

# PDBs and Nutrition Investment:

Understanding how Agriculture investments integrate nutrition based on experience from the OECD nutrition policy marker

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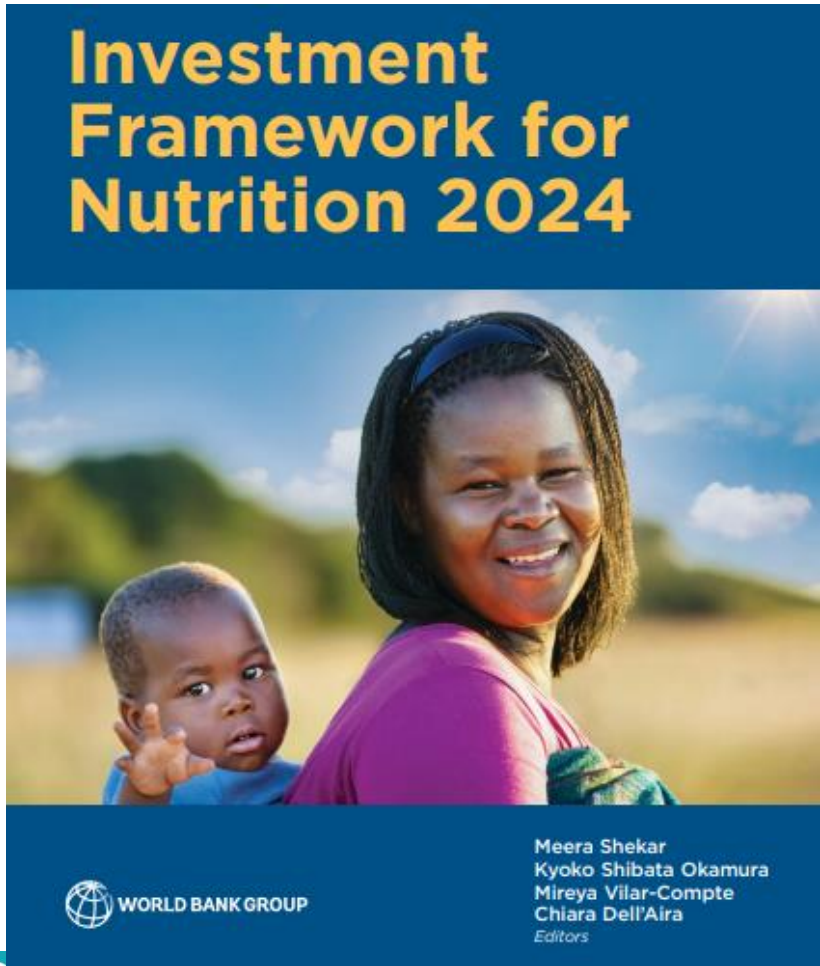
RESULTS FOR  
DEVELOPMENT

Child stunting, wasting, anemia, obesity, and low birthweight persist at alarming rates, especially in LMICs

- More than 148 children are still **stunted**
- 45 million children suffered from **wasting** in 2022
- 1 in 3 million women is **anemic**
- 1 in 7 children were born with **low birth weight** in 2022
- In 2022, 45% of adults were **overweight or obese**, with more than 70% of those individuals living in LMICs

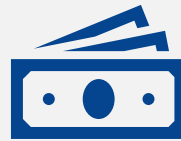


# The importance of investing in Nutrition in Africa



**Impact**

- Quality nutrition in the first 1000 days of life is critical for brain development and, by extension, the human capital and economic growth of a country.



**Cost**

- **Every \$1 invested in nutrition brings \$23 in return** and an estimated \$2.4 trillion in economic benefits.



