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Knowledge for Nutrition (K4N) / Capacity for Nutrition (C4N)

Malnutrition presents major challenges for the international community

The global community faces a major challenge: to end all forms of malnutrition, in keeping with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Despite significant progress to date, the number of people suffering from hunger has been rising since 2015. At the same time, over two billion people are overweight and/or suffer from obesity. Most countries experience both forms of malnutrition – that is, undernutrition and overnutrition simultaneously, known as the *double burden of malnutrition*.

Sufficient and good quality food is a human right, for which SDG 2 of the 2030 Agenda provides a global reference framework. During Germany's G7 Presidency in 2015, the G7 States committed to lifting 500 million people out of hunger and undernutrition by 2030. The European Union (EU), in the context of its external assistance, has made two major commitments in this regard: (i) to support partner countries in reducing the number of stunted children under the age of five by at least seven million children by 2025 and (ii) to ensure the allocation of EUR 3.5 billion to do so, between 2014 and 2020, which was further augmented at the N4D summit in Tokyo in 2021 with a pledge to allocate further EUR 2.5 billion between 2021 and 2024.

The international community has recognised the need for globally-coordinated action to address malnutrition. Yet, the complexity of

the issue, and limited evidence make it difficult to determine approaches and strategies, and to translate these into effective programmes and policies.

K4N – the Programme

Knowledge for Nutrition (K4N) is a joint Action, co-financed by the European Commission (EC) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). K4N focuses primarily on how BMZ and the EC's nutrition-related programmes and policies can build effective approaches and evidence-based strategies on their existing foundations.

K4N combines technical assistance as its main mode of delivery for improved programmes and policies, together with financial support to selected initiatives. It aims to benefit populations affected by malnutrition who are located both in partner countries of Germany's development cooperation, and in the priority countries designated by the EC with a special focus on nutrition. K4N aims to achieve impact through two central fields of action: effectiveness of nutrition-related programmes and policies, and competence development and advice on nutrition.

Evidence for Nutrition (E4N) / "Effectiveness of nutrition-related programmes and policies"

The first field of action works predominantly on improving the effectiveness of nutrition-related programmes and policies and

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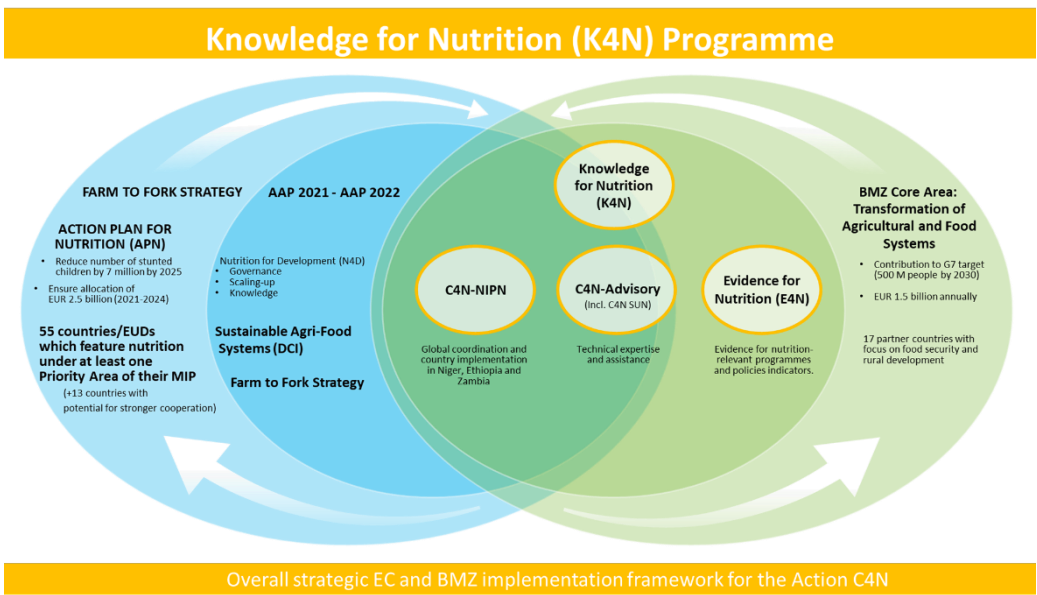
aligns primarily with the requirements of BMZ. Evidence-based statements on the effectiveness of nutrition-related programmes and policies are identified and prepared through evaluations, in order to glean policy and programme recommendations. In addition, this process is used to further develop standards for the generation of impact statements.

Capacity for Nutrition (C4N) / "Competence development and advice on nutrition"

The specific objective of the second field of action is to enhance capacities, governance and accountability for evidence-based and inclusive nutrition policy response and programming, in priority countries, regions and global institutions. Capacity for Nutrition (C4N), a component of the K4N Programme, provides the EC, EU delegations, governments of partner countries, regional and

global institutions and initiatives, and EU Member States with expert advice on nutrition.

C4N is a key component of the EC's "Nutrition for Development" (N4D) Programme, which is a crucial element of the broader EC Action Plan on Nutrition (APN). C4N is based in Brussels, Belgium and consists of two sub-components: C4N-Advisory, an on-call global technical team providing nutrition expertise to the EC and EU delegations, and C4N National Information Platforms for Nutrition (C4N-NIPN), which supports the implementation of the NIPN initiative at global level and as of 1 January 2022 also at country level in Ethiopia, Niger and Zambia.



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