ENGAGEMENT WITH FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY STRATEGIES
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CARE International and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) are implementing the fourth year of their collaborative action. Building on the first three years of their collaboration, which focused on climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and nurturing a vibrant alliance of CSA stakeholders in the Southern Africa region, the partners have continued to support these original efforts through providing support to countries to develop action plans to address performance gaps in the Biennial Review Report (BRR). In addition, the partnership is attending to nutrition by mobilising civil society to promote the role of agriculture through nutrition-sensitive agriculture (NSA). The partnership would like to influence the food and nutrition security agenda in selected Southern African countries in support of the Malabo Declaration.

To this end, the CARE-FANRPAN partnership assessed the alignment of food and nutrition security strategies (FNSS) in five countries, namely Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa, for their level of alignment with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy 2015-2025. The regional strategy is aligned to the Malabo Declaration and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The identified misalignment would need to be addressed through engagement with CSOs and the respective policy makers. The decision to focus on FNSS rather than food and nutrition security policies was taken because strategies are the means through which policies are implemented, and they tend to be modified more often in response to changing conditions than is the case with policies.

The country FNSS’ were assessed through a desk study using a checklist which examined their level of alignment to the strategic objectives, intervention areas, priority actions and result framework indicators of the regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy. The alignment of each country's FNSS was assessed, highlighting the areas of alignment to the regional FNSS and the identified gaps. The reports will be used for engagement with the countries’ food and nutrition security stakeholders, including CSOs and policy makers.

The main gaps in alignment of the FNSS are shown in the table below.

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<th>Regional priorities and interventions</th>
<th>Action gaps</th>
<th>Countries</th>
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<tr>
<td>Food productivity and availability</td>
<td>i) Climate change adaptation and/or mitigation</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ii) Access to land and water for agriculture, especially by women</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td>iii) Management of post-harvest food loss and waste</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa)</td>
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<td>iv) Treatment of recycled water for agriculture</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Madagascar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>v) Capacity strengthening for extension services on nutrition-sensitive agriculture</td>
<td>1 (Lesotho)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>vi) Access to credit and finance for agricultural production</td>
<td>1 (Malawi)</td>
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<td>vii) Inclusion of nutrition-sensitive agriculture in educational curricula</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to food</td>
<td>i) Access to markets to improve access to food, especially diverse and nutritious foods</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Madagascar, South Africa)</td>
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<td>ii) Savings as income strategy</td>
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<td>iii) Agriculture market information</td>
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<td>Women and youth empowerment</td>
<td>i) Best practices in women and youth empowerment</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ii) Access to labour-saving technologies, especially for women</td>
<td>4 (Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td>iii) Recreational facilities for children to save women’s time for care</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, South Africa)</td>
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<td>iv) Youth-targeted measures</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Mozambique)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional priorities and interventions</th>
<th>Action gaps</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management of micronutrient deficiencies</td>
<td>i) Nutritious foods as sources of micronutrients</td>
<td>2 (Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal and child nutrition</td>
<td>i) Maternal nutrition and weight management, especially during pregnancy</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ii) Management of obesity and NCDs, especially in women</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
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<td>iii) Management of moderate and acute malnutrition</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
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<td>iv) Real time monitoring of infant, young child feeding (IYCF)</td>
<td>2 (Madagascar, Mozambique)</td>
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<td>v) Capacity building of health services in IYCF</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>vi) Training of health personnel in social behaviour change communication (SBCC)</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>vii) Guidelines on nutrition counselling for people living with HIV</td>
<td>1 (Malawi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food safety</td>
<td>i) Accreditation of laboratories for monitoring food safety</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Madagascar)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii) Standards and legislation on food fortification</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, South Africa)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment in and stability of food and nutrition security</td>
<td>i) Funding mechanism and budget allocation for food and nutrition security strategy</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ii) Cost of hunger studies</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>iii) Right to food laws</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Results framework</td>
<td>i) Alignment of results framework to regional results framework</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii) Food security and nutrition indicators missing (output and outcome levels)</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>iii) Cross-linkages between indicators and interventions from related sector strategies</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique)</td>
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1. **BACKGROUND**

The 2020 Global Nutrition Report and the State of Food and Nutrition (SOFI) 2020 paint a grim picture of the global food and nutrition security situation. One in nine people in the world is hungry and one in every three is overweight or obese. Many countries, including those in Southern Africa, are experiencing the double burden of malnutrition, where undernutrition and micro-nutrient deficiencies co-exist with overweight, obesity and other diet-related conditions such as non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

The number of people affected by hunger has been slowly increasing since 2014, with increases in Sub-Saharan Africa being greater than any other region (SOFI, 2020). The world is not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 – zero hunger by 2030. If anything, current trends would result in 840 million hungry people by 2030, with an additional 83 to 132 million as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOFI 2020).

The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Regional Vulnerability Assessment Synthesis Report 2020 (SADC RVAA 2020) indicated that the regional food and nutrition security outlook for 2020/21 was dire, especially during the lean season of November 2020 to January 2021. Even before the institution of national lockdowns and restrictive measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic from early 2020, the region was on course to reach high levels of food and nutrition insecurity.

The projection was similar to the situation in 2019/2020 when 41 million people were food insecure. Therefore, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated an already precarious situation, with the 2020/2021 season projected to register an increase of at least 10% food insecure people in the SADC region. This comprises 33.6 million people in rural areas and 11.1 million in urban areas.

Southern Africa's quest for food and nutrition security, in common with the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, can be attained through improved agricultural productivity, coupled with improving the nutrition outcomes of agriculture, and building the region's smallholder farmers' resilience to climate change and resulting shocks. The achievement of the continent's food and nutrition security targets and the transformation of its agriculture require the coordination and alignment of state and all non-state stakeholders to complement national and regional efforts.

In view of these challenges, the first three years of the CARE-FANRPAN collaboration focused on two main areas, namely climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and the need to nurture a vibrant alliance of CSA stakeholders in the Southern Africa region. The intervention promoted governments’ partnership with organised non-state stakeholders, enabling them to capitalise on the momentum generated from regularly tracking national performance against Malabo Declaration commitments. Such partnerships would ensure that governments successfully harnessed the support of non-state actors behind national agricultural transformation agendas.

They would galvanise civil society organisations to scale up CSA achievements, thus promoting smallholder farmers’ resilience to climate variability and other extremes. Over and above the focus on climate change and variability, the CARE-FANRPAN focus for the 2020/21 financial year has extended to nutrition, seeking to mobilise civil society and rallying them behind nutrition-sensitive agriculture (NSA). The partnership seeks to influence the food and nutrition security agenda in selected Southern African countries in support of the Malabo Declaration.

The second Biennial Review Report covering the two-year period ending 2019, which was released in February 2020, showed that countries were still lagging behind in their nutrition targets. To that end, the CARE-FANRPAN partnership will assess the status of food and nutrition security policies and/or strategies in five countries, namely Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa. With the exception of Lesotho and South Africa, the other three countries are part of the six CARE focal countries’ in the Southern Africa region.

The SADC has a regional Food and Nutrition Security Strategy 2015-2025 that is aligned to the Malabo Declaration and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The food and nutrition security strategies (FNSS) for the five countries will be assessed for alignment with the regional FNSS. The identified misalignment would need to be addressed through engagement with CSOs and the respective policy makers. The decision to focus on FNSS rather than food and nutrition security policies was taken because strategies are the means through which policies are implemented, and they tend to be modified more often in response to changing conditions than is the case with policies.

