NOURISHING framework

Harness food supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health

This table provides examples of the types of policy action that can be taken within this policy area, examples of where these policy actions have been implemented, and a brief description of what the action involves. It provides a global snapshot, largely of policies already implemented; it is not necessarily comprehensive. The examples were collated through a review of international reports of policy actions around the world, academic articles reporting on policy actions, and online government resources.

We welcome feedback. Please contact us at policy@wcrf.org if you would like to add any further examples of implemented policies, see the policy documents that we reference, or have any further questions or comments.

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<tr>
<th>EXAMPLES OF POLICY ACTIONS</th>
<th>EXAMPLES OF WHERE IMPLEMENTED</th>
<th>WHAT THE ACTION INVOLVES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Working with food suppliers to provide healthier ingredients</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>In July 2017, the Health Promotion Board introduced the Healthier Ingredient Development Scheme to encourage manufacturers to innovate and develop a wider variety of healthier ingredients suited to local taste and to promote the uptake of healthier ingredients, focusing on oil and grain staples (mainly rice and noodles). The scheme offers support under three categories: 1) Research, Product Development, Packaging, and Certification; 2) marketing and publicity; and 3) trade promotions, such as bulk purchase rebates and bonus incentives for incremental sales of healthier ingredient product(s). Eligibility criteria exist for applicants to the scheme. Up to 80 per cent of qualifying projects will be funded by the scheme, while the scheme participant co-pays the remaining 20 per cent. Products must meet the Healthier Choice Symbol nutritional guidelines (see “N – Nutrition label standards and regulations on the use of claims and implied claims on food – Clearly visible “interpretative labels and warning labels”). This Scheme evolved from the Healthier Ingredient Scheme, which was formerly part of the Healthier Hawker programme launched in 2011.</td>
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<td>Nutrition standards for public procurement</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>In July 2016, the Brazilian Ministry of Health implemented procurement guidelines for any food served or sold within the Ministry’s facilities and in its entities (Ordinance No 1.274 of 7 July 2016). The guidelines also apply to independent companies contracted to provide food services on the premises of the Ministry and its entities. The Ordinance aims to address overweight, obesity and non-communicable diseases, and is based on the right to adequate food. The guidelines are based on the Food Guide for the Brazilian Population, and state that only unprocessed and minimally processed food may be procured. The purchase of processed food (e.g., canned food, fruit compote, candied fruit, salt-preserved meats) should be minimised, and food from organic and agroecological production preferred whenever possible. Ultra-processed food may only be used in exceptional cases if it is used in meals which are prepared from mostly unprocessed or minimally processed food. Ultra-processed food and beverages that are not used for meal preparation may not be purchased (e.g., soft drinks, sugar-sweetened fruit juices, industrialised sweets). Ultra-processed food is defined by the Ordinance as food which is mainly produced from substances extracted from whole food and/or food components derived from materials synthesised from organic matter, and which contains ≥1mg of sodium per 1kcal, ≥10% of total energy from free sugars, ≥30% of total energy from total fat, ≥10% of total energy from saturated fat and ≥1% of total energy from trans fat (in alignment with PAHO’s Nutrient Profile Model). The Ordinance also prohibits the advertisement and sales promotions of ultra-processed food in the Ministry of Health and its entities.</td>
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<td>UK</td>
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<td>The UK Government Buying Standard for Food and Catering Services (GBSF of 2014, updated March 2015) by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) sets out standards for the public sector when buying food and catering services. It is supported by the Plan for Public Procurement: Food and Catering Services (2014), which includes a toolkit consisting of the mandatory GBSF (revised to strengthen the commitment to buy to UK standards of production, or equivalent), a balanced scorecard (an approach to weigh different criteria against each other to serve as an evaluation tool to base procurement awards on), an e-marketplace, case studies and access to centralised framework contacts in order to improve and facilitate procurement in the public sector. The nutrition requirements have to be followed by schools, hospitals, care homes, communities and the armed forces. To improve diets, the GBSF sets maximum levels for sugar in cereals, and generally for saturated fat and salt, in addition to a minimum content of fibre in cereals and fruit in desserts. Meal deals have to include vegetables and fish, and fruit as dessert on a regular basis. Other standards may take precedence over these requirements, e.g., for military personnel overseas or special needs patients.</td>
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## US

Based on Executive Order 509 (2009), the Massachusetts State Agency Food Standards set standards per category for all food purchased by state agencies and their contractors. The Standards, based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (see “Offer healthy food and set standards in public institutions”), define targets for nutrient requirements, including guidelines for specific populations (ie children, elderly). The Standards contain a ban on trans fat and deep-frying, and maximum levels of sodium in food and calories in beverages. They are applicable to food served to agencies’ clients and patients (ie hospitals, prisons, childcare services). Food served for sale, and to agencies’ employees, is excluded.

New York City (Executive Order 122 of 2008, revised in 2014) and Santa Clara County (Nutrition Standards, passed 28 February 2011 and effective since 1 July 2012) have also established nutrition standards for all food purchased and served by public entities. The standards are based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Los Angeles County has used health impact assessments relating to healthy food to inform public procurement bid specifications.

In 2013, a multi-sector State Food Procurement Work Group (formed by the California Health in All Policies Task Force) developed nutritional guidelines for food procurement in adult correctional facilities. The guidelines are aligned with federal nutrition standards and include specific targets and recommendations for fruits, vegetables, cereals and grains, bread, dairy products, protein foods and beverages served. Since 2014, these voluntary nutritional guidelines have been systematically applied to food contracts as they have come up for renewal.

## Brazil

In Brazil, a 2009 law (Ley 11.947/2009 Regulamento de Programa Nacional de Alimentação Escolar) requires that 30% of the national budget for food served in the school meals programme must be spent on food from family farms, with priority given to food produced using agroecological methods.

The Food Acquisition Programme (Programa de Aquisicao de Alimentos) allows states, municipalities and federal agencies to buy food from family farms through a simplified public procurement procedure. The programme thereby encourages the purchase of perishable food and minimally processed food and makes them available to public institutions (eg hospitals, social assistance agencies, schools).

The Brazilian Institute of Horticulture and the Brazilian Central Food Supply Association are responsible for the promotion, regulation and organisation of food sales in the country. The Brazilian Market Modernisation Programme (Programa Brasileiro de Modernização do Mercado Hortigranjeiro) supports states and municipalities to modernise and adapt the supply of food to meet local needs. For example, supply centres (CEASAs) initiated the campaign Encouraging Intake of Fruit and Vegetables in the Central Food Supply. The first phase focuses on internal CEASA stakeholders (dealers, licensees and producers) and aims to increase the availability of

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### Public procurement through “short” chains (eg local farmers)

