

### Monitoring progress in the SUN Movement in 2015-2016

The 2016 SUN Movement Progress Report draws on outcome monitoring to present the current state of the SUN Movement. Based on the SUN Movement Monitoring and Evaluation Framework<sup>26</sup> developed in 2013, it assesses progress by gauging how SUN Countries and SUN Networks are adapting their behaviours to deliver on the four strategic objectives in the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020:

1. Expand and sustain an enabling political environment
2. Prioritise and institutionalise effective actions that contribute to good nutrition
3. Implement effective actions aligned with Common Results
4. Effectively use, and significantly increase, financial resources for nutrition.

The Monitoring Framework takes into account the complex, unpredictable and non-linear nature of progress faced by stakeholders addressing nutrition as part of their collective commitment. Relying on information from the bi-monthly country calls and joint-assessment by stakeholders across the SUN Movement, it looks at how the behaviour of actors at the country and global levels (i.e. government, donors, civil society, business and the United Nations)<sup>27</sup> is changing within the context of the four strategic objectives of the SUN Movement. The joint-assessment by stakeholders provides a platform for mutual accountability which enables future sharing and learning within the SUN Movement. The format of the joint-assessments is organised around four processes in pursuit of the SUN Movement's overarching strategic objectives, namely:

- **Process One:** Bringing people together in the same space for action
- **Process Two:** Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework
- **Process Three:** Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework (CRF)
- **Process Four:** Financial tracking and resource mobilisation

The methodology used recognises that stakeholders (people, organisations and networks) are driving change processes. In monitoring progress, it focuses on **a set of progress markers<sup>28</sup> that illustrate behavioural outcomes** that are expected to be displayed by various stakeholders. Progress markers have been established for each of the four processes. Each stakeholder analyses the relationships, actions, activities, policies and practices associated with each progress marker over the last year. The achievements in relation to each marker are scored using a five-point scale (i.e. *behaviour being not applicable/not started (score = 0), started (1), on-going (2), nearly completed (3) or completed (4)*).

The **early progress markers** within each of the four processes represent types of behavioural outcomes that are relatively easier to achieve, while the **later progress markers** within each process represent more difficult and ambitious change.<sup>29</sup> To reflect this, the scores for each progress marker are totalled and weighed,<sup>30</sup> with the early (and more easily achieved) progress markers given less weight than the more advanced (and more challenging) markers.

Monitoring progress in the SUN Movement using joint-assessments by countries helps national multi-stakeholder platforms to assess – and then improve – their effectiveness. It is anticipated that the joint-assessment process will help stakeholders to take ownership of and benefit from the monitoring of progress and to be mutually accountable for their collective actions.

<sup>26</sup> Please see Table 4: Element in the SUN Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework

<sup>27</sup> The Outcome Mapping approach also considers the behaviours of actors within the four global networks.

<sup>28</sup> Please see to the list of Processes and Progress Markers in Table 2.

<sup>29</sup> Please see the SUN Movement Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, available at: <http://scalingupnutrition.org/monitoring2013>.

<sup>30</sup> Please see Table 3.

## Assessing 2015-2016 progress in the SUN Movement

Assessing progress in the SUN Movement is country-led with the support of the SUN Movement Secretariat and SUN Networks. [By July 2016, 45 SUN Countries<sup>31</sup> had undertaken their self-assessments. 27 of these countries have undertaken the same self or joint-assessment exercise the last three years \(2014, 2015 and 2016\).](#)

The title of the monitoring exercise for 2016, has changed from [self-assessment](#) to [joint-assessment](#), noting that it is a collective exercise focusing on joint reflection and joint priorities for the future. The progress markers for this exercise have been adjusted to focus more on implementation and results, while maintaining comparability of scores, over time, for each country. The new progress marker in Process 2 (PM2.3) combines two individual progress markers from the previous self-assessment exercise in 2015 (PM 2.3 and PM 2.4).

The results of the joint-assessment reports are summarised in the Country Profiles of this report. All SUN Countries are encouraged to undertake the joint-assessment exercise with the valuable contributions of all stakeholders involved in the Movement to gain a comprehensive overview of progress achieved. The Country Profiles of the 2016 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report aim to showcase the in-country transformations in the levels of behaviour by the various actors, in their efforts to scale-up nutrition that can be expected as the SUN Movement evolves over a period of time. For this reason, SUN Countries which were unable to undertake the joint-assessment exercise this year are presented as profiles without this data. The countries that joined the SUN Movement within the last year are a part of this year's individual Country Profiles.

