Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

Key data for Cape Verde

HANCI-Africa compares 45 African countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. Country scores are calculated in relation to the political commitment of the other countries in the index.

**Strong Performance**

- Government of Cape Verde has ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is common and land markets function well. Policy promotes equitable access to common property resources.
- The Government encourages varied agricultural research and extension services, and local farmer organisations are involved in setting policy priorities. The extension system is effective and properly reaches out to poor farmers. Government policies, strategies and mechanisms seek to ensure gender equity in access to extension services.
- The Government has fully enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Cape Verde promotes complementary feeding practices and has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 98% of children in 1996.
- In Cape Verde 97.6% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2005.
- In Cape Verde, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.
- Strong civil registration rates (91% in 2010) potentially enable children’s access to critical public services such as health and education.

**Areas for improvement**

- Spending on agriculture (2.63% of public spending in 2013), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Cape Verde’s spending in its health sector (8.8% of public spending in 2012) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In Cape Verde, the law gives women and men equal economic rights and equal legal access to agricultural land. However, these laws are not effectively enforced and discriminatory practices against women continue, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and undernutrition.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, Cape Verde’s medium/long term national development policy (Poverty Reduction and Growth Strategy Paper II) places weak importance to nutrition.
- Cape Verde does not yet have a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Cape Verde has not introduced a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism to support delivery of the National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in Cape Verde do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2005.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (64.9% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Cape Verde, constitutional protection of the right to food is weak.

**Existing rates of:**
- **Wasting:** 6.9%
- **Stunting:** 21.4%
- **Proportion of population underweight:** 11.8%

(Source: Gov. of Cape Verde (A Saúde das Crianças Menores de Cinco Anos, 1994))
Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

**Public spending**
- Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending
  - Score: 2.63%
  - Year: 2013
  - HRCI Rank: 33rd
- Public spending on health as share of total public spending
  - Score: 8.8%
  - Year: 2012
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 30th

**Policies**
- Access to land (security of tenure)
  - Score: Strong
  - Year: 2013
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 10th
- Access to agricultural research and extension services
  - Score: Strong
  - Year: 2013
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 5th
- Civil registration system — coverage of live births
  - Score: 91%
  - Year: 2010
  - HRCI Rank: 5th
- Functioning of social protection systems
  - Score: Weak
  - Year: 2014
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 20th

**Laws**
- Level of constitutional protection of the right to food
  - Score: Weak
  - Year: 2011
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 18th
- Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights)
  - Score: In Law, not in Practice
  - Year: 2011
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 1st
- Equality of women’s economic rights
  - Score: In Law, not in Practice
  - Year: 2011
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 7th
- Constitution recognises the right to social security
  - Score: Yes
  - Year: 2006
  - HRCI Rank: Joint 1st

Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

**Public spending**
- Separate budget for nutrition
  - Score: Sectoral only
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: Joint 16th

**Policies**
- Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children
  - Score: 98%
  - Year: 1996
  - NCI Rank: Joint 11st
- Government promotes complementary feeding
  - Score: Yes
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: Joint 1st
- Population with access to an improved water source
  - Score: 89.3%
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: 10th
- Population with access to improved sanitation
  - Score: 64.9%
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: 6th
- Health care visits for pregnant women
  - Score: 97.6%
  - Year: 2005
  - NCI Rank: 6th
- Nutrition features in national development policy
  - Score: Weak
  - Year: 2008-2011
  - NCI Rank: 35th
- National Nutrition Policy/Strategy
  - Score: No
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: 45th
- Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination
  - Score: No
  - Year: 2013
  - NCI Rank: Joint 34th
- Time bound nutrition targets
  - Score: Yes
  - Year: 2012
  - NCI Rank: Joint 1st
- National nutrition survey in last 3 years
  - Score: No
  - Year: 2005
  - NCI Rank: Joint 37th

**Laws**
- ICMBS
  - Score: Fully enshrined
  - Year: 2014
  - NCI Rank: Joint 1st

1. Possible scores are: Weak, Moderate, Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).
2. Possible scores are: Not Enshrined in Law, Voluntary Adoption, Fully enshrined.
3. International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

www.hancindex.org