Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

Key data for Kenya

HANCI-Africa compares 45 African countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. Country scores are calculated in relation to the political commitment of the other countries in the index.

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**Strong Performance**

- Government of Kenya has ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is common and land markets function well. Policy promotes equitable access to common property resources.
- 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.
- Kenya instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, enabling transparency and accountability for spending.
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Kenya 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 Kenya promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In Kenya 95.5% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2014.
- In Kenya, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is strong.

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**Areas for improvement**

- Spending on agriculture (2.7% of public spending in 2014), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union's Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Kenya's spending in its health sector (12.8% of public spending in 2014) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union's Abuja Declaration (15% of public spending).
- In Kenya, the law does not give women economic rights equal to men. Men and women have equal legal access to agricultural land, but this is not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- The Government of Kenya has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 28% of children in 2014.
- Weak access to an improved source of drinking water (63.2% in 2015) and an improved sanitation facility (30.1% in 2015) prevents positive outcomes for hunger and nutrition in Kenya.
- Social safety nets in Kenya are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.
- Civil registration rates are weak (60% in 2008-2009) and potentially hold back children's access to critical public services such as health and education.

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Existing rates of:
- **Wasting:** 4%
- **Stunting:** 26%
- **Proportion of population underweight:** 11%

Source: Gov. of Kenya (DHS, 2014)
### Key data for Kenya

#### Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public spending</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HRCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>33rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on health as share of total public spending</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- Access to land (security of tenure) | Strong | 2014 | Joint 9th |
- Access to agricultural research and extension services | Strong | 2013 | Joint 5th |
- Civil registration system — coverage of live births | 60% | 2008-2009 | 27th |
- Functioning of social protection systems | Weak | 2016 | Joint 8th |

**Laws**

- Level of constitutional protection of the right to food | Strong | 2011 | Joint 1st |
- Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights) | In Law, not in Practice | 2014 | Joint 1st |
- Equality of women’s economic rights | Not in Law | 2011 | Joint 26th |
- Constitutional right to social security (yes/no) | Yes | 2011 | Joint 1st |

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public spending</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children | 28% | 2014 | 39th |
- Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no) | Yes | 2014 | Joint 1st |
- Population with access to an improved water source | 63.2% | 2015 | 33rd |
- Population with access to improved sanitation | 30.1% | 2015 | 24th |
- Health care visits for pregnant women | 95.5% | 2014 | 14th |
- Nutrition features in national development policy | Moderate | 2013 - 2017 | 27th |
- National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no) | Yes | 2015 | Joint 1st |
- Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no) | Yes | 2015 | Joint 1st |
- Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no) | Yes | 2014 | Joint 1st |
- National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no) | Yes | 2014 | Joint 1st |

**Laws**

- ICMBS* Enshrined in domestic law | 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.

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* International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

[www.africa.hancindex.org](http://www.africa.hancindex.org)