While progress in the Movement has been monitored since 2012, until 2014, assessments for each strategic objective were based on information from the bi-monthly country calls. [This report shows assessments for 2014-2016, given the same methodology i.e. joint-assessments by in-country stakeholders, supplemented by information from the Budget Analysis Exercise.](#)

### Key messages from the 2016 monitoring

Observations of emerging overall patterns of change have relevance for the SUN Movement as a whole and are highlighted in this report. To understand the current state of the SUN Movement for 2016, analysis is based on the mode (frequency of a particular score) for progress markers from the 45 countries as per [Figure 1](#) below. From this, a general improvement can be seen across the SUN Movement (evidenced from comparing the modes of the 27 countries that have assessments for three years – see [Figure 2](#)). Analysing information received for each of the four processes reveals that:

For **Process One**, the joint-assessment reports indicate that different stakeholders are engaging more within their multi-stakeholder platform (MSP). Particularly, the SUN quarterly country calls create an opportunity for in-country stakeholders to meet and contribute regularly. The results also show that countries that have been in the Movement for the past five years have made more gains in coordination compared to countries that have been in the Movement for a year or close to two years. Results for this Process progressed a great deal between 2014 and 2015 but less so in 2016. Therefore, even if the score is the highest of the four processes, the Movement must continue to support the coordination and functioning of the platform and that different actors are engaging more within their MSP. Indeed, we observe a good progression for all the progress marker (scored 3 in 2016) and general improvement in the understanding of the need for a MSP. Only progress marker 1.4, is scored 2. This progress marker looks at the capacity of the multi-stakeholder platform, as a whole, to be accountable for collective results. It implies that constituencies within the MSP are capable to track and report on their own contributions and achievements. The Movement needs to continue to support this work.

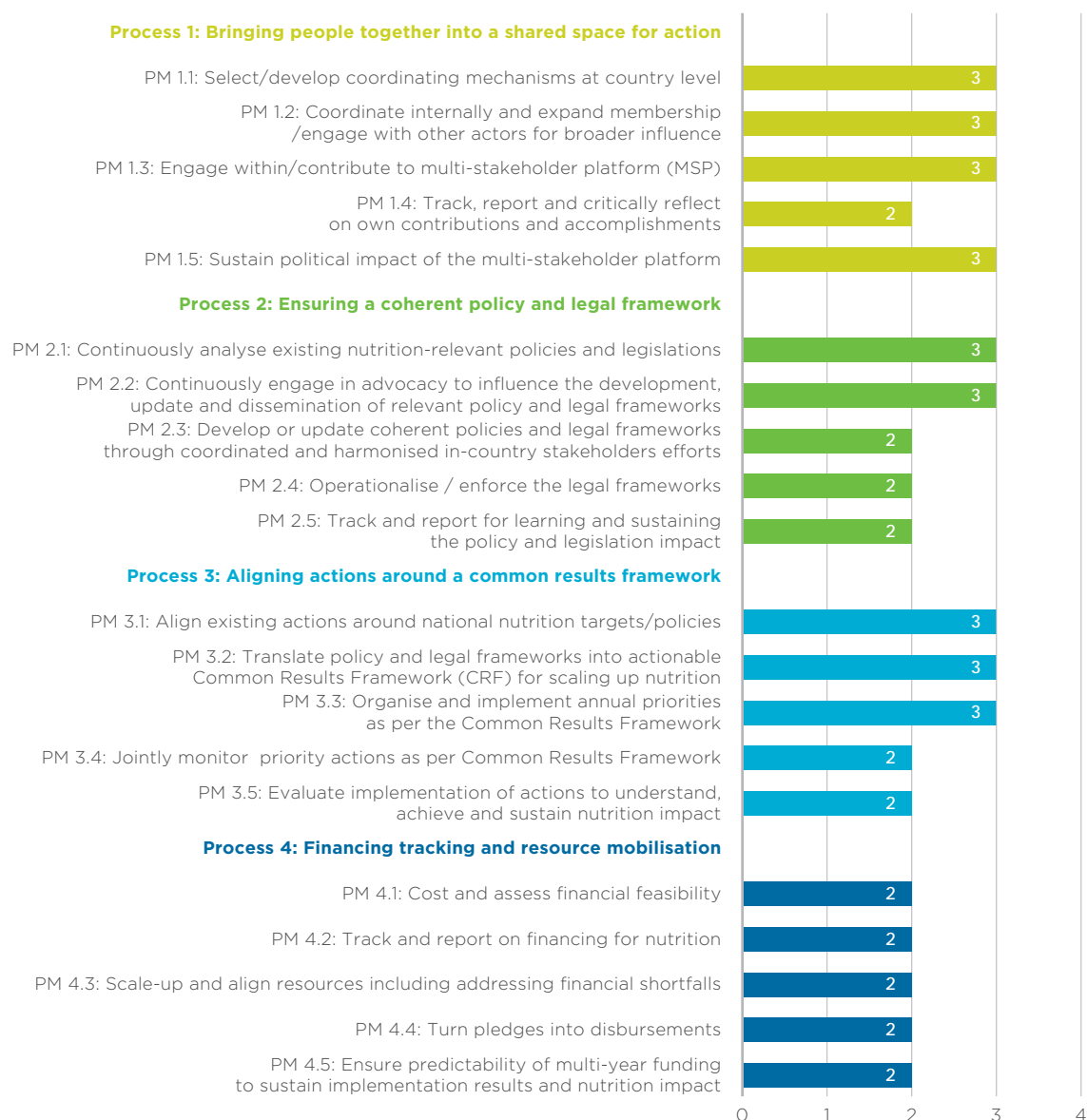
On **Process Two**, more countries are increasingly advocating to influence the development, updating and dissemination of nutrition-relevant policies and legislation. With strong legal frameworks in place, countries are working on ensuring they are enforced. This Process is progressing slowly, given that legislation takes a long time before being updated and policies are also often revised in cycles over a period of time. In the [Figure 2](#), progress marker 2.5 decreased compared to 2015. That can be attributed to the fact that supporting documentation was requested to complement the score provided and that a minimum requirement guideline was provided for scoring.

