Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

Key data for Comoros

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.

**Strong Performance**
- Comoros has devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Comoros has introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- 90.1% of the population of Comoros in 2015 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Comoros 92.1% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2012.

**Areas for improvement**
- Spending on agriculture (1.8% of public spending in 2005), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Comoros’s spending in its health sector (8.7% of public spending in 2014) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- Extension services are the preserve of government and poor farmers have no say in setting policy priorities. The agricultural research and extension system is not properly reaching out to poor farmers. There is no policy promoting gender equity in access to extension services.
- In Comoros, 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.
- Comoros does not have a separate budget line for nutrition; this prevents transparency and accountability for spending.
- Even though Comoros has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism, clear time-bound nutrition targets are still lacking.
- Policymakers in Comoros do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2012.
- The Government of Comoros does not promote complementary feeding practices and has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 14% of children in 2014.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (35.8% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Comoros, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is weak.
- Social safety nets in Comoros are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.

Existing rates of:
- **Wasting:** 11.1%
- **Stunting:** 32.1%
- **Proportion of population underweight:** 16.9%

Source: Gov. of Comoros (DHS and MICS, 2012)
### Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

#### Key data for Comoros

**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>1.8%</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>38th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ Public spending on health as share of total public spending</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>30th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- **Access to land (security of tenure)**
  - Moderate
  - Year: 2014
  - Rank: Joint 21st

- **Access to agricultural research and extension services**
  - Weak
  - Year: 2013
  - Rank: 44th

- **Civil registration system — coverage of live births**
  - 87.3%
  - Year: 2012
  - Rank: 8th

- **Functioning of social protection systems**
  - Weak
  - Year: 2014
  - Rank: Joint 40th

**Laws**

- **Level of constitutional protection of the right to food**
  - Weak
  - Year: 2016
  - Rank: Joint 31st

- **Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights)**
  - In Law, not in Practice
  - Year: 2012
  - Rank: Joint 1st

- **Equality of women’s economic rights**
  - In Law, not in Practice
  - Year: 2011
  - Rank: Joint 7th

- **Constitutional right to social security**
  - No
  - Year: 2009
  - Rank: 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)**

<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>No</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joint 29th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- **Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children**
  - 14%
  - Year: 2014
  - Rank: 42nd

- **Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)**
  - No
  - Year: 2014
  - Rank: Joint 42nd

- **Population with access to an improved water source**
  - 90.1%
  - Year: 2015
  - Rank: Joint 11th

- **Population with access to improved sanitation**
  - 35.8%
  - Year: 2015
  - Rank: 20th

- **Health care visits for pregnant women**
  - 92.1%
  - Year: 2012
  - Rank: 24th

- **Nutrition features in national development policy**
  - Moderate
  - Year: 2016 - 2020
  - Rank: 23rd

- **National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - Year: 2013
  - Rank: Joint 1st

- **Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - Year: 2015
  - Rank: Joint 1st

- **Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)**
  - No
  - Year: 2014
  - Rank: Joint 32nd

- **National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)**
  - No
  - Year: 2012
  - Rank: Joint 35th

**Laws**

- **ICMBS**
  - Enshrined in domestic law
  - Many Aspects Enshrined
  - Year: 2016
  - Rank: Joint 15th

1 Possible scores are: ● Very Weak/Weak ○ Moderate ● Strong/Very Strong

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

* International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes