Key data for Namibia

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**
- The National Nutrition Policy/Strategy identifies time bound nutrition targets and a multisectoral and multistakeholder policy coordination mechanism has been set up.
- The Government of Namibia promotes complementary feeding practices.
- In Namibia 96.6% of women aged 15-49 were visited at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel in 2013.

**Areas for improvement**
- Spending on agriculture (3.9% of public spending in 2018), does not meet government commitments set out in the African Union’s Maputo Declaration (10% of public spending).
- Namibia’s spending in its health sector (10.7% of public spending in 2017) does not fully meet (15%) commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration.
- The Government of Namibia has not ensured tenure security for rural populations. Land titling is weak and land markets do not function well.
- In Namibia, 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.
- Policymakers in Namibia do not benefit from regular nutrition surveys that are statistically representative at national level. The last survey was published in 2013.
- The Government of Namibia has not enshrined the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.
- The Government of Namibia has achieved two high doses of vitamin A supplementation for only 44% of children in 2018.
- Weak access to improved sanitation facilities (34.5% in 2017) obstructs better hunger and nutrition outcomes.
- In Namibia, constitutional protection of the right to food and the right to social security is weak.

Existing rates of:
- **Wasting:** 7.1%
- **Stunting:** 22.7%
- **Proportion of population underweight:** 13.2%

Source: Government of Namibia (DHS, 2013)
### 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>3.9%</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public spending on health as share of total public spending</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Joint 8th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to land (security of tenure)</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>40th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to agricultural research and extension services</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Joint 33rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil registration system — coverage of live births</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functioning of social protection systems</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Joint 2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of constitutional protection of the right to food</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Joint 29th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s access to agricultural land (property rights)</td>
<td>In Law, not in Practice</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality of women’s economic rights</td>
<td>In Law, not in Practice</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional right to social security (yes/no)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Joint 26th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Possible scores are: <75% of agri. spending pledges (AU commitments set out in the Maputo Declaration) >75% & <100% >100%

2. Possible scores are: <75% of health spending pledges (AU commitments set out in the Abuja Declaration) >75% & <100% >100%

3. Possible scores are: Very Weak/Weak Moderate Strong/Very Strong

4. Possible scores are: Not in Law In Law Not in Practice In Law & Practice

### 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>2019</td>
<td>Joint 16th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>34th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to an improved water source</td>
<td>89.7%</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population with access to improved sanitation</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care visits for pregnant women</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition features in national development policy</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2018-2022</td>
<td>23rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National nutrition policy/strategy (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector and multistakeholder policy coordination (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Joint 37th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICMBS(^*) Enshrined in domestic law</td>
<td>Not Enshrined in Law</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Joint 33rd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Possible scores are: Very Weak/Weak Moderate Strong/Very Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

2. Possible scores are: Not Enshrined in Law Few/Many Aspects Enshrined Fully enshrined.

* International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

www.africa.hancindex.org