Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

Key data for Rwanda

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 Rwanda 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.
- Relative to other HANCI countries, Rwanda’s medium/long term national development policy (Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy) assigns strong importance to nutrition.
- Rwanda instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, enabling transparency and accountability for spending.
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- Policymakers in Rwanda benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2012.
- The Government of Rwanda promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In Rwanda 98% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2010.

**Areas for improvement**

- Spending on agriculture (7.99% of public spending in 2013) is close to, yet not fully meeting government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- In Rwanda, 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.
- The Government of Rwanda has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Rwanda has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 3% of children in 2012.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (63.8% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Rwanda, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is weak.
- Civil registration rates are weak (63.2% in 2010) and potentially hold back children’s access to critical public services such as health and education.

**Existing rates of:**
- Wasting: 2.2%
- Stunting: 37.9%
- Proportion of population underweight: 9.3%

*Source: Gov. of Rwanda (DHS, 2015)*
## Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (HNCI-Africa)

### Key data for Rwanda

#### Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public spending</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>HRCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending</td>
<td>7.99%</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on health as share of total public spending</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- **Access to land (security of tenure)**
  - Weak
  - 2013
  - Joint 3rd

- **Access to agricultural research and extension services**
  - Strong
  - 2013
  - Joint 5th

- **Civil registration system — coverage of live births**
  - 63.2%
  - 2010
  - 24th

- **Functioning of social protection systems**
  - Moderate
  - 2014
  - Joint 2nd

**Laws**

- **Level of constitutional protection of the right to food**
  - Weak
  - 2011
  - Joint 18th

- **Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights)**
  - In Law, not in Practice
  - 2014
  - Joint 1st

- **Equality of women's economic rights**
  - In Law, not in Practice
  - 2011
  - Joint 1st

- **Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)**
  - No
  - 2006
  - Joint 27th

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#### Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public spending</th>
<th>Score*</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NCI Rank of 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policies**

- **Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children**
  - 3%
  - 2012
  - 45th

- **Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - 2010
  - Joint 1st

- **Population with access to an improved water source**
  - 70.7%
  - 2012
  - 29th

- **Population with access to improved sanitation**
  - 63.8%
  - 2012
  - 8th

- **Health care visits for pregnant women**
  - 98%
  - 2010
  - 4th

- **Nutrition features in national development policy**
  - Strong
  - 2013-2018
  - 11th

- **National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - 2014
  - Joint 1st

- **Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - 2014
  - Joint 1st

- **Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - 2014
  - Joint 1st

- **National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)**
  - Yes
  - 2012
  - Joint 1st

**Laws**

- **ICMBS* Enshrined in domestic law**
  - Not Enshrined in Law
  - 2014
  - Joint 35th

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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.
   * International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

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