



The Global Nutrition Report

Nutrition and the future of development cooperation: Human capital, resilience and accountability, amidst compounding crises

GLOBAL NUTRITION REPORT

October 2026

The Global Nutrition Report

Endorsers of the first (2013) Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit Compact called for a framework and a global report on nutrition.

In response, the Global Nutrition Report (GNR) was established as an accountability mechanism to track progress against global targets and commitments.

The leading independent assessment of the state of nutrition, the GNR:

- Provides trusted, policy-relevant, independent **evidence** to inform policy, investment and action.
- Strengthens **accountability** across sectors, geographies and constituencies.



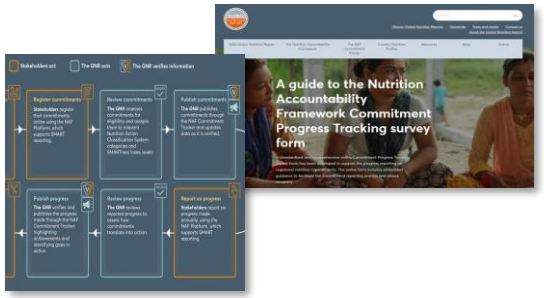
Approach to driving stronger commitments, action and accountability



Evidence

- Flagship Report
- Country Nutrition Profiles
- Thought leadership pieces

Support and inform nutrition policy and action



Accountability

- Commitment standards
- Commitment verification
- Commitment tracking

Ensure effectiveness and sustainability of nutrition commitments



Engagement

- Strategic partnerships
- Targeted engagement
- Tactical communications

Increase effective utilisation of resources and provide insights on stakeholder perspectives

Nutrition as an investment in human capital

Challenge

2.6 billion people cannot afford a healthy diet.

150 million children affected by stunting.

340+ million children suffering from essential micronutrient deficiencies.

US$41 trillion in lost productivity over 10 years.

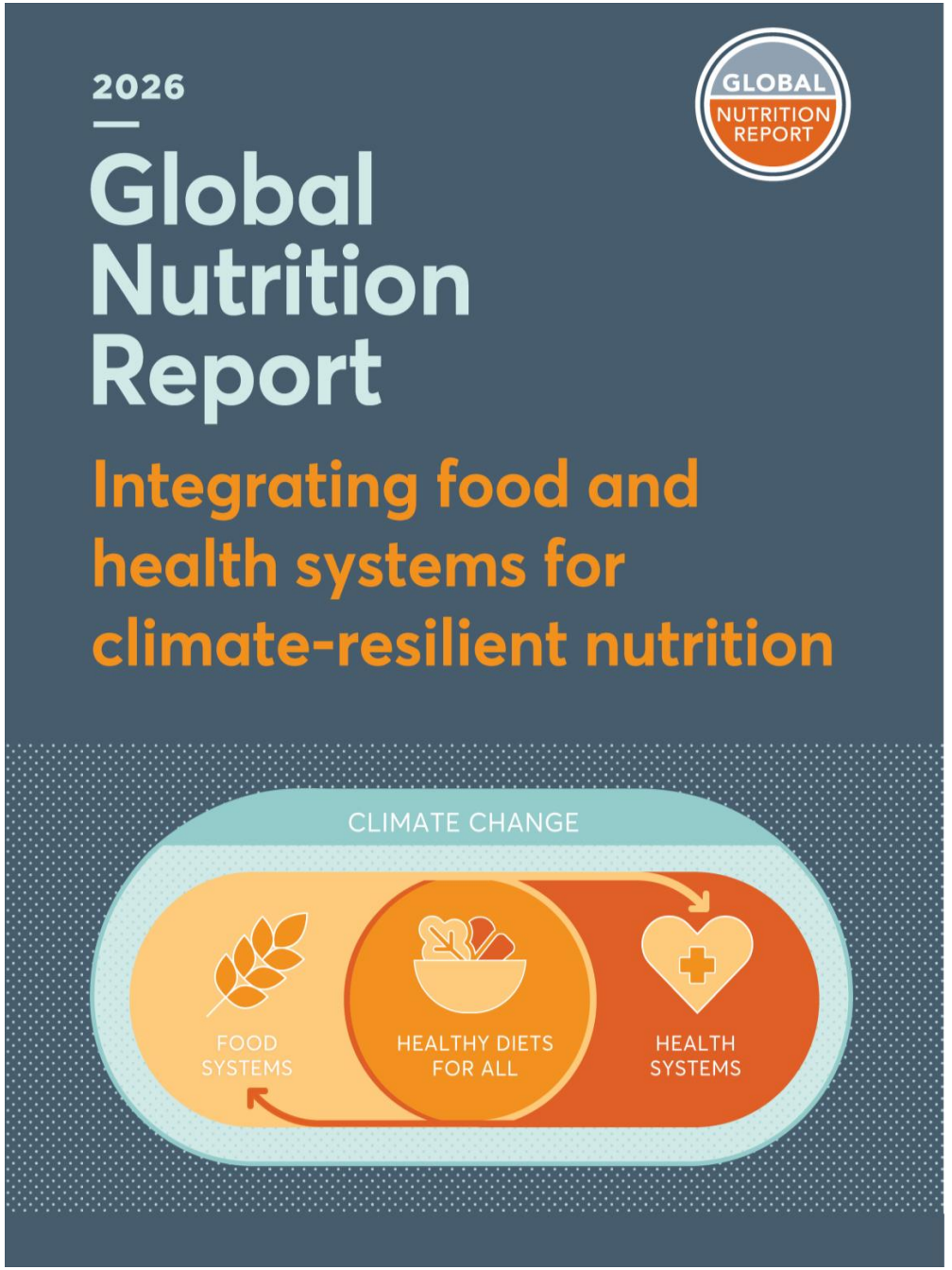
Opportunity

US$2.4 trillion economic benefits generated by 2034.

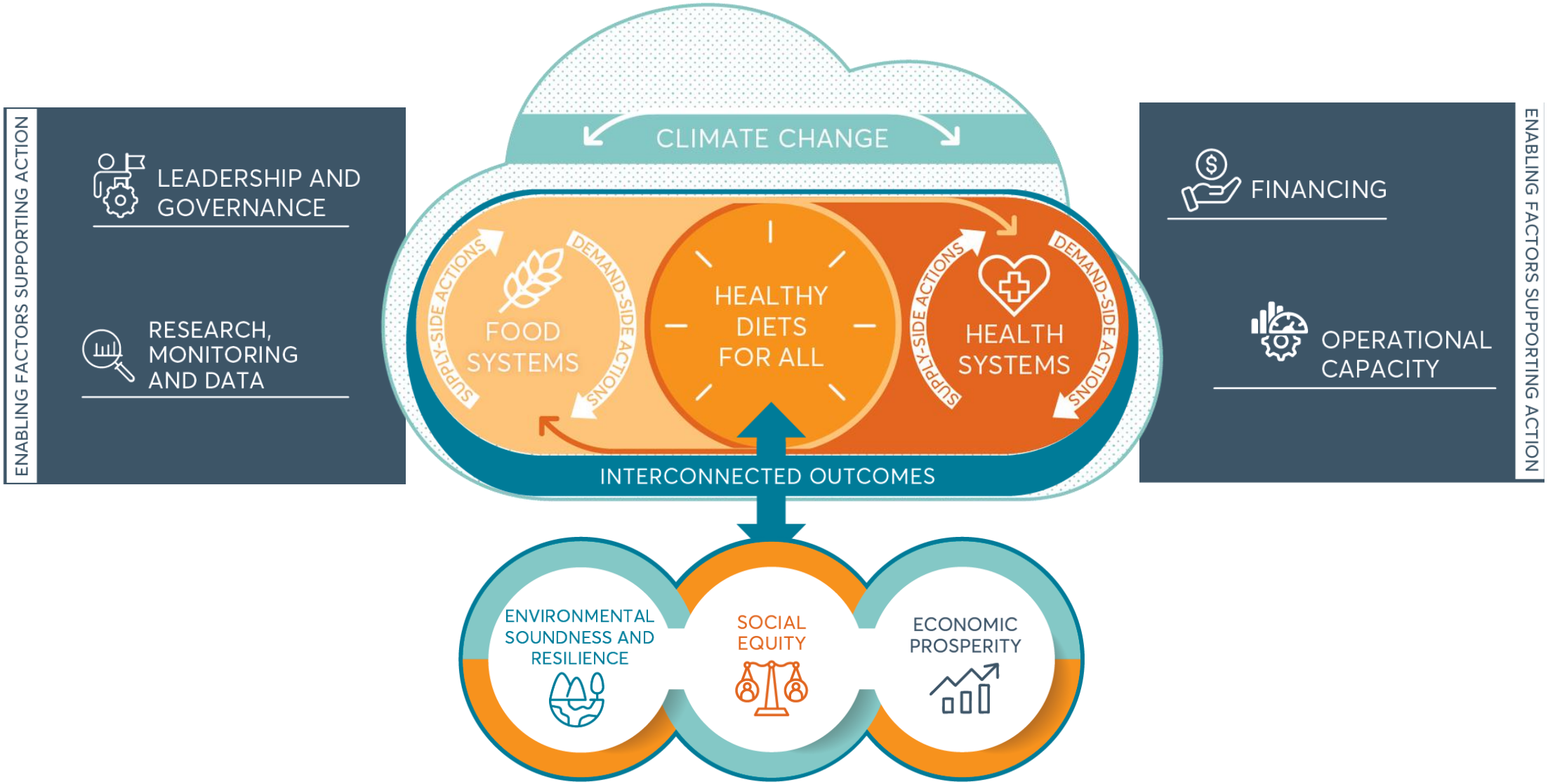
23:1 return on investment.

62 million deaths in children under five avoided.


Evidence
Translation and action
Country-level experience
N4G commitments

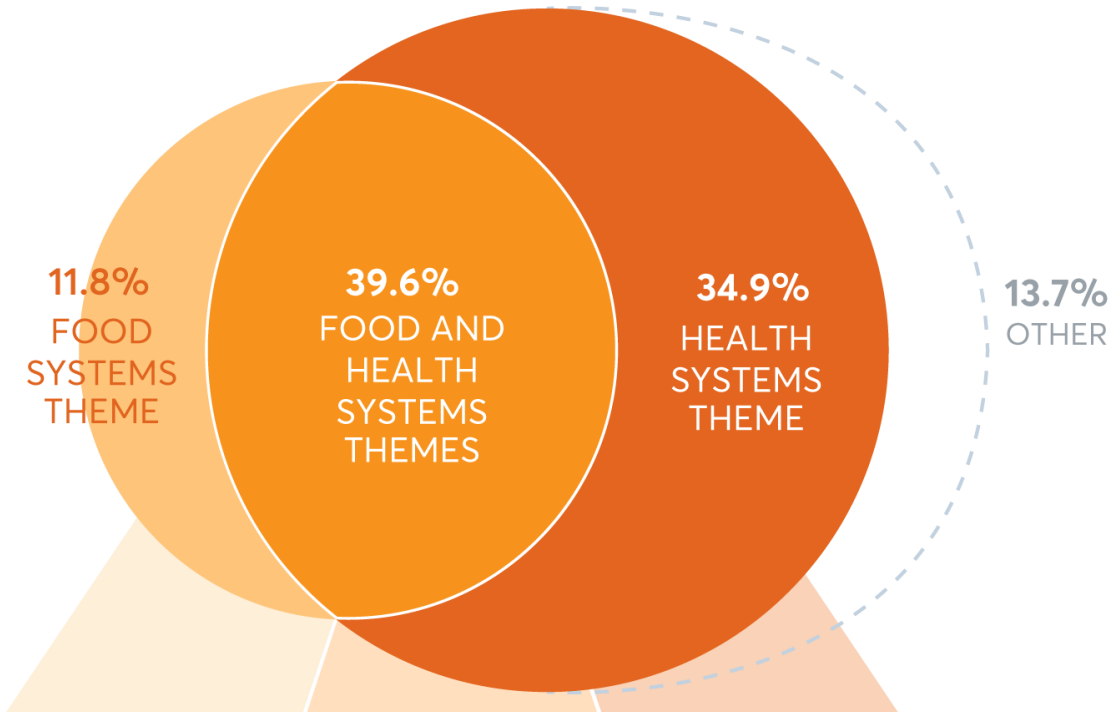

2026
GLOBAL NUTRITION REPORT
Global Nutrition Report
Integrating food and health systems for climate-resilient nutrition
CLIMATE CHANGE
FOOD SYSTEMS
HEALTHY DIETS FOR ALL
HEALTH SYSTEMS

Translation and action: Food and Health Systems for Equitable Nutrition (FHEN)



Governance in food and health systems

Procedural versus substantive accountability



Impacts of humanitarian & development funding reductions

409 stakeholders working on nutrition in 74 countries, mostly in Africa and South Asia, reported how reductions in humanitarian and development funding have affected their work over the last 12 months



78%

say their nutrition work has been affected by funding cuts

319 of 409 respondents



55%

have had at least some nutrition activities reduced

224 of 409 respondents



15%

have had all of their nutrition activities terminated

61 of 409 respondents

85%

of those affected took at least one action to respond to funding cuts

241 of 285 who answered

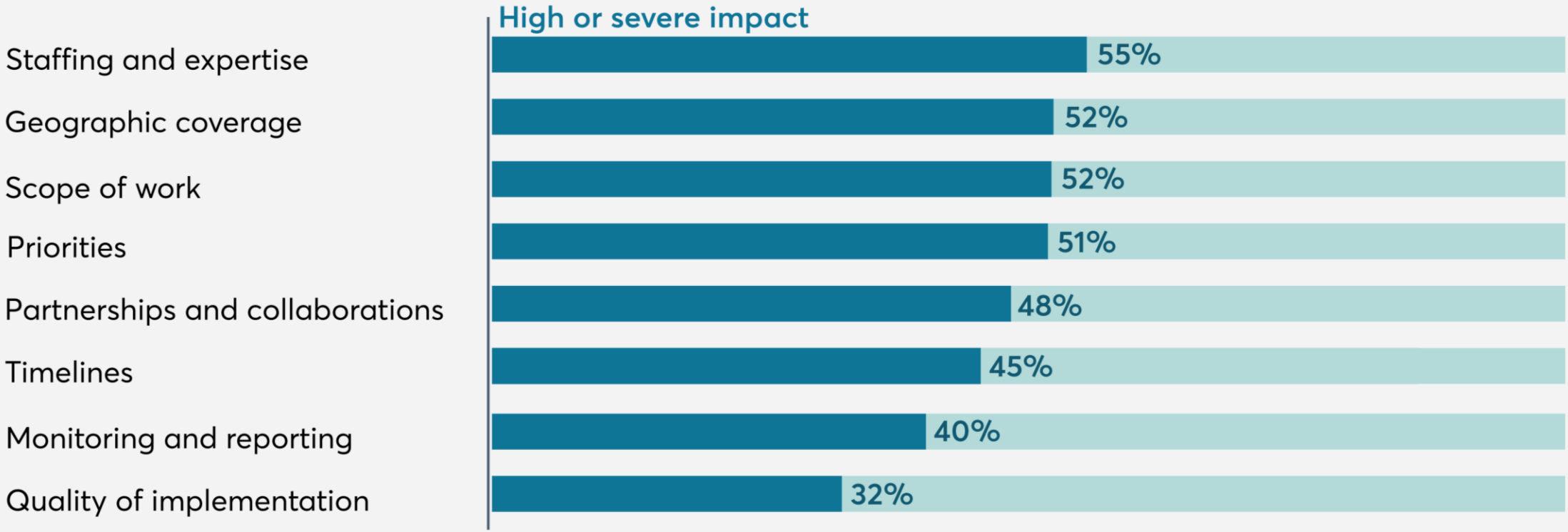
But the most common steps shrink what programmes deliver: narrower scope, fewer staff, smaller areas and less monitoring