2. **METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH**

The alignment of selected country FNSS’ to the regional FNSS was assessed by a desk study using a checklist (Annex 1). The checklist was used to assess the extent to which each national FNSS was aligned to regional strategic objectives, intervention areas, priority actions and result framework indicators. The national FNSS documents were accessed through the Member State food security and nutrition focal persons and internet sources.

Following the assessment of the alignment of each country’s FNSS, a report was prepared, highlighting the areas of alignment to the regional FNSS and the gaps, using the checklist as the source document. The reports on alignment of each country’s FNSS are shared in the ensuing sections. The reports will be used for engagement with the countries’ food and nutrition security stakeholders, including CSOs and policy makers.
3. REPORTS ON ALIGNMENT OF COUNTRY AND REGIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY STRATEGIES

The alignment reports for the five countries are described below.

3.1 Lesotho

Lesotho’s Food and Nutrition Security and Costed Action Plan (FNSCAP) 2019-2023 has 11 key result areas (KRAs), but covers similar issues to those in the five strategic objectives of the Regional FNSS. The analysis was based on the five strategic objectives of the regional FNSS, which are to:

i) Promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness;
ii) Improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity;
iii) Improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food;
iv) Ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food; and
v) Monitor and evaluate (based on a Results Framework) the strategy.

This report covers the level of alignment of the national strategy to the regional FNSS and provides observations for each strategic objective and corresponding interventions and the results framework. Following discussions with the food security focal point, it was noted that some of the strategies are covered in related strategic plans, such as the Nutrition and Home Economics Strategy 2020-2024 and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) Strategy 2019-2022. These two documents were subsequently reviewed and the inputs incorporated into this report. As a result, many of the originally identified gaps were addressed in these two strategies.

3.1.1 Strategic objective 1: To promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness.

This is equivalent to KRA 4 (Food value chain development)

i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      - The issue of access to improved seed and the promotion of nutritious local/indigenous foods.
      - Eco-friendly production systems
      - The issue of extension was adequately covered in Strategy 3.1.2.3 of MAFS Strategy and Priority Result Area 4.4 of the NHE Strategy.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      - Agricultural extension services’ capacity in nutrition-sensitive agriculture was not included in the table of strategies but was discussed in the narrative of actions of the FNSCAP 2019-2023. In some ways, the long narrative section on actions does not completely mirror the proposed actions and tends to be more comprehensive.
      - While promotion of healthy lifestyles and inclusion of food and nutrition-sensitive curricula at all levels were not covered in FNSCAP, it was adequately covered in NHE Strategy priority actions 7.1.1; 7.1.5; 7.1.6; and 7.1.7.

ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      - Access to land and water for agricultural production, especially for women, was not discussed.

iii) Reduced post-harvest losses
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      - Post-harvest loss management was well covered
      - Food waste was adequately addressed in the NHE Strategy priority 4.4.3; and in the MAFS Strategy 4.1.1.4
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      - Food waste not addressed in the FNSCAP.

iv) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      - Climate change adaptation (climate smart agriculture) was well covered
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Plan
      - Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions was not covered in all strategies (FNSCAP, NHE and MAFS).

1Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe
v) Improved access to credit and finance
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Improved access to credit and finance was well covered under stakeholder mapping in NHE Strategy and in the MAFS Strategy 1.1.2
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Improved access to credit and finance was not articulated at all in FNSCAP.

vi) Improved access to markets
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Access to markets as a way of improving access to food was addressed globally in the FNSCAP
      • Access to markets was covered in NHE Strategy under stakeholder mapping as being the responsibility of the Ministry of Small Business Development, Cooperatives and Marketing and in MAFS Strategy 1.4.1.1 and 5.1.1.2.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Access to markets was not broken down into its components as is the case with the regional FNSS

3.1.2 Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production was not articulated. The focus was on value chain development and income generation in all strategies. This is an important part of the food system.
   i) Increased access to incomes
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Access to income covered in MAFS strategies 4.2.1 and 5.1.2.1
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Savings as a specific strategy was not articulated in all strategies
         • Agro-processing was not explicitly mentioned in FNSCAP among the income generating projects, otherwise issue of increased access to incomes was well covered.
   ii) Enhanced sustainable social protection
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • In general, the national FNSS provided adequate coverage of social protection strategies that were well beyond those in the regional FNSS.
         • School feeding programmes were adequately covered in NHE Strategies 4.2.2 and 5.2.7
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Plan
         • School feeding programmes were not stated as a strategy in FNSCAP
   iii) Improved access to labour-saving technologies
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Labour-saving technologies, especially for women, was well covered in FNSCAP and 4.3.2 of NHE Strategy.
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Plan
         • Provision of recreational facilities for children to save women's time, was not covered in all strategies.

3.1.3 Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food.
   i) Promoting and protecting the well-being of women and adolescents:
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Maternal and adolescent health and nutrition were adequately covered.
         • Promotion of healthy habits and nutrition counselling through the primary health system were well covered in FNSCPA and NHE strategies.
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Pre-school and school nutrition programmes were not stated in FNSCAP but were adequately covered in NHE 4.2.2 and 5.2.7.
   i) Infant and young child nutrition
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding were well covered in FNSCAP and NHE Strategies.
         • SBCC, monitoring of IYCF and capacity building for Global Strategy on Infant and Young Child Feeding was well articulated in FNSCAP.
ii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Micronutrient deficiency reduction strategies were well covered.
      • Standards and legislation on food fortification well covered in MAFS Strategy 4.1.1.3.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Standards and legislation on food fortification should go beyond iodisation and cover all types of nutrient fortification in FNSCAP

iii) Improved food safety standards
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Food safety assurance through improved husbandry and enforcement were well covered in all three strategies
      • Accreditation of laboratories and provision of testing facilities was well covered in NHE Priority Action
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Accreditation of laboratories and provision of testing facilities to monitor food safety was not included in FNSCPA

iv) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • WASH interventions were well covered
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Treatment of recycled water and sharing of best practices on WASH not covered

v) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Management and treatment of severe and moderate malnutrition was briefly stated in the narrative section. It was adequately covered in NHE Strategy 7.1 and MAFS Strategy 5.1.2
      • Sharing of best practices on management and treatment of malnutrition was covered generically in the NHE Strategy
      • Multi-sectoral collaboration against malnutrition through social behaviour change communication (SBCC), health screening and wellness days at community level and at clinics for screening of NCDs were well covered.
      • Nutrition in emergencies was well covered
      • Nutrition assessment and community support were adequately covered.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Management and treatment of severe and moderate malnutrition was not stated in the table of strategies under clinical services in FNSCAP
      • Sharing of best practices on management and treatment of malnutrition was not stated in FNSCAP
      • Nutrition assessment and counselling should go beyond PLHIV and cover people with other conditions

vi) Enhanced investment in nutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Strategies for promoting investment in nutrition were well covered.

3.1.4 Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Strategies for enabling food and nutrition environment policies were adequately covered.
      • There was adequate coverage of women empowerment
      • Interventions on laws and policies that guarantee and protect food as a human right were adequately covered.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • There was no adequate coverage of youth-targeted measures.

3.1.5 Implementation mechanisms
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • There was adequate coverage of plans to create and capacitate multi-sectoral structures and mechanism for implementing the national nutrition strategy.

3.1.6 Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Food security indicators are not adequately covered. Need to align to revised regional results framework
      • Nutrition indicators were partly covered, but there were several gaps, especially among the outcome and output levels. Will also need to refer to revised regional results framework for guidance.
### 3.1.7 Summary of gaps in alignment with the Regional Strategy

The gaps in alignment of the Lesotho Food and Nutrition Security and Costed Action Plan against the Regional Strategy are shown in Table 1.

