

Right2Grow

Annual Report 2023



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Report submitted by: The Hunger Project Nederland

Executive Summary

Welcome to the Right2Grow Annual Report 2023, describing the collaborative efforts of Action Against Hunger, the Centre for Economic Governance and Accountability in Africa (CEGAA), the Max Foundation, Save the Children, The Hunger Project, and World Vision, in collaboration with 46 national and local civil society organizations, and 1,065 smaller community-based and grassroots organizations in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, South Sudan, and Uganda. We are on a journey towards achieving zero undernutrition and ensuring universal access to basic WASH services. Throughout the year, our efforts have resulted in significant accomplishments across Right2Grow's four key outcomes: community mobilization, civil society strengthening, engagement of public authorities for a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition and mobilization of development actors.

In 2023, Right2Grow made substantial progress in **mobilizing communities**, empowering individuals to take charge of their own development, and fostering a sense of ownership and agency among local populations. We supported a total of 430 actions in which communities formulate demands for improved WASH and nutrition services, and we successfully addressed 234 barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives. As a result, there is an increase in the adoption of good nutrition and WASH practices and improvement in public services in target communities, demonstrating the tangible impact of community-led initiatives.

For instance, in Bangladesh, a consortium survey indicated a significant increase in the practice of WASH and nutritional behaviours at the household level, with 51% of community members reporting positive changes in practices. Similarly, in Burkina Faso, awareness creation efforts on nutrition and WASH reached over a million people, while actions initiated by advocacy groups benefited thousands of individuals. Ethiopia witnessed the implementation of over 172 community actions demanding improved services, leading to the successful implementation of 189 commitments made by stakeholders. In Mali, the programme strengthened the production and marketing of nutritious food that encouraged the sale of products on local markets and created platforms for mutual support among women processors. South Sudan saw significant progress in improving access to basic services through community-driven initiatives, such as repair work on boreholes by Water Management Committees. Similarly, in Uganda, media campaigns promoted proper WASH and nutrition practices, mobilizing resources and partnerships for widespread adoption.

Furthermore, our commitment to **strengthening civil society** has yielded positive results, enabling CSOs to effectively advocate for improved access to nutrition and WASH services. The mid-term review conducted in 2023 highlighted the success of our capacity-strengthening efforts, which have addressed initial gaps and improved partners' knowledge, skills, and experience, particularly in mobilizing communities. Notable achievements include the establishment of various advocacy groups in our program countries, influencing policy decisions, implementation, and resource allocations at both national and sub-national levels. For example, in Bangladesh, CSOs succeeded in setting agendas and influencing debates at the national level, while in Burkina Faso, engagement with the private sector has resulted in commitments to provide essential services in areas of WASH and food security. Similarly, in Ethiopia, CSOs have effectively engaged with decision-makers to create spaces for demands and positions, while in Mali, the strengthening of watchdog committees has led to improved citizen monitoring activities in nutrition and WASH. In South Sudan, CSOs have made significant contributions to community sensitization and advocacy efforts, creating both demand for nutrition and WASH services as community ownership. Additionally, in Uganda, grassroots-level CBOs have been empowered to promote good nutrition and WASH practices, engaging thousands of participants and advocating for improved service delivery. These accomplishments underscore our dedication to empowering CSOs across all program countries to navigate the civic space effectively and advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition.

In addition to our engagement with public authorities and key stakeholders, our advocacy efforts have been bolstered by our commitment to **promoting a multi-sectoral approach** to addressing undernutrition. Working closely with government agencies at national and sub-national levels, we have made significant strides in policy improvements and implementation and allocation of additional (multi-sectoral) funding towards nutrition and WASH programmes across our programme countries. For instance, in Bangladesh, we have seen a 4.08% increase in the WASH and nutrition budget from the previous

year in targeted areas. In Burkina Faso, awareness-raising workshops have resulted in commitments from various government agencies to support budgeting sensitive to nutrition, WASH, and food security. Ethiopia has witnessed strengthened multi-sectoral nutrition governance at woreda level, also leading to improved budget allocation and advocacy initiatives. Moreover, our efforts in Mali, South Sudan, and Uganda have further solidified our impact, as evidenced by our engagement in the development of the National Nutrition Policy in South Sudan, the incorporation of the right to food and health in the new constitution of Mali, and passage of by-laws promoting food security and sanitation in Uganda. These achievements underscore our commitment to advocating for policies that enhance community well-being and promote sustainable development.

Additionally, we have been actively **engaging international development actors** to address underlying determinants of undernutrition, and advocate for synergy of action between development and humanitarian actors. Despite small achievements in previous years, recent progress highlights the programme's potential impact for the final 2 years. In Bangladesh, collaboration with development agencies and national bodies has led to joint campaigns on WASH and nutrition. Similar efforts in Burkina Faso and Ethiopia position Right2Grow to provide strategic support for national initiatives. Additionally, participation in international events such as the UN Water Conference and the All Systems Connect Conference has amplified our community-led advocacy efforts at international level, showcasing our commitment to fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders. Below is an overview of overall programme performance across key indicators.

Table Right2Grow progress towards key indicators

Indicator	Cumulative achievement (2021-2023)	2025 target	
Outcome 1: Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners			
Number of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	527	N/A	
Number of barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives	283	N/A	
Number of CSOs (first and second tier) involved in Right2Grow (SCS063)	46	46	
Number of CSOs (third tier) involved in Right2Grow	1,065	N/A	
Outcome 2. Representatives and empowered civil society organisations effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition			
Number of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions (SCS3)	SCS031: # of times ... <i>at national and international levels</i>	207	159
	SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national levels</i>	225	701
Number of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency (SCS4)	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	81	302
	SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	227	553
Number of CSOs with increased L&A capacities (tiers 1 & 2)	46	46	
Outcome 3. National government and decentralised entities adopt and mainstream an integrated, multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition in policies, action plans and budget allocations			
Number of laws, and policies implemented for sustainable and inclusive development (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, Uganda)	15	24	
Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, and improved for sustainable and inclusive development (South Sudan, Uganda)	2	9	
Outcome 4. Donors and international development actors coordinate and collaborate along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition			
Level of success of lobby and advocacy roles by R2G and its partner towards donors and international actors	Medium/average	High	
Degree of integration of the WASH-Nutrition nexus by donors along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition	Low	High	

Despite encountering implementation challenges and contextual obstacles including conflict, political instability, decreasing civic space, high inflation and a cost-of-living crisis for many communities we work with, Right2Grow has embraced adaptive programming strategies to navigate complexities and drive impact. Through leveraging adaptive management techniques, we have flexibly adjusted our planning and approach, engaged in continuous reflection and learning, and iteratively improved our interventions to address evolving needs and circumstances.

We conducted a numerous of capacity-strengthening and knowledge-sharing activities that have bolstered our implementation in 2023. Leveraging our expertise, resources, and networks, we have navigated challenges, seized opportunities, and demonstrated the transformative power of collective action. Reflecting on our progress and collaboration as part of the mid-term review and the Right2Grow Learning Week has provided us with valuable insights for the final years of implementation in 2024-2025. By discussing our successes and challenges, we gained a deeper understanding of effective strategies and where adjustments were needed. This process of reflection enabled us to refine our programme interventions and governance structure in order to maximize our impact as we work towards our ultimate goal of zero undernutrition and zero people without access to basic WASH services.

Reflecting on the milestones and lessons learned in 2023, we are inspired by the resilience, dedication, and impact of our team and partners. The results framework and financial progress report in the annexes offer a comprehensive account of our achievements, challenges, and opportunities for growth, setting the stage for continued success in the years ahead.

We invite readers to explore the pages of this report highlighting our achievements and join us in our ongoing journey towards a more equitable and inclusive world where every child can reach its full potential. We thank our donor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands, and all partners we work with for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we can make a difference and create lasting change for generations to come.



List of acronyms

ACF	Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)
UPA-FNS	Uganda Parliamentary Alliance on Food and Nutrition Security
BMET	Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking
BSAF	Bangladesh Child Rights Forum
CBO	Community Based Organization
CC	Coordination Committee
CEGAA	Centre for Economic Governance and Accountability in Africa
CNT	Inter-sectoral Technical Committee on Nutrition
COVID	Coronavirus Disease
CCRDA	Christian Relief Development Association
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CSC	Country Steering Committee
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CVA	Citizen Voice and Action
CU5	Children Under 5
DAO	District Agriculture Officer
DSO	Social Development Department of MFA
ECSC-SUN	Ethiopia Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition Movement
EKN	Embassies of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
FRA	Food Rights Alliance
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCC	Global Coordination Committee
GDCA	Guraghe Development and Cultural Association
HDPN	Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus
IDA	International development agency
IGG	Inclusive Green Growth department
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
L&A	Lobby & Advocacy
L&L	Linking & Learning
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MCD	Mutual Capacity Development
MF	Max Foundation
MCDO	Mothers and Children Multi-sectoral Development Organization
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MtMSG	Mother to Mother Support Group
MTR	Mid – Term Review

MOH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOJO	Mobile Journalism
MP	Member of Parliament
NDA	National Development Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSU	Nutrition Society of Uganda
PMU	Program Management Unit
PoV	Power of Voices
PWD	People living with disabilities
SC	Save the Children Netherlands
SCS	Strengthening Civil Society
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition movement
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All
THP	The Hunger Project
TOC	Theory of Change
UP	Union Parishad
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WMC	Water Management Committee
WUC	Water User Committee
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	World Vision

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Reading Guide

This Annual Report was developed by all implementing partners of Right2Grow under the leadership of The Hunger Project. In each of the six programme countries, a lead partner was responsible for developing a country report, with input from all partners in country, and approval by the country steering committee. The six country reports have been consolidated into this Annual Report, complemented by overarching advocacy activities that were done at global, regional or Dutch level, and activities to support the work in the six countries, such as capacity strengthening, linking and learning, and other technical support. Finally, we have added reflections on our progress and on our collaboration within the partnership. Summaries of the six country reports are included in the first annex to provide more details on country context and achievements and full country reports are available upon request.

The annual report starts with a context update, including risks that materialised or emerged, and a reflection on crosscutting themes. This is followed by a chapter that describes the implemented interventions, country level progress and the results in the four “Pathways” of Right2Grow: community mobilisation, strengthening civil society, engaging public authorities and coordination among development actors. The results framework with progress on our indicators is included in the second annex.

The annual report continues with chapters on our international lobby and advocacy achievements in 2023. This is followed by a chapter on learning which includes progress on mutual capacity development and linking and learning activities. The report ends with a reflection on collaboration, good practices, lessons learnt and sustainability. We conclude with a brief financial summary of which details will be presented in the full financial progress report in the third annex.

Programme overview

Programme	Right2Grow
Countries	Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, South Sudan, Uganda
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	The Hunger Project Nederland (Netherlands)
Consortium Partners	Action Contre la Faim (Spain) Centre for Economic Governance and Accountability in Africa (South Africa) Max Foundation (Netherlands) Save the Children (Netherlands) World Vision (Netherlands)
Reporting Period	1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023
Contact persons Right2Grow	Eliane Vrolings, The Hunger Project Paul Gabula, CEGAA Stephen Otieno, World Vision
Donor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands
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1. Programme context

1.1 Context changes

Since the inception of the Right2Grow Programme in 2021, all programme countries have grappled with significant political and socio-economic shifts that have profoundly impacted programme implementation. In **Bangladesh**, the economic crisis and soaring inflation rates have intensified challenges for vulnerable communities, particularly affecting the livelihoods of the poor and low-income households. In response, initiatives such as homestead gardens and support for local entrepreneurship have emerged as strategies to mitigate the adverse effects of the economic downturn. Meanwhile, **Burkina Faso's** political upheaval following the 2022 coup d'état has led to institutional instability, complicating advocacy efforts and exacerbating security concerns amidst ongoing terrorist attacks and the ripple effects of global events like the Russia-Ukraine crisis. This has caused inflation to rise to almost 16%, reducing the purchasing power of communities and plunging them into food and nutritional insecurity. Some of Right2Grow's intervention areas also became inaccessible and people's access to basic social services reduced. As the political landscape underwent seismic shifts following the dissolution of the National Assembly, the Regional and Municipal Councils, and transition bodies were installed, Right2Grow had to re-organize visits to introduce the project to new authorities. However, institutional instability made it challenging to implement advocacy actions with these authorities. As far as the State and its partners are concerned, the priorities are to manage current affairs, secure the territory and deal with humanitarian emergencies. These developments underscore the complexities of operating in a context marked by rapid political transformations, impacting the effectiveness of advocacy efforts within Right2Grow.

Ethiopia, too, has been rocked by internal conflict, resulting in widespread security issues, internal displacement, travel restrictions, and the destruction of critical infrastructure and social service institutions, particularly in the Tigray and Amhara regions. Less than a year after war ended in Tigray, armed clashes between the Ethiopian National Defence Force and members of the Fano militia, escalated across Amhara, prompting the Government of Ethiopia to declare a six-month state of emergency in the region, which was extended by four months until June 2024. Although recent peace agreements offer a glimmer of hope, the impact of conflict remains severe. In **Mali**, a chronic nutritional crisis compounded by recurrent food shortages and security challenges in various regions highlights the urgent need for intervention, underscored by insufficient health funding and weak community commitment to addressing nutritional security. The suspension of budget support due to tensions with certain Western countries further exacerbates the situation, affecting investment in basic social services. In **South Sudan**, food insecurity and malnutrition have reached unprecedented levels, with millions facing severe shortages exacerbated by political conflict, economic crises, and funding declines. Right2Grow partners have responded with climate-smart agricultural practices, yet accessibility to operational areas remains limited. Basic service access is dire, with only 10% having improved sanitation and 35% accessing potable water. Conflict deepens poverty and hampers livelihood improvements, hindering advocacy efforts despite government commitments to address food insecurity. The return of South Sudanese refugees from Sudan further strains resources, while climate change exacerbates challenges, particularly during the rainy season, making some areas inaccessible by road. Finally, Uganda faced international scrutiny following the enactment of anti-homosexuality laws, triggering funding suspensions from international organizations like the World Bank. Despite these challenges, the Right2Grow program remains steadfast in its commitment to inclusivity, striving to uphold the rights of all individuals irrespective of race, gender, or sexuality within its interventions. On a positive note, the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey reported a slight reduction in stunting rates among children to 26%, marking a significant milestone celebrated by the Right2Grow program and the nation.

All in all, this means many of the communities we work with grapple with a cost of living crisis, soaring food prices and (a high risk for) food insecurity. Amidst these challenges, Right2Grow has navigated to the best of our abilities through complex political and socio-economic landscapes, upholding its commitment to advocate for vulnerable communities.

1.2 Risks

The risks identified in our annual plan that have materialised, the impact and the effectiveness of the mitigation strategy are presented in table 1.1

Table 1.1 Risks materialised in 2023

Risks materialised	Programme impact	Effectiveness mitigation strategy
Context-related risks		
<p>Political instability and worsening of security situations</p> <p>Materialised in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali and South Sudan</p>	<p>Implementation areas not safe or accessible, government staff leaving offices, communication, communication interruptions, poor access to services and worsening food security situation</p>	<p>Security policy implementation, suspension of activities, shifting activities to safer areas and general adaptive management - effective</p>
<p>Natural disasters, climate change, other climate-related obstacles</p>	<p>Climate shocks particularly flooding, but also drought and cyclones affected staff movement to implementation areas and local food production and communities' livelihoods in general</p>	<p>Disaster preparedness measures and adaptive planning; Strengthening community resilience to climate shocks - fairly effective.</p>
Programme risks		
<p>Shrinking or contested civic space.</p> <p>Materialised to a certain extent in all countries with the new anti-homosexuality law in Uganda as striking example.</p>	<p>Shrinking civic space makes it more difficult to implement advocacy activities. At the same time, being an advocacy programme we continuously address the shrinking space by creating new spaces to advocate for community needs.</p>	<p>Adherence to government regulations for most effective advocacy possible, relationship management with key stakeholders and working with local CSOs and CBOs to present evidence on gaps and solutions in a constructive way - effective</p>
<p>Changes in contact persons in technical departments and ministries; Late decision-making for relevant policies by government officials. High turn-over government officials, changing stakeholders in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mali.</p>	<p>Loss of institutional knowledge in government, lost relationships with key stakeholders, delayed implementation of policies leading to a delay in implementing 9planned advocacy activities.</p>	<p>Build new relationships, introduce the programme and our advocacy asks to new officials and continuously monitor the policy priorities and progress in government - effective.</p>
Organisational risks		
<p>Staff turn-over or understaffing in some country and global teams</p>	<p>Some delay on implementation of activities, loss of institutional and programme knowledge and capacities</p>	<p>Need to continuously strengthen capacities and knowledge of new staff, facilitate proper handover and onboarding – fairly effective</p>
<p>High inflation</p> <p>All programme countries and at global level</p>	<p>Extra burden on poor and low-income households. Fewer or adjusted activities as the planned budget did not fit with the current cost of organizing events, travel and other costs.</p>	<p>Adaptive management, and prioritization of activities based mid-term review findings and recommendations.</p>

Misconduct. In 2023, we had one case of misconduct by one of the volunteers we were working with in one of our programme countries. This case has been reported to the donor, appropriate action has been taken, and questions from the donor have been answered. We are awaiting final response from MFA whether the case can be closed.

Several risks identified for 2023 did not materialise this year. There were no COVID-19, Ebola or other outbreaks, no reports of misuse of resources or corruption. Governments and other stakeholders have shown interest in the multi-sectoral approach and while government budget and expenditure information is not always (easily) accessible, our advocacy to receive this kind of public information and transparency as part of good governance has been impactful in itself as well.

1.3 Implementation challenges

Across the partnership and as alluded to in the context analysis and risk analysis, there are quite a number of cross-cutting and contextual challenges. Limited private sector engagement and investment have hindered access to nutrition and WASH products and services in all countries. In Bangladesh, collaboration among local entrepreneurs and private sector firms has been fostered through consultation meetings, resulting in successful business initiatives. However, political instability and security issues persist, affecting project interventions and advocacy efforts. In Ethiopia, the restructuring of regional structures has hindered advocacy initiatives, and high inflation rates have impacted programme implementation. Meanwhile, in South Sudan, continued influxes of refugees pose challenges to sustaining emergency response efforts, compounded by bureaucratic hurdles and shrinking donor funding. Institutional instability further complicates the achievement of project objectives, emphasizing the need for sustained advocacy efforts and enhanced collaboration among development and humanitarian actors to address ongoing crises effectively. Right2Grow continues to closely monitor developments in the security, economic and political context in order to adapt planned activities accordingly and review geographical coverage where necessary, in order to help improve the quality of service provision for nutrition, WASH, and food security.

2. Programme progress

2.1 Interventions

Table 2.1 Right2Grow Interventions

Outcome 1: Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners	
Community sensitisation and awareness raising about good nutrition and WASH practices, and social accountability, by using gender sensitive and transformative approaches	All countries
Capacity strengthening of local communities/ CBOs to addresses barriers to good WASH and nutrition practices; Sensitising and partnering with private sector on social marketing approaches and women entrepreneurship	
Strengthening or creating local level platforms for participation of communities in decision making processes and voicing the concerns of the most vulnerable, including women	
Outcome 2. Representatives and empowered civil society organisations effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition	
Grassroot, community mobilisation around the issues of poor access and quality of WASH and Nutrition services	All countries

<p>Capacity strengthening and technical support provision, particularly on budget monitoring and expenditure tracking, advocacy and communication, gender and inclusion, policy analysis, governance and collaboration, research and data collection</p> <p>Evidence generation for advocacy, policy making and scaling up of successful approaches, and community led monitoring</p> <p>Facilitating dialogues between stakeholders, bringing the voice of communities, women and vulnerable groups to decision making processes and strengthening government accountability on nutrition and WASH</p>	
<p>Outcome 3. National government and decentralised entities adopt and mainstream an integrated, multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition in policies, action plans and budget allocations</p>	
<p>Ensuring uptake of data and evidence for policy and decision making at national and decentral level, while ensuring gender-sensitive policies, strategies and decision-making</p> <p>Strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration and engagement of multiple stakeholders in decision making processes around WASH and nutrition</p> <p>Strengthening or creating national or lower level platforms for information and evidence sharing on nutrition and WASH as well as monitoring country progresses towards achieving WASH and nutrition related SDGs</p>	<p>All countries</p>
<p>Outcome 4. Donors and international development actors coordinate and collaborate along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition</p>	
<p>Advocating for adoption of multi-sectoral approaches to donors’ strategies and funding instruments; promoting WASH-Nutrition nexus</p> <p>Sharing of good practices, research findings based on community-led monitoring and action research, capitalising on existing national and international events such a “world days” (water, nutrition, food etc)</p> <p>Lobbying for increased resource mobilizations and adoption or scaling up of proven approaches</p>	<p>All countries</p>

2.2 Cross-cutting themes

2.2.1 Gender, youth and inclusion

Gender, youth and inclusion have been embedded as much as possible in country programme plans and initiatives. In order to address gender inequalities, most the country programs placed a strong emphasis on empowering women through providing capacity strengthening, ensuring participation in decision making processes and positions and facilitating leadership opportunities.

In **Bangladesh**, the Right2Grow program prioritized gender equality and inclusion by mandating women and youth representation in CSO formations at all levels. Women hold approximately 50% of key positions within CSOs, and initiatives like entrepreneurship training have empowered 88 women entrepreneurs in 2023. Furthermore, persons with disabilities were actively involved in Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) groups, ensuring their participation in decision-making processes and playing a role as change agents. Local CSOs have also advocated with local government for people with a disability to get enrolled for benefits under the Government Social Safety Net programme in Bangladesh.



“
If you don’t invite me to your table, I will create my own. And I will make a lot of noise.”

Shilla Adgero
 Director of Lutino Adunu
 Right2Grow Uganda

Similarly, in **Uganda**, deliberate efforts were made to ensure equal participation of men, women, and youth in community activities. Women and youth were represented in CVA teams, allowing them to voice their concerns regarding access to nutrition and WASH services. In 2023 Right2grow also commissioned and disseminated the findings from a locally-led research study in Uganda, titled *"Responsibilities to women, power to men": exploring gender dynamics in access and utilization of nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in rural Maracha and Iganga districts among programme partners and other stakeholders at national and community level*. The research provided us with specific recommendations on how to promote access to WASH and nutrition services within restrictive gender norms and practices. These recommendations have been integrated into the partner annual plans.

In **Mali**, the program adopted an inclusive approach, conducting awareness-raising sessions to address gender, disability, and youth inclusion. Efforts were made to include a section on inclusion in all activities, with logistical adaptations to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Right2Grow organised a series of awareness-raising sessions through the media to improve understanding of gender and human rights issues within communities to reduce discriminatory practices against young people, people living with disabilities and vulnerable women. Particular attention was given to invite and involve women and people with disabilities in Right2Grow advocacy activities for example awareness-raising sessions through the media, thereby strengthening their voice and representation.

In **South Sudan**, advocacy work was carried out to strengthen the integrating of nutrition with gender-based violence (GBV) and social protection sectors, aiming to minimize the vulnerability of women. Youth engagement initiatives, such as sports for peace and youth dialogue sessions, were also implemented to address WASH and nutrition issues.

Furthermore, in **Ethiopia**, the program focused on women and girls, ensuring their representation and engagement in advocacy efforts. Women, youth, and persons with disabilities were actively involved in CVA task forces and advocacy work, for example by influencing the accessibility of sanitation solutions for people with disabilities and in Cheha Woreda where young school girls and boys are advocating for nutritious foods for pregnant women and babies; they also ran a vegetable garden to contribute to community health status improvement. On average, out of the total participants of the CVA taskforce more than 30% are women and more than 5% are people with disabilities.

Finally, in **Burkina Faso**, advocacy actions aimed at the financial empowerment of women were undertaken in 2023. These efforts focused on ensuring that microfinance institutions facilitate women's access to credit with preferential rates, taking into account their vulnerability. Also, advocacy efforts aimed to prioritize the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, children, people with disabilities, and internally displaced persons. Consultation workshops chaired by High Commissioners provided a platform to discuss women's empowerment and propose solutions such as enhancing technical training, improving access to finance, and raising awareness to reduce gender inequality. These initiatives reflect the program's commitment to addressing gender disparities and empowering marginalized communities in Burkina Faso.

2.2.2 Climate change

Right2Grow acknowledges the linkages between climate change and food and nutrition security as well as availability of water. It is also important to acknowledge the risk climate change poses to programme implementation as well. In **South Sudan** we experienced floods in Right2Grow intervention areas, and we therefore explored collaboration with the humanitarian coordinating body, donors, and



Climate-Smart Food Production Technologies
Right2Grow South Sudan

government to reduce the effects of climate change and build resilience of communities by providing training to vulnerable groups. Right2Grow partners made efforts to address climate challenges by implementing climate-smart agricultural practices such as floating gardens, low-lying rice cultivation, and short-term crop strategies. Also in **Uganda** the country experienced heavy rainfall, where in certain areas flooding damaged infrastructure, disrupted livelihood activities and damaged cropland. In some areas this also led to Right2Grow staff not being able to access intervention areas.

Right2Grow together with other CSOs engaged government to create an alternative route which eased staff field operations. Right2Grow also conducted community dialogues and round-

table meetings on climate change adaption and resilience in districts that resulted in communities demanding for technical support on climate-smart and nutrition-sensitive agriculture seeds. We also worked with District Agricultural Officer to ensure aspects of climate-smart agriculture approaches, such as double digging, intercropping and crop rotation, were considered when setting up demonstration gardens in health facilities or for household kitchen gardens. Right2Grow also organised sensitization sessions on organic agriculture in which agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity was encouraged and communities prone to harsh environment were advised to utilise draught resistant seed varieties. In **Burkina Faso**, the programme conducted advocacy workshops to raise awareness of climate change dangers and promote sustainable agriculture practices as well, and in Bangladesh, initiatives were undertaken to incorporate climate change considerations into interventions, promoting water conservation and resilient infrastructure. Awareness sessions on the dangers of using unregistered pesticides were organized to mitigate environmental risks. In **Mali**, Right2Grow adopted a strategy of informing local and national stakeholders on climate change effects, as well as implementing concrete actions such as awareness-raising sessions and reforestation campaigns. These initiatives aim to strengthen the ability of communities and stakeholders to adapt, thereby reducing their vulnerability to the effects of climate change.

These examples of initiatives demonstrate the program's commitment to addressing climate change challenges across different countries.

2.3 Results across programme countries

2.3.1 Community mobilisation

Right2Grow Outcome 1: Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners

In this section, we present the efforts and progress made towards empowering local communities to demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH services through various interventions. In **Bangladesh** for instance, a short survey conducted by the consortium indicated that the practice of WASH and nutritional behaviours at the household level has increased to 68% against the target of 50%. The households practicing small doable actions has increased from 5.3% at baseline to 31% in 2023. At the same time, 51% of community members (429,354 people) reported positive changes in WASH and nutrition practices. During the reporting period, 20% of households (38,384 households) received WASH, nutrition, and adolescent, mother and child health services from the government or private service provider agencies. Communities are now investing to get quality products and services related to WASH and Nutrition, and 103 private sector actors are working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services.

In **Burkina Faso**, awareness creation on nutrition and WASH, mainly through radio dramas, reached 1,453,518 people (895,238 women and 558,280 men) and these broadcasts enabled communities to improve their knowledge in nutrition and WASH practices. Advocacy groups supported by Right2Grow initiated actions focusing on nutrition, food security and WASH that reached 10,000 men, 10,000 women and 3,350 children. Awareness-raising sessions on nutrition-sensitive budgeting were conducted for the Special Delegations (PDS) and decentralised technical services.

Finally, we launched an initiative to support journalists and web players in the production of journalistic content on good food and nutritional practices. A total of ten (10) proposals out of 15 submitted were accepted and productions were underway at the time of reporting. In **Ethiopia**, communities of the 21 target Woredas through the established Citizen Voice Action (CVA) Task Forces implemented over 172 actions like score cards, monitoring standards, and interface meetings to demand service providers, and local government for improved services. As a result,



“
Now Bushra practices handwashing and hygiene regularly and she is studying attentively. It really made a difference in her life
 ”

Mahinur & daughter Bushra after attending an SDA workshop on the importance of hygiene when combating stunting - **Right2Grow Bangladesh**

out of 345 commitments made by the government, service providers, and community, 189 were also implemented by them. The commitments vary from household level latrine construction by individual households, improving patient care and hiring health professionals at health centres. Another notable achievement was the maintenance of water points in Enimay Woreda by local government in response to community-level advocacy.

From June to July 2023, Enimay Woreda Water Office maintained 7 out of 11 (64%) non-functional water points in the Telima, Weyra and Gotera kebeles. During the interface meeting, which was conducted on May 15, 2023, the Woreda Water Office pledged to maintain the water points.

In **Mali**, the programme strengthened the production and marketing of nutritious food that encouraged the sale of products on local markets and created platforms for mutual support among women processors. It is also worth noting that involvement of leaders and political authorities in the implementation of commitment plans for community development have led to the integration of nutritional activities into communal development plans and financial support for nutrition and WASH initiatives.

In **South Sudan**, the efforts of Right2Grow and its partners have made significant progress in improving access to basic social services in communities. Mother-to-mother support groups (MtMSGs) were able to improve the food basket and supply food surplus to the local markets, while Water Management Committees and Water User Committees through the help of the chiefs were able to repair destroyed boreholes and ensure communities have access to clean and safe drinking water, and they continue to work towards a better future for all.

Similarly in **Uganda**, enhanced media campaign on nutrition and WASH culminated into calls to action that emphasized the urgent need for implementing robust WASH and sanitation practices, mobilizing and allocating resources efficiently, and forging collaborative partnerships among diverse stakeholders. Together, these efforts strive towards the shared objective of promoting widespread adoption of proper handwashing practices with soap nationwide. Across key indicators, there has been notable progress as per Table 2.2

Table 2.2: Progress across outcome 1 indicators

Indicators	Country	2023 target	2023 actual	Cumulative (2021 – 2023)	5 year target
Number of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	Bangladesh	18	33	62	Not set
	Burkina Faso	15	45	45	Not set
	Ethiopia	75	172	229	Not set
	Mali	168	147	147	Not set
	South Sudan		6	11	Not set
	Uganda	25	27	27	Not set
	Total		301	430	527
# of barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives	Bangladesh	18	22	37	Not set
	Ethiopia	189	189	223	Not set
	Uganda	21	23	23	Not set
	Total	228	234	283	
Number of CSOs (first and second tier) involved in Right2Grow (SCS063)	Bangladesh	7	7	7	7
	Burkina Faso	6	6	6	6
	Ethiopia	8	8	8	8
	Mali	8	8	8	8
	South Sudan	8	8	8	8
	Uganda	9	9	9	9
	Total	46	46	46	46

Number of CSOs (third tier) involved in Right2Grow	Bangladesh	Not set	774	774	Not set
	Burkina Faso	Not set	86	86	Not set
	Ethiopia	Not set	156	156	Not set
	Mali	Not set	24	24	Not set
	South Sudan	Not set	5	5	Not set
	Uganda	Not set	20	20	Not set
	Total			1,065	1,065

There has been notable achievement across key indicators under this outcome, for instance, there were 430 actions in which communities formulated demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services across programme countries. In Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Uganda, 234 barriers to good nutrition and WASH services were successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives. With regards to CSOs involvement, it is worth noting that the programme has involved 1,065 CSOs and CBOs (third tier partners) in addition to the 46 tiers 1 and 2 partners, bringing the total to 1,111 CSOs involved in Right2Grow. These CSOs continue to engage at local and national level on advocacy issues related to WASH and nutrition.

The programme has also made progress in working with private sector across the countries. For instance, in **Bangladesh**, 103 private sector actors are working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services. As a result, 28 local entrepreneurs created the Local Small Entrepreneurs Cooperative Society in 7 Union Parishads, and four national private business development companies signed MoU separately with sub-district level CSO platforms under Right2Grow project to work on improved access of communities to WASH, nutrition and mother and child health related products and services through local entrepreneurs.

In December 2023, 28 local entrepreneurs in 7 Unions created the Local Small Entrepreneurs Cooperative Society, with the aim to ensure smooth operation of the organization initiatives, to create a strong business platform/cooperative society and provide demand driven WASH – Nutrition products and services to the communities with affordable prices, etc.

In **Burkina Faso**, collaboration with the private sector has enabled the mobilisation of donations worth seven million CFA francs (EUR 10,700) for biomedical equipment, infant flour, food and clothing to improve the care of malnourished children. In **Ethiopia**, 42 business enterprises are producing and selling different WASH and nutrition products in the target communities. During the mid-term review (MTR), a key informant interview from Oromia Region, Habro Woreda Health Office said “...*Before the Right2Grow project, no private sector was participating in nutrition intervention activities. But, as a result of this project, currently private sectors are contributing a lot by supplying fish, chicken, and meat products for nutrition purposes. Some private sectors are also supplying latrine slabs with cover...*” while in **Mali**, private sector actors have developed business models to make nutritional products available and accessible to communities.

2.3.2 Strengthening civil society organizations

Right2Grow Outcome 2: Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition

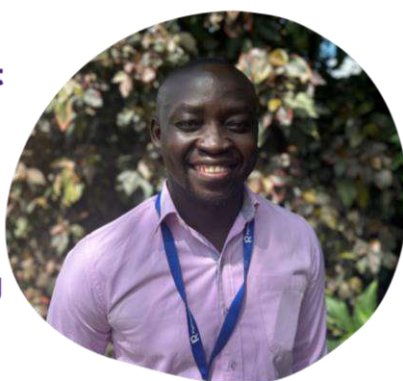
Recognizing that effective CSOs’ engagement at national and sub-national levels remains critical, the programme continued to empower target CSOs across the countries. Over the reporting period, there is evidence of empowered CSOs based on engagement at different levels and reporting key achievements in relation to this outcome. In **Bangladesh**, CSOs succeeded 47 times in creating space for CSOs’ demands and positions through setting agendas, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage with stakeholders at the national level. In total, 95 advocacy initiatives were carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership. 5 Upazila-level CSO platforms were being established and functioning well to maintain coordination, collaboration, sharing experiences & evidence in support of advocacy agenda.

In April 2023, Rudaghara UP under Dumuria sub-district, for the first time, distributed sanitary napkins to 500 adolescent girls at Mixximil girls’ school, after CSOs started an initiative for improved hygienic practices. To finance the distribution, the UP budgeted BDT 50,000.

In **Burkina Faso**, the programme supported development of toolbox on the integrated package of infant and young child feeding services and advice cards on safe and healthy family practices were produced to help raise the level of knowledge of CSO members about good nutritional practices and the rights to healthy nutrition, food security and access to WASH services within households. Engagement with private sector has resulted in commitments to; provide social services to the local population in the areas of WASH and food security, in particular by building boreholes and donating food; raise awareness among the province's economic operators of the need to market good quality products for local consumption; participate in some of the advocacy group's activities, and certain activities included in the advocacy group's action plan.

“
People have to start believing in themselves. And realise that they have the internal resources necessary to implement solutions.”

Nixon Ochatre
 Founder of CSO 'Amani' & member of Right2Grow Uganda



In **Ethiopia**, Right2Grow created 118 spaces for demands and positions in different Government-led and CSO-led platforms. The programme successfully carried out five advocacy initiatives at national and sub-national levels. Efforts have also been made to revitalize Ethiopian Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition in two major regions that were inactive for some time. Equipped with improved advocacy knowledge and skills, Right2Grow partnership is engaging more effectively with decision-makers at all levels to influence policy implementation and budget decisions.

in **Mali**, capacity strengthening of CSOs has enabled watchdog committees to gain a better

understanding of awareness-raising issues and to adopt a more effective approach to their citizen monitoring activities in the areas of nutrition and WASH. It is also worth noting that the programme has strengthened the network of nutrition parliamentarians, in particular by involving them in the advocacy process for the inclusion of food in the constitution. This strategic alliance led to the constitutionalisation of nutrition in July 2023, with fifteen members of the *Conseil National de Transition* (National Transition Council) pledging to support advocacy for the operationalisation of the right to food.

