

Following the Funding: Nutrition For Growth

Investing in Nutrition

In 2012, the World Health Assembly endorsed global targets to improve maternal and child nutrition by 2025 — an ambitious vision now reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals.

The 2013 Nutrition for Growth (N4G) event — where donors pledged \$US 4.15 billion for nutrition-specific and \$US 19 billion for nutrition-sensitive programs — was an essential step on the long-neglected road to support country-owned efforts to improve child nutrition.

ACTION's scorecard tracks the ambition and delivery of N4G commitments, providing a baseline measurement for future pledge delivery and a progress report for donors who set earlier deadlines. Consistent and accessible reporting is essential for tracking to be accurate and meaningful. While these commitments are critical to meeting global targets, they are indicators for global progress rather than an exhaustive list of funding.

Overall, it's clear that donors must meet existing commitments and also considerably increase nutrition investments to meet globally-agreed targets. At an August 2016 summit in Brazil, donors must build on N4G momentum with increased commitments.

	NUTRITION FOR GROWTH PLEDGE (USD in millions)		AMBITION	2013 PLEDGE DELIVERY		ROAD TO RIO
	Nutrition-Specific	Nutrition-Sensitive		Nutrition-Specific	Nutrition-Sensitive	
AUSTRALIA	\$32 (2013-2017)	\$27 (2013-2017)	BUSINESS AS USUAL	ON TRACK	ON TRACK	As Australia pledged only through 2017 at N4G — with only USD 12m being new money — a more ambitious nutrition-specific pledge is needed to 2020.
ANALYSIS	The actual additional funding Australia pledged at the 2013 Nutrition for Growth Summit was USD 12 million, which is an unambitious pledge over 4 years. Disbursements of only USD 17.787m to nutrition-specific in 2013, while on track to meet an unambitious nutrition-specific pledge, remain below the amount needed to make genuine progress on global nutrition goals. Australia also disbursed USD 74.707m to nutrition-sensitive in 2013, far beyond its commitment. The Health for Development Strategy for the Australian aid program, released in June 2015, identifies nutrition as one of the priorities for investment to improve health.					
BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION	\$492 (2013-2020)	\$371 (2013-2020)	AMBITIOUS	ON TRACK	ON TRACK	The Gates Foundation should commit to an accelerated disbursement of its existing nutrition-sensitive pledge to meet targets for 2020. The Foundation's announcement in June 2015 that it will more than double its investments in nutrition to USD 776m over the next 6 years is encouraging.
ANALYSIS	Nutrition-specific disbursements in 2013 of USD 83.534m were above the annual disbursement level needed to meet a pledge over 8 years, while nutrition-sensitive disbursements of USD 43.5m were slightly below what will be needed per year to achieve the pledge by 2020. However, a new nutrition strategy launched in June 2015, and large new funding commitments, are a concrete step in this direction. The Gates Foundation can help drive a conversation around nutrition-sensitive agriculture by providing an update on nutrition-sensitive work at the Rio Summit.					
CANADA	\$141 (no timeline)	\$0	BUSINESS AS USUAL	ON TRACK	--	Canada should make a bold commitment that matches the leadership they have shown globally on maternal and child health.
ANALYSIS	Canada's N4G commitment was not reflective of Canada's leadership on nutrition and maternal and child health. The USD 141m pledge was a re-announcement of Muskoka I funds. However, funding to nutrition has grown each year from 2011 to 2013. With USD 169.350m going to basic nutrition in 2013, Canada should make a commitment in Rio that matches the ambition of its work and its commitment to maternal and child health globally. Canada should also use its leadership role on MNCH globally to persuade other donors to invest in nutrition.					
CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND FOUNDATION	\$793 (2013-2020)		AMBITIOUS	PROGRESS IN DANGER		CIFF should accelerate disbursement of its nutrition-specific pledge to meet or exceed targets for 2020.
ANALYSIS	CIFF committed USD 793m from 2013-2020 to address undernutrition, with the majority focused on nutrition-specific interventions. 2013 disbursements of USD 37.482m to nutrition-specific fall short of the annual amount needed; a sharp ramp-up will be needed. Nutrition-sensitive disbursements in 2013 totaled USD 0.854m. CIFF fulfilled its pledge to develop a new catalytic financing facility, with the Power of Nutrition now an independent entity.					
EUROPEAN UNION	\$533 (2014-2020)	\$4,032 (2014-2020)	AMBITIOUS	PROGRESS IN DANGER	PROGRESS IN DANGER	The EU must commit to an accelerated disbursement of its existing pledge to meet targets for 2020 and should report on its nutrition-sensitive disbursements.
ANALYSIS	The EU's pledge went far beyond 'business as usual', with USD 442m (EUR 340m) additional to baseline spending. The EU disbursed USD 47.250m in 2013 to nutrition-specific work. Much higher annual nutrition-specific disbursements per year will be needed to fulfil targets set for 2014-2020. While disbursement data was not reported, nutrition-sensitive commitments of USD 184.482m in development and USD 345.932m in humanitarian aid for nutrition are encouraging, though there is room for improvement to reach the rate of disbursement needed to hit USD 4,032m over 7 years. Reporting disbursements measures the capacity of the EU to deliver on its commitments, and the impact it has on the ground.					
FRANCE	see analysis	see analysis	INADEQUATE	PROGRESS IN DANGER	PROGRESS IN DANGER	France must make a strong financial pledge in 2016.
ANALYSIS	Lacking any financial targets, France's N4G pledge was weak—and is not yet fully delivered. The allocation of revenues from additional innovative financing to child health is under threat and likely to strain the tight central budget for health. France should dedicate the promised additional EUR 30m from innovative financing to health care access, including nutrition, for children under 5 in Sahel. France disbursed only USD 2.606m to nutrition-specific in 2013, extremely small compared to others, and USD 33.599m to nutrition-sensitive. Civil society, as part of Generation Nutrition France, is calling for an ambitious EUR 500m to nutrition across all sectors by 2020. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to develop a nutrition roadmap to improve accountability and integration into development policy, but this could be meaningless without a financial target and announced pledge in Rio.					
GERMANY	\$293 (2013-2020)		AMBITIOUS	ON TRACK		While Germany is on track to deliver its aggregated pledge, it should make an additional financial pledge earmarked for nutrition-specific funding. Germany is on track to meet its N4G commitment ahead of schedule and should use 2013 funding levels as a baseline for increased nutrition-specific spending in the future.
