State of Food and Nutrition in Nigeria

Government Direction on Nutrition

SBN Internal Review & Membership Mapping

Other Stakeholder Perspectives
STATE OF FOOD AND NUTRITION IN NIGERIA

• Setting the Context
• Overview of Malnutrition
• Situation of Intermediate Drivers
• Situation of Underlying Drivers
• Situation of Basic Drivers
• Summary of Key Challenges
Context setting

• To set the context for the SBN strategy, a review of the state of malnutrition in Nigeria has been conducted, examining the immediate, underlying and basic drivers of malnutrition.

• Due to the limited availability of recent statistics, we had to rely on some dated data for this analysis; chiefly the Nigerian National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) 2013, and the UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2011. While these may not capture the most recent situation, they provide the necessary context.

• For comparative analysis, we have selected four African countries as benchmarks for comparison with Nigeria. These are Ghana, South Africa, Rwanda and Ethiopia.

• This study examines malnutrition and its causes as identified by UNICEF in its conceptual framework of malnutrition.
Malnutrition is multidimensional and is driven by several interrelated factors

**CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR NUTRITION**

**TYPES OF MALNUTRITION**

Malnutrition refers to undernutrition as well as overnutrition. Under nutrition could be either:

- Protein – energy deficiency such as stunting, wasting, underweight
- Micronutrient deficiency - Typical micronutrients include vit A, iron, iodine, zinc

**KEY DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION**

- Dietary Intake
- Disease
- Food Security
- Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices
- Water Sanitation & Health
- Immunization
- Poverty
- Education
- Policy environment
- Nutrition governance
- Political unrest and insurgency
OVERVIEW OF MALNUTRITION IN NIGERIA
Malnutrition levels in Nigeria are relatively high compared with the rest of the world. From global surveys, about 6 million Nigerian children under 5 years are stunted, 4.7 million are underweight and 2.9 million are wasting. Stunting has declined since 2003, however the prevalence of wasting and underweight in children under 5 increased from 2003 to 2013. Compared to Ghana and South Africa, Nigeria has a higher level of stunting, while Rwanda and Ethiopia are worse off than Nigeria. However, with regards to wasting, only Ethiopia ranks worse than Nigeria at 8.7%, at nearly two percent higher.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013); UNICEF Nutrition Factsheet on nutrition 2015 LSMS Integrated Household survey on Agriculture (General Household survey data) 2015/2016
Malnutrition in children is influenced by residency, geographical location and maternal education

- Rural areas record a higher incidence of malnutrition than urban areas with the most significant difference in the prevalence of stunting.
- Stunting in rural areas (46%) is almost double that of urban areas (26%).
- In Northern Nigeria, malnutrition in children is higher than the South. The North-West is worst, followed by North-East and North-Central.
- Stats also show that malnourishment in children below 5 years is inversely correlated with the level of education of their mothers.
In addition to protein-energy deficiencies, Nigerian children are also affected by micronutrient deficiencies.

- Vitamin A and Iron consumption appear to be higher in older children which may be as a result of an increasingly diverse diet.
- Across the geopolitical zones, Vitamin A and Iron rich foods are least consumed in the North, compared to the South. Consumption is lowest in the North-West.
- In southern Nigeria, consumption of Vitamin A and Iron is lower than the South-South and South-East.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
There is tendency towards obesity in Nigerian women of reproductive age, especially in urban areas

- Overall, more than 50% of Nigerian women are of normal weight. However, there is a steady rise in the proportion of overweight/obese women.
- There is a minimal decline in undernourished women over the 10 year period from 2003-2013.
- There are more women of normal weight in the rural areas compared to urban areas.
- Conversely, the proportion of obese/overweight women in the urban areas are almost double the rural areas.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
Similarly, obesity is on the rise among educated women and women in southern Nigeria.

- There is an inverse relationship between women’s nutritional status and their level of education.
- Women with no education are mostly normal weight, whereas overweight gradually increases with education.
- Obesity is highest among women with post-secondary education.
- Similarly, the nutritional status of the women varies by geographical location. North-West and North-East have a higher incidence of thin women compared to other zones.
- Overweight/Obesity is skewed towards the South, with South-West being the highest of the three zones.
- A higher level of education may indicate higher income and thus greater access to food and luxuries that promote a sedentary lifestyle.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
Newborn and infant nutrition is being compromised by the limited micronutrient intake of pregnant and nursing mothers across northern and rural Nigeria.

- Postpartum urban women took twice as much vitamin A as rural women.
- About 50% of rural women did not receive any micronutrient supplements during pregnancy.
- Across geopolitical zones, more pregnant women in southern Nigeria received vitamin A after childbirth compared to the North.
- The largest group of pregnant women who did not receive any micronutrient supplement were in the North West.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
SITUATION OF IMMEDIATE DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION

• Dietary Intake
• Diseases
Nigerians everywhere consume a lot of grains and flour and less of fruits and dairy.

Consumption pattern of grains and flours is fairly even across all geopolitical zones. All geopolitical zones consume less fruits and dairy products compared to other classes of food. However, the North consumes less of these food products.

Source: LSMS Integrated Household survey on Agriculture (General Household survey data) 2015/2016
A closer look based on residency shows that city dwellers consume more dairy products, starchy roots and tubers, fruits and meat, than rural people.

- In the rural and urban areas, there is a high consumption of Grains and flours, Vegetables, Oil and Fats and Animal proteins.
- Rural households consume more grains and flours (98.4%) than urban dwellers at 95.6% respectively.
- Rural dwellers consume 14% less roots, tubers and plantains than urban dwellers. This may indicate that these agricultural produce are traded for money by rural dwellers.
- Urban households consume more fruits and dairy products than rural dwellers.

Source: LSMS Integrated Household survey on Agriculture (General Household survey data 2015/2016)
SITUATION OF UNDERLYING DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION

• Food Security
• Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices
• Water and Sanitation
• Immunization
According to the global food security ranking, Nigeria is at risk of hunger and malnutrition

- Out of 113 countries, Nigeria is placed 90th in the 2016 Global Food Security ranking, behind South Africa, Ghana and even Rwanda.
- This ranking reflects gaps in structures essential to improving Nigerians’ access to a wide range of affordable nutritious food.
- Gaps include an underdeveloped food transport infrastructure, limited nutrition-sensitive social protection or safety nets, and an absence of dietary diversity.
- The economic recession and the shrinking middle class have resulted in lower incomes which compromise access to and affordability of nutritious food.
- The insurgency in northern Nigeria further limits investments necessary to ensure the affordability, availability, quality and safety of nutritious food.

Sources: *The Economist Intelligence Unit (2016) Global Food Security Index

**Nigeria ranked 11th out of 28 African countries surveyed (GSFI Index) excluding Northern African countries
While apparently declining, Nigeria’s hunger situation is still categorized as “serious” in severity.

- Nigeria was ranked 84th Out of 118 countries assessed, and 7th amongst 15 West African Countries.

- The index has four component indicators which measure inadequate food supply, child under nutrition and child mortality.

- Based on the 5 scale severity measure defined by GHI, Nigeria is graded in the 3rd category as **serious**, a transition from **alarming** in severity in 1992.

- Responsible for this current ranking are steady declines in child malnutrition rates and child mortality. According to the FAO however, undernourishment rose slightly from 5.9% of the population in 2008 to 7% in 2016.

- The level of hunger is Nigeria is clearly declining however it is still severe and deserving attention.

### Current Position Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>13.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Gambia</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>22.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cote d’Ivoire</td>
<td>27.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>33.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: *The Economist Intelligence Unit* (2016) Global Food Security Index

Nigeria ranked 11th out of 28 African countries surveyed (GSFI Index) excluding Northern African countries.
Although less than 30% of nursing mothers start out exclusive, more combine breast milk with supplements as babies grow.

- Exclusive breastfeeding is practiced with children less than 6 months, and declines as they grow older.
- Less than 5% of children between 0-5 months are given substances other than breast milk and water.
- Breastfeeding is low in the Southern geopolitical zones compared to the North.
- Duration of exclusive breastfeeding is shorter amongst rural women compared to urban women.

**Prevalence of Child breastfeeding across geopolitical zones**

**Median duration of exclusive breastfeeding in rural and urban areas**

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
Duration and prevalence of breastfeeding varies however, by location and level of maternal education

The rate of exclusive breastfeeding is higher in the southern part of Nigeria however, supplemented breastfeeding is higher in the North.

Statistics show breastfeeding is highest amongst women with no education, followed by women with secondary education. Primary school leavers exhibit the lowest exhibition rate. This might reflect that more women are attaining secondary education before child bearing.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
Complementary feeding starts earlier than the recommended 6 months with room for more diversity as children grow

- Many children start consuming complementary foods as young as 1 month and the quantity and class become more diverse as they get older.
- Grains and other liquids are a major constituent of complementary foods.

Source: Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (2013)
Only 2% of households have access to potable drinking water. In addition, over 50% of households either share sanitation facilities or defecate in the open.

**WATER**
- Only 2% of Nigeria’s have potable water piped on their premises.
- The highest drinking water source is *other improved sources* at 67%. This indicates poor infrastructural development and increased individual efforts to access improved water.

**SANITATION**
- Nearly 45 million Nigerians are defecating in the open.
- Approximately 1 in 4 Nigerian households share sanitation facilities with others.
- Overall, sanitation facilities show a near even spread across the different categories.
- Open defecation and use of unimproved facilities increases exposure to diseases and other harmful elements.

Access to piped water is low across Nigeria. Most households depend on nature and privately sourced water

- Coverage of piped borne water has declined from 12% in 1990 to 2% in 2015. This is a critical situation for Nigeria’s infrastructure.
- Access to water from other improved sources increased by 39% from 1990 to 2015. This indicates decline in public infrastructure and actions by citizens to access safe drinking water.
- The coverage rates of water piped on premises are low in rural and urban areas.
- Urban areas have greater access to other improved sources of water compared to rural area.
- The use of surface water in rural areas is double that of urban areas reflecting lack of infrastructures in villages.

Compared to their rural peers, urban dwellers have access to improved sanitation, however, the quality of these facilities has declined over the years.

- Urban centres have more improved and shared sanitation facilities than rural areas.
- Conversely, open defecation and use of other unimproved facilities is prevalent in rural areas.
- Access to improved sanitation facilities has declined by 9% from 38% in 1990 to 29% in 2015.
- Use of shared sanitation facilities remains consistent for the two periods under review.
- Coverage by unimproved facilities has increased, almost doubling the rates at 1990. Open defecation increased marginally.
- The declining coverage of improved sanitation facilities requires action.

65% of Nigerian children received some form of vaccination, however, vaccination rates for measles and DPT1/Penta3 immunization are significantly lower, especially in the North.

- Vaccination rates are generally lower in the North compared with the South. Across all types of vaccine, the North West has the lowest uptake.
- Coverage for measles and DPT1/Penta 3 vaccines is low compared to other vaccinations.
- Diarrhea is widespread across all geopolitical zones with the highest occurrence in North-West. Other zones, except South-West have a prevalence rate of between 10-15%.
- Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) are more common in southern Nigeria, especially the South-East. This could be attributed to the climatic difference with the North.

Source: LSMS Integrated Household survey on Agriculture (General Household survey data) 2015/2016
SITUATION OF BASIC DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION

- Poverty
- Education
- Policy Environment
- Political Unrest and Insurgency
- Nutrition Governance
Incidence and intensity of poverty is on the rise in Nigeria with a steady decline in standards of living.

- The poverty incidence in Nigeria declined steadily from 2010 until 2012, but increased by 2015. This may be attributed to the ongoing economic recession.
- Poverty intensity increased by 19.2 between 2010 and 2011, declined marginally in 2012 and rose again in 2015.
- 18% of Nigerians are vulnerable to poverty, and may descend into severe poverty any time. 33% suffer severe poverty and may deteriorate into destitution.
- The current economic crunch has increased the cost of living and limits wellbeing, pushing more Nigerians down the spectrum.

Key Definitions

- **Incidence**: percentage of multidimensionally poor people.
- **Intensity**: average number of deprivations (of 10 selected poverty indicators) poor people face.
- **Vulnerability to poverty**: deprivation of at least 20-33.3% of indicators.
- **Severe Poverty**: deprivation of at least 50% of indicators.
- **Destitution**: deprivation of at least 33% of extreme indicators existing alongside other factors such as lack of assets, open defecation, death of children, etc.

Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Human Development Index (2016)
Poverty is prevalent in northern Nigeria and steadily rising in the South

- Across the geopolitical zones, northern Nigeria is impacted by poverty compared to the South.
- Over 80% of the population in North-West Nigeria is ravaged by poverty. Most of the citizens already live in severe poverty and are destitute, indicating a poor standard of living.
- North-Central Nigeria has the lowest incidence of poverty in the north, but with a high proportion of vulnerable individuals.
- Vulnerability to poverty is high and increasing in southern Nigeria, indicating worsening living conditions and progression towards severity and destitution.

Source: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Human Development Index (2016)
Literacy level is skewed between males and females and enrolment in schools decline as students progress

- Enrolment in formal education increased gradually from 2008 to 2013.
- There are fewer people in pre-primary and secondary enrolment compared to primary schools.
- Literacy rates of Nigerians are lower than the global averages. Most significant is the literacy rates of adults, which is 31% lower than global rates.

![Gross enrolment rates in Nigeria (2008-2013)](chart1)

![Literacy rates in Nigeria (2015)](chart2)

The Boko Haram insurgency has also taken its toll on malnutrition especially in the North

- **Cadre Harmonise** project that the number of food insecure people could go up to 10m by lean season in August 2017 as nine local government areas (LGAs) are still categorised as “restricted” and 27 LGAs allow for only “limited” access due to a high level of insurgent activity.

- The spill-over effect of the insurgency impacting other areas will continue to have varied negative impacts on the outcome indicators of food consumption, livelihoods and nutrition moving more states from the minimal phase to a stressed phase.

- Malnutrition in the North is further exacerbated by the insurgency in the north eastern region of the country.

- In June 2016, the federal government officially declared a nutritional emergency in the state of Borno, acknowledging the need for international support if things were to improve.

Source: RPCA (2016) "Food and Nutrition Insecurity in North-East Nigeria"; Cadre Harmonise National Analysis, October 2016
Significant strides have been made with nutrition coordination but little evidence supports close monitoring and evaluation.

Pre-1990

Nutrition-focused activities were fragmented sectorally giving rise to multiple food and nutrition-related policies.

1990

The Babangida administration establishes the National Committee on Food and Nutrition (NCFN) domiciled in the then Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST).

1993

NCFN relocates to Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH).

1994

NCFN moves from FMOH to the National Planning Commission (NPC) for better oversight and policy coordination.

1995

Formulation of the 1st National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP) is initiated.

1999

The National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN) is launched as an implementation guide for the National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP).

2002

Home Grown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP) is adopted by several states across Nigeria however it could not be sustained due to the high capital commitment required, except in Kano and Osun states.

2005

Federal Ministry of Education, supported by UNICEF, DFID et al commences the Homegrown School Feeding and Health Programme (HGSFHP) in Abuja.

2001

Post Abacha regime, after NFNP is published, development partners sponsor studies and surveys on nutrition in Nigeria. Some of these include the Nigeria Food Consumption and Nutrition Survey (NFCNS)* and National Nutrition Programme Review (NNPR)**

2005

NAFDAC issues regulations on mandatory food fortification and food labeling and advertising.

2006

Oversight for NCFN transfers to Ministry of Budget and National Planning (MB&NP) as NPC is converted to MB&NP.

2011

Health Minister, Onyebuchi Chukwu signs commitment on behalf of Nigeria to join the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement on September 26.

Source: National Plan of Action on Nutrition; National Policy on Food and Nutrition (2016); Nigeria Food Consumption and Nutrition Survey (NFCNS) 2011-2013

*IITA conducted the NFCNS sponsored by UNICEF, USDA and USAID

**World Bank sponsored the NNPR
Thus, there several underlying issues evident from the situational review of food and nutrition in Nigeria

1. Insufficient public investment gap in R&D as well as food transport and distribution infrastructure required to improve access.

2. Significant gap in nutritional status between northern and southern Nigeria, especially the North East and the North West.

3. Malnutrition is influenced by education, income level and rural-urban residency with uneducated, rural dwellers and low-income households suffering more.

4. Most underlying and basic drivers of malnutrition are in a poor state. Some are worsening, notably WATSAN and Poverty.

5. FMB&NP appears to lack focus, resources, technical expertise and power required are to closely monitor and align other ministries and agencies - FMB&NP, FMOH (NAFDAC), FMTI (SON).
Benchmarking Nutrition Governance Structures

Nigeria

Key Statistics

181.2 million Population
32.9% Stunting
7.9% Wasting
39.4 GFSI

Highlights of Nutrition Governance Structure

- The Ministry of Budget and National Planning is responsible for nutrition policy design and management.
- The current policy is the National Policy on Food and Nutrition in Nigeria and is implemented by agencies at all levels of government.
- The policy has a vision to create a country where people are equitably food and nutrition-secure with high quality of life and socioeconomic development contributing to human capital development objectives of Nigeria's vision 20:20:20 and beyond. Its overall goal is the attainment of optimal nutritional status by all Nigerians, with focus on vulnerable groups such as children, women, adolescents, the elderly and groups with special nutrition needs.
- The Nutrition council of Nigeria (NCN), consisting of relevant MDAs, a representative of Nigeria governors, organized private sector and recognized nutrition agencies is the highest body for decision making on food and nutrition. The NCN is assisted by a technical committee, the National Committee on Food and Nutrition (NCFN).
- Partners include professional bodies, civil organizations, development sector and private sector. Private sector agencies will collaborate with government in funding, production of standardized and fortified foods, and overall policy implementation.

The Ministry of Health, Republic of Ghana is the central agency for nutrition governance. The National Nutrition Policy (NNP, 2014-2017) is the current policy document for Nutrition in Ghana. The goal of the NNP is to ensure optimal nutrition for all people living in Ghana, to promote child survival, and to enhance capacity for economic growth and development. The directorate of Policy, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (PPME) and other agencies under the Ghanaian Ministry of Health is responsible for policy formulation, strategic planning and resource allocation. The Cross-Sectoral Planning Group (CSPG), a multi-stakeholder platform under the National Development Planning commission works to develop a nutrition baseline and identify trends in nutrition financing. Partners for implementation of the policy are government agencies, the non-government sector and development partners.

The South African Department of Health is the central agency for health and nutrition management, with the Directorate of Nutrition specifically responsible for the design and implementation of nutrition policies.


The policy’s vision is to ensure optimal nutrition for all South Africans, while its mission is the provision of high quality and access to evidence-based nutrition services particularly for women, infants and children throughout all levels of the health care system.

The policy adopts a multisectoral approach for effective implementation.

Key partners are identified for each strategy set and subset. They include the Department of Basic Education, Department of Social Development (DSD), Hospital services, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF), Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), Development partners, etc.

The Ministry of Health, Rwanda is responsible for the design and implementation of nutrition policy for the country. Its current nutrition policy is the Rwanda National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan (2013-2018).

The policy’s vision is to ensure services and practices that bring optimal household food security and nutrition for all Rwandese. Its mission is to provide a legal framework and favourable environment for the effective promotion and implementation of food and nutrition strategies and interventions that guarantee the nutritional well-being of the entire population giving special attention to pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age for the sustainable development of Rwanda.

The nutrition policy is jointly owned by the Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC), Ministry of Health (MINISANTE) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI).

Policies for other ministries – Education, Infrastructure, Public Service and Labour, Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs, Gender and Family Promotion align with the nutrition policy.

Development partners include the EU, WFP, NEPAD, SUN and CAADP. Private sector agents such as food manufacturers, food processors, farmers, marketers, etc, are partners and are managed by the ministries.

The Ministry of Health, Ethiopia is the central agency for nutrition governance in the country. In 2015, Ethiopia committed to eliminating chronic malnutrition by 2030 with the Seqota Declaration.

The current Nutrition policy is the National Nutrition Policy (NNP) of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia. It has a vision of speeding up and scaling up the nutrition strategies already in place.

The National Nutrition Coordination Body (NNCB) chaired by the Minister of health was convened for nutrition management and is supported by the National Nutrition Technical Committee (NNTC) to design, monitor and implement appropriate nutrition policies.

Partners include the Ethiopian Ministries of Agriculture, Education and the Development sector.

The ministry of Agriculture Nutrition-sensitive agriculture is now included in the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and the Agriculture Growth Programme (AGP).

**Key Statistics**

- **Population**: 99.3 million
- **Stunting**: 40.4%
- **Wasting**: 8.7%
- **GFSI**: 34.7

**Source:**
- [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)
- [www.moh.gov.et](http://www.moh.gov.et)
- National Nutrition Policy (NNP) Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; [www.nipn-nutrition-platforms.org](http://www.nipn-nutrition-platforms.org); unicefethiopia.org
State of Food and Nutrition in Nigeria

Government Direction on Nutrition

SBN Internal Review & Membership Mapping

Other Stakeholder Perspectives
In 2016, the federal government articulated the roadmap for nutrition in the 2nd National Food & Nutrition Policy (NFNP)

Vision
- “...Optimal nutritional status for all Nigerians...children, adolescents, women, elderly, groups with special nutritional needs.”

NFNP Objectives
1. Improve food security at the national, community, and household level
2. To reduce undernutrition among infants and children, adolescents, and women of reproductive age
3. To significantly reduce micronutrient deficiency disorders, especially among the vulnerable group
4. To increase the knowledge of nutrition among the populace and nutrition education into formal and informal trainings
5. To promote optimum nutrition for people in especially difficult circumstances, including PLWHA
6. To prevent and control chronic nutrition-related non-communicable diseases
7. To incorporate food and nutrition considerations into the Federal, State and Local Government sectoral development plans
8. To promote and strengthen Research, Monitoring and Evaluation of food and nutrition programme
9. To strengthen systems for providing early warning information on the food and nutrition situation; and
10. To ensure universal access to nutrition-sensitive social protection

Strategic Thrust
- Food and Nutrition Security
- Enhancing Caregiving Capacity
- Enhanced Provision of Quality Health Services
- Improving Capacity to Address Food and Nutrition Insecurity Problems
- Raising Awareness and understanding of the Problem of Malnutrition
- Resource Allocation for food and nutrition security at all level
NFNP objectives and strategies can be aligned to four broad themes

### Key Strategies

**IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY ESPECIALLY FOR THE VULNERABLE**
- Food availability: production, storage
- Food accessibility: nutrition logistics
- Food affordability: nutrition sensitive social protection
- Food quality: safety, packaging, regulatory standards

**REDUCE MALNUTRITION, AND CONTROL NUTRITION-RELATED DISEASES**
- Biofortification through crop breeding and improved varieties
- Fortification during food processing
- Vitamin A supplementation and deworming
- Optimal nutrition during first 1000 days – exclusive breast feeding for first 6 month
- School feeding programmes – HGSF (specially formulated nutritious food) and nutrition curricula

**PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE OF NUTRITION THROUGH RESEARCH, M&E AND EDUCATION**
- Relevant research M&E as required within each value-chain link
- Education/ training and behavioral change communication to key actors along the value chain
- Nutrition curricula in schools

**PROVIDE STRATEGIC SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT**
- Support development, implementation & tracking of multi-sectoral F&N plans
- Facilitate food storage at national, state and community levels
- Provide strategic advice for creation of sustainable nutrition-sensitive social protection/ food safety nets
- Develop and support M&E for government led interventions
Within the policy, the government articulated key roles for some non-state actors, including the private sector.

**Private Sector (SBN)**
- Fortification of identified foods with micro-nutrients
- Development of low-cost nutritious complementary foods and RUTF;
- Promotion of nutrition education ...
- Participation and support of knowledge-sharing on research findings; and
- Adoption and transformation of research findings into commercially viable products.

**SUN Movement**
“…promoting the implementation of evidenced-based nutrition interventions and scaling up successful practices … integrating nutrition goals into broader efforts in critical sectors such as public health, education, social protection, food and agriculture”

**Development Partners (e.g. GAIN)**
- Resources mobilisation in the forms of grants and loans;
- Providing best practices for (re)designing existing/ new programmes,
- Full participation in programme implementation and review as well as M&E.
While a significant improvement from Nigeria’s first policy on food and nutrition, the NFNP has some areas for improvement.

**WHAT IS GREAT ABOUT THE NFNP**

- Addresses the need for a nutrition response to emergency situations and relief services, nutrition in the first 1000 days of life
- Recognizes a need for multilayered approach (federal, state, local govt) in solving nutrition issues
- Defines roles for other stakeholders in addressing nutrition challenge

**WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE TO ENHANCE THE NFNP....**

- Buy-in/ sponsorship at the highest level to ensure strategies translate into action
- Track or reference progress on targets/ actions/ strategies defined in the 1st NFNP
- Reflect and incorporate information and intelligence from other govt activities referenced such as the school feeding programme
- Develop action plans with clear accountability for executing defined strategies
- M&E framework requires detailed definition
State of Food and Nutrition in Nigeria

Government Direction on Nutrition

SBN Internal Review & Membership Mapping

Other Stakeholder Perspectives
In support of government efforts, GAIN initiated an alliance of businesses in Nigeria’s nutrition space

- In 2010, the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement was launched to support national leadership and collective action to scale up nutrition.

- The SUN Business Network (SBN) is one of the four global networks that support SUN countries (along with UN, Civil Society and Donor Networks). It is convened globally, by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition and the UN World Food Programme (WFP).

- In 2011, Nigeria joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement following the signing of a commitment by the then Minister of Health, Dr. Onyebuchi Chukwu.

- GAIN worked with Sahel Capital Partners and Advisory Ltd to map business actors in the nutrition space and help understand where and how businesses can contribute to nutrition in Nigeria.

- Convened by GAIN, SBN was formally launched in April 2016 at a convening of Businesses, NGOs, UN agencies, Donors and Government.

- Upon its launch, 19 members committed to participate in the achievement of SUN’s vision of creating a world free of malnutrition by 2030. Currently, it has 49 members spanning from multinationals to micro businesses, signed on to the network with commitments to engage in activities aimed at improving nutrition; and concrete actions, activities and investment plans are continuously being developed.
SBN has established its presence in Nigeria through various activities…

**HISTORY OF SBN IN NIGERIA**

The Scaling Up Nutrition Movement (SUN) was convened in 2010 by GAIN and WFP and it consists of 4 unique networks: UN, Civil Society and Donor Networks.

To prepare the ground for SBN in Nigeria, GAIN worked with Sahel Capital Partners and Advisory Ltd to map business actors in the nutrition space and help understand where and how businesses can contribute to nutrition in Nigeria. Three key issues were identified:

- Highly nutritious products are unaffordable for the lowest income consumers
- Food companies in Nigeria view themselves as providers of food and drinks not nutrition
- Many businesses are not making nutrition a priority

On 21st April 2016, SBN was launched in Nigeria at a convening of Businesses, NGOs, UN agencies, Donors and Government.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**ADVOCACY & LINKAGES**
- Nutrition focused linkages between private sector and government
- Linked an INGO and member to supply Corn-Soya blend to the North-east
- Linkage of members to project opportunities and CSOs

**INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION**
- Dissemination of training opportunities to businesses
- Provision of recommended dietary allowance information to a business
- Creation of mini-documentary on members’ activities
- Organization of member input and interactive sessions
- Provision of guidance on social media and internet marketing

**COLLABORATION & INNOVATION**
- Collaboration with Dalberg and ADP on mapping projects
- Support of a member of the innovation of a WASH nutrition toolkit
- Development of Nutritool©
We will achieve our vision through 3 core objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core objectives</th>
<th>Priority Actions</th>
<th>Business-led</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1. Membership Platform & advocacy** | • Recruit and retain private sector (PS) members to SBN Nigeria
• Establish an accountable governance structure & monitoring and evaluation framework
• Actively generate positive SBN publicity
• Increase awareness of business opportunities to increase access to improved nutrition
• Collate investment opportunities and finance sources
• Facilitate PS dialogue with senior Government, civil society & development partners, linking with ongoing advocacy efforts and investment opportunities (using Nigeria as model for inter-SUN WG cooperation).
• Promote PS commitments aligned with Government nutrition priorities
• Identify and register business barriers that require policy fixes | • Share consumer insight and research findings with private sector partners, training small business owners to utilise them (e.g. IPSOS research), including specific insights and data related to adolescent girls.
• Facilitate Gates/IPSOS in the identification of companies to maintain their consumer research programme
• Facilitate the development & implementation of consumer awareness campaigns in collaboration with other stakeholders alongside business, to promote behaviour change and drive demand for nutritious foods
• Facilitate and promote innovations in reaching marginalised populations with nutrition information and products (e.g. BoP Marketing Tool and Responsible Marketing Academy for Business)
• Promote responsible marketing & promotion of food and beverages |

**Priority Actions**

| Results By end of 2018 | Core objectives
---|---
• 15+ members in year 1, aiming for 30+ by 2018
• 5 commitments announced in year 1
• Establishment of Advisory Group
• Build Deal Book of investment opportunities and identify sources of risk capital
• SBN 3 year plan
• At least 1 annual public event
• 2 annual newsletters (one of which is an annual nutrition commitment report)
• 5 targeted nutrition fact sheets on business processes and SBN services and 2 audio-visual presentations | • 5+ potential companies / NGOs collaborating in a nutrition awareness campaign aligned to government priorities

**What success looks like By end of 2018**

| Results By end of 2018 | Core objectives
---|---
• Satisfied, supportive and active membership base
• Members actively working to honour their nutrition commitments
• New investment in nutrition taking place
• SBN is the focal point for nutrition investments and partnership by both private sector and Government | • Framework for alignment of nutrition promotion through public & market channels (in 2-3 states)
• Business champions adopting a voluntary code of practice on responsible marketing
• More good quality nutrition products available for BoP
• More people making better nutrition choices

**Vision**

To be the focal point for private sector engagement on nutrition in Nigeria

**Purpose**

To improve and strengthen the private sector’s contribution towards improving nutrition in Nigeria

...guided by a defined plan of action ...
SBN members are mostly SMEs and are mainly in the South West and North Central regions

- The membership pool of SBN is made up mostly of SMEs.
- Geographically, there is greater concentration of membership in the South West and North Central.
- This is incongruent with the geographic incidence of malnutrition which is greatest in the North East and North West zones.
While private sector appears willing to support, a profit motive is at odds with addressing the key issues and the NFNP

- Over 42 members of the SBN have made commitments, across a range of intervention areas, to contribute towards a malnutrition-free Nigeria

- A review of commitments show that two thirds, of SBN members are pledging to support in the area of nutritious food and drink production

- While the commitments are positive statements describing nutrition related efforts, few are STRATEGIC and address identified key issues such as geographic targeting, rural deficiencies, inadequate food distribution systems and few value propositions for consumers with little/ no capacity to pay

- Private sector nutrition commitments require capital investment and some certainty of commensurate returns

* such as Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) & complementary food production, product research
To meet commitments, SBN members have identified consumer awareness, access and government engagement as areas where support is required.

- SBN members were asked “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined nutrition commitment?”
- More than half of members require SBN’s assistance in creating consumer awareness about their product and essentially, nutrition.
- Majority of members have identified three key areas of assistance: Creation of Consumer awareness, Connection to opportunities and Government Dialogue/Advocacy.
- Similarly, 17 members want to be connected to opportunities while 13 desire government Dialogue and advocacy in the nutrition space.
- Additionally, 9 want Training and Technical support, 8 require Food transport and Distribution support while 5 members desire support in other areas.
The current membership pool of SBN is skewed towards microenterprises and SMEs who make up 70% of membership.

Categories of Support required by Microenterprises

- Food Transport & Distribution: 3
- Training and Technical Support: 3
- Connecting Members: 7
- Government Advocacy: 5
- Funding Support: 4
- Consumer Awareness: 9

Categories of Support required by SMEs

- Food Transport & Distribution: 4
- Training and Technical Support: 5
- Connecting Members: 9
- Government Advocacy: 4
- Funding Support: 6
- Consumer Awareness: 9

- SMEs and Microenterprises advocate for Connection with Opportunities and the creation of consumer awareness.

Key Definition:

**Microenterprises**: Less than 10 employees; **SMEs**: Less than 100 employees; **Large Domestic Companies**: Producing and distributing products across the country; **Multinational**: Operating facilities in at least one country other than home country.
Consumer awareness is also the top requirement of the 13 Multinationals and Large Domestic Companies in the SBN membership pool.