In **South Sudan**, 12 spaces were created by CSOs to demand and position themselves. For instance, in Mayendit and Pariang the community structure created dramas/skits with WASH and Nutrition doable actions that were used to sensitize the community, and this showed great ownership. In the National and State annual review sessions supported by the MoH in collaboration with the nutrition cluster partners, Right2Grow members contributed positively to reflections, and recommendations to prevent malnutrition emphasizing the maximization of the multisectoral approaches where the director of Policy development and research in the MoH for the first time committed to organize a meeting with the budget committee to lobby for nutrition budget.

In **Uganda**, the programme worked with 20 grassroots-level CBOs to promote good nutrition and WASH practices, engaging 2,846 participants (1,469 males, 1,377 females) in four districts supported by The Hunger Project Uganda. Training in photovoice methodology empowered 157 representatives (97 males, 60 females) from three WV Uganda-supported districts to advocate for improved service delivery. Additionally, Right2Grow conducted Community Dialogues on Food and Nutrition Security and Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience in Adjumani and Yumbe, reaching 658 Farmer Groups and connecting with 767 community representatives. Overall, the programme has made notable progress across key outcomes under this outcome as presented in Table 2.3

Table 2.3: Progress across key outcome 2 indicators

Indicators	Sub-indicators	2023 target	2023 actual	Cumulative	2025 target
Number of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions (SCS3)	SCS031: # of times ... at national and international levels	N/A	54	207	159

	SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national levels</i>	N/A	160	225	701
Number of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/ constituency (SCS4)	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	N/A	38	81	302
	SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	189	227	553
Number of CSOs with increased L&A capacities	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	N/A	46	46	46

Progress data across donor indicators under this outcome indicates that the programme has made significant contributions towards ensuring that CSOs create more spaces for demands and positions at national level with cumulative data already surpassing the overall programme target. At sub-national level, the programme is at 32% of programme target and hence more efforts are required to create more spaces. Regarding advocacy initiatives carried out by the CSOs, 27% has been realized at national level while 41% has been achieved at sub-national level across programme countries.

With regard to CSOs capacities in lobby & advocacy, the mid-term review revealed that capacity strengthening efforts implemented since the beginning of the programme have successfully addressed some of the initial gaps, leading to changes in the overall landscape of needs. It further showed that Right2Grow partners possess sufficient knowledge, skills, and experience in the issues related to Outcome 1, in particular in the field of community mobilization and engagement. Moderate need for technical assistance, guidance and support was expressed to achieve Outcome 2 and Outcome 3 while all programme countries, except for South Sudan, expressed the highest need for capacity strengthening related to knowledge and skills needed to achieve Outcome 4. It is worth noting that in addition to the 45 tier 1 and 2 partners, the programme collaborates with and has strengthened capacity of 1,065 tier 3 CSOs.

2.3.3 Multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition

Right2Grow Outcome 3: Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition

Working with various stakeholders including government agencies at national and sub-national level, the programme has made some contributions towards policy improvements and/or implementation across programme countries. For instance, in **Bangladesh**, the WASH and nutrition budget increased 4.08% from the previous year on average in the 40 union parishads. In **Burkina Faso**, awareness raising workshops provided opportunity to obtain commitments from various government agencies to support budgeting that is sensitive to nutrition, WASH and food security in community budgets, and food security in community budgets. In **Ethiopia**, the programme has strengthened woreda level multi-sectoral nutrition governance by revitalization of woreda level Nutrition Coordination body in the target woredas. Additionally, most of the decision-makers and experts who participated in the trainings are influencing nutrition decision-making including budget allocation and facilitating smooth implementation of advocacy initiatives. For instance, in Cheha Woreda the local government administration is now allocating budgets for nutrition services and they are tracking their actual expenditure. Budget transparency accountability and public participation are promoted, with Right2Grow consortium members and civil society actively involved in all processes.

In **Mali**, updated budget data has been used to strengthen the synergy of action between stakeholders to improve the multi-sector funding of nutrition. In **South Sudan**, National Nutrition Policy has been completed and is yet to be officially launched by government. The efforts made to support the development of the Nutrition Policy were successful which was led by the Right2Grow Consortium in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other key line



Governments became more transparent and public participation improved because the community became aware of the possibility to engage. When there's community participation, there's a big opportunity for improved accountability.



Silindile Shezi, Project Manager at CEGAA describing the change he has experienced on the ground in different parts of Africa

ministries. The nutrition policy is anticipated to foster nutrition budget allocation in that national budget and provide direction of the nutrition interventions.

On 3rd October 2023 in Melut County, Melut Payam for the first time conducted dissemination workshop on national budget policy brief on food security, nutrition and wash in Melut County, to share evidence generation of national budget analysis on food security, nutrition, and WASH with government departments at the county level on health, finance and planning, agriculture and food security, water resources and irrigation, the Melut County Authority, Melut local government, Melut Community Leaders, Melut Women Groups, Melut Youth Groups, Melut CBOs and CSOs, and media.

In **Uganda**, there has been notable progress for instance, the programme supported the passage of by-laws aimed at safeguarding and promoting food security, hygiene, and sanitation in Purongo Sub-County. These regulations mandate households to maintain a garden of cassava and beans for personal consumption, possess a pit latrine and maintain a clean compound. During the reporting period, the programme supported the Uganda Parliamentary Alliance on Food and Nutrition Security (UPA-FNS) in organizing the 2023 Uganda Parliamentary Nutrition Week. The event aimed to raise awareness about key nutrition and food security issues, engage members of parliament in policy and legislation efforts, and urge government action to improve investment in food and nutrition security. Further demonstration of programme achievements is presented in Table 2.4 based on key outcome indicators.

Table 2.4 Progress across key outcome 3 indicators

Indicators	Country	2023 target	2023 actual	Cumulative (2021 – 2023)	5 year target
# of laws, and policies implemented for sustainable and inclusive development.	Bangladesh	N/A	0	0	3
	Burkina Faso	N/A	1	1	1
	Ethiopia	N/A	4	4	4
	Mali	N/A	8	8	10
	Uganda	N/A	3	3	4
	Total			13	15
# of laws, policies blocked, adopted, and improved for sustainable and inclusive development	Bangladesh	N/A	0	0	3
	South Sudan	N/A	1	1	2
	Uganda		1	1	4
	Total		2	2	9
% of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding).	Bangladesh	2%	4.08%	4.08%	Not set
	Mali	2.3%	0.81%	0.81%	Not set

During the reporting period, the programme has made substantial contribution towards implementation of WASH and nutrition related policies in 4 programme countries. In **Burkina Faso**, the National Policy on Multisectoral Nutrition was adopted in 2021, and in 2023 the programme supported translation of the policy into local languages and strengthened the capacities of decision-makers in relation to the policy. The programme also facilitated multi-sectoral consultation meetings on nutrition.

In **Ethiopia**, the programme is carrying out effective advocacy for the proper implementation of Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy by supporting multi-sectoral coordination efforts and advocating for the establishment of a nutrition council and agency at all levels. The programme has also supported execution of Seqota Declaration Implementation Plan (2016 – 2030) by supporting role out of Resource Tracking and Partnership Management (RTPM) in the Right2Grow target Woredas. This helped the Right2Grow target Woredas to properly implement the multi-sectoral coordination mechanism, joint planning and reporting, and tracking partners and nutrition resources in their respective woredas. The National Food and Nutrition Strategy (2022-2030) was launched recently and

Ministry of Health has conducted baseline study for the strategy through financial support from the programme. Additionally, the programme has provided capacity strengthening for the effective implementation of ONE WASH programme at Woreda and Zonal level.

In **Mali**, notable contribution has been made towards adoption of a new constitution incorporating the right to food and sanitation, validation of the new national water policy at an interministerial meeting, decision to appoint regional Sanitation and Water for All focal points, inclusion of sensitive nutrition activities in social, economic and cultural development programmes in the communes of Nonsombougou, Diomatenè, Tioribougou and Ouolodo. In **Uganda**, Right2Grow partners contributed a position paper in Parliament during the drafting of the Public Health Amendment bill some of whose recommendations were adopted by the parliamentary committee on health. This culminated into signing the Public Health Amendment Bill 2022 into law by the president. The programme also contributed to policy improvement in South Sudan and Uganda and as a result of advocacy efforts across programme countries, there has been realization on improvement of budget allocation towards WASH and nutrition. For instance, there has been increase of budget allocation to 4.08% compared to 1.45% at baseline while in Mali, there has been allocation of 0.81%.

2.3.4 Mobilizing international development actors

Right2Grow Outcome 4: Donors and international development actors coordinate and collaborate along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition

Despite minimal achievement towards this outcome in the previous years, the Mid-Term Review indicated that there is potential for the programme to make contributions based on prevailing contexts across the countries. As such during the reporting, some notable progress has been recorded with varied performance across programme counties. For instance, in **Bangladesh**, there has been enhanced communication, coordination, and collaboration with international development agencies, the national development agencies and international NGOs. This has resulted into joint campaigns and events on WASH, nutrition and child health, both locally and internationally. It also solidified Right2Grow's role in key platforms on those topics. The programme also facilitated a study on developing child profiles and a costing model for the coastal areas of Bangladesh that will help policymakers and stakeholders identify impactful interventions and the budget needed to ensure proper child nutrition.

In **Burkina Faso**, efforts have been made towards engagement with development partners and government agencies around humanitarian-development nexus. For instance, various meetings have been held that have provided an opportunity to advocate for a synergy of action between development and humanitarian actors in the northern region while in Eastern region, advocacy workshop was held and was attended by Regional Water Director who said that the workshop report would be forwarded to the committee responsible for drafting the reference manual on the management of WASH facilities in emergency situations, as a contribution from stakeholders in the Eastern region. In his closing remarks, the governor invited the chairmen of the special delegations, the focal points and the various government offices to assume their roles in the management of the works. He recommended strengthening collaboration and ensuring the quality involvement of all players at all levels.

In **Ethiopia**, the partnership has positioned in the established technical working group and advisor team to provide strategic and technical support for the national nutrition centric *Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus* (HDPN) initiative. In addition, Right2Grow take part in the capacity strengthening training on triple nexus approach and principles. Hence, Right2Grow Ethiopia has provided strategic and technical support during the landscape study, situational analysis, local experience sharing and strategic document development of operational guideline and implementation roadmap on how to materialize the HDPN approach to address malnutrition and reduce risk vulnerability as envisioned collective outcomes.

In **Mali**, the programme supported the activities of the national Sanitation and Water for All committee, in particular its participation in international forums on water and sanitation and this has strengthened Mali's commitment



Right2Grow Burkina Faso advocates for the implementation of a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition. ...this should encourage the adoption of an integrated approach to WASH and nutrition in national policies and in the strategies and interventions of humanitarian and development actors

Nouroudine Lenoble Louge,
Communications and Advocacy Officer
Right2Grow Burkina Faso



to regional and international initiatives. Additionally, National advocacy meeting on nutrition and WASH resulted in recommendations to strengthen political and financial commitment to nutrition and WASH. It also encouraged CSO participation in regional and international discussions to broaden the impact of advocacy. With regard to level of success of lobby and advocacy role, there is functional Sanitation and Water for All Committee in Mali while in **Uganda**, Right2Grow partners supported drafting and final submission of a CSO position paper on Right to Adequate Food to the United Nations with proposed recommendations on how to improve access to adequate food. It's anticipated obtaining UN endorsement to prioritize and recognize the right to adequate food for all will enhance coordination of international development actors to address underlying determinants of undernutrition. Table 2.5 provides summary of progress across the programme indicators

Table 2.5: Progress on outcome 4 indicators

Indicators	Country	2023 target	2023 actual	Cumulative (2021 – 2023)	5 year target
Level of success of lobby and advocacy roles by R2G and its partner towards donors and international actors.	Bangladesh	High	Medium	Medium	High
	Burkina Faso	High	Medium	Medium	High
	Ethiopia	High	Medium	Medium	High
	Mali	High	Medium	Medium	High
	South Sudan	High	Low	Low	High
	Uganda	High	High	High	High
Degree of integration of the WASH-Nutrition nexus by donors along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition.	Bangladesh	Medium	Low	Low	High
	Burkina Faso	Medium	Low	Low	High
	Ethiopia	Medium	Low	Low	High
	Mali	Medium	Low	Low	High
	South Sudan	Medium	Low	Low	High
	Uganda	Medium	Low	Low	High

In terms of degree on integration of WASH-nutrition nexus, Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus (HDPN) concept is in place in Ethiopia and actors shown interest and key staffs have the awareness on it. Donors and international actors support the development of HDPN guidelines and establishment of platforms, and Right2Grow partners and likeminded CSOs have the capacity to lobby and advocate towards influencing donors and international actors for WASH and nutrition nexus along the HDPN. At global level, efforts have been done to engage with Dutch and other international stakeholders towards nutrition and WASH development nexus.

In a Commission debate on food security & water, Parliamentarians Alexander Hammelburg (D66), Jan Klink (VVD) and Amhaouch (CDA) emphasised ideas on the WASH-nutrition nexus, how to track the Water Action Agenda Commitments, the installation of a UN Water Envoy, and getting binding resolution on Dutch development efforts; on May 23, 2023

2.3.5 Right2Grow contributions towards IGG indicators

During the annual policy dialogue for 2023 (held in 2024), Right2Grow and MFA, Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) department, discussed the possibility of Right2Grow to provide more insights in our contributions to specific IGG indicators for Food and Nutrition Security and WASH in addition to the Strengthening Civil Society indicators that are part of the Power of Voices and Right2Grow Results Frameworks. While we have not been asked to monitor and report on the IGG indicators at the inception of Right2Grow, we see added value in determining our contribution to the IGG indicators. At the time of writing we are in the process of discussing with MFA IGG which indicators that Right2Grow set at the start of the programme are in line with the IGG indicators. The relevant indicators can be different per country as at the start of our programme, Right2Grow gave room to country teams to determine their own set of country indicators that were most relevant to their country context.

Looking at the indicators we have currently identified as aligned with those of IGG, progress data indicates that Right2Grow has made notable contribution towards some of the IGG indicators, especially those under the Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) framework.

For instance, in Bangladesh, growth measurement of 29,993 under-five children was conducted (relevance with IGG indicator A.2.2, number of people directly reached with activities aimed at temporary/partial improvement of their nutritional situation). Across programme countries, Right2Grow has implemented awareness raising activities, trainings and radio programmes, reaching ~5,120,360 people (relevant for IGG indicator A.2.3, number of people indirectly reached). Right2Grow has engaged a number of private sector companies to improve access to nutrition and WASH services and product (relevant to IGG indicator 2.1, number of companies engaged in inclusive agribusiness). In 2024 we will continue our conversation with IGG department of MFA to further enhance our reporting on contributions towards IGG indicators, so we can include this in the next annual report in more detail. More information on the contributions to IGG indicators has been reflected in the second section of updated Results Framework in Annex 2. It's important to note the information taken up in the annex could change based on the discussions with IGG in 2024.

2.4 International lobby and advocacy

2.4.1 Context and focus of international advocacy

Context

At international level, the policy context remained relatively stable and there were several opportunities to feed into international policy dialogues around nutrition and WASH, both in the Netherlands and abroad. In 2023, Right2Grow partnered with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs to amplify our message at international events on nutrition and WASH. We identified key opportunities like the United Nations (UN) Water Conference and the Micronutrient Forum to amplify our Right2Grow messaging and community voices. Moreover, we were able to maintain momentum by leads extracted from these events.

At the end of 2023, much of the attention within the nutrition advocacy space turned towards the upcoming Nutrition for Growth conference, which afforded Right2Grow with an opportunity to strengthen its international advocacy strategy for the remaining years of the programme.

The Dutch parliamentary year ended at the end of October because of the November elections. The elections had (and will have) an impact on the Right2Grow international advocacy strategy. With the installation of a new parliament, there is a need to make new connections to political allies on the importance of foreign aid, food security and WASH. It also means a shift in focus to support Right2Grow country teams in their advocacy to sustain achievements and approaches beyond 2025. For this reason, the end of 2023 and the beginning of 2024 focused on strengthening links between national CSOs and CBOs and the Dutch embassies in Right2Grow programme countries.

Finally, the mid-term review gave us the opportunity to reflect on successes and limitations of our international advocacy approach. Based in the findings and recommendations and in collaboration with country teams, including national and community-based CSOs, we formulated a new international advocacy strategy and workflow for the remaining years of Right2Grow. This new strategy aims to capitalize on in-country evidence on multisectoral approaches to end malnutrition by strategically cooperating with donors and other international development actors. The two main international advocacy asks are 1) to deliver on commitments made and scale up

efforts towards the Nutrition4Growth conference in 2025, addressing WASH and malnutrition, and 2) to standardize the inclusion of local communities and grassroots organizations in decision-making processes at international processes. Our four focus areas to achieve this include 1) influencing national governments and decentralized entities adopting multisectoral approaches in policies, action plans and budgets to end malnutrition, 2) influencing donors and international development actors to coordinate and collaborate on multisectoral approaches to end malnutrition, 3) bringing local partners to the global stage to voice their demands in the run-up to the Nutrition4Growth conference, and 4) collaborate with

“
Bringing women on board has enabled them to address water issues, as they bear the brunt of walking distances to fetch clean water. They are now able to raise WASH issues that directly affect them
”

Florence Paul team member at CIDO, a women-led CSO, commenting on increased women participation in the Water User Committees
Right2Grow South Sudan

and provide technical support to country teams to strengthen advocacy at country level and to align international advocacy asks with in-country priorities.

Bridge4Voices: Linking community voices to global and Dutch lobby and advocacy initiatives

Right2Grow partners all have experience in lobby and advocacy, and to combine our ways of working, build synergies, and ultimately improve community-led advocacy, we have developed a joint advocacy approach: Bridge4Voices. The Bridge4Voices approach with seven common principles is a way to ensure that communities are placed and remain at the centre of all of our advocacy work, that their voices are amplified, and that the most appropriate advocacy strategies and tools are used to ensure appropriate and effective policy change in the areas of malnutrition and WASH.

In 2023, the Bridge4Voices approach was finalized and launched within Right2grow with an online Bridge4Voices course in English and French. At the end of 2023, 57 people completed the course. With many CSO and CBO partners originally mainly involved in service delivery and now, there was a steep learning curve to understand and incorporate the Bridge4Voices principles and move towards advocacy on the basis of community engagement. At the international level, we applied the Bridge4Voices approach by having civil society and community representatives from Bangladesh, Uganda, South Sudan, and Mali taking the stage at international advocacy events in 2023. These representatives brought the priorities, experiences and lessons from communities into the discussions, delivering essential contributions to each event, as described in the next paragraph. In 2024, we will continue to strengthen the understanding of and commitment to Bridge4Voices across Right2Grow programme countries.

2.4.2 International lobby and advocacy achievements

UN Water Conference

In March 2023, the UN Water Conference saw over 700 voluntary commitments in the Water Action Agenda, crucial for SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation). Pledges made during the Conference have a direct financial implication exceeding \$330 billion, with the potential to leverage close to \$1 trillion worth of services for humanity and nature. Most of the commitments outlined in the Water Action Agenda were made by civil society, reaffirming the central role that non-government actors play in both achieving SDG 6 and transforming our planet into a water secure home for humanity.

Right2Grow's involvement, notably with the Netherlands' co-hosting the conference, led to significant outcomes. These include introducing the Dutch Water Envoy to political parties, putting the conference on the parliamentary agenda, initiating lobby efforts resulting in the first commission debate on food security & water, and influencing ideas emphasized by Parliamentarians, such as the WASH-nutrition nexus and achieving a binding resolution. Additionally, the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation committed to enhancing water-related policies, strengthening coherence within national and international programs and policy.

Additionally, the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation committed to add an addendum to the Dutch International Water Ambition (NIWA) which focuses on water and the optimal connection to policy in the areas of climate, food, finance, energy, urbanisation, health and biodiversity, thereby strengthening coherence within national and international programmes and policy.

All Systems Connect Conference

In May 2023, Right2Grow organised the session 'From New York to the Hague: making Community-Led Water Management work' at the All Systems Connect Conference in the Hague. Communities as the end-users of water services should be involved in their design from the beginning onwards and local ownership is key. Right2Grow facilitated a national CSO partner from Right2Grow Bangladesh to share best practises on scalable community-led water management systems during the conference. She highlighted the importance of Right2Grow's approach to work holistically by looking at full scope of communities' livelihoods and in partnership by involving for example research and cultural institutes, the private sector and government bodies at various levels.

Save the Children Youth Event

In September, a youth representative from a local partner from Right2Grow Mali participated in a Save the Children youth event in The Netherlands. Together with other youth leaders from countries like Uganda, Lebanon and India, they developed a call to action on meaningful inclusion of youth, especially on youth employment, governance and climate action, as input for MFA's Youth at Heart strategy and the work plan of MFA's Ambassador for Youth, Work and Education. MFA's Youth Ambassador who participated in the event accepted the call to action from the youth representatives. Together with the youth participants, Save the Children has been following up with the Ambassador on the Youth at Heart strategy. The youth delegate from Right2Grow Mali returned from the youth event with a wealth of ideas and experiences aimed at advancing Right2Grow's advocacy work in Mali.

Right2Grow advocacy week

During Right2Grow's advocacy week in October 2023, we organised and participated in multiple events. Representatives from Uganda and South Sudan presented community-level impacts of Right2Grow's initiatives at the **Micronutrient Forum**, during our session 'Amplifying Voices for Zero Malnutrition and Better Access to Quality Services' organised in partnership with We are Able Alliance, sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Right2Grow gained recognition from World Vision's international director during the closing ceremony speech.

Another event, "**Food-WASH-Nutrition, Breaking the Silos**", organised by Right2Grow, highlighted our multisectoral approach to combating child malnutrition. Policy officers from various ministries and representatives from Power of Voices partnerships engaged in discussions. Right2Grow CBO leaders also advocated for multisectoral approaches to a Dutch Parliamentarian and his policy officers.

During this week representatives from CSOs in Uganda and Mali also participated in the **Research4Nutrition** conference in Paris. They presented research findings, contributed to the Civil Society Declaration¹, and secured commitments from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs for civil society involvement in the run up to the Nutrition for Growth summit in 2025.

During the advocacy week, Samuel Chor Alier from Right2Grow's CSO partner in South Sudan connected with The Broker. This led to his participation in Transformation Talks events in 2023 and an invitation to speak at an event in 2024 organized with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, during which he will present directly to the Ministry's Director General on nutrition budget allocation and expenditure tracking.



Right2Grow at the Micronutrient Forum Oct 2023

2.5 Linking & Learning and Mutual Capacity Development

Right2Grow's Linking and Learning strategy aims to capture and share knowledge systematically and sustainably over the next five years. This includes making learnings easily accessible and integrating them into programs and policies. Three key outcomes are emphasized: capturing, sharing, and using learning. In addition to this initiative, we integrate Mutual Capacity Development (MCD) to strengthen partner organizations' capacities and empower them to influence decision-makers effectively. Below, we outline our Learning and Mutual Capacity Development initiatives in 2023.

2.5.1 Learning initiatives

At the start each Right2Grow country team defined one or more learning question(s) linked to their programme implementation. Country teams applied the learning cycle process to learn, share, discuss and document best practices, challenges and solutions, and lessons learned. Country teams were supported by Right2Grow global linking & learning team to define and establish the best learning strategy and to facilitate documentation of learnings as described below.

Learning Briefs and Learning Catalogue

In 2023, based on the learning agenda of each country, 17 learning briefs were developed. In addition, one research study was completed and the research report published. The topics of these learning briefs and the research report are presented in table 2.5.

¹ The Civil Society Declaration can be found here: <https://declaration.civilsociety4nutrition.com/>

Table 2.5 Right2Grow Learning Briefs

Country	Learning Topic	Learning briefs developed in 2023
Bangladesh	Engaging with civil society organizations towards Right2Grow programme objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) 2. Voices united: energizing civil society for impactful local decision-making
Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success factors and constraints encountered by CSOs in carrying out their advocacy work • Strategies for mobilising communities by Right2Grow consortium partners in Burkina Faso • Development of and compliance with the communications charter by members of the Right2Grow consortium in Burkina Faso. • Shift the Power from the global to the local level. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Strategy for setting up and running Advocacy Groups 4. Success factors and constraints encountered by Advocacy Groups in carrying out their advocacy work 5. Mobile Journalism (MOJO) 6. Radio programmes and theatres fora on community food rights 7. Analysis of barriers to health, nutrition, WASH and food safety
Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community mobilization and engagement • Experience in implementing Citizens Voices and Action approach in Ethiopia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Vision Commitment Action (VCA) and Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) join forces to improve communities' access to WASH and Nutrition. 9. Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) as a mean to enable citizens to engage with service providers and local government for improved public service
Mali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital for WASH and Nutrition awareness and advocacy • Adaptive management of communal nutrition and WASH plans through Citizen Watch Committee actions • Mobilising resources for Nutrition and WASH 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Radio and TV debate on the multisectoral nature of nutrition in Mali: What role do local and civil society players play? 11. Journalists' competition 12. Constitutionalising the Right to Food and Water 13. Mobilising resources for nutrition and WASH
South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder collaboration towards achieving Right2Grow objectives and ensuring sustainability • Collaborating with women in leadership position to champion Right2Grow advocacy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Consortium partners' collaboration and coordination on joint activities. 15. Youth engagement in advocating for nutrition and WASH 16. Media Training for Journalist to enable quality reporting
Uganda	Gender equality and inclusivity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. International Women's Day campaign 18. Impact of Gender dynamics on access to WASH and nutrition services (research report, feedback to communities (videos) and presentation during the Research for Nutrition (R4NUT) Conference in Paris)

Learning catalogue

In addition to country-specific learning briefs listed above, each country also produced briefs highlighting best practices and impactful interventions. In 2023, we began compiling these into a comprehensive learning catalogue comprising around 40 briefs, slated for finalization and dissemination in 2024. The catalogue aims to provide accessible insights into successful activity implementation, covering objectives, key stages, best practices, encountered challenges, and mitigation solutions. It serves as a sustainable knowledge repository beyond Right2Grow, aiding teams in leveraging past experiences to enhance their work. The catalogue, available in English

and French, will be shared internally and externally, facilitating knowledge exchange and continuous improvement. By learning from and sharing experiences across countries, we aim to optimize program impact and foster positive change.

The Grow online learning platform

The Grow platform (right2grow.mn.co/feed) launched in 2022 as a shared online social network for learning and collaboration within the Right2Grow consortium. It fosters knowledge sharing and cross-country learning while promoting engagement and reflection among users. In 2023, a moderation strategy was implemented to enhance user engagement and learning outcomes, leading to a growth in users from 300 to 497 by year-end. The platform hosts various online courses, including storytelling, Bridge4Voices and Outcome Harvesting, aimed at enhancing advocacy skills, monitoring & evaluation and learning outcomes. Additionally, it facilitates community building and collaboration among specific groups, promoting cross-country learning and sharing, both as part of the day-to-day work and during events like the Right2Grow Learning Week. Feedback from users underscores the platform's role in fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing, with plans to further strengthen engagement in 2024 through targeted content delivery and increased participation in *Grow Together* sessions. Efforts will also focus on addressing technical support needs through new course offerings, contributing to a more dynamic and effective learning environment.

Enhancing cross countries fertilization: *Grow Together* sessions

In addition to the learning catalogue, informal online “show and tell” sessions (*Grow Together* sessions) were organized on Grow Platform to build links between countries, discuss and learn from each other. During these sessions one or more partners makes a 20-30 min presentation on a topic related, followed by Q&A and discussion. In 2024, Right2Grow organised four *Grow Together* sessions (table 2.6). The sessions were greatly appreciated by participants and will be continued in 2024.

Table 2.6 *Grow Together* sessions in 2023

Topic	Description	Date & participants
Journalists Competition	<i>Come and find out more about the journalists' competition organised by AJCAD Mali.</i>	March, 2 2023 11 participants
Implementing advocacy programmes in volatile contexts	<i>Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali and South Sudan will illustrate their own experience and we will then jointly reflect on the impacts of emergencies, climate change, political instability and insecurity, civil war etc. on Right2Grow advocacy strategies in these countries.</i>	March, 30 2023 36 participants
Engaging Key Influencers in Right2Grow Advocacy Efforts & Right2Grow Communication Campaigns	<i>Bangladesh will present their Facebook communication campaign aimed at amplifying the voices of marginalized communities and Burkina Faso will talk about their MOJO (mobile journalism) project, connecting local realities with global conversations.</i>	May, 11 2023 52 participants
Bridge4Voices Course Launch	<i>An introduction to the Bridge4Voices course, providing a comprehensive understanding of our collaborative advocacy approach and its vast potential</i>	July 6, 2023 35 participants
Advocacy for All - Embracing GENDER EQUALITY and INCLUSIVENESS in Programme Design and Implementation	<i>Presentation of programmatic examples from Mali and Bangladesh, showcasing the transformative power of inclusive programme design.</i>	July, 12 2023 35 participants

Right2Grow Learning Week

In November 2023, we organised the Right2Grow Learning Week in Kampala, Uganda, bringing together 84 participants from six programme countries and global teams. The aim was to collectively reflect, exchange ideas, learn, and adapt our programming to maximize impact and leverage collective intelligence². The objectives included sharing successes, adapting Theories of Change (ToC)

² <https://right2grow.org/en/what-we-do/news/right2grow-learning-week-reflect-connect-and-learn-for-impact/>

based on insights, fostering relationships across countries, and learning from failures to enhance practices and mindsets. Each day of the Learning Week focused on a different theme, with a consistent learning framework adopted throughout. Participants reflected on a daily basis with their country teams on discussions' implications for future practices and added commitments to their country ToC posters for centralized follow-up and monitoring.

Results from satisfaction surveys underscored the event's value, with a high global satisfaction rating of 8.2/10. Interactions and inspiration among peers stimulated a conducive environment for change. The impacts of the Learning Week are evident, with strengthened country links, enhanced learning among partners, and inspiration to replicate successful practices from other countries, as shown by the examples below:

- ✓ South Sudan partners joined Uganda's CSO retreat to analyse Uganda national budget framework analysis after the Learning week.
- ✓ Bangladesh organized a Learning event with all Right2Grow partners from Bangladesh to disseminate key learnings and commitments from Learning Week.
- ✓ South Sudan, Bangladesh and Uganda are interested in replicating the Mobile Journalism (MOJO) approach from Burkina Faso.



Right2Grow Learning Week 2023

Countries integrated learnings and commitments from the Learning Week in the 2024 activity plans. Insights from the

learning week were also used to develop countries' technical support plans for 2024. Overall, the Right2Grow Learning Week served as a pivotal event, paving the way for increased impact and capacity strengthening among partners and local CSOs/CBOs. Two videos have been produced to show what was done and learned during the Learning Week^{3,4}.

2.5.2 Mutual Capacity Development (MCD)

Mutual Capacity Development (MCD) is pivotal to Right2Grow's mission. Since 2021, the programme has undertaken various activities across partner countries to bolster the capabilities of local organizations, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary for impactful advocacy. In 2023, initiatives such as a scholarship program, small grants for institutional strengthening, and targeted training sessions were implemented alongside locally-led research studies in Uganda and Bangladesh. Additionally, technical and organizational capacity assessments were conducted as part of the Mid-Term Review process.

Scholarship Programme and Small Grants for institutional strengthening of local partners

In 2023, following the success in 2022, we launched the Right2Grow Scholarship program to enhance technical capacity, networking, and collaboration among partners, awarding 5,000 Euro grants to successful applicants from all six programme countries, with a preference for local CSOs. The initiative aimed to support participation in international events and increase experience in networking and collaboration. Decisions on who should be awarded and how to use the funds were entirely done by each country team. The initiative saw diverse usage of funds across countries, from individual support for events to team-based initiatives.

Additionally, small grants (5,000 Euro) for institutional strengthening empowered local partners to address organizational challenges. Seven organizations from various countries were awarded grants, including Society Development Agency (SDA) from Bangladesh, Civil Society Network for Nutrition (RESONUT) and Association Monde Rural (AMR) from Burkina Faso, Youth Association for Active Citizenship and Democracy (AJCAD) from Mali, Touch the Heart from Uganda, Universal Intervention and Development Organization (UNIDOR) from South Sudan, and Gurage Development and Cultural Association (GDCA) from Ethiopia. These projects ranged from organisational policy or strategy development to procurement of software, highlighting the diversity of initiatives aimed at enhancing project management and advocacy. The small grants programme was managed by AJCAD, a local partner organization from Mali, playing a role as the global MCD co-lead since 2022.

³ Right2Grow Global Learning Week 2023 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_RUsTkj9HU

⁴ Right2Grow Learning week 2023 Cross-country Knowledge Exchange <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEdsBfvHZ88>

Recognized as examples of good practice, both initiatives were commended in the Global MTR report for their potential to Shift the Power from the Global North to the Global South.

Integrated MCD, Lobby and Advocacy, and BMET training of trainers in Ethiopia

The country team in Ethiopia, based on Right2Grow capacity assessments and programme experience, prioritized strengthening technical skills for designing evidence-based advocacy strategies. To address this need we organized a training of trainers workshop in Hawassa, Ethiopia from January 30th to February 3rd, 2023. Recognizing the novelty of lobbying and advocacy for local partners, the training focused on strategic communication for effective influence. Topics covered included advocacy planning, stakeholder mapping, strategy development, and monitoring outcomes. Fifteen members from Right2Grow Ethiopia team attended, including representatives of all local partners organizations, which are expected to cascade knowledge to local communities they are directly supporting for both short-term program impact and long-term organizational sustainability.

Locally-led research for advocacy

Right2Grow's innovative qualitative research approach, locally-led research for advocacy, has been implemented in Mali and Uganda (2022-2023), and in Bangladesh (2023-2024). Using the "Trio fantastico" model, consisting of a local researcher, advocacy expert, and community knowledge holder, this approach ensures community involvement at every stage of the research process. Communities are not passive information providers; they are in the centre of the research and engaged at all stages of the project. Findings are validated by the community, and recommendations are jointly defined to reflect community needs. This methodology maximizes advocacy potential by involving experts throughout, ensuring results are utilized for informed decision-making and based on community-needs. For example, local authorities in Mali signed a commitment to implement recommendations from the research. In 2023 we initiated the third locally-led research project, which focused on understanding the role of local entrepreneurs in improving nutrition and WASH conditions for children under five. This project aims to inform advocacy efforts related to private sector engagement and accountability mechanisms for nutrition and WASH issues.

Right2Grow also presented its research methodology the International Scientific Research for Nutrition Conference⁵ in November 2023 in Nanterre, France, sparking interest in replicating the research approach beyond Right2Grow. Members of "Trio fantastico" research teams, namely Nixon Ochatre, from Right2Grow local partner Movement for Community-led Development Uganda Chapter, and Dr Samou Diarra, a local researcher from Mali, had the opportunity to share invaluable insights about the approach and present key results and subsequent advocacy initiatives conducted in their respective countries. In 2024, a practical guidebook on implementing this approach will be produced to promote its wider adoption in the international development community.

3. Reflection

3.1 Programme progress reflection

Reflecting on the progress of the Right2Grow programme across six diverse countries, we see substantial strides have been made across Right2Grow's four outcome areas amidst often challenging political, social, and economic landscapes:

Community Mobilization: In all programme countries there is substantial progress in empowering local communities to demand and invest in basic WASH and nutrition services. From increased adoption of good nutrition and WASH practices to heightened community engagement and involvement in decision-making processes, our interventions have yielded tangible outcomes. Notable achievements include the increase in healthy household practices related to WASH and nutrition, the establishment of citizen voice action task forces and advocacy groups, and the successful maintenance of water points in various regions. Another key milestone has been involvement of a total of 1,065 tier 3 partners in six programme countries that continue to be actively engaged in local level advocacy on WASH and

⁵ <https://research-for-nutrition-conference.org/>. Right2Grow is specifically mentioned in the Conference programme, Day 1, Session 6: Strengthening the community-based approach

nutrition issues in their respective countries. These efforts signify a shift towards sustainable community-led development and the creation of lasting impact.

Strengthening Civil Society Organizations: Our commitment to empowering CSOs to effectively navigate the civic space and advocate for increased access to nutrition and WASH services has been evident across programme countries. Through capacity-strengthening initiatives, organisational strengthening grants, advocacy campaigns, and collaboration with government and other key stakeholders, CSOs have played an important role in driving policy improvements and influencing decision-making processes. From creating spaces for CSO demands and positions to conducting advocacy initiatives at both national and sub-national levels, our collective efforts have contributed to more inclusive and participatory policy and budget decision-making processes. For example, in Mali, capacity strengthening efforts have empowered watchdog committees to gain a better understanding of awareness-raising issues and adopt a more effective approach to citizen monitoring activities in nutrition and WASH. Similarly, in South Sudan, CSOs have established 12 spaces to effectively advocate for improved nutrition outcomes. This demonstrates the critical role of strengthened CSOs in driving positive change. Financial evidence from budget analysis exercises has also empowered CSOs to critically engage with Parliamentarians (MPs) on food security, nutrition and WASH budgets; and as a result this evidence is now also demanded by MPs themselves to inform and play their oversight roles more effectively.

Multi-Sectoral Approach to Undernutrition: Embracing a multi-sectoral approach to addressing undernutrition has been central to Right2Grow’s objectives. By engaging with government agencies, decision-makers, and other stakeholders, we have facilitated policy improvements and implementation across programme countries. From increased budget allocations for nutrition and WASH For example, in Burkina Faso this resulted in commitments from government agencies to support budgeting sensitive to nutrition, WASH, and food security at community level. In South Sudan, our programme lead the development of the National Nutrition Policy, which is awaiting official government launch. Similarly, in Uganda, our support led to the passage of by-laws in Purongo Sub-County aimed at promoting food security, hygiene, and sanitation, mandating households to maintain personal consumption gardens and clean compounds. In Ethiopia, we organised a policy dialogue with strategic partners to design an action plan for establishing the Nutrition Council. These accomplishments underscore the importance of collaborative partnerships and coordinated efforts in addressing complex challenges such as undernutrition.

Mobilizing International Development Actors: While progress towards mobilizing international development actors has been varying across programme countries, we have made notable strides in enhancing communication, coordination, and collaboration with key stakeholders. For example, in Mali we supported the establishment of Sanitation and Water for All Committee and in Uganda the development and final submission of a CSO position paper to the United Nations on Right to Adequate Food with proposed

recommendations on how to improve access to adequate food. Through joint campaigns and events, and engagement with development partners, our efforts have contributed to a more integrated approach to addressing the underlying determinants of undernutrition. By leveraging partnerships and advocating for the adoption of frameworks like the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN) we are paving the way for enhanced coordination and synergy among international development actors.



Bashir Uddin Gharami, a local doctor and General Secretary of a CSO in the village of Pyarpur, at a community meeting Right2Grow Bangladesh

While we see notable progress towards Right2Grow objectives, the programme has encountered numerous obstacles, ranging from political complexities to conflict in fragile contexts. By embracing adaptive strategies, fostering

collaborative partnerships, strengthening local communities and building upon a deep understanding of local dynamics, we have been able to navigate through these challenges. The mid-term review, which was conducted during the reporting period, allowed for a critical reflection of our results after 2,5 years of implementation and helped us strategize for our plans for the final two years of programme

implementation. And while some of the challenges will remain to exist, we believe that our continued joint efforts will be essential in achieving our goals and to build a more resilient and nourished future for all.

3.2 Partnership collaboration reflection

In 2023, we reflected extensively on partnership collaboration at both global and country level as part of the mid-term review. Details of the mid-term review, and the decisions we took based on the results and recommendations have been described in the consolidated MTR report submitted to MFA on 1 November 2023.

Governance and coordination structure

Right2Grow has been successful in establishing a working and effective partnership, enhancing capacity and joint decision making on key programme operational and administrative issues, but we did experience some challenges in coordination in the first 2.5 years of the programme. The mid-term review confirmed these experiences and as a result we have adjusted our governance and coordination structure in 2023. This has helped us to improve and simplify our decision-making processes and coordination. The adapted structure also puts countries even more in the lead, aligned with our Shift the Power approach (as explained in the next paragraph). At country level there were no major changes needed in country governance or coordination.

Shift the Power

Shift the Power is a key approach across Right2Grow country programmes and in our global governance structure. We emphasize decentralizing decision-making power from Northern and international NGOs to local CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs), ultimately aiming for more equitable and effective program implementation.

Local partners are actively involved in decision-making processes at multiple levels. These include strategic planning, technical implementation, operational decisions, and representation in Country Steering Committees (CSCs). The involvement of local CSOs in decision-making processes enables them to take the lead in program implementation and decision-making, demonstrating a tangible shift of power from international to local actors.

In the six countries Right2Grow is implemented by a total of 46 tier 1 and tier 2 CSOs, who work with a total of 1,108 local community based organisations (third tier partners). In some countries, the thematic focal points for mutual capacity development (MCD) and linking & learning (L&L) are selected from local CSOs, for example Nutrition Society Uganda (L&L) and Food Rights Alliance (MCD) in Uganda or Guraghe Development and Cultural Association (L&L) and Mothers and Children Multi-sectoral Development Organization (MCMDO) (MCD) in Ethiopia. Furthermore the BMET work in Ethiopia is led by local partner MCMDO, who has been able to create a good platform for all Right2Grow partners in country to contribute to budget advocacy efforts.

Moreover, mutual capacity strengthening initiatives such as training sessions and workshops enable local partners to take on leadership roles and advocate for their communities effectively. For example, training local CSOs budget analysis empowered them to advocate for better domestic financing of nutrition and WASH independently. In addition, local partners who are leading on BMET work in country have attended international advocacy and policy influencing trainings. This includes MCMDO in Ethiopia, Reseau de la Société civile pour la Nutrition (RESONUT) in Burkina Faso, Groupe de Suivi Budgétaire (GSB) in Mali, Horizontal Learning Programme Foundation (HLPF) in Bangladesh, Child Rights Coalition (CRC) in South Sudan and Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) in Uganda. Furthermore CBOs in all countries strengthened their institutional capacity by utilizing small grants awarded through Right2Grow.

Citizen, Voice & Action (CVA)



The CVA approach aims to transform the dialogue between communities and their governments in order to improve services that impact the daily lives of children and their families.

At global level, Right2Grow has undertaken additional efforts in 2023 to embody the Shift the Power approach, particularly through adjustments to its governance structure and decision-making processes. Some key aspects of how Shift the Power is reflected globally within the consortium are as follows:

- **Decentralized Decision-Making:** The newly installed Programme Management Unit (PMU) serves as the operational decision-making body and is comprised of representatives from each country, along with the Global Partnership Coordinator and Global Partnership Facilitator. The PMU also interfaces with the Global Coordination Committee (GCC) to provide updates on progress and seek guidance as needed.
- **Equitable Representation:** The inclusion of representatives from all six program countries in the GCC ensures equitable representation and promotes a diversity of perspectives in decision-making processes. This is essential for ensuring that decisions are informed by the needs and priorities of communities in different country contexts.
- **Consensus-Based Decision Making:** The Right2Grow decision-making process based on consent emphasizes collaboration and consensus-building among stakeholders. This approach fosters dialogue, cooperation, and mutual respect among Northern, Southern, international, national and local partners; and ensures decisions reflect the collective interests of the consortium.
- **Simplified Governance Processes:** The restructuring of governance processes aims to simplify and streamline decision-making, reducing complexity and bureaucracy. This aligns with the Shift the Power philosophy by making governance more accessible and transparent, empowering all partners to participate meaningfully in shaping the direction of the program.
- **Capacity Strengthening and Learning:** The emphasis on continuous learning and exchange of knowledge between partners contributes to capacity strengthening and empowerment at all levels. By facilitating learning opportunities and sharing successful approaches, the consortium strengthens the capabilities of local partners to lead and implement program activities effectively.
- **Collaborative Support:** The Right2Grow global technical support team provides needs-based technical assistance to country teams, reinforcing the principle of collaboration and mutual support. This ensures that program countries receive tailored support to address their specific challenges and priorities, enhancing the overall effectiveness of program implementation.

It was also decided in 2023 to transition the technical support budget, which was previously managed at global level, to countries. The Global Programme Management Unit holds decision making power over the technical support plan to ensure country leadership and investments in local partners are needs-based.

Overall, the Shift the Power approach significantly influenced programme implementation within Right2Grow. It has led to greater inclusivity, empowerment of local stakeholders, and a more equitable distribution of decision-making power. Moving forward, continued efforts to strengthen the capacity of local partners, streamline governance structures, and foster collaboration between global and country actors will be essential for maximizing the impact of the program and promoting sustainable outcomes.

Sustainability and local ownership

Through the various programme interventions, sustainability is interwoven and is part and parcel of the various programme initiatives. Right2Grow has undertaken several system strengthening initiatives at country level to sustain the achieved results of the programme and to enhance local ownership as we approach the project's conclusion. As mentioned above, we have organised **capacity-strengthening trainings** to strengthen CSO effectiveness in advocacy and voice-raising to address local issues and influence local government planning and budgeting processes and allocations autonomously.

To support sustainability, CSOs have crafted **operational plans** to take ownership of established initiatives and

Vision, Commitment & Action (VCA)



A VCA workshop in action, where communities take the first step in shifting their mindsets and creating a future of their own making.

foster linkages among themselves within Right2Grow implementation areas. Community structures, including CBOs, have been encouraged to **attain full registration** at district level, empowering them to sustain engagements independently of Right2Grow.

The program has also **strengthened local institutional structures**, such as nutrition coordination committees and water user committees, to ensure the continuity of WASH and nutrition plans and their implementation and accountability for allocated resources post-programme. Furthermore, partnerships have been forged with the **local private sector** to support enterprise development that responds to community demands, also supporting sustainability of our efforts. **Establishing partnerships** between communities, CSOs, and other stakeholders has also supported the creation of a network of advocacy groups, and the development or strengthening of local and national CSO platforms. These partnerships are meant to provide affordable resources, knowledge exchange, and collaborative problem-solving and take on leadership of implementing community-led advocacy not only during but also after the programme has ended.

In the remaining time of the programme we will invest in further strengthening community and grassroots-level organizations, enhancing government and other local structures for multi-sectoral coordination. We will also integrate successful Right2Grow strategies and approaches into future programming of all partners involved.

Collaboration with MFA in the Netherlands, the Dutch embassies and other strategic partnerships or movements

In 2023, we also continued the good relations with the embassies in Right2Grow programme countries by sharing information on a regular basis and participating in consultations or events. However, the level of engagement in regional and international advocacy with most embassies was limited. In 2024, Right2Grow aims to strengthen our collaboration with the embassies to jointly mobilize donors and other international development actors to collaborate along the humanitarian-development and WASH-nutrition nexuses to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition.

Our engagement with the Dutch MFA remained steady. In 2023 we found several opportunities to work together on common priorities around WASH, nutrition, the triple nexus, and youth as also described in our international advocacy paragraph. We made new connections to teams in MFA that are focused on these topics within other departments (DSO, DSH, IGG, etc.) and continue to explore further opportunities for strategic collaboration in the final two years.

Right2Grow also actively seeks collaboration with other partnerships and movements. For example, in Bangladesh, Right2Grow's collaboration has been ongoing with Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition (CSA-SUN), Bangladesh National Nutrition Council, and Community Clinic Health Support Trust, focusing on research development and political advocacy for child-specific budget issues. Additionally, partnerships with the private sector and the Bangladesh Child Rights Forum have facilitated agreements to influence political parties and track budget expenditure for child welfare. Similar collaborative efforts in Ethiopia involved working with Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA), Ethiopian Civil Society Coalition for Scale Up nutrition (ECSC-SUN), Ethiopia Humanitarian International NGO Forum (HINGO), and key government actors to enhance advocacy capacities and implement WASH and Nutrition programs. This included engagements with private sectors to improve service provision and distribution of essential products. In Mali, cooperation with various partners, including Spanish donor Navarra, and cultural festival *Festival International desk Rails in Kayes (FIRKA)*, has facilitated workshops, debates, and fairs to raise awareness and advocate for constitutional rights to water and nutrition quality. Meanwhile in Uganda, strategic partnerships with CASCADE and *We Are Able* partnership have enabled collaborative efforts to strengthen legislation, improve nutrition governance, and enhance disability inclusion in food security and nutrition advocacy. Through collaboration with the MFA Power of Learning initiative, learning from other Dutch-funded partnerships is facilitated in both Uganda and Bangladesh, with the exchange of best practices and strategies across thematic areas as a result.

3.3 Good practices and lessons learnt

3.3.1 Good Practices

During this reporting period, several effective practices emerged from country experiences within Right2Grow, yielding positive outcomes:

Civil Society Empowerment through BMET exercises has ensured the sustainability of project achievements, fostering ongoing monitoring of nutrition issues on an annual basis at lower costs. Experience-sharing frameworks between local CSOs have stimulated knowledge exchange and encouraged formation of advocacy groups who voice their needs and solutions to address these needs.

Empowering community members and structures, including CVA practitioners and CBOs, has enabled active participation in policy design, implementation, and budgeting processes. Successful stories, such as functionalized WASH and Nutrition governance structures in Uganda, underscore the importance of fully functional platforms to address community needs effectively. CSOs have played a crucial role in creating demand and investing in basic social services for nutrition and WASH.

Citizen awareness creation and mobilization through Community Voice and Action (CVA) has proven highly effective in enhancing WASH, nutrition and health services. This approach not only educates citizens about their rights but also develops their advocacy skills, fostering a collaborative environment that continuously improving public services. By engaging citizens actively, CVA promotes social accountability and enhances community well-being. Additionally, health education sessions have spurred habitual changes among individuals, encouraging the establishment of sanitary latrines and handwashing devices within households. This grassroots approach, coupled with continuous community awareness campaigns on nutrition, food security, and WASH, has led to the widespread adoption and internalization of good practices.

Stakeholder engagement and government collaboration: Involving decentralized technical services in the BMET process has facilitated budget advocacy by providing access to budget information. Strengthening journalists' knowledge of WASH, nutrition, and food security issues has enhanced media involvement in improving nutrition. Furthermore, aligning advocacy approaches with national and local governance planning and budgeting cycles has proven to be essential for efficient planning and budgeting of identified community priorities within the national budget. This alignment ensures that advocacy efforts are strategically timed and coordinated for maximum impact.

Promoting a multi-sectoral approach: The various trainings provided to key government staff from the health, agriculture, and water sectors strengthened common understanding and alignment on outstanding nutrition and WASH issues that require coordinated response. Increasing knowledge of nutrition and WASH among decision-makers, strengthening CSOs' advocacy capacities, and promoting collaboration between local government structures and civil society have been pivotal. Capacity strengthening for local private sector players and participation in local trade fairs have strengthened networking in the production chain.

3.3.2 Lessons Learned

Key lessons learned are the following:

- **Inclusion of Vulnerable Populations:** Deliberate inclusion of vulnerable groups and understanding gender roles are crucial for successful gender inclusion in programming
- **Government Involvement:** Local government representatives' cooperation is secured when CSOs raise their voices with sufficient data and justification, indicating the importance of data-driven advocacy.
- **CSO Engagements:** CSOs' dialogues with local and national authorities are instrumental in securing budgetary support and services for communities.
- **Capacity Strengthening:** Empowering government officials and parliamentarians with BMET training and digital budget monitoring tools, is instrumental in creating more efficient and responsible local governance structures, which ultimately leads to improved service delivery and community development outcomes
- **Effective Monitoring and Evaluation:** Combining qualitative and quantitative methods in M&E practices tailored to the program's context and objectives contributes to evidence-based decision-making and continuous improvement of programming.
- **Linking and Learning:** Collaborative actions and networking with various organizations contribute to joint campaigns and learning initiatives. Country-exchanges is a valuable method to improve programming,

Overall, the program's flexibility, stakeholder engagement, and collaborative partnerships have been instrumental in achieving sustainable outcomes and addressing complex challenges effectively.

4. Financial Summary

Financial overview

In the year 2023, the total expenditures for the Right2Grow programme were 10,439,718 EURO which is 711,731 EURO lower (6%) than the approved budget for 2023 of 11,151,449 EURO. Table 4.1 shows the financial results of 2023 per county and for the total programme, and the cumulative spending for the first three years of Right2Grow.

Table 4.1 Financial progress overview 2023

Country	Budget 2021-2025 (EUR)	Budget 2023 (EUR)	Actuals 2023 (EUR)	Variance 2023 (EUR)	Variance 2023 (%)	Actuals cumulative 2021-2023 (EUR)	Burn Rate (2021-2025)
Bangladesh	€ 6.700.688	€ 1.893.238	€ 1.722.758	€ -170.480	-9%	€ 3.964.484	59%
Burkina Faso	€ 6.700.129	€ 1.519.137	€ 1.382.113	€ -137.024	-9%	€ 3.709.240	55%
Ethiopia	€ 6.700.131	€ 1.788.966	€ 1.778.014	€ -10.952	-1%	€ 4.192.411	63%
Mali	€ 6.700.130	€ 1.645.479	€ 1.596.075	€ -49.404	-3%	€ 4.071.268	61%
South Sudan	€ 6.700.107	€ 1.768.473	€ 1.655.431	€ -113.042	-6%	€ 3.746.393	56%
Uganda	€ 6.700.175	€ 1.577.154	€ 1.430.850	€ -146.304	-9%	€ 4.008.034	60%
Global Management & Overhead	€ 3.675.304	€ 931.818	€ 874.477	€ -57.341	-6%	€ 2.165.963	59%
Contingencies	€ 135.924	€ 27.185	€ -	€ -27.185	-100%	€ 11.353	8%
Total	€ 44.012.588	€ 11.151.449	€ 10.439.718	€ -711.731	-6%	€ 25.869.146	59%

Explanation of variances

The 2023 variance of 6% is minimal compared to previous years, during which we experienced variances of 11% (2022) and 37% (2021). Unspent funds from the first two years were carried forward to subsequent years, hence the 2023 results indicate that we have been catching up on spending. In 2023, variances per country ranged from 1% to 9%. Some of the program's underexpenditure in 2023 can be attributed to limited activities in conflict-affected areas or disruptions caused by elections or political instability. However, in some cases, delays in decision-making by governments resulted in postponing some activities. While inflation has also contributed to increased spending, when we look at the reported achievements in this annual report in line with the financial results, we are confident to say Right2Grow has accelerated its implementation. By the end of 2023, we had spent 59% of the total five-year grant amount, which corresponds to the time elapsed since the start (3 out of 5 years).

Financial progress by result area

The expenditures over the four results (outcomes) show a relatively even distribution, similar to previous years and the 5-year projected share.

Table 4.2 Financial results per outcome

Outcomes	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4
5-year projected share	29%	23%	28%	20%
Actual share 2023	28%	25%	25%	21%

Next steps

Based on the financial results of 2023 and the expected expenditure for 2024 (based on the approved budget for 2024), Right2Grow will draft its budget for the final year of implementation (2025) to be submitted to MFA by 1st of November 2024. The annual plan and budget for 2025 will be based on the progress made in 2024, priorities for the final year to reach our results and maximise our impact, and the remaining available resources.

Please note that the audited report will be shared by 1 July 2024 as agreed with the Ministry.

5. List of Annexes

Annex 1: Country Progress Summaries 2023

Annex 2: Updated Results Framework 2023, including contributions to IGG indicators

Annex 3: Financial progress report (budget models)



Annex 1



Country Progress Summaries

BANGLADESH



BURKINA FASO

ETHIOPIA



MALI

SOUTH SUDAN



UGANDA



Right2Grow Bangladesh Annual Report 2023

Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 - 31 Dec 2023

Report submitted by: Max Foundation

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	Bangladesh
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	Max Foundation
Reporting period	1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023
Lead implementing partners	Action Against Hunger, Save the Children, The Hunger Project, World Vision, CEGAA
Contact person:	Imam Mahmud Riad
Lead funding office	Max Foundation, Netherlands
Contact person:	Imam Mahmud Riad, Country Director, Max Foundation Bangladesh

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1. Programme context

1.1 Changes in the Country Context

In 2023, the run-up to the national elections (which took place in the beginning of January 2024) was tense and caused some disruptions in programme implementation. Partners revised their plans to mitigate the impact, demonstrating the consortium’s resilience and adaptability. Furthermore, environmental challenges, particularly cyclones, impacted some of the programme areas – especially Taltali Upazila.

1.2 Implementation Challenges

The prevailing economic crisis and a high inflation rate has affected the livelihoods of the target population and thereby their ability to fulfil the nutritional demands of their children. Consequently, CSO leaders are advising community members to develop homestead gardens, raise poultry and cultivate fish. In addition, vulnerable households are linked to government safety-net schemes.

Additionally, we identified a challenge regarding coordination among relevant government service-providing agencies at the local level and effective collaboration with stakeholders (both public & private). To address this, initiatives were undertaken by consortium partners to mobilize and empower local CSOs to enhance accountability among government officials. Special attention was given to enhancing functional capabilities, fostering multi-sectoral coordination through effective Union Development Coordination Committee (UDCC) meetings, and engaging in collaborative actions to strengthen local system through increasing accountability among the stakeholders in meeting the community demands. Bangladesh continues to have a restricted civic space, creating a challenge in the level of motivation of CSOs to make the governmental system more accountable. To mitigate this, deliberate efforts were undertaken to sharpen the capabilities of CSO leaders on Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) and Lobby & Advocacy (L&A). Furthermore, CSO leaders were motivated and provided adequate support to engage in data-driven advocacy efforts, with a specific focus on non-confrontational strategies to advocate for increasing the Nutrition – WASH budget for children under 5.

The Mid-Term Review (MTR) was an important moment to check the programme Theory of Change and the progress made so far. It recommended to increase effort on private sector engagement. In response, 103 private sector actors have been trained in entrepreneurship development. Furthermore, MoUs have been signed between local entrepreneurs and five national-level private sector actors as to increase availability and accessibility of WASH – Nutrition product and services. Other recommendations of the MTR were also followed up, for example the consortium initiated the formation and operational enhancement of subdistrict-level CSO platforms, which have since improved their coordination with Union CSO Platforms. This was further solidified by the development of operational guidelines and bylaws, alongside training on BMET and L&A.

1.3 Cross cutting Issues

Cross-cutting themes of gender, disability, youth inclusion, and climate resilience were integral to the programme’s strategy. Initiatives to empower women and youth in leadership roles, enhance community resilience against climate change, and ensure the participation of people living with a disability exemplified a holistic approach to addressing the complex challenges Bangladeshi communities face. By fostering an environment of inclusivity, sustainability, and resilience, the Right2Grow programme addressed immediate needs and also laid the groundwork for long-term community well-being and development.

2. Programme results

2.1 Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

Awareness raising on different WASH and nutrition issues continued throughout 2023. As a result, the practice of improved WASH and nutritional behaviours at the household level has increased to 68% against the target of 50%. The households practicing small doable actions has increased to 31% from 5.3% at baseline. At the same time, 51% of community members (approximate 429,000 persons) reported positive changes in WASH and nutrition practices. 20% of households have received WASH, nutrition, and adolescent/mother/child health services from the government or private service provider agencies. Communities are now investing to get quality products and services related to WASH and nutrition, and 103 private sector actors are working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services.

Table 2.1 Pathway 1 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (Y 3/ overall)	Year 3 achieved	Remarks
Outcome 1. Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners					
R2G.OC.1 .1	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	0	18	33	Communities are becoming aware and raised demands through taken various initiatives
R2G.OC.1 .2	# of barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives	0	18	22	
R2G.OC.1 .3	% of households practiced improved WASH and able to consume Nutritional facility.	47.4%	50%	68%	
Intermediate outcome A: Communities are aware of small doable actions and put them into practice					
BD.IO.A.1	% of households who practice small doable actions consistently and correctly	5.3%	6%	31%	
BD.IO.A.2	% of community that report positive WASH and nutrition practices changed	0	20%	51%	
Intermediate outcome B: Communities have access to affordable nutrition and WASH products and services					
BD.IO.B.1	% of community people received WASH and nutrition services from the government and/or private service provider agencies	12.3%	13%	20%	
BD.IO.B.2	% of total cost of services and products borne by communities and out-of-pocket payments	63.4%	69%	69%	Source: HEU, MoH&FW
Output 1: CBOs effectively mobilise communities around better nutrition, WASH and Mother/Child health care					
R2G.OP.1 .1	# of CSOs involved in Right2Grow	780	780	63771	Core CSOs Local CSOs Community CSOs
Output 2: Private sector develops innovative business models, services and products					
BD.OP.2.1	# Private sector actors working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services	0	62	103	

2.2 Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

In the reporting period, CSOs succeeded 47 times in creating space for their demands and positions through setting agendas, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage with stakeholders at the national level. In total, 95 advocacy initiatives were carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership. 5 Upazila-level CSO platforms were established and function well to maintain coordination, collaboration, sharing experience & evidence in support of the advocacy agenda.

Table 2.2 Pathway 2 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3 / overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
Outcome 2. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition					
R2G.OC.2.1	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting,	0	41	47	These are at

	influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage national level				sub-national level
R2G.OC.2.2	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/ constituency	0	15	95	4 at national and 91 at sub-national
R2G.OC.2.3	Established of a common CSO platform regarding WASH and nutrition	0	4	5	
Intermediate outcome C: CBOs and CSOs regularly engage with local government in programming and financial planning					
BD.IO.C.1	# of CBOs and CSOs which are consulted during (multi) annual programming and budgeting exercises	0	614	589	
BD.IO.C.3	# of CSOs which have developed and rolled out integrated nutrition and WASH advocacy strategies	0	476	476	
BD.IO.C.4	# of Union Parishad practiced participatory planning and budgeting as per government circular	0	33	35	
Intermediate outcome D: CBOs and CSOs have the legitimacy & capacity to voice the concerns of the marginalized and disempowered					
BD.IO.D.2	# of CSOs with increased lobbying and advocacy capacities	0	71	70	
Output 3: CBOs and CSOs have the technical skills to track, analyse and report on allocation and expenditure					
BD.OP. 3.1	# of CBOs and CSOs trained on basic Public Health expenditure tracking	0	745	736	
BD.OP. 3.2	# of CBOs and CSOs with technical skills on the track, analyse and reporting public sector allocation expenditure	0	745	642	
Output 4: CBOs and CSOs widen their constituencies to include the interests of the most vulnerable group					
BD.OP. 4.1	# of CBOs and CSOs targeting the issues related to the adolescent girls, women and MVG	0	230	628	
BD.OP. 4.2	# CBOs and CSOs who have conducted vulnerability mapping for marginalized groups, adolescent girls and women	0	214	569	

2.3 Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

In the reporting period, the WASH and nutrition budget increased on average by 4.08% from the previous year in the 40 UPs in the programme. Four learning briefs were developed: one targeting women leadership and marginalized groups development issues, one related to BMET and L&A issues, one on private sector engagement and one on CSO leadership. 1 field research was conducted during the reporting period, but it is not finalised yet.

Table 2.3 Pathway 3 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3 / overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
Outcome 3. National government and decentralized entities adopt and mainstream an integrated, multispectral approach to undernutrition in policies, action plans and budget allocations					
R2G.OC.3.2	# of laws, policies and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	0	1	0	R2G developed a policy brief based on reviewing national nutrition policy and national nutrition plan of action –2 with necessary recommendations. It was shared to the ministry (MoHFW) and they have started reviewing their policy and develop NPAN –3.

R2G.OC.3.3	% of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding).	1.45%	2%	4.08%	
Intermediate outcome E: Evidence on pathways and implementation gaps informs policymaking					
BD.IO.E.3	# local (UP) and national level monitoring cell established to increase accountability and evidence-based decision making	0	22	7	
Intermediate outcome F: The multisectoral approach is reflected in sector policies and action plans					
BD.IO.F.1	# of UP and sub-districts have multi-sectoral joint action plan to address child nutrition	0	27	37	
BD.IO.F.2	Multi-sectoral approach reflected in Bangladesh National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN)	0	1	1	
Output 5: Communities, CBOs and CSOs gather data and experiences on the quality of nutrition, WASH and Mother/Child health service delivery					
BD.OP.5.1	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0	473	598	
BD.OP.5.2	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services targeting children US, women, adolescent girls, and marginalized groups	0	453	578	
BD.OP.5.3	# of CBOs, CSOs trained in systems/tools on how to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0	473	598	
Output 6: Field research study generates evidence and innovative ways to prevent undernutrition					
BD.OP.6.1	# of Learning briefs created	0	10	4	Lack of inadequate information
BD.OP.6.2	# of learning briefs targeting gender issues and marginalized groups	0	5	1	
BD.OP.6.4	# of field research conducted	0	5	1	2 research projects are ongoing
Output 7: Right2Grow partners, CSOs and government engage in (sub)national platforms for data sharing, peer learning and adaptation					
BD.OP.7.1	Attendance rate of Right2Grow partners, CSOs and government in (sub)national platforms	0	80%	82%	

2.4 Donors and international development actor’s coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 4)

In the reporting period, 4 meetings regarding multi-sectoral coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors in WASH & nutrition were conducted. During these meetings, experiences were shared, and discussions were had on strengthening the evidence base and advocating for multi-sectoral funding in nutrition.

Table 2.4 Pathway 4 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
Intermediate outcome G: International actors participate in intersectoral coordination mechanisms, share data and engage in joint programming					
BD.IO.G.1	# of meetings involving multi-sectoral coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors on WASH & nutrition to share experiences and strengthen the evidence base	0	2	4	
Output 8: Right2Grow partners and CSOs lobby donors to better align funding, programming and leveraging for large programmes					
BD.OP.8.1	# of meetings held with donors to advocate for multi-sectoral funding in nutrition	0	5	2	

3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

The Right2Grow programme has undertaken numerous advocacy initiatives at both local and national level, aimed at championing budget allocations for WASH and nutrition for children under the age of 5 at local government level (Union Parishad), making nutrition and WASH products/services available and affordable for all through the private sector and ensuring the availability of child Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) services. At the local level, CSOs have been pivotal in securing that all 40 Union Parishad Right2Grow works with have created such budget line and allocated budget to it. Across the 40 Union Parishads, the WASH and nutrition budget increased by 4.08% in 2023-2024 compared to 2022-2023.

This grassroots momentum is now propelling a national campaign to institutionalize such budget allocations countrywide. Highlighting the success of these efforts was the convening of a roundtable meeting that underscored the critical need for child-specific budget allocations within UPs. Additionally, the programme's collaborative efforts with the Bangladesh Child Rights Forum (BSAF) aimed to influence political parties to incorporate child nutrition issues into their election manifestos.

Through the implementation of the Bridge for Voices (B4V) approach, the Right2Grow programme is committed to amplifying community voices and influencing decision/policymakers to prioritize health and nutrition funding. This strategy has created robust partnerships with CSO leaders and local entrepreneur associations. B4V has energized CSOs to champion accountability and development, leading to various initiatives that have emphasized community needs and facilitated dialogues with UP standing committees and government entities.

Other noteworthy achievements in 2023 include:

- 14 Union Parishads established "Ma o Shishu Corner" in their Union Parishad complex. Ma O Shishu Corners create a space for breastfeeding mothers to feed their children while receiving services at the Union Parishad office, reflecting the programme's influence on creating child-friendly infrastructure.
- To support Union Parishads in identifying those households that should be prioritised when spending the health budget, Right2Grow created and provided lists of hardcore poor households and malnourished children to Union Parishads. As a result, 44 deep tubewells and 615 sets of ring-slabs have been distributed by Union Parishads. Furthermore, 52 households received support for building handwashing facilities, 43 vulnerable beneficiaries enrolled in the Government Social Safety Net programme, and 654 mothers received Nutrition support pregnancy allowance from their UP.
- The Healthy Village Approach, redefined as Healthy Communities to fit the consortium's context led to successful development change. This initiative saw collaboration between CSOs, local entrepreneurs, and communities, ensuring health and nutrition service availability, leading to the declaration of 53 communities as healthy community in 2023.

3.1. Reflection on learnings and communication of results for scaling

In 2023, position papers were developed. Best practices were documented, and advocacy videos made to amplify the programme's successes at both national and global platforms. The programme initiated crucial research studies to craft advocacy tools, such as the "Estimates child profile and costing model development to Reduce Child Undernutrition in Selected Coastal Areas of Bangladesh," and explored the role of local entrepreneurs in improving nutrition status and WASH conditions.

One of the standout narratives from the programme involves a CSO leader named Sathi from Kalikapur Union, whose relentless efforts culminated in her community being recognized as a Healthy Village. Inspired by their triumph, neighbouring CSOs embarked on similar journeys, transforming their communities into healthy villages within six months, aided by the programme's technical assistance and training.

The Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) approach has also been a cornerstone of the programme, fostering community engagement with government stakeholders for improved health and WASH services. Through community scorecards, monitoring standards, and interface meetings, CSOs facilitated dialogue between communities and local authorities, which led to them allocating budget for essential services. This approach not only empowered communities but also streamlined the process of identifying and addressing their basic needs.

Amidst these successes, the programme faced challenges, particularly in engaging with duty bearers and private sector entities, highlighting the importance of capacity-building and creating conducive environments for collaboration.

Furthermore, the programme's engagement with the Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC) and concerted efforts with consortium partners have fortified partnerships across sectors, enhancing strategies to combat child malnutrition. The establishment of local entrepreneur associations and their collaboration with private companies showcases a significant step towards sustainable health and nutrition solutions.

In reflection, the programme has navigated through successes and challenges with a forward-looking approach, focusing on community leadership, stakeholder engagement, and adaptive strategies to foster impactful and lasting changes. Through collaborative efforts, capacity-building initiatives, and strategic advocacy, the Right2Grow programme has made significant strides in advocating for and implementing policies and practices that ensure the well-being of children and communities, paving the way for a healthier and more equitable future.

3.2. Change Story: Empowered CSO Members: Catalysts for Transforming WASH and Nutritional Behaviour in Communities

Ms. Sathi Begum, a homemaker from Purbo Ballabpur community in Kalikapur Union, Patuakhali Sadar Upazila, joined the newly formed civil society organisation (CSO) committee when the Right2Grow programme helped to establish it in 2022. Ms. Sathi joined hands with fellow community members to champion the cause of creating a Healthy Village.

Challenges to child health loomed large in her village, as there was limited access to essential WASH and nutrition products coupled with a lack of awareness. This left vulnerable households grappling with inadequate hygiene and health behaviour. Right2Grow collaborative approach, coupled with proactive engagement with local government and private sectors, catalyzed change within communities. Ms. Sathi Begum actively participated in project activities (such as training, counselling, demonstrations, and an exchange visit), giving her the skills and insights to play an active role in improving her community.

Ms. Begum led a comprehensive survey covering 90 households in Purbo Ballabpur CSO. The survey revealed pressing issues, like unhygienic latrines, the absence of menstrual hygiene management pits, the lack of Maxi basins for handwashing in many households, and suboptimal use of safe water for daily chores. Armed with these findings, Ms. Begum and her CSO Committee took proactive steps to address these challenges. They brought these concerns to the attention of Union Parishad Member Mr. Atiq Hasan Ripan, advocating for urgent action to improve hygiene conditions within the community. Responding promptly, Mr. Atiq Hasan Ripon issued directives to all households in the area, emphasizing the importance of maintaining hygienic latrines, adhering to hygiene standards, and installing Maxi basins for proper handwashing.

Ms. Begum also engaged with local entrepreneurs, which had already received training in business skills and had their links with private companies strengthened by Right2Grow. These collaborative efforts expanded the community's access to healthy products and services at affordable prices. And through further engagement with the Union Parishad, essential WASH infrastructure was procured and installed for vulnerable households in the community.

Inspired by their success, neighbouring CSOs followed suit, striving to replicate the achievements of Purbo Ballabpur. Through Ms. Begum's leadership and community engagement, several villages took active steps to replicate the success in Purbo Ballabpur, marking a testament to the transformative power of grassroots initiatives.

4. Partnership and collaboration reflections

The Right2Grow programme has formed a Country Steering Committee (CSC) chaired by Max Foundation as the lead organization in Bangladesh. The CSC has diverse representatives from civil society, academia, and government service agencies, with advisory insights from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, underscoring a robust partnership model. This collaborative structure, further supported by a Programme Management Unit (PMU) in Dhaka, ensures a seamless operational flow and effective programme implementation, reflecting a commitment to shared ownership.

