Special SUN Country Focal Point Meeting  
19-22 June 2017  
SUMMARY

BACKGROUND
Since the very start of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, SUN Country Network Meetings have been essential to ensure the Movement’s progress and successes. As the Movement takes strides towards its new phase, as guided by the Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020 – and in the name of continual improvement – evaluating these moments is key to ensure they adequately provide the space needed to share and learn about ending malnutrition in all its forms.

With the recognition that there is always space for growth and improvement, all SUN Government Focal Points were invited to join an interactive discussion with the SUN Movement Secretariat between 19 and 22 June 2017, to ensure these meetings are indeed fit-for-purpose and correspond to country needs, for lasting human impact. To this end, an online survey in EN, FR and SP (please also see the box on page 2 which looks at the final survey findings) was created two weeks before the meetings took place – looking at purpose, content and process – for members of the national Multi-Sectoral Platforms (MSPs) in addition to other partners, such as the Networks, and the SUN Government Focal Points, themselves. A graphic was also shared with Focal Points to entice concrete discussions about steps taken before, during and after each SUN Country Network Meeting.

The 18 SUN Government Focal Points, representing 18 SUN Countries (and other stakeholders in attendance), during 8 calls, had a chance to share their reflections and areas for improvement for the next iterations of SUN Country Network Meetings – in 2018 and beyond. The below thus reflects concrete actions points for the road ahead, collated from these meetings and the results from the online survey.

ACTION POINTS & DECISIONS TAKEN
1. Focus and frequency of SUN Country Network Meetings
   As the vast majority of survey respondents and SUN Government Focal Points view SUN Country Network Meetings as integral to their sharing and learning about topics facing many SUN countries today and to position the MSP in country, it has been recommended to continue “global” SUN Country Meetings. To this end, it has been decided – as many feel that these meetings do not lend themselves for more in-depth and operational discussions – to revisit the configuration of these meetings so that also more in-depth discussions can take place.

   ACTION POINTS:
   → Arranging 3 SUN Country Network Meetings per year – one on progress towards the four processes to complement the annual Joint-Assessment Exercise (to be held in in December or January of each year), in addition to two SUN Country Network Meetings on themes or topics of global interest (to be held in March/April and September).
   → Arranging 2 SUN Country Network webinars per year, where countries can pick topics of specific interest to them, in a bid to offer countries the opportunity to go more in-depth on areas of specific concern. Webinars also lend themselves to invite experts and stakeholders with an expertise within the given area, to garner more detailed, operational and impact-oriented online discussions than SUN Country Network Meetings normally allow for. Webinars also require a different organisational set-up than that of Country Network Meetings.

2. Modus operandi for choosing themes for 2018 and 2019
   Whereas it has usually been the remit of the SUN Movement Secretariat to pick the themes of SUN Country Network Meetings, it has been suggested to harness the 2017 Global Gathering, to be held in
More than half of respondents (53%) expect to focus on learning from few in-depth experiences with sufficient Q&A time during SUN Country Network Meetings; there is an increasing preference for SUN Countries to be grouped with those facing the same challenges or contexts (46%), among countries in the same region (23%), and SUN Countries that are the most advanced in terms of process or implementation (21%); the current frequency of the meetings (quarterly) is deemed adequate (79% of respondents); in terms of 2018-19 themes, having a thematic prioritisation exercise during the SUN Global Gathering (35%) and for SUN Government Focal Points to provide their top suggestions following MSP consultations (39%) has been suggested.

*Total number of responses received = 82