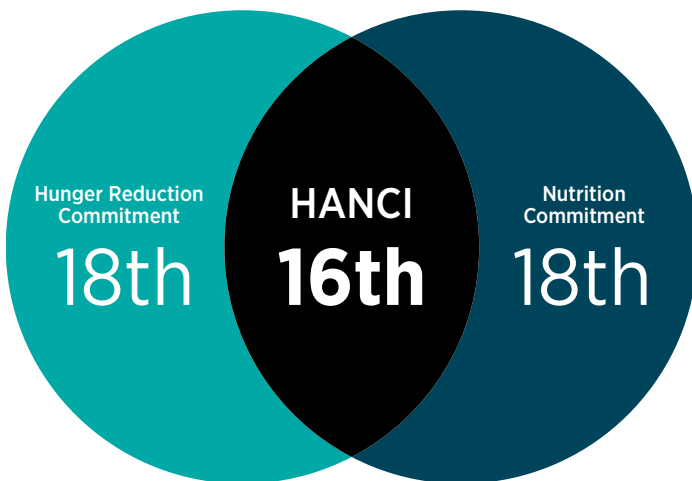


Key data for Benin



Existing rates of: **Wasting:** 4.5% **Stunting:** 34% **Proportion of population underweight:** 18%

Source: Gov. of Benin (MICS, 2014)

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.
- Benin has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in Benin benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2014.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Benin promotes complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 99% of children in 2014.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (7.97% of public spending in 2014) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Benin's spending in its health sector (9.6% of public spending in 2014) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In Benin, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Benin does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- Benin does not yet have a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (19.7% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Benin, constitutional protection of the right to social security is weak.
- Social safety nets in Benin 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 ¹	7.97%	2014	11st
Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹	9.6%	2014	24th
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) ²	Moderate	2014	Joint 33rd
Access to agricultural research and extension services ²	Strong	2013	Joint 2nd
Civil registration system — coverage of live births	80.2%	2011-2012	13rd
Functioning of social protection systems ²	Weak	2016	Joint 20th
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ²	Moderate	2014	Joint 8th
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) ³	In Law, not in Practice	2014	Joint 1st
Equality of women's economic rights ³	In Law, not in Practice	2011	Joint 7th
Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)	No	2006	Joint 28th

¹ Possible scores are: ● <75% of agriculture (Maputo) and health (Abuja) spending pledges ● >=75 % and <100% ● >=100%

² Possible scores are: ● Very Weak/Weak ● Moderate ● Strong/Very Strong

³ 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	2015	Joint 29th
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	99%	2014	Joint 2nd
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2010	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	77.9%	2015	21st
Population with access to improved sanitation	19.7%	2015	Joint 34th
Health care visits for pregnant women	82.8%	2014	Joint 34th
Nutrition features in national development policy ¹	Moderate	2011-2015	18th
National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)	No	2015	Joint 44th
Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)	Yes	2015	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	2015	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	2014	Joint 1st
Laws			
ICMBS [^] Enshrined in domestic law ²	Fully Enshrined	2016	Joint 1st

¹ Possible scores are: ● Very Weak/Weak ● Moderate ● Strong/Very Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

² Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Few/Many Aspects Enshrined ● Fully enshrined.

[^] International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes