

July 2021

A BRIEF GUIDE TO EBANI

The Enabling Business
to Advance Nutrition Index

About GAIN

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss-based foundation launched at the UN in 2002 to tackle the human suffering caused by malnutrition. GAIN is driven by a vision of a world without malnutrition, in which all people, especially the most vulnerable, have access to and consume nutritious and safe food. Working with governments, businesses, and civil society, we aim to transform food systems so that they deliver more nutritious food for all people, especially the most vulnerable.

About SBN

Since 2010, the SUN Movement has inspired a new way of working collaboratively to end malnutrition, in all its forms. With the governments of 63 SUN Countries in the lead, it unites people – from civil society, the United Nations, donors, businesses, and researchers – in a collective effort to improve nutrition. Established in 2012, the SUN Business Network (SBN) is the private sector branch of the SUN Movement and aims to support businesses in growing the role they play in improving nutrition and to support SUN countries in developing national business engagement strategies. SBN is co-convened by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

Recommended Citation

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, Scaling up Nutrition Business Network. Enabling Business to Advance Nutrition Index (EBANI). 2021. Geneva, Switzerland: GAIN and SBN; 2021.

© The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

© The Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN)

This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>). Under the terms of this licence, you may copy, redistribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, provided the work is appropriately cited, as indicated below. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that GAIN endorses any specific organisation, products or services. The use of the GAIN logo is not permitted. If you adapt the work, then you must license your work under the same or equivalent Creative Commons license. The contribution of third parties do not necessarily represent the view or opinion of GAIN.

Acknowledgements

This work was commissioned by GAIN as part of the Making Markets Work to Improve the Consumption of Safe and Nutritious Foods programme, which is generously supported by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany), International Development Research Centre (Canada), Irish Aid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. All photographs included in this document have been taken with consent for use in publications.

EBANI

The Enabling Business to Advance Nutrition Index (EBANI) is a tool developed by GAIN and SBN that provides insights into the nutrition and food policy landscapes in 30 countries.

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Rue de Varembe 7

1202 Geneva, Switzerland

Phone: +41 22 749 18 50

info@gainhealth.org

www.gainhealth.org



CONTENTS

What is EBANI?	5
Why now?	5
Who is it for?	6
EBANI Indicators	7
EBANI Indicators explained in brief	9
Good Practice examples in Cluster A	18
Good Practice examples in Cluster B	19
Good Practice examples in Cluster C	20
Good Practice examples in Cluster D	21
Good Practice examples in Cluster E	22
Good Practice examples in Cluster F	23
Good Practice examples in Cluster G	24
References	25

WHAT IS EBANI?

EBANI is a tool to stimulate dialogue between government, business, and other actors to improve the enabling environment for nutrition.

EBANI provides a starting point for conversations among stakeholders, identifying gaps between what is stated, and what results from existing policies. It is important to emphasise that EBANI is a heuristic tool to support starting policy discussions – rather than a scientifically comparative assessment for ranking and comparing diverse national policy environments.

EBANI can help stakeholders to identify priority areas in the enabling environment around which they can collaborate to encourage governments to make and implement policies that are more conducive to food systems that deliver for the nutritional wellbeing of national populations. EBANI is not designed to produce a set of final or definitive recommendations – it is a starting point.

This first round of EBANI has been developed by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network (SBN)¹, to provide insights into the nutrition and food policy landscapes in selected countries where SBNs are present or emerging (Figure 2 shows the 30 countries covered by EBANI at present). EBANI reports for each of these countries can be accessed on the SBN and the GAIN websites.

EBANI measures the policy and legislative enablers for increasing private sector investment in safe, nutritious diets across the 30 countries. It has been envisaged as both a global and a national advocacy tool that can help to start conversations and spark ideas around key recommendations to make policy and legislative environments more enabling for businesses, SMEs in particular, to contribute to advancing positive nutrition outcomes.

EBANI occupies a space between indices and reports that focus primarily on nutrition (for instance, the Global Nutrition Report, Global Access to Nutrition Index, Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index) and those that focus primarily on the private sector (especially Doing Business Index,

Given this positioning, EBANI can be used as a starting point in the conversation with stakeholders, identifying gaps between **what is stated**, and **what results** from existing policies. Each national EBANI report includes good practice examples related to specific nutrition and business policy initiatives.

WHY NOW?

Food systems are vast and complex and can be difficult to navigate. For years, policy-makers have had to reply on limited data and often siloed decision-making. Decisions about nutrition have often been made by those in the health sector, without wider consideration of the agricultural, social, and environmental context. Policy tools such as the NOURISHING framework, INFORMAS, and GINA have all contributed to better understanding of the policy levers available to decision-makers and can serve as inspiration with specific country case studies. The recently published Food Systems Dashboard aims to go one further by bringing together extant data from public and private sources to help decision makers understand their food systems, identify their levers of change and decide which ones need to be pulled. However, there remains a gap to incorporate how businesses can be incentivised to prioritise nutrition at the policy-level and our hope is that EBANI helps narrow the gap supporting decision-makers to make better decisions for nutrition.

Now more than ever, with 1 in 3 people worldwide malnourished, and food systems having an impact on finite natural resources; new policy tools which support different actors incentivise business to prioritise good nutrition are needed to help transform food systems.

In creating EBANI, efforts have been made to balance different objectives, including: a) providing a relatively simple, 'big picture' overview of the policy landscape in a given country to identify broad entry-points for

¹ ThirdWay Africa provided consultancy services in the development of this round of EBANI.

advocacy and action; and b) being able to represent national and subnational situations with enough detail to accurately reflect the landscapes in question.

EBANI is a non-exhaustive collection of the type of actions a country could take to improve the enabling environment for nutrition – and can point to areas that are worth the consideration of policymakers, with precedents in regional and global contexts. Some of the indicators will capture very familiar actions in many places – for instance indicator 7 (Food safety certificates required for sale in the formal sector), while others will be areas that not enough policymakers have tackled, such as indicator 8 (Food safety certificates required for sale of food in the informal sector).

Policy landscapes are often complex – characterised by measures that are qualitative rather than highly quantitative. There are also different ways policies with the same aim might be designed, implemented, and enforced. Just because a policy exists, that doesn't mean it is necessarily implemented or effective. Moreover, policies may have (often unseen, good or bad) implications or effects beyond those for which they were designed. It is not the intention of EBANI to assess policy implementation, quality, coverage, gaps, and so forth in a systematic way across diverse national systems. The depth of analysis required would be an exercise beyond the scope of this heuristic tool. For EBANI users it is worth emphasising that it remains a starting point for conversations around different policy action areas.

WHO IS IT FOR?

EBANI provides a glimpse of the policy landscape for better nutrition through business, at national level, as well as showing regional and global comparisons. As such, EBANI has been designed as a resource for a range of stakeholders, including SUN Business Network members, government officials, NGOs and other civil society.

Government officials and decision makers can use it to assess some of the gaps in their national strategies and take inspiration from the examples of good practice globally. EBANI can also be a starting point for civil society and other stakeholders to come together and assess the state of play and use the index in a policy prioritisation process to call for change in the food system, aligning EBANI scores for countries with government priorities and resource allocation.

EBANI INDICATORS

EBANI is comprised of 22 indicators which are assigned scores of zero or 1.

The indicators fall into 7 clusters as displayed below.

Cluster	Indicators included
A Promoting National Planning and Procurement	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Specified role for private sector in National Nutrition Plan (or equivalent if no NNP)2. National non-communicable disease (NCD) policy with a focus on nutrition that has a specified role for private sector3. Public food procurement policies (social protection, hospitals) go beyond staple foods
B Promoting Fortification and Reformulation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Mandatory food fortification policies for more than one staple food5. Reformulation policies to encourage a reduction of salt or sugar in processed foods, and6. Reformulation policy to encourage removal of trans fats in processed foods.
C Promoting Food Safety and Food Labelling	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Food safety certificates are required for sale of food in the formal sector8. Food safety certificates are required for sale of food in the informal sector9. Policies to regulate mycotoxins in food exist10. Regulations that all pre-packaged food products must list nutritional value of ingredients exist
D Promoting Special Provisions for Children	<ol style="list-style-type: none">11. National laws substantially aligned with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (BMS)12. School meals provision is explicitly guided by food-based dietary guidelines13. Some regulation of marketing of junk food to children exists
E Promoting Technical and Financial Support: including provisions for women and agricultural businesses	<ol style="list-style-type: none">14. Support to SMEs to comply with any food regulations15. Dedicated access to finance for SMEs (Ease of Doing Business 'Getting Credit' score above 50)16. Policies to support women in food businesses17. Enabling climate for agricultural businesses (Enabling the Business of Agriculture index score above 50)

F Promoting Subsidies, Taxes, and Duties for Improved Nutrition

18. Subsidies or lower or no taxes on production or sale of nutritious foods

19. Taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages

20. Lower or no import duties on nutritious foods

G Promoting Zoning and Planning Policies to Reduce Food Loss and Improve Nutrition

21. Zoning or planning laws regulating location of fast-food outlets exist

22. Policies to reduce food loss exist

EBANI INDICATORS EXPLAINED IN BRIEF

Cluster A - Promoting National Planning and Procurement

INDICATOR 1

1 YES 0 NO

Specified role for private sector in National Nutrition Plan (or equivalent if no NNP)

This indicator captures whether or not key national nutrition plans include a specific role for private sector stakeholders.

Documents covered include those placing plans into effect, those stating national food-based dietary guidelines, and those that include specific support mechanisms for the promotion of horticulture.

Included to indicate whether governments are actively thinking about how the private sector contributes to and supports the advancement of nutrition.

INDICATOR 2

1 YES 0 NO

National diet-related non-communicable disease (NCD) policy with a focus on nutrition that has a specified role for private sector

This indicator assesses whether or not there is a specified role for the private sector in combatting NCDs.

The focus is on type two diabetes and overweight and obesity as key.

Included to indicate whether or not governments are actively thinking about how private sector activities relate to NCDs.

INDICATOR 3

1 YES 0 NO

Public food procurement policies (social protection, hospitals) go beyond staple foods

This indicator captures whether public institutions are guided to procure food in line with appropriate dietary guidelines.

