



Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020 QSD on 28 January 2020

On 28 January 2020, the Lord Collins of Highbury (Labour) is due to “ask Her Majesty’s Government what consideration they have given to formulating their pledge at the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth 2020 summit, and what they are doing to build commitments from other countries”.

Summary

The Nutrition for Growth summit aims to reduce global malnutrition and obesity by agreeing funding commitments from national governments, intergovernmental bodies, NGOs and businesses. The first Nutrition for Growth summit was held in London in 2013. The next Nutrition for Growth summit is due to be hosted by the Japanese government in Tokyo in December 2020.

At the 2013 summit, attendees committed over \$4 billion in core funding by 2020 for programmes to alleviate malnutrition. A further \$19 billion by 2020 was committed to improve nutrition outcomes through “nutrition-sensitive investments”. The UK Government committed to contribute £375 million (compared to 2010 levels of investment) on “nutrition specific programmes” by 2020. In addition, the UK committed up to £280 million in matched funding. The Nutrition for Growth website includes a ‘commitment tracker’, providing an assessment of how much of the funding has been disbursed and information on the outcomes achieved. The website stated that all the funding commitments made by the UK in 2013 have been met.

However, malnutrition remains a global development issue. The United Nations’ 2019 *State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* report stated that following decades of steady decline “the trend in world hunger [...] reverted in 2015, remaining virtually unchanged in the past three years”. The report found that over 820 million people suffered from hunger in 2018, approximately one in every nine people in the world. On current trends, the report predicted that the 2025 World Health Assembly target to reduce the prevalence of low birthweight by 30 percent and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal to halve the number of children stunted by malnutrition, would both be missed.

In the House of Lords in January 2020 the Government was asked what commitments it intended to make at the 2020 summit. Replying for the Government, Baroness Sugg, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for International Development, did not provide a specific figure, but stated that the Government had “bold ambitions” to work with other partners to secure “longer-term funding [...] to improve access to nutritious and sustainable diets”.

James Goddard | 21 January 2020

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Further Information

- Department for International Development, '[Nutrition for Growth: Beating Hunger through Business and Science](#)', 8 June 2013

Press release following the first Nutrition for Growth summit held in London in 2013. It provided more information on the attendees and details of the funding commitments secured.

- Nutrition for Growth, '[United Kingdom: Nutrition for Growth \(N4G\) Commitment to 2020](#)', accessed 21 January 2020

The UK's entry from the Nutrition for Growth commitment tracker. It stated that all the UK's commitments for 2013 to 2020 have been met and in some cases exceeded. It stated that the Department for International Development "reached 60.3 million children, adolescent girls and women with nutrition-related services between April 2015 and March 2019—compared to the target of reaching 50 million by 2020".

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, '[The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019: Safeguarding Against Economic Slowdowns and Downturns](#)', 2019, pp xvi–xxi and 2–26

Executive summary and chapter 1 of the UN report, which provided background information on trends in levels of global malnutrition. The report documented a range of improvements that had been made in reducing malnutrition and nutrition-based medical conditions in recent decades. However, the report stated that on some metrics progress had stalled since 2015.

- [Oral Question on 'UK Aid: Nutrition-Sensitive Programmes'](#), HL Hansard, 13 January 2020, cols 446–9

Response from the Government to a question from Lord Collins of Highbury on the impact of UK AID's nutrition-sensitive development programmes. The response referred to the Government's aspirations for the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth summit 2020.

- Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020, '[Vision and Roadmap](#)', August 2019

Document from the organisers of the Tokyo 2020 summit, setting out the priority areas for future funding commitments, which included: building resilient food systems; addressing malnutrition in conflict areas; and driving innovation in nutrition financing.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Developing Countries: Malnutrition](#)', 31 October 2019, 6327
- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Developing Countries: Nutrition](#)', 29 October 2019, 3818

- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Developing Countries: Food](#)', 3 October 2019, 291211
- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Developing Countries: Nutrition](#)', 23 January 2019, 209411

Press Articles and Comment

- Lord Collins of Highbury, '[Lord Collins: We Must Embed Nutrition Policy into UK Aid Programmes](#)', Politics Home, 13 January 2020
- Sarah Boseley, '[Malnutrition and Obesity Now a Global Problem, Say Experts](#)', *Guardian*, 16 December 2019
- Layla Moccia, '[The Japan 2020 Global Nutrition Summit—The UK's Role](#)', Results UK Blog, 6 September 2019
- Jordan Beecher, '[Is Tackling Global Malnutrition Still a Top Priority for the UK?](#)', Development Initiatives Blog, 11 June 2019
- Jennifer Rigby, '[Stunting—A Silent Emergency](#)', *Telegraph*, 19 October 2018