

NUTRITION



CS-SUNN



TREND ANALYSIS OF **NUTRITION BUDGET** IN NIGERIA (2019 - 2022)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CSO	Civic Society Organisation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
FGN	Federal Government of Nigeria
FMoE	Federal Ministry of Education
FMoH	Federal Ministry of Health
FMoWR	Federal Ministry of Water Resources
FMoBP	Federal Ministry of Budget and Planning
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IEC	Information Education and Communication
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisations
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MIMS	Multiple Indicator Monitoring Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
NASS	National Assembly
NSPAN	National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
TB	Tuberculosis
UNICEF	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organisation

Executive Summary

Nigeria is home to the third largest population of malnourished children in the world, with an infant mortality rate of 70 per 1,000 live births and an under-five mortality rate of 120 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2017. The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 calls for the global community to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. To fulfil this, SDG3 has set specific targets for all countries to complete by 2030. These include reducing infant mortality to no more than 12 per 1,000 live births and under-five mortality to 25 per 1,000 live births. It also calls for the maternal mortality ratio to fall below 70 per 100,000 deaths. Nigeria's infant and under-five mortality rates are nearly six and five times higher, respectively than the 2030 goal.

The Federal government accounts for approximately 10 percent of health-related spending in Nigeria while the state and local government health expenditure was about 8 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. Relative to the size of the Federal government's spending plan for 2018, health sector allocation stands at 5.79 per cent which is relatively low when compared to the 15 per cent commitment made by the Nigerian government at the Abuja conference. A review of budgetary allocation in 2016 to 2022 shows that Nigeria also failed to honour its obligation. If the Abuja declaration was implemented, additional allocations of approximately N3.91 trillion should have been injected and spent on the health sector between 2016 and 2022.

An essential component of health, which is Nutrition, over the years has been neglected. Adequate nutrition is critical during early childhood as they are important for organs, immune system and neurological development. Despite being a Lower-Middle-Income Country, approximately 43.6 percent children under the age of five in Nigeria are stunted. Even war-torn countries like Afghanistan are doing better than Nigeria. The globally acceptable standard (Stunting rate) is in the region of 2.5 percent meaning Nigeria will have to realign its plan and see to its implementation- as recent data shows things are not working. Nigeria is unlikely to achieve these SDG targets without allocating and spending sufficient funds for programs that support their achievement.

At the sub-national level, budgetary allocation to the key nutrition related interventions is grossly inadequate. Despite the reiterated commitment to prioritise financing nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions, this has yet to be achieved. For instance, in Kano State, Budgetary allocation to the nutrition sector in 2022, when adjusted for inflation, remains below the 2014 level. Per capita public health allocation has fallen from the 2016 high of US\$0.35 per person per annum to US\$0.15 per person per annum in 2022.

Execution of the program budget aimed at addressing malnutrition and other nutrition related challenges at subnational level continues to be plagued by several impediments, including the low absorption capacity, delayed release of funds, non-release of funds, and complexities in the procurement processes. Actual spending on key nutrition interventions remains low. For instance, in Nasarawa State, Actual expenditure on key nutrition intervention has fallen from the 2018 high of N93.29 per person per annum to N19.30 per person per annum. Actual spending on key nutrition interventions stood at N56.57 million in 2022. When adjusted for inflation (using the 2022 price), spending on key nutrition interventions remains below the 2018 level of N417.45 million.

Malnutrition prevents children from reaching their full potential in life in an increasingly competitive world. It is therefore essential for the government to direct substantial resources to correct the abnormalities given that distortion to a child's mental development due to malnutrition are often irreversible after the child's second birthday.

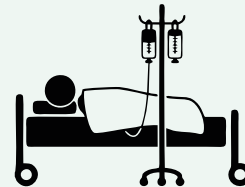
The overall objective of this paper is to generate evidence that clearly shows whether government's planning and spending align, analyse the critical interventions made by the government between the fiscal year 2019 and 2022 to ascertain if they are adequate or not. The report seeks to understand if allocated funds for nutrition are released as at when due, utilised judiciously for what they are meant for as captured in the Appropriation Acts. This research paper thus reviews Nigeria's Nutrition specific and Nutrition sensitive budget of five focus states - Lagos, Nasarawa, Kaduna, Kano and Niger state for the fiscal year 2019-2022.

