Strong Performance

- Sao Tome and Principe has devised a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy.
- Policymakers in Sao Tome and Principe benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2014.
- 97% of the population of Sao Tome and Principe in 2012 has access to an improved drinking water source.
- In Sao Tome and Principe 97.9% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2009.
- In Sao Tome and Principe, constitutional protection of the right to social security is strong.

Areas for improvement

- Spending on agriculture (3.25% of public spending in 2014), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Sao Tome and Principe’s spending in its health sector (5.6% of public spending in 2012) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- In Sao Tome and Principe, 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.
- Even though Sao Tome and Principe has developed a National Nutrition Policy/Strategy, clear time-bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism are still lacking.
- The Government of Sao Tome and Principe does not promote complementary feeding practices and has only achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for 67% of children in 2013.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (34.4% in 2012) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- Social safety nets in Sao Tome and Principe are basic and only cover few risks for a limited number of beneficiaries.

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.
# Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HANCI-Africa)

## Key data for Sao Tome and Principe

### 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 ¹</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>28th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on health as share of total public spending ¹</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Joint 43rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to land (security of tenure) ²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to agricultural research and extension services ²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil registration system — coverage of live births</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functioning of social protection systems ²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laws</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of constitutional protection of the right to food ²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights) ³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s economic rights ¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Possible scores are: Weak | Moderate | Strong

2 Possible scores are: Not Enshrined in Law | Voluntary Adoption | Fully Enshrined.

### 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>Sectoral only</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Joint 16th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to an improved water source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to improved sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care visits for pregnant women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition features in national development policy ¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Nutrition Policy/Strategy (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laws</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICMBS^ Enshrined in domestic law ²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Possible scores are: Weak | Moderate | Strong

2 Possible scores are: Not Enshrined in Law | Voluntary Adoption | Fully Enshrined.

^ International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

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