- Both Large Domestic companies and Multinationals indicate the need to create consumer awareness.
- Large domestic companies require Product Distribution and Technical support while no Multinational requires assistance along these lines.
Member comments in response to the question “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined commitments?” (1/5)

Creating consumer awareness

‘SBN should assist us in creating awareness of our products across Nigeria’ - Answer Industries
‘To improve consumer awareness about nutritious foods’ – AACE Foods
‘SBN can support us by creating awareness of our products and services’ - Archarmond Concept
‘SBN can help to create a platform for member to network and create awareness about our products’ - August Secrets
‘SBN can provide marketing and awareness creation of the 321 service to help the average Nigerian know that it exists’ - Human Network International
‘The SBN can support Bride city by creating awareness on the use and consumption of improved varieties of cassava’ - Bridecity Agro-Allied Coop Society Ltd
‘SBN can increase awareness about nutrition at the grassroots, especially in rural areas’ - Olam Cocoa
‘SBN can broaden customer base by providing credibility to members' products’ - Quick Culinary Global Limited
‘Creating consumer awareness on the choice of qualitative foods’ - Quick Culinary Global Limited
‘Creating awareness to consumers on their choice of nutritious foods’ - Dansa foods
‘We would appreciate SBN’s support in awareness creation on the nutritive value of company's products’ - UAC Foods
‘Creation of awareness on the importance of food fortification, especially to small scale manufacturers of vegetable oils is important’ - Melvyn Nickson
‘Advertising to create awareness among children to motivate them to consume our fortified products’ - Honeywell Flour Mills Plc
Member comments in response to the question “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined commitments?” (2/5)

Connecting members with opportunities

‘Our business will benefit from linkages with marketers and technical support from other members of the network’ – Dala Foods Nigeria Ltd

‘Assistance in driving market penetration across Nigeria’ – Quick Culinary Global Ltd

‘Business partnerships and service contracts i.e. provision of logistics services to the SBN members to support the distribution of fortificants and redistribution of products’ – eHealth Systems Africa Foundation

‘SBN can engage Sahel capital in various nutrition focused projects for itself and its members’ – Sahel Capital Partners and Advisory Ltd

‘Training groups of processing communities on the use of improved varieties of crops’ – Bridecity Agro Allied Coop Society

‘At Rayuwa farms, a motorable access route to the farm will improve marketing’ – Rayuwa Farms

‘Improved sales network through partnership amongst members’ – Spectra Industries Ltd

‘To connect members to each other for leveraging opportunities within the network’ – Food Health Systems Advisory Ltd

‘Access to partners’ – Unilever Nigeria Plc

‘Connection with broader market and consumers’ – Viva Synergy Resources Ltd

‘We will like to benefit from marketing support and connection with other members of the network’ – Melvyn Nickson Ltd

‘HNI is open to potentially collaborate with other SBN partners to place content on 321’ – Human Network International

‘Networking and collaboration amongst members’ – Fadascom Ltd

‘We will value more links to bigger markets and wholesalers’ – Silverstone Agro

‘We will like to be connected with customers to expand our product coverage’ – Mario Foods
Member comments in response to the question “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined commitments?” (3/5)

**Finance**

“Funding for expansion of farm in Port Harcourt due to insecurity in the local government where majority of the farms are located’ - Aja-Uwe Okporowo-Ekpeye Farmers Investment Co-operative and Credit Society

‘Access to capital is key to us and other SMEs in the food processing industry’ - Spectra Industries Ltd

‘Provision of financial and technical support to nutrition-focused businesses, particularly small and micro enterprises’ – BASF West Africa Ltd

‘Assistance in providing infrastructure’ - Adeyemo Agro Allied Ltd

‘Providing financial and technical support to nutrition-focused businesses food producers’ – Bio-organics Nutrient Systems Limited

‘Sponsorship for airtime on mass media so that we can reach a wider audience’ - CeliaPenny Gene-Nutrition Solutions

‘As an NGO with different activities at the grassroots, financial support and grants will benefit us immensely’ – Mario foods

‘Answer Industries will value financial support’ – Answer Industries Ltd

‘Provision of Financial support’ – Archarmond Concept

‘At the moment, funding support for FarmAfriQue will go a long way’ - FarmAfriQue

**Training & technical support**

‘Technical partnerships with other SBN members to provide us with the needed knowledge to expand our company's activities and operations’ – Fadascom Ltd

‘Collaboration to provide training to farmers on ethical farming and storage technics’ - FarmAfriQue

‘Technical partnerships with other SBN members to expand the company's activities and operations’ – Lisabi Mills

‘Connection with technical expertise’ – Viva Synergy Resources Ltd
Member comments in response to the question “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined commitments?” (4/5)

Advocacy & government engagement

‘Mass fortification and sanitization of products is necessary to ensure consumers have access to quality food’ – Bridecity Agro-Allied Coop Society
‘Food fortification is quite expensive due to the high duty charges on importation as local production is absent. SBN can lobby the government to reduce duty charges on importation of fortificants’ – Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc
‘SBN can lobby the government to create commodity storage services for soya beans to ensure year round availability and affordability’ – Moreson Nigeria Ltd
‘Infrastructures such as power and accessible roads are absent along the farm route. SBNN can lobby the government to create power infrastructure on farm route’ – Rayuwa farms
‘SBN can initiate advocacy with the government so that more states can adopt our fortified products’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Plc
‘Advocate with the government in providing financial resources to SMEs’ – Fadascom Ltd
‘Influencing government policy’ – Unilever Nigeria Plc

Food transport & distribution

‘Product redistribution in the states, within the local government areas and to government appointed caterers’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Plc
‘To improve logistics (Transport of products) from farm to factory and factory to market/consumer’ – AACE Foods
‘Preservation of produce so as to beat post harvest lost to minimal acceptable rate of just 3%’ - Silverstone Agro
‘Access to the market’ – Rayuwa Farms
‘Access to affordable raw materials’ – Dala Foods Nigeria Ltd
Member comments in response to the question “What specific support do you require from the SBN to achieve your defined commitments?” (5/5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Possibility of product certification by SBN to encourage customer patronage’ – Adeyemo Agro Allied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘For SUN to serve as a platform to publicize products and services of its members to the public’ – Food Health Systems Advisory Limited (FHS) Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Support by SBN as a panel member on Olam Nigeria’s nutrition programs’ – Olam Cocoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Partner with state and local governments in their nutrition program to increase reach’ – Olam Cocoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Ensuring appropriate food fortification practices amongst producers’ – BASF West Africa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Member comments in response to the questions: “What are the barriers or your biggest barrier to achieving your commitment(s)?” (1/4)

