

Summary Note

SUN Movement Executive Committee Meeting

teleconference, 20th March 2017

Participants: Shawn Baker (Chair), Abdoulaye Ka (Vice-Chair), Francesco Branca, Tumaini Mikindo, Felix Phiri, Daysi de Marquez, Gerda Verburg, Muhammad Ashlam Shaheen, Martin Bloem, Jane Edmonson, Martha Newsome, Fokko Wientjes, Moin Karim

Apologies : Meera Shekar, Christine Guwatudde Kintu (sent written comments on agenda item Agenda Item three: SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning System), Lawrence Haddad, Uma Koirala

SUN Movement Secretariat: Florence Lasbennes, Patrizia Fracassi, Martin Eklund, Marek Gajdos

Summary of Action Points:

- Executive Committee Members are encouraged to share feedback on their missions in SUN countries and to link up with the SUN Government focal points.
- The SMS will share engagement plan of Lead Group in May 2017.
- The SMS will share a draft concept note on “nutrition in crises” with the Executive Committee Members and will invite comments in May 2017.
- The Chair and Vice Chair of Executive Committee will follow up with SMS to draft a letter to Senior Officials SUN Donor Network underscoring the funding situation of the Civil Society Network (including global secretariat and SUN Civil Society Alliances in Country) and calling for urgent dedicated support.
- To ask Civil Society Network to scale back their work doesn't seem right when the contribution of civil society is so crucial: to hold each one to account, to advocate for more and better actions, to implement some of the actions, etc. The only real option is to guide and support the Civil Society Network to access funding.
- Executive Committee Members are invited to suggest improvement of indicators and send them as soon as possible to SMS.
- The SMS will further engage Executive Committee members to strengthen the Mutual Accountability within the Movement.

Agenda Item One: Report from SUN Movement Coordinator on recent trip to Southeast Asia

The SUN Movement Coordinator informed about her recent trip to Southeast Asia covering Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia and Indonesia in February 2017. SUN Government focal points and multi-stakeholder platforms were very keen to receive the visit of the SUN Coordinator.

Presentation:

- *The high-level meetings of the SUN Coordinator with Deputy Prime Ministers (Viet Nam and Cambodia), Secretary of State of the Ministry of Interior (Cambodia), Minister of Finance (Indonesia), Minister of Planning (Indonesia) and Deputy Secretary General (ASEAN) confirmed the willingness and interest to take ownership of the nutrition agenda at the highest level in the SUN Countries.*

- *It is important to help colleagues in-country to navigate through the global nutrition landscape, how the different elements are connected, and how support can be made available to countries (e.g. the different technical agencies working on nutrition, UN Network for SUN, UNSCN, Committee on World Food Security, UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, Global Nutrition Report, SUN Movement, etc.).*
- *It is important to encourage dialogue among stakeholders at the country level. The different stakeholders often come together when convened by the government officials, but bilateral exchange among stakeholders still needs to be strengthened. For example: exchange between civil society and UN agencies, businesses and UN agencies, etc. There is a need to build the capacity of governments to frame the ask for engaging with private sector entities, rather than waiting for businesses to express interest.*
- *SUN Coordinator's objective is to visit 50% of the SUN Movement countries this year.*

Discussion:

- Executive Committee members appreciated the engagement of the Coordinator with regional entities like ASEAN and reminded that the institutional position of focal points is critical for leading a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach to nutrition.

Action points:

- Executive Committee Members are encouraged to share feedback on their missions in SUN countries and to link up with the SUN Government focal points.

Agenda Item two: Updates from SUN Movement Coordinator

• **(i) Lead Group Engagement**

The SUN Movement Coordinator together with the SMS started a strategic mapping of influence and thematic interest of the Lead Group Members, followed by discussion with each member individually. A specific request for personal engagement is made to each of them. There are several exciting opportunities already underway or planned for the coming weeks and months:

Presentation:

- *Martin Chungong is working with SUN Movement to engage members of parliament of SUN Countries, encouraging them to hold national nutrition consultations. Six Countries have already responded positively and are asking for support to do this. The importance of adolescent nutrition will be highlighted during a side event at the next general assembly of the IPU in Dhaka in April 2017.*
- *Shengen Fan has invited the SUN Coordinator to speak in the upcoming launch of the IFPRI's 2017 Global Food Policy Report in Geneva at the end of March 2017.*
- *The SMS is working with the teams of Akin Adesina, Ertharin Cousin and the SUN Business Network to organize a discussion on supports needed to scale up the contribution of local businesses (small, medium, large) to nutrition and sustainable food systems. This is the follow up to discussions engaged in Davos that would be followed up in the margins of the World Economic Forum Africa which will take place in May 2017 in Durban, South Africa.*

- *Monica Musonda has welcomed the request to use her large social media network to share important messages and actions and to be a vocal champion of the small and medium businesses contributions to improved nutrition.*
- *The Lead Group engagement strategy that captures agreed and potential areas of work is being finalized and will be shared for review shortly.*

Discussion:

- The SUN Movement Lead Group should be linked to the African Leaders for Nutrition
- Executive Committee Members welcomed the close interaction of the SUN Coordinator with Lead Group Members. They stressed the importance to increase media visibility of the SUN Movement.

Action point:

- SMS to share the engagement plan of Lead Group in May 2017.