1 in 5

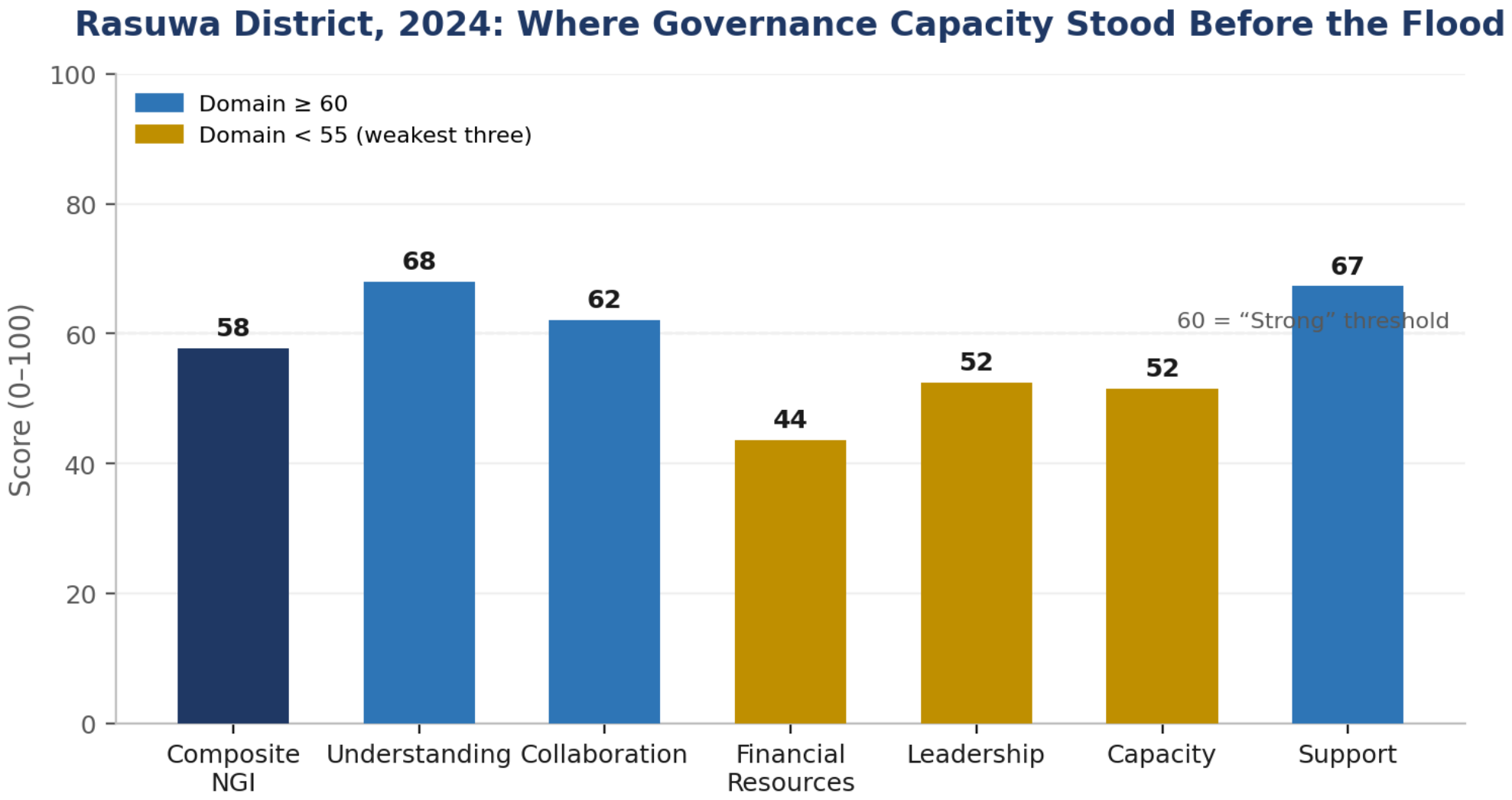
affected respondents do not expect to be able to continue their nutrition work

61 of 318 who answered

Share of affected respondents rating the remaining impact as high or severe after any mitigation



Local governance capacity in Rasuwa District of Nepal before the flood surge of August 2026



Webb, Shrestha and Ghosh 2026- Commentary submitted for publication

Key Takeaways

- **Intentional and integrated** nutrition action is essential to achieving global nutrition targets.
- **Prior investment in infrastructure and capacity to react** is critical to address poly crises and allows for swifter recovery
- **Honest dialogue:** The "win-wins" being debated across climate, health and nutrition require acknowledging trade-offs
- **Country leadership** in considering culture and context during policy and programme decision-making.
- **Evolving accountability mechanisms:** Nutrition commitments are more transparent, further evolution of accountability frameworks
- **Impact of funding cuts** is just being felt across the nutrition and development assistance community
- **Urgent action and a paradigm shift** that will support future generations while ensuring that current generations are not left behind

Implications for development cooperation: Discussion

1. How can development partners reduce fragmentation and strengthen alignment behind country-led priorities to support integrated approaches across nutrition, health, food systems, and climate resilience?

2. In a context of constrained resources, what nutrition-related investments are most important for strengthening human capital and resilience?

3. What lessons from Nutrition for Growth and other Summits and mechanisms can help ensure commitments translate into meaningful action and results?

GNR's 2026 Thematic Report

Now available:

- Executive summary (in English, French and Spanish).
- All 10 chapters (in English, French and Spanish).



Thank you!

For more information, please contact

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