Benefits for setting standards and generating demand can be achieved through the existence of improved public sector food procurement. Private sector investment into nutritious foods may also be spurred by the anticipated demand from public sector entities.

Included to show whether governments are being proactive in sending signals to the private sector about promoting or adapting food baskets to ensure dietary diversity.

Cluster B - Promoting Fortification and Reformulation

INDICATOR 4

YES NO

Mandatory food fortification policies for ≥ 1 staple foods

Highlights the current state of fortification obligations, on at least 1 staple food, given the effectiveness that fortified staples can have on the nutritional quality of a diet and consequently population health.

Included to show whether governments are being proactive about sending signals to the private sector about the importance of fortified foods.

INDICATOR 5

YES NONE

Reformulation policies to encourage reduction of salt or sugar in processed foods exist

This indicator sheds light on policy-driven mechanisms to contain the prevalence of fat, salt and sugar in diets, in line with World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations. These policies influence businesses to reformulate existing products or to develop new food offerings that are healthier.

Included to show whether governments are being proactive about sending signals to the private sector about the importance of foods that contain lower levels of ingredients deemed unhealthy in large quantities, like salt and sugar.

INDICATOR 6

YES NONE

Reformulation policy on removal of trans fats in processed foods

This indicator focuses on current control over the quantity of trans-fats in foods, particularly artificial variants (industrial trans fats or partially hydrogenated fats) known to be harmful to human health, for instance associated with heart disease.

Included to show whether governments are being proactive about sending signals to the private sector about the importance of nutritious foods that contain fewer trans fats.

Cluster C – Promoting Food Safety and Food Labelling

INDICATOR 7

YES NONE

Food Safety certificates required for sale of food – formal sector

Critical to ensuring that the standards set by policies in other indicators are not only established, but also monitored over time, through the use and management of Food Safety Certificates, throughout the *formal sector*

Included to indicate whether the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the safety of foods.

INDICATOR 8

YES NONE

Food Safety certificates required for sale of food – informal sector

Critical to ensuring that the standards set by policies in other indicators are not only established, but also monitored over time, through the use and management of Food Safety Certificates, throughout the *informal sector*

Included to indicate whether the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the safety of foods.

INDICATOR 9

YES NONE

Policy on regulating mycotoxin levels

This indicator focuses on whether or not standards set for food producers and processors ensure that mycotoxins (toxic secondary metabolites produced by fungi) do not contaminate their products.

Included to indicate whether the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the safety of foods.

INDICATOR 10

YES NONE

Regulations that all pre-packaged food products must list nutritional value of ingredients

This indicator captures the existence and extent of labelling standards, with a focus on listing nutritional values to validate the dietary guidelines included in the national nutrition strategy

Included to show government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the importance of nutritious foods.

Cluster D – Promoting Special Provisions for Children

INDICATOR 11

PARTLY/FULLY NO

BMS Code partially enshrined in law

This indicator focuses on whether the regulation of breast milk substitutes and follow-on milks is enshrined in law. This is important given the critical impact on nutrition that such products can have for breastfeeding age infants.

Included to indicate whether the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the promoting exclusive breastfeeding for first 6 months and other provisions in CODEX ².

INDICATOR 12

YES NO

School meals provision explicitly guided by food-based dietary guidelines

This indicator captures whether food-based dietary guidelines are used to guide procurement of food for school meals. It highlights the importance of school children's nutrition, since the long-term benefits and potential downfalls of a poor diet at school are likely to have a profound effect on future diets and nutrition outcomes. School meal procurement regulations may also send signals to the private sector or spur demand for (local) healthy options.

Included to show if the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the importance of nutritious foods, particularly for school children.

INDICATOR 13

SOME NONE

Regulation of marketing of junk food to children

This indicator covers a broad range of potential policies restricting marketing to children (up to age 18), with a focus on 'junk food' and/or other unhealthy foods.

Included to show if the government is being proactive about sending the private sector signals about the importance of protecting children from unhealthy food environments.

² For more information see: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/en/>

Cluster E – Promoting Technical and Financial Support

INDICATOR 14

1 YES 0 NONE

Support to SMEs to comply with any food regulations

This indicator captures the existence of support mechanisms for private sector companies (SME focus, given their greater need for support versus larger players) to address and comply with all marketing and/or labelling standards. Furthermore, any ties to strengthening the support for private sector – education partnerships (that address nutrition in school feeding), are also highlighted here.

Included to show if the government is serious about SMEs as a source of nutritious food – given most food regulations relate to food safety or nutrition.

INDICATOR 15

1 ≥ 50 0 < 50

Dedicated Access to Finance for SMEs

This indicator addresses one of the primary risks for private sector players – access to finance. It is particularly important for unlocking private sector investment as without access to finance, many projects that may otherwise be feasible would not be initiated or scaled. This indicator is based on the World Bank's 'Doing Business' index, specifically the 'Getting Credit' score.

Included to show whether the government is proactive in supporting SMEs as a major source of nutritious food.

INDICATOR 16

1 YES 0 NONE

Policies to support women in food businesses

This indicator is focused on highlighting the support mechanisms in place for business run by women. Whilst such initiatives can overlap with other policies, in recent years such policies have emerged as stand-alone endeavours that can provide substantial support and/or technical assistance that would encourage investment in the food sector.

Included to determine whether government is being proactive about supporting female food entrepreneurs, who face more barriers than their male counterparts in similar businesses.

INDICATOR 17

1 ≥ 50 0 < 50

Enabling climate for agricultural businesses

This indicator captures the landscape and support structure for the advancement of agricultural production. The Enabling the Business of Agriculture index score is used here, with a score of 1 attributed to countries appearing at 50 or over on the index.

Included to show whether government is supportive of agriculture in general, which is necessary but not sufficient for promoting access to nutritious foods.

Cluster F –Promoting Subsidies, Taxes, and Duties for Improved Nutrition

INDICATOR 18

1 SOME 0 NONE

Subsidies / lower or no taxes on production / sale of nutritious foods

This indicator highlights existing financial or fiscal support for consumers, producers, or processors of nutritious foods in country. Such subsidies may be justified on various public goods grounds. They may also catalyse private investment into nutritious foods.

Included to show whether governments are willing to adjust fiscal policy to incentivise nutritious foods.

INDICATOR 19

1 SOME 0 NONE

Taxes on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages (SSBs)

This indicator looks at whether fiscal disincentives are used on sugar-sweetened beverages as an example of a type of food or drink that is considered particularly detrimental to health when consumed in excess.

Included to show whether governments are willing to adjust fiscal policy to incentivise nutritious foods.

INDICATOR 20

1 SOME 0 NONE

Lower or no import duties on nutritious foods

This indicator looks at whether fiscal disincentives are used on imports of nutritious foods. While imported foods may pose increased competition for local producers, they can also be very important for nutrition of local consumers.

Included to show whether governments are willing to adjust trade policy to incentivise nutritious foods.

Cluster G – Promoting Zoning and Planning Policies to Reduce Food Loss and Improve Nutrition

INDICATOR 21

YES NONE

Zoning or planning laws regulating location of fast-food outlets

This indicator captures any zoning related policies specifying areas where either healthy or non-healthy food can or should be produced or sold (primarily the latter). Examples can include urban zoning to prevent food 'deserts' and 'swamps'; as well as minimum distance for certain retail outlets to schools and/or hospitals.

Included to determine whether governments are willing to adjust zoning policy to disincentivise unhealthy foods.

INDICATOR 22

YES NONE

Policies to reduce food loss

This indicator covers any existing policies that aim to reduce food loss in the country's food supply chains. These policies improve affordability and availability of nutritious foods.

Included to show whether the government is being proactive about ways to promote reduction in loss of, in particular, perishable foods, which are often among the richest in micronutrients, e.g., fragile fruits and vegetables, or fresh meat which has a short shelf life.



GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER A

National Planning and Procurement



1. EXPLICIT ROLE FOR PRIVATE SECTOR IN NATIONAL PLANS

Norway: The Food, People and the Environment policy for 2019-2023 aims to increase food security through the development of sustainable food systems, including with involvement of the private sector. (Nutrition Connect)ⁱ

2. EXPLICIT ROLE FOR PRIVATE SECTOR IN TACKLING DIET-RELATED NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

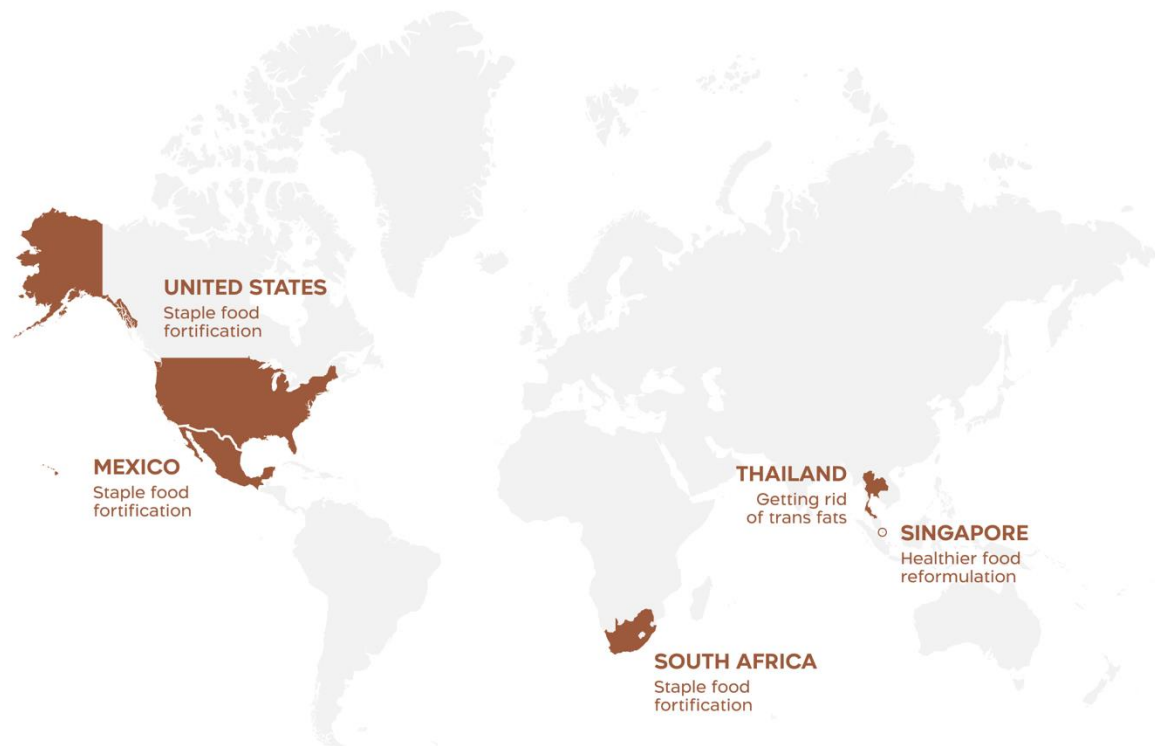
Mexico: The National Strategy for Prevention and Control of Overweight, Obesity and Diabetes outlines quality seal and advertising standards for children under 12, placing explicit responsibility on private sector stakeholders (Pan American Health Organisation)ⁱⁱ

