



# BUDGET BRIEF FOR NASARWA STATE

**M**alnutrition is a condition that occurs when people consistently do not consume or absorb the right amounts, types of food and essential nutrients.

One of the main indicators of childhood malnutrition is stunting-when children are too short for age. Stunted children have poor cognitive and brain development which prevents them from reaching their full potential in life in an increasingly competitive world.

Malnutrition is caused by several

factors including lack of food, improper feeding and caring practices, economic and political structures, low status and lack of education among women, etc.

Therefore, a multi-sectoral approach is required for a reduction and eventual eradication of the scourge.

As a matter of urgency, there has to be multi-faceted, multi-stakeholder and multi-level interventions at scale in order to produce substantial outcomes in the short to medium term.

### Child Nutrition Indicators



**33.2%**  
of Children  
under-5 are  
Stunted

(Too short for their Age)



**3.2%**  
of Children  
under-5 are  
Wasted

(Too thin for their Height)



**16.9%**  
of Children  
under-5 are  
Underweight

(Too thin for their Age)

## Infant and Young Child Feeding

Only  
**46.6%**  
of children  
(6-59 months)  
receive Vitamin A

Only  
**34%**  
of children  
(6-59 months)  
receive Deworming  
tablets

Only  
**30.5%**  
are breastfed within  
1 hour of birth

NNHS 2018

## Investment Case

Good nutrition is not just an outcome of development, but also a driver of economic growth and human development. Every dollar spent in scaling up nutrition interventions targeting the first 1,000 days of life yields a return of at least \$16.5.

Furthermore, Undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies during the first 1,000 days of life can reduce a child's IQ by up to 10 per cent. Undernourished children are therefore likely to complete fewer years of school and have a reduced earning potential of at least 10 per cent of their lifetime earnings. Collectively the costs of poor nutrition as a result of impaired national productivity represent an estimated loss of 2-3 per cent of a country's GDP, yet these losses can be as high as 16 per cent in some states. Furthermore, it contributes to 45 per cent of deaths of children under 5 years of age and approximately 40 per cent of maternal deaths.

Thus, under-nutrition pushes individuals into a vicious cycle of ill health, poverty, and unnecessary suffering perpetuated across generations.

## Improving Nutrition in the Nasarawa state will:

Reduce  
Maternal  
and Child  
mortality  
rates

Promote  
optimal  
growth &  
development

Increase  
future  
earning  
potential

Decrease  
the risk of  
infectious  
diseases

## Political Commitment for Nutrition

Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action for Nutrition	Ongoing
Specific Budget Line for Nutrition	Yes
Timely Release of Funds	No
6 Month Maternity Leave with pay	No
Functional State Committee of Food and Nutrition	Yes

### Budgetary Allocation Nutrition Specific

YEAR	BUDGETARY ALLOCATION (N)	ACTUAL SPENDING (N)	BUDGET PERFORMANCE (%)
2014	54,000,000	5,568,000	10.31%
2015	64,999,498	131,000	0.20%
2016	64,200,000	63,015,000	98.15%
2017	193,200,000	63,368,000	32.80%
2018	389,925,250	249,963,686	64.1%
2019	516,230,910	N/A	N/A

Source: Nasarawa state government

### Key ASKS



To increase funding for Health and Nutrition (with reference to 1% Consolidated Revenue Fund for nutrition-Exclusive Breastfeeding, Maternal Nutrition, IYCF and staple food fortification) in Nasarawa State.



State Executive Council to approve and fully fund the State Specific Multi-sectoral plan of action for Nutrition



To timely release funds allocated for nutrition in all nutrition line ministries in the 2020 budget and ensure increased accountability/management of released funds



To improve nutrition coordination across the institutional structures documented in the National Policy on Food and Nutrition (NPFN).

### Acknowledgement

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