



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

TRANSFORMING FOOD SYSTEMS FOR HEALTHIER DIETS AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) places nutrition at the core of its mission, as stated in its constitution, which identifies "raising levels of nutrition" as a fundamental objective. Improving food security and nutrition is central to the FAO's Strategic Framework, which prioritizes eradicating hunger and malnutrition, and mainstreaming nutrition across all organizational activities. As part of this approach, Better Nutrition is now a primary goal alongside production, environmental sustainability and quality of life in the FAO's new strategic direction. The FMM subprogramme supported the rollout of FAO's updated Nutrition Strategy and the Capacity Development Roadmap, both of which focus on strengthening efforts to mainstream nutrition and promote healthy diets through sustainable food systems. These initiatives are key to advancing the FAO's mission of transforming agrifood systems to enable healthy diets for all. The subprogramme worked to enhance the capabilities of FAO member countries, both government and non-state actors, as well as FAO's own capacity at global, regional and national levels. This support helped design and implement nutrition-sensitive policies, programmes and investments that align with FAO's nutrition objectives.

WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The subprogramme successfully mainstreamed nutrition across eight target countries by enhancing policy tools, building capacity, generating knowledge and fostering collaboration. Aligned with FAO's strategic goals, these efforts promoted healthier diets, sustainable food systems and progress toward global nutrition targets. The initiative focused on three key areas: (i) Policy analysis and tools, supporting member states in integrating nutrition into agrifood systems by conducting awareness events, training 116 facilitators across six countries, and developing 12 Agrifood Systems Pathway to Healthy Diets supporting project and/or programmes design and implementation. It also introduced a nutrition costing tool and conducted market surveys in six countries; (ii) Capacity building and awareness through training workshops for governments, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) that improved nutrition-sensitive practices. The project assessed and trained 66 SMEs, 13 Entrepreneurship Support Organizations (ESOs) and 111 CSO representatives, while organizing multi-stakeholder meetings to enhance private sector engagement in nutrition; (iii) Knowledge and evidence generation by analyzing 46 subprogramme documents, launching a digital knowledge-sharing platform for the Technical Network on Nutrition (TNN), and holding eight TNN webinars with FAO colleagues from around the globe. It developed e-learning courses and tools, contributing to FAO's strategic nutrition goals and advancing progress toward the SDGs.



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KEY FACTS

Latest Approved Budget
USD 1 500 000

Duration
January 2021–December 2023

Resource Partners
Multilateral, Donors of the Flexible Voluntary Contribution (FVC)

Beneficiaries
Policy makers from key governmental ministries in target countries (Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan and Timor-Leste) and partner agencies to the government in efforts to improve food security and nutrition

IMPACT

The subprogramme had a significant impact on efforts to end hunger and malnutrition by promoting healthy diets through sustainable food systems. By integrating nutrition considerations into policies, building local and regional capacities, and facilitating collaboration across various sectors, it helped countries strengthen the countries' agrifood systems. It empowered governments, SMEs and CSOs to adopt nutrition-sensitive practices and improve food systems, ultimately contributing to better access to healthy diets. The subprogrammes' emphasis on sustainability ensured that these improvements are resilient and can continue to support food security and nutrition in the long term, aligning with global efforts to achieve SDG targets and end hunger.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACTIVITIES

- Held awareness-raising events to introduce the Agrifood Systems Pathway to Healthy Diets approach and trained 116 facilitators across six countries (Ethiopia, Niger, Mali, Malawi, Papua New Guinea and South Sudan) in this approach as well as in the use of a costing tool.
- Introduced a tool to strengthen the use of cost analysis for nutrition-sensitive transformative actions in six countries and applied it in Papua New Guinea and South Sudan.
- Conducted territorial market surveys in 36 markets across six countries to provide a snapshot of the intersection between supply and demand for healthy diets.
- Trained 66 SMEs and 13 ESOs on nutrition-sensitive practices in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali and Niger, and organized six meetings with 115 representatives to facilitate private sector engagement in nutrition.
- Assessed and trained 111 CSO representatives in five countries on nutrition-sensitive production and advocacy.
- Held regional and subregional webinars, reaching over 1 000 participants, to promote nutrition mainstreaming and share best practices.
- Launched the TNN digital platform, e-learning courses and guidance tools for integrating nutrition into food systems.



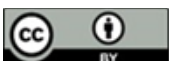
Project Title
Mainstreaming nutrition into the Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism (FMM) portfolio to promote nutrition-sensitive food production

Project Code
FAO: FMM/GLO/156/MUL

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