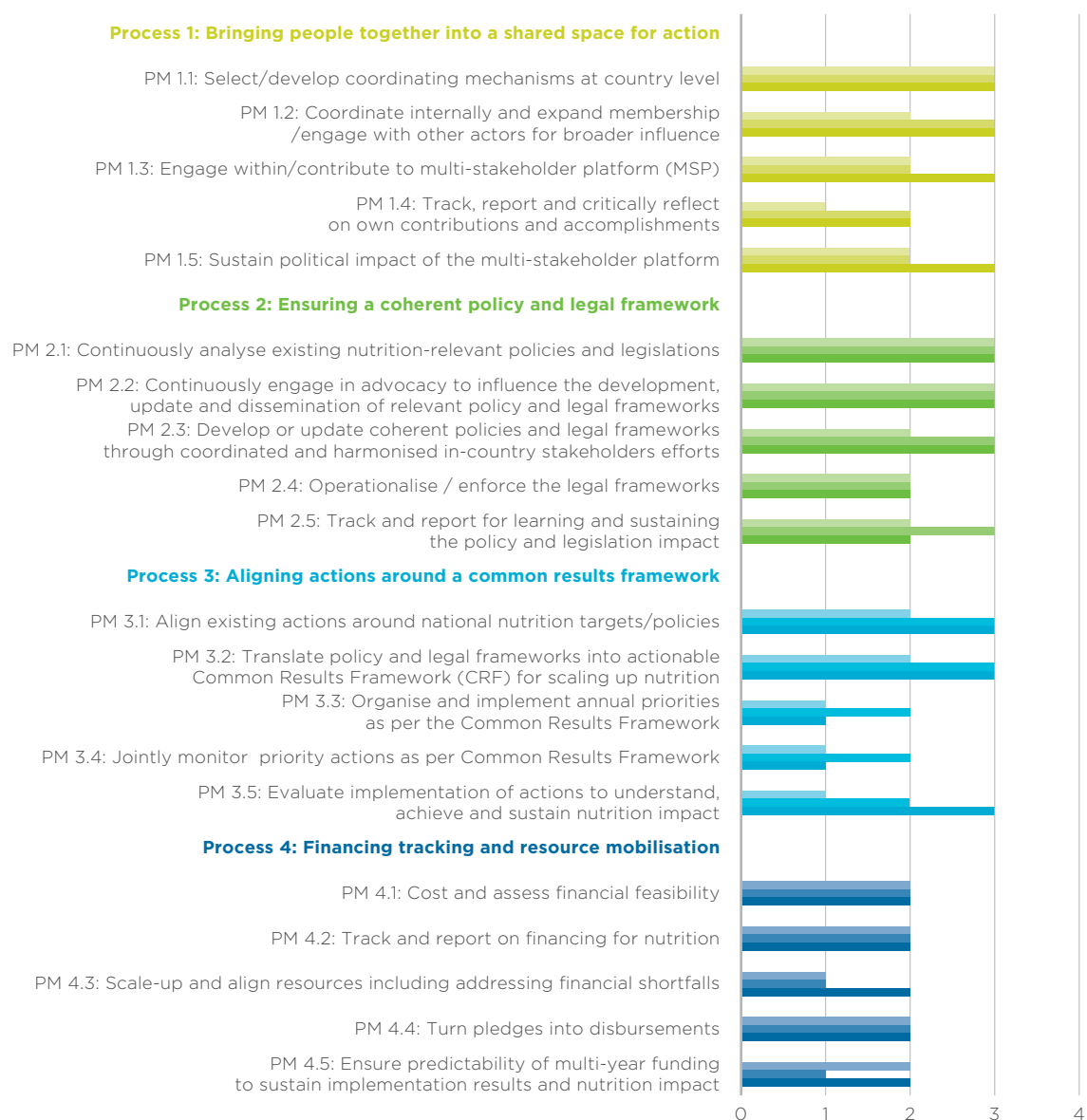
<sup>31</sup> Please see the full list of countries and data points in Table 1.

