## Nutrition policy status in Croatia

NOURISHING policy index May 2023



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.

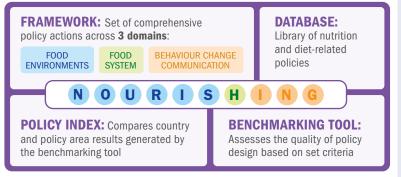
Overview of policy status	NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED	POOR	FAIR	MODERATE	GOOD	EXCELLENT		
Nutrition label standards a	N Nutrition label standards and regulations on the use of claims and implied claims on food							
O Offer healthy food and set	MODERATE							
U Use economic tools to add	U Use economic tools 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	create a healthy retail	l and food serv	vice environm	ent	NO POLICIE	S IDENTIFIED		
H Harness supply chain and	H 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	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

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eako	down of policy index results	(For full	l details d	on the	policy design criteria, consult the policy	brief		
٢	No policy identified Meets up to 25% of policy design criteria			Meets up to 75% of policy design criteria Meets up to 99% of policy design criteria				
	Meets up to 50% of policy design crite	ria		Mee	ts all aspirational standards			
	Nutrients on back of pack				Planning restrictions regarding food service outlets around schools	>		
	Front of pack labels			F	Planning restrictions on food service	>		
1	Warning labels	X	S		nitiatives to increase the availability			
	Rules on nutrient claims			c	of healthier food in stores and food			
	Rules on health claims Image: Comparison of the sector		۲ ۲	Measures to support food producers o increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	>			
		×	H	t	Measures to support food manufacturers o increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	>		
Fruit and vegetables initiatives in schools Food and drink available in immediate vicinity of schools Unhealthy food in out-of-education locations	Food and drink available in	×		۲ t	Measures to support food retailers o increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	>		
			(	Governance structures for multi- sectoral/stakeholder engagement	>			
	Health-related food taxes or tariffs			1	Nutrition standards for public	>		
	Income related subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food	×		5	orocurement Supporting urban agriculture in health and planning policies	>		
	Targeted subsidies or initiatives to				Community food production	>		
	increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food				Development and communication of food-based dietary guidelines			
	Marketing to young people through advertising		F	Public awareness, mass media and nformational campaigns and social				
	Direct marketing to young people Marketing through sponsorship to young people	××		1	narketing on healthy eating			
	Marketing to young people through point of sale measures	×	N	1	orimary care Nutrition advice and counselling in school nealthcare setting			
	Marketing to young people through	×			Nutrition education in curricula			
	product placement and branding Marketing to young people through			٦	Training for educators			
product design and pa	product design and packaging	×			Fraining for health professionals			
	Marketing in/or around schools		G	(	Cooking skills			
	Limit or removal of specific nutrients			٦	Fraining in schools in growing food	>		
	in food products				Fraining 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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