The Right2Grow consortium has championed a consensus-based approach, involving all partners in strategic, technical, and operational decisions. The programme is evolving forward to **shifting power** to key advocacy actors like CSOs for decision making and influencing local government management by transforming them into a support mechanism with budget, programmatic and administrative arrangements for children under 5. The CVA groups have gradually shown their power by amplifying voices to influential community members.

Adaptive management has been a cornerstone of Right2Grow's operational philosophy, enabling the programme to navigate the complexities of Bangladesh's shifting political and socio-economic landscape. By re-evaluating and adjusting activities in response to external factors and MTR recommendations, the consortium has demonstrated flexibility and resilience. This adaptive strategy has facilitated the reprioritization of interventions and ensured the programme's alignment with evolving ground realities, thereby enhancing its impact and relevance.

The year 2023 witnessed Right2Grow expanding its collaborative network, establishing **strategic alliances** with key organizations like Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition, BNNC, and Community Clinic Health Support Trust (CCHST). These partnerships, marked by the signing of MoUs and collaborative research initiatives, signify a concerted effort towards addressing undernutrition through a multi-stakeholder approach. Furthermore, engagement with political entities to advocate for child-specific budget allocations underscores Right2Grow's commitment to systemic change. The programme's extensive networking and advocacy efforts at various administrative levels have been instrumental in amplifying the voices of the most vulnerable, demonstrating the power of collaborative action in driving policy and practice change.

The **Dutch Embassy's** has provided pivotal support and enhanced the visibility of the Right2Grow programme, facilitating key advocacy and learning-sharing events. Regular updates and exchanges with the embassy have ensured sustained engagement and alignment with their expectations. Furthermore, the programme's integration into the broader 'Power of Voice' initiative highlights a successful model of international collaboration, fostering cross-border learning and support. This engagement not only enhances the programme's reach and impact but also exemplifies the potential of strategic partnerships in amplifying programme outcomes.

In summary, Right2Grow's partnerships and collaborations have been dynamic, adaptive, and inclusive. Through strategic alliances, equitable decision-making practices, and robust management structures, the programme has cultivated fertile ground for sustainable change. The ongoing collaboration with the Dutch Embassy and other strategic partners amplify this impact – as there is a collective commitment to combat undernutrition and enhance WASH practices in Bangladesh.

5. Programme reflections

As stated in the MTR: Given the political, social, and economic landscape of Bangladesh, the Theory of Change (ToC) of the Right2Grow Programme is a noteworthy and ambitious endeavour. <...> Positive policy outcomes will take time to emerge. Nonetheless, there have been some positive results at both the local and national levels. Through signing MoU with CSA-SUN and CCHST, these organizations have begun crafting action plans and policy roadmaps to enhance their joint collaboration and advocate for policy change. At the local level, collaboration and partnerships have facilitated the development of knowledge, awareness, and coordinated action plans to tackle malnutrition.

The challenge of integrating a cross-sectoral approach within government policies and budget allocations led the MTR consultants to suggest a lowering of expectations. The MTR advised focusing on evidence generation, awareness raising, and addressing implementation gaps to foster a conducive environment for policy reforms. Recommendations pivot towards practical initiatives, including kitchen gardening awareness sessions, operational research for evidence generation, and refining strategies for private sector engagement. Strengthening CSOs through adherence to guidelines, capacity building in governance, and advocacy, alongside promoting a federal structure for CSO platforms, emerged as crucial. No changes were made to the Theory of Change based on the MTR.

The programme's success narrative is woven through various achievements: effective use of budget allocations by Union Parishads for health and nutrition and the evolution of CSOs into vigilant watchdogs. Engagement with government entities has secured support for developmental initiatives, while collaboration with the private sector enhances accessibility to nutrition and WASH products. Notably, the implementation of the Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) approach has markedly improved service quality in Community Clinics.

The alignment of fund utilization with planned activities underscores efficient resource management. Despite facing additional challenges due to the COVID pandemic and upcoming national elections, the programme's execution, particularly in community-based activities and government stakeholder mobilization, has been commendable. However, outcome 4's performance fell short of expectations, highlighting areas for future concentration as well as the need to lower expectations.

Good practices include the effective operation of UDCC, District Nutrition Coordination Committee (DNCC), and Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee (UNCC), and enhanced accessibility of services to vulnerable households. Lessons learnt emphasize the transformative impact of convincing local government representatives, the effectiveness of the GMP awareness campaign, and the strategic use of Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) training and digital tools for budget tracking.

Efforts towards sustainability have seen the development of union and upazila-level CSO platforms and partnerships with the private sector for enterprise development. Despite these strides, gaps remain, such as engagement with government administrations and the full functionality of CVAs for resource mobilization. Addressing these gaps is essential for strengthening sustainable approaches and ensuring local ownership.

6. Conclusion and way forward

Through its comprehensive advocacy initiatives, the Right2Grow programme has effectively amplified community voices, influenced policy decisions, and forged strategic partnerships to address the pressing issues of undernutrition and inadequate WASH services among children under five in Bangladesh.

Looking ahead to 2024-2025, the programme aims to leverage the advocacy for child nutrition and WASH services by CSOs further, by supporting CSOs and local governments to work together effectively. Furthermore, to ensure the sustainability of the CSOs, more attention will be given to the CSOs associations, and giving them the tools to train and coach their CSOs effectively. This entails investments in organizational development, leadership training, and sustainable practices, fostering the growth and resilience of these local CSOs, ultimately empowering them to operate as independent and effective institutions.

Also, our work with the private sector will receive more focus to ensure the needs of communities can be met effectively by entrepreneurs in an affordable manner. Organizing these entrepreneurs, to enable them to collaborate with larger corporates and sustain their skills after 2025 will be of paramount importance. Emphasis will be placed on sustainability, local ownership, and adaptive programming to ensure lasting impacts on community health and well-being.

This will all be supported by evidence generation, dissemination and use, by the programme and its stakeholders. Learning from what works and what doesn't is critical for ensuring the sustainability of the programme and to motivate all partners to keep building towards a healthier future for children.

Right2Grow Burkina Faso Annual Report 2023 Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 - 31 Dec 2023

Report submitted by: Save the Children

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	Burkina Faso
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	The Hunger Project
Reporting period	1 January - 31 December 2023
Lead implementing partner	Save the Children Burkina Faso
Contact person:	Laurence Caron/Jeanne Somé
Lead funding office	Save the Children Netherlands
Contact person:	Caron Laurence

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1. Programme context

1.1 Changes in the country context

The coup d'état of 30 September 2022 in Burkina Faso led to the dissolution of the National Assembly, the Regional and Municipal Councils and the installation of the transition bodies (National Transition Council, National Transition Assembly and Special Delegations). With this event, the majority of administrative authorities (Governors, High Commissioners, Prefects and Directors of technical services related to Right2Grow themes) were changed. This led Right2Grow to reorganise visits to introduce the programme and its teams to the new authorities. In addition, the local elected representatives who were Right2Grow's first contacts were replaced by new authorities who had to be trained and made aware of the project's vision. Burkina Faso has also been facing terrorist attacks since 2015. These attacks have made some of Right2Grow's intervention areas inaccessible and reduced people's access to basic social services, following the mass displacement of around 2 million people. In addition, the Russian-Ukrainian crisis has caused inflation to rise to almost 16% in Burkina Faso, reducing the purchasing power of communities and plunging them into food and nutritional insecurity.

1.2 Risks and mitigations

In the Centre Nord region, insecurity restricted access to the entire intervention zone. Out of a total of 28 planned communes, Right2Grow was only able to cover 12. To remedy this situation and to be able to reach the most affected communities, Save the Children International and local partner *Reseau de la Société civile pour la Nutrition* (RESONUT) have chosen to further strengthen the work with CSOs at local level. In the North region, the worrying security situation in certain intervention zones meant that face-to-face activities could not be carried out. The mitigation measure was to work in collaboration with advocacy groups that have ramifications at community level to support the implementation of certain activities in the field. Furthermore, Right2Grow has produced radio broadcasts to better reach people in communities affected by terrorism. In the East region, 2023 was also characterized by an increase in violent attacks and threats against civilians which led to an increased number of internally displaced person (IDPs). This meant that lobbying had to be maintained and advocacy stepped up with multisectoral nutrition stakeholders at the local level.

1.3 Implementation challenges

Three main challenges have particularly affected the implementation of the programme. Firstly, the security situation has made it difficult to access certain regions. The country team closely monitors developments in the security, economic and political context to adapt planned activities accordingly and review geographical coverage where necessary. Secondly, institutional instability has led to challenges in building meaningful partnerships with the different authorities. The achievement of the objectives of the Right2Grow programme is still dependent on institutional stability at the level of the authorities, who have the power to make decisions in favour of nutrition and WASH. When changes occur, Right2Grow informs and trains the new authorities in place. Finally, the achievement of results highly relies on the dynamism of the advocacy groups and their access to resources. The Right2Grow consortium has supported Advocacy Groups to mobilize resources and find new partners.

1.4 Cross cutting issues

During 2023, the CSO members of the Advocacy Groups carried out advocacy work to ensure that the interests of those most vulnerable to malnutrition (young children, adolescents, pregnant or breastfeeding women, people living with disabilities and internally displaced people) were taken into account, and that women had direct access to decision-making and advocacy bodies.

2. Programme results

2.1. Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

In 2023, advocacy meetings were held with the Presidents of the Special Delegations (PDS) and as a result, PDSs are more aware of: i) the critical link between the nutrition of children under 5 and access to drinking water, hygiene and sanitation, and development and: ii) the problems and solutions at community-level. Regular meetings were also organized between advocacy groups and PDS to develop common plans to improve WASH and nutrition. The programme provided support to advocacy groups on access to credit and income generating activities (IGAs) to ensure women's empowerment.

Awareness raising activities were organized that mainly involved radio dramas on good eating habits and hand washing, reaching 295,238 women and 258,280 men. These broadcasts enabled communities to improve their knowledge of the two themes (nutrition and hygiene). Additionally, three live radio broadcasts were made in Gourcy, Ouahigouya and Titao via Radio Savane FM. The main objective of these broadcasts was to establish a framework for participatory and interactive dialogue between communities and the authorities on issues relating to nutrition, WASH and food security. Around nine hundred thousand (900,000) people were reached by these radio broadcasts, including three hundred thousand (300,000) men and six hundred thousand (600,000) women. The programme also built the capacity of journalists in order to develop more and better stories around nutrition and WSH.

As a result of Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) trainings, CSOs now have a direct contact with the government to access budget information and data, and Special Delegations have better understanding of decentralized and nutrition-sensitive budgeting. Linked to this was accompaniment and coaching of advocacy groups on budget analysis and service delivery. This has enabled advocacy groups to verify the implementation of government commitments to improve people's access to drinking water and sanitation, particularly in rural areas and the outskirts of urban centres. Table 2.1 provides a summary of results across outcome 1 indicators.

Table 2.1: Progress on outcome 1 indicators

Code	Indicator	Base value	Target (year 3/total) (2023)	3rd year results (2023)	Remarks
R2G.OC.1.1	Number of actions in which communities request improved services	0	Set: 15 Centre North: 5 North (THP-AMR): 5 East : 5	Set: 45 North Central: 14 East : 07 North: 24	These include advocacy workshops to encourage market gardeners to adopt agro-ecology, advocacy for access to land for IDPs, advocacy for the empowerment of women, advocacy for nutrition-sensitive budgeting, lobbying of parliamentarians for access to food stocks for the most vulnerable, and so on.
BF.OC.1.3	Proportion of people taking part in actions aimed at formulating requests to improve services who belong to vulnerable groups.	0%	Total: 50%. Women: 35 People living with a disability: 10%. PDI: 10% OF SALES	Total: 40% of sales Centre-North: 25%. East: 40%. North: 40%. Women: 30%. People living with a disability: 5%.	This indicator was collected in 2023 at the MTR. It is tempting to say that 40% participation by vulnerable groups is very significant. This includes IDPs, women and people living with disabilities.
R2G.OP.1.1 Donor indicator SCS 6	Number of CSOs included in R2G	6	6	6	Premier et Deuxième pallier (First and second tier): 6 partners Third tier: 20 CSOs in the Centre North, 28 in the East and 38 in the North, making a total of 81 local CSOs. SCS 6 : R2G Burkina works with 6 partners, including 3 international NGOs and 2 national CSOs. In the distribution of roles in relation to the shift of power, the

					national CSOs have the lead in carrying out advocacy actions. The international NGOs provide technical and financial support for these actions.
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2.2. Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

At national level, the Nutrition Directorate of the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene produced the age box on the integrated package of infant and young child feeding services and advice cards on key family practices and shared it with CSOs. Furthermore, clubs of journalists and communicators on nutrition and food security have been trained and have a better understanding of Right2Grow. They can communicate better about the programme and advocacy groups of all 3 regions are well connected to lead more efficient and coordinated advocacy actions.

At regional level (Centre Nord, North, Eastern region), CSOs and Advocacy Groups have increased their lobby and advocacy capacity on: Planning and implementing advocacy activities with governmental authorities at local and regional level, resource mobilisation, networking and associative life; Income-generating activities, access to credit and women's economic empowerment; Developing harmonised annual plans and action plans; Budget processes and analysis in particular on the new West Africa methodology; Public policies and programmes; Outcome harvesting and Mobile Journalism (MOJO) as well as Monitoring the changes made on the issues of nutrition, WASH and food security with regard to the commitments made during the activities carried out. Devolved technical services and local authorities are working in collaboration with CSOs and advocacy groups and provide the necessary information and data to CSOs and advocacy groups. Through the advocacy work of the advocacy groups government and actors from the private sector have made commitments:

Commitments from government :

- To increase from 2% to 4% the amount of local authority funds allocated to nutrition by the end of 2023 in the province of Zondoma and Loroum
- Engagement from various parties (heads of decentralised services and school heads) to work towards rehabilitating school latrines in Zondoma province
- Implement different recommendations made by producers, agricultural input traders and technical agricultural services. These recommendations aimed to facilitate the supply and availability of seeds to producers on time in Zondoma province
- Give access to the most vulnerable to national food and nutrition security stocks in North region
- Regional health directorate (in North) would increase its support for the early detection and treatment of malnourished children
- To provide primary schools with good quality food in sufficient quantities for the schools in Loroum

Commitments from private sector:

- Continuing to provide social services to the local population in the areas of WASH and food security, in particular by building boreholes and donating food;
- Raising awareness among the provinces' economic operators of the need to market good quality products for local consumption;
- Becoming involved in some of the advocacy group's activities, where they will be available to carry awareness-raising messages (production of vignettes);
- Funding certain activities included in the advocacy group's action plan
- Using and disposing of approved and unexpired products for the benefit of the population;
- Putting rubbish bags in front of every shop and boutique (place of business) for rubbish collection;
- Microfinance structures reported back to their managers the different recommendations made by the Passoré advocacy group on access to credit for women and girls.

Table 2.2: Programme on outcome 2 indicators

Code	Indicator	Base value	Target (year 3/total) (2023)	3rd year results (2023)	Remarks
R2G.OC.2.1	Number of times CSOs have	0	- 2023 :	All: 08 Centre North: 01	Right2Grow has supported the funding of 08 consultation

Donor indicator SCS 3	succeeded in creating a space for their requests		National level: 3 Sub-national level: 20	North : 05 East : 02 National level: 00 Sub-national level: 08	frameworks at both communal level (03) and provincial level (05), notably in the provinces of Passoré, Zondoma, Yatenga, Namentenga and Gnagna. During these various communal and provincial consultation frameworks, Right2Grow's CSO partners called for greater involvement of CSOs in decision-making bodies. To this end, during the provincial consultation framework (CCP) in the commune of Yako, the Advocacy group of Passoré was given a time slot to make a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of CSOs in improving funding for nutrition, WASH and food security.
R2G.OC.2.2 Donor indicator SCS 4	Number of advocacy initiatives carried out by R2G partners and CSOs	SCS041 0 SCS042 0	-2023 : National level: 5 Sub-national level: 24	Set: 30 Centre North: 05 North: 24 East : 01 National level: 00 Sub-national level: 30	Communities and local CSOs (advocacy groups) have initiated advocacy actions: For example, each of the Centre-Nord advocacy groups organised an advocacy meeting with the provincial authorities and technical services to improve access to basic social services. They also undertook 2 budget advocacy actions (budget analysis and monitoring) in 8 communes. In the East, there was an advocacy workshop for the SDPs and STDs, which enabled the authorities to make commitments to facilitate the analysis and budget monitoring of local development policies. In the North, a number of initiatives have been carried out: advocacy workshops to encourage market gardeners to move towards agro-ecology, advocacy for access to land for IDPs, advocacy for the empowerment of women, advocacy for nutrition-sensitive budgeting, advocacy with parliamentarians for access to food stocks for the most vulnerable, etc.
R2G.D.1 Donor indicator SCS 5	Number of CSOs with increased capacity for lobbying and advocacy (L&A).	6	6	6	First and second tier: 6 partners . Right2Grow Burkina works with 6 partners, including 3 international NGOs and 2 national CSOs. In the distribution of roles in relation to the shift of power, the national CSOs have the lead in carrying out advocacy actions. The international NGOs provide technical and financial support for these actions.

2.3. Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

During the year, awareness-raising workshops were conducted for members of the North, Centre-North and East Regional Technical Commissions on the importance of nutrition in socio-economic development and on nutrition-sensitive budgeting. Thirty-one (31) people attended and the general objective was to obtain the commitment of the members of the CTRs of the three regions to facilitate and support local authorities to adopt a budget that is more sensitive to the issue of nutrition.

During the training of SDPs, SGs and accountants on the multisectoral approach to nutrition and the guide to integrating nutrition into local policies/plans, Right2Grow seized this opportunity to promote a better understanding of the multisectoral approach to nutrition, which enabled them to make commitments to nutrition-sensitive budgeting. Awareness-raising and advocacy workshop for special delegations on nutrition-sensitive budgeting was organized to increase the knowledge of communal authorities about nutrition-sensitive budgeting with a view to applying it in their projects, programmes, strategic plans and local development plans. The workshop was attended by 34 members of the special delegation.

The programme provided technical and financial support for one communal framework and three provincial frameworks. These meetings were attended by twelve (12) members of advocacy groups. The programme also supported the Yatenga provincial consultation framework (CCP), attended by 22 CSO members of advocacy groups who were able to present the results of their activities and the context of nutrition, followed by advocacy for the improvement of nutrition indicators. Table 2.3 provides summary of progress on outcome 3 indicators

Table 2.3: Progress on outcome 3 indicators

Code	Indicator	Base value	Target (year 3/total) (2023)	3rd year results (2023)	Remarks
R2G.OC.3.1/SCS1	Number of laws and policies better implemented for sustainable and inclusive development	0	2025 : 1	1	The National Policy on Multisectoral Nutrition (PNMN) was adopted in 2021. Right2Grow has helped to make the PNMN more accessible to communities by translating it into local languages. Right2Grow has strengthened the capacity of decision-makers on the policy and facilitated multi-sectoral consultation frameworks on nutrition. However, the implementation of the PNMN remains a challenge, as the State has not been able to mobilise the entire budget required for its implementation throughout the country.
BF.OP.5.1	Number of consultation frameworks supported by Right2Grow	0	Centre North: 1 North: 1 East : 1 Total: 3	All: 08 Centre North: 01 North : 05 East : 02	Right2Grow has supported the funding of 08 consultation frameworks at both communal level (02) and provincial level (05), notably in the provinces of Passoré, Zondoma, Yatenga, Namentenga and Gnagna. 1 consultation framework between stakeholders (advocacy groups) in the three regions where Right2Grow operates.
BF.OP.5.2	Number of CSOs participating in consultation frameworks	0	Centre North: 5 North: 5 East : 5 National: 2	Total: 59 National: 2 Centre North: 07 North: 22 East: 28	57 local CSOs took part in the regional consultation framework 2 national CSOs took part in the national consultation framework.
BF.OP.6.1	Number of actions by the National Nutrition Information Platform (PNIN) supported by R2G	0	02	05	Right2Grow has supported and participated in the following bodies: - Preparation of the PNIN newsletter ; - Investment case workshop on return on investment in nutrition - Drawing up a policy paper on nutrition funding - Drawing up a policy paper on nutrition funding - Training on data management and anonymisation.

2.4. Donors and international development actor’s coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 4)

During the reporting period, efforts were made to enhance collaboration with UN agencies through a meeting with OCHA representatives in which a suggestion was made to contact the UNHCR and the UNDP as they support the Human Development and Peace Nexus. The programme supported the organization of a multi-stakeholder consultation framework in the province of Yatenga. This was an opportunity to present the Right2Grow programme, the Yatenga province advocacy group and to advocate for synergy of action between the Human Development and Peace Nexus actors in order to improve nutrition indicators in the region.

Some efforts have also been made at regional level. For instance, the first advocacy meeting to mobilise resources for the Fada Regional Hospital Centre (CHR) was organized with an aim of presenting the current state of the hospital's needs with a view to attracting funding from partners and developing a partnership around its strategy for funding investment projects. The participants, made up of technical and financial partners, economic operators in the region and international organisations, undertook to position themselves in the future to make their own contributions. These included Action contre la Faim, which provides a package of care for malnourished children at *Centre de récupération et d'éducation nutritionnelle* (CREN, centre for nutritional recovery and education), including hospitalisation and outpatient treatment. The economic operators also undertook to help with logistics by providing equipment or carrying out work related to their members' areas of activity, such as electricity, plumbing and bricklaying.

Advocacy workshop on the management of WASH facilities in emergency situations in the eastern region was conducted with recommendations and calls to action for higher government level (governor) to lower government level to assume their roles in the management of WASH facilities in emergency situations in the Eastern region.

Table 2.4 provides an overview of progress on outcome 4 indicators.

Table 2.4: Progress on outcome 4 indicators

Code	Indicator	Base value	Objective (year 3/set)	3rd year results	Remarks
BF.OP.7.1	Number of advocacy actions to promote synergy between development and humanitarian actors	0	2	6	- Participation by Right2Grow (THP) in 04 cluster meetings in the North and a visit to OCHA - The first edition of this advocacy meeting, the wish of the CHR management, was co-financed by ACF, the ICRC and Première urgence.
BF.OP.7.2	Number of consultation frameworks involving both development and humanitarian actors	0	2	1	An advocacy workshop on the management of WASH facilities in emergency situations brought together development stakeholders.
BF.IO. F.1	Level of involvement of CSOs in consultation frameworks	0	National: Medium Regional: Medium	Medium-	CBOs and CSOs participate in provincial consultation frameworks (CCPOs) and communal consultation frameworks (CCCs), which are multi-stakeholder frameworks. CSO members of the advocacy groups meet in these frameworks with other civil society actors to lobby the heads of special delegations in the CCCs and the High Commissioners in the CCPOs for decision-making or support for their advocacy in other bodies, particularly regional.

3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

Country advocacy priorities and adoption of Bridge for Voices (B4V) Approach: The "Bridge for Voices (B4V)" approach is fully applied in the Centre-Nord et Eastern regions across all interventions. The advocacy actions carried out have always drawn on the evidence produced by BMET and the lessons learned. The local CSO representatives who are members of the advocacy groups take account of the needs and realities of the communities from which they come when identifying the awareness-raising and advocacy actions to be implemented. In this way, the voice of

these communities is better heard with a view to providing appropriate responses in terms of nutrition, WASH and food security. In addition, the beneficiaries of the initiatives are members of these communities.

The following key results were achieved:

- Replenishment of the budget line for the purchase of Ready-to-Employ Therapeutic Foods (RTEFs) in the State budget for the health sector, to the value of two billion CFA francs
- Commitments made by the SDPs, SGs and accountants in various local authorities to introduce nutrition-sensitive budgeting, the WASH and food security in the adoption of future communal budgets
- Food distribution by Société nationale de gestion des stocks de sécurité (SONAGESS, Burkina Faso's national food security stock management company) has been revised at IDP level. This revision has improved distribution and therefore access to food for IDPs. Access to land has also been a key impact of the advocacy effort (see story 1)
- Better access to health services (see story 2)
- Construction of a 4.4 m3 borehole equipped for the Rimdilla cooperative in the village of Falguin in the province of Namentenga for the production of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes (operational since 10 July 2023).
- Increased involvement of young people in decision-making at local level in the province of Namentenga. They take part in decision-making bodies (consultation frameworks, local sessions, etc.) and give their point of view.
- Central and decentralised decision-makers are integrating the multisectoral approach and allocating substantial budgets to the implementation of the national multisectoral nutrition policy and communal and regional nutrition development plans (story 3)
- The reduction of open defecation in one of the intervention municipalities (story 3)

3.1 Change Story 1: Access to land as an IDP

My name is PORGO Monique and I am an internally displaced person living in Gourcy in the province of Zondoma. Following the insecurity caused by terrorist attacks in our village, I fled our village for safer areas, in particular Gourcy. Unfortunately, we didn't take anything with us when we fled. We left all our belongings behind. So before



the AMR advocacy initiative in collaboration with the Zondoma advocacy group to give us access to land, we didn't know how we were going to feed ourselves. It was difficult for us. But by the grace of God, we were invited to take part in an initiative to lobby the authorities and landowners for better access to land for IDPs. Thanks to this activity, the stakeholders in Zondoma province were informed about the current food and nutritional security situation of our fellow IDPs and the need for every IDP household to have a field to grow crops. After the advocacy phase, we were given around two and a half hectares to plant. With these hectares, I've grown small millet, millet, groundnuts, okra, sorrel etc. With these crops, I'll be able to go back to work after a while. With these crops I'll be able to prepare millet and condiments for sauces without having to buy them. I'm very happy with this initiative, which has enabled me to improve my living conditions and be less vulnerable, because I'll be able to feed myself and my children without worry.

3.2 Change Story 2: René WANGRAWA, Paediatrician at the Centre Hospitalier Régional (CHR) in Fada

The donation we received on 27 April 2023 is the result of effective advocacy by the Right2Grow Programme with business people in the region. In November 2022, an advocacy workshop was held for members of the Eastern Regional Consular Delegation, aimed at raising awareness of corporate social responsibility with a view to improving the local private sector's commitment to funding nutrition. The commitments made at the workshop were rigorously followed up by the Right2Grow programme manager from Action contre la Faim. We were approached in the meantime by the latter to find out about the needs of the Centre de récupération et d'éducation nutritionnelle (CREN) at the Centre Hospitalier Régional (CHR) in Fada, which had urgent requirements for biomedical equipment.

A detailed list of these needs was sent to the donors, enabling considerable resources to be mobilised, including biomedical equipment, infant flour, food and clothing to a total value of seven million CFA francs. This generous donation has exceeded our expectations and is an essential contribution to improving the care of malnourished children at CREN. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Right2Grow Programme for this act of generosity, which will have a significant impact on the health and well-being of these children.



Dr René WANGRAWA symbolically receiving the donation from the representative of the Director General of the Fada Regional Hospital.



A view of the donation to the CREN of the CHR of Fada

3.3 Story 3: The Yatenga Advocacy Group & Right2Grow

The Yatenga advocacy group was set up in 2021 by The Hunger Project Burkina Faso and its implementing partner AMR. We subsequently received training in advocacy, citizen monitoring of public policies, questioning and denunciation, resource mobilisation and so on. These capacity-building sessions enabled us to raise awareness and monitor the commitments made by the authorities to improve the WASH situation in our province. Before our action, communities had limited access to WASH services in our province of Yatenga. So, for the first time, we organised an advocacy workshop on WASH with the 13 Presidents of the Special Delegations of the province's communes, based on evidence. We involved a nutrition champion and influential artists in the workshop to give our advocacy more resonance. Commitments were made and some were honoured. For example, 7 months on, the Ouahigouya local council has honoured its commitments by implementing the recommendations by including the construction and rehabilitation of boreholes and latrines in the local authority's annual investment plan:



- the installation of 07 mobile toilets at two IDP sites, and monitoring of the rehabilitation of a simplified drinking water supply at the Ira site and at the farm in sector 10,
- the construction of 280 semi-finished latrines in Ouattinoma, Saye, Bouri, etc;
- the construction of 10 boreholes at the MJCO, the Centre d'Ecoute pour Jeunes, sectors 5, 13 and 4, the Gourga 1 and 2 IDP sites and the Lycée Yadéga;
- The construction of drinking water supply systems in Gondologo, Saye and Zimba.

To carry out advocacy actions, women are brought to the fore and carry out the advocacy. Beyond the advocacy we do for the well-being of communities, Right2Grow has allowed us to become a family and to build a strong network in the field of nutrition, WASH and food security. We hope that Right2Grow will bear wonderful fruit for the benefit of children under the age of 5.

4. Partnership and collaboration reflections

Review of partnership and collaboration including strategic partnering with local partners: The technical and financial support provided to the CSOs by Right2Grow, along with the capacity-building sessions, has enabled them

to initiate and implement advocacy actions in their localities. The anchoring of these CSOs in their communities, as well as their ability to mobilise resources, will enable them to continue their actions at the end of the project. However, some improvements must be put forward to ensure lasting impact:

- Involving the local media in advocacy activities to reach the maximum number of people/change behaviour (visibility, effectiveness, reaching more targets);
- The introduction of incentives to motivate advocacy groups that perform positively;
- Intensifying advocacy with the United Nations system and international NGOs to ensure that the issue of nutrition is given greater consideration (multisectoral vision);
- The mobilisation of stakeholders for more integrated actions in the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Reflection on collaboration with the embassies; On 26 April 2023, at the invitation of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Burkina Faso, the Right2Grow consortium took part in the celebration of the bank holidays of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, King's Day. We also invited the Embassy to the workshop held on 13 December to validate the report on the mid-term evaluation of the project. However, due to a scheduling conflict, the Embassy team was unable to take part in the workshop.

Right2Grow consortium has strengthened its collaboration with various strategic partners:

- The Technical Secretariat for Nutrition, the leader in the operationalisation of the multisectoral approach to nutrition in Burkina Faso;
- The Nutrition Department for the development of a communication plan to combat the illegal sale and use of ready-to-use therapeutic food;
- The regional departments in charge of water, health and agriculture, to provide technical support in data collection, budget documents and evidence production;
- The parliamentarians through the Network of Parliamentarians for Nutritional Security (REPASEN);
- Scaling Up Nutrition Networks where RESONUT promoted the effective involvement of CSOs in advocacy at community level and in budget monitoring;
- The Eastern Regional Chamber of Commerce, to raise funds for the CREN of the Fada Regional Hospital Centre.

The main concrete achievement regarding Shift the Power is that in 2023, local CSOs were trained to carry out budget analysis. They are now able to carry out the budget analysis and monitoring exercise for nutrition on their own, without the support of other consortium members. They can now produce evidence to support advocacy for better domestic funding of nutrition in local development policies and programmes.

Adaptive management had to be implemented to take into account the evolution of the security crisis in the Centre Nord. As a result of the reduced humanitarian access, radio theatres and radio broadcasts have been organised to reach people in the communes where RESONUT is active with advocacy and awareness-raising messages. The change of authorities at the level of decentralised technical services and local authorities has led to a resumption of advocacy and lobbying initiatives with these decision-makers and strategic partners to consolidate the gains made. To this end, activities linked to the triple Nexus and the private sector's commitment to nutrition will be initiated to promote synergy between humanitarian and development actors.

5. Programme reflections

According to the mid-term evaluation report, overall, the relevance, impact and effectiveness of the programme's interventions translate into behavioural changes in nutrition, hygiene and WASH. In the field, the beneficiaries perceive a significant improvement in the nutritional status of their young children, their knowledge and access to sanitation, thanks to the combined effects of the various interventions (1) capacity building in the different themes, (2) the organization of awareness-raising sessions for the population, (3) advocacy with peers and local authorities. The programme has also shown results in terms of improving the infrastructure such as installation of sanitation and water structures. In other areas the government has made commitments, and these commitments will be followed up in the coming 2 years. The programme in Burkina Faso also shows signs of sustainability in terms of the acquisition of knowledge and skills, but also in terms of local structures responsible for continuity. Added to this is the alignment of the programme with national nutrition policies and strategies.

The advocacy group approach is a factor in the sustainability and local ownership of the Right2Grow programme. Indeed, the active local organisations have been equipped to ensure advocacy and awareness-raising for changes in policies and sustainable practices in favour of nutrition, WASH and food security. In addition, empowerment of local CSOs in the area of BMET guarantees local ownership of budget advocacy and the sustainability of the project's achievements.

However, there are still some challenges to be addressed by the project. The result area 4 is lagging behind. The consortium has failed to date to identify relevant activities that could lead to achieving this result. This is a main point of attention for 2024 and 2025. Secondly the "Shift the Power" concept has been applied and contributed significantly to the organizational development of some CSOs. However, the capacity of local CSOs to influence needs to be strengthened as well as their capacity to mobilize own resources.

6. Conclusion and way forward

In a context characterized by security threats, a program like Right2Grow remains relevant. Indeed, it is important to challenge the State on the respect of its commitments in terms of nutrition, to amplify the voice of communities who are in areas with strong security challenges and who no longer have access to social services (health, education, WASH, etc.), to call on humanitarian and development donors to work in synergy. To achieve this, Right2Grow in 2024 will prioritize local media to reach communities, support local CSOs in the implementation of advocacy and lobbying actions with central and local decision-makers, facilitate the holding of frameworks for exchange and consultation between donors, and promote community dialogues so that communities can make their voices heard. A special emphasis on outcome 4 will be made, in collaboration with Right2Grow global team.

In terms of expenditures in 2023, the Burkina Faso consortium has reached a burn rate of about 90%. Right2Grow consortium will ensure that the value for money remains at the centre of financial decision, and that available resources will be allocated to the most impactful activities that will lead to meaningful results for communities.



Right2Grow Ethiopia

Annual Report 2023

Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 – 31 Dec 2023

Report submitted by: World Vision

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	Ethiopia
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	World Vision
Reporting period	January to December 2023
Lead implementing Partner	World Vision Ethiopia
Contact person:	Debelle Jebessa
Lead funding office	World Vision Netherlands
Contact person:	Anna Lundberg

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1. Programme context

1.1 Changes in the country context

In 2023, Ethiopia experienced continued security concerns. Less than a year after the war ended in Tigray and northern Ethiopia, armed clashes between the Ethiopian National Defence Force and members of the Fano militia escalated across Amhara region during the week of July 31. This followed months of increased tensions and prompted the Government of Ethiopia to declare a six-month state of emergency in the region. In August 2023, Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' (SNNP) Region is also dissolved and two new regions formed. Right2Grow is actively working with the newly established Central Ethiopia region and zonal key government actors including project intervention areas. This is an opportunity to advance key advocacy initiatives like establishment of a Regional Nutrition Council which was pending due to expected disintegration of the former SNNP Region. Nationally, growing humanitarian needs strengthened a recognition of the urgent need to adopt and accelerate implementation of the Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus (HDPN) approach. Ethiopia's 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan emphasizes the need for increased engagement and coordination with development and peace actors to work to address the root causes and drivers of humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities. The mid-term review (MTR) also identifies this as a window of opportunity for Right2Grow to influence.

1.2 Risks and implementation challenges

Political instability, active hostilities and a volatile situation in Amhara region, as well as sporadic conflict at local level in some other areas, hampered effective implementation of Right2Grow and affected achievement of results. Right2Grow followed the security situation by jointly doing scenario planning. Some adaptive strategies used was to shift trainings to regional level when security situation and internet connectivity allowed as well as use phone for follow-up and coaching. Right2Grow also take advantage of the established strong relationship with local partners and communities to identify opportunities to implement. Unavailability and loss of institutional memory in some government sector offices, as attention shifted towards security issues, as well as continued high turnover of government officials and experts capacitated by Right2Grow contributed to the challenges. Right2Grow continue to assess the capacity gaps of decision makers and provide a tailored capacity buildings as per needs. However, this made it difficult to promote multi-sectoral coordination for nutrition and WASH policies and strategies. Another challenge is limitation of local government budget to address nutrition and WASH service gaps identified by the community through Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) task force. Therefore, focus is on small doable action that can be done by the community, service provider and available government budget. Further, the delay by government in establishing national Food System and Nutrition Council hampered the successful implementation of multi-sectoral efforts at all levels. Right2Grow is actively advocating at all levels to influence decision makers to establish the council, for example through the organizing of high-level national policy dialogue to address barriers in December 2023.

