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6th capacity building webinar on « Analysis of investments in Nutrition »

- NIPN Country Teams
- C4N NIPN
- Monday 23rd Nov 2020



A few rules of order

- Turn OFF your microphone and camera
- Please ask questions using the chat box
- Identify yourself when speaking or sending a chat message
- The webinar is being recorded



Agenda

Time	Topics
10mn	Introduction & Agenda/objectives of the webinar
15mn	“Reviewing SUN Countries experiences with Financial Tracking Exercises for Nutrition” by William Knechtel, SUN Movement Secretariat
15mn	Feed back from Webinar in french: summary of Niger Budget Analysis & key discussion points by Julien Chalimbaud, C4N NIPN.
40mn	Discussion
10mn	Conclusion & potential next steps



Objectives

- Sharing experience of the SUN and NIPN platforms on analysis of investments in nutrition
- Understanding the different methodological approaches



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Reviewing SUN Countries experiences with Financial Tracking Exercises for Nutrition

William Knechtel, SUN
Movement Secretariat

November 23, 2020



Financial Tracking for nutrition in context: Utilization



Five ways financial tracking supports nutrition related financing

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **Joint analysis:** understand the key drivers of malnutrition to identify relevant sectors and programmes. Apply an equity lens by looking at prevalence and trends disaggregated by gender, age, wealth quintile, residence, livelihood and disability.
- **Sectoral dialogue:** engage budget holders and managers from relevant ministries for the final selection of programmes and clarify the reasons why these programmes matter in the given context.
- **Coordination:** advocate for targeting the right people with the right services in the right place and at the right time.
- **Integration:** advocate for the inclusion of high-impact nutrition actions in selected programmes.
- **Accountability:** advocate for complementarity of funding and efforts (domestic and external, public and private).



Overview of the Five Financial Tracking Methods For Nutrition

Type of Exercise	General Information	Frequency of data collection
Budget Analysis	Expenditures from the national budget classified by ministry, department or agency (MDAs)	Annual
Public Expenditure Review	Focus on public expenditure (less on private or investment from external sources).	Usually designed as a 'one-off' study
SHA2011 (NHAs)	Public and private nutrition expenditures within the health sector, including from external sources. It uses actual expenditure (not budget or commitments).	Designed to be carried out regularly
CHAI Resource Mapping Tool	Designed to cover health expenditures from the national budget and from donor resources, with the possibility to import private expenditures. It includes budget as well as actual expenditure.	Designed to be carried out regularly
Public Expenditure Tracking Survey	It covers public (and non-public in the case of contracting out) units involved in service delivery.	Usually designed as a 'one-off' study

Nutrition Public Expenditure Reviews (PERs)

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **General outline** : Government expenditures (not private investments) and, where possible, investments from external sources (foreign assistance). A PER defines its own classification boundaries and can, therefore, cover multisectoral interventions such as nutrition. It can assess issues of funding efficiency.
- **Pro's**: extremely encompassing, well done, and exhaustive. PER's have been done for Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Tanzania among others
- **Con's**: the encompassing nature means data collection and validation can take a long time, 12-18 months. They are generally “one-off” studies, and are not sustainable year on year.
- **TA requirements**: they require concerted and extensive TA



System of Health Accounts

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **General outline** : Public and private nutrition expenditures with a health purpose, including those from various sectors and external sources. Where possible, it uses actual expenditure (not budget allocations or commitments). Spending on nutrition is focused on ‘nutrition deficiencies’ where data are available from health expenditures by disease indicators.
- **Pro’s**: they are intended to be updated annually, but health-related nutrition expenditures are done less regularly. Data is available here for 38 countries:
<https://apps.who.int/nha/database/Home/Index/en/>
- **Con’s**: the focus on expenditures means time lags are inevitable – and they cannot be updated/replicated year on year.
- **TA requirements**: they require concerted and extensive TA



Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) Resource Mapping Tool

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **General outline** : Design that covers health expenditures from the national budget and donor resources, with the possibility of importing private expenditures. It includes budget allocations as well as actual expenditures.
- **Pro's**: They are intended to be updated annually, and 3 of the 5 countries who have used the CHAI method have done it annually. The five countries include: Malawi, Rwanda, Liberia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe
- **Con's**: the tool is health-sector focused and not multi-sectoral.
- **TA requirements**: they require concerted and extensive TA



Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS)

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **General outline** : Tool for public units involved in service delivery. PETS relies heavily on administrative and accounting records, and as such, the possibility to isolate nutrition expenditures depends on the extent to which these are isolated in the administrative units.
- **Pro's**: This method is not heavily used across the SUN movement between 2015 and 2020, but information is available here:
<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/ru/798931468163470166/pdf/528200BRI0prem10Box345583B01PUBLIC1.pdf>
- **Con's**: they are designed as “one-off” studies, and are not institutionalized or carried out with regularity
- **TA requirements**: they require concerted and extensive TA



