

This country snapshot presents detailed results of the **NOURISHING policy index** [1] for Croatia. It highlights strengths and weaknesses in the design of national government nutrition policies. This snapshot supplements the policy index results with an in-depth look at the quality of policy design in each country. Full policy index results are outlined in the NOURISHING policy brief, which compares Croatia to 29 other European countries.

## Main messages

- 1 Croatia implements nutrition and diet-related policy actions in eight out of the ten policy areas of the NOURISHING framework. No policy area received higher than a moderate assessment. This assessment was seen in nutrition labelling (N1), food standards in public settings (O), using economic tools to address food affordability and purchase incentives (U), limits or removal of specific nutrients in food products (I1), and increasing public awareness of healthy eating through communication campaigns (I2).
- 2 There was a lack of sugar-sweetened beverage provisions in schools and of regulations on food availability within the school vicinity which impacted otherwise well-designed standards on school food and food in other out-of-education locations (O). Weaknesses and gaps were seen in public awareness on nutrition (I2), nutrition advice and counselling in schools and primary care settings (N2), and nutrition education (G).
- **3** Action is needed to improve retail environments (S) and to ensure coherence between food systems and health (H). Further, greater action also needs to be taken to limit marketing of unhealthy food to young people (R), beyond existing regulations on broadcast advertising which also need strengthening.

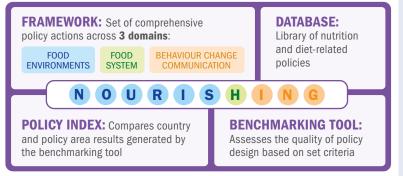
Overview of policy status	NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED	POOR	FAIR	MODERATE	GOOD	EXCELLENT	
Nutrition label standards a	MODERATE						
<b>0</b> Offer healthy food and set	MODERATE						
U Use economic tools to add	U Use economic tools to address food affordability and purchase incentives						
R Restrict food advertising a	Restrict food advertising and other forms of commercial promotion						
Improve nutritional quality	Improve nutritional quality of the whole food supply						
S Set incentives and rules to	S Set incentives and rules to create a healthy retail and food service environment						
H Harness supply chain and	Harness supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health						
Inform people about food	Inform people about food and nutrition through public awareness						
Nutrition advice and couns	Nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings						
G Give nutrition education a	G Give nutrition education and skills						

This snapshot is based on national level policies only. Policies issued by provincial, regional or local governments are outside the scope of this project.

## Methods

The NOURISHING policy index methods are fully explained in the associated **policy brief**. In short, the policy index combines values for a) policy presence, and b) policy design for 41 benchmarks.

The benchmarks are applied to policies in the **NOURISHING database** [2], collected through a comprehensive scan in 30 European countries, including Croatia.



Policy tools used to produce the policy index results

Nutrition policy status in Croatia

Break	down of policy index results	(For full	details or	n the policy design criteria, consult the policy	brief)			
×	No policy identified	Meets up to 75% of policy design						
	Meets up to 25% of policy design		Meets up to 99% of policy design					
	Meets up to 50% of policy design			Meets all aspirational standards				
	Nutrients on back of pack			Planning restrictions regarding food	×			
N	Front of pack labels			service outlets around schools Planning restrictions on food service				
	Warning labels	X	S	outlets	X			
	Rules on nutrient claims			Initiatives to increase the availability of healthier food in stores and food service outlets	×			
	Rules on health claims Food and drink available in schools, including restrictions on unhealthy foods		H	Measures to support food producers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×			
0	Measures relating to sugar-sweetened beverage provision in schools Fruit and vegetables initiatives in schools	×		Measures to support food manufacturers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×			
	Food and drink available in immediate vicinity of schools	×		Measures to support food retailers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×			
	Unhealthy food in out-of-education locations			Governance structures for multi- sectoral/stakeholder engagement	X			
	Health-related food taxes or tariffs			Nutrition standards for public	X			
	Income related subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food	×		procurement         Supporting urban agriculture in health         and planning policies				
	Targeted subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility			Community food production	×			
	of healthy food Marketing to young people through			Development and communication of food-based dietary guidelines				
	advertising Direct marketing to young people	×		Public awareness, mass media and informational campaigns and social marketing on healthy eating	×			
R	Marketing through sponsorship to young people	X		Nutrition advice and counselling in primary care				
	Marketing to young people through point of sale measures	×		Nutrition advice and counselling in school healthcare setting	X			
	Marketing to young people through product placement and brandingXMarketing to young people through product design and packagingXMarketing in/or around schoolsX		×	Nutrition education in curricula	$\bigcirc$			
				Training for educatorsXTraining for health professionalsXCooking skillsXTraining in schools in growing foodX				
				Training for health professionals				
				Cooking skills	X			
	Limit or removal of specific nutrients in food products			Training in schools in growing food				
		_		Training for caterers	×			

Note: The policy landscape in any country evolves over time. These findings reflect our knowledge as of May 2023. To see latest results and for further technical information on the policy indexes, please consult our website: wcrf.org/our-policy-work. For feedback or suggested updates, please email policy@wcrf.org. More info in the CO-CREATE project can be found at co-create.eu

[1] Policy index: wcrf.org/nutrition-policy-index [2] Policy database: policydatabase.wcrf.org





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