#### Table 1. Summary of identified gaps in the Lesotho Food and Nutrition Security and Costed Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities and Interventions</th>
<th>Gaps in actions</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 1:</strong> To promote availability of food through improved production, productivity and competitiveness.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods</td>
<td>Agricultural extension services’ capacity in nutrition-sensitive agriculture was not included</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture</td>
<td>Access to land and water for agricultural production, especially for women, was not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Reduced post-harvest losses</td>
<td>Food waste not covered in the FNSCPA but covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment</td>
<td>Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions was not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Improved access to credit and finance</td>
<td>Improved access to credit and finance was not covered in FNSCPA but was covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Improved access to markets</td>
<td>Access to markets as a way of improving access to food was not covered in detail in the FNSCPA but was covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 2:</strong> To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>i) Improved Access to Food Markets for Scale/Traditional Entrepreneurs</td>
<td>Food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production was not articulated.</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Increased access to incomes</td>
<td>Savings as a specific strategy was not articulated in all strategies</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Enhanced sustainable social protection</td>
<td>School feeding programmes were not covered in FNSCAP but were adequately covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved access to labour-saving technologies</td>
<td>Provision of recreational facilities for children to save women’s time, was not covered in all strategies.</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 3:</strong> To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Promoting and protecting the well-being of women and adolescents</td>
<td>Pre-school and school nutrition programmes were not covered in FNSCAP but were adequately covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies</td>
<td>Standards and legislation on food fortification in FNSCAP should go beyond iodisation and cover all types of nutrient fortification but were well covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Improved food safety standards</td>
<td>Accreditation of laboratories and provision of testing facilities to monitor food safety were not included in FNSCPA but were well covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)</td>
<td>Treatment of recycled water and sharing of best practices on WASH were not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition</td>
<td>Management and treatment of severe and moderate malnutrition was not covered in FNSCAP but was adequately covered in other strategies</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sharing of best practices on management and treatment of malnutrition was not covered in FNSCAP but was covered in other strategy</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in FNSCPA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 4:</strong> To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food</td>
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<tr>
<td>i) Women and youth empowerment</td>
<td>Youth-targeted measures were not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>i) Food security indicators</td>
<td>Food security indicators were not adequately covered</td>
<td>Need to align to revised regional results framework</td>
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<tr>
<td>ii) Nutrition indicators</td>
<td>Nutrition indicators were partly covered, but there were several gaps, especially among the outcome and output levels</td>
<td>Refer to revised regional results framework for guidance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.1.8 Conclusion and Recommendations

The Lesotho national food and nutrition strategy covers both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive strategies but will need to address some identified gaps in both types of actions. In many cases, the gaps are more in how the document is packaged, with the actions having been discussed in the accompanying narrative for each key result area, but not captured in the tables of strategies.

The alignment to the regional FNSS was improved by including the related strategies, that is the NHE and MAFS strategies. To make sure that these strategies are coordinated with the FNSCAP, it will be necessary to develop a common results framework to which all strategies speak, hence facilitating a common set of indicators and national reporting framework on nutrition issues. Such a unified results framework would facilitate the work of multi-sectoral implementation and review teams/committees. The outcome and output indicators will need to be streamlined into a single common results framework to align with the recently revised regional results framework.

3.2 Madagascar

The National Nutrition Action Plan (NNAP) III for the period 2017 to 2021 covers both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions, placing nutrition governance as the third action to ensure the proper implementation of these actions. Some gaps were identified and these would need to be addressed during the revision and finalisation of the NNAP.

This report covers an assessment on the level of alignment of the NNAP to the regional FNSS and gives recommendations for each strategic objective and corresponding interventions and the results framework.

Recognising the fact that there are other ministries that contribute to the delivery of nutrition outcomes through some of their interventions, this review exercise was extended to the Programme for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (PSAEP) for the Ministry of Agriculture, which covers a lot of the food security issues.

3.2.1 Strategic objective 1: To promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness

i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Access to diverse and improved seeds was well covered, including fish-fry to households
      • Promotion of eco-friendly and innovative production systems with increased access to water for productive use was well covered
      • Management of information systems was not explicitly discussed but covered as part of strengthening extension services in PSAEP
      • Promotion of best practices in production and extension discussed through use of demonstration plots and training of new farmers on aquaculture
      • Documentation and sharing of best practices on empowerment of women and youth were discussed through extension activities, i.e., demonstration plots, training sessions for farmers
      • Promotion of healthy lifestyles in schools, workplace and communities was well covered
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Inclusion of food and nutrition-sensitive curricula in all levels only covered school gardens but could have discussed other interventions

ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Rehabilitation and construction of irrigation canals to ensure year-round production for diverse diets was well covered
      • Promotion of access to land and water for vulnerable persons, in particular, women, youth, persons with disabilities and other special categories of disadvantaged people was partly covered by optimising the exploitation of water resources in favour of agriculture but did not discuss issues of land, but were covered in PSAEP
      • Increase area under rice production as the main staple
      • Increased land under irrigation was addressed through rehabilitation/construction of irrigation canals
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Sharing of best practices on land was not covered

iii) Reduced post-harvest losses
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Post-harvest loss or food losses in the agriculture value chain were covered through construction of village community barns and training of community associations on improved management of storage infrastructure
      • Agro-processing and value addition covered through provision of training on food processing and conservation
      • Post-harvest handling facilities were covered through community barns
iv) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment
a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
- Adaptation and mitigation covered under climate smart agriculture, including promotion of integrated farming villages (water supply, solar panels, homes with anticyclonic standards, etc. by building social infrastructure), and in PSAEP:
  - Increased area under irrigation and improvement and maintenance of infrastructure, set up pastoral water programme and irrigation system for aquaculture.
  - Implement disaster risk reduction and management strategy based on an early warning system: short cycle seeds, agricultural insurance, prevention of emerging pests and diseases, adaptation of infrastructure against cyclones, droughts, flooding and locust invasions
b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
- Conservation agriculture, environmental impact studies, watershed management – not clear how much of this will cover climate change mitigation (reduction of greenhouse gas emissions)
v) Improved access to credit and finance
a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
- Social protection plan of the vulnerable groups mentions plans to make it easier for households to access agricultural financing through financial institutions or community savings so that they can invest in agriculture production.
- Innovative approaches to agricultural financing and insurance schemes for farmers included implementing transfer programmes and monetary policy for vulnerable groups (women and teenage girls) and implementation of rural financing strategy implemented through microfinance institutions
- Promotion of incentives targeted at youth and women addressed by making it easier for rural women to access credit
- PSAEP: subsidy mechanism to be put in place for provision of inputs
b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
- Promotion of incentives targeted at youth mentioned, but not actual youth focused interventions
vi) Improved access to markets
a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
- Market access covered in PSAEP: develop supply chains, improve environment for private sector and support win-win contracting system between private sector and family operators, improve marketing infrastructure and equipment, including processing units for agricultural and fisheries products.
- Focus/mention of consumer protection strengthening in the market.
- Market access interventions to increase serviced markets, exports and cattle trade as part of PSAEP
- Improved standards and quality of farm products and formal market information and certification for both local and export markets prioritised, including traceability of produce
- Market studies to provide information will be implemented as part of PSAEP
- Development of high value carriers with access to international markets
- Promote contract farming arrangements to improve market access for family farms through development of contracting system and provision of arbitration system/body
- Strengthening women capacities in agribusiness, agripreneurship and value chain development – covered in PSAEP - though training, value chain studies, income generating projects for women
- The NNAP looks at food and nutrition security surveillance in the case of disaster
b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
- Access to markets not covered adequately
- There is need for an agriculture market information system that would support information on availability and access of food on the market, whether during emergency or not.

