

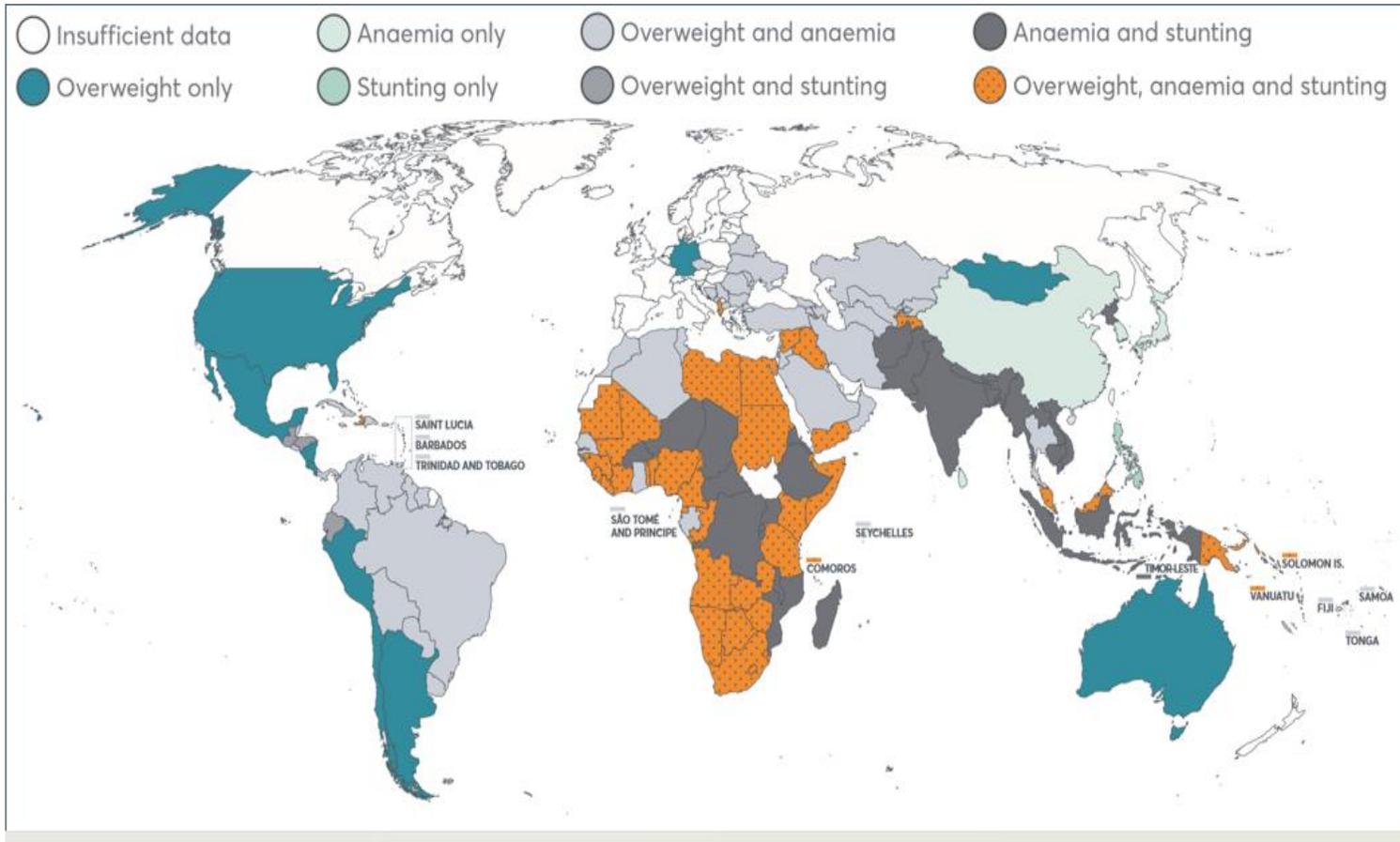
# A SWOT ANALYSIS OF PNG-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES RELATED TO CHILD NUTRITION AND STUNTING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