3. PUBLIC PROCUREMENT THAT GOES BEYOND STAPLE FOODSⁱⁱⁱ

In Brazil, the Government mandates that 15–30% of nutritional intake in schools come from local procurement of fresh vegetables, fruit, and meat, improving the diets of school children and boosting the local farming economy.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER B

Fortification and Reformulation



1. STAPLE FOOD FORTIFICATION

- a. In Mexico, 100% of industrially milled Maize is fortified.
- b. As of 2019, the United States of America, is the only country in the world where over 75% of industrially milled rice is fortified.
- c. In South Africa, over 75% of industrially milled wheat flour is fortified (Food Fortification Initiative)^{iv}.

2. HEALTHIER FOOD REFORMULATION

In Singapore, the Healthier Ingredient Development Scheme encourages manufacturers to innovate and develop a wider variety of healthier ingredients suited to local taste and to promote the uptake of healthier ingredients, focusing on oil and grain staples. Up to 80% of qualifying projects will be funded by the scheme, while the scheme participant co-pays the remaining 20% (NOURISHING)^v

3. GETTING RID OF TRANS FATS

Thailand became the first ASEAN nation to ban trans fats in 2019, receiving praise from the World Health Organization (Food Navigator - Asia)^{vi}

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER C

Food Safety and Food Labelling



1. FOOD SAFETY IN THE FORMAL SECTOR

Finland Ranked 1st in Quality and Safety in the Global Food Security Index. Coordination between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, which controls policy and the Finnish Food Safety Authority – EVIRA – which controls import regulations, is seen as key for the successful quality and safety outcomes (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, EVIRA)^{vii}.

2. FOOD SAFETY IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR

In India, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) piloted the Clean Street Food Hub Initiative (CSFHI), seeking to promote food safety and hygiene at popular street food locations across India (GAIN)^{viii}

3. DEALING WITH MYCOTOXINS

While a general global trend is for nations to adopt standards from international bodies such as International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and CODEX Alimentarius, in many less developed economies, such standards are not upheld. It may be prudent to develop local standards considering local context including aflatoxin levels, consumption patterns, occurrence in various foods and feeds and economic factors (International Livestock Research Institute)^{ix}.

4. LABELLING FOR BETTER NUTRITION

Chile was the first country worldwide to implement a Front of Package (FoP) warning label. This simple black-&-white stop sign warning label was the best option to flag pre-packaged foods with an excess of energy or nutrients of concern for non-communicable diseases; implemented in Chile in June 2016 as part of the Chilean Food Labelling and Marketing Law - several countries have followed this model^x.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER D

Special Provisions for Children



1. LAWS ALIGNED TO PREVENT MARKETING OF BREAST-MILK SUBSTITUTES

72 countries have adapted most or all of the International BMS Code into law^{xi}. Some countries with strong alignment also show good or progressing rates of exclusive breastfeeding as captured in Demographic and Health Surveys (e.g. Zimbabwe – substantially aligned with the code since 1998. Mean duration of exclusive breastfeeding was poor in surveys from the 1980s to 2005, but large improvements were recorded from 2005 to 2015. Also see Bangladesh - substantially aligned with the Code since 2013. Deterioration in mean duration of exclusive breastfeeding recorded from 1994 to 2004, after which substantial improvements were recorded up to latest available survey in 2017.

2. FOOD BASED DIETARY GUIDELINES GUIDING SCHOOL MEALS

In Brazil Resolution No 38 (16 July 2009) promulgated by the Brazilian Ministry of Education sets food- and nutrition-based standards for the food available in the national school meal programme. It prohibits drinks of low nutritional value (e.g. soda), canned meats, confectionary, and processed food with a sodium and/or saturated fat content higher than a specified threshold (NOURISHING)^{xii}

3. REGULATING MARKETING OF JUNK FOOD TO CHILDREN

In Canada's province of Quebec, all commercial advertising directed to children (under 13 years) is banned, through any medium (INFORMAS).^{xiii}

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER E

Technical and Financial Support



1. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

In the United Kingdom, Public Health England in conjunction with the Local Government Association produced Strategies for Encouraging Healthier 'Out of Home' Food Provision; A toolkit for local councils working with small food businesses was developed to encourage more local intervention that will further increase the opportunities for communities to access healthier out of home food. It outlines opportunities to both manage new business applications and work with existing food outlets to provide healthier food^{xiv}.