3.2.2 Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity
i) Improved access to food markets for small scale/traditional entrepreneurs
a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
- The distribution of food rations to vulnerable populations during emergency creates a market to source food from local suppliers, however, the strategy has not expounded on the origin of the food rations distributed during emergency, whether locally sourced or imported
- Another social protection purchase is school feeding, Madagascar aims at 100% of school feeding programme reach
b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
- Lack of clarity in the strategy on source of food for the school feeding programme, is it home grown or imported? It will be important to have a school feeding strategy that builds on the home-grown school feeding concept.
• Although laws, decrees, and codes on consumer protection and safety on food are promoted through ministerial order and standard enforcement control, this does not look specifically at standards that guarantee access to food markets. However, interventions on consumer protection focus on a market that provides information about processed foods and ensures food safety.

• There is need for guarantees for access to food markets, especially for women. Specific laws and legislation are required to guarantee access to food markets, especially for women.
  • Market information system not covered specifically
  • Domestication of regional trade instruments not covered

ii) Increased access to incomes
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Community savings was mentioned as a potential source of credit for farmers and will be done by encouraging savings by community aid associations: setting up 3,000 new associations, operationalising 148 association management structures, funding the experiences of associations at the national level, training of 150 association coaches, an increase in the Mutual Bonding Fund (FCM) and an incentive from 100 associations on savings culture.
      • Employment opportunities, especially for women and youth, were well covered through the Money versus Productive Work system affecting 300,000 vulnerable households by creating new farms, cleaning lakes containing aquatic plants, operating 400 dam ponds (bottoms) and the construction of 215 Village Community Barns (GCV), cage fisheries and by-product processing.
      • Development of skills for youth and women in business covered, especially start-up of new aquaculture farms and creation of space for youth as agripreneurs.
      • The diversification of activities and incomes by the integration of the agriculture - livestock - fishing sector by promoting individual income generating projects in market gardening, short-cycle farming, fish farming and continental fishing in relation to their main activities.
      • Also promoting complementary non-agricultural income activities such as crafts and sewing.

iii) Enhanced sustainable social protection
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • School feeding/nutrition programmes were well covered
      • Social protection system for the rural vulnerable are well covered, including social cash transfers.
      • The strategy captures the need for integrating early child stimulation in pre-school activities and community awakening spaces, under interventions to strengthen the school nutrition package. The community awakening spaces could be used as a socialisation unit.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Improved access to labour-saving technologies and provision of recreational facilities for children to free up women’s time, were not covered.

3.2.3 Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food.
   i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents:
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Essential nutrition actions adopted for maternal and child wellbeing
         • School feeding programmes are in place but not specific for pre-school
         • Food and nutrition counselling through mass communication, nutrition education campaigns through training sessions at community sites and distribution of recipes.
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • There is a need to have nutrition-sensitive interventions that would manage obesity and undernutrition. These could be around food-based interventions, diet quality and managing women's time and energy.

ii) Infant and young child nutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Exclusive breastfeeding measures were well covered
      • Complementary feeding was included in general family nutrition, with no specific targeted interventions.
      • SBCC measures were well covered.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Real time monitoring for infant and young child feeding (IYCF) is weak. It is not monitoring, but provision of support with the assumption that this will be monitored. However, monitoring of IYCF activities is required, including the monitoring system set at household level through monthly process monitoring where data can be captured along with the growth monitoring sessions.
      • Capacity building on IYCF was not covered.
iii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Consumption of food high in micronutrients was well covered.  
      • Legislation and enforcement of standards on food fortification were well covered  
      • Reinvigorating the Alliance of National Food Fortification (ANFA) which is responsible for legislation and enforcement of standards was well covered.

iv) Improved food safety standards  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Food safety issues are addressed on fortification, supplements and breast-feeding substitutes (policies, legislation and regulations).  
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • There is need for a comprehensive food safety strategy covering both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions, not only on supplements, fortification and breastfeeding substitutes.  
      • Establishment of and participation in a regional network of food testing laboratories were not covered.

v) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • WASH was well covered, looking at hand washing, sanitary facilities access, access to safe and clean water, personal hygiene etc.  
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Documentation and sharing of best practices on WASH and treatment of recycled water in agriculture not covered

vi) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition.  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Discussion of management of malnutrition looked at prevention and management of acute malnutrition. Other management measures were broadly stated which included NCD management  
      • Multi-sectoral collaboration well covered.  
      • Nutrition management of people living with HIV (PLHIV) well covered but need to be aligned to global guidelines.  
      • Care and support in emergency situations was well covered.  
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Sharing of best practices on production and provision of therapeutic supplies not covered.  
      • No information on training of health care staff in SBCC programme.

vii) Enhanced investment in nutrition  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Adequate measures were proposed for acceptable levels of investment into food and nutrition, including capacity for food research, mainstreaming of nutrition indicators in sector plans and policy advocacy.  
      • The interventions have no budget but indicate an increase in resource mobilisation of up to 73%.  
      • Need to come up with national nutrition budget based on costed interventions.  
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Cost of nutrition hunger study not covered.

3.2.4 Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Information and knowledge sharing with policy makers for ownership and commitment of Member State was well covered.  
      • Empowerment of women and youth in agriculture through enabling access to financing and technology covered Strategy to implement institutional reforms to improve governance of the sector in place in PSAEP: strengthening organisational, human, material and financial systems in the food and agricultural sector critical, including legislation and regulations  
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Funding mechanisms for strategy implementation not captured  
      • Laws that guarantee right to food were not discussed.

3.2.5 Implementation mechanisms  
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy  
      • Implementation structures and coordination mechanisms were well described, with the National Nutrition Council as a coordinating body. There is a need to get details of how the national nutrition council works and what are the capacities in place to implement the NNAP III  
      • Coordination also emphasised in PSAEP through information and communication through ICT systems, documentation centres, establishment of agricultural databases and agricultural censuses.
3.2.6 Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - PSAEP to be monitored through a monitoring-assessment system and field observatory system
   - To set up joint reviews of performance of PSAEP

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - The NNAP does not have a result framework, however, each intervention and activities within it have some outcome and output indicators which are not covering most of the SADC indicators.

3.2.7 Summary of gaps in alignment with the Regional Strategy

The gaps in alignment of the Madagascar National Nutrition Action Plan against the Regional Strategy are shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities and Interventions</th>
<th>Gaps in actions</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 1: To promote availability of food through improved production, productivity and competitiveness.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods</td>
<td>Inclusion of food and nutrition-sensitive curricula in all levels only covered school gardens but could have discussed other interventions</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture</td>
<td>Sharing of best practices on land was not covered</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment</td>
<td>It was not clear how much of the proposed strategies will cover climate change mitigation</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved access to markets</td>
<td>Access to markets was not covered in FNSS but was covered in other strategy</td>
<td>Cross-reference other strategies and include indicators in PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture market information system that would support information on availability and access of food on the market whether during emergency or not was not covered</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved Access to Food Markets for Small Scale/ Traditional Entrepreneurs</td>
<td>Food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production was not articulated.</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laws guaranteeing access to food markets, especially for women, not covered.</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Savings as a specific strategy was not articulated in all strategies</td>
<td>Improved access to labour-saving technologies and provision of recreational facilities for children to free women’s time, were not covered.</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents</td>
<td>Nutrition-sensitive interventions to manage obesity and over-nutrition in women not covered</td>
<td>Include food-based interventions, diet quality and managing women’s time and energy in new strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Infant and young child nutrition</td>
<td>Real time monitoring for infant and young child feeding (IYCF) is weak.</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy or new strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity building on IYCF was not covered.</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii) Improved food safety standards</td>
<td>A comprehensive food safety strategy covering both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions, not only on supplements, fortification and breastfeeding substitutes not covered.</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishment of and participation in a regional network of food testing laboratories were not covered.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)</td>
<td>Documentation and sharing of best practices on WASH and treatment of recycled water in agriculture not covered</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition</td>
<td>Sharing of best practices on production and provision of therapeutic supplies not covered</td>
<td>Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No information on training of health care staff in SBCC program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi) Enhanced investment in nutrition</td>
<td>Cost of nutrition hunger study not covered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regional Priorities and Interventions | Gaps in actions | Recommendations
--- | --- | ---
**Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food**

i) Promote sustainable mechanisms of funding of the implementation of the strategy at national level

Funding mechanisms for strategy implementation not covered

Include during formulation of new strategy, PNAN IV

ii) Develop, review, enact and implement laws and policies that guarantee and protect food as a human right

Laws that guarantee right to food were not discussed

**Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)**

i) Food security indicators

Some outcome and output indicators which are not covering most of the SADC indicators

Need to align to revised regional results framework in PNAN IV

ii) Nutrition indicators

<table>
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<tr>
<th>3.2.8 Conclusion</th>
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</table>

The NNAP captures some nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions, however, it is not comprehensive. For example, food safety is narrowly focused on processed food on the market and its regulations. There is a need for food safety to focus on the agriculture value chain as well as to emphasise food safety in certain nutrition-specific interventions.

The plan is not budgeted, and it is not clear how sector-specific budgets are costed on nutrition. The plan is also not very clear on how implementation and monitoring of interventions will be done as it has no result framework, save for scantly capturing expected results in some of the interventions. On the other hand, the complementary PSAEP has some very detailed strategies which help to strengthen the NNAP, but these linkages should be shown in the NNAP.

These have been included in this report for purposes of completeness. It is necessary that the NNAP captures and/or cross-references the strategies from PSAEP and also develops a comprehensive results framework that covers inputs from all related strategies so that the country can better track the performance as well as report on global SDG and regional indicators.

It is necessary that these shortcomings are addressed now instead of waiting until the expiry period of 2021, to ensure alignment with the regional food and nutrition strategy, while addressing context specific food security and nutrition issues.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>3.3 Malawi</th>
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In addition to the National Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan (NMNSP), there are other strategic plans and policies that also contribute to achieving nutrition outcomes in Malawi. These include the National Agriculture Policy and the Food and Nutrition Strategy, the National Health Policy and Health Sector Strategic Plan II, the National Education Policy, the School Health and Nutrition Strategy, the National Gender Policy, and the Decentralisation Policy. The implementation of the National Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan is coordinated by the Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS (DNHA).

The national Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan has not covered much on nutrition-sensitive actions in agriculture, especially looking at nutrition throughout the agriculture value chains. This could be well answered if the other sector policies and strategies such as in Agriculture, Gender and Education were referred to, highlighting what is covered therein regarding nutrition. For other nutrition-sensitive actions, there is good coverage on hygiene and sanitation and nutrition education in the national strategy. There is also good coverage on various sectors having a role in implementation and monitoring.

This report covers the level of alignment of the NMNSP to the regional FNSS and recommendations for each strategic objective, corresponding interventions and the results framework. Recognising that there are other ministries that are to deliver on nutrition outcomes through some of their interventions, this review exercise will establish in detail during national meetings what is covered by which ministry and how the data feeds into the NMNSP result framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.3.1 Strategic objective 1: To promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Strategies/Interventions promoting production of diverse food, promoting and making available improved seed and indigenous seeds
- Promoting seed multiplication through community gardens
- Safety nets which include seed provision.
- Promotion of behavioural change for collective action, community ownership, and improved nutrition knowledge, attitudes and practices.

ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Creating opportunities for women to increase production was well covered.
b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   • Land access for women was not discussed
   • Land reforms were not reflected in this strategy, but considering that there is a gender strategy, there is need to
     check and confirm if land reform is included.
   • Water use in agriculture production was not discussed.
   • Post-harvest losses were not fully covered, just in some sentences but not as an intervention

iii) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional strategy
      • Adaptation in the NMNSP talks of energy-saving technologies and not all four components of adaptation and
        mitigation. There is a need to check in the other sectors how this is captured and how it contributes to nutrition
        outcomes.

iv) Improved access to credit and finance
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • The NMNSP captured this broadly and did not specifically focus on agriculture financing and insurance schemes
        under strategic objective 2, strategy 2.

v) Improved access to markets
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Improved access to markets not covered

3.3.2 Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity

i) Improved access to food markets for small scale/traditional entrepreneurs
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Provide social transfers and support livelihoods for the most vulnerable households and communities.
      • Develop and implement social assistance programmes for women and child-headed households.
      • Social transfers and social assistance programmes, if designed to purchase locally like home grown school feeding
        or cash transfers, can ensure households income to purchase nutritious food.

ii) Increased access to incomes actions:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Incorporate village savings loan in care group activities for economic empowerment targeting vulnerable gender
        categories.
      • Support youth, women and vulnerable groups to actively engage in income generation through schemes such as
        safety nets and village savings.

iii) Enhanced sustainable social protection
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • School feeding/nutrition programmes were well covered
      • Social protection system for the rural vulnerable are well covered, including social cash transfers, social assistance
        and safety nets.

iv) Improved access to labour-saving technologies for food production, processing and food preservation
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Mobilisation of communities to adopt energy-saving technologies to mitigate climate change effects was covered
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Labour-saving was not discussed.
      • Provision of recreational facilities for children to free women’s time was not discussed.

3.3.3 Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food.

i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents’ actions included:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Review the Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) materials to align with global best practices on maternal and child
        nutrition.
      • Promote women nutrition before, during and after pregnancy.
      • Review of school health and nutrition strategy, development of school feeding guidelines, training school health
        coordinators etc.
      • School feeding programmes.
      • Conduct nutrition education and counselling for adolescent girls and women at facility and community level.
ii) Infant and young child nutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Exclusive breastfeeding measures were well covered.
      • Complementary feeding was well captured.
      • SBCC measures were well covered.
      • Real time Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and surveillance was covered.
      • Integrated Information systems will be implemented by DNHA.

iii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies actions included:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promote iron-folate supplementation for women of reproductive age.
      • Intensify prevention and control of micronutrient deficiencies.
      • Advocate for the production of diversified crops, including diversified and bio-fortified foods.
      • Promote fortification and standardisation of centrally processed food for improved nutrition.

v) Improved food safety standards actions included:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Monitor the quality and safety of locally produced and imported foods to meet national fortification standards.
      • Train Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS), research institutions and the Ministry of Trade, District Environmental Officers and Nutrition Officers to monitor and promote adherence to food standards.
      • Advocate for the development, documentation, enforcement of by-laws that promote nutrition, food safety and food security at district and council levels.

vi) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promotion of improved WASH practices at the community and household levels was well covered.

vii) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition was generally well-covered through the following actions:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Treat and Control Acute Malnutrition Among Children Under Five, Adolescents, Pregnant and Lactating Women, PLHIV, and Other Vulnerable Groups.
      • Strengthen the implementation of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) and Nutrition Care Support Treatment (NCST) through lifestyle approach targeting adolescents, adults and children.
      • Strengthen the capacity of all sectors at national and district level to implement Nutrition Education and community strategy.
      • Promote scaling up of nutrition treatment, care and support of TB patients, PLHIV and other chronically ill persons in all public and private health facilities.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promote adoption/adaptation of Global Guidelines on Nutrition Counselling Care and Support for PLHIV was not discussed.

viii) Enhanced investment in nutrition was well covered:
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Ministry responsible for Finance, Economic Planning and Development is responsible for mobilisation of resources from government and development partners, and private sectors for nutrition interventions.
      • The strategy is budgeted for and government funds it through the Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS

3.3.4 Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • The strategy is budgeted for and government funds it through the Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS.
      • Enhance Gender Equality, Equity, Protection, Participation, and Empowerment of Adolescents, Women and Children for Improved Nutrition is covered
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Laws that guarantee right to food were not fully discussed.