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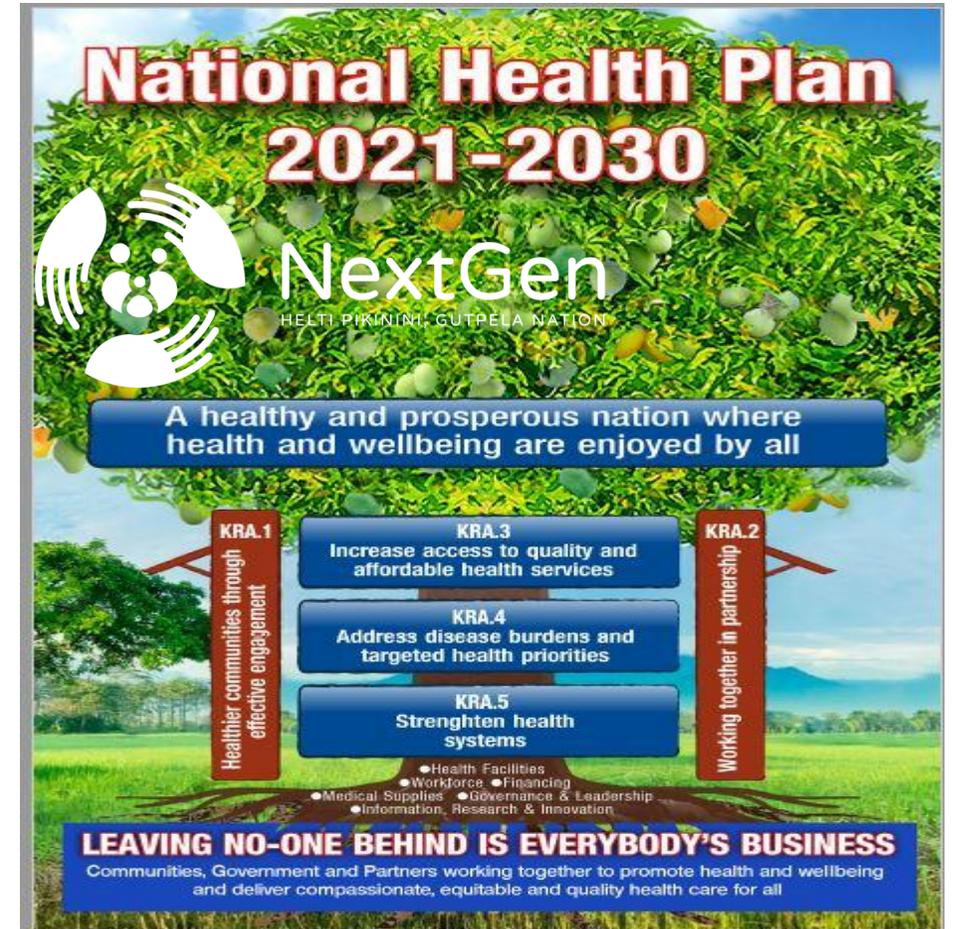
# Situation of Malnutrition in PNG

