Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

Key data for Namibia

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**
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Namibia benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2013.
- The Government of Namibia promotes complementary feeding practices.
- 91% of the population of Namibia in 2015 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Namibia 96.6% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2013.
- In Namibia, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.

**Areas for improvement**
- Spending on agriculture (4.95% of public spending in 2014), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Namibia’s spending in its health sector (13.9% 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 Namibia, 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.
- The Government of Namibia has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Namibia has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 62% of children in 2013.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (34.4% in 2015) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.

Existing rates of: **Wasting:** 7.1%  **Stunting:** 23.1%  **Proportion of population underweight:** 13.2%

_Source: Gov. of Namibia (DHS, 2013)_
### Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

#### Public spending

<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>4.95%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>22nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on health as share of total public spending</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HRCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to land (security of tenure)</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Joint 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to agricultural research and extension services</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Joint 37th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil registration system — coverage of live births</td>
<td>87.1%</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functioning of social protection systems</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Joint 3rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laws</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HRCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of constitutional protection of the right to food</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Joint 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights)</td>
<td>In Law, not in Practice</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s economic rights</td>
<td>In Law, not in Practice</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<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></td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Joint 18th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Joint 30th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to an improved water source</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to improved sanitation</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>22nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care visits for pregnant women</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition features in national development policy</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2012-2017</td>
<td>26th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Year</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICMBS^ Enshrined in domestic law</td>
<td>Not Enshrined in Law</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Joint 33rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
3. International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

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