ANALYSIS	Germany committed to a total of USD 260m (EUR 200m) additional funding for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions from 2013-2020. It disbursed USD 35.666m in nutrition-specific and USD 20.642m in nutrition-sensitive funds in 2013. Added together, these disbursements are above the annual average needed to meet its ambitious but non-disaggregated commitment. However, the Global Nutrition Report notes it is unclear how much of this funding is additional. At N4G, Germany also committed to a strong focus on women's empowerment, building new partnerships with business, science, and foundations, and creating a strong framework for food and nutrition security that will be monitored transparently. No progress has yet been demonstrated on establishing this framework or on monitoring efforts. However, the One World, No Hunger initiative announced in 2014 is a promising sign of Germany's escalating commitment to ending malnutrition as part of the EUR 1.4b/year available for food security and rural development work.					
IRELAND	\$169 (2013-2020)		AMBITIOUS	ON TRACK		Ireland is capable of making a more ambitious pledge to 2020 on both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive work, but should be commended for its transparency and on-track disbursements.
ANALYSIS	Ireland pledged USD 169m (EUR 130m) for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programs and interventions without specifying the specific breakdown for each on top of a 2010 baseline of USD 42m (EUR 32m). In 2013, Ireland disbursed USD 10.776m to nutrition-specific programs and USD 48.326m to nutrition-sensitive programs. Added together, it is more than on track to meet its aggregated commitment, but disaggregated progress ratings are not possible. Ireland continues to meet its target of spending at least 20% of all ODA on hunger.					
JAPAN	see analysis	see analysis	INADEQUATE	--	--	Japan should make a nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive financial pledge to 2020.
ANALYSIS	At N4G, Japan pledged USD 500m in health ODA from 2013-2017, as well as USD 100m through the World Bank including assistance to address undernutrition. Japan disbursed USD \$109.29m in 2013 to nutrition. Civil society in Japan is calling on the government to commit USD 415 million (JPY 50 billion) for nutrition from 2016-2020. A progress rating is not possible due to lack of clarity in the original pledge.					
THE NETHERLANDS	\$195 (2013-2020)	\$195 (2013-2020)	AMBITIOUS	PROGRESS IN DANGER	PROGRESS IN DANGER	The Netherlands should provide an update on progress against its commitments through 2020 and should increase its pledge to match its level of commitment to food security as one of its four priorities of development cooperation policy.
ANALYSIS	The Netherlands disbursed USD 20.126m to nutrition-specific work and USD 21.616m to nutrition-sensitive work in 2013, the baseline year for its commitment. Subsequent disbursements to each will need to be slightly higher per year to meet the target by 2020. The Netherlands could do more to increase the quantity and quality of its nutrition-sensitive investments.					
NORWAY	\$0	\$0	INADEQUATE	--	--	Norway should make an ambitious pledge given its wider commitment to the health of women and children, education, and gender issues.
ANALYSIS	Norway did not make a pledge at N4G and disbursed only USD 0.663m to nutrition in 2013. Norway has signaled an interest in advancing maternal, newborn, and child health via investments in the Global Financing Facility for RMNCAH. A natural complement to this work would be a pledge to increased bilateral investments in nutrition for women, children, and families. Increased investments in nutrition would complement Norway's commitment to education for all.					
UNITED KINGDOM	\$1,304 (2013-2020)	\$3,244 (2013-2020)	AMBITIOUS	ON TRACK	ON TRACK	As a member of the international committee for N4G 2016, the UK should continue its leadership role on investments for nutrition and encourage other donors to make ambitious pledges in 2016.
ANALYSIS	The UK's nutrition-specific pledge adds USD 572m in bilateral aid to USD 427m in matched funding, over 2010 baseline levels. 2013 disbursements totaled USD 105m (nutrition-specific) and USD 734.7m (nutrition-sensitive, additional to 2010-11 levels). The UK supported the establishment of a Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition, and the first-ever Global Nutrition Report. It unlocked USD 50m (GBP 32m) to create a catalytic fund, the Power of Nutrition which is in the process of being disbursed. It also unlocked USD 180m (GBP 115m) and USD 61.5m (GBP 41.5m) to match investments made by the Gates Foundation and Canada respectively. The UK should continue scaling up nutrition investments, report on impact, and encourage other donors to bridge the gap.					
UNITED STATES	\$1,096 (2012-2014)	\$8,919 (2012-2014)	BUSINESS AS USUAL	PROGRESS IN DANGER	PROGRESS IN DANGER	The US should make an ambitious, forward looking pledge.
ANALYSIS	The U.S. N4G pledge included no new money for nutrition, and only included commitments to 2014. The release of the USAID multisectoral nutrition strategy in mid-2014 and fulfillment of the commitment of USD 475m to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program are positive steps forward, but the 2013 USD 288.649m baseline of nutrition-specific funding must be increased to meet U.S. goals to end preventable maternal and child deaths and reduce stunting. We welcome the U.S. reporting USD 1,838m in nutrition-sensitive disbursements in 2013. The pending whole of government coordination plan is an important opportunity to maximize the impact of these funds.					
WORLD BANK GROUP	\$600 (2013-2014)	\$0	AMBITIOUS	ON TRACK	--	The Bank should report on a new, bold agenda projected to 2020 to maintain ambition. We also welcome a continuing increase in the number of projects across sectors that integrate nutrition programming, and encourage scaling up in the highest burden countries.
ANALYSIS	Using the Bank's own Project Database, which is challenging as nutrition and food security are reported together, USD 680m was disbursed over fiscal years 2013-2014. However, only 69% of this total came from IDA, falling short of the 90% commitment from the Bank. The Bank reports an 86% increase in technical or analytical support on nutrition, and reports that the share of agriculture projects integrating nutrition work has increased from 12% (FY12) to 19% (FY14) with all projects currently under review. In addition, the number of Social Protection projects that include a focus on nutrition increased from 14% in FY11 to 24% in FY14, with the Global Forum on Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection Programs being an encouraging step forward. The Bank reports that links between nutrition work and efforts in early childhood development, WASH, and poverty reduction efforts have also been strengthened considerably. The Bank kept its pledge of adding stunting as a new indicator on the Bank Group's Corporate Scorecard, and could improve by elevating the indicator from Tier 2 to Tier 3. The Bank did not provide an update on its nutrition-sensitive spending in the Global Nutrition Report for 2015.					