1.3 Cross cutting issues

Right2Grow puts focus on inclusiveness and ensures women, youth and people with disabilities are well represented and engaged in our advocacy work. In our interventions on community-level, we make deliberate efforts to ensure that these vulnerable groups are well represented in structures such as CVA task forces to address gaps in nutrition and WASH services. In the CVA task forces, more than 30% of members are women and more than 5% are people with disability. Right2Grow also conducts effective advocacy to ensure that the interest of women, youth, and people with disabilities are considered. For instance, while supporting promotion of SATO toilet pans in Gurage zone, Right2Grow influenced producers and local level private enterprises to avail pans that are suitable for people with disability.

2. Programme results

2.1. Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

- Raising Awareness on nutrition and WASH:** Awareness creation workshops engaging over 1,260 community members focused on their role to improve WASH and nutrition services in their community, use of existing WASH and nutrition services and indigenous knowledge.
- Facilitating Social Accountability and Dialogue Between Stakeholders:** Implementing social accountability approach Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) to empower community and demand for improved nutrition and WASH services in Woredas. Following monitoring standard and score card sessions, CVA task forces facilitated 74 interface meetings in which the community share identified gaps and priorities and community, government and service providers jointly create an action plan to improve the services monitored. Out of 345 commitments made by the government, service providers, and community in 2023, 189 are already implemented. For example, Enimay Woreda Water Office maintained 7 out of 11 (64%) non-functional water points, enhanced services at Fendika Health Centre through procurement of ultrasound and laboratory equipment as well as at Guangua Health Centre through hiring of an additional nurse and pharmacist, and community built a communal latrine using locally available materials in Geta Woreda.
- Capacitating Private Sector:** Support to private sector aims to improve availability of affordable WASH and nutrition services and expand the role of private enterprises in addressing nutrition and WASH challenges. Capacity building included skills gaps training to small-scale entrepreneurs, training and business linkage on SATO toilet pan, awareness raising on Seqota declaration programme and innovative interventions, and efforts to engage private sector in multi-sectoral coordination meetings. As a result, 42 targeted business enterprises are producing and selling different WASH and nutrition products.

Results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.O C.1.1	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	0	75	172	Community through the established CVA task forces made actions like score cards, monitoring standards, and interface meetings to demand service providers and local government for improved nutrition and WASH services at health facilities, water facilities and schools.
R2G.O C.1.3	# of targeted barriers to good nutrition and/or WASH services successfully addressed by joint community and private sector initiatives	0	84	189	189 targeted barriers to good nutrition health, and WASH services were addressed by the joint action of the community, service providers, and government. Barriers included shortage of medical personnel at health facilities, non-functioning water facilities, and irregularity of nutrition screening service at health facilities.

R2G.O P.1.1	# of CSOs involved in R2G	0	8	8	Right2Grow Ethiopia consortium consists of 8 organisations. Consortium work with 156 tier-3 CSOs, 124 being CVA taskforces and Accountability Action Teams and 32 national CSOs.
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2.2. Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

- CSO Capacity-building on Advocacy:** Various capacity-building focused on enhancing CSOs advocacy roles and strategic positioning in influencing policies, budgeting and decision-making, on implementing advocacy strategies to address local WASH and nutrition challenges, and on communication and networking skills. Though this the partnership with CSO platforms Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA) and Ethiopia Civil Society Coalition for Scaling-up Nutrition (ECSC-SUN) were strengthened at national and regional levels. Equipped with improved advocacy knowledge and skills, CSOs are engaging more effectively with decision-makers at all levels.
- Strengthening Collaboration with CCRDA:** National CSOs panel discussion organised in collaboration with CCRDA bringing together 67 national CSOs and CBOs representatives. As a result, three advocacy agendas including nutrition multi-sectoral mainstreaming, WASH governance, and HDPN programming were selected to be carried out by CCRDA and its membership organizations.
- Revitalizing ECSC-SUN network:** Revitalizing workshops of 2 regional ECSC-SUN chapters to provide a platform for networking and membership expansion, progress updates and steps forward to become an active network. In Central Ethiopia and Sidama regions final TOR for the regional ECSC-SUN was endorsed and five steering committee members elected, out of which 3 of them are Right2Grow partners.
- Establishment of Accountability Action Teams (AAT):** Woreda-level structure which consist of multi-sectoral government sector officials, council members, and CSOs/CBOs representatives. Objective of structure to support the local advocacy efforts through generating evidence and amplifying community voices in agenda setting, policy influencing, budgeting practices, and decision making.

Results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.O C.2.1	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions.	0	59	67	Right2Grow engaged in decision-making processes and influenced nutrition policy implementation, budget allocation, and put nutrition and WASH issues on the agenda at all levels. This includes Nutrition Coordination and Technical Committee meetings at Woreda, Zonal and regional level, budget influencing on Woreda level, and ECSC-SUN regional meetings. On national levels, this includes National Nutrition Coordination Body, Seqota Declaration stakeholder platform, MoH Annual Review Meetings and CSO-led platforms through CCRDA and ECSC-SUN.

R2G.O C.2.2	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency	0	5	5	Successfully carried out five overall advocacy initiatives. On local level, CVA task forces carry out social accountability initiative and as result nutrition, health, and WASH services are showing improvement. Inclusive service initiative is promoted through inclusive representation of vulnerable groups in advocacy. Efforts are also done to promote private sector to play their irreplaceable role in addressing problem of undernutrition. Although establishment of Food System and Nutrition Council is not yet realized at any level, Right2Grow influenced functioning of nutrition coordination committee and technical committee in operation areas as well as made significant progress advancing the issue on national level through the agreed next steps to solve legal barriers in policy dialogue. Promising progress made in engaging key actors to carry out HDPN initiatives.
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2.3. Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

- Policy dialogue on Food System and Nutrition Council:** Organized high-level national policy dialogue to influence key decision-makers and generate policy recommendations for the draft proclamation of Food System and Nutrition Council establishment at all levels. As a result, it was agreed to establish, or revisit existing, a task force with defined TOR and timeframe to undertake a legal gap analysis and draft the proclamation to speed up the council establishment. It was also agreed to create inclusive space for CSO and private sector involvement in the government-led nutrition coordination body which is absent in the current policy framework.
- Nutrition Leadership Training:** Nutrition leadership training in collaboration with Ministry of Health to develop the leadership capacities of decision-makers, council representatives, and nutrition experts on national to Woreda level. Participants are observed to be influencing nutrition decision-making including budget allocation and facilitating smooth implementation of advocacy initiatives in their areas.
- Capacity-building on Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET):** Trainings for CBOs, CSOs and government representatives focused on understanding and practice of budget allocation and expenditure tracking and skills on resource management in nutrition and WASH sector. As a result of capacity building, budget analysis and public hearings, and advocacy on BMET, Right2Grow influenced 16 out of 21 Woredas and 1 zonal administration to allocate a total of ETB 5,051,470 (US\$ 91,844) additional budget for nutrition sensitive activities and functioning of the multi-sector coordination platforms.

- **Training on Resources Tracking and Partnership Management (RTPM):** Training on RTPM, a web-based tool for resourcing tracking and partner mapping tool, for all Right2Grow operation Woredas and Zones Food and Nutrition Policy signatory ministries experts. Done in collaboration with the Ministry of Health's Seqota Declaration Programme Delivery Unit. RTPM address challenges on inaccessible and poor quality of nutrition public budget allocation and spending.
- **Support on multi-sectoral planning:** Workshops on multi-sectoral integrated planning on regional and Woreda level, focused on review performance past year and planning for coming year. The integration planning exercise was facilitated using the Seqota Declaration multi-sectoral planning tool listing low-cost and high-impact nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions with estimated costs and targets. This contributes to reducing duplication of efforts, improving resource allocation, utilization and efficiency, and consequently improving policy implementation on the ground.

Results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.OC.3.1	# of laws, policies implemented for sustainable and inclusive development	0	4	4	<p>Food and Nutrition Policy We are carrying out effective advocacy for the proper implementation of making working for the implementation of Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy by supporting multi-sectoral coordination efforts and advocating for the establishment of a nutrition council and agency at all levels. During the reporting period, we have influenced for the functionality of the newly and existing established multi-sectoral coordination body at sub-national level. We also effectively lobbied for the establishment of nutrition council at national and regional level. As a result of our efforts, the federal government is working to address the gap in the legislative framework the impeded the establishment of nutrition council.</p> <p>Seqota Declaration (SD) Implementation Plan (2016 – 2030) We have also supported the execution of SD implementation plan by supporting role out of RTPM in the Right2Grow target Woredas. As a result of our effort, we are able scale up the SD program beyond the target woredas. This helped the Right2Grow target Woredas to properly implement the multi-sectoral coordination mechanism, joint planning and reporting, and</p>

					<p>tracking partners and nutrition resource in their respective woredas.</p> <p>National Food and Nutrition Strategy (2022-2030) The strategy has been launched recently. MoH has conducted baseline study for the strategy. Right2Grow partners provided technical and financial support for the study.</p> <p>ONE WASH programme we have provided capacity building for the effective implementation of ONE WASH programme at Woreda and Zonal level.</p>
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2.4. Donors and international development actor’s coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 4)

- Support on Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus (HDPN) approach:** Positioned in the established technical working group and advisor team to support on the national nutrition centric-HDPN initiative. Right2Grow provided financial, technical and strategic support during landscape study, situational analysis, local experience sharing and strategic document development of operational guideline and implementation roadmap on how to materialize the HDPN approach to address malnutrition and reduce risk vulnerability as envisioned collective outcomes.

Results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.OC.4.2	Degree of integration of the WASH-Nutrition-Peace programming by donors along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition.	0	2	2: HDPN concept is in place. Actors show interest and key staffs have awareness.	Significant improvement in understanding of HDPN concepts by donors, international actors and other nutrition actors. For example, Humanitarian Response Plan Ethiopia 2022 and 2023, jointly realised by Commissioner for the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission of Ethiopia and OCHA, plans to strengthen HDPN. Donors and international actors have increasing interest in support advancing HDPN through guidelines and establishment of platforms. Right2Grow and other CSOs have increased capacity on HDPN and to lobby and advocate towards influencing donors and international actors for WASH and nutrition nexus along the HDPN.

3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

Country advocacy priorities includes (1) amplify community voice, (2) widen civic space, (3) Food System and Nutrition Council establishment, (4) adopt triple nexus and (5) private sectors role in getting to zero undernutrition and zero people without access to basic WASH services. In 2023, Right2Grow has carried out various advocacy efforts under each priority to achieve the envisioned collective outcomes. The adoption of the Bridge4Voices approach put local communities and most vulnerable groups in the driving seat of advocacy efforts. The CVA approach empowers local communities and amplifies community voices in line with their needs and priorities to hold local government accountable for their decisions and actions. Further, Right2Grow enhances CSOs capacities and legitimacy on advocacy roles and strategic positioning to make a direct impact in influencing policies and budgeting practices.

3.1. Reflection on learnings and communication of results for scaling

One of the key achievements on national level is the impactful national policy dialogue on the establishment of Food System and Nutrition Council. Identifying the policy implementation gaps, Right2Grow built consensus to conduct legal assessment and draft proclamation which will further the process as well as influenced key decision makers to widen civic space for civil society organizations and private sectors. Moreover, Right2Grow provided financial and technical support for Ministry of Health's nutrition centric HDPN initiative. Right2Grow is well positioned in the national NC-HDPN technical working group and advisor team to collaborate and provide technical support in the further process to materialize the nexus approach. Collaborative efforts with CCRDA and ECSC-SUN and capacity-building of CSOs show promising progress to widen civic space and influence policies for strategic leadership and good governance. Strengthening of multi-sectoral coordination efforts and resource tracking system through nutrition coordination body and nutrition technical committee at all levels directly contribute to the overall implementation of Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy as well as Seqota Declaration programme. On local level, implementation of social accountability approach CVA have been effective to improve health, nutrition and WASH services according to the needs and priorities of the community.

3.2. Impact story: Policy Dialogues as Advocacy Tool

At Right2Grow, empowering local advocacy efforts to influence policy is at the core of our mission. If communities can get a seat at the table where change truly can happen at a national scale, we can create sustainable change for future generations. Ethiopia recently had a high-level policy dialogue on the establishment of a Nutrition and Food System Council. The event brought together senior government officials from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, the Prime Minister's Office, as well as representatives from non-governmental actors such as FAO, UNICEF, USAID, and R2G partner organizations, and private sector stakeholders.

The dialogue focused on an in-depth examination of the existing legal and institutional framework governing food systems and nutrition across the country. Participants highlighted Ethiopia's commendable efforts to implement a variety of legal and institutional frameworks aimed at improving food security and nutrition. However, a dedicated, independent government agency to oversee food systems and nutrition functions is still not part of existing policy.

Such events are essential when it comes to bringing different parties and perspectives to the table. Right2Grow aims to empower and mobilise civil society and political entities to lead to such moments where everyone can bring in their expertise and inefficient policy. To recognise the urgency of addressing this gap, such dialogues can create a roadmap on how to move forward with a decisive plan of action.

In the case of Ethiopia, this included the creation of a task force of nutrition and legal experts. The primary objective of this task force will be to conduct a rapid and comprehensive assessment of the legal and institutional landscape to identify gaps in Ethiopia's food systems and nutrition sector. The expected outcome is a set of strategic recommendations designed to engage and persuade senior government officials to formally establish the much-needed National Food Systems and Nutrition Council.



This unprecedented initiative marks a significant step forward in strengthening Ethiopia's commitment to effective governance of its food systems and nutrition sector, ensuring the well-being of its citizens and promoting sustainable development. This dialogue resulted in a convincing policy brief, and serves as a critical milestone in the pursuit of a healthier, more secure future for all.

4. Partnership and collaboration reflections

In 2023, the consortium continued to build on the fruitful collaborations contributing to the effectiveness and sustainability of the programme. A strong focus reflecting the strive to shift the power was on national partners, who play an essential role in consortium engagements and implementation. National partners were facilitated to engage in international capacity-building and learning opportunities as well as thematic focal point positions within the consortium. They are also capacitated to represent, collaborate with and lead zonal and regional platforms, influencing decision-makers on Right2Grow advocacy agendas such as nutrition budget allocations, improving service delivery, adopting the HDPN approach, and strengthen multisector coordination efforts of government, private sectors and CSOs operating in the localities. In programming, shift of power is seen in the focus on community-led CVA task forces for advocacy and social accountability on local level as well as efforts to enhancing local CSOs to be an amplifier of community voices.

The established partnership with CCRDA and ECSC-SUN were further strengthened and founded successful regional and national capacity-building on advocacy, enhancing capacities of CSOs, CBOs and other stakeholders to jointly work on nutrition and WASH programs in their operational areas. Right2Grow also had effective collaborations with government actors like Ministry of Health, Seqota Declaration Programme Delivery Unit, and other sectors. This was essential for supporting and influencing initiatives around Food and Nutrition strategy, strengthening of multisector efforts, and integration of BMET and resource tracking and partnership management tool. Right2Grow maintained cordial relations with the Dutch Embassy, reflecting a commitment to collaboration also seen through the initiative to assess and link strategic partnerships in Ethiopia. Engagement of the Embassy on key events such as MTR process as well as high-level policy dialogue on Food System and Nutrition Council was of great value to Right2Grow.

Adaptive management was primarily activated due to the security situation in Amhara. In close collaboration with local government structures, Right2Grow developed a conflict scenario and contingency plan to manage situations of heightened security issues and consequences of state of emergency such as public gathering and travel restrictions. Showcasing flexibility and commitment to objectives, some activities could be remotely managed by phone and some capacity building could shift from community, Woreda and zonal levels to regional level. Additionally, due to continued disintegration and restructuring of the SNNP regional structure, partners focused implementation on Woreda and Zonal level planned activities by engaging responsible government sectors, CSOs and Private sectors until the dissolving of the region were formal.

5. Programme reflections

Reflecting on implementation 2023, Right2Grow is progressing well towards most of the objectives. Capacitated community-led social accountability structures are contributing to community empowerment on rights and entitlements, inclusive community participation and exercise of accountability towards key sectors, with the result of improved nutrition and WASH services. Local CSOs show increased ability to engage with government platforms and offices, creating space for CSO advocacy. On government level, improved multi-sectoral ownership for nutrition, particularly at Woreda levels, and strengthened multi-sectoral nutrition coordination platforms to jointly plan, report

and monitor performance is notable. Particularly, there are strong results of influencing decision makers to allocate a budget for nutrition on regional and local level. Steps are achieved to support materializing of HDPN, within the initiative of Ministry of Health's operational guideline and implementation roadmap, while further work is required to achieve related objectives. The expenditure in 2023 was in line with the budget. While important progress has been made in implementing programme objectives, a hampering factor in especially Amhara region was the security context and related consequences.

Valuable lessons learned include the importance of established CVA task forces in enhancing inclusive community participation and social accountability towards duty bearers, as well as the importance of capacity building of government staff. Particularly the nutrition leadership training play a key role in capacity and commitment of government experts to take meaningful actions to improve the nutritional status of the community they serve. Additionally, the partnership with Seqota Declaration coordination office at national level contributed to successful efforts to integrate BMET and resource tracking tools within Seqota Declaration implementation plan in expansion phase woredas. Further, Right2Grow is making deliberate efforts to ensure sustainability of the programme. Capacity strengthening of communities and shifting the power to local level CBOs/CSOs, exemplified by CVA task forces and Accountability Action Teams, create local leadership and ownership. Strengthening of government structures aim to enhance multisector approaches and coordination within plans and resource allocation. To exemplify this, local government now have capacity and tools to conduct budget monitoring and expenditure tracking and multi-sectoral integrated planning, based actions on the voice of the community and system to generate evidence for decision-making provided through CVA task forces. Moreover, joint efforts with key stakeholders such as CCRDA, ECSC-SUN, and government actors enable synergies and stronger advocacy.

6. Conclusion and way forward

In conclusion, the program has made significant strides in achieving country advocacy objectives, particularly in fostering community empowerment and multi-sectoral collaboration to address nutrition and WASH challenges. Despite challenges such as security context, the program has established valuable collaborations, empowered community structures, and influenced policy implementation at various levels. Strengthening of existing partnerships and effective utilization of existing civic space like coordination platforms and networks will be important moving forward, also emphasized in the mid-term review. In 2024-2025, the program will prioritize follow up and establishment of the Food System and Nutrition Council at all levels to enhance the system and governance on nutrition. Focus will also be on influencing and advancing the HDPN initiative and engagement of private sector through capacity building and system strengthening to address critical barriers on accessing basic services.

Budgeting 2024 and 2025 considered progress during 2023 and therefore allow for achievement of objectives. However, there is need for close monitoring of fund spending and implementation progress particularly related to security context to ensure management of 5-year allocation and objectives.



Right2Grow **Mali**
Annual Report 2023
Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 - 31 Dec 2023
Report submitted by: Action contre la Faim

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	Mali
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	Action contre la faim (ACF)
Reporting period	January 2023-December 2023
Lead implementing Partner	Action contre la Faim Action contre la Faim-Spain - Mission Mali
Contact person:	SANZAN Kambiré - Country Director Action contre la Faim-Espagne Mali ksanzan@ml.acfspain.org
Lead funding office	Action contre la Faim Action contre la Faim-Spain - Madrid
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1. Programme Context

1.1 Changes in the country context

The Right2Grow program in Mali operates within a volatile national context characterized by security and political instabilities. The situation in Mali is marked by a nutritional crisis exacerbated by recurring food crises and security challenges in the North, Centre and South regions. Prevalence of global acute malnutrition exceeds WHO thresholds, with 11.1% of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) and 2.1% of severe malnutrition, while in the Kayes region, rates remain high at 11.9% of GAM and 1.5% of severe acute malnutrition (SMART 2023). Regarding the Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH) sector, although 86% of households have access to drinking water, only 19% practice water treatment, and only 18% use private latrines, highlighting significant sanitation gaps (ENSAN 2022). Health indicators are very low in the regions and in rural areas. Access to water in urban areas is prioritized to the detriment of rural areas, leading to social tensions and conflicts over resources.

1.2 Risks and mitigations

The Malian government has set itself the objective of improving food security and the nutritional status of women and children. The country also wishes to improve its capacities in terms of monitoring nutritional and food problems and to ensure that these issues are taken into account in national and community policy frameworks. However, despite a clear and committed desire to improve the situation, the challenges remain significant, particularly in terms of financing, governance and coordination of stakeholders.

1.3 Implementation Challenges

The WASH sector continues to receive funding below Sanitation and Water for All commitments, remaining below the 5% target. For its part, nutrition is only financed at less than 1% of the state budget. At the same time, the suspension of budgetary aid by certain Western countries has significantly affected investments in basic social services. Nevertheless, the political context, marked by major institutional changes and the referendum on the new constitution, presents both challenges and opportunities for influencing policies in favour of nutrition and WASH.

At state level, integrating nutrition into Economic, Social, and Cultural Development Programme (PDESC) and drafting legislation on the right to food and WASH present major challenges in Mali. Historically, PDESCs have often prioritized sectors such as education, health, and agriculture, potentially sidelining nutrition-related aspects. This highlights the need to raise awareness among policymakers and the public regarding the interconnectedness of nutrition with economic, social, and cultural development. Effective coordination among ministries and stakeholders, alongside significant financial, human, and technical resources, is essential for successfully integrating nutrition into PDESCs and developing legislation on the right to food and WASH.

On the other hand, insufficient mobilization of financial resources by local authorities complicates the situation, hindering initiatives at the local level. This issue underscores the importance of robust lobbying and advocacy efforts to secure policy changes and increased allocation of resources to these critical sectors. A review of national and local budgets from 2020-2022 revealed low funding allocations for nutrition by local authorities, emphasizing the urgent need for enhanced financial support for nutrition and WASH initiatives. Positive steps have been taken since December 2023, aiming for political validation of the water and sanitation policy in 2024.

Additionally, challenges related to resource management and contextual adaptation were addressed through robust planning, effective coordination, and adaptive management strategies, such as mid-term reviews and adjustments to programme plans. Another challenge faced by the project was inadequate coordination among programme partners, leading to inefficiencies in activity implementation and potentially jeopardizing set objectives. Addressing this challenge requires strengthening regular exchange sessions to foster common understanding and effective collaboration among stakeholders. Operational adjustments are necessary to prevent activity gaps caused by conflicting schedules between partners. Furthermore, enhancing mutual learning among partners and improving the advocacy skills of citizen watch committee members are essential.

1.4 Cross cutting issues

Integral to the programme's approach is its commitment to addressing cross-cutting issues, including gender, disability, youth, and climate change. The programme actively promoted gender mainstreaming through targeted training and awareness campaigns, ensuring the inclusion of women's perspectives and needs. As part of the ambition to further mainstream inclusion in the programme, efforts have been made to include a section on inclusion in all the activities' terms of reference. Logistical adaptations have been made during the preparation of activities to meet the specific needs of people with disabilities, and awareness-raising campaigns have been carried out among local elected representatives, government technical services, the media and other stakeholders to raise awareness and mainstream

the effects of inequalities linked to gender, disability and age. In addition, beneficiary databases have been regularly updated to include data disaggregated by disability, gender and age, to ensure an equitable approach.

2. Programme results

2.1. Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

In order to strengthen the production and marketing of nutritious food, trainings for women's and youth groups in marketing and selling local nutritious products were conducted. Six community structures have been equipped to process these products, while annual local fairs involving nine CBOs/women's groups have been organized across beneficiary communes. These fairs not only promote WASH and nutrition products but also facilitate the sale of goods on local markets and foster mutual support among women processors.

Additionally, initiatives have been undertaken to raise awareness of good practices in WASH and nutrition. Radio broadcasts have been utilized throughout the year to disseminate information to the local population, and a virtual campaign on menstrual hygiene management has been launched, specifically targeting women and young girls.

Leaders and political authorities have been actively engaged in implementing commitment plans for community development. Annual local consultation meetings have been held to enlist the support of leaders and political authorities, resulting in the integration of nutritional activities into communal development plans and the provision of financial support for nutrition and WASH initiatives.

Table 2.1 Pathway 1 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
1.1.	Number of advocacy actions in which communities formulate requests for improved services (WASH and nutrition)	96	168	147	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -02 Participation of the 24 municipalities in the borough committees for the orientation, coordination and monitoring of development actions. -Participation of the 8 citizen watch committees in the administrative accounts, i.e. the drafting of the 2024 primitive budgets. -4 local consultation frameworks organised in the circles of Sikasso, Koutiatla, Koulikoro and Kolokani -55 citizen watch committees involved in drawing up the PDSEC, the primitive budget and ordinary sessions in the communes of Diomatene, Kignan, N'Golonianasso, Zanfigue, Sikasso, Koulikoro, Ouolodo, Meguetan and Sirakorola, Tienfala, Nonsombougou, Tioribougou and Kolokani. 2 participations by OMAES in the high-level advocacy workshop in Bamako and the advocacy workshop for the involvement of members of the National Transition Committee (CNT)

					-2 participation by SUN-OSC in the high-level advocacy workshop in Bamako and the advocacy team for the involvement of members of the National Transition Committee (CNT)
1.2.	Number of advocacy message notes at advocacy events in which CBOs set out requests for service improvements	0	96	145	National and local advocacy notes on water, crossing bridges and revitalising the sanitation commission, mobilising resources, etc. within the following frameworks: Scaling Up Nutrition, internutrition technical committee, local committee for guiding, coordinating and monitoring development actions, communal committee for guiding, coordinating and monitoring development actions, meetings with town councils and community leaders. This performance can be explained by the fact that CSOs took advantage of several national and local advocacy opportunities that were not initially planned.
1.3.	Number of decision-makers present at advocacy events in which CBOs put forward requests to improve services	288	264	357	The participating authorities are sub-prefects, presidents of district councils, local councillors, secretaries-general of town halls, heads of local services, and so on. At this level, the performance can be explained by the good collaboration maintained by the CSOs with the authorities, who attach vital importance to participation in CSO activities.
1.8.	Proportion of targeted barriers to good nutrition and/or WASH services successfully addressed by joint community and/or private sector initiatives.	0	20%	48%	-Adoption of the constitution -Validation of the new National Water Policy, -Networking of the private sector, -Access to budgetary information for analysis of national and communal budgets, etc. - Support for 2 nutrition support groups in Kignan and M'Pessoba, -Solution of the Zanfigue cereal bank problem, -Extension of standpipes to other neighbourhoods in N'Gouni, -Repair of the pump supplying the N'Gouni water tower.

2.2. Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

Several initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen CSOs and citizen watch committees, particularly on governance tools. These training courses have enabled watchdog committees to gain a better understanding of awareness-raising issues and to adopt a more effective approach to their citizen monitoring activities in the areas of nutrition and WASH. At the same time, twelve savings and credit groups have been set up to support the activities of communities, particularly women, in the field of nutrition and WASH. Local partner Association des Jeunes pour la Citoyenneté Active et la Démocratie (AJCAD), in collaboration with other Right2Grow partners, has developed an electoral

advocacy plan to promote the prioritisation of WASH and Nutrition in the social projects of candidates in Mali's general elections.

Right2Grow's support for the national Sanitation and Water for All committee has enabled regional focal points to be set up, and Sanitation and Water for All activities to be directed at local level. Training has also been provided to citizen watch committees on image and video-taking techniques, helping to better document community initiatives. documentation of community initiatives. Strengthening the networks of journalists monitoring public investment has been a priority, with the publication of numerous press articles aimed at raising public awareness of nutrition and WASH issues.

A competition was organised among journalists to encourage publications on the themes of the Right2Grow programme. The competition helped journalists to publish articles on these subjects, with prizes awarded for the best contributions. Finally, support was provided to strengthen the network of nutrition parliamentarians, in particular by involving them in the advocacy process for the inclusion of food in the constitution. This strategic alliance led to the constitutionalising of nutrition in July 2023, with fifteen members of the *Conseil National de Transition* (National Transition Council) pledging to support advocacy for the operationalisation of the right to food.

Table 2.2. Pathway 2 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
2.1.	Number of times CSOs have succeeded in creating space for their demands and positions. (by setting the agenda, influencing the debate and/or creating space for engagement)	16	40	63	08 communal consultation meetings, 02 parliamentary advocacy meetings, 34 <i>Comité Communal d'Orientation, de Coordination et de Suivi des Actions de Développement</i> (CAOCSAD) meetings in which the citizen waych committees presented their advocacy note with a view to influencing debates in favour of taking Wash and nutrition into account in the PDESC and budget, 1 world climate change day, 5 <i>Comité Local d'Orientation de concertation et de suivi des Actions de développement</i> (CLOCSAD) meetings held in Kayes and Bafoulabé, 1 inter-nutrition technical committee, 8 citizens' day meetings organised for good governance.
2.3.	Number of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/ constituency	0	198	29	-2 parliamentary pleas, -1 plea during the week of inclusive breastfeeding and World Food Day -3 CLOCSAD; -4 World Days; -4 orientation frameworks for local elected representatives on nutrition -4 consultation frameworks -3 awareness-raising on menstrual hygiene management -4 communication campaign on climate change -3 frameworks for the restitution of citizen monitoring reports

					-2 sessions on forums and learning about good practice in nutrition and wash
D.1	Number of CSOs/NGOs with increased L&A capacity	0	8	8	6 NGOs/CSOs, -24 community-based CSOs -4 Associations and cooperative society All the CSOs manage to present advocacy notes, which is the primary objective of the support provided. The other dimension is the number of successes recorded by these advocacy actions, as evidenced by the changes achieved.

2.3. Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

The Right2Grow project in Mali has undertaken several significant activities aimed at enhancing multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition. Dissemination workshops for the Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (MAPN) 2021-2025 were conducted in Kayes, shedding light on nutrition issues. Evaluation of food and nutrition security integration into PDESCs by CAOSADs in Kayes and Bafoulabé offered improvement suggestions. CCOCSAD/CAOSAD meetings in the 24 communes addressed food security, WASH, and women's empowerment, enhancing access to agro-market garden produce. The project contributed to improving the 2024 budget notes, strengthening synergy among stakeholders for multi-sectoral funding of nutrition. An electoral advocacy plan was implemented to integrate nutrition into future candidates' programs, advocating for a multi-sectoral approach.

A journalistic campaign promoting good nutritional and WASH practices through a competition fostered innovative ideas. Television and radio debates raised awareness of the multisectoral nature of nutrition and nutritional quality in Mali. Support for the Sanitation and Water for All National Committee's Action Plan accelerated the adoption of the National Water and Sanitation Policy, promoting mutual accountability. Workshops monitored 2022 plans, drawing up and financing 2023 CHC plans, leading to concrete actions like toilet construction and water point extension. Biannual regional evidence documentation meetings shared citizen watch committees recommendations with local authorities and community leaders. Annual support for holding CLOCSADs for each Cercle resulted in citizen watch committees sending advocacy notes on nutrition and WASH. Forum exchange and sharing of experiences between intervention zones and awarding model municipalities encouraged experience sharing and rewarded exemplary municipalities. Finally, support for the implementation of Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement champions led to significant changes such as the inclusion of the right to food in the constitution.

Table 2.3. showing pathway 3 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
3.2	Number of laws, policies, standards/attitudes, and decisions blocked, adopted, improved at national, regional, municipal and local level for sustainable and	4	2	8	1 adoption of a new constitution incorporating the right to food and sanitation, 1 validation of the new national water policy at an interministerial meeting, 01 decision to appoint regional Sanitation and Water for All focal points, inclusion of sensitive nutrition activities in social, economic and cultural development programmes in the communes of Nonsombougou, Diomatenè, Tioribougou and Ouolodo.

	inclusive development.				
3.3	Percentage of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding)	WASH: 3.62% in 2020 Nutrition: less than 0.7% of the health budget in 2018	2.3% (Average increase in WASH and Nutrition)	WASH: 0.60 Nutrition: 0.21	The national 2022 budget has been analysed and the results are in the process of being validated by the inter-nutritional technical committee.
	Percentage of public budgets allocated and implemented for the nutrition service (increased funding)	Nutrition: less than 0.7% of the health budget in 2018	0,90%	0,21%	The national 2022 budget has been analysed and the results are in the process of being validated by the inter-nutritional technical committee.
	Percentage of public budgets allocated and implemented for WASH services (increased funding)	WASH: 3.62% in 2020	3,7%	0,6%	The national 2022 budget has been analysed and the results are in the process of being validated by the inter-nutritional technical committee (CTIN).
	Increase in municipal budgets devoted to WASH and Nutrition	0	5%	Kayes (3.07%), Koulikoro (1.55%), Sikasso (1.92%).	Analyses of the 2020, 2021 and 2022 budgets of the 24 communes have been carried out and the results are in the process of being validated by the CTIN.

2.4. Donors and international development actor's coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 4)

Right2Grow partner in Mali, AJCAD, has played a key role in coordinating international efforts to combat undernutrition through major initiatives: they participated to half-yearly steering committee meetings, which provided an opportunity to assess the progress of activities and discuss recommendations for better planning. They also highlighted the challenges encountered in implementing the programs.

They supported Action Contre la Faim's multi-sectoral nutrition review, during which a national plea was made to the government and donors on the operationalization of the Nexus and the empowerment of women, with the emphasis on agro-ecology. Right2Grow has supported the activities of the national Sanitation and Water for All committee, in particular its participation in international forums on water and sanitation. This has strengthened Mali's commitment to regional and international initiatives.

Œuvre Malienne d'Aide à l'Enfance du Sahel (OMAES), in partnership with World Vision and the SUN Académie network, organised an advocacy workshop to mobilise financial resources for nutrition and WASH. The meeting brought together government representatives, technical and financial partners, civil society organisations, nutrition experts and the media. The workshop resulted in recommendations to strengthen political and financial commitment to nutrition and WASH. It also encouraged CSO participation in regional and international discussions to broaden the impact of advocacy.

Table 2.4 showing pathway 4 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
4.1	The degree of success of R2G's and its partners' lobbying and advocacy roles with donors and international players.	2	Medium	Medium	-01 Functional Sanitation and Water for All Committee -Integration of nutrition into 7 new social, economic and cultural development programmes: Diomatene, N'Golonianasso, Zanfigue, Ouolodo, Tioribougou, Meguetan, Sirakorola -Follow-up of the recommendations of the 2021-2025 multi-sector nutrition action plan, -Consultation of 16 civil society organisations during the drafting of the primary budget, -Functionality of 2 regional multi-sector consultation frameworks (local committee for the orientation, coordination and monitoring of development actions).
	Number of multi-stakeholder discussion and advocacy forums in which R2G members are involved as part of the humanitarian-development nexus	2	20	5	2 Sanitation and Water for All meetings, 1 water conference, 01 sanitation forum, 1 participation in the inter-nutrition technical committee. At this level, the political context has limited funding for the revitalisation of several frameworks at national level.
	Level of implementation of the Nutrition for Growth and SWA commitments and the recommendations of the humanitarian advocacy notes	Low	Medium	Medium	02 SWA commitments fulfilled -Follow-up of Sanitation and Water for All commitments -Follow-up of Nutrition for Growth recommendations and commitments -Follow-up of the recommendations of the multisectoral nutrition action plan.
4.2	Extent to which donors integrate the WASH-Nutrition nexus as part of the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition.	Low	Medium	Medium	Follow-up on Sanitation and Water for All commitments - Follow-up on Nutrition for Growth recommendations and commitments - Follow-up on the recommendations of the multisectoral nutrition action plan.

G.1	# meetings involving multi-sector coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors on WASH and nutrition to share experiences and strengthen the evidence base	5	9	6	-1 annual multi-sector nutrition review, -1 CTIN, -2 Sanitation and Water for All meetings -2 multi-sector magazines
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3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

In 2023, the Right2Grow project in Mali embarked on a multifaceted advocacy campaign aimed at catalysing legislative and financial support for nutrition and WASH initiatives. Recognizing the pivotal role of advocacy in effecting change, the project undertook various strategic actions. These included leveraging the influence of the WASH Journalists' Network through targeted publications, engaging in robust lobbying efforts directed at key stakeholders such as the Sanitation and Water for All Committee, the National Transition Council, and relevant ministries, and orchestrating advocacy meetings both nationally and locally to galvanize support and commitment.