The Impact of Malnutrition

Vitamin A Deficiency



An estimated
200k - 500k
children who are vitamin
A-deficient become blind
every year



It may increase children's
Risk of infection
with decrease in growth rates, bone
development and the likelihood of
survival from serious illness.

Low Exclusive Breastfeeding Rates



Increased incidence

of infectious morbidity, as well as elevated risks
of childhood obesity, type 1 and type 2 diabetes,
leukaemia, and sudden infant death syndrome.

For mothers, failure to breastfeed is associated with an increased incidence of premenopausal breast cancer, ovarian cancer, retained gestational weight gain, type 2 diabetes, myocardial infarction, and metabolic syndrome.

Unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Over
700 deaths daily

of children under the age 5 from diarrhoeal diseases
due to a lack of appropriate WASH services.

Increased vulnerability to water-borne diseases, transmission of diarrhoeal diseases such as cholera and dysentery, as well as typhoid, intestinal worm infections and polio.

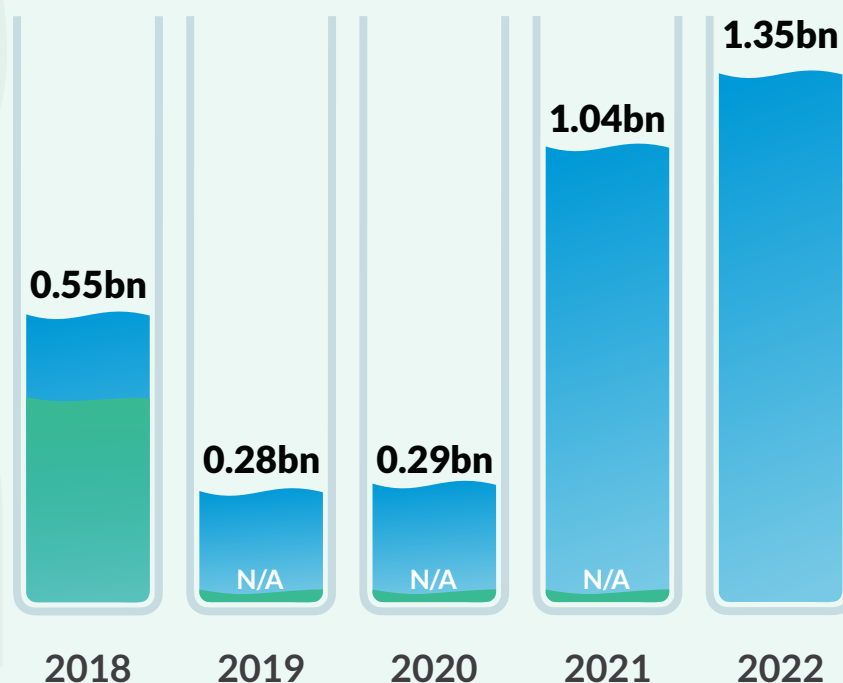
Part One : Trend Analysis of Federal Government's Nutrition Intervention (Economic Classification)

Nutrition Specific Interventions

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme:

Safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene are crucial to human health and well-being. Safe WASH is not only a prerequisite to health but contributes to livelihoods, school attendance and dignity and helps to create resilient communities living in healthy environments.

Federal Government Spending on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme (Naira) ▼



■ Budgetary Allocation ■ Actual Expenditure

Poor sanitation and hygiene practices are essential determinants in the causal pathway and cycle of infectious disease burden and undernutrition. WASH encompasses efforts to maintain adequate water supply, both in terms of quality and quantity, sufficient means of sanitation (encouraging community-based approaches for 'total sanitation' that seek to eliminate the practice of open defecation), and improved hygienic practices (hand washing with soap).

