



## NUTRITION PROFILE

# Guinea-Bissau



### ACCELERATING HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES THROUGH IMPROVED NUTRITION

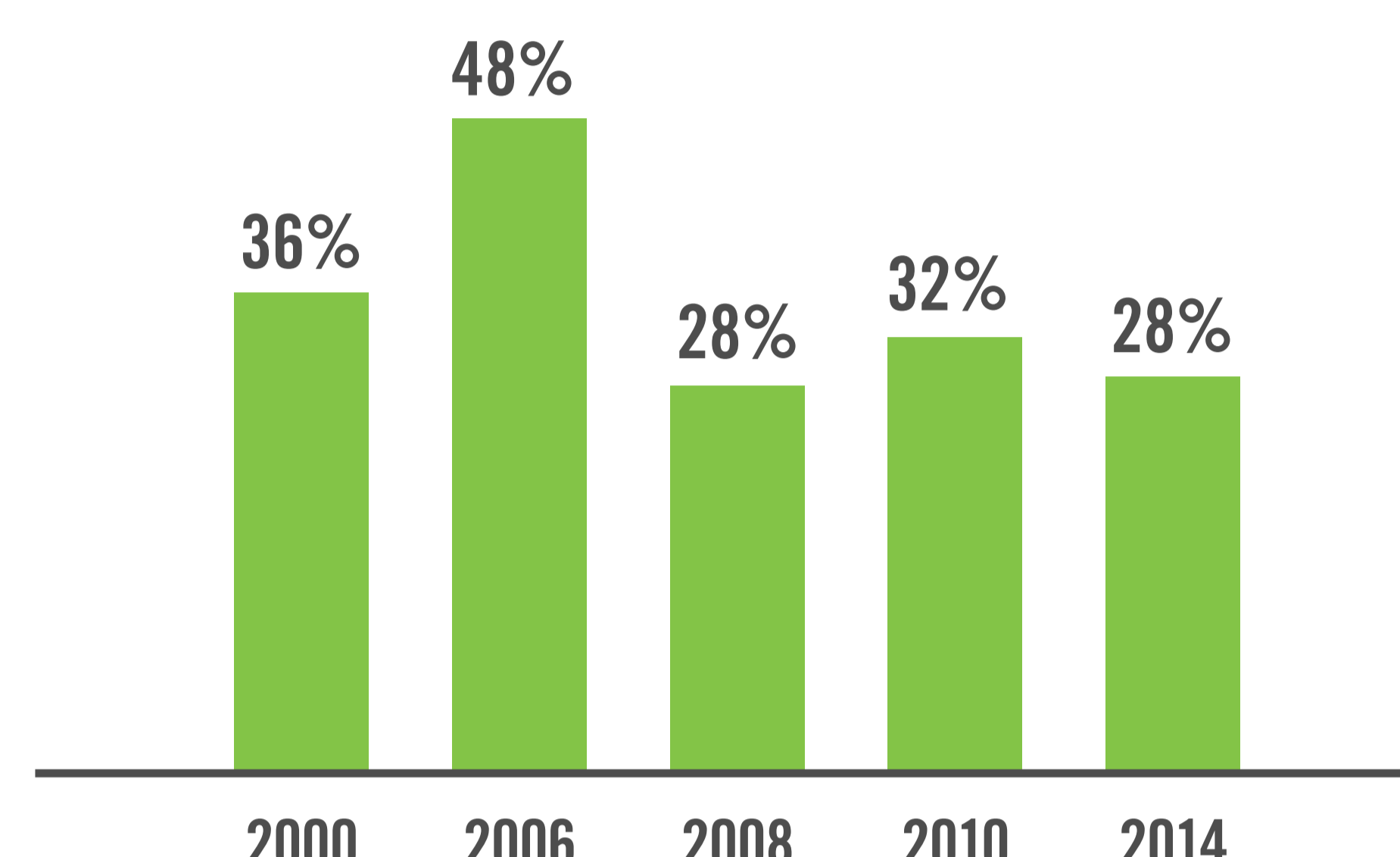
Since 2006, Guinea-Bissau has made progress increasing the rate of exclusive breastfeeding of infants under-six months, but stunting rates remain high and progress toward the Global Nutrition Targets is largely off-course. To realize the full health, social and economic benefits of improved nutrition, Guinea-Bissau should:

- Allocate resources to ensure full implementation of the National Nutrition Strategy, including designating a specific budget line for nutrition
- Strengthen multi-sectoral planning and coordination efforts, including establishment of a common results framework for nutrition
- Adopt strong regulations on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes to bring them in line with global recommendations, including effective monitoring and enforcement mechanisms

#### INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING PRACTICES<sup>1</sup>

Early initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour	34%
Exclusive breastfeeding of infants under 6 months	53%
Breastfeeding at 1 year	95%
Minimum acceptable diet (6-23 months)	N/A
Minimum dietary diversity (6-23 months)	13%

#### PROGRESS AGAINST STUNTING<sup>2</sup>



#### CHILD NUTRITION INDICATORS<sup>3</sup>

**17%** of children under-five are **underweight**

**28%** of children under-five are **stunted**

**6%** of children under-five are **wasted**

**11%** of children are born with **low birthweight**

Malnutrition has lasting effects on individuals, families and nations<sup>4</sup>

- **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 MORTALITY<sup>5</sup>

**93** deaths per 1,000 live births which puts Guinea-Bissau **off-track** to contribute to reducing under-five mortality to 25 per 1,000 live births (Sustainable Development Goal 3).

#### MATERNAL NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Women of reproductive age with anaemia	45% <sup>6</sup>
Women of reproductive age, thinness	N/A
Women of reproductive age, short stature	N/A

#### PROGRESS AGAINST THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY'S GLOBAL NUTRITION TARGETS 2025<sup>7</sup>

	Under-five stunting, 2014	Under-five wasting, 2014	Under-five overweight, 2014	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
Guinea-Bissau's Progress	Off course, some progress	Off course	On course, good progress	Off course	On course	N/A

#### POLITICAL COMMITMENT FOR NUTRITION

Maternity Leave	60 days paid <sup>8</sup>
International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes	Few provisions in law <sup>9</sup>
Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan	Yes <sup>10</sup>
Costed Nutrition Plan	Budgeted (2016-2020) <sup>11</sup>
Separate Nutrition Budget	No <sup>12</sup>
SUN Country	Since 2014 <sup>13</sup>

#### CATEGORIZATION OF CODE LEGISLATION<sup>14</sup>

**Few provisions in law:** country has enacted legislation or adopted regulations, directives, decrees or other legally binding measures covering few of the provisions of the Code or subsequent WHA resolutions.

#### IMPROVING NUTRITION STRENGTHENS NATIONS AS A LEADING CONTRIBUTOR TO:<sup>15</sup>

- 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 Adopted from the Global Nutrition Report 2015. New analysis will be released in 2017  
 8 ILO Maternity and Paternity at Work 2013

9 WHO National Implementation of the International Code Status Report 2016  
 10 SUN Guinea-Bissau Annual Progress Report 2016  
 11 Ibid.  
 12 HANCI-Africa 2016  
 13 SUN Country Profile  
 14 WHO National Implementation of the International Code Status Report 2016  
 15 UNICEF, *The Lancet*