Budget Analysis Exercise

Reference to Multi-Stakeholder Platforms

- **General outline** : National budget **allocations and expenditures**, by the ministry, department, agency, and it can include subnational spending. External financing can also be recorded. Generally at the programme level, and the budget analysis is multisectoral.
- **Pro's**: 50+ countries have conducted a budget analysis between 2015 and 2020. It can be completed and validated within 1-2 months. Can be performed annually – or bi-annually as in Peru.
- **Con's**: engage budget holders and managers from relevant ministries for the final selection of programmes and clarify the reasons why these programmes matter in the given context.
- **TA requirements**: it can be (and often is) sustained by governments without TA, however, TA is sometimes necessary.



Budget Analysis Exercise: 2020 experiences, knowledge documents, and vision

- In 2020, the challenges around the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the adaptability of SUN countries, as they continued to report on their financing for nutrition.
- [2020 Budget Analysis Guidance Note](#)
- [Supplemental Guidance for the SUN Budget Analysis](#)
- Approaches for Nutrition Costing and Financial Tracking in SUN Countries ([Brief](#) and [Full Report](#))
- Joint FAO-SUN publication, "[Nutrition-Sensitive Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems: budget analysis guidance note.](#)"
- [Conducting a Financial Gap Analysis of Multisectoral Nutrition Plans](#) (Guidance Note and Tool).



End of Presentation

- Many thanks for your time, and I am happy to respond to any questions you may have that are not addressed in this meeting.
- You can reach me at william.knechtel@scalingupnutrition.org





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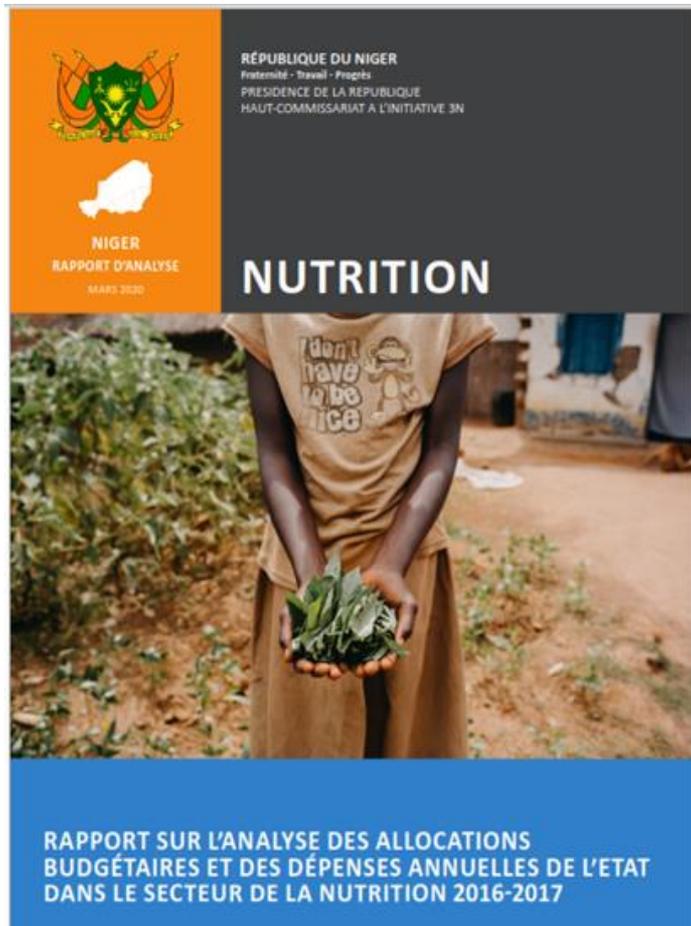


Summary of Budget Analysis in Niger

- Niger NIPN platform
- November 23, 2020



ANALYSIS OF BUDGET ALLOCATIONS & EXPENSES OF GOVERNMENT OF NIGER IN NUTRITION 2016-2017 NIGER



Avec la collaboration de :





INTRODUCTION (1/2)

- In Niger, the HC3N has endorsed a costed national nutrition plan.
- For the launch of the plan, the government pledged to finance at least 15% of the plan through national budget





General objective

- Analyse budget allocation and expenses of the government dedicated to nutrition (nutrition specific and sensitive interventions) in 2016-2017





MÉTHODOLOGY

□ Step 1: préparation

- ✓ 1st meeting by technical committee in charge of M&E of NNP on 23rd of October 2019 to
 - ✓ Inform stakeholders
 - ✓ Find a consensus on objectives and scope of the study

- ✓ Second meeting on 6th of Novembre 2019
 - ✓ Present methodology SUN
 - ✓ Present the committee supervising the study
 - ✓ Present the technical committee
 - ✓ Adopt the tool 'BOOST' as the main working tool (1 week training)





MÉTHODOLOGY

□ Step 2 : Accessing the data

- Using the tool « BOOST » 2016 et 2017
- Extraction of data, line by line, ministry by ministry to identify nutrition related budget lines using NNP as a basis.