Source: Budget office of the Federation



List of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Project in the 2022 budget (Naira)

Partnership For Expanded Water, Sanitation And Hygiene (Pewash)	563.9m
Wash Intervention In Federal Universities, Polytechnics And Other Educational Institutions	377.5m
Wash Intervention For Cholera Prevention And Control	117.5m
Counterpart Funds For Fgn/Unicef Sanitation And Hygiene Component	65.2m
Partnership For Expanded Water, Sanitation And Hygiene (Sanitation And Hygiene Component)	55.2m
Counterpart Funds For Wsscc (Global Sanitation Fund) For Rural Sanitation And Hygiene Program	28.7m
Counterpart Fund For Who Glaas (Global Analysis And Assessment Of Sanitation And Drinking Water) And Wash Tracking Program	27.8m
Wash Emergency Coordination, Assessment And Response In The Idps And Ne	27.2m
Wash Tracking And Documentation (Sanitation And Hygiene Component)	25.7m
Wash Tracking And Documentation (Sanitation And Hygiene Component)	25.7m
Mainstreaming Nutrition Into Wash	22.4m
Mainstreaming Nutrition Into Wash	22.4m

Total 563.9m

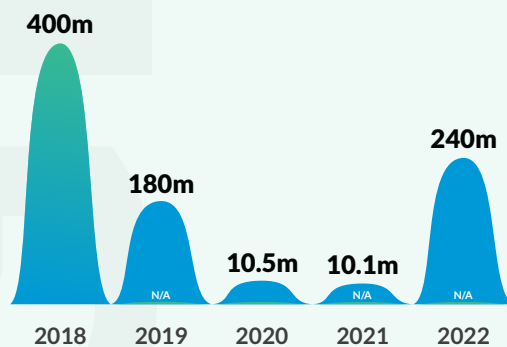
Budgetary allocation for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme increased from 2019 level of N282.16million to N1.36 billion in fiscal year 2022 - a 383.64% increase (see table 2 for list of projects in 2022).

Nutrition Specific Interventions

Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) Treatment:

Children with severe acute malnutrition who do not have health complications that require hospitalization, receive special, high-energy food and antibiotics to treat the infection. This allows them to recover.

