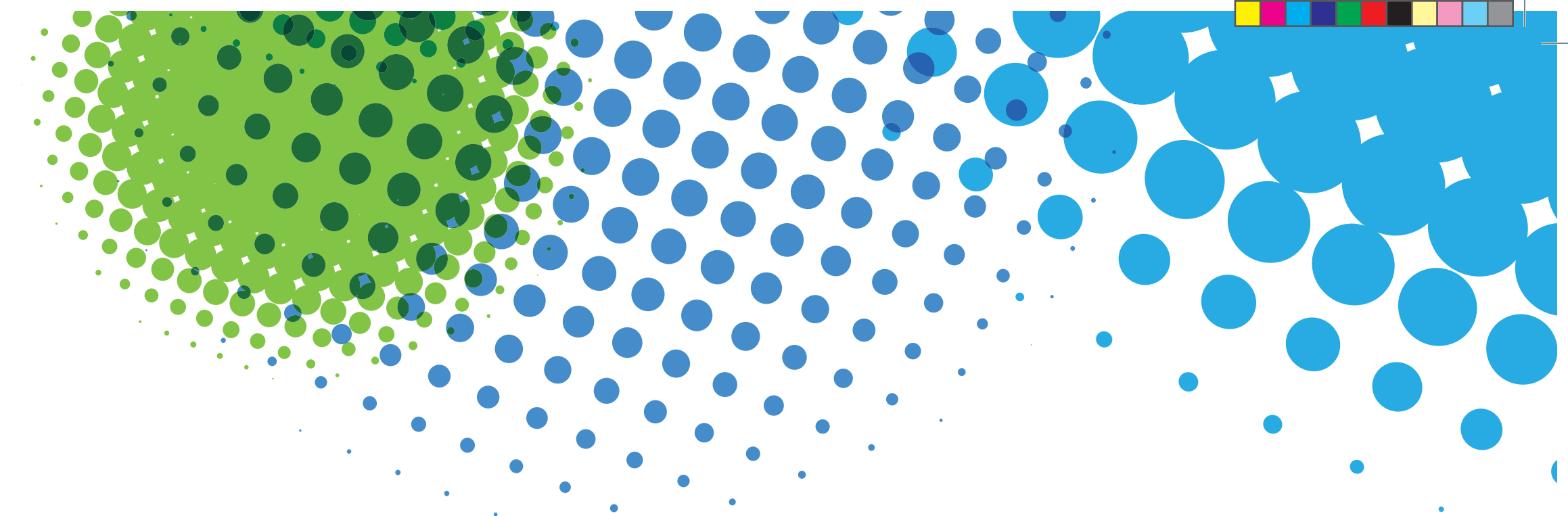




NUTRITION PROFILE

Gabon



ACCELERATING HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES THROUGH IMPROVED NUTRITION

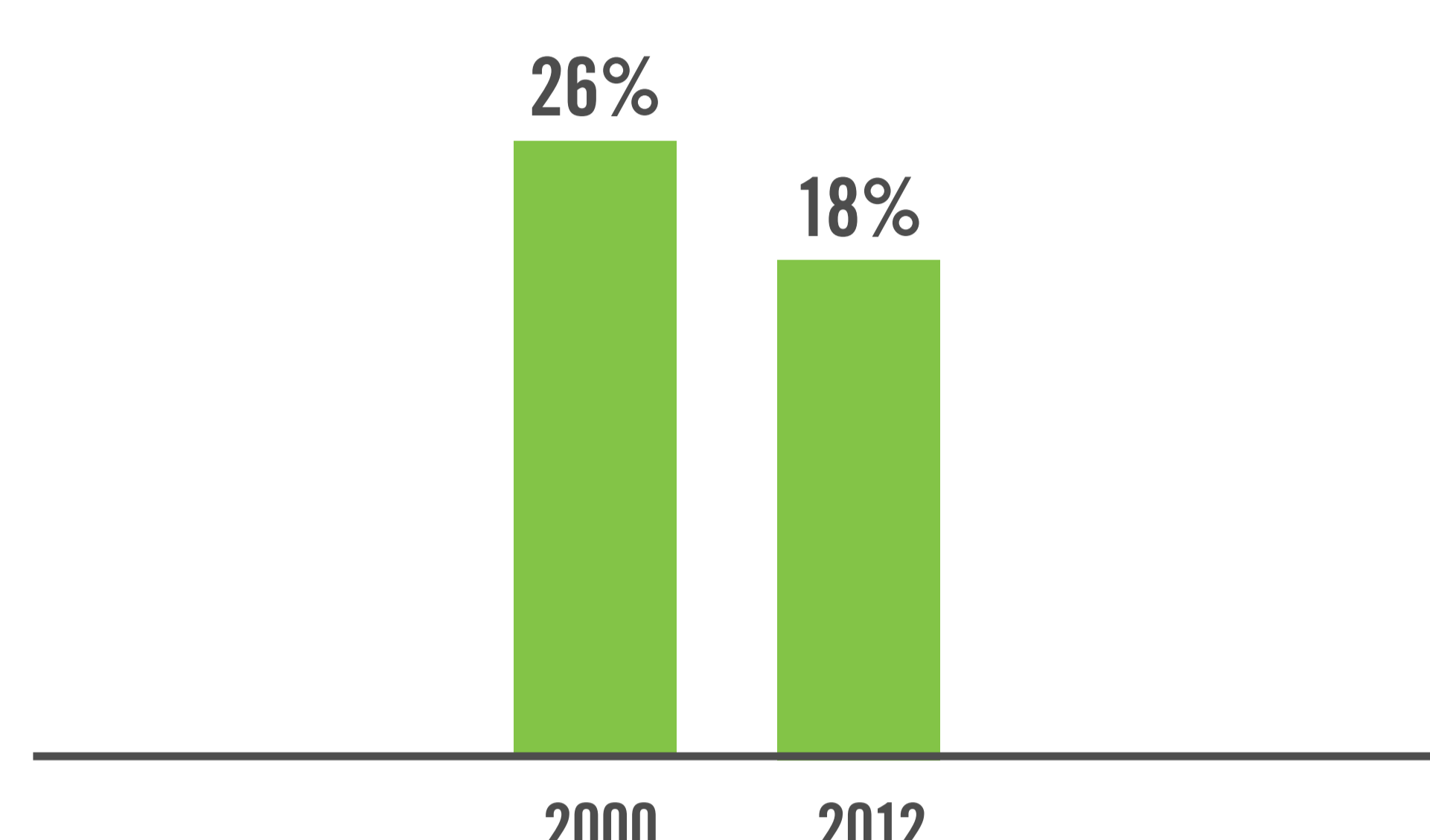
Since 2000, Gabon has made some progress reducing stunting rates, but nutrition practices show significant opportunities to accelerate impact. To realize the full health, social and economic benefits of improved nutrition, Gabon should:

