Main messages

1. Slovakia implements policy actions in only five out of the ten policy areas of the NOURISHING framework. Of these five policy areas, the highest assessment achieved was moderate in standards on food in schools and other specific locations (O), showing important gaps and weaknesses in nutrition and diet-related policy.

2. Notable gaps were identified in food and drink availability within the immediate vicinity of schools and other out-of-education settings, which impacted otherwise well-designed standards for food offered in schools (O). Similarly, a lack of public awareness campaigns that increase healthy eating (I2) led to a fair assessment in the policy area, which also includes food-based dietary guidelines. Much more needs to be done in food marketing and advertising to young people (R) to decrease exposure particularly in/around schools.

3. As no policy action was taken in five policy areas, coupled with weak policy design throughout the entire framework, greater action is needed in all policy areas. Priority should be given to areas where no policy action was identified, specifically creating a healthier retail and food service environment (S), public food procurement and other supply chain actions (H), limits or removal of specific nutrients in food products (I1), nutrition education and skills (N2), and nutrition counselling in healthcare (G).

Overview of policy status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Area</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N Nutrition label standards and regulations on the use of claims and implied claims on food</td>
<td>FAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Offer healthy food and set standards in public institutions and other specific settings</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Use economic tools to address food affordability and purchase incentives</td>
<td>POOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R Restrict food advertising and other forms of commercial promotion</td>
<td>POOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Improve nutritional quality of the whole food supply</td>
<td>NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S Set incentives and rules to create a healthy retail and food service environment</td>
<td>NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Harness supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health</td>
<td>NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Inform people about food and nutrition through public awareness</td>
<td>FAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N Nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings</td>
<td>NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Give nutrition education and skills</td>
<td>NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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, collected through a comprehensive scan in 30 European countries, including Slovakia.
### Breakdown of policy index results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N</th>
<th>Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Meets all aspirational standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Meets up to 99% of policy design criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>No policy identified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Nutrients on back of pack
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Front of pack labels
- Meets all aspirational standards

### Warning labels
- Meets up to 99% of policy design criteria

### Rules on nutrient claims
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Rules on health claims
- Meets all aspirational standards

### Food and drink available in schools, including restrictions on unhealthy foods
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Measures relating to sugar-sweetened beverage provision in schools
- Meets all aspirational standards

### Fruit and vegetables initiatives in schools
- Meets up to 99% of policy design criteria

### Food and drink available in immediate vicinity of schools
- Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria

### Unhealthy food in out-of-education locations
- Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria

### Health-related food taxes or tariffs
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Income related subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Targeted subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Marketing to young people through advertising
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Direct marketing to young people
- Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria

### Marketing through sponsorship to young people
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Marketing to young people through point of sale measures
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Marketing to young people through product placement and branding
- Meets up to 50% of policy design criteria

### Marketing to young people through product design and packaging
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Marketing in/or around schools
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Limit or removal of specific nutrients in food products
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Planning restrictions regarding food service outlets around schools
- No policy identified

### Planning restrictions on food service outlets
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Initiatives to increase the availability of healthier food in stores and food service outlets
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Measures to support food producers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain
- No policy identified

### Measures to support food manufacturers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Measures to support food retailers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Governance structures for multi-sectoral/stakeholder engagement
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Nutrition standards for public procurement
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Supporting urban agriculture in health and planning policies
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Community food production
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Development and communication of food-based dietary guidelines
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Public awareness, mass media and informational campaigns and social marketing on healthy eating
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Nutrition advice and counselling in primary care
- No policy identified

### Nutrition advice and counselling in school healthcare setting
- Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria

### Nutrition education in curricula
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Training for educators
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Training for health professionals
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Cooking skills
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Training in schools in growing food
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

### Training for caterers
- Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria

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**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

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