3.3.5 Implementation mechanisms
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • The Malawi implementation structure has the oversight, policy/technical coordination and the operational structures. Oversight includes: Parliamentary committee on nutrition, HIV and AIDS, Cabinet Committee on Nutrition, HIV and AIDS and the Principal Secretaries’ Committee on Nutrition, HIV and AIDS. Policy/technical coordination:
Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS is a central coordination unit supported by sector ministers, civil society, academia, research institutes, multi-sector technical nutrition committee, private sector agencies and development partners. Operational: Under sector ministries there are local assemblies, district nutrition coordinator committees, extension workers, village development committees, communities, and community-based organisations.

- At country level, there is a focal point person who is a SADC National Contact point but also sector specific contact persons i.e., health and agriculture.

3.3.6 Monitoring and Evaluation (Results Framework)

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
- There is a results framework that has comprehensive indicators for Nutrition and Health
- The interventions are well costed
- The implementing bodies are also indicated

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
- The results framework does not have much on food security

3.3.7 Summary of gaps in alignment with the Regional Strategy

The gaps in alignment of the Malawi National Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan against the Regional Strategy are shown in Table 3.

**Table 3. Summary of identified gaps for the Malawi National Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities and Interventions</th>
<th>Gaps in actions</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Objective 1: To promote availability of food through improved production, productivity and competitiveness.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved access to land and water for agriculture</td>
<td>Access to land for women and land reform were not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water use in agriculture production was not discussed</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy or cross-reference to other strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Reduced post-harvest losses</td>
<td>Post-harvest losses were not fully covered, only mentioned in some sentences but not as an intervention</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy or cross-reference to other strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment</td>
<td>Adaptation and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions was not well covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy or cross-reference to other strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved access to credit and finance</td>
<td>The NMNSP captured this broadly and did not specifically focus on agriculture financing and insurance schemes</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Improved access to labour-saving technologies</td>
<td>Provision of recreational facilities for children to save women’s time, was not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition</td>
<td>Adoption/adaptation of Global Guidelines on Nutrition Counselling Care and Support for PLHIV was not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of strategy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3.8 Conclusion

The NMNSP largely captures the nutrition-specific actions. However, it has not approached nutrition-sensitive agriculture from a value chain approach. Other areas of nutrition-sensitive actions such as water and sanitation and social protection are well covered. Areas such as food safety are not comprehensively covered. There is a need for food safety to be looked at from the agriculture value chains perspective as well as emphasising food safety during meal preparation and handling.

Malawi has a well-planned and budgeted plan as well as a results framework. The governance structure for implementation spans from national level down to village level, with clear mandates for all players.

There is, however, a need to ensure the identified gaps are captured and well incorporated into the strategy, or within other strategies, and its indicators to be included. While there are several other related strategies, it is prudent to include the actions and indicators from all sectors in the national food and nutrition security strategy for ease of reporting. Actions that are covered elsewhere can be cross-referenced to avoid duplication ensuring that all the necessary components are in the main document, given that it is multi-sectoral.
3.4 Mozambique

Although the Mozambique Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (ESAN III) 2020-2030 has nine priority areas (equivalent to strategic objectives in the regional FNSS), there are many similarities in the issues covered. The analysis was based on the five strategic objectives of the regional FNSS. This report covers the level of alignment of the national strategy to the regional FNSS and provides observations for each strategic objective and corresponding interventions and the results framework.

In general, the strategy is well written and covers most of the issues in the regional FNSS. Areas of concern that may need to be improved have been highlighted in the specific sections below. The SADC, with support from FAO, recently revised the results framework for the regional FNSS. This was used in this review.

3.4.1 Strategic objective 1: To promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness.

This is equivalent to Priority area 1 (Agriculture and Rural Women)

i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Measures to improve access to seeds were adequately covered
- Promotion of eco-friendly and innovative production systems with increased access to water for production was adequately covered
- Information systems related to food and nutrition security were well covered
- Promotion of best practices in production and extension were well covered
- Healthy lifestyle campaigns in schools were well articulated, plus inclusion of nutrition in curricula

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy

- The issue of documentation and sharing of best practices on women and youth empowerment was not covered

ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Access to land and water for agricultural production, especially for women, was well covered

iii) Reduced post-harvest losses

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Food processing and reduction of food loss and waste were well covered
- Agro-processing and value addition were well articulated.

iv) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Dissemination of information on adaptation and mitigation were well covered

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy

- Except for agro-ecological farming and sustainable management of forestry, no other explicit measures on climate change mitigation were covered.

v) Improved access to credit and finance

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- The proposed measures to address the issue of access to credit and finance for smallholder farmers and agripreneurs are adequately covered
- Incentives for production of nutritious, diverse local foods should go further to promote value chains for such foods, so that they become part of the mainstream markets.

vi) Improved access to markets

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Marketing standards and infrastructure development were well covered
- The use of ICTs in market information systems is vital and needs to be articulated more clearly.

3.4.2 Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity

i) Improved access to food markets for small scale/traditional entrepreneurs

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Promotion of local procurement for humanitarian needs and general market access measures were well articulated
- Market information system measures were well covered
- Domestication of regional trade policy was well covered

ii) Increased access to incomes

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy

- Income-generating activities were well articulated
- Promotion of business skills development for women were well covered

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy

- Promotion of business skills development for youth not well covered
- Savings were not covered as a strategy for access to income
iv) Enhanced sustainable social protection
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • School feeding programmes were well covered
      • Social protection schemes were well covered
v) Improved access to labour-saving technologies
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Labour-saving technologies were not covered in the strategy document

3.4.3 Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food.
   i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents:
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Campaigns against adolescent pregnancy were well articulated
         • School feeding programmes were well covered
         • Food and nutrition counselling for management of NCDs was covered well
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Other measures on maternal nutrition, including weight management during pregnancy were not mentioned
   ii) Infant and young child nutrition
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Exclusive breastfeeding was well covered.
         • Complementary feeding post six months was well covered.
         • SBCC and general nutrition education were well covered
         • Capacity building and strengthening of health system was well covered
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • On real time monitoring of IYCF, there was no explicit mention, but whole population monitoring was covered – need to strengthen this aspect
   vii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies
      a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Focus was largely on supplements and consumption of fortified foods rather than nutritious foods
         • On strengthening and enforcement of legislation for food fortification and biofortification, this focused only on fortification
   viii) Improved food safety standards
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Measures for food safety research and laboratory facilities focused mainly on internal environment - may need to include membership of external reference laboratories to give confidence to both national and export markets
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Food safety assurance regulatory framework was covered but there were no details on actual actions
   ix) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Promotion of provision of safe, potable water was adequately covered
         • Water and sanitation management actions were well articulated
   x) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Nutritional care and support in emergencies was well covered
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Treatment and management of malnutrition were not well articulated, other than general wasting
   xi) Enhanced investment in nutrition
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Cost of hunger studies – a comprehensive list of studies was proposed
         • Budget for nutrition – resource allocation proposals were very detailed

3.4.4 Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Participation and involvement of all key stakeholders in planning and proposed implementation of strategy engender a high degree of ownership
      • Policy and legislative environment is very positive and should result in great impact
3.4.5 Implementation mechanisms
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Coordination structures at national, regional and district levels were well described

3.4.6 Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)
   i) Impact indicators
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Most impact indicators on nutrition are well captured
      b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
         • Need to separate impact, outcome and output/process indicators
   ii) Outcome and output indicators
      a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
         • The use of sector indicators is a commendable practice which should be emulated by other countries
         • Propose that the outcome and output indicators be aligned to the recently developed indicators for the regional FNSS.