**Optimized Spending**

- The costs of inaction are very high – about **\$41 trillion lost over ten years** with \$21 trillion in economic productivity losses resulting from undernutrition.
- Investing in a set of high impact interventions could **avert 6.2 million deaths and 27 million stunting cases** among children under 5

# Designing Agriculture investments to elevate nutrition: Add nutrition & healthy diet activities, objectives, and indicators

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- Investments in agricultural production, irrigation, livestock and aquaculture production, large scale fortification, food safety, and market accessibility, among others, can be **strategically leveraged** to optimize nutrition gains.
- For example, this can be done by designing agriculture programs to explicitly include:
  - Nutrition education and home gardening to promote consumption of safe and nutritious foods as part of healthy diets (community component)
  - Increased production of nutritious foods in the market year-round
  - Promotion of food fortification & biofortification
  - Value chain investments, including integrated cold chain, to add and preserve nutrients in processed and/or packaged food products

***Nutrition-sensitive financing:*** “Financing for projects that are designed with an **explicit** intent to improve nutrition outcomes among women and children, for example by having a nutrition or healthy diet objective or by including nutrition within the results framework, can strategically boost nutrition gains”



How can you identify opportunities to integrate nutrition and track these investments?

The OECD Nutrition Policy Marker



# What is the OECD Nutrition Policy Marker (NPM)?

A voluntary, qualitative tool to identify donor investments with a nutrition objective, making data publicly available via the OECD Creditor Reporting System database

- It can be used across sector codes
- It can track the number and share of projects with an NPM score within a sector
- It can track commitments and disbursements to *projects* with a nutrition objective or indicator over time (NOT the estimated amount going specifically to nutrition actions)

## OECD Guideline defines eligibility:


A project is **eligible** for an NPM score if:

1. It is reported under the basic nutrition purpose code, or
2. It contributes to a nutrition-sensitive outcome and the project documentation includes an **explicit nutrition objective** or **indicator**

NPM Score	Description
2	Nutrition is the <b>principal objective</b> of the action and is fundamental in its design and expected results
1	Nutrition is an <b>important and deliberate objective</b> , but not the principal reason for undertaking the action
0	Action has been screened against the marker, but has not been found to target nutrition in any significant way



# OECD Nutrition Policy Marker Guidelines

 **OECD**  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

**DCD/DAC/STAT(2020)46**

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**Unclassified** **English - Or. English**

9 December 2020

**Development Co-operation Directorate  
Development Assistance Committee**

**DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics**

**The OECD-DAC policy marker on nutrition  
Handbook for data reporters and users**

Informal meeting of the Working Party on Development Finance Statistics (WP-STAT), 16 December 2020, virtual meeting.

The handbook on the policy marker on nutrition, developed in collaboration with the SUN donor Network and the SUN Movement Secretariat, is circulated for INFORMATION under item 13 of the draft annotated agenda of the WP-STAT of 24-25 November and 16 December 2020.

Please note that the full document is available in PDF format only.

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# Why is the NPM important?

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## The NPM can:

- 1. Actively identify opportunities for improved nutrition mainstreaming:** Could provide a process for program officers to review large-scale programs for nutrition relevance, encouraging adaptation of programs and consideration of how to optimize the use of resources
- 2. Track progress to improve transparency and accountability:** Provides greater insight into multisectoral aid for nutrition than previously available, standardized across donors (including Agriculture)

More robust data will allow us to improve planning and coordination to tackle complex problems, better target and track investments in nutrition, and ultimately scale up more sustainable programs with nutrition actions across sectors to reduce the global burden of malnutrition.





# Features that make the NPM a powerful resource tracking tool

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1. The NPM is most often\* applied by officers who know the project best, instead of by a central data or statistics team.
2. The NPM is most often\* applied at the beginning of a project or investment, instead of retroactively, meaning it can be a conversation starter about nutrition integration and inform design.
3. The NPM data can be disaggregated by sector (including Agriculture), or any other field reported to the CRS, which improves transparency, granular information, and the ability to answer more complex questions about the nutrition financing landscape.
4. The NPM data is reported to the publicly available OECD CRS database, which means all data users can see which projects received NPM scores, greatly improving reporting transparency and accountability.

\*A note on application: These features are based on best practices for NPM application, which several donors have achieved. Some donors are not yet applying the policy marker during project design but are working toward doing so.



