

Nutrition and Food Safety Newsletter

April 2025

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Dear Subscribers

Welcome to our monthly Nutrition and Food Safety Newsletter. In this issue, we present notable events and key campaigns in the field of nutrition and food safety that took place in March and early April, and upcoming dates to watch for. For further details, please click on the related hyperlinks.

News

WHO commitments at the Nutrition for Growth Summit

The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced 13 commitments across 8 key areas at the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, hosted by the Government of France in Paris on 27-28 March 2025. The Summit raised almost US\$ 28 billion in global funding for nutrition – an increase from the previous milestone of US\$ 27 billion in 2021. Learn about key WHO commitments [here](#).

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus gave [closing remarks](#) for N4G Summit, underscoring WHO's commitment to ensuring global access to essential nutrition services and safe, healthy and sustainable diets. Watch the [video recording](#).



United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025) extended to 2030

On 24 March 2025, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a [resolution](#) to extend the [United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition](#), originally from 2016–2025, to 2030. The resolution was adopted during the 62nd UNGA plenary meeting and received large support, with 158 Member States voting in favour and 139 Member States co-sponsoring.

This extension aims to maintain the political momentum to end malnutrition in all its forms by 2030 and aligns the objectives with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Read the [full text](#) of the resolution.



New estimates on child malnutrition and anaemia

WHO has prepared recent child malnutrition estimates on the prevalence of stunting, wasting and overweight in children under five (jointly with UNICEF and the World Bank), and on the prevalence of anaemia in women between 15–49 years. This information, part of the reporting on countries' progress on Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), is available from the [United Nations Statistics Division](#) (UNSD) and in the [WHO databases](#).

Publications

Use of lower-sodium salt substitutes: WHO guideline summary

WHO published a summary of the WHO guideline on the use of lower-sodium salt substitutes (LSSS) in five languages: [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#) (French version available soon), the [full version](#) of which is available only in English.



Quantifying national burdens of foodborne disease—Four imperatives for global impact

This peer-reviewed [paper](#), published by PLOS Global Public Health, was led by the Country Support Task Force of the WHO Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group (FERG). It outlines key strategies to measure and address the impact of foodborne diseases on a national scale.

Updating global estimates of pathogen-attributable diarrhoeal disease burden

This [methodology](#) and [integrated protocol](#) for a broad-scope systematic review of a syndrome with diverse [infectious aetiologies](#), published by BMJ Open, presents a comprehensive methodology and integrated protocol by the systematic review team at the University of Virginia to collect data for estimating the burden of diarrhoeal diseases caused by various pathogens.

Events

Paris Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit

NFS Department actively engaged with other partners in the 2025 Paris Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, organized by France on 27-28 March 2025, helping shape the agenda, hosting side events and advocating for ambitious financial and political commitments.

127 delegations, including the governments of 106 countries, together with international and civil society organizations, development banks, philanthropic organizations, research institutions, and businesses, joined forces in Paris to help put an end to malnutrition in all its forms.

This moment of global solidarity showcases growing support to improve health and well-being for all through nutrition. A replay of Nutrition for Growth Summit sessions can be found [here](#).



N4G: Village des Solutions

The Village des Solutions pour la Nutrition, organized in Paris on 26-28 March 2025, in parallel with the N4G Summit, aimed to bring together key sector stakeholders to showcase concrete and innovative solutions for nutrition and sustainable food systems.

WHO took part to present the work on nutrition data in a joint booth with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and other partners, sponsored by the European Commission. The booth highlighted WHO's tools and initiatives and showcased the new [data dashboard](#) on the global nutrition targets and proposed operational targets.



International Heads of Food Agencies Forum (IHFAF)

WHO participated in the 6th IHFAF in Santiago, Chile, on 9-11 April 2025, contributing to rich exchanges on innovation, technology and digital transformation in food safety. The importance of speaking with one voice on food safety science was emphasized, as well as the critical role of global networks like the FAO/WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN).



Closing of the EC-NIS project

On 11-13 March 2025, the final virtual gathering of the Strengthening national nutrition information systems (EC-NIS) project took place. The project, implemented jointly with UNICEF with the European Union funds since April 2020, focuses on strengthening national nutrition information systems in Ethiopia, Cote d'Ivoire, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Uganda and Zambia.

Hosted by the Ministry of Health of Uganda, the event reviewed the project's achievements, including the integration of nutrition data into health management systems, capacity building and the development of dashboards and nutrition information documents.

The technical documents developed by the countries within the framework of the project will become the basis for developing global guidance to orient other countries to strengthen their nutrition information systems.



Campaigns

World Health Day

This year, World Health Day (7 April) kicked off a global campaign focused on strengthening maternal and newborn health—foundations of lifelong well-being and societal development. The theme, *Healthy beginnings, hopeful futures*, highlights how early nutrition and care lay the groundwork for a lifetime of health.

NFS Department drives progress on this essential agenda working to end all forms of malnutrition, improve hygiene in food management, protect breastfeeding, and improve early childhood nutrition through a strategic, evidence-based approach as part of its Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition.

World Food Safety Day planning

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), WHO and Codex Alimentarius teams behind the World Food Safety Day 2025 campaign hosted a planning webinar on 7 April 2025 to present this year's theme, *Food safety: science in action*, as well as campaign resources for organizers. Watch the recording [here](#).



From our partners

Preparing for the World Health Assembly with a deep dive into the extension of the Global Nutrition Targets 2025-2030

This information webinar, co-hosted by the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, the Government of Ireland and UNICEF on 24 April 2025, provided an opportunity to brief government officials and nutrition stakeholders on the current progress towards the global nutrition targets while highlighting the opportunity to advocate for the acceleration of progress towards 2030. Speakers included government officials and presenters from SUN, WHO and UNICEF. Watch the recording [here](#).



Open call

Expert Group on Environmental Sustainability for optimal intake of animal-source foods

WHO is seeking experts in environmental and socioeconomic sciences, sustainability, food systems and agriculture, nutrition, and risk-benefit assessment to join the Expert Group on Environmental Sustainability for optimal intake of animal-source foods. More information on the call and submission of applications is available [here](#).

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