

# NUTRITION

## IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION

### World Health Assembly commitments by WHO Member States:

2012

Countries agreed to work towards 6 global nutrition targets to be achieved by 2025

2015

Adopted a resolution to report biennially—beginning in 2018—on progress towards achievement of the targets

### Objectives of the Report

Profile countries' status in relation to the six global targets they committed to achieve by 2025

Explore sources of data to be used for progress monitoring and reporting at regional and global forums

Trigger reflection by governments and development partners on the investments needed to improve data collection and utilization



### What the Report Found

Periodic surveys are the primary source of data for nutrition monitoring

Most countries' "current" nutrition status is based on data more than 5y old

Malnutrition persists in the Region, for example:

- majority of countries have above 30% stunting prevalence, the number of stunted under-fives is increasing
- only 17 countries have "acceptable" levels of wasting (below 5%)
- childhood overweight is increasing in prevalence and the number of children affected

Nutrition data are collected in primary health care visits but their utilization to inform programme planning and interventions or surveillance and monitoring is extremely limited

### ? The Big Questions

1 If we do not know where we are today, how can we plan for where to be in 2025

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2 How will African countries report on their progress towards 2025 at the World Health Assembly and other accountability forums?

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3 Are governments and their partners willing to invest in nutrition monitoring?

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### Recommended actions:

The Decade of Action on Nutrition is an opportunity for countries to make specific and measurable commitments to nutrition and track these alongside progress on the targets for 2025 (an interactive tracking tool for the targets is available at <http://www.who.int/nutrition/trackingtool/en/>)

Countries should invest in the use of routine nutrition data from primary health facilities to inform responsive nutrition programming, surveillance and monitoring

<http://www.afro.who.int/publications/nutrition-who-african-region>



World Health Organization

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