1. Low Consumer Awareness & Market Penetration

- ‘Youtube and other social media is our medium for outreach. Viewers are few and many still lack awareness of our service and nutritional food choices’ —Celia Penny Gene—Nutrition Solutions
- ‘Poor publicity of company's products’ —Fadascom Ltd
- ‘There is poor awareness on the effectiveness and benefits of micronutrient powders’ —Viva Synergy Resources Ltd
- ‘Our products are only available in Abuja, and customers are very picky, wondering about the value-add involved in our brand of sorted crayfish and plantain chips. Hence, we will appreciate assistance in driving market penetration across Nigeria’ —Quick Culinary Global Limited
- ‘Poor awareness of nutrition and Olam's services at state and district levels’ —Olam Cocoa
- ‘Consumer awareness’ —Unilever Nigeria Plc
- ‘Access to market’ —Rayuwa Farms
- ‘Consumers have limited awareness and appreciation for qualitative foods such as ours’ —Quick Culinary Global Ltd
- ‘Our product coverage is limited. The rising cost of inputs, especially soyabeans necessitated higher pricing which is unfavourable’ —Moreson Nigeria Ltd

2. Poor Infrastructure

- ‘Epileptic power supply for production’ —Dansa Foods Processing Ltd
- ‘Power and access to farm route’ —Rayuwa Farms
- ‘Poor Infrastructure’ —Adeyemo Agro Allied Ltd
- ‘Lack of power and other infrastructure’ —Moreson Nigeria Ltd
3. Finance

- ‘Adeyemo Agro Allied has limited access to finance, and this limits our production and reach to customers across Nigeria’ – Adeyemo Agro Allied Ltd
- ‘Finance’ – Answer Industries
- ‘Access to funding’ – Aja-Uwe Okporowo-Ekpeye Farmers Investment Co-operative and Credit
- ‘Finance’ – BASF West Africa
- ‘Finance for expansion’ – Archarmond Concept
- ‘Funding’ – FarmAfriQue
- ‘Funding for awareness creation amongst consumers’ – eHealth Systems Africa Foundation
- ‘Access to finance due to the economic downturn’ – Bridecity (AB) Agro-Allied and Coop society
- ‘Limited access to capital’ – Spectra Industries Limited

4. Policy & Governance Issues

- ‘Lack of government enforcement of nutrition regulatory framework’ – Food Health Systems Advisory Limited (FHS Africa)
- ‘Lack of implementation of research results of different projects’ – Sahel Capital Partners and Advisory Ltd
- ‘High import duties on machinery such as driers’ – Mario Foods
- ‘Harsh business environment in Nigeria due to the different policies, lack of power, infrastructures, fees, duties, etc.’ – Dala Foods Nigeria Ltd
- ‘Government bureaucracies and policies’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Nigeria Plc
- ‘High import duties on premix powders’ – Viva Synergy Resources Nigeria Ltd
5. Policy & Governance Issues

- ‘Lack of government enforcement of nutrition regulatory framework’ –Food Health Systems Advisory Limited (FHS Africa)
- ‘Lack of implementation of research results of different projects’ - Sahel Capital Partners and Advisory Ltd
- ‘High import duties on machinery such as driers’ – Mario Foods
- ‘Harsh business environment in Nigeria due to the different policies, lack of power, infrastructures, fees, duties, etc.’ – Dala Foods Nigeria Ltd
- ‘Government bureaucracies and policies’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Nigeria Plc
- ‘Fruit juice concentrates have to be imported, and there are high import duties and FX issues. These have proved challenging to us’ – Dansa Foods Processing Ltd
- ‘High import duties on premix powders’ – Viva Synergy Resources Nigeria Ltd

6. High cost of doing business

- ‘The rising cost of agricultural machineries is a barrier’ – Silverstone Agro
- ‘High cost of doing business in Nigeria is a barrier to us as a company’ – Dala Foods
- ‘Costs’ – Unilever Nigeria Plc
- ‘Other Associated costs’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Plc
- ‘We were the first company to adopt soyabeans as a natural fortificant in our products, using advanced processing technics. However, the seasonality of soyabeans coupled with lack of reserves, steady prices and competition with large manufacturers for the limited supplies increases our production cost’ – Moreson Nigeria Ltd
Member comments in response to the questions: “What are the barriers or your biggest barrier to achieving your commitment(s)?” (4/4)

7. Logistic & Product distribution

- ‘Raw materials sourced from northern states have to be transported to the factory using special storage vehicles for preservation and retention of quality’ – AACE Foods
- ‘High cost of execution of the (school feeding) programme especially redistribution’ – Honeywell Flour Mills Plc
- ‘Our products are only available in Lagos, adverts and marketing to other parts of Nigeria is by social media. We wish to improve our logistics and product distribution capability’ – August Secrets
- ‘Our products are only available in Abuja, and a great deal of efforts goes into convincing customers about the value-add of our brand of sorted crayfish and plantain chips. We will like to distribute our products to other geopolitical zones in Nigeria to ensure value for money’ – Quick Culinary Global Limited

8. Others

- ‘Processing Barriers: the reduction in nutrient quality post processing of products’ – Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc
- ‘Low staff morale’ – Spectra Industries Limited
- ‘Insecurity’ – Aja-Uwe Okporowo-Ekpeye Farmers Investment Co-operative and Credit Society
- ‘Quick culinary is a micro business aspiring to penetrate Abuja and its environs currently. If SBN can provide some type of credibility to products, it will aid marketability’ – Quick Culinary Global Limited
- ‘Land limitation’ – Silverstone Agro
- ‘Flour Mills develops nutritious products. However, if consumer uptake is poor and unsustainable, such products are scaled down and sometimes withdrawn’ – Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc
- ‘Rural dwellers have poor understanding of nutrition and government initiatives have not reached grassroots. This is challenging for Olam and other nutrition activities aimed at smallholder farmers in rural areas’ – Olam Cocoa

59
A review of the internal SBN structure indicates imperatives for the future

**CURRENT STATE**

a) Corporate status: SBN is currently not registered as a legal entity in Nigeria. It is coordinated by GAIN, one of its global conveners.

b) Private sector approach: Attraction of members through trainings, exhibitions and nutrition-focused events. Businesses outline their desired commitments as members.

**IMPERATIVES FOR THE FUTURE**

- Determine ideal corporate status. Options include:
  - Create a separate legal entity i.e. company limited by guarantee/ non-profit
  - Domicile within existing private sector organization
  - Domicile within existing government ministry/ parastatals
  - Remain with GAIN
- Develop business case/value proposition
- Define private sector approach
  - Private sector engagement
  - Private sector development
  - A combination of both

**Category**

- **Strategy/Shared Values**
  - a) Corporate status: SBN is currently not registered as a legal entity in Nigeria. It is coordinated by GAIN, one of its global conveners.
  - b) Private sector approach: Attraction of members through trainings, exhibitions and nutrition-focused events. Businesses outline their desired commitments as members.

