

# Mechanisms of Monitoring and Evaluation System

**M**onitoring and evaluation (M & E) components should be built into all major infant and young child feeding programme activities and collection of data concerning feeding practices integrated into national nutritional surveillance and health monitoring systems or surveys.

Periodic monitoring or management information system data should be collected systematically, analysed and considered by programme managers as part of the planning, management and implementation process. When appropriate, both baseline and follow-up data should be collected to measure outcomes. Unified criteria on the use of internationally agreed-upon

indicators and data collection strategies should be considered, in an effort to increase availability of comparable data. It is important to devise strategies to ensure that results of important evaluation are used to assure evidence-based decision making. This indicator examines if countries collect data routinely and whether these data are used to improve IYCF practices. (Table 10)

The average score for this indicator was 6.76 out of 10. Only ten out of 84 countries scored a perfect 10, with 37 countries scoring between 7 and 9 and 30 countries between 4 and 6. Seven countries are coded red, scoring below 3; of these, two countries score zero (Figure 23).

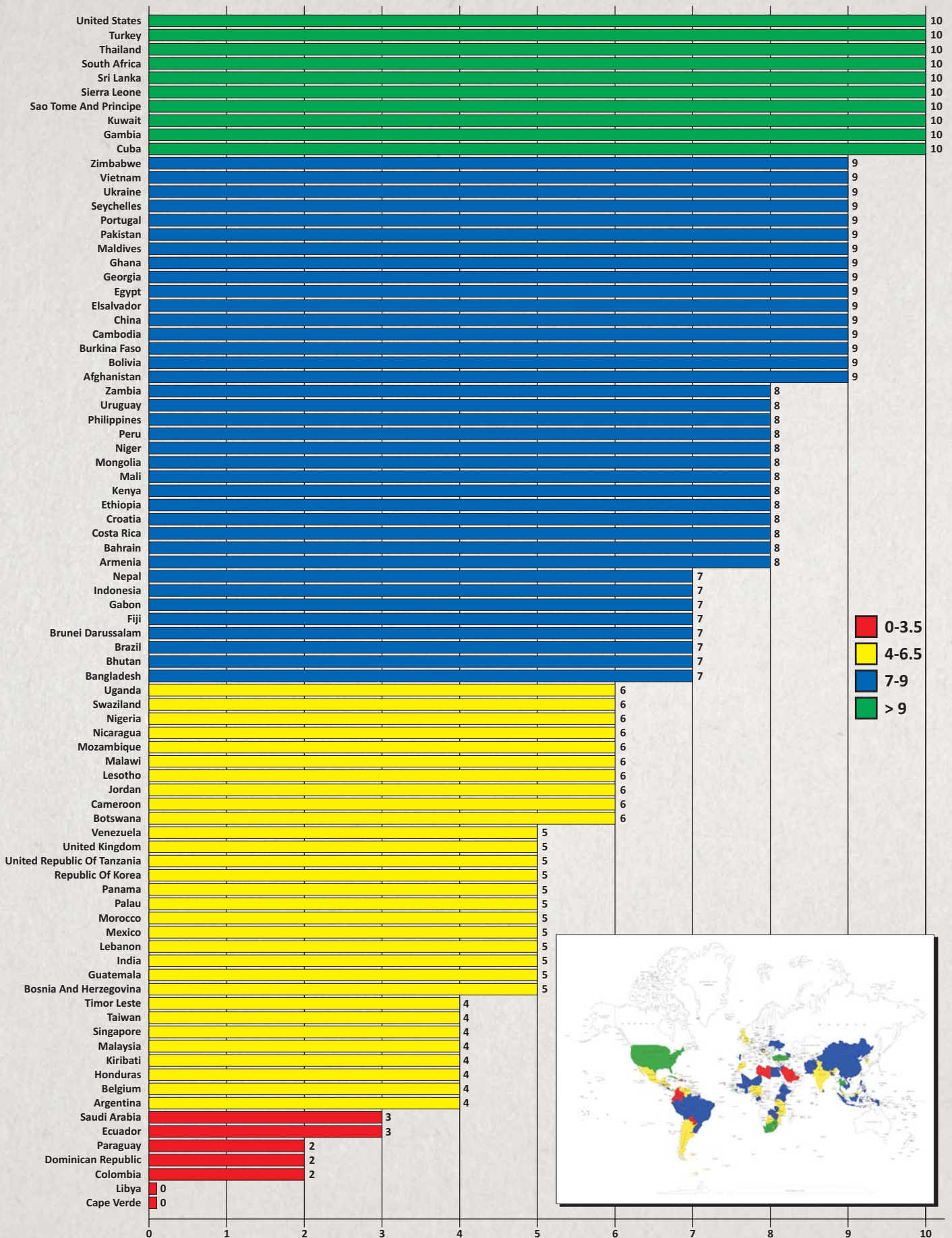
**Table 10: Key question and subset questionnaire for indicator on mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation system and scoring criteria**

**Key question:** Are monitoring and evaluation systems in place that routinely collect, analyse and use data to improve infant and young child feeding practices?

## Guidelines for scoring Criteria

	<b>Scoring</b>		
	<b>✓ Check that apply</b>		
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>To some degree</b>	<b>No</b>
10.1) Monitoring and evaluation components are built into major infant and young child feeding programme activities.	2	1	0
10.2) Data/information on progress made in implementing the IYCF programme are used by programme managers to guide planning and investments decisions	2	1	0
10.3) Data on progress made in implementing IYCF programme activities routinely collected at the sub national and national levels	2	1	0
10.4) Data/Information related to infant and young child feeding programme progress are reported to key decision-makers	2	1	0
10.5) Monitoring of key infant and young child feeding practices is integrated into the national nutritional surveillance system, and/or health information system or national health surveys.	2	1	0
<b>Total Score:</b>	<b>-----/10</b>		

**Figure 23: The state of mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation system in 84 countries on a scale of 0-10**



It shows all regions have monitoring systems in place; however the countries in red and yellow need to give more emphasis.

### Analysis and Conclusion

Figure 24 reveals, only 38 countries report that monitoring and evaluation is built into their major programmes and 32 report that the policy makers use data from a management information system.

Monitoring of key IYCF practices is built into a broader nutrition surveillance or health monitoring system or surveys in 48 countries.

The analysis indicates the need for governments to undertake regular or periodical routine national surveys. The need for annual surveys on IYCF is much needed, as malnutrition peaks within the first two years of life; only then can interventions be fine-tuned according to needs. Monitoring is not just a tool to see if there is implementation in place but a tool to LEARN and improve policies and programmes. Countries need to give due emphasis to this indicator and work on establishing a national nutritional surveillance system, which would include IYCF indicators.

**Figure 24: Status of subset questions for indicator on mechanisms of monitoring and evaluation system in 84 countries**