2. ACCESS TO FINANCE

Especially for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Azerbaijan Ranked 1st in the 2020 Doing Business 'Getting Credit' category (World Bank). Singapore also provides an interesting example – with the government partnership ('Healthier Hawker' program) allowing selected food vendors to improve healthiness of take-away food (Health HUB)^{xv}

3. POLICIES TO SUPPORT WOMEN IN FOOD BUSINESSES

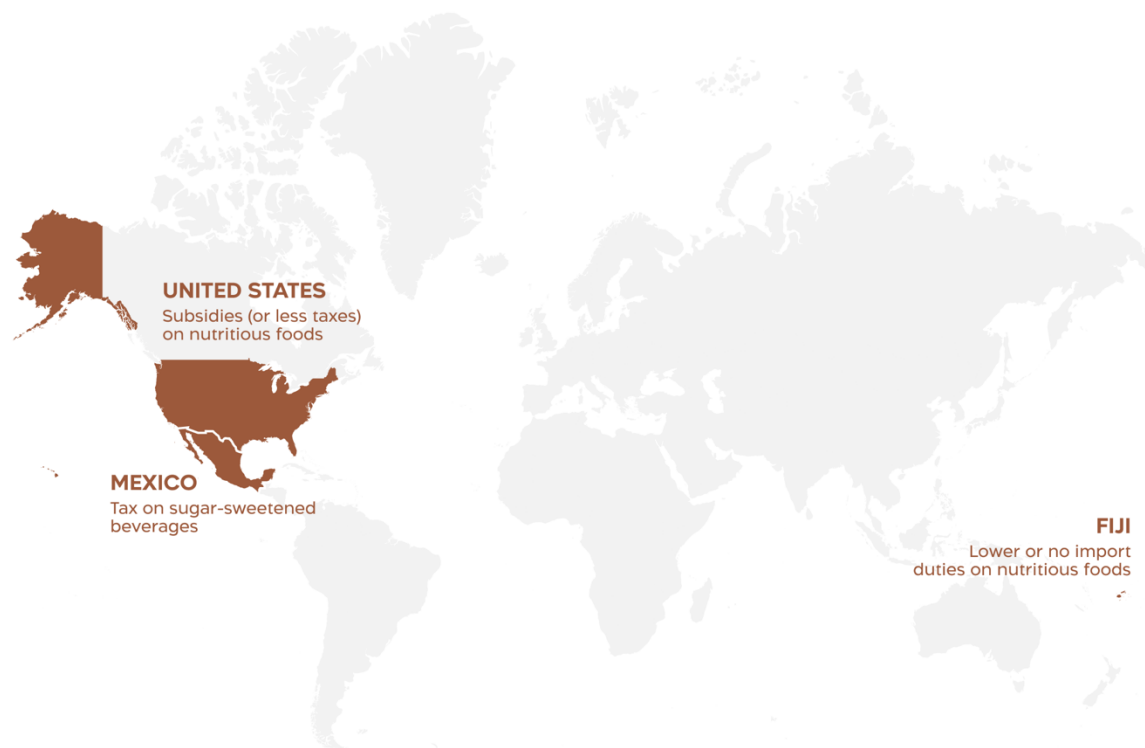
In India, the Trade-Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD) scheme for women is a subsidy provided by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises. The government provides a subsidy of up to 30% of the total project cost as appraised by lending institutions which would finance the remaining 70% as loan Assistance to applicant women (IFC)^{xvi}

4. ENABLING THE BUSINESS OF AGRICULTURE

France ranked 1st in the latest Enabling business of agriculture index (World Bank)^{xvii}

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER F

Subsidies, Taxes, and Duties



1. **SUBSIDIES (OR LESS TAXES) ON NUTRITIOUS FOODS**

In the United States, subsidies for fruits and vegetables are provided in national food assistance programmes, USDA Healthy Incentives Pilot, 2016 (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)^{xviii}.