- **Structure (Governance / HR Organization)**
  - a) Existing governance structure
    - GAIN is SBN Nigeria secretariat coordinated by two full time staff who report to a global SBN team.
    - The Global SBN team are governed by an advisory board.
    - SBN is part of the global SUN Movement network. Other members of the movement are CSO, Donors.
A review of the internal SBN structure indicates imperatives for the future

**System (Key Activities)**

**CURRENT STATE**

- a) Key activities of staff revolve around:
  - Business engagement/development
  - Government engagement
  - Communications
  - Administration

- b) Organizational Performance Framework/M&E

- c) Funding: SBN in Nigeria is currently funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Dutch government. Both grants run out in 2017 and 2018 respectively
  - Options of renewal or increased commitments

**IMPERATIVES FOR THE FUTURE**

- To-Be Situation: Review direction given redefined SBN’s priorities and re-align
- Define monitoring formwork that works?
- Develop value proposition; map and engage new donors
- Develop high-level budget for operating the SBN
- Explore funding options
  - Donor funding
  - Government grants
  - Member subscription
  - Internally generated revenue
  - Charge training and technical support fees
Examining both the external and internal environment, there are opportunities for SBN to improve nutrition.

**Strengths**
- Part of the global SUN Movement
- Access to nutritional best practices, assets and resources
- Credibility with stakeholders as a UN affiliate
- Ease with signing up multinationals through global connections

**Opportunity**
- Leadership gap in convening private sector around interventions to address nutrition
- Unmet demand for nutritional food signaling opportunities for business growth
- Demand creation opportunity given limited consumer awareness about nutritious food
- Government school feeding programme
- Focal point for NE measurable nutritional interventions in the IDP camp
- Government legislation requiring food fortification and food labelling
- Research gap of nutritious food formulated from indigenous produce

**Weakness**
- SBN’s vision and mission do not reflect a balance between impact and profit. “too” altruistic
- Absence of established governance structure
- Human resources limitations/ limited fund raising capacity
- Insufficient diversity in membership in terms of geography (SW=23, SE=2, SS=2, NC=12, NE=1, NW=7) members
- Unproven value proposition
- Majority of members are small, micro and medium size businesses

**Threat**
- Access to markets; inadequate food transport and distribution infrastructure
- Need for nutritious food is greater among, low-income, uneducated rural population who have limited purchasing power and are hardest to reach
- Insurgency in north eastern Nigeria limiting food accessibility
- Absence of recent data/statistics reflecting malnutrition; difficulty measuring progress
- High cost of production (especially power)
- Few willing donors/funders with nutrition focus
- Limited economic viability for nutritious food
State of Food and Nutrition in Nigeria

Government Direction on Nutrition

SBN Internal Review & Membership Mapping

Other Stakeholder Perspectives
We engaged some key stakeholders for external perspectives on SBN’s positioning to address [1/3]

**KEY CHALLENGES**

**Low Nutrition Awareness**
- Low level of awareness about malnutrition as the silent killer of Nigeria children generally
- The need for nutrition education that meets QC standards

**Weak Private Sector Involvement**
- Private sector needs to recognize and accept their role as solution providers to this challenge
- Not enough private sector investment in production of indigenous nutritious food and drink

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**Investment opportunities** abound in the nutrition space such as the manufacture of RUTF currently imported by UNICEF, Local research and development of foods that enhance breast milk production etc.

** Garner private sector participation at MBNP events** like
  - National Nutrition Network annual meeting to discuss issues and solutions to F&N challenges (2017 meeting planed for Nov)
  - National Nutrition Week - MBPN nutrition awareness campaign that holds 3rd week in July.

**Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON)**

**Low awareness of fortification and nutrition standards**
- Poor understanding among manufacturers on the importance and benefits of food fortification
- Low level of awareness and a general lack of understanding of fortification standards and acceptable nutrition guidelines
- Lack of technical capacity by businesses to confirm the quality of premixes

**Inadequate M&E/ nutrition data**
- Inadequate documentation of relevant data on the state of food fortification in Nigeria
- The geographical focus of monitoring agencies is limited to urban areas, especially Lagos and Abuja

**Awareness creation on regulatory standard**
- SBN’s stance as a neutral non-regulatory agency can serve as a platform for promoting fortification and regulatory standards in the industry
- SBN can also employ its unique position in creating awareness on SON’s ethical standards
- SBN can create awareness among consumers to stimulate demand for quality and nutritious foods
We engaged some key stakeholders for external perspectives on SBN’s positioning to address [2/3]

### KEY CHALLENGES

**Limited access to nutritious food**
- “How do we ‘democratise’ access to food?”

**Absence of Private Sector Collaboration**
- Lack of synergy among nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive players along the value chain

### OPPORTUNITIES

**Leadership gap in convening private sector around nutrition solutions**
- SBN can facilitate a shared understanding of the nutrition problem by private sector players by convening and developing solutions and an approach as a collective

---

**Inadequate nutrition data**
- Limited access to correct data on nutrition and related elements

**High cost of nutritious food**
- High cost of producing processed and packaged nutritious foods
- Absence of a local company producing Ready to Use Therapeutic foods despite the potential economic benefits

**Amplify the voice of private sector in policy matters**
- Drive active involvement and participation of private sector on the National Food and Nutrition Committee
- Joint effort by private sector in the creation of National Action Plan on Nutrition
- Stimulating action to create funds for implementing the National Food and Nutrition Plan (NFNP)
We engaged some key stakeholders for external perspectives on SBN’s positioning to address [3/3]

### KEY CHALLENGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate nutrition data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Lack of harmonized nutrition data on general and specialized health, population, geographical and various socio-economic indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misalignment between nutrition/health regulators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Differing regulatory agencies in the nutrition and health space leading to fragmentation and disparities in monitoring and enforcement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consumer Protection Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Lack of data/monitoring systems: Baseline date is unavailable in order to channel resources, efforts and interventions appropriately. In addition, monitoring systems to support nutrient claims are weak. Private sector can support a baseline survey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Low consumer expectation and low level of consumer sensitization: Consumers are unaware of their rights and therefore cannot enforce them. Most people do not have adequate knowledge about nutrition. There are limited channels of information especially at the grassroots level.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPPORTUNITIES

| ▪ Crafting and disseminating clear and focused nutrition messages |
| ▪ Supporting relevant activities of nutrition-focused regulatory agencies across Nigeria |
| ▪ Influence private sector positively: Lead the private sector to do the right thing and promote compliance |
| ▪ Investment opportunities in local production of hitherto nutrition input such as micronutrient powders thereby minimizing importation from Asia |