3.1. Reflection on learnings and communication of results for scaling

Several impactful advocacy initiatives were spearheaded by the Right2Grow project during the year. Notably, national advocacy efforts sought to operationalize the nexus approach and promote women's empowerment, with a specific focus on agro-ecology. This involved supporting multi-sectoral nutrition reviews and mobilizing women towards active participation in these initiatives.

Additionally, advocacy endeavours were directed towards positioning WASH as a catalyst for social change, encompassing comprehensive studies, result dissemination, and community engagement initiatives. The project also championed a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition through workshops involving local stakeholders, dissemination of strategic documents such as the 2021-2025 MAPN, and evaluations of existing local development plans to ensure alignment with food security, WASH, and gender considerations.

Another critical aspect of the advocacy strategy involved presenting advocacy notes to pertinent authorities, serving as a conduit to highlight opportunities for promoting nutrition and enhancing access to WASH facilities. These notes, meticulously crafted and presented by the citizen watch committees during local coordination meetings, underscored the importance of various interventions such as agro-market gardening, local processing initiatives, and improved household and school-level WASH infrastructure.

Furthermore, the project actively advocated for women's empowerment through forums and actionable initiatives aimed at facilitating access to resources, fostering participation in cooperatives, and enhancing capacity-building efforts for civil society organizations. This comprehensive approach sought to bolster local governance frameworks and foster collaboration between diverse stakeholders, including CSOs, elected representatives, and the private sector.

Central to the advocacy efforts was the adoption and application of the "Bridge for Voices" (B4V) approach, which facilitated dialogue and engagement with decision-makers at the grassroots level. Through vigilant citizen watch activities conducted by the citizen watch committees across intervention communes, community needs related to WASH and nutrition were systematically identified and communicated to relevant authorities. Subsequently, concerted efforts were made to lobby municipal authorities, resulting in tangible outcomes such as improved access to drinking water, enhanced waste management practices, and revitalized activities to combat malnutrition.

In terms of achievements, 2023 witnessed notable strides at both national and local levels. Key accomplishments included the strengthening of capacities among key stakeholders, leading to tangible improvements in national legislation pertaining to nutrition and WASH. Additionally, heightened media involvement in monitoring government policies and investments underscored a growing commitment to accountability and transparency in these critical sectors.

At the local level, the revival of multi-sectoral frameworks such as CLOCSAD and CAOCSAD facilitated meaningful exchanges on development issues, empowering civil society groups to articulate advocacy grievances effectively. Local authorities demonstrated increased investment in nutrition by integrating it into development plans, while the private sector contributed through innovative business models aimed at enhancing access to nutritional products within communities.

Learning emerged as a cornerstone of the Right2Grow project, with a concerted focus on innovative approaches, working methods, and specific topics relevant to the Malian context. Through targeted learning themes and activities, stakeholders were equipped with the tools and insights needed to drive sustainable change effectively.

Moreover, the project's commitment to reflective learning was evidenced by the meticulous documentation and analysis of activities, allowing for the identification of key success factors, challenges, and opportunities for improvement. This iterative process facilitated the formulation of practical recommendations aimed at enhancing the efficacy and scalability of advocacy strategies and methodologies.

Furthermore, active participation in cross-national learning initiatives, such as the learning week organized by the Global team in Kampala, Uganda, provided invaluable opportunities for knowledge exchange, strategic reflection, and the identification of best practices. By leveraging these collaborative platforms, the Mali team was able to glean insights from successful advocacy endeavors in other contexts, thereby enriching their own approach and fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

3.2 Testimonies from partners on advocacy efforts

My name is Aminata Souaré Coulibaly. I'm the president of the Association des transformatrices en agroalimentaire. I live in the village of Tienfala. Before the Right2Grow project arrived in our community, the commune of Tienfala was home to the final disposal site for solid and liquid waste that served the district of Bamako. The population suffered enormously from the management of this site, which produced foul smells, a proliferation of flies and mosquitoes, insalubrity and groundwater pollution. This had a considerable impact on the quality of life of the local population, with diarrhoeal diseases among children to name but a few.

So, after the local consultation framework organised between local decision-makers, CSOs, CBOs and technical services in December 2021 and May 2022, we have organised ourselves into a pressure group made up of young people, women and people with disabilities and have formulated a request for support in terms of sanitation materials and equipment and the construction of a transit depot for storing solid waste produced by households. In view of the stakes involved, the communities frequently made lobbying visits (informal meetings) to the town hall, and the citizen watch committees, in the course of their participation in meetings organised by the town hall, raised the problem of the management of the Noumoubougou final transit depot and its impact on the environment. The pressure group, made up of women and young people from six neighbouring villages directly affected by the negative impact of the Noumoubougou landfill on the health of the population, discussed the situation with the local authorities and called for the creation of an Economic Interest Group (EIG) and the construction of a transit depot for the collection and storage of household waste at Tienfala, in order to mitigate the impact of the waste on the environment. Following an inspection visit to Tienfala by former Environment Minister Modibo Koné in 2022, the Tienfala town council agreed to create sanitation and hygiene facilities for the municipality of Tienfala, and to build a transit depot at Tienfala Gare in 2023, and to create and provide the EIG with tricycles, 113 dustbins, wheelbarrows, shovels, etc., after raising 10 million euros.



This community initiative has helped to improve local sanitation and hygiene policy in the municipality of Tienfala through the creation of an economic interest group made up of young people and women from six (6) riverside villages. Today, the GIE provides a service for the collection and storage of solid waste produced by households at the Tienfala Gare transit depot.

4. Partnership and collaboration reflections

In the 8 communes of Mali, the Right2Grow project has fostered robust collaboration among various stakeholders, including local authorities, civil society organizations, administrative bodies, and technical services, in partnership with STOP SAHEL. This collaborative effort has facilitated the seamless integration of WASH and nutrition agendas, with new policies reflecting a holistic approach encompassing nutrition and gender considerations. Moreover, local actors, especially citizen watch committees, now play a pivotal role in promoting WASH and nutrition within their communities.

Efforts to transfer power to civil society organizations have been intensified through capacity-building programs such as the Citizen Control of Public Action (CCAP) program. The active engagement of citizen watch committees in citizen monitoring activities has yielded tangible results, such as increased community awareness and improved tax collection rates.

Furthermore, the project has engaged in strategic partnerships and collaborations with other organizations and initiatives. Cooperation with Action contre la Faim's NAVARRA project included co-organizing an Village Savings and Credit Association training workshop, while collaboration with other Action contre la Faim projects facilitated regional workshops and debates on nutrition. Additionally, partnerships with FIRKA and Affaire Mondiales Canada enabled the organization of fairs and debates on nutrition, respectively.

A mechanism for mutual accountability between stakeholders, including government departments, CSOs, and the private sector, has strengthened advocacy efforts for the constitutionalizing of the right to water and stimulated private sector commitment to funding WASH and nutrition. Strategic cooperation with partners, both at the national and local levels, reflects the project's commitment to achieving concrete and sustainable results in nutrition and WASH.

Furthermore, collaboration with the Dutch Embassy has been instrumental in country steering committee meetings, where achievements and success stories were shared, and recommendations were made for enhancing efforts to combat malnutrition. The Embassy's expertise has been mobilized to address the multisectoral nature of nutrition in Mali, with quarterly newsletters being sent to extend and improve strategic partnerships between the Right2Grow project and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Overall, these collaborative efforts and partnerships underscore the project's commitment to empowering communities, enhancing nutrition and WASH outcomes, and fostering sustainable development in Mali.

5. Programme reflections

Following the mid-term review, significant adjustments and decisions have been made in the implementation of the Right2Grow program in Mali. One notable change is the concerted effort to enhance the communication strategy, ensuring the comprehensive involvement of all stakeholders. This initiative aims to streamline communication

channels and facilitate better coordination among implementing partners, civil society organizations, and local authorities.

Furthermore, a pivotal shift in approach towards transferring power has been initiated within the consortium. This entails delegating most activities of the lead organizations to implementing partners. This delegation of responsibilities includes tasks such as collecting and compiling the results framework for 2024/2025 and coordinating learning activities and strategic steering committees. The overarching goal of this transition is to empower local actors and foster greater ownership and sustainability of project initiatives.

To enhance effectiveness and efficiency, thematic organization of activities for 2024 has been proposed. This thematic approach enables partners to collaborate more closely, identifying optimal methods for joint activities and leveraging each other's strengths. Moreover, a review of targets for certain indicators in the country results framework has been undertaken post-mid-term review, ensuring alignment with project objectives and contextual realities.

In a bid to improve access to budget information, a partnership framework has been developed with the General Budget Directorate. This initiative seeks to establish mechanisms for retrieving and analyzing budgetary information for informed decision-making and resource allocation. Additionally, efforts are underway to build the capacity of citizen watch committees in drafting advocacy briefs. These capacity-building sessions aim to enhance the quality and impact of advocacy efforts by civil society organizations.

Reflecting on the theory of change and results framework, adjustments have been made to 10 indicators in the results framework to ensure relevance and alignment with project goals. Despite these changes, the overarching theory of change remains consistent with national policies and community needs, with an emphasis on strengthening coordination and multi-sectoral collaboration.

Several key successes have been achieved during the reporting period, including national legislative changes to incorporate food and WASH into policy frameworks. At the local level, increased community engagement and awareness have led to tangible improvements in areas such as tax collection and the inclusion of nutrition activities in local development plans. These successes underscore the importance of community-led initiatives and multi-sectoral governance structures in driving sustainable change.

Analysis of the implementation rate compared to the budget consumption rate reveals satisfactory progress in executing planned activities within allocated resources. While the context may have influenced the rate of budget expenditure, partners have effectively utilized funds to implement planned activities, ensuring efficient budget management.

Lessons learned from the program include the importance of robust planning, effective coordination, and flexibility in adapting to local needs. Additionally, promoting multi-sectoral approaches and fostering community ownership have emerged as critical strategies for sustainable development.

6. Conclusion and way forward

In summary, the Right2Grow project's advocacy endeavours in Mali in 2023 constituted a concerted effort to drive legislative and financial support for nutrition and WASH initiatives. Through strategic interventions, collaborative partnerships, and reflective learning practices, the project made significant strides towards fostering sustainable change at both national and local levels, thereby laying a solid foundation for continued progress and impact in the years to come.

The concerted efforts to strengthen communication strategies, transfer power to local actors, and streamline thematic organization of activities reflect a proactive approach towards enhancing program effectiveness and sustainability.

Adjustments made post-mid-term review, such as revising targets for certain indicators and action plan revision, demonstrate adaptive programming tailored to the country context.

Regarding budget execution, it should be noted that the level of implementation of 2023 activities planned in the action plans is very satisfactory: all partners succeeded in implementing all of the activities planned. The burn -rate of allocated funds also remains very satisfactory: 2023 budget was fully spent without over-execution, which demonstrates adequate budgetary planning and management.

Looking ahead, the Right2Grow in Mali will keep its direction based on the recommendations made during the mid-term evaluation that do not lead to a profound change in the strategy.

In the spirit of sustaining results, the program will continue to implement capacity building for community actors and promote their empowerment to represent the needs of their communities. The Citizen Watch Committees will be better equipped to design advocacy notes and community mobilization strategies by creating a partnership with existing community groups.

The program will continue working on a strong community leadership and request demonstration of clear political will. The subjects on advocacy in favour of financing the nexus, the establishment of a national steering committee of the nexus and the financing of communities for community resilience in the face of climate change will be carried out, taking advantage of any framework in mutualization of complementarity.

Finally, an inclusive approach to actions, with strong participation from different categories of the population, will keep being favoured. More emphasis will be placed on connecting women's groups trained in agricultural processing to the private sector on nutrition by helping them to grow formally in the private sector and gain access to financing.

Continued engagement with strategic partnerships, such as the Dutch Embassy, and collaboration with other CSOs and the private sector will be essential for leveraging resources and amplifying program impact. Emphasis will also be placed on monitoring and evaluation to ensure accountability and track progress towards achieving program objectives.

Overall, the program in Mali is well-positioned to build on its achievements and address emerging priorities in the final years. By remaining adaptive, responsive, and inclusive, the program aims to leave a lasting legacy of improved nutrition and WASH outcomes, contributing to sustainable development and positive change in communities across the country.

Right2Grow South Sudan Annual Report 2023 Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 – 31 Dec 2023

Report submitted by: Save the Children

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	South Sudan
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	The Hunger Project
Reporting period	1 January - 31 December 2023
Lead implementing Partner	Save the Children South Sudan
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Lead funding office	Save the Children Netherlands
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1. Programme context

1.1 Changes in the Country Context

South Sudan is currently experiencing its highest levels of food insecurity and malnutrition since gaining independence. According to the 2024 humanitarian need overview, an estimated 8 million people (70% of the population, the highest rate worldwide) were severely food insecure at the peak of the lean season between April and July 2023.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) latest findings reveal a critical situation between September and November 2023, and estimated 5.83 million people, accounting for 46 percent of the population, underwent severe food insecurity categorized as IPC Phase 3 or higher (crisis or worse). Additionally, an estimated 35,000 individuals were classified under IPC Phase 5 (catastrophe), with 3,000 in Duk and Nyirol counties of Jonglei State, 15,000 in Rubkona County of Unity State, and 14,000 South Sudanese returnees who fled the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

There are several factors that have contributed to this situation, including the protracted political conflict in South Sudan, the post-COVID-19 pandemic effects, climatic shocks, Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and the ongoing economic crisis, including the drop in oil prices, which is the main source of income.

1.2 Risks and mitigations & Implementation challenges

The consortium in South Sudan has met many challenges. Firstly, due to the Sudan crisis the country has received a substantial influx of refugees and returnees from Sudan which has put pressure on already scarce resources. This is further amplified by shrinking donor funding. This situation requires continued advocacy for humanitarian support to address the increased needs of both the host and displaced population by sustaining the core pipeline for emergency response. Secondly, climate shocks such as floods, insecurities and lack of infrastructures have been challenges the consortium have continuously faced throughout the year. Right2Grow continues to advocate towards the government to invest in peace building and stability initiatives, and with the local authorities to build dikes to prevent water from penetrating residences.

Another challenge is the bureaucracy in obtaining national permission for budget expenditure data for budget analysis. Many efforts have been put into building meaningful and trustworthy partnerships with the different government agencies in order to have a timely access to financial information.

Finally, cultural and religious norms and practices continue to inhibit female decision-making power. This is dealt with by actively engaging marginalized groups in awareness raising activities tackling harmful gender norms in decision making.

1.3 Cross cutting issues

Right2Grow partners took actions to integrate nutrition interventions in a gender sensitive way. The involvement of women and youth in awareness campaigns aimed at tackling norms through a gender equity approach. Mother-to-Mother Support Groups (MtMSGs) have observed positive changes in communities after interacting with them. Notably, these changes include serving children first with food or to have their food plates at the same time as men instead of waiting for leftovers from the men.

Moreover, the MtMSGs seized the opportunity to advocate for improvements in nutrition and WASH interventions necessary to improve children's nutritional status. They further called upon the government to address cultural issues contributing to the subordination of women, the inequitable division of labour, and poor accessibility. The MtMSGs urged other stakeholders to acknowledge the perpetuation of these issues and to take necessary steps to address them.

In 2023, few consortium partners gave attention to climate change initiatives. However, the floods that occurred in Right2Grow geographical areas made it necessary to explore opportunities for collaboration with the humanitarian coordinating body, donors, and government to reduce the effects of climate change and build the resilience of the community by providing training to vulnerable groups. This will be better addressed in the coming two years of the programme.

The youth were well represented in community groups such as father-to-father support groups, water user and management committees during the implementation. Additionally, most women-led organization representatives were young adults. The youth were engaged both at national and state levels through initiatives such as sports for peace, particularly through football; hosting youth dialogue sessions covering topics such as WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), Nutrition, Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL), Protection, and Peace building.

Efforts were made to advocate inclusion of the persons with disabilities, during the community budget dialogue to ensure their voices are heard by the law makers.

2. Programme results

2.1 Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

In 2023, the efforts of Right2Grow and its partners have made significant progress in improving demand and investment in basic social services in communities. MtMSG were able to improve the food basket and supply food surplus to the local markets. Water User Committee (WUC) through the help of the chiefs were able to repair broken boreholes and ensure communities have access to clean and safe drinking water.

The continued stakeholders’ engagement made Melut County local government authority install a new clean drinking water facility to provide clean and safe drinking water for the Paloich and Khoradar communities. In Melut, the community gathered data on broken water points and demanded for access to safe and clean water from the county authority. The community also advocated for early identification and referral of malnourished children in the community to the health facility to receive nutritional treatment. Table 2.1 highlights achievements across outcome 1 indicators.

Table 2.1: Progress across outcome 1 indicators

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services		N/A	6	<p>The Baidit community leader request for borehole maintenance from state ministry of physical infrastructure which was repaired. Similarly, the Pariak community leader request is still in the pipeline.</p> <p>Conducted meeting with key stakeholders, communities and government authorities to demand for provision of safe and clean drinking water in New Paloich and khoradar</p> <p>Meeting of the farmer’s union with government authorities to advocate and demand for seeds to</p>

					<p>increase local production of cereals that is accessible and affordable to the local community.</p> <p>Conducted meeting with the mother-to-mother support groups and the County Directorate for Agriculture to advocate and demand for land for establishment of vegetable kitchen garden.</p>
	# of WASH and nutrition products identified for production by local private sectors.		N/A	3	<p>Production of green vegetables in addition to other crops.</p> <p>Innovation efforts by introducing climate-resilient farming techniques for both vegetables and crops.</p> <p>Enhancement of nutritious food accessibility to combating malnutrition.</p>
	# of CSOs involved in R2G		N/A	8	<p>Additional 5 tier 3 CSOs; Jonglei Civil Society Network, Voice of Women, and ITERFID South Sudan in Jonglei;, Paguir Women's League, Town Council,</p>
	# of water user committees trained on the maintenance of water sources and sanitation within the communities.		N/A	38	<p>Committees from Pariak, Baidit, and Lualdit; 5 each in Leer, Koch, Fashoda and Panyijar, 15 in Paquir.</p>
	# of MTMSG and Men groups trained.		N/A	20	<p>5 each Pariak and Baidit, 2 each in Melut, Leer, Koch, Fashoda and Panyijar.</p>
	# of meetings organized by CSOs and private sectors to promote appropriate technologies on food processing and preservation.		N/A	5	<p>Meetings, one done at Park palace Bor county to introduce the idea and processes and the other follow up on how the communities are materializing the skills gained during the training. For instance, grinding G/nut paste, Fish sun drying; Fish salting, and smoking. Join efforts to produce fish for business.</p> <p>Fish smoking, rice threshing, and advanced plantation techniques with the various targets groups in Paquir.</p>
	# of awareness sessions conducted on local		N/A	4	<p>At Pariak, Baidit, Lualdit and during WBW.</p>

production of nutritious foods affordable to the local community.				
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2.2. Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

In addition to tiers 1 and 2 partners, Right2Grow has enhanced the capacities of third-tier civil society organizations (CSOs), Jonglei Civil Society Network and Voice of Women, in appropriate food processing and preservation methods. These methods include drying green vegetable leaves, as well as smoking, grinding, and salting fish and meat. These efforts have contributed to improving the livelihoods of communities in Bor. The training also focused on how to effectively mobilize communities in Bor. The CSOs were able to cascade the same training and demonstrations in their respective areas of operations, thereby promoting the adoption of best practices in their communities.

Furthermore, Right2Grow has strengthened the capacity of these CSOs to conduct community mobilization which enabled them to carry out mass awareness campaigns in Baidit, Pariak, and Lualdit, engaging community structures, mothers, men, and boys on social norms, gender norms, culture, and religion. These campaigns were instrumental in sensitizing communities to the issues that perpetuate women's subordination, inequitable division of labor, and poor accessibility. The communities acknowledged the need to address these issues and to promote gender equity and equality. Table 2.2 provides an overview of programme performance across outcome 2 indicators.

Table 2.2: Progress across outcome 2 indicators

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
SCS 3: (disaggregated for SCSO 31+ SCS032)	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and position.	0	Target 2025: SCS031 : 10 SCS032 : 12	National level SCS031: 2 Sub-national level: SCS032: 10	1) Accessibility of national budgets booklet and approval of expenditure data for the line ministries; 2) Approval of national budget policy brief 2023 for budget advocacy on 27th June 2023; 3) MtMSG in Bor demanded the local authorities and duty bearer during the World Breast feeding Week and Malaria Day to support them to maintain the initiatives they started; 4)The Baidit community leader request for borehole maintenance from state ministry of physical infrastructure which was repaired and improved community access to safe and clean drinking water. Similarly, the Pariak community leader request is still in the pipeline; 5) In Mayendit and Pariang the community structure created dramas/skits with WASH and Nutrition doable actions that were used to sensitize the community, and this showed great ownership; 6) The WUC/WMC amplified the need of the community taking care of their water collecting point sources as a preventive

					<p>advocacy agenda during the health and Nutrition review in Unity state;</p> <p>7) Involvement of Paguir women and men to support an exclusive breastfeeding program;</p> <p>8) Support local farmer associations to advance local food production;</p> <p>9) Promoted household vegetable gardening to provide food supplements;</p> <p>10) In Melut Conducted meeting with key stakeholders, communities and government authorities to demand for provision of safe and clean drinking water in New Paloich and khoradar;</p> <p>11) Meeting of the farmer’s union with government authorities to advocate and demand for seeds to increase local production of cereals that is accessible and affordable to the local community;</p> <p>12) Conducted meeting with the mother-to-mother support groups and the County Directorate for Agriculture to advocate and demand for land for establishment of vegetable kitchen garden.</p>
SCS 4: (disaggregated for SCS041+SCS042)	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency	0	Target 2025 SCS041 : 15 SCS042 : 40	National level (SCS041): 6 Sub-national level (SCS042): 6	<p>Parliamentarians and Stakeholders’ Engagement Meeting on National Budget Analysis 2023 in Juba South Sudan; Participation in the budget public hearing and second stage budget reading; Half-day national budget dialogue between the government and two communities on food security, nutrition, and WASH in Juba, South Sudan; 1 day each national budget process orientation for four schools and five women-led organizations; National Nutrition Policy landscape analysis stakeholders’ workshop; the World Breast Feeding Week; the Parliamentarians’ engagement; the Forgotten crises campaign launching organized by Johanniter; Donors’ round table meeting; the learning week and the National WASH caucus launching; Radio talk shows in partnership with MOH while disseminating nutrition and WASH messages during the WBW; National and State annual review sessions supported by the MoH in collaboration with the nutrition cluster partners; meeting with government authorities and stakeholders to advocate for provision of better WASH and Nutrition services to the community as a result the county authority installed water network in Melut town for provision of clean and safe drinking water to the community; Farmers union held a meeting with government authorities to advocate for local production of cereals such as sorghum to promote local production foods readily affordable to improve nutrition and food security; Budget policy brief dissemination in Bor and Melut counties to prepare the community leaders and CSOs to generate evidence to advocate for</p>

					effective service delivery during the dialogue between the government.
	# of platforms used by CSOs and CBOs to advocate for the rights of marginalized and women groups.		N/A	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Champions called 'Change-makers' National Parliament Media outlets. During the global vents particularly WBW, Rural women day and Malaria Day in Bor
	# of CSOs, children led groups and women who attended workshop in budget sector working groups.		N/A	9	5women- led organizations and 4 schools.

2.3. Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

The programme has made notable achievements towards this outcome, with the main one being completion of the development of the National Nutrition Policy, which is awaiting official launching This will form the basis for multi-sectoral approach alongside with the other national policies. National WASH caucus was also established, which will help drive the WASH-related agenda in the country and provide direction for nutrition interventions.

With regards to budgeting, CRC analysed the national budget with support from CEGAA, which informed numerous engagements with the parliamentarians, children, community leaders and the women-led organizations groups in 2023. It was further used to drive the budget advocating agenda relating to food security and WASH at the national and state level. The engagement modality varied from meetings and trainings to workshops, dialogues and focus group discussions.

The Right2Grow consortium also engaged with the parliament budget committees to discuss the state of WASH, food security, and nutrition in the country. During the engagement, Right2Grow presented the findings of the South Sudan humanitarian need overview for the three sectors of WASH, Food security and nutrition, as well as the South Sudan Water bills and the South Sudan nutrition commitments made during the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit in 2021. The parliament members acknowledged the resourcefulness of Right2Grow in their role and admitted that

they were not previously aware of some of the information presented. Table 2.3 provides key highlights of the achievements towards outcome 3 indicators.

Table 2.3: Progress on outcome 3 indicators

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
SCS2	# of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	0	Target 2025: 2	1	Completion of the National Nutrition Policy which is yet to be officially launched by government. The efforts made to support the development of the Nutrition Policy were successful which was led by the Right2Grow Consortium in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other key line ministries. The nutrition policy is anticipated to foster nutrition budget allocation in that national budget and provide direction of the nutrition interventions. The government representative testified the great collaboration along with a Nutrition Strategic Plan which involves several strategic line ministries - including the ministries of Education, Agriculture, Food Security, Gender, Fisheries, and Livestock, which is a positive indication the strong government commitment to ensure its implementation and alignment with the multisectoral approach purported by the Right2Grow Consortium and theory of change. The National Nutrition Strategy comes with financial implications and that might require time than anticipated. We anticipate national elections in 2024 and outcomes are not predictable as well the timeline is unsure due to developments within ministries.
	# of events held to disseminate new findings on WASH and nutrition gaps.		N/A	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Nutrition Policy landscape analysis stakeholders' workshop. World Breast Feeding Week. Parliamentarians' engagement. Forgotten crises campaign launching organized by Johanniter. Donors' round table meeting. National WASH caucus launching.

2.4. Donors and international development actor's coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 4)

During the reporting period, the Netherlands Embassy organized a lessons learned sharing event, which provided opportunity for Right2Grow to identify synergies and ways of working with other partners. Another initiative was the participation in a donors' round table through the guidance from the Netherlands Embassy during the preparations. The session mobilized the donor's community in South Sudan and was attended by four donor representatives, The Dutch embassy, USAID, the German embassy, and the British embassy and the senior consortium members. Table 2.4 presents achievements across the indicators.

Table 2.4: Progress on outcome 4 indicators

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 2/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Remarks
	# of meetings held with donors to advocate for multi-sectoral funding in nutrition.		N/A	1	The donors round table meeting in Juba to advocate for multisectoral and multi-year funding.
	# of consultative meetings organized for the development of national policy and long-term nutrition program framework.		N/A	4	During the situation analysis findings, first nutrition policy consolidation. The consultation meetings were organized by the MoH in collaboration with Save the Children International and UNICEF and were directors' generals from the line ministries; health, agriculture, AIDS commission, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, and gender and social welfare; nutrition cluster representative; UN agencies (UNICEF, WFP, FAO, UNHCR and WHO); Academia (the University of Juba and Upper Nile); Right2Grow partners and other nutrition implementing partners.
	# of advocacy workshops for members of parliament leading health, nutrition, food security and social development committees conducted.		N/A	3	1) In May at Palm Africa Hotel, the parliamentarians were presented with the overall country situation and reminded of their role to address the dire situation in which the acknowledged the importance of the collaboration and formed a committed to ease future communication; 2) At Palm Africa hotel the parliamentarians were presented the national budget analysis and; 3) in Regency Hotel where the launching of parliamentarians WASH CAUCUS was done.

3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

The Bridge for Voices approach remained the core advocacy strategy to ensure that communities remain on the driving seat in amplifying the voices of their communities regarding the WASH and nutrition related advocacy. For example, members of the youth network participated in a dialogue session with the Vice President of South Sudan that aimed to explore solutions to the challenges of undernutrition in the country and also addressing youth empowerment issues.

Furthermore trained national journalists with the support of Right2Grow profiled Right2Grow efforts in finding solutions to the malnutrition drivers and also documented community voices regarding the situation surrounding them. Among the stories are:

- A battle Against Malnutrition as Children find Hope through Right2Grow project:
<https://www.eyeradio.org/a-battle-against-malnutrition-as-children-find-hope-through-right2grow-project>
- Stung by the bug of hunger, mothers in Akobo find solution in malnutrition centres:
<https://cityreviewss.com/stung-by-the-bug-of-hunger-mothers-in-akobo-find-solution-in-malnutrition-centres/>;

- Bor mother-to-mother support group asks for irrigation sprinkler: <https://theradiocommunity.org/bor-mother-to-mother-support-group-asks-for-irrigation-sprinkler/>;
- A mother’s story about her daughter after recovering from malnutrition: <https://theradiocommunity.org/a-mothers-story-about-her-daughter-after-recovering-from-malnutrition/>; and
- Addressing Spike Of Child Malnutrition Due To Worsening Food Insecurity: <https://jubaecho.com/2023/07/05/addressing-spike-of-child-malnutrition-due-to-worsening-food-insecurity/>

Finally, Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) remains an efficient tool to advocate towards the government. This year CSOs analysed the national budget on food security, nutrition and WASH in the country and used the information to engage with decision-makers at national and local level. The BMET experience was even showcased at global events where demands to the international stakeholders were put forward.

3.1. Reflection on learnings and communication of results for scaling

- The successful completion of the National Nutrition Policy under the leadership of the Government for the well-being of the citizens was vital. The government took complete ownership of the processes.
- The state-level budget analysis dissemination in Bor, Jonglei state, and Melut, Upper Nile state provided an avenue for community leaders and CSOs to bring forward the community concerns they shared with parliamentarians through community budget dialogues to maximum impact (see story 1)
- At the community level, community groups stepped up voluntarily to act in WASH, food security, and optimal nutrition practices.
- There has been wide scale up of installation of water pipes within Melut county to ensure community have access to safe and clean drinking water.
- Through engagement meetings with government authorities and key stakeholders on advocacy, the county government supported private sectors, local and mechanized farmers with diesel to increase food production in the county.

3.2. Change Story

South Sudan's budgeting process has long suffered from a lack of inclusivity since independence, often neglecting the voices of communities in favour of a top-down approach. Recognizing this disparity, the Right2Grow Partners have joined forces to advocate for a more inclusive and transparent budgeting process, aiming to empower communities and amplify their voices.

Through a concerted effort, the consortium has engaged in a series of lobby meetings with lawmakers, seeking to reshape the budgeting landscape. One notable milestone in this journey was a groundbreaking one-day workshop organized by the South Sudan Consortium partners under Right2Grow, held at the Palm Africa Hotel in July. At the heart of this event was BMET poised to catalyse transformative change.

With unwavering determination, the workshop aimed to unveil the long-awaited National Policy Brief for 2022/2023, igniting a wave of transformation across vital sectors. Stakeholders gathered with anticipation, driven by



a shared vision of progress and development. BMET advocates passionately championed for robust financial commitments towards crucial initiatives such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), as well as Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL), and Nutrition programs.

As the workshop unfolded, it became a beacon of hope and possibility, symbolizing a collective commitment to steer South Sudan toward a future defined by prosperity and well-being. The presence of the Deputy Chair of the Standing Specialized

Committee for Budget and Planning in the South Sudan National Parliament underscored the significance of the occasion, signalling a newfound dedication to integrating community voices into the budgeting process. Lawmakers pledged to prioritize better budget allocations for WASH and Nutrition, acknowledging the importance of community input. The success of the workshop resonated far beyond its immediate surroundings, marking a pivotal moment in South Sudan's journey toward a brighter, healthier future. With BMET leading the charge, the power of finances has been harnessed, paving the way for a transformative era of growth and opportunity

3.3 Documented or completed studies linked to learning activities in 2023

The Link Nutrition Causal Analysis (NCA) was conducted for the first time in South Sudan by ACF with financial support from Right2Grow project. This mixed-method study identified root causes of undernutrition and its preliminary result revealed that low access to health services; low access to sources of revenue, inadequate access, availability and quality of water, and non-optimal hygiene practices are major risk factors of wasting among children; this will inform the program design and implementation.

3.4 Reflection on internal learning (from our ways of working as a partnership focusing on successes, challenges and ways forward)

Success	Challenges	Way forward
Conducting joint activities at the national level and during global events	Limited representation and participation on national activities for field-based staff due to high cost of travels	Scaling up and cascading national activities to the state and county levels
Country reflection workshop enables different partners to pick areas of best practices in other locations and implement them in the areas in which they operate	High cost of travels and accommodation during reflection workshop at the national level	Allocate more budget for travel related costs
High level of collaboration and coordination between different partners in the Consortium	Too many meetings.	The consortium partners should agree on strategic meetings that would give substantial feedback instead of the monthly meetings which mostly have minimal content to discuss.
Sharing of new ideas and expertise facilitated the adoption of new and improved practices in terms of both programme delivery and programme intervention design	Limited opportunities for exposure/exchange visits due to high transportation/travel costs	Increase exposure/exchange visits
Effective communication via platforms such as WhatsApp as being important in flagging any potential issues in programme delivery and addressing them in a timely manner.	Unstable Internet connectivity and poor mobile network in other locations	Procure communication gadgets such as Thuraya in areas with no access to mobile network

4. Partnership and collaboration reflection

All Right2Grow partners have specific areas of expertise. Each partner brings its expertise and all work closely with the lead organization in setting the counties priorities and work together towards a shared goal of achieving the projects intended outcomes. The mid-term review (MTR) highlighted that “coordination and communication among partners in the Consortium has been identified as a key strength” (MTR report). However it was also reported that “one of the weaknesses of the partnership in supporting effective programme delivery relates to staffing including high staff turnover and understaffing” (MTR report).

The collaboration with the Embassy of the Netherlands was positive offering opportunity to identify synergies and ways of working together with the other Power of Voices consortium lead partners particularly, Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA) and Plan International and the sharing of learnings such as the MTR findings and recommendations. Through collaboration the consortium was able to orient women-led organization representatives on the national budget processes as well as their participation in the national budget community dialogue. Additionally, the presence of the Embassy's representative during high-level engagements such as the national nutrition consultative workshops and national budget analysis briefing have boosted the commitment of the government in pushing things forward. Furthermore, the engagement helped us to keep abreast of important events and discussions on human rights under the theme "A Country in Transition: Reconciling with the Past and Moving Forward"

The private sector in South Sudan is not very well developed. It depends heavily on imports and is run by non-nationals. This makes it even harder to collaborate and negotiate price reduction due to high taxes, and transport costs traders incurred. However, in Mayendit and Pariang, very limited collaboration existed in WASH sector. However, through Right2Grow, WASH items were recommended to private vendors in the markets. Market-based marketing programming was encouraged through the use of cash vouchers awarded to beneficiaries by selected NGOs. This approach allowed families to purchase WASH items essential to them, e.g. soap and water troughs for bathing.

Right2Grow has built and maintains a strong network with the various government ministries such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water Resource and Irrigation. Engaging the CSOs, children, women representatives in services dialogue with the lawmakers and duty bearers is gradually influencing them to embrace the collective efforts to improve the quality-of-service delivery in their communities. Hence, the knowledge and skills that these groups have acquired during the engagements will enable them to actively explore future opportunities to engage with lawmakers and duty bearers in the subsequent decision-making events.

The design of Right2Grow was meant to complement other projects. However, advocacy requires ample time and resources for ground preparation before concrete results can be harvested. We have therefor consulted with other international partners to complement our efforts to support local partners to which they agreed.

5. Programme reflections

The project is making progress, as shown by key successes such as: the finalization of the Nutrition Policy which will pave the way for a unified nutrition interventions in the country; the launch of the National Parliamentarians WASH Caucus; the participation of CSO members at the micronutrients conference; and the involvement of the Women led organizations, community leaders (chiefs), people leaving with disabilities in the national budget dialogue. The current Theory of Change and consortium structure remain relevant. The effective leadership and technical support provided by the consortium lead, the effective community mobilization strategies implemented, and the multisectoral integration and synergy with existing Nutrition and WASH projects have been key in achieving the results. The partnership collaboration and coordination with different stakeholders were exemplary, and collaboration with the government ensured government ownership of activities and policy changes. For example, the government role in overseeing the development of the national nutrition policy and the national parliamentarian WASH caucus has pushed for their ownership of the processes. This is a key element to ensure sustainability of the programme's gains.

