

# The dynamics of nutrition research in West Africa: tracking the evidence

Search syntax for literature on nutrition-relevant research evidence published in the West African region

Conducted between June 2018 and January 2021

Prepared by Transform Nutrition West Africa  
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**Table 2: MEDLINE search syntax**

Date	7/month/year	Database	Medline
Search n°	Syntax	Hits	Notes
# 1	Diet, Food, and Nutrition [MeSH]	#	
# 2	nutrition OR undernutrition OR obese OR overweight OR “low birth weight” OR anaemia OR stunting OR stunted OR wasting OR hunger OR marasmus	#	Anaemia include anemia
# 3	#1 OR #2	#	All Broad Nutrition Terms
# 4	"Africa, Western"[Mesh]	#	
# 5	“West Africa*” OR Benin OR Beninese OR Beninois OR “Burkina Faso”OR Burkinabé OR “Cape Verde” OR “Cabo Verde” OR “Cabo Verdean” OR “Cote d’Ivoire” OR “Ivory Coast” OR Ivorian OR Gambia OR Gambian OR Ghana OR Ghanaian OR Guinea OR Guinée OR Guinean OR “Guinea-Bissau” OR “Guinée-Bissau” OR Liberia OR Liberian OR Mali OR Malian OR Niger OR Nigerien OR Nigeria OR Nigerian OR Senegal OR Senegalese OR “Sierra Leone” OR “Sierra Leonean” OR Togo OR Togolese	#	
#6	#4 OR #5	#	All WA Terms
# 7	#3 AND #6	#	Nutrition and WA terms
# 8	# 7  Time: 3 months  Date filter: starting from the 7th of each Month	#	Studies over the past 3 months

**Table 2: Google Scholar search strategy**

Final search strategy for Google Scholar	
Search date: 7/month/year (starting from the 7th of each Month)	
1.	(Senegal OR Ghana OR "Burkina Faso" OR Nigeria OR "West Africa") AND (nutrition OR malnutrition OR obesity OR overweight)
2.	(Benin OR "Cape Verde" OR "Cabo Verde" OR "Cote d'Ivoire" OR "Ivory Coast" OR Gambia OR the Gambia OR Guinea OR Guinée OR "Guinea-Bissau" OR "Guinée-Bissau" OR Liberia OR Mali OR Niger OR "Sierra Leone" OR Togo) AND (nutrition OR malnutrition OR obesity OR overweight)

**Table 3 List of Websites for Grey Literature search**

Manual search of below key websites of organizations that operate in West Africa in areas of nutrition programming, policy, and research. The search was performed by looping at the following sections of websites: Research/publications/reports and/or archives over the last three months.

#	Name	Acronym	URL
1	West African Health Organisation	WAHO	<a href="http://www.wahooas.org/spip.php?page=rubriqueS&amp;id_rubrique=24&amp;lang=en">http://www.wahooas.org/spip.php?page=rubriqueS&amp;id_rubrique=24&amp;lang=en</a>
2	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (West and Central Africa)	UNICEF	<a href="https://www.unicef.org/wca/">https://www.unicef.org/wca/</a>
3	Scaling Up Nutrition	SUN	<a href="http://scalingupnutrition.org/">http://scalingupnutrition.org/</a>
4	Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy	ANH Academy	<a href="https://anh-academy.org/">https://anh-academy.org/</a>
5	Food and Agricultural Organization	FAO	<a href="http://www.fao.org/africa/en/">http://www.fao.org/africa/en/</a>
6	Society of Implementation Science in Nutrition	SISN	<a href="https://www.implementnutrition.org/">https://www.implementnutrition.org/</a>
7	Nutritional International		<a href="https://www.nutritionintl.org/">https://www.nutritionintl.org/</a>
8	Helen Keller International	HKI	<a href="http://www.hki.org/">http://www.hki.org/</a>
9	World Food Program	WFP	<a href="http://www1.wfp.org/">http://www1.wfp.org/</a>
10	United States Agency for International Development	USAID	<a href="https://www.usaid.gov/">https://www.usaid.gov/</a>
11	Action against Hunger	ACF	<a href="https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/">https://www.actionagainsthunger.org/</a>
12	Comités inter-états de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel	CILSS	<a href="http://www.cilss.int/">http://www.cilss.int/</a>
13	CARITAS		<a href="https://www.caritas.sn/">https://www.caritas.sn/</a>
14	African Development Bank	AfDB	<a href="https://www.afdb.org/en/">https://www.afdb.org/en/</a>

15	Plan International		<a href="https://plan-international.org/">https://plan-international.org/</a>
16	Save the Children		<a href="https://www.savethechildren.net/">https://www.savethechildren.net/</a>
17	Economic Community of West African States	ECOWAS	<a href="http://www.ecowas.int/">http://www.ecowas.int/</a>
18	Gates Foundation	BMGF	<a href="https://www.gatesfoundation.org">https://www.gatesfoundation.org</a>
19	Water Aid		<a href="https://www.wateraid.org/">https://www.wateraid.org/</a>
20	International Food Policy Research Institute	IFPRI	<a href="http://www.ifpri.org">www.ifpri.org</a>

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