

Achievements to date (2022 – 2024)

Figures as of December 2024

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Project Goal:

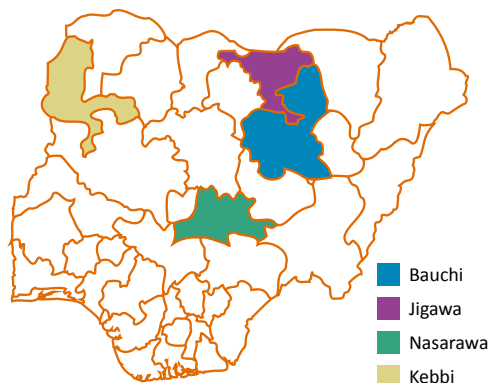
Contribute to improved food security and the reduction of malnutrition in women of reproductive age and children in Nigeria

Objectives:

1. To increase access to and consumption of healthy diets.
2. To increase resilience of household members particularly women of reproductive age and children, to price and climate change-related shocks and stresses.

Project Reach and Target Groups:

- Total reach – **1,535,265**
- Women of reproductive age (WRA, 15-49 years) – **32,050**



Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

Funding (EUR): 9,9 million

Term: 2022-2026

Where we work: Kebbi, Jigawa, Bauchi, and Nasarawa states.

Project Description

The **Catalyzing Strengthened policy Action for Healthy Diets and resilienceE (CASCADE)** project champions multi-sectoral nutrition strategies, scaling up actions and complementing the Government of Nigeria's efforts to strengthen diets as described in the National Food and Nutrition Policy and Multi-sectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition. **CASCADE** brings Nigeria's private sector agri-food system actors together with government initiatives to expand private sector investment for healthy diets and improved nutrition.

CASCADE's work is also guided by the Nigerian Agricultural Sector Food Security and Nutrition Strategy and the National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme. **CASCADE** strengthens the capacity of policymakers and implementers in nutrition-sensitive agricultural and education programming, developing state multi-sectoral plans of action and advocating for increased budget allocations for nutrition initiatives. Project partners work in communities with households to facilitate activities that increase families' access to nutrient-rich foods such as household food production. **CASCADE** also builds resilience to economic or climate shocks through engaging households in participating in Village Savings and Loan Associations.

How We Work

CASCADE supports government efforts to coordinate food and nutrition services and works closely with the states' Committee on Food and Nutrition to implement their Annual Operational Plan for Nutrition. **CASCADE** reviews the state government's annual plan of action against proposed budgets suggesting improvements for implementation and accountability. The project supports the Ministry of Health's efforts at the state level to implement the Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Policy and its associated social and behavioral change and communications initiatives such as layering nutrition services through financial inclusion platforms like Village Savings and Loan Associations and leveraging community-based resources and services using frontline health workers and Primary Health Care centers. **CASCADE** works with the National Social Investment Program to strengthen the capacity of the private service providers engaged by the government under the home-grown school feeding programme to ensure access to safe and nutritious school meals for children.



Key Milestones and Achievements

- Developed Jigawa state policy on food and nutrition providing a strategic blueprint for a multi-sectoral approach to improving nutrition outcomes.
- Developed Nasarawa (2023- 2027), Bauchi (2024-2028), and Jigawa (2024-2028) State Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition to address food and nutrition challenges.
- Developed Maternal Peri-Natal Child Death Surveillance and Response Mechanism Strategy for Kebbi, Jigawa and Nasarawa to address maternal mortality.
- Established state chapters and a communication platform for the Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network in Kebbi, Nasarawa, Bauchi, and Jigawa states.
- Trained 3,083 women lead farmers on good agriculture and market practices using the Farmer Field and Business School model.

STORY OF CHANGE

Approval of the Kebbi State Nutrition Policy

Through impactful high-level advocacy by the **CASCADE** team, the Kebbi State Nutrition Policy was finally approved by the State Governor, after a two-year delay. It paved the way for **CASCADE** to support the state in developing its first comprehensive Multisectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition. The development of the plan involved collaborative efforts from key government ministries, departments, and agencies, development partners, Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliances, and academia that play critical roles in nutrition programming. These coordination efforts are helping the state government provide guidance for Local Government Committees on Food and Nutrition and oversight for state-level nutrition investments.

Further Information



<https://www.care.org/our-work/food-and-nutrition/nutrition/cascade/>

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs

