

Nutrition in Namibia • Key for Growth and Development

Reflections on progress towards Namibia's Nutrition for Growth Commitments



Self-sufficient & sustainable food production



Community health & food safety



Access to food for everyone



Right Start for Children



Nutritional health services & information systems



Nutrition awareness & healthy diets



Investing in nutrition



Multi-sectoral coordination & working together

22 - 24 SEP 2026

Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre (FNCC), Windhoek

22 September

Exhibition Opening

23-24 September

MORNING

Guided Tours through the Exhibition

23 September

AFTERNOON

Nutrition Dialogues

24 September

AFTERNOON

Nutrition Dialogue + Film Screening

Nutrition in Namibia • Key for Growth and Development

Reflections on progress towards Namibia's Nutrition for Growth Commitments

Tue, 22 Sep Exhibition Opening: 'Nutrition in Namibia'
(exact time to be announced)

Wed, 23 Sep & Thurs, 24 Sep Guided Exhibition Tours
(morning hours)

Wed, 23 Sep Nutrition Dialogues:

15h00 Health and Nutrition for All: Bridging the gaps around malnutrition

17h30 RightStart for Namibian Children: How to build lasting momentum

Thurs, 24 Sep Nutrition Dialogue & Movie Night:

15h00 Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture: Moving towards self-sufficiency

17h45 for 18h00 'The Last Seed' & Q&A, facilitated by the Namibia Organic Association

Good nutrition is more than just food, it is the very foundation of healthy families, resilient communities, and thriving nations. Five years after Namibia made its multi-sectoral Nutrition for Growth (N4G) commitments, this exhibition highlights promises made, progress achieved, and the work that still lies ahead of us.

While guided tours through the exhibition and all its thematic areas will be offered in the mornings, the afternoons will be filled with Nutrition Dialogues on key issues, such as tackling malnutrition, achieving food security, and ensuring that all Namibian children are sufficiently nourished and supported to develop to their full potential.

On the last evening 'The Last Seed' (www.thelastseed.org) will provide valuable insights into the state of food and agriculture in Africa, to inspire further discussions and local actions.

Join government, civil society, and other partners as we reflect, learn, and explore together how we can all contribute to a healthier and more sustainable Namibia.

This event is organized by the Nutrition and Food Security Alliance of Namibia (NAFSAN – www.nafsan.org) in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Namibia, supported by the French Embassy and the Federal Republic of Germany through GIZ's Global Programme for the Transformation of Food Systems and GIZ Namibia's Farming-for-Resilience (F4R) project.



Namibia's Nutrition-for-Growth (N4H) Commitments

made in December 2021 by the **Government of the Republic of Namibia** (blue) and by **NAFSAN** on behalf of **Civil Society Organisations** (green)

<https://globalnutritionreport.org>

1. Self-Sufficient and Sustainable Food Production

- 1.1. Domestic Food Production** = increase from 30% to 60% in five years
GRN: MAFWLR Partners: NAFSAN
- 1.2. Agroecology & Indigenous Seeds** (promote sustainable agriculture across Namibia)
GRN: MAFWLR + MEFT Partners: NAFSAN, NNF, NOA
- 1.3. Water & Natural Resources** (protect Namibia's rivers and aquifers)
GRN: MAFWLR + MEFT Partners: NAFSAN, NCE, SOUL, SAUMA

2. Community Health & Food Safety

- 2.1. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene** = construct 25k latrines through community-lead approaches in urban/peri-urban areas in five years
GRN: MHSS, MURD + LAs Partners: NAFSAN, DWN, SFDN/NHAG + UNICEF

3. Access to Food for Everyone

- 3.1. Social Protection & Cash Transfers** = move from food banks to conditional grants
GRN: MoF, MGEWCW + OPM Partners: NAFSAN + WFP
- 3.2. Efficiently Addressing Inequalities** = consider Unconditional Basic Income Grant (U-BIG)
GRN: MoF + MGEWCW Partners: NAFSAN + U-BIG Coalition + Academia

4. Nutritional Health Services & Information Systems

- 4.1. Nutrition-for-Health (N4H)** = develop materials, train facilitators and implement
GRN: MHSS + MAFWLR + MEIYSAC Partners: NAFSAN + Develop. Partners + Private Sector
- 4.2. Community Outreach on Malnutrition** = capacitate/deploy 500 Community Healthcare Workers in 5+ affected regions: Omaheke, Ohangwena, Kunene, Kavango West and Omusati
GRN: MHSS Partners: NAFSAN + WHO + Government of Japan
- 4.3. Therapeutic Supplementary Food** = ensure availability of RUTFs at all state health clinics
GRN: MHSS Partners: NAFSAN + Development Partners + Private Sector
- 4.4. Functioning Health Information Systems** = include nutrition data and score cards are available within HIS and Food and Nutrition Security Integrated Data and Information Systems
GRN: MHSS + OPM (DDRM) Partners: NAFSAN + Development Partners + Academia