Notes on Methodology

A full list of donors and their commitments can be found in the N4G Executive Summary:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/207274/nutrition-for-growth-commitments.pdf

Nutrition for Growth Pledge: All Nutrition for Growth commitments, as well as calculations of increased commitments above baseline levels are from the N4G Executive Summary. Nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive definitions are also taken from this summary.

Ambition: Criteria considered in assessing ambition of individual N4G pledges included:

- Did the donor include a pledge through 2020?
- Did the pledge represent an increase above baseline?
- Was a financial pledge of any kind included?
- Did the pledge specifically mention an amount for nutrition-specific funding?

2013 Pledge Delivery: Pledge delivery analysis is based on an assumed constant annual rate of disbursement over each donor's stated pledge period, with a 10% margin of error allowed in judging on-time delivery. Data on disbursements is taken from the 2015 Global Nutrition Report for donors who reported their own spending via this resource. Those not reported in the Global Nutrition Report are taken from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development Query Wizard for International Development Statistics and are represented in current US dollars. This methodology is in line with the SUN Donor Network Methodology and Guidance Note to Track Global Investments in Nutrition.

A complete methodology explanation with links can be found at: <http://www.action.org/resources/item/following-the-nutrition-funding>

ACTION

ACTION is a global partnership working to influence policy and mobilize resources to fight diseases of poverty and achieve equitable access to health.

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