

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' 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.