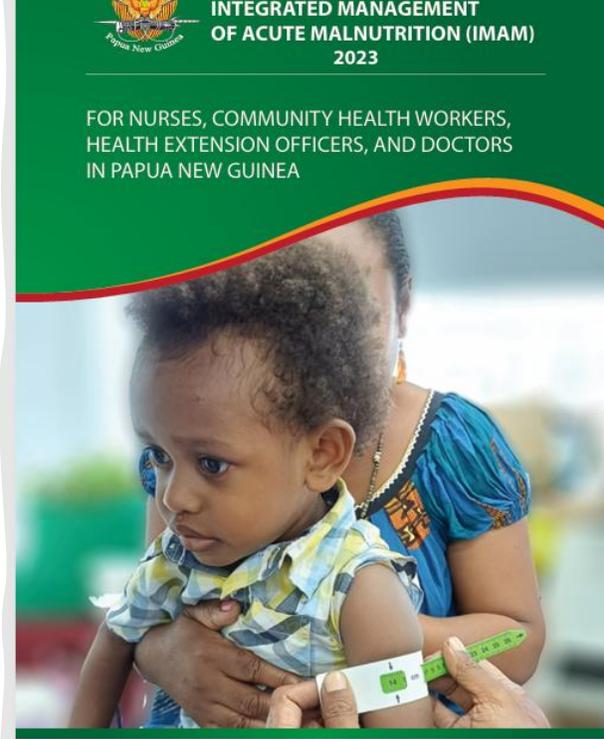
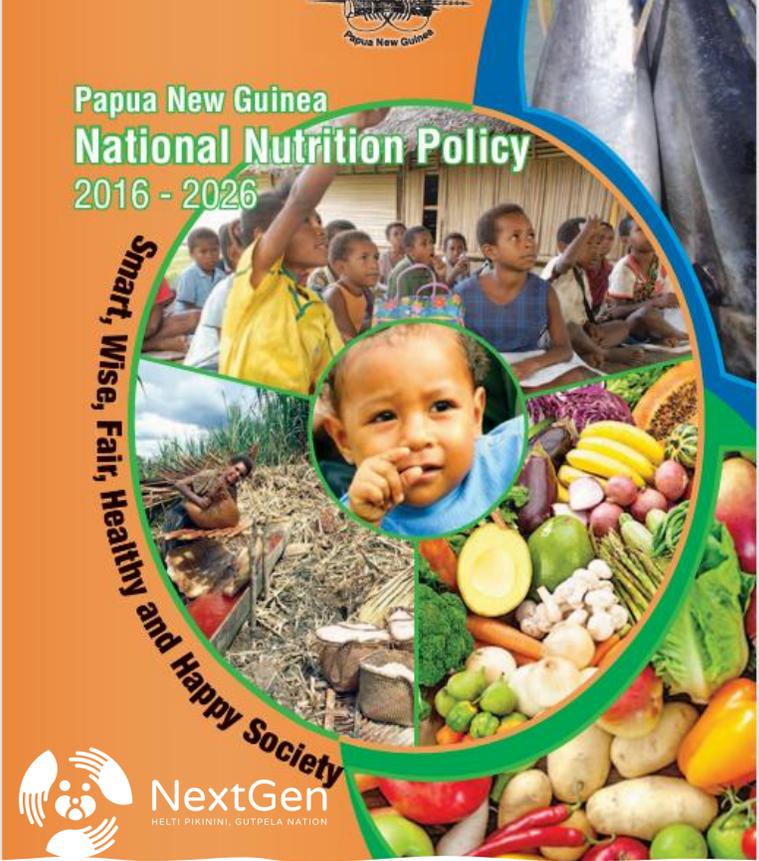


# SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

## Strengths

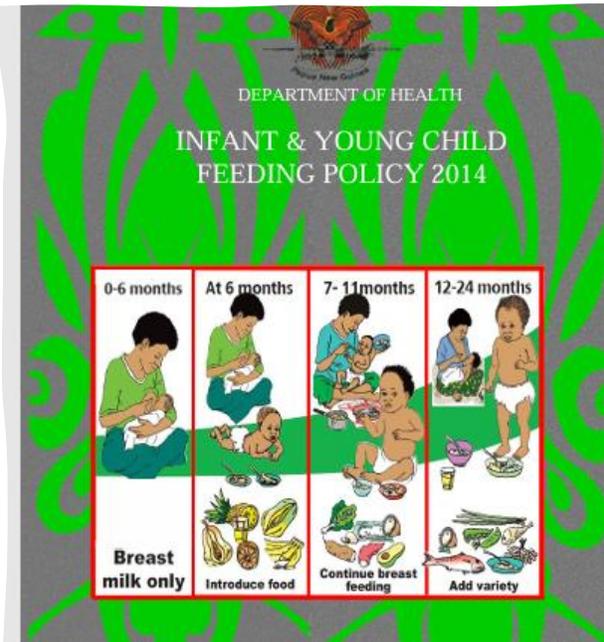
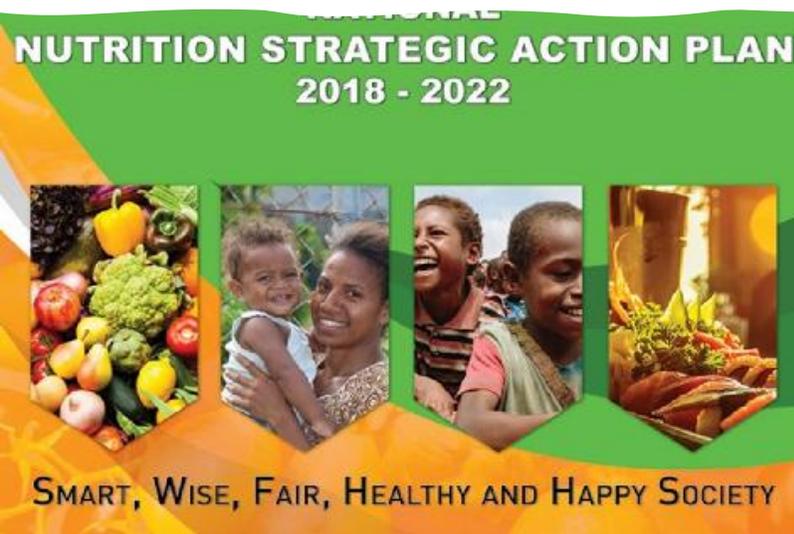
- National Health Plan – KRA (1 - 5)
- Existing policies and frameworks
- Strong multi-sectoral partnerships
- Community-based nutrition and health programs under NDOH
- Positive infant feeding practices, reduced childhood malnutrition mortality
- Rich agricultural biodiversity
- GoPNG Political commitment