FGN Funding for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) Treatment



▲ Budgetary Allocation

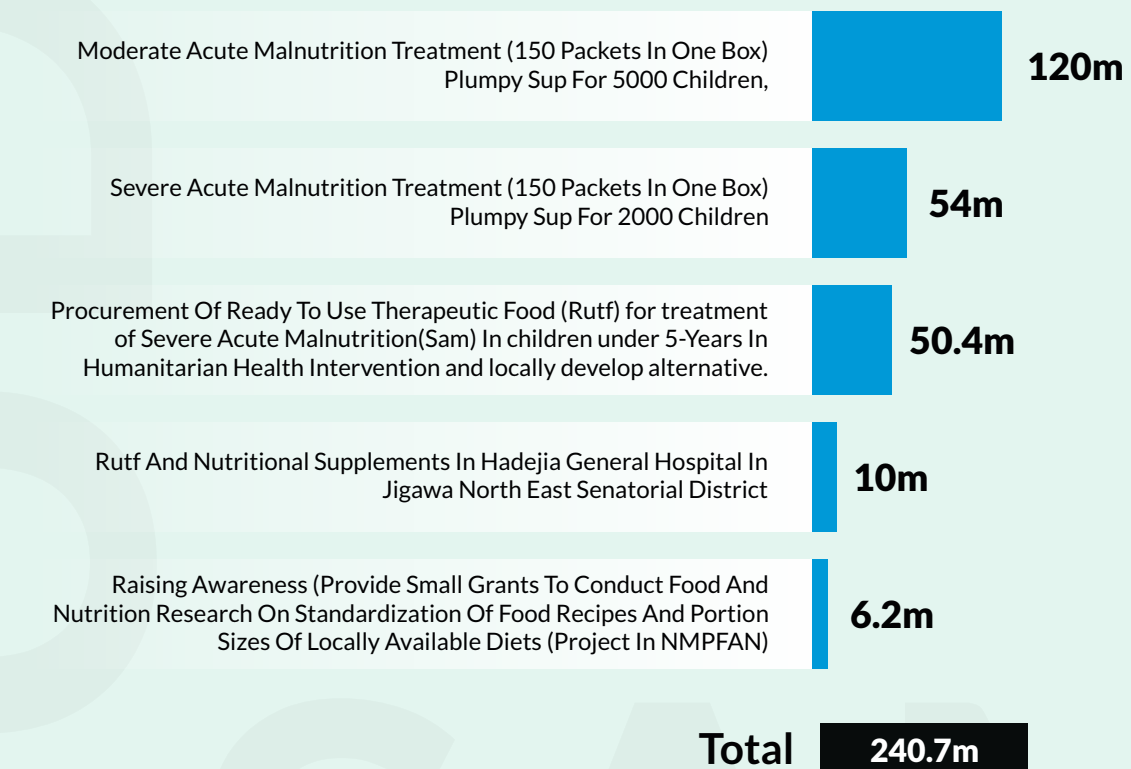
▲ Actual Expenditure

▲ Budgetary Allocation = Actual Expenditure

Source: Budget office of the Federation

► Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) remains a major cause of mortality among children under 5 years of age, and much of this mortality can be prevented. In some settings, a large proportion of children with SAM are also suffering from infections (e.g. HIV or diarrhoea), and it is important to screen children with SAM for infectious diseases.

FGN Program/project for the treatment of SAM (Naira)



Budgetary allocation for Programs aimed at addressing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) increased in fiscal year 2022. Allocation in 2022 at N240.75 million remains below the 2018 high of N400 million (see table 4 for list of projects aimed at addressing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in 2022).

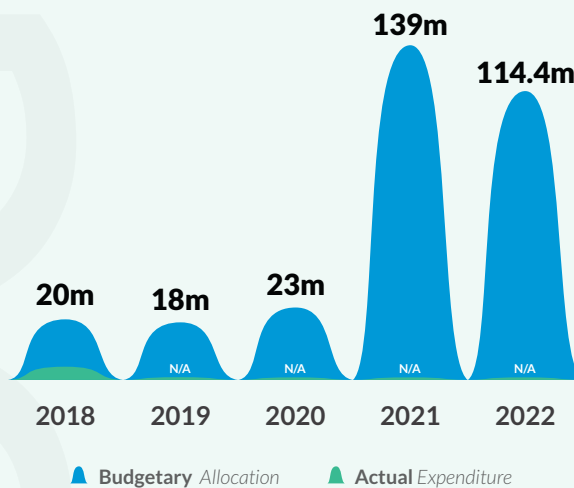
Source: Budget office of the Federation

Nutrition Specific Interventions

Infant and Young Child Feeding:

Children Adequate nutrition during infancy and early childhood are essential to ensure the growth, health, and development of children to their full potential..

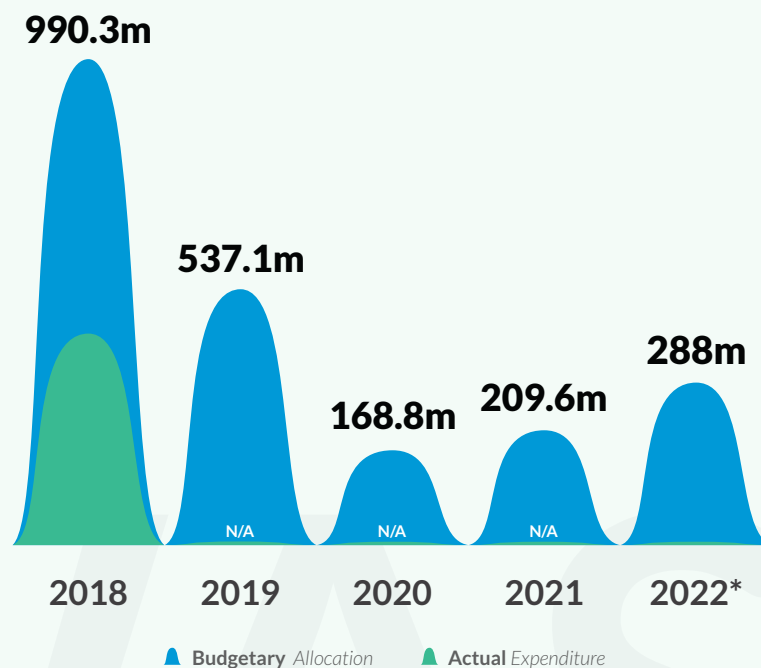
FGN Spending for Infant and Young Child Feeding