Brazil
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<th><strong>US</strong></th>
<th><strong>New York City issued the New York State Food Purchasing Guidelines to encourage city agencies to procure food products that are grown, produced or harvested in New York State. The Guidelines apply to any solicitation of a value of more than $100,000. City agencies may mandate that certain products must be procured from New York State, and they may grant a bid to a bidder whose price is up to 10% higher than the one offered by the lowest bidder's price for food not from New York State.</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supply chain incentives for food production</strong></td>
<td><strong>Singapore</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Supporting urban agriculture in health and planning policies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Brazil</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Zimbabwe</strong></td>
<td><strong>In 2007, the City of Bulawayo in Zimbabwe launched the Bulawayo Urban Agriculture Policy to support and promote urban agriculture as an instrument to improve nutrition and health, poverty alleviation and promote social inclusion. The City Council ensures land is accessible, available and suitable for urban agriculture by negotiating with private landowners for the use of their land and preventing soil erosion in sensitive areas. The Council charges a nominal fee to the farmers for the use of the private land. The Council encourages the production of balanced nutritional diets and herbs, especially among the subsistence sectors and vulnerable groups, such as women, orphans and the elderly. In addition, farmers decide which diverse and local staple foods are produced and consumed at a subsistence level.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Community food production</strong></td>
<td><strong>Micronesia Nauru Tonga</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Governance structures for multi-sectoral/stakeholder engagement</strong></td>
<td><strong>Brazil</strong></td>
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<td>CARICOM</td>
<td>Active NCD Commissions exist in eight of the 20 CARICOM member states (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia), which are all housed in their Ministries of Health, with members recommended by the Minister of Health and appointed by the Cabinet of Government for a fixed duration; all include government agencies, and, to a varying degree, civil society and the private sector.</td>
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<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>The National Council of Food Security and Nutrition (CONASAN), established in 2009, is responsible for providing guidelines to tackle malnutrition; formulating and monitoring the National Policy and the Strategic Plan for Food Security and Nutrition; monitoring food security and nutrition through relevant indicators, and coordinating institutional and inter-sectoral efforts on food security and nutrition. The Council includes the Technical and Planning Secretariat of the Presidency and the Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Livestock, Environment and Natural Resources, Governance and Territorial Development, Economy, Labor, Foreign Affairs, Consumer Advocacy, and the Secretariat of Social Inclusion and works with various public and private sectors, academia, cooperation agencies and civil society. CONASAN has a Technical Committee on Food Security and Nutrition (COTSAN), which seeks to address the double burden of malnutrition in El Salvador through a multisectoral and multilevel governance system. It works at national, departmental and municipal levels with representatives from different sectors. Municipal Committees of Food Security and Nutrition (COMUSAN) are led by mayors and are responsible for preparing and implementing plans to address malnutrition with a territorial approach and conducting Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) monitoring and evaluation.</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
<td>The Finnish National Nutrition Council, established in 1954, is an inter-governmental expert body under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry with advisory, coordinating and monitoring functions. It is composed of representatives elected for three-year terms from government authorities dealing with nutrition, food safety, health promotion, catering, food industry, trade and agriculture.</td>
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<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>The National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONASAN), established in 2005 by Decree No 32/2005 (Ley del Sistema Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (SINASAN) - Law of the National Food and Nutritional Security System) leads nutrition policy direction in Guatemala. CONASAN is responsible for encouraging actions that promote food and nutrition security at the national level in political, economic, cultural, operational and financial spheres. The Council is chaired by the Vice President and consists of eight representatives from Ministries (Agriculture; Livestock and Food; Public Health and Social Assistance; Education; Environment and Natural Resources; Economy; Public finances; Communications, Infrastructure and Housing; and Labour and Social Welfare); the Secretariat for Food and Security Nutrition Security (SESAN); the Presidential Secretariat for Executive Coordination; the Secretariat for Social Works of the President's Wife; two representatives from the private sector, and five representatives from civil society. SESAN, which acts as Secretary of the Board, supports stakeholder and institution coordination. CONASAN approves and promotes compliance with the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy and implements government regulations that allow for the reduction of malnutrition in all its forms.</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>The Malaysian National Coordinating Committee on Food and Nutrition (NCCFN), chaired by the Deputy Director General of Health (Public Health) and in operation since 1994, consists of representatives of the Ministry of Health and other ministries (such as the Ministries of Education, Agriculture, Youth and Sport, Domestic Trade, Rural and Regional Development), ministerial agencies, universities, professional bodies, the food industry and NGOs.</td>
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<td>Malta</td>
<td>Based on the Healthy Lifestyle Promotion and Care of Non-Communicable Diseases Act (2016), Malta established an inter-ministerial Advisory Council on Healthy Lifestyles in August 2016 to advise the Minister of Health on any matter related to healthy lifestyles. In particular, the Advisory Council advises on a life course approach to physical activity and nutrition, and on policies, action plans and regulations intended to reduce the occurrence of non-communicable diseases. The prime minister appoints the chair and the secretary of the Advisory Council, while the ministers of education, health, finance, social policy, sports, local government, and home affairs appoint one member each.</td>
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<td>Pacific Islands</td>
<td>In 2014, the Pacific Non-Communicable Disease Partnership was established to encourage a multi-sector approach to prevent and control non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The partnership includes Pacific Island Forum Leaders, Pacific Ministers of Health, Pacific Islands Permanent Missions at the United Nations, Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), New Zealand Aid Programme (NZAP), US Department of State, Pacific Island Health Officers’ Association (PIHOA) and the NCD Alliance. The Partnership aims to strengthen and coordinate capacity and expertise to support Pacific Island countries achieve globally agreed NCD targets and implement the Pacific Islands NCD roadmap.</td>
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The Pacific Monitoring Alliance for NCD Action (MANA) is a collaborative alliance inclusive of all Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs), networks, agencies, organisations and institutions working to improve the monitoring and surveillance of NCDs across the Pacific region. MANA’s main objectives are to better coordinate, integrate and expand existing NCD monitoring and surveillance input to achieve: enhanced in-country capacity for collecting, analysing, and translating quality data into robust policy and action for NCDs; sustainable Regional Public Goods (RPG) by supporting investment in regional technical capacity to expand data improvement services; and robust innovation and accountability mechanisms by developing innovative NCD monitoring systems and establishing a reliable robust mutual accountability mechanism.

**Tanzania**

The Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), established in 1973, focuses on improving nutrition via policy, strategy development and planning, providing technical advice to the government and other organisations and nutrition education. This semi-autonomous Centre is housed under the Ministry responsible for Health and collaborates with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to integrate food and nutrition into national development plans.

The TFNC acts as the Secretariat for the High-Level Steering Committee on Nutrition (HLSCN), which is a national multisectoral coordination body housed under the Prime Minister’s Office. The Committee includes key nutrition stakeholders such as development partners, civil society organisations, the private sector and government ministries responsible for health, community development, gender, education, agriculture, finance and planning, industry, trade and investment, minerals and water and irrigation. In 2017, the Prime Minister launched a five-year Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (2016/17 – 2020/21) to address Tanzania’s double burden of malnutrition. The action plan was developed through the technical coordination of the TFNC, together with policy leadership from the HLSCN.

**UN**

The United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Non-Communicable Diseases, established in 2013, coordinates the activities of the relevant UN funds, programmes and specialised agencies to support the realisation of the commitments in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs.

The UN Standing Committee on Nutrition promotes cooperation among UN agencies and partner organisations in support of community, national, regional and international efforts to end malnutrition in all of its forms.

**UK**

Since 2016, 8 local authority councils in the UK have signed the voluntary Local Government Declaration on Healthy Weight, developed and advocated by Food Active. The declaration contains 14 commitments, which can be adapted by local authorities to align policies across different council departments to promote healthy weights. Aside from the public health department, the declaration recommends involving departments from leisure services, planning and environmental health. Commitments include increasing the availability and affordability of healthy food and drinks in public buildings and facilities, engaging with the local food and drink
sector to consider healthy retailing, increasing access to fresh drinking water on local authority controlled sites, protecting children from inappropriate food and drink marketing at events on local authority controlled sites, ensuring healthy eating messages are comprehensive and coherent with government guidelines, and considering how town planning can contribute positively to physical activity. Local councils are putting these commitments into action.

US

In 2010, The California Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force was created by Executive Order S-04-10 and is housed under the Strategic Growth Council, bringing together 22 state agencies, departments and offices to support a healthier and more sustainable California. The Task Force works with government departments to integrate health and equity into programmes and policies that advance state priorities, such as healthy food, transportation and land use planning. The Task Force provides capacity building and training to support departments to incorporate health and equity considerations into grant programmes and policy documents, facilitates collaboration between departments, and develops health and equity tools and resources.

The Task Force improves accessibility and affordability of healthy food by supporting “farm-to-fork” and healthy food procurement policies and programmes. The Task Force supported creation of the Office of Farm to Fork at the California Department of Food and Agriculture to support a robust sustainable food system, alleviate hunger, promote consumption of healthy foods, and to work in partnership with the Task Force. In addition, the Task Force developed nutritional guidelines for food procurement in adult California correctional facilities.

A number of other organisations provide access to policy databases. Some are listed below:

International
WHO Global Database on the Implementation of Nutrition Action
WHO Noncommunicable Disease Document Repository

Europe
WHO Europe Database on Nutrition, Obesity and Physical Activity

United States
The Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity – Legislation Database
National Association of State Boards of Education – State School Health Policy Database
National Cancer Institute – Classification of Laws Associated with School Students
Centers for Disease Control – Chronic Disease State Policy Tracking System

Canada
Prevention Policies Directory