

ABOUT WBTi

PROCESS AND SCORING GUIDELINES

The WHO in 2003 provided *Infant and Young Child Feeding: A tool for assessing national practices, policy and programmes*. In 2004, the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) launched the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi) a collaborative initiative to assess and monitor key breastfeeding policies and programmes based on the framework of action of the *Global Strategy for infant and Young Child Feeding*. The WBTi has used the questionnaire and other materials from the WHO's tool. It has been adapted based on the feedback from countries in all regions including Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

Process

It works in two phases. Phase 1 of national assessment and phase 2 of making it universally accessible through WBTi web-portal.

The **first phase** involves initiating a national assessment through coordinating a **Core group** and local partners working together. They identify gaps in policies and programmes and stimulate action to bridge them. Documentation of gaps in existing practices, policies, and programmes takes place.

The WBTi thus helps in establishment of a practical baseline, demonstrating to programme planners and policy makers where improvements are needed to meet the aims and objectives of the *Global Strategy*.

The core group helps facilitate debates and discussions around this area to a larger audience locally. It assists in

formulating plans of action that are effective in improving infant and young child policies and allocation of resources. Such actions are likely to change feeding practices for positive.

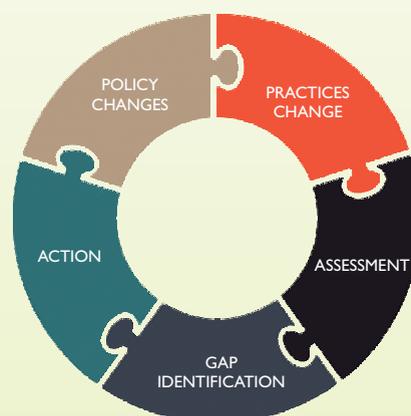
In the second phase, each country's results are publicly displayed on the WBTi website, providing further impetus to government leaders to act decisively.

WBTi findings of phase 1 are fed into the web-based toolkit to provide color coding and scoring, based on IBFAN Asia's Guidelines for WBTi, thus building some healthy competition among the countries in the region or among regions.

The web tool has the capacity to generate visual maps or graphic charts to assist in developing reports for advocacy at all levels e.g. national, regional and international.

WBTi Elements

- A:** is Action oriented
- B:** Brings people together
- C:** is Consensus and commitment building
- D:** Demonstrates achievements and gaps
- E:** is Efficacious in improving programmes



WBTi is thus a tool not only to track policy and programmes but it has action built within its process. Its components can be easily described as ABCDE as action, bringing people together, building consensus, demonstration of achievements and efficacy in improving programmes.

Trends Study and Re-assessment

WBTi calls for re-assessment after 3-5 years, to analyze trends in programmes and practices and identify areas that still need more investment/action. This can also be used to study the impact of a particular intervention over a period of time.

The 15 indicators of WBTi

The WBTi is based on a wide range of indicators, which provide an impartial global view of key factors. The WBTi has identified 15 indicators. Each indicator has its specific significance.

Part I has 10 indicators dealing with policies and programmes and Part II has 5 indicators, these are based on the WHO's

Infant and Young Child Feeding: A tool for assessing national practices, policy and programmes

Part I: WBTi takes into consideration most of the targets of the *Global Strategy*. For each indicator, there is a subset of questions. Answers to these can help identify achievements and gaps. This reveals how one country is doing in a particular area of action on infant and young child feeding.

Part II: Infant and young child feeding practices in Part II ask for specific numerical data on each practice, based on data from a random household survey that is **national in scope**.

Each indicator has the following components:

- A key question that needs to be investigated.
- A list of criteria as a subset of questions for identifying gaps and achievements with guidelines for scoring.
- Background on why the practice, policy or programme component is important.