► Budgetary allocation for Programs for Infant and young child feeding programs was N114.46million in fiscal year 2022- down by **17.7%** in 2022 from 2021 high of N139.08 million. Allocation was N20 million, N18million and N23 million in fiscal year 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Source: Budget office of the Federation

FGN Spending for Promotion and Development of Nutrition Value Chain



*Promotion And Development Of Nutrition Using Food Based Approach

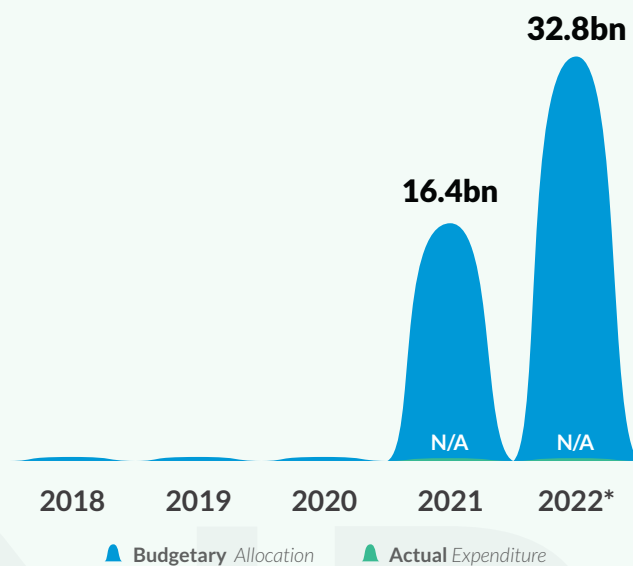
Source: Budget office of the Federation

Accelerating Nutrition Results In Nigeria (ANRiN)



The Federal Government of Nigeria entered into a financing and grant agreement with the International Development Association (IDA) and Global Financing Facility (GFF) to implement the Accelerating Nutrition Results in Nigeria (ANRiN) project to the tune of **US\$ 232 million**. The Project intends to utilise part of this financing to undertake a knowledge, attitude and practices survey among caregivers of children 0 – 23 months on maternal, infant and young child nutrition. The overall project objective is to increase utilisation of quality, cost-effective nutrition services for pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls and children under five years of age in 121 high malnutrition burden states of Nigeria, representing all six geographical zones of the country.

Federal Government Spending for the Accelerating Nutrition Results In Nigeria (ANRiN)



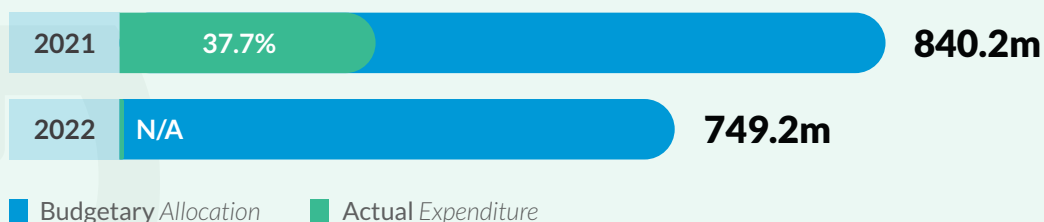
In fiscal year 2022, the federal government set aside N32.81 billion as its share of the counterpart fund for the implementation of the Accelerating Nutrition Results In Nigeria (Anrin) program. Allocation was N16.49 billion in fiscal year 2021.

Source: Budget office of the Federation

Part Two: Trend Analysis of Federal Government's Nutrition Intervention (Administrative Classification)

