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STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO ANALYSE DATA

TO TRACK PROGRESS, INFORM POLICIES

AND IMPROVE PROGRAMMES

FOR BETTER NUTRITION

NEWSLETTER

July 2019

The Global Support Facility for the National Information Platforms for Nutrition initiative is pleased to share with you its seventh newsletter.

L'unité d'appui internationale à l'initiative 'Plateformes Nationales d'Information pour la Nutrition' a le plaisir de partager sa septième lettre d'actualités.

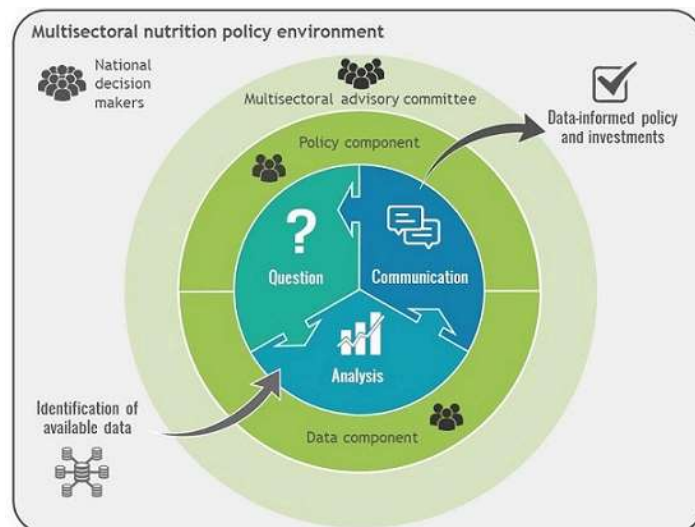
NEWS

Guidance and capacity building on the NIPN operational cycle

[Orientation et renforcement des capacités sur le cycle opérationnel de la PNIN](#)

Eight countries have set up and are currently implementing National Information Platforms for Nutrition.

To build capacity in the implementation of the NIPN operational cycle, 3-day **workshops** were held, in Ethiopia, Lao PDR, Uganda and Côte d'Ivoire (with participation of



teams from Niger and Burkina Faso), plus a one-day workshop with the Guatemala team, gathering more than 100 participants from NIPN host institutions, ministries and technical assistance partners.

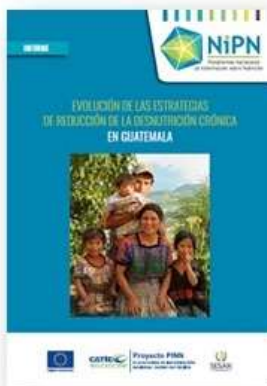
In parallel, six **thematic webinars** were held, in English, French and some in Spanish, with 20 to 30 participants each, focusing on specific tools, methods or approaches that

A full set of guidance notes, prepared by the Global Support Facility, summarizes the main topics related to implementation of the NIPN operational cycle and will soon become publicly available online.

NIPN workshop in Uganda

The last NIPN capacity building workshop was held in Uganda, on June 25-27. The event gathered 20 participants mainly from the Office of the Prime Minister, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the Ministry of Health and UNICEF. The participants saw the NIPN as an opportunity to support collaboration between sectors and harmonisation of data. The next NIPN workshop is planned in Bangladesh in the end of September.

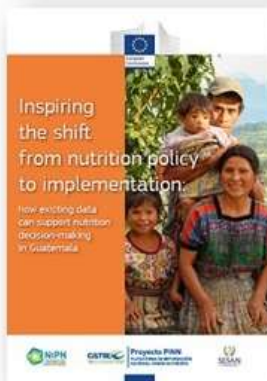
PUBLICATIONS



Case study on progress of three consecutive nutrition strategies in Guatemala

[Analyse des stratégies pour la nutrition au Guatemala](#)

NIPN in Guatemala aimed to study progress based on the implementation of three consecutive national multisectoral nutrition strategies, and more specifically with regard to the budget allocation to nutrition over the past 12 years. Three main lessons were drawn:



1) Commitments and priorities under each successive nutrition strategy were not matched by required financial inputs.

2) Adequate and balanced budget allocations as well as repartition across and within sectors have not been optimally assured for every component of the strategy. The implementation of key components has been affected by the low financial execution capacities of some actors/sectors

3) The absence of coverage data and data on outcome-level indicators meant that it was not possible to track whether progress was made against the strategic and operational plans, and to course correct where necessary.

[The full report \(in Spanish\)](#), has been presented by **SESAN (the Secretariat for Food**

well as with Congress. It is being used to advocate – at the time of the 2019 elections – for better implementation of nutrition actions and, where appropriate, to consider adjustments to implementation or budget allocation.

[The study is now also published and disseminated as a European Commission case study](#) in order to share the lessons learnt with a global audience. **This case study is the first concrete NIPN output demonstrating the potential of the evidence-informed policy dialogue for tracking country-level progress and informing decisions using existing data.**

EVENTS



NIPN global meetings

[Evènements internationaux PNIN](#)

The 3rd NIPN Expert Advisory Group (EAG) meeting took place on May 21 in Amsterdam, directly followed by the 2nd NIPN Global Gathering on May 22-24. Altogether, these two events gathered more than 70 participants from 8 NIPN countries, members of the Expert Advisory Group and representatives of the donors.

During the **EAG meeting**, the discussions focused on NIPN implementation challenges, the learning & adaptation agenda and the road towards institutionalising the NIPN approach in countries.

The countries were in the driver's seat of the **second NIPN Global Gathering**, which was almost entirely organized and animated around a 'body of experience' showcased across fourteen presentations and group work sessions. The NIPN country teams presented and celebrated tremendous progress made over the past year. Indeed, seven countries are on track with fully operational teams, with policy and data units working together. In addition, a massive amount of preparatory work has been done or is on-going in most countries, such as data landscapes, policy reviews, capacity strengthening activities, formulation of policy-relevant questions, data analyses, engagement with policy makers...

the coming years, both at country and global levels.

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