# Current Nutrition Policies, strategies, Legislation & guidelines

- Infant and young children food supply and control Act 2023
- IYCF regulation-under review
- Iodine Strategy 2023
- Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition guideline 2023 for health workers in PNG
- Undergraduate training for nutrition & Dietetics -commences in 2026



# SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

## Weaknesses

- Difficult geography and poor infrastructure
- Limited nutrition workforce at all levels
- Low domestic funding for nutrition programs
- High poverty levels across communities.
- Low female education and empowerment, affecting household nutrition decisions.
- Limited nutrition data and research (NNS)
- Cultural practices that limit optimal infant and young child feeding.
- Access to food security and diet diversity



Low female education – Picture



# Opportunities

- **Strong international funding and technical support** (World Bank Child Nutrition Project, UNICEF, DFAT, WHO, IP, CBOs, NGOs etc)
- GoPNG commitments and Support for nutrition (CNSP)
- **Potential to scale up proven interventions**, including micronutrient supplementation and community management of acute malnutrition.
- **Ability to integrate nutrition actions** into existing platforms such as immunisation programs, schools, and agricultural extension.
- **Increasing focus on climate-resilient**, nutrition-sensitive agriculture.
- **Regional learning opportunities and research** from Pacific Islands nutrition initiatives.





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# Threats

- **Impacts of Climate Change** (natural and man made & disasters).
- **Rising food prices causing a shift to cheap processed foods**, increasing import dependence and creating a double burden of malnutrition.
- **Law and Order Issues: Illegal gun smuggling and tribal conflict**,
- **Global economic crises reducing** bilateral and multilateral funding envelopes.
- **Rising overweight/obesity and NCDs**, diverting attention and resources from child malnutrition.
- **Global Health security** (measles, polio, etc.) worsening child malnutrition.



Papua New Guinea landslide raises risk of disease outbreaks, mental health impacts

## Key Recommendations

1. **Support and strengthen the existing Nutrition Project Management Unit (PMU)**
2. **Coordinated response of ending stunting in PNG**(e.g. Health-Agriculture-Education-Law & Order, ComDev, & CNSP etc).
3. **Support the National Nutrition Evidence (National Nutrition Survey)**
4. **Increase budget allocation for the Nutrition Program at all levels.**
5. **Accelerate the implementation of the CNSP project and use the successes for nationwide rollout.**
6. **Support and strengthen accessibility to health care through effective community participation**



## Conclusion

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- PNG faces profound but addressable challenges in reducing stunting among children in PNG.
- Making strategic use of existing strengths and partnerships.
- Immediate, urgent, accelerated and coordinated nutrition action.
- Investment in the Nutrition Program at all levels of Government is key – the CNSP project is the flagship intervention now – if successful, must be invested in and rolled out nationwide.
- **All stakeholders must now unite for a stunting-free future by accelerating nutrition action in Papua New Guinea.**





# Thank You!

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- **“Let’s work together!**
- **Government, communities, and partners to ensure every child in Papua New Guinea grows healthy, strong, and ready to thrive.”**



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