NUTRITION SITUATION IN NASARAWA STATE

In Nasarawa, data from NDHS (2013) indicates that 35% of children are stunted while 10% are wasted.

At CS-SUNN’s Media Workshop recently in Kaduna, the State Nutrition Officer, Hajiya Amina, identified some activities aimed at curbing malnutrition in Nasarawa as; a functional State Committee on Food and Nutrition, marking of Bi-annual MNCH Weeks and IYCF activities in some LGAs.

She noted the state’s challenges as;

➢ Low budgetary allocation and release
➢ Low capacity building effort
➢ Weak organizational structure for monitoring and evaluation
➢ Low Political will among others

She urged government to adopt these recommendations in order to combat malnutrition in the state

➢ Strengthen SCFN to carry out its statutory functions properly
➢ Review the state strategic health development plan to include nutrition as a major priority.

➢ Develop a costed state strategic framework and plan of Action on food and Nutrition.

➢ Reactivation of State Committee on Food and Nutrition (SCFN) for proper coordination of Nutrition activities in the state.

➢ Ensure a timely release of allocated budget for nutrition.

➢ Improve capacity building of health workers through on the job training

➢ Provide funds for research, or basic surveys in nutrition in the state

➢ Strengthen Monitoring and evaluation of nutrition activities for better delivery.