Budgetary Allocations and Actual Expenditure to Nutrition Intervention

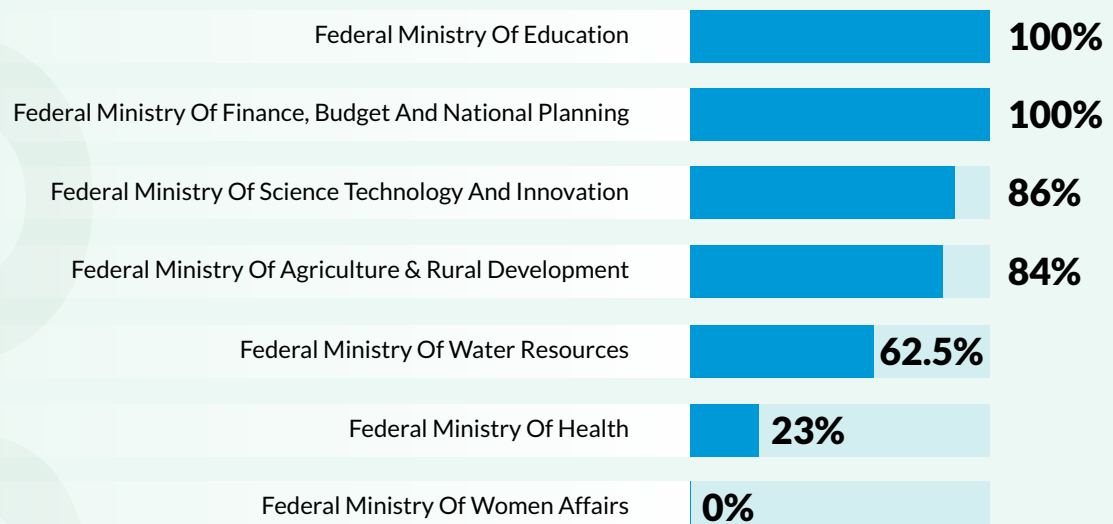
Total Federal Government spending on Nutrition Interventions ▼



Budgetary allocation of N749.24 million was approved for priority activities in fiscal year 2022 under the federal government Nutrition program (synthesised work plan). Based on the Nutrition spending reports from MDAs during the recent National Council on Nutrition meeting with the Vice President, Budgetary allocation was N840.25 million in fiscal year 2021. Budget performance was only 37.75% in fiscal year 2021. That raises a low budget credibility question. The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation.

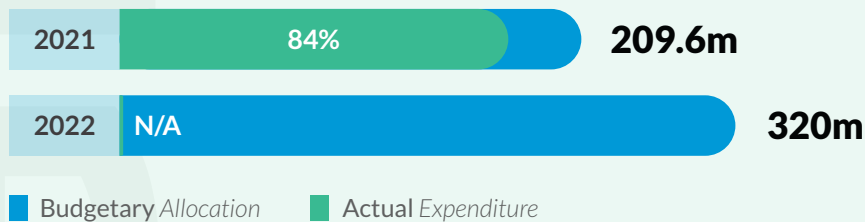
Source: Federal Government of Nigeria

Ranking of MDAs by Budget Performance (2021 budget implementation) ▼



Breakdown by Budget allocation by Administrative Classification

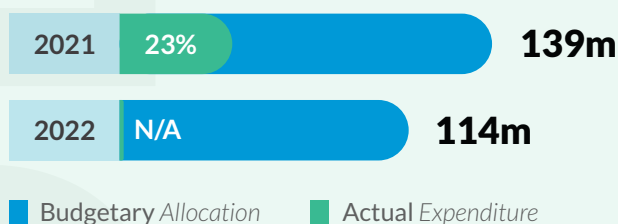
Federal Ministry Of Agriculture & Rural Development ▾



Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention in fiscal year 2022 increased by 52.61percent to N320 million, up from 2021 level of N209.68 million. Budget performance was 84 percent. The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation. Clearly the Federal Ministry Of Agriculture & Rural Development needs to prioritise investment in nutrition interventions.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Agriculture & Rural Development

Federal Ministry Of Health ▾

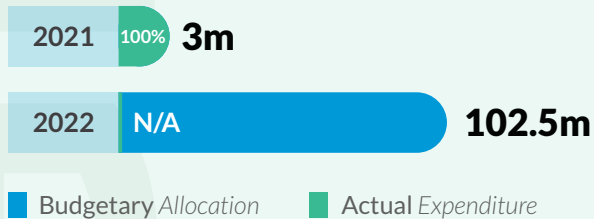


Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention in fiscal year 2022 was reduced by 17.99percent from 2021 level of N138 million to N114 million. Budget performance at 23.02percent is one of the lowest across MDAs. The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation. Clearly the Federal Ministry Of Health needs to prioritise investment in nutrition interventions.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Health