3.4.7 Summary of gaps in alignment with the Regional Strategy
   The gaps in alignment of the Mozambique Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (ESAN III) against the Regional Strategy are shown in Table 4.

   Table 4. Summary of identified gaps for the Mozambique Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (ESAN III)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities and Interventions</th>
<th>Gaps in actions</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Objective 1: To promote availability of food through improved production, productivity and competitiveness.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved access to land and water for agriculture</td>
<td>Documentation and sharing of best practices on women and youth empowerment was not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of draft strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment</td>
<td>Except for agro-ecological farming and sustainable management of forestry, no other explicit measures on climate change mitigation were covered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Increased access to incomes</td>
<td>Savings were not covered as a strategy in access to income</td>
<td>Include during review of draft strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Improved access to labour-saving technologies</td>
<td>Labour-saving technologies were not covered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents</td>
<td>Measures on maternal nutrition, including weight management during pregnancy were not covered</td>
<td>Include during review of draft strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Infant and young child nutrition (IYCF)</td>
<td>Real time monitoring of IYCF was not covered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies</td>
<td>Focus was largely on supplements and consumption of fortified foods rather than nutritious foods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strengthening and enforcement of legislation on food fortification and biofortification; this focused only on fortification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Improved food safety standards</td>
<td>Food safety assurance regulatory framework was covered but there were no details on actual actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition</td>
<td>Treatment and management of malnutrition were not well covered, other than general wasting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Food security indicators</td>
<td>Food security indicators were not adequately covered</td>
<td>Need to align to revised regional results framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Nutrition indicators</td>
<td>Need to separate impact, outcome and output/process indicators</td>
<td>Need to align to revised regional results framework</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.8 Conclusion
   The Mozambique ESAN III covers both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive strategies but will need to address some identified gaps in both types of actions. The outcome and output indicators will need to be streamlined to align with the regional FNSS results framework which has just been revised with technical support from FAO.
3.5 South Africa

The South African National Food and Nutrition Security Plan (NFNSP) has six strategic objectives against five for the regional FNSS. The analysis was based on the five strategic objectives of the regional FNSS. This report covers the level of alignment of the national strategy to the regional FNSS and provides observations for each strategic objective and corresponding interventions and the results framework.

3.5.1 Strategic objective 1: To promote the availability of food through production, productivity and competitiveness

This is equivalent to Strategic objective 2 of the South African NFNSP (Establishment of inclusive local food value-chains to support access to nutritious, affordable food).

i) Improved productivity of diverse, safe and nutritious foods

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - The focus is on promoting increased production from the smallholder sector.
   - Issue of increased access to diverse and improved seeds is incorporated in “provision of required inputs for increased production of fruit, vegetable, maize, beans, tilapia and catfish”
   - Promotion of best practices in production and extension services will be achieved through strengthening of agriculture centres and capacity development of extension officers for producer development.

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Silent on access to land by women, youth and other vulnerable people.
   - Land under irrigation not listed in the strategic interventions and specific activities.

ii) Improved access to land and water for agriculture

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Provision of land to smallholders is one of the pillars of land reform.
   - Land under irrigation discussed in the narrative

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Land under irrigation not listed in the strategic interventions and specific activities.
   - There is a risk that such actions may be left out and not be implemented.

iii) Reduced post-harvest losses

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Post-harvest loss management was discussed in the narrative

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Post-harvest actions were not listed in the strategic interventions and specific activities.
   - There is a risk that such actions may be left out and not be implemented.

iv) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Climate change adaptation, e.g., the use of drought tolerant crops and access to water for irrigation, was discussed in the narrative

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Climate change adaptation was not covered in the table of strategic interventions and specific activities.
   - Mitigation, that is reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, was not discussed at all.

v) Improved access to credit and finance

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Innovative approaches to agricultural financing, especially for smallholders, addressed through PCPDS policy and development and upscaling of instruments to support production and access to markets for smallholder producers.
   - Incentivising credit for production of nutritious, diverse and local foods was covered as part of the package of incentives mentioned above.

vi) Improved access to markets – equivalent to “stimulate markets for smallholder producers”

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Improved market access for smallholder producers identified as a key component of agriculture value chain development, including use of ICTs.

3.5.2 Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity

i) Food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production

a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   - Food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production was discussed in the narrative, especially covering non-competitive practices of large corporates.

b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   - There were no strategic interventions nor activities mentioned for food markets as a way of promoting nutrition-sensitive food systems as opposed to production. This is an important part of the food system which is best handled through policy and legislation. It was noted that this is being promoted by WFP.
Engagement with Food and Nutrition Security Strategies

ii) Increased access to incomes
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Creation of decent, diversified productive employment opportunities in primary agriculture production, especially for women and youth agripreneurs, was well covered.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promotion of the culture of savings was not covered in strategy but common in South Africa, even in urban areas (Sitokofela)

iii) Enhanced sustainable social protection
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Social protection was well covered, including targeted social protection measures and sustainable livelihood programmes

iv) Improved access to labour-saving technologies
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Labour-saving technologies for food production, processing and food preservation and provision of recreational facilities for children to afford women more time for productive activities were not covered.

3.5.3 Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food. (Equivalent to Strategic objective 4 of SA NFNSP: Scale up high impact nutrition interventions targeting women, infants and children)

i) Promoting and protecting the well-being of women and adolescents
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promote the adaptation and adoption of WHO standard package of maternal health and nutrition services. There are specific interventions for WRA (15-49 years) (pregnant and lactating) covering access to high energy and nutrient dense supplements, health system effectiveness, and monitoring of effectiveness of supplement programme.
      • Issue of management of obesity and NCD counselling was well covered, including capacity building for health workers to support communities.
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • School nutrition programmes and weight management during pregnancy were discussed in the narrative but are not included in the table of strategic interventions and activities. However, South Africa is running school feeding programmes in both urban and rural areas.

ii) Infant and young child nutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months was well covered.
      • Complementary feeding and SBCC were well covered.
      • Monitoring of IYCF, growth and capacity building for health services personnel to manage IYCF was well covered.

iii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Micronutrient interventions were largely based on nutrition-specific activities and not so much on consumption of foods that are rich in micronutrient content.
      • Food fortification standards and enforcement were discussed in the narrative but not in the specific interventions. In practice these are taken for granted and are being implemented in the country.

iv) Improved food safety standards
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Food safety was extensively discussed in the narrative but not in strategic interventions, nor were activities and costings put forward. In practice these measures are widely applied and enforced.

v) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
      • WASH was well covered in the narrative but not in the strategic interventions and activities.

vi) Improved identification, treatment and management of malnutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Treatment and management of malnutrition was covered as part of actions in the general statement

vii) Enhanced investment in nutrition
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
      • Studies and documentation of the cost of hunger and the cost of diet identified a need for research on priority areas around health, nutrition, food security and social policy to support programming and policy on nutrition.
3.5.4 Strategic objective 4: To ensure stable and sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food
   
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • The promotion of full ownership and commitment by Member States towards attainment of food and nutrition security is mooted. The formulation of the plan enjoyed participation by national, provincial and district level stakeholders, resulting in a high degree of ownership.
   