However, some challenges have been encountered. The focus of this programme is on advocacy and many communities where Right2Grow is operating are used to service delivery programmes. Therefore, raising their awareness on a lobby and advocacy approach took time. Furthermore, the lack of strategy regarding private sector engagement has led to little progress on that level. More efforts will be made to engage the private sector in 2024 and 2025. Good examples and practices in other Right2Grow countries, notably in Bangladesh, have been brought to

the attention of South Sudan team and will be used moving forward. Finally, the current fragile context in combination with donor's fatigue pushes the consortium to put stronger focus on advocating with the government and other donors to embrace humanitarian and development nexus along the humanitarian responses.

Finally, the delay in finalizing the nutrition policy has led to limited actions in implementing this policy. For example, the launch, the development of a policy brief to disseminate widely and the development of multi-sectoral strategies are still to be implemented. Engagement with the government to officially launch this policy will take place in 2024 and will be the starting point for a coordinated multisectoral approach to nutrition.

6. Conclusion and way forward

To conclude, the program has made significant progress especially when it comes to community and government engagement. The nutrition policy is setting a solid ground for multisectoral collaboration when it comes to nutrition specifically. For 2024 the main focus will be on community empowerment and participation to promote the sustainability of the programme. Right2Grow will be ready with communities to advocate for an increased budget for nutrition and WASH this year again. Furthermore, donor's engagement to incorporate resilience-building activities within the humanitarian response, private sector engagement and an integration of climate in the advocacy agenda is also guiding the 2024 plan.

Last note on the level of expenditures: with a burn rate of about 94% the project is on track. As we move towards the end of the programme there is a strong need to apply the principle of adaptive management and allocate funds where most impact can be achieved in the remaining period. The 2024 budget has been done with that guiding principle. The 2025 budget will aim to invest in actions with the highest impact and promoting sustainability.

Right2Grow Uganda Annual Report 2023 Summary



Reporting period: 1 Jan 2023 – 31 Dec 2023

Report submitted by: The Hunger Project

Programme Overview 2023

Country name	Uganda
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 Impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	The Hunger Project
Reporting Period	January to December 2023
Lead Implementing Partner	The Hunger Project Uganda
Contact person:	Alice Yayeri Nakku
Lead funding office	The Hunger Project Netherlands
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1. Programme context

1.1 Changes in the country context

In 2023, Uganda witnessed significant developments in key areas. The Uganda Demographic and Health Survey for 2023 revealed a notable reduction in stunting rates among children to 26%. While Uganda still faces challenges in ending hunger and malnutrition, this achievement marked a crucial milestone, sparking celebrations across the nation and within the Right2Grow program. However, amidst these gains, Uganda faced a setback as the World Bank suspended funding due to human rights concerns stemming from the enactment of the anti-homosexuality law. The World Bank emphasized the importance of inclusivity and non-discrimination, stating that the law contradicted their values. Despite this funding freeze, the Right2Grow program continued its interventions with a commitment to inclusivity. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Finance took steps to prioritize nutrition interventions by instructing various sectors, including health, education, water, trade, and social development, to incorporate these interventions into their budgets for the fiscal year 2023/24. This move reflected a broader effort to integrate nutrition considerations across different sectors for holistic development.

1.2 Risks and mitigations

During the planning phase, several anticipated risks materialized in 2023, notably the limitation of civic space exacerbated by Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Act, and the adverse effects of climate change on food production. In response, the country program implemented pivotal mitigation strategies, emphasizing strict adherence to prevailing regulations despite ongoing legal challenges to the aforementioned act. Moreover, the program proactively engaged in ongoing dialogues within climate change technical working groups across target districts, demonstrating a commitment to addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by environmental shifts.

1.3 Implementation challenges

Engagement of private sector partners at the community level was limited due to lack of well-functioning networks at local level and unclear roles at the start of the programme. The profit-driven nature of the private sector further complicated involvement in non-profit activities. To address this, the Right2Grow Uganda consortium collaborated with the Ministry of Trade Industries and Cooperatives to establish Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Networks, facilitating partnerships between Right2Grow and private sector entities. Budget cuts at the local government level posed challenges for Right2Grow's advocacy efforts in WASH and nutrition, as funds were diverted to other priorities. Community-led advocacy initiatives focused on evidence-based approaches to ensure recognition of nutrition and WASH amidst competing demands. Despite favorable rainfall, heavy localized downpours led to flooding, damaging infrastructure and displacing households. The closure of key roads disrupted field operations for three weeks, prompting collaboration between Right2Grow and the government to establish alternative routes for staff, ensuring continuity of program implementation.

1.4 Cross cutting issues

At the community level, Right2Grow partners ensured inclusive participation of men, women, and youth, with deliberate efforts to engage them in all activities and encourage their free expression of views. Community structures, such as Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) Taskforces, include representatives of women and youth, who actively addressed gender-related concerns affecting access to nutrition and WASH services. Through locally-led research, gender dynamics in accessing nutrition and WASH services were explored, yielding recommendations for promoting access within cultural norms. Partners facilitated community dialogues on climate change adaptation, resulting in demands for technical support in climate-smart agriculture. Collaboration with district agricultural offices ensured the incorporation of climate-smart agriculture approaches into demonstration gardens, promoting sustainable farming practices. Sensitization sessions on organic agriculture and the use of drought-resistant seed varieties were also encouraged to mitigate environmental challenges.

2. Programme results

2.1 Demand and investment in basic social services for nutrition and WASH (Pathway 1)

- Facilitating Dialogue Between Stakeholders:** Interface meetings and PhotoVoice gallery walks served as platforms for engagement between community members and duty bearers. These sessions not only highlighted existing interventions but also identified gaps in government service delivery systems. Through dialogue, actionable steps were outlined to address these gaps. For example, repairs were made to non-functional boreholes, and budget allocations were earmarked for essential projects such as water scheme construction. Community advocacy efforts also led to tangible results such as the construction of an electric fence around Murchison Falls national park and the implementation of by-laws to safeguard food security.
- Enhanced Media Campaign on WASH & Nutrition:** A robust media campaign was launched across various platforms to amplify the critical link between WASH and nutrition. This included commemorating events like World Food Safety Day and Global Handwashing Day with targeted messaging aimed at increasing public awareness. Collaboration with government ministries and targeted communication to stakeholders responsible for food safety played a vital role in advocating for policy implementation and enforcement.
- Scoping Study:** A thorough scoping study conducted in Kamwenge District identified innovative approaches in the domains of nutrition, food security, and WASH. These approaches included promoting fortified foods consumption, small-scale animal rearing schemes, and innovative land utilization strategies. In the WASH domain, strategies ranged from mechanizing high-yield water sources to establishing WASH clubs and promoting proper handwashing practices.
- Launch of Zero Stunting Campaign:** The Zero Stunting Campaign, launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, aims to significantly reduce stunting among children under 5. The official launch garnered significant attention and support from various stakeholders, setting a strong foundation for concerted action towards combating stunting.
- Raising Awareness on WASH:** Media engagements and training sessions focused on raising awareness about the critical nexus between WASH and nutrition. Targeted training sessions on key methodologies like Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) were conducted across multiple districts. Additionally, youth festivals prioritized climate change issues, advocating for sustainable practices such as renewable energy sources and recycling.

Table 2.1 showing pathway 1 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.OC.1.1:	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services.	0	25	27	Community initiatives improved water access and conservation across districts: Busiraba Sub County funded water scheme land titles; Kyarugubi Village borehole repaired; Kahunge borehole fixed and water source fenced; Nwoya district built electric fence around Murchison Falls National Park; Purongo Sub-County enacted food security by-laws; Kisiita Health Centre III installed water tank; and ten water springs renovated in various districts.

R2G.OC.1.2:	# of barriers to good nutrition and/or WASH services successfully addressed by joint community and private sector initiatives.	0	21	23	Advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Health culminated in the development and launch of the Zero Stunting Campaign Strategy by R2G Uganda.
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2.2. Civil Society Empowerment (Pathway 2)

- **Photovoice Training:** The program focused on empowering CBO partners with skills in photovoice methodology, a participatory research technique where participants capture images to highlight community realities. This training aimed to equip representatives with the ability to visually document service delivery gaps in their communities and advocate for policy changes based on evidence.
- **Training on Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET):** Workshops were conducted to train participants in BMET, enabling them to monitor public spending on food security, nutrition, and WASH initiatives. The outcomes of these workshops included tangible commitments from local authorities, such as the recruitment of nutritionists in health centers and earmarking funds for essential data collection.
- **CBO Capacity Building:** Annual programme review meetings and capacity development sessions were held to strengthen the capabilities of CBO partners. These sessions facilitated reflection on past achievements and challenges, enhancing skills in resource mobilization, organizational development, and communication. CBO partners also received coaching on effective communication strategies for advocacy purposes. This included training on capturing impactful photos and utilizing various media tools to document success stories and advocate for policy changes.
- **Support for CSO Nutrition Platforms:** Collaborative efforts supported CSO Nutrition platforms, providing a platform for stakeholders to develop position papers advocating for increased budget allocations in Nutrition and WASH. These platforms facilitated dialogue and coordination among stakeholders to drive policy changes at the district level. Regular meetings were convened to address emerging nutrition-related issues and develop strategies for supporting CSOs in drafting and approving Food and Nutrition District regulations. These meetings fostered collaboration and alignment with district priorities, leading to the development and approval of regulations aimed at improving nutrition outcomes.

Table 2.2 showing pathway 2 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes
SCS031:	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage at national and international level.	0	36	39	Advocacy efforts to recruit Nutrition Officers in multiple districts have yielded commitments for recruitment. Ministry of Health and other ministries have developed and endorsed the Zero Stunting Campaign Strategy. Engagement with the budget committee of the National Parliament resulted in the adoption of

					18 out of 26 presented recommendations, indicating impactful advocacy efforts.
SCS032:	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate, and/or creating space to engage at the sub-national level.	0	36	40	Increased participation in Sub-County and district planning meetings, with Nutrition, Food Security, and WASH Action Plans integrated into District Nutrition Action Plan (DNAPII). 20 advocacy spaces for CSOs have been secured, and simplified local government budget guides have empowered citizens to engage in budget processes effectively.
SCS041:	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency at national level.	0	45	48	Advocacy efforts secured commitments from MPs to accelerate pending bills and policies following a CSO High-level Dialogue on Public Financing for FNS/WASH. Position papers resulted in 36 proposals adopted for action. The 2nd National Agricultural Strategy now includes an objective aimed at enhancing food safety coordination and nutrition-sensitive extension services, highlighting a comprehensive approach to addressing food security and nutrition challenges.
SCS042:	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs at sub-national level.	0	60	69	Advocacy efforts focused on establishing and revitalizing District Nutrition Coordination Committees (DNCCs) and Subcounty Nutrition Coordination Committees (SNCCs) to bolster nutrition agendas. Additionally, revamping the CSO SUN network led to recognition by the Office of the Prime Minister and equal partnership in the SUN agenda.

2.3. Adoption and mainstream of multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition (Pathway 3)

- **Support to local government structures:** Training sessions were conducted to empower local nutrition coordination committees (DNCC, SNCC, PNCC) and community members to monitor service delivery and advocate for improvements. By enhancing their skills in areas like Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), participants were better equipped to identify gaps in WASH and nutrition services and push for necessary changes.
- **Policy Advocacy through By-laws:** Enacting by-laws at the local level aimed at promoting food security, hygiene, and sanitation represents a grassroots approach to addressing these issues. These regulations not only set standards for individual households but also provide a legal framework for ensuring compliance and accountability.
- **Community Engagement and Accountability:** Initiatives like the Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) process facilitated meaningful dialogue between communities and duty bearers. Through these engagements, community members were empowered to voice their concerns and hold authorities accountable for delivering on their commitments, leading to tangible improvements in WASH services.
- **National Campaigns and Advocacy Efforts:** By commemorating events like World Breastfeeding Day and launching campaigns such as the Zero Stunting Campaign, the consortium aimed to raise awareness about key nutrition issues and mobilize support for interventions. Media orientation sessions further amplified these efforts by equipping journalists with the knowledge and tools to report effectively on nutrition-related matters, thereby influencing public opinion and policy decisions.
- **Engagement with Uganda Parliamentary Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security:** The Right2Grow program supported the Uganda Parliamentary Alliance on Food and Nutrition Security (UPA-FNS) in organizing the 2023 Uganda Parliamentary Nutrition Week, aiming to raise awareness about nutrition and food security issues. Over 200 participants attended, including MPs and government officials. Key achievements included presenting a statement on nutrition issues in parliament, hosting the first consultation meeting on the Food and Nutrition private members bill, and conducting a press conference. The week contributed to advancing momentum for passing the Food and Nutrition Bill and updating national policy.
- **Budget Advocacy:** District budget conferences were held in Kabale, Nwoya, Buliisa, Kamwenge, and Kakumiro, which served as platforms for department heads and CSOs to present budget allocations and position papers to prevent project duplication. Verbal commitments were made by key duty bearers to prioritize certain initiatives in the upcoming budgets, such as rehabilitating non-functional boreholes and improving water access. Additionally, CSO retreats were organized and focusing on developing position papers to influence the National Budget Framework Paper (NBFP) for the fiscal year. These retreats aimed to ensure that the needs of marginalized and poor Ugandans are reflected in the annual budget. Another aspect involves pre-budget dialogues aiming to increase citizen participation in national planning and budgeting processes while assessing the NBFP's responsiveness to economic and social needs.

Table 2.3 showing pathway 3 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.OC.3.1:	# of laws, and policies implemented for sustainable and inclusive development.	0	2	3	The President signed the Public Health Amendment Bill 2022, incorporating Right2Grow's recommendations. The Ministry of Finance mandated UNAP implementing Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to prioritize nutrition in their budgets for FY 2023/24. Food and nutrition were

					integrated into the Parish Development Model Programme, with nutrition coordinators to be included in Parish Development Committees.
R2G.OC.3.4:	Percentage of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding).	0	WASH: 110% FSN: 10%	WASH: >10% FSN: >10%	Collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment led to a 110% budget increase for agro-industrialization and water supply. The Agro-Industrialization program budget rose by 25.06% in FY 2023/24, with UGX 2.2 trillion allocated for food security and other sectors. Adoption of R2G recommendations for FY 2022/23 by the Budget Committee resulted in a 38% budget increase for Rural/Urban Water Supply and Sanitation.

2.4. Donors and international development actor's coordination to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (Pathway 3)

- **National Nutrition Symposium:** A symposium with development partners like USAID, WHO, WFP, UNICEF, and the Uganda Private Sector Foundation resulted in commitments from development partners and donors to increase institutional funding for nutrition. Presenters highlighted their investments in various sectors and urged collaboration with the Government of Uganda.
- **UN Water conference:** The programme supported our national partner CIDI to participate in the 2023 UN Water Conference, where a high-level dialogue on Uganda's response to conflicts and climate change's impact on water services was held. Assessments were conducted in Bugweri and Kabale districts to bridge the gap between decision-making and ground realities, presenting community-led solutions at the UN.
- **Nutrition Financing Landscape:** a study on the nutrition financing landscape in Uganda was commissioned to generate financial evidence for nutrition, food security, and WASH donor financing. This evidence aims to engage donors in increasing investment in these areas, aligning with the Right2Grow project's objectives.
- **Landscape Analysis:** World Vision Uganda partnered with the Movement for Community-led Development (MCLD) to conduct a landscape analysis of stakeholders in Kamwenge, Kakumiro, and Buliisa districts. The analysis identified issues such as duplication of work, limited financing to community-based organizations, and uncoordinated planning of nutrition and WASH activities. The results will inform lobbying efforts to better align funding and programming with priority actions.

Table 2.4 showing pathway 4 results

Code	Indicator	Baseline value	Target (year 3/overall)	Year 3 achievement	Notes/ comments
R2G.OC.4.1:	Level of success of lobby and advocacy roles by R2G and its partner towards	0	3	4	Efforts involved coordinating the Right to Food Cluster's participation in the Universal peer review process, resulting in 9 recommendations adopted

	donors and international actors.				in the National Commitment report to the UN. Support was given for drafting and submitting a CSO position paper on the Right to Adequate Food to the United Nations. Collaboration between THP-Uganda, ACF, and UNICEF focused on improving nutritional governance in select districts.
R2G.OC.4.2:	Degree of integration of the WASH-Nutrition nexus by donors along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition.	0			The UN Country Food System, co-organized, saw Uganda adopting all 6 recommendations, including initiatives for consumer awareness, agricultural digitalization, and urban farming. 3 out of 5 recommendations from youth-led food systems dialogue were adopted, focusing on early warning systems, urban agriculture promotion, and ICT investment.

3. Advocacy Initiatives, impact stories and learning

Country advocacy priorities encompass collaboration with the Uganda Parliamentary Alliance on Food and Nutrition Security (UPA-FNS) to support the passage of the Food and Nutrition Bill into law, alongside strengthening local legislation for WASH and nutrition through CSO platforms. Additionally, championing the Zero Stunting Campaign is emphasized. The adoption of the Bridge for Voices (B4V) Approach integrates social accountability models like Community Voice and Action (CVA) and Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET), empowering communities to advocate for their needs. Through capacity-building in BMET, communities engage in local government processes, leading to tangible improvements in WASH and nutrition investments, demonstrating the impact of community-driven advocacy.

The program launched the Zero Stunting campaign strategy in partnership with the Ministry of Health to promote optimal nutrition practices among pregnant, lactating mothers, and children under 5, garnering commitments from government agencies and civil societies to combat stunting in Uganda collectively. This initiative emphasized the importance of a multi-sectoral approach to address malnutrition effectively. Moreover, collaborative efforts with CSO stakeholders focused on increasing investment in food, nutrition, and WASH sectors, leading to the development of position papers to influence budget allocations at the national level. Notable improvements in budget allocations and accountability were observed at the sub-county and district levels, with support from The Hunger Project Uganda and World Vision Uganda in enhancing financing and legislation for food security, nutrition, and WASH. Additionally, Action Contre la Faim's (ACF) integration into the Ministry of Health Technical Working Group contributed to crucial provisions related to both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in the revised Food and Nutrition Bill of 2003.

3.1. Reflection on learnings and communication of results for scaling

Reflecting on internal learning, our country program has successfully empowered community structures such as CBOs and CVA Practitioners in budget analysis, enabling them to advocate effectively for improved budget allocations for WASH and Nutrition. However, challenges such as decreasing budget ceilings pose obstacles to successful advocacy efforts due to conflicting priorities. Moving forward, continuous sensitization of duty bearers on the critical role of WASH and nutrition in various sectors like health, education, and livelihoods is essential. Additionally, efforts will be made to bolster advocacy with current evidence to enhance the prioritization of community issues amidst competing priorities. Despite challenges, the program has established strong networks and coalitions with stakeholders, although enlisting partner commitment remains a challenge. Transparency in sharing work plans and MOUs is crucial for better planning and alignment. Furthermore, while advocacy platforms like DNCCs and SNCCs have become influential voices, low district and sub-county budgets hinder implementation processes. Engaging development partners and securing coordination financing for nutrition interventions at the sub-national level is vital. Involving CBOs in planning and implementation has been instrumental, and increased budget allocation to tier-3 partners is necessary to manage operational overheads effectively. Supporting CBO partners in growing their capacities, including fundraising, will be prioritized to sustain their impact.

3.2. Change Story: Impact story: Ending Open Defecation at Kabolwa Market

In Kabolwa Market, located in Buliisa Sub County, Buliisa District, the absence of a public latrine led to open defecation, posing health risks and discomfort for residents. "The situation was very bad in the market especially when it rains, the smell due to open defecation was unbearable," recalls Thomas Lukuma, a resident of Kabolwa Trading Centre. Through the Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) Model, community members engaged with local authorities to address the issue. "During a community gathering in Kabolwa trading centre, citizens asked the District to construct a public pit Latrine in the market to address the bad practice of open defecation" (Asiimwe Muhereza, LC1 Chairperson of Kabolwa) Following community gatherings organized by CVA practitioners, residents prioritized the need for a latrine, prompting action from district officials. "I presented this concern during our Sub County Council meeting, in agreement the council approved an urgent construction of a Pit latrine," says Mr. Kamanda, chairperson LC3 Buliisa Sub County.



Figure 3.1: The LC1 chairman and his Vice posing in front of newly constructed pit Latrine in Kabolwa trading centre.

With support from the District Water and Sanitation Conditional Grant, a 5-stance pit latrine was constructed in June 2023, alleviating health concerns and improving sanitation in the market. "I no longer jump human dung when in the market and no bad smell in the area that contaminates our food," says Kusiima Joy, a 38-year-old female resident of Kabolwa Village. The success of this initiative highlights the power of local advocacy and community engagement in driving positive change.

4. Partnership and collaboration reflections

In 2023, the programme deepened its engagement with tier 3 partners, increasing the number of CBO partners to 20. This expansion not only broadened the program's reach but also reinforced the philosophy of shifting power dynamics within the partnership. By involving more stakeholders at both the national and sub-national levels, the program aimed to promote collective ownership and decision-making. The partnership with the 20 CBOs builds local capacity to sustain the gains made at the community level, emphasizing the importance of long-term sustainability in development efforts. A significant focus for the program was to empower stakeholders through capacity-building initiatives and participatory decision-making processes. This involved mutual capacity-building initiatives, such as the BMET and CVA training sessions, which aimed to enhance partners' skills in budget advocacy and social accountability.

Additionally, decision-making processes increasingly involved stakeholders at the community, sub-county, and district levels, ensuring that their voices were heard and considered.

National partners played a crucial role in consortium engagements, taking the lead in programming and implementation. They actively participated in national dialogues, media engagements, and parliamentary committees, showcasing their growing influence and leadership within the partnership. One notable development was the inclusion of the Movement for Community Led Development (MCLD) as a national partner. With support from R2G, MCLD transitioned to operate independently, focusing on institutional and programmatic development. This move signalled a commitment to strengthening local partners and decentralizing program operations. Collaborations with other strategic partnerships and CSOs, such as CASCADE and WeAreAble, aimed to leverage comparative advantages and share best practices. These partnerships facilitated learning exchanges and fostered synergies across thematic areas, contributing to more effective advocacy and programming. R2G Uganda maintained cordial relations with the Dutch Embassy, participating in consultation meetings and partnership visits. This engagement reflected a commitment to collaboration and alignment with broader development priorities.

5. Programme reflections

Reflecting on the program's journey, we've witnessed remarkable successes in fostering collaborative partnerships between community structures such as CVAs and CBOs and duty bearers, resulting in proactive advocacy efforts at the district level. Notably, CBOs have taken leadership roles in chairing District CSO platforms and actively participating in key local government planning and budgeting events, effectively representing community priorities. Moreover, the successful transfer of knowledge on nutrition and WASH practices to community members by CBOs, exemplified by CBO's adoption of demonstration gardens in Kisiita Sub County, highlights the programme's impact on grassroots empowerment and behaviour change. The institutionalization of a multi-sectoral approach, exemplified by active district and national-level platforms like DNCCs and CSO nutrition platforms, underscores the program's commitment to holistic development. While commendable progress has been made in implementing program objectives, challenges such as the need for enhanced private sector engagement and ensuring accountability for stakeholder commitments remain pertinent. Valuable lessons learned, including the importance of deliberate inclusion of vulnerable groups and gender mainstreaming, underscore the program's commitment to equity and inclusion. Looking ahead, efforts to promote sustainability and local ownership through capacity-building initiatives for CBOs and the establishment of institutional structures signal a promising future beyond the program's duration.

6. Conclusion and way forward

In conclusion, the program has made significant strides in achieving country advocacy objectives, particularly in fostering community empowerment and multi-sectoral collaboration to address nutrition and WASH challenges. Despite challenges such as decreasing budget ceilings, the program has established strong networks, empowered community structures, and influenced policy changes at various levels. Moving forward into 2024-2025, the program will prioritize strengthening advocacy efforts with current evidence, enhancing private sector engagement, and ensuring follow-up on stakeholder commitments. Adjustments in programming, such as increased capacity-building for CBOs and transparent sharing of work plans, will be made to address emerging challenges and sustain the program's impact. The focus remains on promoting sustainability, local ownership, and inclusive development practices to ensure lasting change beyond the program's duration.

The 2023 budget performance, at 91%, is deemed acceptable, but there is a need for vigilant spending oversight for the forthcoming implementation of the 2024 budget. Aligning projections for 2025 with current allocations is crucial to prevent exceeding the five-year funding amount, maintaining fiscal responsibility and sustainability. Both 2024 and 2025 are projected years, with performance expected to match these projections, ensuring prudent financial management over the funding period.

Annex 2

Right2Grow Results Framework 2023

The Results Framework 2023 provides the different levels of results from the R2G programme in 2023. The results specified comprise the outcomes, intermediate outcomes and outputs as per validated Global Theory of Change (TOC) with particular focus on donor indicators. The targets set, especially for SCS 1 – 4 are based on revisions made after Mid-Term Review (MTR). Cumulative data are also provided to capture progress over the implementation period.

The table is divided into three; the first section provides progress on donor indicators that have been reported over the programme implementation period, the second section is a list of IGG indicators to which Right2Grow is contributing and are being included for the first time, and the third section provides a list of Right2Grow indicators based on country progress data for outcome 4. Additional country-specific indicators can be found in the country annual reports.

Progress on indicators SCS 1 – SCS 6 have been published on IATI, the reported results below are accessible to the public online through the narrative report, which is published as a document on IATI.

Donor indicator / R2G indicator	Country	Sub-indicator(s)	2023 target	2025 target	2023 value quant.	Cumulative value	2023 value - qualitative
DSO Indicators							
<p>Number of laws, policies that are better implemented for sustainable and inclusive development (SCS1). (R2G.OC.3.1)</p> <p>Sub-indicators: SCS012: # of government policies for sustainable and inclusive development that are better implemented as a result of CSO engagement.</p>	Bangladesh	SCS012: # of governmental policies	N/A	3	0	0	
	Burkina Faso	SCS012: # of governmental policies	N/A	1	0	0	The National Policy on Multisectoral Nutrition was adopted in 2021. R2G Burkina has helped to make the PNMN more accessible to communities by translating it into local languages. R2G has strengthened the capacity of decision-makers on the policy and facilitated multi-sectoral consultation frameworks on nutrition. However, the implementation of the PMM remains a challenge, as the State has not been able to mobilise the entire budget required for its implementation throughout the country
	Ethiopia	SCS012: # of governmental policies	N/A	4	4	4	<p>Food and Nutrition Policy We are carrying out effective advocacy for the proper implementation of making working for the implementation of Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy by supporting multi-sectoral coordination efforts and advocating for the establishment of a nutrition council and agency at all levels. During the reporting period, we have influenced for the functionality of the newly and existing established multi-sectoral coordination body at sub-national level. We also effectively lobbied for the establishment of nutrition council at national and regional level. As a result of our efforts, the federal government is working to address the gap in the legislative framework the impeded the establishment of nutrition council.</p> <p>Seqota Declaration (SD) Implementation Plan (2016 – 2030) We have also supported the execution of SD implementation plan by supporting role out of RTPM in the Right2Grow target Woredas. As a result of our effort, we are able scale up the SD program beyond the target woredas. This helped the Right2Grow target Woredas to properly implement the multi-sectoral coordination mechanism, joint planning and reporting, and tracking partners and nutrition resource in their respective woredas.</p> <p>National Food and Nutrition Strategy (2022-2030) The strategy has been launched recently. MoH has conducted baseline study for the strategy. Right2Grow partners provided technical and financial support for the study.</p> <p>ONE WASH programme we have provided capacity building for the effective implementation of ONE WASH programme at Woreda and Zonal level.</p>
	Mali	SCS012: # of governmental policies	N/A	10	8	8	01 adoption of a new constitution incorporating the right to food and sanitation, 01 validation of the new national water policy at an interministerial meeting, 01 decision to appoint regional SWA focal points, inclusion of sensitive nutrition activities in social, economic and cultural development programmes in the communes of Nonsombougou, Diomatènè, Tioribougou and Oulodo.
	South Sudan	SCS012: # of governmental policies	N/A	N/A	NA	NA	both the policy and the strategy will be covered under SCS 2

	Uganda	SCS012: # of <i>governmental policies</i>	N/A	4	3	3	Key outcomes from the policy engagements; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February 2023 President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda signed the Public Health Amendment Bill 2022 into law. Right2Grow partners contributed a Position paper in Parliament during the drafting of the Public Health Amendment bill some of whose recommendations were adopted by the parliamentary committee on health. Following the media links, and Appeal letter written by FRA to budget committee, Parliamentary committee of agriculture and finance. The Ministry of Finance Budget Call Circular for FY 2023/24 (paragraph 80) obligated all UNAP implementing MDAs to reinstate planning for and mainstreaming nutrition into their plans and budgets. In January 2023, FRA in partnership with ACF and CSBAG held series of engagements with Ministry of Local government and utilized the avenues to advocate for inclusion of food and nutrition in the Parish Development Model (PDM) Programme. As a result, The Parish development model secretariat committed to include nutrition coordinators within the Parish Development Committees.
	Total SCS 1	SCS012: # of <i>governmental policies</i>	N/A	22	13	13	
Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development (SCS2) (R2G.OC.3.2)	Bangladesh	SCS022: # of <i>governmental policies</i>	N/A	3	0	0	R2G developed a policy brief based on reviewing national nutrition policy and national nutrition plan of action –2 with necessary recommendations. It was shared to the ministry (MoHFW) and they have started reviewing their policy and develop NPAN –3
	Ethiopia				NA		
	Mali				NA		

Sub-indicators: SCS022: # of <i>governmental policies</i> for sustainable and inclusive development as a result of CSO engagement	South Sudan	SCS022: # of <i>governmental policies</i>	N/A	2	1	1	Completion of the National Nutrition Policy which is yet to be officially launched by government. The efforts made to support the development of the Nutrition Policy were successful which was led by the Right2Grow Consortium in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other key line ministries. The nutrition policy is anticipated to foster nutrition budget allocation in that national budget and provide direction of the nutrition interventions. The government representative testified the great collaboration along with a Nutrition Strategic Plan which involves several strategic line ministries - including the ministries of Education, Agriculture, Food Security, Gender, Fisheries, and Livestock, which is a positive indication the strong government commitment to ensure its implementation and alignment with the multisectoral approach purported by the Right2Grow Consortium and theory of change. The National Nutrition Strategy -comes with financial implications and that might require time than anticipated. We anticipate national elections in 2024 and outcomes are not predictable as well the timeline is unsure due to developments within ministries.
	Uganda	SCS022: # of governmental policies	N/A	4	1	1	
	Total	SCS022: # of governmental policies	N/A	9	2	2	

<p>Number of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage (SCS 3) (R2G.OC.2.1)</p> <p>Sub-indicators: SCS031: # of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage at <i>national and international levels</i></p> <p>SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national level</i></p>	<p>Bangladesh</p>	<p>SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national level</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>160</p>	<p>60</p>	<p>60</p>	
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	Burkina Faso	SCS031: # of times ... at national and international levels	N/A	15	0	5		
		SCS032: # of times ... at sub-national level	N/A	100	8	28	R2G has supported the funding of 08 consultation frameworks at both communal level (03) and provincial level (05), notably in the provinces of Passoré, Zondoma, Yatenga, Namentenga and Gnagna. During these various communal and provincial consultation frameworks, Right2Grow's CSO partners called for greater involvement of CSOs in decision-making bodies. For example and to this end, during the CCP in the commune of Yako, the GP of Passoré was given a time slot to make a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of CSOs in improving funding for nutrition, WASH and food security.	
	Ethiopia	SCS031: # of times ... at national and int. levels	N/A	14	5	56	During the reporting period, Right2Grow Consortium partnership engaged in different decision-making processes and influenced nutrition policy implementation, budget allocation, and put nutrition and WASH issues on the agenda. At the Woreda and Zone level, Right2Grow Consortium partnership has participated in Woreda/Zonal Nutrition Coordination and Technical Committee meetings and influenced decisions like budget allocations. At the regional level, in collaboration with consortium regional leads, Right2Grow Consortium partnership actively engaging in Regional Coordination and Technical Committee meetings. Right2Grow Consortium partnership, by representing the consortium partnership, taking part in the Regional ECSC-SUN meetings. Our two prime partners are Regional leads of ECSC-SUN in Central Ethiopia and Oromia. At National level, the partnership engaged in five different government Lead and CSO lead platforms like ECSC SUN annual assembly Meeting ,SD stakeholder platform and Health and WASH Forum which is led by CCRDA	
		SCS032: # of times ... at sub-national level	N/A	231	62	113		
	Mali	SCS031: # of times ... at national int. levels	N/A	90	8	47	02 parliamentary advocacy, 1 world climate change day, 1 inter nutrition technical committee, 2 SWA meetings, 01 water conference, 01 sanitation forum, etc.	
		SCS032: # of times ... at sub-national level	N/A	108	55	55	8 réunions de concertation communales, 34 espaces des CAOCSAD, 5 réunions de CLOCSAD, 8 réunions de journées citoyennes	
			SCS031: # of times ... at national and int. levels	N/A	5	2	3	National

	South Sudan	SCS032: # of times ... <i>at subnational levels</i>	N/A	15	10	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility of national budgets booklet and approval of expenditure data for the line ministries • Approval of national budget policy brief 2023 for budget advocacy on 27th June 2023. <p>Sub-national</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MtMSG in Bor demanded the local authorities and duty bearer during the World Breast feeding Week and Malaria Day to support them to maintain the initiatives they started. • The Baidit community leader request for borehole maintenance from state ministry of physical infrastructure which was repaired and improved community access to safe and clean drinking water. Similarly, the Pariak community leader request is still in the pipeline. • In Mayendit and Pariang the community structure created dramas/skits with WASH and Nutrition doable actions that were used to sensitize the community, and this showed great ownership. • The WUC/WMC amplified the need of the community taking care of their water collecting point sources as a preventive advocacy agenda during the health and Nutrition review in Unity state. • Involvement of Paguir women and men to support an exclusive breastfeeding program. • Support local farmer associations to advance local food production. • Promoted household vegetable gardening to provide food supplements. • In Melut Conducted meeting with key stakeholders, communities and government authorities to demand for provision of safe and clean drinking water in New Paloich and khoradar. • Meeting of the farmer's union with government authorities to advocate and demand for seeds to increase local production of cereals that is accessible and affordable to the local community. • Conducted meeting with the mother-to-mother support groups and the County Directorate for Agriculture to advocate and demand for land for establishment of vegetable kitchen garden.
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	Uganda	SCS031: # of times ... <i>at national and international levels</i>	N/A	30	39	82	Key outcomes of CSO involvement/inclusion in the decision-making process related to our (CSO) advocacy issues include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured 19 advocacy spaces for CSOs to participate and create demand for Nutrition & WASH services. (I.e., CSOs advocacy spaces include participation in PDM, developing nutrition guidelines, food system dialogues, Breastfeeding week, TWGs, and presenting position papers to the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, WFD, IRWD, Women's Day celebrations, and UPR processes). Advocated for the recruitment of Nutrition Officers in Kabale, Adjumani, Yumbe and Kikuube districts. As a result, the districts committed to recruit Nutritionists in all health centre III facilities. Developed the Zero-Stunting Campaign strategy which was adopted, launched, and disseminated by MoH. Similarly, other ministries pledged to address stunting by including the strategy in their ministry action plans (I.e. MoES, MAAIF, and MoWE). Engaged the budget committee of the National Parliament and presented position papers in response to both National Budget Framework paper (NBFP) and Ministerial Policy statements (MPS) to influence budgetary national allocations to Food Security Nutrition and WASH in the FY2022/23 Budget, due to CSOs advocacy, 18 recommendations (11 at NBFP and 7 MPS) out of 26 were adopted by Parliamentary Committees at parliament. Reviewed Nutrition Planning Guidelines, and as a result, 3 proposals were adopted by the Technical Committee (I.e. Accountability and transparency, a multi-sectoral approach towards planning, and conducting nutrition needs assessment).
		SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	90	40	45	
	Total	SCS031: # of times ... <i>at national and intl levels</i>	N/A	159	54	207	
		SCS032: # of times ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	701	160	225	
Number of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/ constituency (SCS 4)	Bangladesh	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	N/A	10		27	
		SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	40		91	
	Burkina Faso	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	N/A	25	0	9	