INDICATORS

Part I

1. National Policy, Programme & Coordination
2. Baby Friendly Care & Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding)
3. Implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes
4. Maternity Protection
5. Health & Nutrition Care System (in support of breastfeeding & IYCF)
6. Mother Support & Community Outreach
Community-based support for the pregnant & breastfeeding mother
7. Information Support
8. Infant Feeding & HIV
9. Infant & Young Child Feeding During Emergencies
10. Mechanism of Monitoring & Evaluation Systems

Part II

1. Percentage of babies breastfed within hour of birth
2. Percentage of babies 0<6 months of age exclusively breastfed in the last 24 hours
3. Babies are breastfed for a median duration of how many months
4. Percentage of breastfed babies less 0-12 months of age, who are fed with any foods or drinks (even breastmilk) from bottles
5. Percentage of breastfed babies receiving complementary foods at 6-8 months of age

IBFAN Asia Guidelines for Scoring & Colour Coding

Each indicator in policy and programmes has a subset of questions that go into finer details of the achievements or gaps. In Part I, each question has a possible score of 0-3 and the indicator has a maximum score of 10.

In Part II the IYCF practices, the method of the cut-off point for each level of achievement has been adapted from the WHO tool.²⁴ Each practice indicator is assigned according to its achievement a 'score' and 'colour coding' as per IBFAN Asia's guidelines. The cut off points for each of these levels of achievement were selected systematically, based on an analysis of past achievements on these indicators in developing countries.

Five indicators dealing with infant

and young child feeding practices reveal how effectively a country has implemented its policies and programmes. The countries need to use secondary data which is national in scope as information source. The WBTi does not undertake primary household surveys.

The maximum score for indicators 1-10 of policies and programmes is 100, and for 11-15 on practices are 50, thus an overall score totals to 150. The level of achievement on each indicator **then coded Red, Yellow, Blue and Green based on the guidelines as suggested below.** In the WBTi tool, a score of 90% and above is coded green and considered to be maximum achievement. The other three colours in descending order of performance are Blue, Yellow and Red.

Tables below provide guidelines for colour coding based on objective scoring.

Part I: IYCF Policy & Programme Indicators- scores & colour coding (maximum score 10)

IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Scores	Colour- coding
0-3.5	RED
4-6.5	YELLOW
7-9	BLUE
> 9	GREEN

Part I: Total score & colour coding of IYCF Policy and Programme Indicator 1-10 (out of 100)

Scores	Colour- coding
0-30.9	RED
31-60.9	YELLOW
61-90.9	BLUE
91-100	GREEN

Part II: IYCF Practices- scores & colour coding (maximum score 10)

Indicator 11	Key to rating adapted from WHO tool (see Annex 11.1)	IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
		Scores	Colour- coding
Initiation of Breastfeeding (within 1 hour)	0.1-29%	3	RED
	29.1-49%	6	YELLOW
	49.1-89%	9	BLUE
	89.1-100%	10	GREEN

²⁴ WHO 2008. Indicators for assessing infant and young child feeding practices. <http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/infantfeeding/9789241596664/en/>

Indicator 12	Key to rating adapted from WHO tool (see Annex 11.1)	IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Exclusive Breastfeeding (for first 6 months)		Scores	Colour- coding
	0.1-11%	3	RED
	11.1-49%	6	YELLOW
	49.1-89%	9	BLUE
	89.1-100%	10	GREEN

Indicator 13	Key to rating adapted from WHO tool (see Annex 11.1)	IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Median Duration of Breastfeeding		Scores	Colour- coding
	0.1-18 Months	3	RED
	18.1-20 "	6	YELLOW
	20.1-22 "	9	BLUE
	22.1- 24 or beyond "	10	GREEN

Indicator 14	Key to rating adapted from WHO tool (see Annex 11.1)	IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Bottle Feeding (0-12 months)		Scores	Colour- coding
	29.1-100%	3	RED
	4.1-29%	6	YELLOW
	2.1-4%	9	BLUE
	0.1-2%	10	GREEN

Indicator 15	Key to rating adapted from WHO tool (see Annex 11.1)	IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Complementary Feeding (6-8 months)		Scores	Colour- coding
	0.1-59%	3	RED
	59.1-79%	6	YELLOW
	79.1-94%	9	BLUE
	94.1-100%	10	GREEN

Part II: Total score & colour coding of IYCF Practice Indicators 11-15 (out of 50)

IBFAN Asia Guidelines for WBTi	
Scores	Colour- coding
0-15	RED
16-30	YELLOW
31-45	BLUE
46-50	GREEN

Part I & II: Total score & colour coding of IYCF Policy, Programme & Practices (out of 150)

Scores	Colour- coding
0-45.5	RED
46-90.5	YELLOW
91-135.5	BLUE
136-150	GREEN