- Develop a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder policy coordination mechanism, including a common results framework for nutrition
- Develop a costed nutrition plan and designate a specific budget line to support work on high-impact nutrition interventions
- Strengthen the priority of nutrition in long-term national development policies, such as the Plan Strategique du Gabon Emergent

INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING PRACTICES¹

Early initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour	32%
Exclusive breastfeeding of infants under 6 months	6%
Breastfeeding at 1 year	45%
Minimum acceptable diet (6-23 months)	5%
Minimum dietary diversity (6-23 months)	30%

PROGRESS AGAINST STUNTING²



CHILD NUTRITION INDICATORS³

- 7%** of children under-five are **underweight**
- 18%** of children under-five are **stunted**
- 3%** of children under-five are **wasted**
- 14%** of children are born with **low birthweight**

Malnutrition has lasting effects on individuals, families and nations⁴

- **NEARLY HALF** of all child deaths are related to poor nutrition
- **10% or more** of a person's lifetime earnings can be lost due to lower productivity, reduced cognitive ability and increased health care costs
- **3% to 16%** of the GDP in African economies is lost due to undernutrition

CHILD MORTALITY⁵

51 deaths per 1,000 live births while the global sustainable development target is to reduce under-five mortality to 25 per 1,000 live births (Sustainable Development Goal 3).

MATERNAL NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Women of reproductive age with anaemia	51% ⁶
Women of reproductive age, thinness	5% ⁷
Women of reproductive age, short stature	1% ⁸

PROGRESS AGAINST THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY'S GLOBAL NUTRITION TARGETS 2025⁹

	Under-five stunting, 2012	Under-five wasting, 2012	Under-five overweight, 2010	Women of reproductive age anaemia, 2011	Exclusive breastfeeding, 2014	Low birthweight
WHA Global Nutrition Target	40% reduction in the number of children under-five who are stunted	Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%	No increase in childhood overweight	50% reduction of anaemia in women of reproductive age	Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 50%	30% reduction in low birth weight
Gabon's Progress	Off course, some progress	On course	Off course, no progress	Off course	N/A	N/A

POLITICAL COMMITMENT FOR NUTRITION

Maternity Leave	14 weeks paid ¹⁰
International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes	Full provisions in law ¹¹
Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan	N/A
Costed Nutrition Plan	N/A
Separate Nutrition Budget	Sectoral only, no specific nutrition allocations ¹²
SUN Country	Since 2016 ¹³

CATEGORIZATION OF CODE LEGISLATION¹⁴

Full provisions in law: country has enacted legislation or adopted regulations, decrees or other legally binding measures encompassing all or nearly all provisions of the Code and subsequent WHA resolutions.

IMPROVING NUTRITION STRENGTHENS NATIONS AS A LEADING CONTRIBUTOR TO:¹⁵

- Reducing mortality rates
- Promoting optimal growth and development
- Decreasing the risk of infectious diseases
- Protecting against chronic conditions later in life
- Improving future earning potential

1 UNICEF Infant and Young Child Feeding Database 2016

2 UNICEF/WHO/WB 2015

3 UNICEF State of the World's Children 2016

4 *The Lancet*, the World Bank, The Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition

5 UNICEF State of the World's Children 2016

6 WHO 2015

7 DHS 2012

8 Ibid.

9 Adopted from the Global Nutrition Report 2015. New analysis will be released in 2017

10 ILO Maternity and Paternity at Work 2013

11 WHO National Implementation of the International Code Status Report 2016

12 HANCI-Africa 2016

13 SUN Gabon Profile

14 WHO National Implementation of the International Code Status Report 2016

15 UNICEF, *The Lancet*

