

DECADE OF ACTION ON NUTRITION
GLOBAL ACTION NETWORK ON NUTRITION LABELLING
WORK PLAN 2019-2021

Ambition: Increase the implementation of nutrition labelling to promote healthy diets

GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

This global Action Network has been established to promote the development and implementation of effective nutrition labelling policies to promote healthy diets. The Action Network will mobilize country actions to increase the coverage and effectiveness of nutrition labelling in the Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) and support the achievement on the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 3 (SDGs).

EXPECTED RESULTS

The Action Network is a mechanism to support countries efforts in implementing nutrition labelling. Specific aims are to:

- Provide a platform for countries to exchange their knowledge, experiences, lessons learned in developing and implementing nutrition labelling policies and programs
- Support countries efforts in making and strengthening commitments – SMART (specific; measurable; achievable; relevant and time-bound) to implement nutrition labelling. Examples of SMART commitments for action for member states:
 - By the legislative body has passed a law on front-of-pack labelling, which defines high content of energy, total fat, saturated fat, sugar and salt as well as requires food products and retailers to include a defined labelling scheme on the front-of-pack of their food products if they exceed the set limits, to be implemented.
 - Support developing nutrition labelling policies and regulation, building Country capacity for implementing and enforcing nutrition labelling policies.

INDICATORS OF PROCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

The indicators are based on the expected accomplishments

Indicators of process:

Number of countries that join the Action Network;

Number of webinars facilitated by the Action Network

Number of events organized

Indicators of achievement:

- Evolution rate of the number of countries / network members with an established policy that includes national labelling regulations
- Progression of each country's level in the implementation of nutrition labelling policies / commitments

WORK PLAN 2019-2020

1. Information sharing

Members of the action network are committed to sharing information and experiences relating to nutrition labeling including existing evidence, gap analysis, country experiences, monitoring and evaluation data. Specific areas of interest to share information on include:

- scientific evidence underpinning nutrition labelling policies, including consumer research
- frameworks and guiding principles for implementing nutrition labelling
- monitoring and evaluation outcomes from nutrition labelling activities
- tools for calculating nutrient profiles of foods and any relevant guidance
- experience & good practices in the enforcement strategies
- challenges with interaction with industry, public health and consumer groups
- any legal issues/trade issues and how these were overcome
- improvements made to existing nutrition labelling rules based on updated scientific evidence and consumer research

Members are invited to share documents/materials between June and September 2019 as a first round of collecting and sharing information. France will lead the process to invite countries and collect materials in 2019, followed by Australia in 2020 and Chile in 2021.

The materials will be collated by the WHO and publicized on the UN Decade website. <https://www.un.org/nutrition/action-networks>

2. Webinars

To facilitate information sharing on specific topics webinars of the Action Network will be held and open to all network members to attend. An initial list of proposed topics and timing is provided below.

Topic	Lead	Date
Evaluation of the Health Star Rating System	Australia	December 2019
WHO Guiding Principles	WHO	February 2020
How to interact with the private sector and dealing with Conflict of Interest	France	April 2020
Evaluation of Front of Package Warning Food Labelling	Chile	June/July 2020

Other suggested topics include best practice communication techniques for FOPNL systems; the economics of FOPNL systems and World Trade Agreements (date and lead to be defined). Action Network Members are invited to rate the existing topics and indicate new additional topics.

3. Development of tools to support nutrition labelling initiatives

The action network will consider the development of tools to support nutrition labelling as required and based on the evidence. Tools could include:

- nutrient profiling tools
- communication strategies tools for labelling
- knowledge management tools
- Monitoring and evaluation techniques and tools
- Consumer research tools

4. Events

- 2nd annual meeting of the Action Network in 2020
- 3rd annual meeting of the Action Network in 2021
- Side event at Codex Committee on Labelling in 2020

Action Network Members are invited to flag other global and regional events in which to engage the network.

GOVERNANCE

Network members

Membership is open to interested government Authorities, who make commitments to implement nutrition labelling. Confirmation of membership should be by sending an e-mail / message do the AN Chairs.

All member States are welcome to join the Network. The members are expected to actively participate in network activities, including by suggesting points of action and taking steps towards their implementation.

The Action Network is global but can have regional groups (see regional group of Americas).

Members of the Action Network will interact with civil society organizations, academia and the private sector, as appropriate through consultations. It is important that the action network avoid conflict of interest in both their membership and implementation of activities.

Work plan discussions are taken by consensus among members and involve individual country activity and network activities.

Host Countries

France, Australia and Chile as network conveners and will facilitate the operations of the network in 2019-2021. The role of convener may rotate among member countries.

A call conversation among the Network Chairs will be organized on a quarterly basis. France will propose the first call.

Network Operations

The operations of the network will take place virtually. A meeting will be convened every year.

Secretariat

The joint FAO/WHO Nutrition Decade Secretariat supports the network operations and it will:

- arrange for reporting achievements by the Action Network in progress reports to the World Health Assembly, the FAO Governing Bodies, CFS and the Un General Assembly,
- Assist lead countries in announcing network meetings and sharing news on activities,
- Provide visibility to governments and institutions actively supporting the Nutrition Decade's Action Networks.

Related links

<https://www.who.int/nutrition/decade-of-action/en/>

<https://www.who.int/sdg/en/>

<https://www.un.org/nutrition/france-and-australia-announced-establishment-global-action-network-nutrition-labelling>

[and links with the MOH website of leading countries](#)