2. **TAX ON SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES**

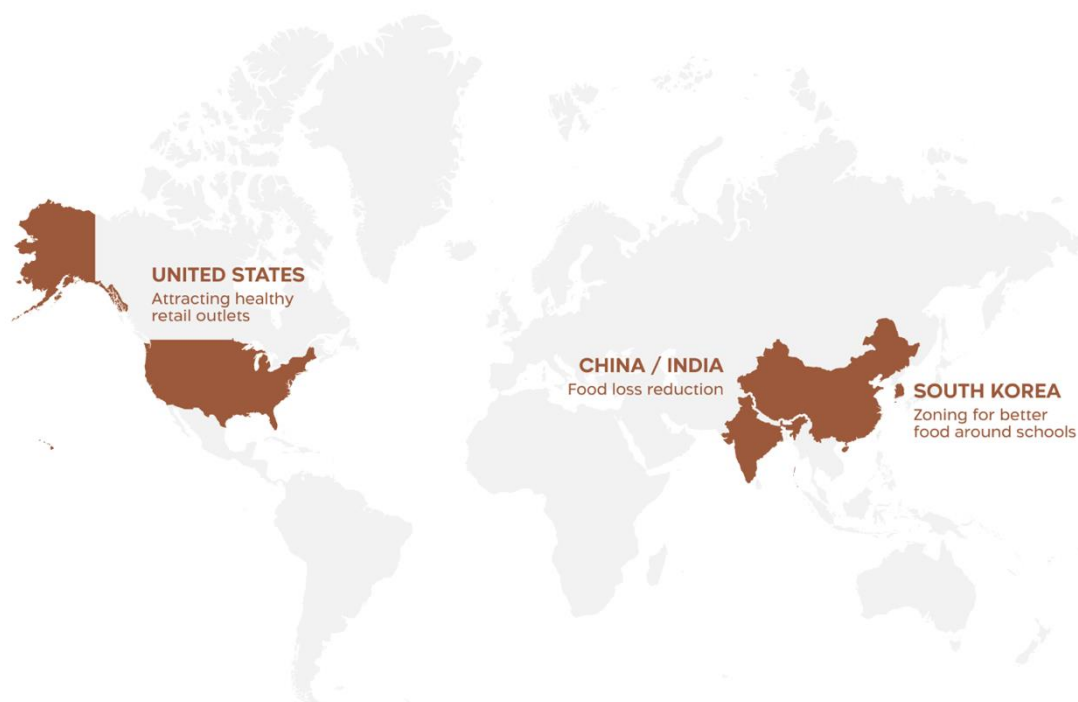
Mexico has implemented a 10 percent tax on sugar-sweetened drinks (National Institute of Public Health of Mexico). It also taxes high-calorie foods in an effort to respond to increasing rates of obesity and diabetes^{xix}.

3. **LOWER OR NO IMPORT DUTIES ON NUTRITIOUS FOODS**

In Fiji, reductions in import duties on fruits and vegetables appear to have contributed to increases in volumes of these foodstuffs imported into the country.^{xx} In another example, an agreement struck between the European Union (EU) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) has seen a lift of duties on goods traded between the member countries: 'countries that are part of the Southern African Customs Union (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Eswatini) remove customs duties on around 86% of imports from the EU. Mozambique removes customs duties on 74% of imports from the EU'. This includes a number of nutritious products (European Commission)^{xxi}.

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES IN CLUSTER G

Zoning, Planning, and Food Loss reduction



1. ZONING FOR BETTER FOOD AROUND SCHOOLS

In South Korea, 'Green Food Zones' are established around schools (at a 200 metre radius) in which sales of 'unhealthy' foods are prohibited (INFORMAS)^{xxii}

2. ATTRACTING HEALTHY RETAIL OUTLETS

In the United States, grants are provided to states to allow them to provide financial or other types of assistance to businesses in order to attract healthier retail outlets to underserved areas^{xxiii}.

3. FOOD LOSS REDUCTION

Food loss and waste reduction is often treated as an intermediate goal of policy interventions – e.g. targeting food security, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, etc^{xxiv}.

4. One example of a recent policy contributing to food loss reduction comes from China, where less red-tape for agricultural products transported across the country through the 'green channel' during COVID-19 allowed transport of perishable goods to avoid lengthy delays^{xxv}.

5. In India, Agri-Logistics Hubs have been developed in some states, e.g. Karnataka. A strategically located multi-modal logistics platform allows efficient hinterland operations by incorporating truck-stop facilities, container cranes and gantries, terminal stacking, and other value-added services. It enables supply chain logistics to function more efficiently by removing the cargo bottlenecks in the transit-related activities, and reduces overall food loss^{xxvi}. A new national plan targets 22,000 pack houses and other agri-processing and logistics hubs throughout India^{xxvii}.