## Example A

### “Feed the Future, Cultivating Nutrition/Kawolor in Senegal”

#### *Agriculture and WASH investment, USAID*

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**Investment description:** The Feed the Future Senegal Cultivating Nutrition (Kawolor) activity supports the Government of Senegal’s efforts to improve the nutritional status of its population by increasing the production, marketing, and consumption of diversified, healthy, and nutritious food products among 1.5m Senegalese, focusing particularly on reducing nutritional deficiencies of young children and women of reproductive age.

#### **Nutrition Objectives:**

- **Overall:** Increase the consumption of diversified, healthy, and nutritious foods among women of reproductive age and children under 2 years of age
- **Strategic objective 1:** Continued scaling up of **high nutrition value** agricultural and horticultural crops
- **Strategic objective 2:** Close collaboration with health structures and community relay associations to consolidate and **scale up nutrition interventions** in the second-generation communes
- **Strategic objective 3:** Improved capacity of food system actors to better **address health and nutritional quality issues**



*Note: This project has 4 additional strategic objectives that are not relevant to nutrition*

# Example A

## “Feed the Future, Cultivating Nutrition/Kawolor in Senegal”

### *Agriculture and WASH investment, USAID*

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#### **Nutrition Indicators (for objectives and intermediate results):**

- Percentage of 6-23-month-old children receiving a minimum acceptable diet
- Percentage of female participants of USG nutrition-sensitive agriculture activities consuming a diet of minimum diversity
- Prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding of children under 6 months of age
- Production of vitamin A-rich orange flesh sweet potato (MT)
- Production of targeted nutrient-rich/high-value fruit and vegetables (MT)
- Percentage of women that participate in decision making on family revenue, health, and nutrition
- Percentage of participants of community-level nutrition interventions who practice promoted IYCF behaviors
- Percentage of children 6-23 months who receive at least three meals a day (in the last 24 hours)
- Percentage of children 6-23 months who consumed foods high in animal protein in the last 24 hours

NPM Score	Description
2	Nutrition is the <b>principal objective</b> of the action and is fundamental in its design and expected results
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## Example B

“Post-earthquake recovery 2021: Resilient agriculture and sustainable school feeding...” [Haiti]  
*Agriculture and Education investment, EU Institutions*

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**Investment description:** The objective of this action is to ensure 1) rapid support for the recovery of agricultural production, by complementing emergency actions in support of the winter agricultural season (October-November 2021) in the department of Grande Anse and 2) a longer-term structuring response to support the sustainable diversification of productive agricultural activities, in order to encourage consumption.

### Nutrition Objectives:

- **Strategic objective 2:** Accessibility of **nutritious foods** in local and regional food markets is improved
- **Strategic objective 3:** The presence of pupils in schools benefitting from **canteens** is reinforced



*Note: This project has 1 overall objective and 1 additional strategic objective that are not relevant to nutrition.*

## Example B

“Post-earthquake recovery 2021: Resilient agriculture and sustainable school feeding...” [Haiti]  
*Agriculture and Education investment, EU Institutions*

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### Nutrition Indicators:

- Rate (variation) of consumption of local products by households and school canteens
- Dietary diversity of agricultural products from local and regional markets (monthly measurement)
- Number of students with access to school canteens

NPM Score	Description
2	Nutrition is the principal objective of the action and is fundamental in its design and expected results
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# Key Takeaways

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- Investing in nutrition has large social and economic potential, with a \$23 return on every \$1 invested
- Agriculture investments can be made more nutrition-sensitive, helping to boost nutrition outcomes, by integrating a nutrition or healthy diet objective
- Doing so will help countries achieve their SDG targets
- The OECD Nutrition Policy Marker is an example tool used by nutrition donors to:
  - a. Identify opportunities to mainstream nutrition within agriculture investments
  - b. Track progress
- PDBs can consider the Nutrition Policy Marker as an example of a standardized approach to define nutrition within agriculture and food system investments



Thank You!