Breakdown by Budget allocation by Administrative Classification

Federal Ministry Of Education ▼



Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention at the Federal Ministry Of Education in fiscal year 2022 jumped significantly from N3 million to N102.5million. 2021 budget was implemented fully as budget performance was 100percent.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Agriculture & Rural Development

Federal Ministry Of Women Affairs ▼



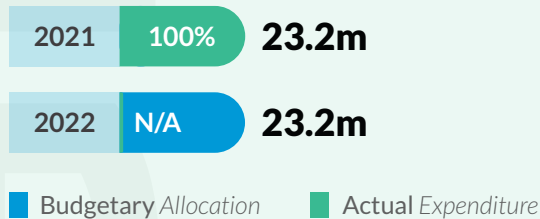
Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention at the Federal Ministry Of Women Affairs in fiscal year 2022 was down by 75.4percent from 2021 level of N359 million. Budget performance in 2021 was abysmal as nutrition related programs were not funded.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Health



Breakdown by Budget allocation by Administrative Classification

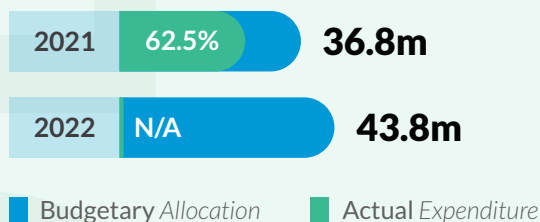
Federal Ministry Of Finance, Budget And National Planning



Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention at the Federal Ministry Of Finance, Budget And National Planning in fiscal year 2022 was N23.29 million. While allocation did not grow in 2022 despite inflationary pressure, budget performance was encouraging. The Federal Ministry Of Finance, Budget And National Planning implemented its nutrition program in fiscal year 2021.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Finance, Budget And National Planning

Federal Ministry Of Water Resources

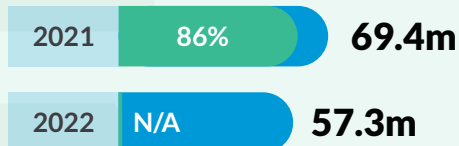


Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention at the Federal Ministry Of Water Resources in fiscal year 2022 was N43.85 million up from 2021 level of N36.85 million. Budget performance remains low in 2021 at 62.58percent. The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation. Clearly the Federal Ministry Of Water Resources needs to prioritise investment in nutrition interventions.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Water Resources

Breakdown by Budget allocation by Administrative Classification

Federal Ministry Of Science Technology And Innovation ▾



■ Budgetary Allocation
 ■ Actual Expenditure

Budgetary allocation for Nutrition intervention at the Federal Ministry Of Science Technology And Innovation in fiscal year 2022 was N57.30million down from 2021 level of N69.43 million. Budget performance was 86.01percent in 2021. Given that the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation. Clearly the Federal Ministry Of Science Technology And Innovation needs to prioritise investment in nutrition interventions.

Source: Federal Ministry Of Science Technology And Innovation



Conclusion

Summary of key Findings ▼

Malnutrition is increasingly seen as a social injustice given that stunted children have poor cognitive and brain development which prevents them from reaching their full potential in life in an increasingly competitive world. It is therefore essential for the government to direct substantial resources to correct the abnormalities given that distortion to a child's mental development due to malnutrition are often irreversible after the child's second birthday.

Budgetary allocation to the Nutrition related interventions continue to be inadequate. Even when allocation is made as was the case in fiscal year 2021, budget performance remains below acceptable trajectory. Budget performance for key nutrition intervention was only 37.75 percent in fiscal year 2021. That raises a low budget credibility question. The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) framework strongly encourages that actual expenditure of governments should not deviate significantly more than 5 percent from allocation according to the Nutrition spending reports from MDAs during the recent National Council on Nutrition meeting with the Vice President.

Nigeria is home to the third largest population of malnourished children in the world, with an under-five mortality rate of 120 deaths per 1,000 live births, and an infant mortality rate of 70 per 1,000 live births in 2017. Adequate nutrition is critical during early childhood as they are essential for organs, immune system and neurological development. Despite the reiterated commitment to prioritise financing nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions, this has yet to be achieved. It is high time that this commitment is honoured with the deserved political will if progress is to be made in addressing the key challenges in the health sector.





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(2019 - 2022)**