

Frequently Asked Questions about UN Network for SUN and REACH

1. What is the UN Network for SUN?

The UN Network for SUN is one of the networks of the SUN Movement. The UN Network for SUN was officially established in June 2013. It serves to: (1) strengthen the harmonization, coordination and effectiveness of UN agencies' activities in support of country nutrition efforts; (2) align with and articulate UN nutrition efforts to those of national governments, other SUN Networks and nutrition stakeholders at global, regional and country levels; and (3) advance the aims of the SUN Movement. Key documents on the UN Network for SUN, including TOR, are available at <http://scalingupnutrition.org/the-sun-network/un-network>

2. What is REACH?

REACH is an inter-agency partnership (FAO, WHO, WFP, UNICEF) established in 2008 which is directly aligned with the SUN Movement. IFAD is an advisor to the REACH Steering Committee at global level. REACH supports national SUN processes through facilitation, coordination, analytical and capacity development support. REACH support is provided through country facilitators working very closely with the national SUN authorities (wherever feasible seated within government) and with SUN networks.

3. How is REACH linked to the UN Network for SUN?

REACH support is an offering of the UN Network made available to national governments. REACH support is overseen at country level by a REACH Country Committee (Representatives of 4 REACH agencies) in consultation with the relevant SUN national focal point. REACH's scope of work is determined in a Country Implementation Plan (CIP) that has been developed in consultation with the UN Network for SUN, the SUN Focal Point and other key national nutrition stakeholders. REACH focuses on supporting government, through neutral facilitation, with SUN processes and, therefore, enhances the work of the UN agencies but does not replace it.

4. At global level, the REACH Secretariat is also the Secretariat for the UN Network for SUN. Is this the same at country level?

The UN Network for SUN at country level has a senior-level Chair (i.e. Representative or Deputy Rep. level) and is composed of programme staff/nutrition focal points from key UN agencies. REACH facilitators primarily support national governments. The degree to which REACH facilitators support the UN Network in a secretariat function will be context-specific and needs to be agreed at country level.

5. Is every country expected to have both a UN Network for SUN and REACH?

Every SUN country should have a UN Network for SUN. However, SUN countries have different needs with regards to multi-sectoral nutrition governance support. Some countries may require the support of dedicated REACH facilitators; other SUN countries may have existing capacity and/or have on-going support from the UN Network or other stakeholders from SUN Networks. Dedicated REACH support is provided at the request of Government and the UN Network for SUN and when funds are available for REACH engagement. REACH can also provide specific tailored support for a specific need if requested.

6. Where there is both a UN Network for SUN and REACH in country, who interacts with the SUN Focal Point and other SUN networks?

The Chair of the UN Network for SUN will serve as the link with the SUN focal point/authorities and SUN networks at country level **as appropriate**. REACH facilitators work closely with the SUN Focal Point and SUN Networks on a regular basis in their role to support national SUN processes and actively engage with the UN Network to particularly leverage the UN efforts.

7. How is the governance structure of the UN Network for SUN different from that of REACH?

The UN Network for SUN is chaired by a senior UN staff (Representative or Deputy Representative) and membership is open to all UN agencies engaged in nutrition. There are recommended actions which the UN Network are expected to include in their work plan. The Chair reports to the UN Country Team (UNCT) on a periodic basis. REACH's objectives in country are defined in a Country Implementation Plan (CIP) developed jointly with the national government and the REACH agencies. The CIP is operationalized through annual work plans. REACH facilitators report to the REACH Country Committee (Representatives of 4 REACH agencies) and interact at an operational level with management and technical staff of the UN nutrition focal points.

8. Where there is no REACH at country level, does the UN Network for SUN replace REACH?

The UN Network for SUN does not replace REACH. The UN Network for SUN can act as a broker to ensure the appropriate support including nutrition governance support is provided to national governments. The UN Network for SUN must agree jointly with Government on whether specific support is needed to strengthen nutrition governance in country; the type of support needed; and whether support can be best provided by one or more UN agencies, REACH or another service provider.

9. How are REACH deliverables different from the recommended actions of the UN Network for SUN?

REACH (in support of national governments)	UN Network for SUN (in support of UN coherence)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutrition Analysis, incl. Situation Analysis Dashboard - Identification of Core Nutrition Actions - Policy Overview - Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping - Delivery Mechanism Analysis - Scale-up Conversation - National Advocacy Strategy - Nutrition integrated in government and UN strategies - Reviewed/updated national nutrition policy - Developed/reviewed national multi-sectoral nutrition plan - M&E/Common Results Framework - Nutrition integrated into sectoral and sub-national plans - Nutrition governance capacity assessment & development plan - Strengthening of multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral coordination mechanism - Knowledge sharing events & exchanges - Implementation tracking - Coverage dashboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN Nutrition Inventory - UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda - UN Network Dashboard - UN Joint Advocacy/Messaging & Resource Mobilization - UN Joint Approaches/Programming - UN as Provider and/or Broker of Technical Assistance/ Functional Capacity Development

Some of these deliverables are interlinked, and REACH adds value by providing information (e.g. nutrition analysis, mapping) on which the UN can act. Where requested, REACH can provide technical support to the UN Network for SUN in country in completing these deliverables.