5. Right Start for Children

- 5.1. Implementing the Code of Marketing Breastmilk Substitutes** = enact & enforce legislation
GRN: MHSS + Parliament Partners: NAFSAN + WHO, UNICEF
- 5.2. Breastfeeding & 'First Foods'** = increase knowledge/awareness via education materials
GRN: MHSS Partners: NAFSAN, GIZ-F4R, UNICEF
- 5.3. Supportive Frameworks for Mothers** = increase maternity leave and improve benefits
GRN: MHSS + MJLR Partners: NAFSAN
- 5.4. Enabling Working Environments** = create breastfeeding- and child-friendly workplaces
GRN: MHSS + MJLR Partners: NAFSAN + Private Sector
- 5.5. Nutritional School Feeding** = implement NSFP and home-grown school feeding (HGSF)
GRN: MEIYSAC, MAFWLR, MHSS Partners: NAFSAN, NNF, Eduventures + WFP

6. Nutrition Awareness & Healthy Diets

- 6.1. Nutrition-for-Health (N4H)** = develop materials, train facilitators and implement
GRN: MHSS + OPM Partners: NAFSAN + Development Partners + Private Sector
- 6.2. Public Awareness & Behaviour Change** = conduct awareness campaigns on healthy diets
GRN: MHSS, OPM + MICT Partners: NAFSAN + Private Sector
- 6.3. Nutrition-related Food Labels** = introduce legislation for consumer-friendly food labels
GRN: MHSS + NSI + Parliament Partners: NAFSAN + Private Sector

7. Investing in Nutrition

- 7.1. Health Costs Reduction & Nutrition Investment** = stop sugar subsidies (VAT exemption) and consider an additional Sugar-Sweetened Beverage (SSB) tax
GRN: MoF + MHSS Partners: NAFSAN + WHO, UNICEF
- 7.2. Nutrition-related Budget Analysis** = conduct cross-sectoral analysis of the national budget
GRN: MHSS + MoF Partners: NAFSAN + UNICEF

8. Multi-Sectoral Coordination & Working Together

→ Ensure Policies and Strategies are efficiently, jointly and successfully Implemented

GRN: OPM + Cabinet & OMAs

Partners: NAFSAN + Members (CSOs, Academia, Private Sector) & Development Partners



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8 July 2026

TO: EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS / ACCOUNTING OFFICERS
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Water and Land Reform
Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth Services and Culture
Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare
Ministry of Urban and Rural Development
Ministry of Home Affairs Immigration Safety and Security
Ministry of Health and Social Services
National Planning Commission
Ministry of Finance

**RE: NOMINATION OF TECHNICAL OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT THE
NUTRITION FOR GROWTH (N4G) EXHIBITION AND NUTRITION
DIALOGUES**

The Government of the Republic of Namibia, in partnership with the Nutrition and Food Security Alliance of Namibia (NAFSAN), will host a **Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Exhibition and Nutrition Dialogues** from **22–24 September 2026** at the Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre (FNCC) in Windhoek.

The event will provide an opportunity to reflect on Namibia's Nutrition for Growth (N4G) commitments made at the 2021 Tokyo Summit, to showcase progress achieved, and identify priority actions and accelerate implementation of the **Revised National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (2021)**. It will also reaffirm the importance of sustained multi-sectoral collaboration in advancing Namibia's food and nutrition security agenda.

At its virtual meeting of **25 June 2026**, the Inter-Agency Steering Committee on the Implementation of the Revised National Food and Nutrition Security Policy agreed that each participating Offices, Ministries and Agencies should nominate technical official(s) to support the planning and preparation of this national event.

Accordingly, EDs are requested to nominate suitable technical official(s) to participate in the preparation process. The nominated official(s) should make contact with the preparation team by **10 July 2026** to commence coordination and planning activities.

The nominated official(s) will be expected to:

- a) Provide relevant data and information on your Ministry's contribution towards Namibia's N4G commitments for inclusion in the exhibition;
- b) Support the validation and presentation of sector-specific achievements and priorities; and
- c) Assist in identifying suitably qualified panellists and technical experts for the Nutrition Dialogues to be held on **23 and 24 September 2026**.

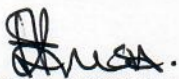
The preparation process will be co-chaired by: **Mr Ben Schernick**, Director, Nutrition and Food Security Alliance of Namibia (NAFSAN) at Director@nafsan.org, Cell: 081 229 4803 and **Ms Fulgentia Mayira**, Office of the Prime Minister, at Fulgentia.Mayira@opm.gov.na Cell: 081 122 3986.

For ease of reference, attached are the event poster, a one-page event summary, and an overview of Namibia's Nutrition for Growth commitments by thematic area.

Ministries' participation is important to ensuring that Namibia's collective progress and priorities are accurately reflected and that the event contributes meaningfully to advancing our national food and nutrition security agenda.

I thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,


EMILIA MKUSA

SECRETARY TO THE CABINET