   • To develop, review, enact and implement laws and policies that guarantee and protect food as a human right – the South African constitution considers access to adequate food as a human right.
   
   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Empowerment of women and youth in food and nutrition was not very prominent. The focus was on the production and income pathway to nutrition rather than women empowerment.

3.5.5 Implementation mechanisms – equivalent to Strategic Objective 1: Establish a multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition Security Council to oversee alignment of policies, coordination and implementation of programmes and services which address food and nutrition security

   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Processes to establish councils and implementation structures at national provincial and district/metropolitan levels were well articulated.

3.5.6 Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)

   i) Impact indicators
   
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Most key nutrition impact indicators were covered

   ii) Outcome and output indicators
   
   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Only food insecurity was covered but not to the full extent as covered in the recently reviewed regional FNSS results framework

   b) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Agricultural production and food trade indicators were not stated.
   
   • Agricultural trade and market indicators were not covered as part of the FNS nexus.

   iii) Outcome 3 indicators (utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food)

   a) Aspects of Plan aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Women’s dietary diversity was not covered as an indicator
   
   • Children’s minimum acceptable diet was not covered

   iv) Outcome 4 indicators (sustainable availability, access and utilisation of food)

   a) Aspects of Plan not aligning with Regional Strategy
   
   • Women empowerment indicators were not covered
   
   • Youth empowerment was not stated
   
   • Public expenditure not stated but implied in the strategy in various places.
   
   • Policies for an enabling environment for a food and nutrition-sensitive food system were not included in the indicators, although this was discussed in the narrative.

3.5.7 Summary of gaps in alignment with the Regional Strategy

The gaps in alignment of the South African National Food and Nutrition Security Plan against the Regional Strategy are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of identified gaps in the South African National Food and Nutrition Security Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Priorities and Interventions</th>
<th>Gaps in actions</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Objective 1: To promote availability of food through improved production, productivity and competitiveness.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Improved access to land and water for agriculture</td>
<td>Plan is silent on access to land by women, youth and other vulnerable people</td>
<td>Include during mid-term review of strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Land under irrigation not covered in the strategic interventions and specific activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Reduced post-harvest losses</td>
<td>No strategic interventions and specific activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change and the environment</td>
<td>Climate change adaptation and mitigation not covered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

continued on page 24
### Regional Priorities and Interventions | Gaps in actions | Recommendations
--- | --- | ---
**Strategic objective 2: To improve access to adequate and appropriate food in terms of quality and quantity**

| i) Improved Access to Food Markets for Small Scale/Traditional Entrepreneurs | No strategic interventions nor activities covered | Include during mid-term review of strategy

| i) Increased access to incomes | Promotion of the culture of savings was not covered in strategy but is common in South Africa, even in urban areas (Sitokofela) |

| iii) Improved access to labour-saving technologies | Labour-saving technologies for food production, processing and food preservation and provision of recreational facilities for children to afford women more time for productive activities were not covered |

**Strategic objective 3: To improve the utilisation of nutritious, healthy, diverse and safe food**

| i) Promoting and protecting the wellbeing of women and adolescents | Pre-school and school nutrition programmes were not covered in the Plan, but SA is known to run school feeding programmes | Include during mid-term review of strategy

| ii) Reduced prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies | Micronutrient interventions were largely based on nutrition-specific activities and not so much on consumption of foods that are rich in micronutrient content |

| iii) Improved food safety standards | Food fortification standards and enforcement were discussed in the narrative but not in the specific interventions. In practice these are taken for granted and are being implemented in the country. |

| iv) Improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) | Food safety was extensively discussed in the narrative but not in strategic interventions, activities and costings put forward. In practice this is widely applied and enforced. |

### Monitoring and evaluation (Results Framework)

| i) Food security indicators | Agricultural production and food trade indicators were not stated. | Need to align to revised regional results framework

| | Agricultural trade and market indicators were not covered as part of the FNS nexus. |

### 3.5.8 Conclusion

The South African NFNSP covers both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive strategies but will need to address some identified gaps that were covered in the narrative and not in the strategic interventions and activities and costings. In many cases the gaps were discussed in the narrative but were not included in the strategic interventions, activities and costings.

The outcome and output indicators will need to be streamlined to align with the recently reviewed regional FNSS results framework.
### 4. SUMMARY OF MAIN GAPS IN COUNTRY FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY STRATEGIES

The table below presents the main gaps in alignment of FNSS and the number of countries exhibiting the gaps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional priorities and interventions</th>
<th>Action gaps</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food productivity and availability</td>
<td>viii) Climate change adaptation and/or mitigation</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ix) Access to land and water for agriculture, especially by women</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x) Management of post-harvest food loss and waste</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xi) Treatment of recycled water for agriculture</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Madagascar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xii) Capacity strengthening for extension services on nutrition-sensitive agriculture</td>
<td>1 (Lesotho)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xiii) Access to credit and finance for agricultural production</td>
<td>1 (Malawi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xiv) Inclusion of nutrition-sensitive agriculture in educational curricula</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to food</td>
<td>iv) Access to markets to improve access to food, especially diverse and nutritious foods</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Madagascar, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>v) Savings as an income strategy</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vi) Agriculture market information</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women and youth empowerment</td>
<td>v) Best practices in women and youth empowerment</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vi) Access to labour-saving technologies, especially for women</td>
<td>4 (Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vii) Recreational facilities for children to save women’s time for care</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>viii) Youth-targeted measures</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of micro-nutrient deficiencies</td>
<td>ii) Nutritious foods as sources of micronutrients</td>
<td>2 (Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal and child nutrition</td>
<td>ix) Maternal nutrition and weight management, especially during pregnancy</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x) Management of obesity and NCDs, especially in women</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xi) Management of moderate and acute malnutrition</td>
<td>1 (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xii) Real time monitoring of infant, young child feeding (IYCF)</td>
<td>2 (Madagascar, Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>xiii) Capacity building of health services in IYCF</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td>xiv) Training of health personnel in social behaviour change communication (SBCC)</td>
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<td>xv) Guidelines on nutrition counselling for people living with HIV</td>
<td>1 (Malawi)</td>
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<td>xvi) Sharing of best practices on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)</td>
<td>3 (Lesotho, Madagascar, South Africa)</td>
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<td>Food safety</td>
<td>iii) Accreditation of laboratories for monitoring food safety</td>
<td>2 (Lesotho, Madagascar)</td>
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<td>iv) Standards and legislation on food fortification</td>
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<td>Investment in and stability of food and nutrition security</td>
<td>iv) Funding mechanism and budget allocation for food and nutrition security strategy</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td>v) Cost of hunger studies</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<td>vi) Right to food laws</td>
<td>1 (Madagascar)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Results framework</td>
<td>iv) Alignment of results framework to regional results framework</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>v) Food security and nutrition indicators missing (output and outcome levels)</td>
<td>5 (Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa)</td>
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<td>vi) Cross-linkages between indicators and interventions from related sector strategies</td>
<td>4 (Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique)</td>
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5. BIBLIOGRAPHY


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About FANRPAN

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is an autonomous regional stakeholder-driven policy research, analysis and implementation network that was formally established by Ministers of Agriculture from Eastern and Southern Africa in 1997. FANRPAN was borne out of the need for comprehensive policies and strategies required to resuscitate agriculture. FANRPAN is mandated to work in all African countries and currently has activities in 17 countries namely Angola, Benin, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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