• [\(ii\) Plans for Global Gathering 2017](#)

Presentation:

- *The final plans concerning Global Gathering still have to be confirmed. Most likely the 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering will take place in Abidjan from 7-9 November 2017. The Executive Committee members were asked to mark their calendar for this important moment. SMS will share more details pertaining to the process of nominating SUN Global Gathering participants in due course.*
- *Given the time and budget necessary for a Global Gathering, SMS does not foresee the organization of another Global Gathering in 2018 but rather supporting series of workshops and events, led by SUN Networks, organized by region, economic status or theme that will provide opportunities for actors across the Movement to share and learn from each other.*
- Some Executive Committee members shared their concerns about organizing Global Gathering every 2 years. They would like to support SMS to mobilize resources to hold this event every year.
- The next Global Gathering in Abidjan is offering the opportunity to further partner with African Development Bank.

• [\(iii\) SUN Movement in fragile contexts](#)

Presentation:

- *With the support from a senior secondee from WFP, the SUN Movement Secretariat has been exploring the ways in which the SUN Movement approach can be most effectively operationalized in SUN Countries that are experiencing humanitarian crisis and fragility.*

Discussion:

- The Executive Committee Members stressed that this topic is very relevant especially in the context of the famines in Somalia, Yemen, South Sudan and Nigeria.

Action points:

- The SMS will share a draft concept note with Executive Committee Members and will invite comments in May 2017.

• (iv) Financial Situation of SUN Support System**Presentation:**

- *The SUN Movement Coordinator has received a letter from the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) highlighting their serious funding challenges. This threatens the capacity of civil society engagement in multi-stakeholder dialogue and actions in countries. It also challenges the capacity of the Global Secretariat of the CSN to support in country Civil Society Alliances and to connect them to each other to enable them to share and learn from each other.*
- *The SUN Civil Society Network is asking for guidance from the Executive Committee to raise funds or to scale back their work.*

Discussion:

- The Executive Committee considers that the Civil Society Network should not scale back their work when the contribution of civil society is so crucial: to hold each one to account, to advocate for more and better actions, to implement some of the actions, etc. The only real option is to guide and support the Civil Society Network to access funding.
- Discussions are on-going to set up a new pooled fund aimed at supporting SUN Civil Society Alliances. Only about 3 million USD was raised till now. The operationalization of the fund will take at least another 6 months.
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Action points:

- The Chair and Vice Chair of Executive Committee will follow up with SMS to draft a letter to Senior Officials of the SUN Donor Network underscoring the funding situation of the SUN Civil Society Network (including global secretariat and SUN Civil Society Alliances in Country) and calling for urgent dedicated support.

Agenda Item three: SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning System**Presentation:**

The Senior Nutrition Analyst and Policy Advisor from SMS presented the SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning System (MEAL). Every participant of this call received the presentation in PowerPoint in advance together with supporting documents.

Action points:

- Executive Committee Members were invited to suggest improvement of indicators and send them as soon as possible to SMS.

- The SMS will further engage Executive Committee members to strengthen the Mutual Accountability within the Movement.

Agenda Item Four: Engagement of the business community in the SUN Movement

Presentation:

Following up after a letter sent by NCD Alliance, World Cancer Research Fund International and 1,000 Days to Coordinator, SUN Movement Coordinator convened a dialogue between NGOs and the global secretariat of the SUN Business Network with the following conclusions:

- *Recognition of importance for all stakeholders (businesses, civil society, donors, UN) in the SUN Movement to live up to their commitments and to review/renew/refresh commitments to align with current challenges (from undernutrition to all forms of malnutrition),*
- *Addressing the multiple forms of malnutrition by collaborating with partners is a joint challenge and responsibility for all stakeholders including governments, civil society organizations, and businesses,*
- *Need to unpack commitments and performance of businesses (regarding behaviours and practices) both at global and country level. Time for SUN Movement actors to move from commitments to discussion on performance and delivery. There is a need for mechanisms to assess performance in an inclusive and transparent way. The Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI) can be instrumental here,*
- *Some companies highlight some good practices in corporate social responsibility. It can be a start but it is not enough. The ambition is to make improved nutrition part of the core business and have discussions and decisions at the executive board level to develop the business case accordingly,*
- *A critical, transparent and inclusive dialogue among the Nutrition stakeholders is necessary to evolve, focused on ‘how to build effective partnerships at all levels, to prevent and fight all forms of malnutrition’.*
- *We need to identify incentives and sanctions (social license, legislations and regulations) to maintain the principles of the Movement front and center.*
- *The SBN global team has already agreed with its Advisory Group on reviewing the membership of the multinationals in its global platform. From 2017, membership will be based on commitments that directly support National SUN Business Networks, National SBN companies, or SUN Country request for support. The SBN global team is also developing options on how to address product formulation, responsible marketing to children and nutrition labelling through its global platform and country networks. The SBN is consulting ATNI and the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) on these options. Business to business engagement and encouragement within the Network can also be strengthened. Ongoing Dialogue with other SUN Movement stakeholders is recommended. Further thoughts are necessary to identify options on how to engage a critical dialogue with relevant companies outside the SBN.*
- *SBN can explore what is to be learnt from Private sector mechanism of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)*
- *Ways to reach out to pensions funds and other investors, as influential shareholders in companies should be explored.*
- *In the context of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, all stakeholders should explore how trade policies can better serve nutrition.*

Discussion:

- Executive Committee members welcome the inclusive approach led by the Coordinator and stressed the importance to critically review commitments in the face of multiple forms of malnutrition.

Agenda Item Five: Any Other Business & Conclusions

- The Executive Committee Members will make sure that their declarations of interests are always updated.