REFERENCES

-
- ⁱ Food, People and the Environment: Norway's new action plan for sustainable food systems. Nutrition Connect. <https://nutritionconnect.org/news-events/food-people-and-environment-norways-new-action-plan-sustainable-food-systems>
- ⁱⁱ National Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Overweight, Obesity and Diabetes. PAHO. Mexico. <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/national-strategy-prevention-and-control-overweight-obesity-and-diabetes-mexico>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Healthy-food procurement: using the public plate to reduce food insecurity and diet-related diseases. Freudenberg, Nicholas. The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, Volume 4, Issue 5, 383 – 384. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landia/article/PIIS2213-8587\(16\)00078-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landia/article/PIIS2213-8587(16)00078-4/fulltext)
- ^{iv} Food Fortification Initiative (2021). Mandatory Cereal Grain Fortification Legislation. Online Report, available from: <https://www.ffinetwork.org/globalprogress>
- ^v NOURISHING Framework. Singapore – “H - Harness supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health”. The Healthier Ingredient Development Scheme (2017). https://policydatabase.wcrf.org/level_one?page=nourishing-level-one#step2=6
- ^{vi} Pearly Neo (2019). Thailand's artificial trans fats ban implementation well-received by PepsiCo and food industry. Online Article, available from: <https://www.foodnavigator-asia.com/Article/2019/01/22/Thailand-s-artificial-trans-fats-ban-implementation-well-received-by-PepsiCo-and-food-industry>
- ^{vii} Global Food Security Index. The Economist Intelligence Unit (2020). Global Food Security Index, available from: <https://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com>
- ^{viii} Leda E Nemer, Ishank Gorla, Kathrin M. Demmler, Sharelle Polack (2020). GAIN Working Paper Series 3 - India's clean street food hubs. Programme and project documents, available from: <https://doi.org/10.36072/wp.3>
- ^{ix} Lindahl, J. and Grace, D. 2018. Mycotoxins in livestock systems in developing countries. Presented at the World Mycotoxin Forum, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 14–16 October 2018. Presentation available from: <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/97823>
- ^x Reyes, M., Garmendia, M.L., Olivares, S. et al. Development of the Chilean front-of-package food warning label. BMC Public Health 19, 906 (2019). <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-019-7118-1>
- ^{xi} WHO Teams, including Child Health and Development, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, and Ageing, Newborn Health, Nutrition and Food Safety (2020). Marketing of breast milk substitutes: national implementation of the international code. Online Report, available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240006010>
- ^{xii} World Cancer Research Fund (2020). Nourishing Policy Database. Online Access available from: https://policydatabase.wcrf.org/level_one?page=nourishing-level-one
Specific example: Brazil – “O - Offer healthy food and set standards in public institutions and other specific settings”. Nutrition-based standards for the National School Meal Programme. Resolution No 38 (16 July 2009) promulgated by the Brazilian Ministry of Education (Law 11.947/2009 – Regulamento del Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar).
- ^{xiii} Raine, K., Lobstein, T., Landon, J. et al. Restricting marketing to children: Consensus on policy interventions to address obesity. J Public Health Pol 34, 239–253 (2013). <https://doi.org/10.1057/jphp.2013.9>
- ^{xiv} Public Health England and Local Government Association. Strategies for Encouraging Healthier ‘Out of Home’ Food Provision. A toolkit for local councils working with small food Businesses https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/832910/Encouraging_healthier_out_of_home_food_provision_toolkit_for_local_councils.pdf

-
- ^{xv} Health Hub (2020). Healthy Singapore Hawker Food. Online Article, available from: <https://www.healthhub.sg/live-healthy/24/healthyhawkerfood>
- ^{xvi} World Bank Group & Intelicap (2018). Financing India's MSMEs. Report, available from: <https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/dcf9d09d-68ad-4e54-b9b7-614c143735fb/Financing+India's+MSMEs+-+Estimation+of+Debt+Requirement+of+MSMEs+in+India.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=my3Cmzl>
- ^{xvii} Doing Business (2020) and Enabling Business of Agriculture (2020). Reports available from: <https://www.doingbusiness.org> & <https://eba.worldbank.org/en/eba>
- ^{xviii} US Department of Agriculture (2021). Food and Nutrition Service. Program available from: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program>
- ^{xix} Batis, Rivera, Popkin, and Smith Taillie (2016). First-Year Evaluation of Mexico's Tax on Nonessential Energy-Dense Foods: An Observational Study. US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health. Report available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4933356/>
- ^{xx} Bell, C., Latu, C., Coriakula, J., Waqa, G., Snowdon, W., & Moodie, M. (2020). Fruit and vegetable import duty reduction in Fiji to prevent obesity and non-communicable diseases: A case study. *Public Health Nutrition*, 23(1), 181-188. doi:10.1017/S1368980019002660
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/public-health-nutrition/article/fruit-and-vegetable-import-duty-reduction-in-fiji-to-prevent-obesity-and-noncommunicable-diseases-a-case-study/AB88CC810EE99ACEDED048749C578C43>
- ^{xxi} European Commission. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/access-to-markets/en/content/epa-sadc-southern-african-development-community>
- ^{xxii} Bae, S. G., Kim, J. Y., Kim, K. Y., Park, S. W., Bae, J., & Lee, W. K. (2012). Changes in dietary behavior among adolescents and their association with government nutrition policies in Korea, 2005-2009. *Journal of preventive medicine and public health = Yebang Uihakhoe chi*, 45(1), 47-59.
<https://doi.org/10.3961/jpmph.2012.45.1.47>
- ^{xxiii} CDC. State Initiatives Supporting Healthier Food Retail: An overview of the national landscape. https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/downloads/Healthier_Food_Retail.pdf
- ^{xxiv} FAO, 2020. Mitigating risks to food systems during COVID-19: Reducing food loss and waste. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca9056en/ca9056en.pdf>
- ^{xxv} Fei, S, and J. Ni, 2020. Local food systems and COVID-19: A look into China's responses. FAO. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/food-for-cities-programme/news/detail/en/c/1270350/>
- ^{xxvi} Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (2009). Development of Agri-Logistics Hub In Various Regions of Karnataka. Pre-feasibility Report, available from: https://idd.karnataka.gov.in/storage/pdf-files/11.Prefea_ALHB.pdf
- ^{xxvii} University of Birmingham, 2020. British experts join Indian farmers to reduce food loss. University of Birmingham. Online at: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2020/02/reducing-food-loss-sustainably.aspx>