(R2G.OC.2.2) Sub-indicators: SCS041: # of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency at national level SCS042: # of initiatives ... at sub-national level			N/A	120	30	73	Communities and local CSOs (advocacy groups) have initiated advocacy actions: For example, each of the Centre-Nord GPs organised an advocacy meeting with the provincial authorities and technical services to improve access to basic social services. They also undertook 2 budget advocacy actions (budget analysis and monitoring) in 8 communities. In the East, there was an advocacy workshop for the SDPs and STDs, which enabled the authorities to make commitments to facilitate the analysis and budget monitoring of local development policies. In the North, a number of initiatives have been carried out: advocacy workshops to encourage market gardeners to move towards agro-ecology, advocacy for access to land for IDPs, advocacy for the empowerment of women, advocacy for nutrition-sensitive budgeting, advocacy with parliamentarians for access to food stocks for the most vulnerable, etc.
		SCS041: Number of initiatives ... at national level	N/A	2	4	6	
	Ethiopia	SCS042: Number of initiatives ... at sub-national level	N/A	5	4	4	During the past Fiscal year, Right2Grow Consortium partnership successfully carried out five advocacy initiatives in its operation Woredas. Although the establishment nutrition council is not yet realized for various reasons, Right2Grow Consortium partnership influenced the proper functioning of nutrition coordination committee and technical committee in its operation areas. Right2Grow Consortium partnership through CVA task forces, its constituencies, is carryout social accountability initiative in its oPerations. As the result, the Nutrition and Health, and WASH services are showing improvements.
	Mali	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... at national level	N/A	90	6	6	
		SCS042: Number of initiatives ... at sub-national level	N/A	108	23	23	
	South Sudan	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... at national level	N/A	15	16	17	

		SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	40	6	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 8th July 2023 CRC conducted Parliamentarians and Stakeholders' Engagement Meeting on National Budget Analysis 2023 in Juba South Sudan • On 24th July, 2023 CRC was invited to participate in the budget public hearing and second stage budget reading. • On December 2nd, 2023, CRC organized a half-day national budget dialogue between the government and two communities on food security, nutrition, and WASH in Juba, South Sudan. • SCI in collaboration with CRC organized one day each national budget process orientation for four schools and five women-led organizations. • The consortium to advantage of using the events and policies reform to disseminate WASH and nutrition gaps, such as National Nutrition Policy landscape analysis stakeholders' workshop During the situation analysis findings, first nutrition policy consolidation. The consultation meetings were organized by the MoH in collaboration with SCI and UNICEF and were directors' generals from the line ministries; health, agriculture, AIDS commission, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, and gender and social welfare; nutrition cluster representative; UN agencies (UNICEF, WFP, FAO, UNHCR and WHO); Academia (the University of Juba and Upper Nile); Right2Grow partners and other nutrition implementing partners.; the World Breast Feeding Week; the Parliamentarians' engagement; the Forgotten crises campaign launching organized by Johanniter; Donors' round table meeting; the learning week and the National WASH caucus launching • UNIDOR held radio talk shows in partnership with MOH while disseminating nutrition and WASH messages during the WBW. • In the National and State annual review sessions supported by the MoH in collaboration with the nutrition cluster partners, Right2Grow members contributed positively to reflections, and recommendations to prevent malnutrition emphasizing the maximization of the multisectoral approaches where the director of Policy development and research in the MoH for the first time committed to organize a meeting with the budget committee to lobby for nutrition budget. • CSO's conducted meeting with government authorities and stakeholders to advocate for provision of better WASH and Nutrition services to the community as a result the county authority installed water network in Melut town for provision of clean and safe drinking water to the community • Farmers union held a meeting with government authorities to advocate for local production of cereals such as sorghum to promote local production foods readily affordable to improve nutrition and food security
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							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted budget policy brief dissemination in Bor and Melut counties to prepare the community leaders and CSOs to generate evidence to advocate for effective service delivery during the dialogue between the government.
	Uganda	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	N/A	160	48	71	<p>Key outcomes from the advocacy initiatives at national level;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held a CSO High-level Dialogue on Public Financing for FSN/WASH, and as a result, Members of Parliament from the Uganda Parliamentary Alliance on Nutrition committed to fast-track and table the pending bills and policies (E.g. Food and Nutrition Policy and Amendment of Public Health Act which was a major win for the CSOs), as a result of these engagements, In February 2023 President of the Republic of Uganda signed the Public Health Amendment Bill 2022 into law. Developed 8 Position Papers and presented before parliamentary committees to advance budgeting for Nutrition and WASH services. As a result, 36 proposals were adopted for action by the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture and the Budget Committee; 4 of the recommendations made in the 2022 JAPAR position paper were adopted in the Agro-industrialization programme strategies FY2023/24; and 4 recommendations were adopted in the Budget Committee Report FY 2023/24 while 3 recommendations were adopted in the MPS FY 2023/24. As a result of Consortium engagements in the review of the Second National Agricultural Strategy, an objective of strengthening food safety coordination and ensuring the delivery of nutrition-sensitive agricultural extension services was adopted in the strategy.
		SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	240	69	69	<p>Key outcomes from the advocacy initiatives at sub-national level;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged Sub-national levels and advocated for the establishment of DNCCs/SNCCs to support drive nutrition agendas, and as a result 3 DNCCs and 2 SNCCs were set up, respectively, while 2 were revamped (Those that were dormant/non-functional). Right2Grow Revamped the CSO SUN network and as a result, Non-State Actors were recognized by the Office of the Prime Minister for representation in the SUN movement making them an equal partner in the SUN agenda. SUN being multi-sectoral provides Right2Grow a platform to network, collaborate, and coordinate with academia, CSOs, donor networks, and the private sector to influence funding and programming for nutrition.
	Total	SCS041: Number of initiatives ... <i>at national level</i>	N/A	302	38	81	
		SCS042: Number of initiatives ... <i>at sub-national level</i>	N/A	553	189	227	
Number of CSOs with increased Lobby and	Bangladesh	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	7	7	7	7	70 CSOs (including tier 3 partners)

Advocacy (L&A) capacities (SCS 5) (R2G.IO.D.1) Sub-indicator: SCS053: # of other CSOs (not youth or women led) with increased L&A capacities	Burkina Faso	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	6	6	6	6	First and second tier partners: 6 partners Third tier: 20 CSOs in the Centre North, 28 in the East and 38 in the North, making a total of 86 local CSOs
	Ethiopia	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	Mali	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	South Sudan	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	Uganda	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	9	9	9	9	
	Total	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	46	46	46	46	
Number of CSOs involved in R2G (SCS 6) (R2G.OP.1.1) Sub-indicator: SCS063: # of CSOs (not youth or women led) involved in SPs programmes	Bangladesh	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	7	7	7	7	780 CSOs (6 Core CSOs; 3 Local CSOs; and 771 Community level CSOs)
	Burkina Faso	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	6	6	6	6	First and second tier partners: 6 partners Third tier: 20 CSOs in the Centre North, 28 in the East and 38 in the North, making a total of 86 local CSOs
	Ethiopia	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	156 tier 3 CSOs
	Mali	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	24 tier 3 partners
	South Sudan	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	5 tier 3 partners
	Uganda	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	9	9	9	9	20 tier 3 partners
	Total	SCS063: # of CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	46	46	46	46	

IGG Indicators

(reporting on these indicators to be further discussed with MFA, IGG after submission of the report)

Food and Nutrition Security (FNS)

A.2.2 Number of people directly reached with activities aimed at temporary/partial improvement of their nutritional situation	Bangladesh	Number of under-five children whose growth was measured			29,993		
	Total				29,993		
A.2.3 Number of people indirectly reached	Bangladesh	Number of community people received WASH and nutrition services from the government and/or private service provider agencies			38,384		
		Number of people reached through sessions conducted for awareness raising and behaviour change on WASH, Nutrition, safe motherhood and community health through courtyard sessions or open learning centres			28,300		Not in the Results Framework, but from report

		Number of people reached through school-based awareness sessions, behaviour change campaigns and capacity building sessions			16,294		Not in the Results Framework but from the report
	Burkina Faso	Number of people reached with advocacy actions			23,350		10,000 men, 10,000 women and 3,350 children - Not in the Results Framework but from report
		Number of people reached by training and awareness-raising activities carried out by R2G and CSOs			5,007,224		These activities essentially consisted of radio dramas/theatres and broadcasts (taking into account the audience of each radio station), radio theatres and forums organised by RESONUT and AMR on R2G themes (nutrition, wash, food security).
		Number of awareness raising actions carried out by CSOs			98		Awareness-raising activities on nutrition, wash and food security organised by CSOs in each province
	Ethiopia	Number of community members who participated in sensitization/awareness raising workshops			1,267		Not in the Results Framework but from the report
	Mali	Number of decision-makers present at advocacy events in which CBOs put forward requests to improve services			357		
	South Sudan	# of Mother-to-Mother Support Group (MtMSG) and Men group members trained			240		
		Number of farmers trained			1,000		
	Uganda	Number of people reached during Launch of Zero Stunting Campaign			1,000		Not in the Results Framework but from the report
	Total				5,120,360		
2.1 Number of companies engaged in inclusive agribusiness	Bangladesh	# Private sector actors working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services			103		
	Ethiopia	Number of private sectors able to provide WASH and nutrition products and services based on local knowledge, innovative way adapted feasible technology and inputs			42		
	Total				145		
4.1 Number of reforms/improvements in major (inter)national FNS policies/laws/ regulations	Bangladesh	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	N/A	3	0	1	
	Burkina Faso	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	N/A	0	0	0	The National Policy on Multisectoral Nutrition (NPMN) was adopted in 2021. R2G Burkina has helped to make the PNMN more accessible to communities by translating it into local languages. R2G has strengthened the capacity of decision-makers on the policy and facilitated multi-sectoral consultation frameworks on nutrition. However, the implementation of the PMM remains a challenge, as the State has not

							been able to mobilize the entire budget required for its implementation throughout the country
	Ethiopia	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development			NA		
	Mali	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development			NA		
	South Sudan	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	N/A	2	1	1	
	Uganda	Number of laws, policies blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	N/A	4	1		
	Total		N/A	9	2	2	
Topic A: Capacity development (organizations or individuals)	Bangladesh	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	7	7	7	7	70 CSOs (including tier 3 partners)
	Burkina Faso	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	6	6	6	6	First and second tier partners: 6 partners Third tier: 20 CSOs in the Centre North, 28 in the East and 38 in the North, making a total of 86 local CSOs
	Ethiopia	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	Mali	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	South Sudan	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	8	8	8	8	
	Uganda	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	9	9	9	9	
	Total	SCS053: # of other CSOs (<i>not youth or women led</i>)	46	46	46	46	
Right2Grow Indicators							
R2G.OC.1.1: Number of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	Bangladesh	N/A	18	N/A	33	61	Communities are becoming aware and raised demands through taken various initiatives
	Burkina Faso	N/A	15	N/A	45	64	These include advocacy workshops to encourage market gardeners to adopt agro-ecology, advocacy for access to land for IDPs, advocacy for the empowerment of women, advocacy for nutrition-sensitive budgeting, lobbying of parliamentarians for access to food stocks for the most vulnerable, and so on.
	Ethiopia	N/A	75	N/A	172	229	Community through the established CVA Task Forces made actions like score cards, monitoring standards, and interface meetings to demand service providers, local government for improved services.
	Mali	N/A	168	N/A	147	216	Participation of the 24 municipalities in the borough committees for the orientation, coordination and monitoring of development actions; Participation of the 8 citizen watch committees in the administrative

							accounts, i.e. the drafting of the 2024 primitive budgets; Local consultation frameworks organised in the circles of Sikasso, Koutiatla, Koulikoro and Kolokani; 55 CVCs involved in drawing up the PDSEC, the primitive budget and ordinary sessions in the communes of Diomatene, Kignan, N'Golonianasso, Zanfigue, Sikasso, Koulikoro, Ouolodo, Meguetan and Sirakorola, Tienfala, Nonsombougou, Tioribougou and Kolokani; 2 participations by OMAES in the high-level advocacy workshop in Bamako and the advocacy workshop for the involvement of members of the National Transition Committee (CNT); Participation by SUN-OSC in the high-level advocacy workshop in Bamako and the advocacy team for the involvement of members of the National Transition Committee (CNT)
	South Sudan	N/A	-	N/A	6	11	Conducted meeting with key stakeholders, communities and government authorities to demand for provision of safe and clean drinking water in New Paloich and khoradar Meeting of the farmer's union with government authorities to advocate and demand for seeds to increase local production of cereals that is accessible and affordable to the local community. Conducted meeting with the mother-to-mother support groups and the County Directorate for Agriculture to advocate and demand for land for establishment of vegetable kitchen garden
	Uganda	N/A	25	N/A	27	51	A budget of UGX. 10 Million was allocated by Busiraba Sub County to help process a land title where a water scheme will be constructed by Ministry of water and Environment; One non-functional borehole in Kyarugubi Village – Kisiita Sub County was repaired. Repair costs were borne by the area member of parliament while the community contributed by feeding of workers; One non-functional borehole in Kahunge was repaired; One un-fenced water source in Kahunge was fenced by the community to prevent access by animals; In Nwoya district, community advocacy for fencing of the national park to avoid animal destruction of crops, resulted in the construction of an electric fence around Murchison falls national park by the Uganda wildlife authority; Purongo Sub- County passed by-laws to prevent unnecessary selling of food as a measure to prevent food insecurity and malnutrition; Installed 20,000ltr Reservoir water tank in Kisiita HCIII, Kakumiro district; Renovated 10 water springs in Buliisa, Kikuube, Bugweri, Adjumani, and Maracha.
	Total		301	N/A	430	632	
R2G.OC.1.2: Proportion of people involved in actions to formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) who are from vulnerable groups (women, people with	Bangladesh	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Burkina Faso	N/A	50%	N/A	40%	-	This indicator was collected in 2023 at the MTR. It is tempting to say that 40% participation by vulnerable groups is very significant. This includes IDPs, women and people living with disabilities.
	Ethiopia	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Mali	N/A	30%	N/A	44%		At least 29 people with disabilities and 300 women and young people took part in drafting and submitting advocacy notes for national, local and communal decision-makers. (353/802)

disability, marginalized groups)	South Sudan	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Uganda	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Total						
R2G.OC.2.3: Proportion of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/constituency addressing gender issues related to nutrition and WASH	Bangladesh	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Burkina Faso	N/A	50%	N/A	100%		All the actions carried out by the advocacy groups were carried out in collaboration with community leaders
	Ethiopia	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Mali	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	South Sudan	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Uganda	N/A	-	N/A	-	-	
	Total						
R2G.OC.4.1: Level of success of lobby and advocacy roles by Right2Grow and its partner towards donors and international actors	Bangladesh	N/A	High	N/A	Medium		4 meetings were conducted on multi-sectoral coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors on WASH & nutrition. During these meetings, experiences were shared, and discussions were had on strengthening the evidence base and advocating for multi-sectoral funding in nutrition
	Burkina Faso	N/A	High	N/A	Medium		An advocacy workshop on the management of WASH facilities in emergency situations brought together development stakeholders.
	Ethiopia	N/A	High	N/A	Medium		In 2023, operationalization of the Nutrition Centric HDP triple nexus approach launched in Ethiopia for the first time after ACF Right2Grow received the initiative from MoH as a technical lead and financial contributor
	Mali	N/A	High	N/A	Medium		Functional SWA Committee; Integration of nutrition into 7 new social, economic and cultural development programmes: Diomatene, N'Golonianasso, Zanfigue, Ouolodo, Tioribougou, Meguetan, Sirakorola; - Follow-up of the recommendations of the 2021-2025 multi-sector nutrition action plan; Consultation of 16 civil society organisations during the drafting of the primary budget; Functionality of 2 regional multi-sector consultation frameworks
	South Sudan	N/A	High	N/A	Low		The donors round table meeting in Juba to advocate for multisectoral and multi-year funding
	Uganda	N/A	High	N/A	High		Right2Grow Consortium Coordinated the Right to Food Cluster Participation in the Universal peer review process and as a result, 9 recommendations were adopted in the National Commitment report that was submitted to the UN for consideration; Right2Growpartners supported drafting and final submission of a CSO position paper on Right to Adequate Food to the United Nations with proposed recommendations on how to improve access to adequate food. It's anticipated obtaining UN endorsement to prioritize and recognize the right to adequate food for all will enhance coordination of international development actors to address underlying determinants of

							undernutrition; THP-U, and Action Against Hunger held a meeting with UNICEF Nutrition team and explored possibilities of collaborating together to improve nutritional governance in selected Districts of Right2Grow implementation.
	Total						
R2G.OC.4.2: Degree of integration of the WASH-Nutrition nexus by donors along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition	Bangladesh	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		
	Burkina Faso	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		
	Ethiopia	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		There is significant improvement in understanding of HDPN concepts by the Donors, international actors and other nutrition actors. For example, Humanitarian Response Plan Ethiopia 2022 and 2023, which was jointly realised by Commissioner for the Ethiopian Disaster Risk Management Commission of Ethiopia and OCHA, plans to strengthen HDPN. Right2Grow Partners and Likeminded CSOs have increased capacity on HDPN. Donors and international actors have increasing interest in support HDPN
	Mali	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		
	South Sudan	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		
	Uganda	N/A	Medium	N/A	Low		Right2Grow consortium co-organized UN Country Food System and as a result, all 6 submitted recommendations were adopted in Uganda's commitment to the Food System (i.e., Enhancing consumer awareness, enhancing agricultural digitalization, promoting urban farming to increase access, availability, and affordability of nutritious foods among urban dwellers). Further, the government committed to developing and disseminating the food safety policy and strategy and enhancing domestic food markets through promoting parent-led school feeding programmes; During independent food systems dialogue, youth submitted 5 recommendations out of which 3 were adopted (i.e., Enhancing early warning systems, promoting urban agriculture, investing in ICT).
	Total						

Annex 3

Financial Progress Report 2023

This annex contains the different budget models by:

1) Year

2) Country

- Bangladesh
- Burkina Faso
- Ethiopia
- Mali
- South Sudan
- Uganda

3) Result Area

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Year

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings		TOTAL 2021-2025	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2021-2023	TOTAL 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs		Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate
Sub-total A. International Staff costs		€ 8.592.867	€ 1.908.215	€ 1.766.812	€ -141.403	-7%	€ 5.226.717	61%
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs		€ 8.378.924	€ 1.889.423	€ 1.944.487	€ 55.064	3%	€ 4.778.096	57%
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers		€ 610.016	€ 198.778	€ 266.327	€ 67.549	34%	€ 594.701	97%
Subtotal I		€ 17.581.807	€ 3.996.416	€ 3.977.625	€ -18.791	0%	€ 10.599.514	60%
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs		€ 9.105.114	€ 2.476.698	€ 2.210.871	€ -265.827	-11%	€ 5.164.733	57%
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs		€ 5.707.408	€ 1.838.891	€ 1.638.307	€ -200.584	-11%	€ 3.524.298	62%
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs		€ 2.238.297	€ 599.536	€ 499.377	€ -100.159	-17%	€ 1.058.699	47%
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs		€ 1.050.730	€ 244.660	€ 178.450	€ -66.210	-27%	€ 531.744	51%
Sub-total E. Project office costs		€ 1.970.457	€ 398.330	€ 431.564	€ 33.234	8%	€ 1.109.254	56%
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment		€ 567.668	€ 58.482	€ 51.187	€ -7.295	-12%	€ 516.162	91%
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing		€ 1.979.879	€ 579.434	€ 577.860	€ -1.574	0%	€ 1.187.427	60%
Subtotal II		€ 22.619.553	€ 6.196.031	€ 5.587.616	€ -608.415	-10%	€ 13.092.315	58%
Total of I and II		€ 40.201.360	€ 10.192.447	€ 9.565.241	€ -627.206	-6%	€ 23.691.830	59%
III. Overheads / indirect costs	%							
A. Costs of support staff	4,85%	€ 1.947.911	€ 493.863	€ 463.473	€ -30.391	-6%	€ 1.147.961	59%
B. Not directly allocable administrative costs	0,91%	€ 367.530	€ 93.182	€ 87.448	€ -5.734	-6%	€ 216.596	59%
C. Other non-allocable costs	3,38%	€ 1.359.862	€ 344.773	€ 323.557	€ -21.216	-6%	€ 801.406	59%
Subtotal III	9,14%	€ 3.675.304	€ 931.818	€ 874.477	€ -57.341	-6%	€ 2.165.963	59%
Contingencies		€ 135.924	€ 27.185	€ -	€ -27.185	-100%	€ 11.353	8%
TOTAL		€ 44.012.588	€ 11.151.449	€ 10.439.718	€ -711.731	-6%	€ 25.869.146	59%

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings	Bangladesh 2021-2025	Bangladesh 2023	Bangladesh 2023	Bangladesh 2023	Bangladesh 2023	Bangladesh 2023	Bangladesh 2021-2023	Bangladesh 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs	Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate	
Sub-total A. International Staff costs	€ 1.315.749	€ 303.256	€ 272.208	€ -31.048	-10%	€ 824.145	63%	
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs	€ 1.066.560	€ 318.770	€ 329.581	€ 10.811	3%	€ 701.870	66%	
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers	€ 97.259	€ 60.329	€ 60.907	€ 579	1%	€ 96.777	100%	
Subtotal I	€ 2.479.568	€ 682.354	€ 662.695	€ -19.659	-3%	€ 1.622.793	65%	
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs	€ 1.152.962	€ 352.484	€ 327.307	€ -25.176	-7%	€ 678.754	59%	
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs	€ 1.684.502	€ 467.034	€ 367.216	€ -99.818	-21%	€ 883.675	52%	
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs	€ 351.609	€ 85.600	€ 79.175	€ -6.425	-8%	€ 144.754	41%	
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs	€ 136.672	€ 50.873	€ 43.437	€ -7.435	-15%	€ 70.758	52%	
Sub-total E. Project office costs	€ 322.884	€ 85.981	€ 79.201	€ -6.780	-8%	€ 189.361	59%	
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment	€ 117.452	€ 26.276	€ 20.798	€ -5.477	-21%	€ 87.828	75%	
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	€ 455.039	€ 142.637	€ 142.927	€ 291	0%	€ 286.562	63%	
Subtotal II	€ 4.221.120	€ 1.210.884	€ 1.060.063	€ -150.821	-12%	€ 2.341.691	55%	
Total of I and II	€ 6.700.688	€ 1.893.238	€ 1.722.758	€ -170.480	-9%	€ 3.964.484	59%	

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings	Burkina Faso 2021-2025	Burkina Faso 2023	Burkina Faso 2023	Burkina Faso 2023	Burkina Faso 2023	Burkina Faso 2023	Burkina Faso 2021-2023	Burkina Faso 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs	Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate	
Sub-total A. International Staff costs	€ 1.371.507	€ 299.835	€ 295.084	€ -4.751	-2%	€ 851.473	62%	
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs	€ 1.338.905	€ 289.006	€ 245.482	€ -43.524	-15%	€ 743.547	56%	
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers	€ 324.411	€ 36.360	€ 60.287	€ 23.927	66%	€ 225.418	69%	
Subtotal I	€ 3.034.823	€ 625.200	€ 600.853	€ -24.347	-4%	€ 1.820.437	60%	
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs	€ 1.004.884	€ 331.849	€ 280.749	€ -51.100	-15%	€ 645.828	64%	
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs	€ 1.086.329	€ 245.898	€ 232.592	€ -13.306	-5%	€ 524.794	48%	
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs	€ 535.924	€ 117.644	€ 69.704	€ -47.940	-41%	€ 172.452	32%	
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs	€ 271.680	€ 54.213	€ 40.375	€ -13.837	-26%	€ 124.573	46%	
Sub-total E. Project office costs	€ 328.528	€ 66.637	€ 77.176	€ 10.538	16%	€ 178.105	54%	
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment	€ 69.344	€ 4.618	€ 5.329	€ 711	15%	€ 59.612	86%	
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	€ 368.617	€ 73.079	€ 75.336	€ 2.257	3%	€ 183.438	50%	
Subtotal II	€ 3.665.306	€ 893.937	€ 781.260	€ -112.676	-13%	€ 1.888.803	52%	
Total of I and II	€ 6.700.129	€ 1.519.137	€ 1.382.113	€ -137.024	-9%	€ 3.709.240	55%	

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings	Ethiopia 2021-2025	Ethiopia 2023	Ethiopia 2023	Ethiopia 2023	Ethiopia 2023	Ethiopia 2023	Ethiopia 2021-2023	Ethiopia 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs	Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate	
Sub-total A. International Staff costs	€ 1.347.453	€ 306.474	€ 279.354	€ -27.120	-9%	€ 814.706	60%	
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs	€ 1.492.207	€ 363.691	€ 439.212	€ 75.521	21%	€ 935.104	63%	
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers	€ 42.259	€ 24.869	€ 35.633	€ 10.765	43%	€ 65.605	155%	
Subtotal I	€ 2.881.919	€ 695.033	€ 754.199	€ 59.165	9%	€ 1.815.414	63%	
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs	€ 1.742.923	€ 498.721	€ 407.223	€ -91.498	-18%	€ 993.898	57%	
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs	€ 919.890	€ 285.662	€ 310.880	€ 25.218	9%	€ 522.455	57%	
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs	€ 340.297	€ 93.218	€ 87.153	€ -6.065	-7%	€ 183.895	54%	
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs	€ 130.746	€ 43.126	€ 30.734	€ -12.391	-29%	€ 80.605	62%	
Sub-total E. Project office costs	€ 231.662	€ 63.401	€ 70.286	€ 6.885	11%	€ 172.989	75%	
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment	€ 202.292	€ 16.850	€ 14.725	€ -2.124	-13%	€ 210.321	104%	
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	€ 250.402	€ 92.956	€ 102.815	€ 9.859	11%	€ 212.834	85%	
Subtotal II	€ 3.818.212	€ 1.093.933	€ 1.023.815	€ -70.118	-6%	€ 2.376.997	62%	
Total of I and II	€ 6.700.131	€ 1.788.966	€ 1.778.014	€ -10.952	-1%	€ 4.192.411	63%	

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings		South Sudan 2021-2025	South Sudan 2023	South Sudan 2023	South Sudan 2023	South Sudan 2023	South Sudan 2021-2023	South Sudan 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs		Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate
Sub-total A. International Staff costs		€ 1.637.436	€ 351.308	€ 322.936	€ -28.371	-8%	€ 977.403	60%
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs		€ 1.312.587	€ 280.017	€ 305.957	€ 25.940	9%	€ 734.984	56%
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers		€ 42.259	€ 24.269	€ 35.633	€ 11.365	47%	€ 65.605	155%
Subtotal I		€ 2.992.282	€ 655.593	€ 664.526	€ 8.933	1%	€ 1.777.992	59%
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs		€ 1.282.697	€ 453.641	€ 419.784	€ -33.856	-7%	€ 685.370	53%
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs		€ 1.510.437	€ 434.008	€ 345.278	€ -88.730	-20%	€ 785.668	52%
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs		€ 298.602	€ 65.000	€ 47.663	€ -17.337	-27%	€ 97.957	33%
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs		€ 91.924	€ 22.381	€ 15.066	€ -7.315	-33%	€ 53.226	58%
Sub-total E. Project office costs		€ 308.350	€ 59.185	€ 92.411	€ 33.226	56%	€ 205.388	67%
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment		€ 23.757	€ 2.423	€ 3.659	€ 1.236	51%	€ 21.063	89%
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing		€ 192.058	€ 76.243	€ 67.043	€ -9.199	-12%	€ 119.729	62%
Subtotal II		€ 3.707.825	€ 1.112.880	€ 990.905	€ -121.975	-11%	€ 1.968.401	53%
Total of I and II		€ 6.700.107	€ 1.768.473	€ 1.655.431	€ -113.042	-6%	€ 3.746.393	56%

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings		Uganda 2021-2025	Uganda 2023	Uganda 2023	Uganda 2023	Uganda 2023	Uganda 2021-2023	Uganda 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs		Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate
Sub-total A. International Staff costs		€ 1.215.748	€ 280.318	€ 249.306	€ -31.011	-11%	€ 737.700	61%
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs		€ 1.709.009	€ 314.087	€ 311.087	€ -3.000	-1%	€ 859.956	50%
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers		€ 61.569	€ 28.685	€ 38.232	€ 9.548	33%	€ 75.691	123%
Subtotal I		€ 2.986.326	€ 623.089	€ 598.626	€ -24.463	-4%	€ 1.673.348	56%
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs		€ 1.629.291	€ 447.024	€ 402.293	€ -44.730	-10%	€ 1.082.982	66%
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs		€ 506.250	€ 108.081	€ 96.779	€ -11.302	-10%	€ 297.780	59%
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs		€ 420.607	€ 133.829	€ 100.667	€ -33.162	-25%	€ 245.095	58%
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs		€ 186.202	€ 51.778	€ 36.957	€ -14.821	-29%	€ 117.042	63%
Sub-total E. Project office costs		€ 511.547	€ 89.099	€ 82.860	€ -6.239	-7%	€ 257.406	50%
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment		€ 74.942	€ 4.461	€ 3.821	€ -639	-14%	€ 118.844	159%
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing		€ 385.010	€ 119.794	€ 108.846	€ -10.947	-9%	€ 215.537	56%
Subtotal II		€ 3.713.849	€ 954.065	€ 832.224	€ -121.841	-13%	€ 2.334.686	63%
Total of I and II		€ 6.700.175	€ 1.577.154	€ 1.430.850	€ -146.304	-9%	€ 4.008.034	60%

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Country

Title Program

Right 2 Grow

Lead partner

The Hunger Project

Implementing partners

Action Against Hunger, CEGAA, Max Foundation, Save the Children, World Vision

Budget headings	Mali 2021-2025	Mali 2023	Mali 2023	Mali 2023	Mali 2023	Mali 2023	Mali 2021-2023	Mali 2021-2023
I. Direct staff costs	Budget	Budget	Expenditure	Difference	%	Expenditure	Burn rate	
Sub-total A. International Staff costs	€ 1.704.974	€ 367.025	€ 347.923	€ -19.102	-5%	€ 1.021.290	60%	
Sub-total B. Program Country Staff costs	€ 1.459.656	€ 323.852	€ 313.169	€ -10.683	-3%	€ 802.635	55%	
Sub-total C. Consultants and advisers	€ 42.259	€ 24.269	€ 35.633	€ 11.365	47%	€ 65.605	155%	
Subtotal I	€ 3.206.889	€ 715.145	€ 696.726	€ -18.420	-3%	€ 1.889.530	59%	
II. Other direct programme costs								
Sub-total A. Activity costs	€ 2.292.357	€ 392.982	€ 373.515	€ -19.467	-5%	€ 1.077.900	47%	
Sub-total B. Local NGOs costs		€ 298.208	€ 285.562	€ -12.646	-4%	€ 509.926		
Sub-total C. Activity-related travel costs	€ 291.258	€ 104.246	€ 115.016	€ 10.770	10%	€ 214.546	74%	
Sub-total D. Communication and visibility costs	€ 233.506	€ 22.290	€ 11.880	€ -10.410	-47%	€ 85.541	37%	
Sub-total E. Project office costs	€ 267.486	€ 34.025	€ 29.629	€ -4.397	-13%	€ 106.005	40%	
Sub-total F. Equipment and investment	€ 79.881	€ 3.857	€ 2.855	€ -1.001	-26%	€ 18.493	23%	
Sub-total G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	€ 328.753	€ 74.727	€ 80.893	€ 6.166	8%	€ 169.327	52%	
Subtotal II	€ 3.493.241	€ 930.334	€ 899.349	€ -30.985	-3%	€ 2.181.737	62%	
Total of I and II	€ 6.700.130	€ 1.645.479	€ 1.596.075	€ -49.404	-3%	€ 4.071.268	61%	

Model Budget Right2Grow | By Result Area

Title Program

Lead partner

Implementing partners

Budget headings	Outcome 1	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 3	Outcome 4	Outcome 4	Total	Total	%
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	
	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	Budget	Expenditure	
I. Direct staff costs											
A. International Staff costs	€ 493.582	€ 459.633	€ 474.879	€ 445.809	€ 479.612	€ 443.203	€ 460.139	€ 418.166	€ 1.908.211	€ 1.766.811	19%
B. Program Country Staff costs	€ 539.586	€ 529.458	€ 438.842	€ 476.981	€ 517.525	€ 532.492	€ 393.471	€ 405.555	€ 1.889.424	€ 1.944.486	19%
C. Consultants and advisers	€ 49.519	€ 73.037	€ 50.797	€ 64.335	€ 49.489	€ 66.371	€ 48.972	€ 62.583	€ 198.776	€ 266.326	2%
Subtotal I	€ 1.082.687	€ 1.062.128	€ 964.518	€ 987.125	€ 1.046.626	€ 1.042.067	€ 902.582	€ 886.304	€ 3.996.411	€ 3.977.624	39%
II. Other direct programme costs											
A. Activity costs	€ 785.414	€ 753.721	€ 562.352	€ 557.217	€ 733.588	€ 568.953	€ 395.348	€ 330.981	€ 2.476.701	€ 2.210.872	24%
B. Local NGOs costs	€ 487.786	€ 430.615	€ 411.281	€ 425.009	€ 435.239	€ 351.175	€ 504.587	€ 431.507	€ 1.838.893	€ 1.638.306	18%
C. Activity-related travel costs	€ 151.903	€ 112.100	€ 135.227	€ 116.328	€ 130.103	€ 95.228	€ 182.302	€ 175.721	€ 599.534	€ 499.377	6%
D. Communication and visibility costs	€ 67.067	€ 50.355	€ 62.628	€ 48.057	€ 61.856	€ 40.929	€ 53.109	€ 39.109	€ 244.659	€ 178.449	2%
E. Project office costs	€ 111.415	€ 120.719	€ 91.241	€ 99.999	€ 99.881	€ 110.911	€ 95.797	€ 99.935	€ 398.332	€ 431.564	4%
F. Equipment and investments	€ 16.345	€ 14.409	€ 14.028	€ 12.444	€ 15.669	€ 13.427	€ 12.441	€ 10.908	€ 58.482	€ 51.188	1%
G. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	€ 141.762	€ 138.310	€ 127.231	€ 137.221	€ 133.746	€ 125.100	€ 176.698	€ 177.229	€ 579.435	€ 577.860	6%
Subtotal II	€ 1.761.690	€ 1.620.229	€ 1.403.986	€ 1.396.275	€ 1.610.080	€ 1.305.723	€ 1.420.280	€ 1.265.389	€ 6.196.036	€ 5.587.615	61%
Total of I and II	€ 2.844.377	€ 2.682.357	€ 2.368.504	€ 2.383.400	€ 2.656.706	€ 2.347.789	€ 2.322.862	€ 2.151.693	€ 10.192.447	€ 9.565.239	100%
III. Overheads / indirect costs											
A. Costs of support staff	€ 137.821	€ 129.971	€ 114.763	€ 115.485	€ 128.728	€ 113.759	€ 112.552	€ 104.258	€ 493.863	€ 463.473	
B. Not directly allocable administrative costs	€ 26.004	€ 24.523	€ 21.653	€ 21.790	€ 24.288	€ 21.464	€ 21.236	€ 19.671	€ 93.182	€ 87.448	
C. Other non-allocable costs	€ 96.215	€ 90.734	€ 80.118	€ 80.622	€ 89.866	€ 79.417	€ 78.574	€ 72.784	€ 344.773	€ 323.556	
Subtotal III	€ 260.040	€ 245.227	€ 216.534	€ 217.896	€ 242.882	€ 214.640	€ 212.362	€ 196.713	€ 931.818	€ 874.477	
Contingencies	€ 6.796		€ 6.796		€ 6.796		€ 6.796		€ 27.185		
TOTAL	€ 3.111.212	€ 2.927.584	€ 2.591.834	€ 2.601.296	€ 2.906.384	€ 2.562.430	€ 2.542.019	€ 2.348.406	€ 11.151.449	€ 10.439.716	
%	28%	28%	23%	25%	26%	25%	23%	21%	100%	100%	