MÉTHODOLOGY

□ Step 3 : Validation and interpretation

- Meeting 3/12/19 to validate the selection of budget lines related to nutrition
- 2 days workshop with FP of sectors to
 - ✓ Take into account their expertise
 - ✓ Categorisation of interventions in « spécifique », « sensitive », and « investissement »
 - ✓ Weighting : Specific 100% and sensitive (10%, 25% et 50%);





MÉTHODOLOGIE

☐ Step 4 : Analyse and interprétation

➤ Analyses using the matrix of BOOST (Excel).

☐ Step 5 –Finalisation and dissemination of results:

☐ <https://pnin-niger.org/web/>





SOME RESULTS

- The volume of total budget allocation to nutrition has decreased of **19,07% between 2016 and 2017.**
- **External resources had a major contribution in National Budget 115,65% and 68,79% respectively in 2016-2017;**
- **Important gap between allocation and effective expenditures in nutrition 64,35 % et 77,50%, in 2016 and 2017 with variability between sectors and over time.**





SYNTHÈSES (2/4)

- Budget allocation for nutrition from state represented **3,41% of the total national budget**
- State resources from 4 ministries represented almost 50% of the budget allocated to nutrition





SUGGESTIONS

<p>HCI3N</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete budget analysis for 2018-2019 period 2. Continue regularly the study and include contributions from external partners that are not tracked in the national budget. Increase data analysis capacity 3. Capacity building on BOOST ; 4. Reinforce collaboration with Ministry of finance ;
<p>Min</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design nutrition sensitive investments towards those that have a nutrition objective 2. Improve meta data on projects and programs to facilitate budget analysis





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Merci pour votre attention





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Summary of discussion points from french webinar

- Julien Chalimbaud
- November 23, 2020



Choice of methodology

- Budget analysis has been frequently used as it is in adequation with the objective of the SUN to track national investments in nutrition in national budgets.
- Different advocacy objectives leads to different approach: defining the objective is important
- Adapting to context (objectives but also availability and accessibility of data, timing, skills)
- Comparing countries not wise
- Mixed methods feasible, can build on one another but risks of double counting



Experience of Budget Analysis

- Categorisation:
 - Niger: Long, detailed and rigorous work is needed to identify activities behind government budget lines, one by one with a group of experts.
 - Niger: Differentiate investments (not counted as LT effects) from activities
- Weighting:
 - Niger: each intervention classified as nutrition sensitive is assigned to a weight of 10-25 or 50%. The decision is taken by consensus that can be hard to reach.
 - The weighting is done by consensus but the consensus must be built on evidence of the relative impact of the intervention on nutrition. Reaching a consensus does not automatically mean that the consensus is based on objective evidence of the impact.



Risks

- Weighting being subjective
- Looking only at national budget =
 - risk of missing huge investments from partners that do not always appear in national budgets. Niger: we didn't track budget from partners, but those are not tracked in the national information system.
 - In context with emergencies: risk to miss information on some important contributions.
- This raise the issue of the gap in tracking contributions from partners in the national information system.



How to deal with these risks

- Quality control is needed. Being rigorous on the methodology:
 - Building consensus of weighting based on evidence of impact, not on personal interpretations.
 - Ensure that relevant expertise is represented (nutritionists in particular)
 - Having a quality back up from experts (from the global level?)
 - Niger: Build a “task force” to check the weighting based on evidence (support from SUN ?)
 - Burkina: difficult to conduct the weighting exercise without guidance from the global level.
- Adjust interpretation with the methodology:
 - SUN: Budget analysis provides an incomplete picture but is quick (2 months), is a starting point. It is useful if not over-interpreted. (ex COVID).
 - Budget analysis methods are adapted in every context : does not allow for cross country comparisons.



How to deal with these risks

- Recommendations from the SUN:
 - “Avoid comparison between countries”, “the added value is on being able to make comparison over time within a country”
 - “A budget analysis is, therefore, a first simple taking-stock to estimate how much governments are investing in nutrition through their national budget. From here, more sophisticated and complete mechanisms could evolve”
 - “Updated guidance from SUN is now that weighting should not be recommended as part of the SUN budget-analysis exercise because it is subjective, imprecise, and confusing”

