Sierra Leone has shown political will to develop nutrition policies and support nutrition funding. But under-five mortality, morbidity and malnutrition remain high and nutrition practices show untapped opportunities to accelerate impact. To realize the full health, social and economic benefits of improved nutrition, Sierra Leone should:

- Enhance multi-sectoral coordination and action, including a common results framework
- Strengthen focus on addressing high levels of child undernutrition using a combination of nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific approaches

**POLITICAL COMMITMENT FOR NUTRITION**

- **Maternal Leave**: 12 weeks paid
- **Separate Nutrition Budget**: Yes
- **International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes**: No legal measures
- **Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan**: Yes, currently under revision
- **Separate Nutrition Budget**: Yes
- **SUN Country**: Since 2012

Sierra Leone’s SUN Country Profile since 2012:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Category</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternal Leave</td>
<td>Good progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separate Nutrition Budget</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes</td>
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<td>Good progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROGRESS AGAINST STUNTING**

- Under-five wasting, 2013: 36%
- Under-five stunting, 2013: 37%
- Under-five overweight, 2013: 45%
- Women of reproductive age, anaemia, 2011: 43%
- Exclusive breastfeeding, 2013: 38%
- Low birthweight, 2013: 47%

**INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING PRACTICES**

- Early initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour: 54%
- Exclusive breastfeeding of infants under 6 months: 32%
- Breastfeeding at 1 year: 86%
- Minimum acceptable diet (6-23 months): 7%
- Minimum dietary diversity (6-23 months): 16%

**NUTRITION PROFILE**

**SIERRA LEONE**

- **Child Mortality**: 120 deaths per 1,000 live births
- **Child Nutrition Indicators**: 18% of children under-five are underweight, 38% are stunted, 9% are wasted, 11% are born with low birthweight
- **Maternal Nutrition and Health**: Women of reproductive age, anaemia: 45%

**IMPROVING NUTRITION STRENGTHENS NATIONS AS A LEADING CONTRIBUTOR TO:**

- 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

**CATEGORIZATION OF CODE LEGISLATION**

No legal measures: country has taken no action or has implemented the Code only through voluntary agreements or other non-legal measures (includes countries that have drafted legislation but not enacted it).