For **Process Three**, there is a general improvement in the understanding of the need for Common Results Frameworks (CRF) and the Movement has supported countries in their development. This is evidenced by the increase in the number of countries showing improvements in most of the progress markers for Process 3 (Align existing actions, translate policy and legal framework into a CRF and for 3 progress markers for which there was a call for acceleration (organise, manage and monitor implementation of the CRF and evaluate implementation of actions). There is, however, a need to improve joint monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the actions through progress marker 3.4 (monitoring of priority actions that is to say on how information systems are used to monitor the implementation of priority actions for improved nutrition.) and 3.5 (evaluate to sustain impact). In Figure 2, progress markers 3.3 and 3.4 decreased compared to 2015. That can be attributed to the fact that supporting documentation was requested to complement the score provided, and that a minimum requirement guideline was provided for scoring.

For **Process Four**, following the budget analysis exercise undertaken by SUN Countries in 2014 and 2015, and the continuous support towards costing the CRF, there has been a considerable improvement in ensuring the predictability of multi-year funding to sustain implementation results and nutrition impact. Consequently, the identified gaps in 2014 saw major improvements, especially on assessing financial feasibility (progress marker 4.1), track and report on financing (progress marker 4.2) and scale-up and align resources (progress marker 4.3). More work needs to be done to fully implement Process Four.

**FIGURE 1**                      **PROGRESS IN THE SUN MOVEMENT: Joint-Assessments from 45 Countries - 2016**



**FIGURE 2**<sup>32</sup> Joint-Assessments from 27 SUN Countries with 3 data points (2014, 2015 & 2016)

## Understanding some of the challenges seen in interpreting and comparing scores across countries and over time

Analysis of the results produced through self-assessments by countries for both 2014 and 2015 and the joint-assessment for 2016 suggests that in-country stakeholders are generally more self-critical when assessing the progress markers than the SUN Movement Secretariat has been in the previous years (2012 and 2013). SUN Country joint-assessments involve a great deal of reflection, especially on aspects of progress that cannot easily be captured from outside of a country. A joint-assessment appears to reflect the heterogeneity of the different actors that are involved, while external assessments, even when validated in-country, tend to reflect the perspective of the main stakeholder.

A progress marker score of between 0 and 4 is expected to indicate the presence of a particular behaviour. However, some joint-assessment scores for particular markers appear to be influenced by the value attached to it by those completing the joint-assessments. Such subjectivity

<sup>32</sup> To analyse collective progress in the SUN Movement between 2014 and 2016, the analysis compares data from 27 countries that have undertaken joint-assessments for the three years. The individual mode for Process 2: PM2.3 and PM2.4 has been combined to be presented as Process 2: PM2.3 for the years 2014 and 2015, in a bid to allow for comparisons with 2016.

is expected when the monitoring of outcomes is based on the outcome mapping approach. The assessment asks whether a particular behaviour is “starting”, “on-going” or “in place”: wherein those responsible for the assessment are invited to make the assessment based on their own judgments.

This implies that joint-assessment scores should not be used to compare progress between countries. But they can aid with the identification and interpretation of emerging patterns of institutional transformation within a country. Scores will still need to be interpreted with great care, given that the approach is influenced by the interplay between stakeholders, the complexity of issues being tackled and the uniqueness of each country setting. Many within the SUN Movement Network of country focal points believe that if in-country stakeholders apply the same joint-assessment approach year after year, they will be better placed to describe the challenges they face and the successes in efforts to tackle them.

Table 1: Data analysed for the 2016 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report

		2014 Self-Assessment Reporting	2015 Self-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting
1.	Bangladesh	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
2.	Benin	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
3.	Burkina Faso	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
4.	Burundi	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
5.	Cameroon	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
6.	Chad	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
7.	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
8.	Cote d'Ivoire	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
9.	El Salvador	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
10.	Ethiopia	Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country
11.	Ghana	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
12.	Guatemala	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
13.	Guinea	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
14.	Haiti	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country
15.	Indonesia	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
16.	Kenya	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
17.	Kyrgyzstan	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
18.	Lao PDR	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
19.	Madagascar	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
20.	Malawi	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
21.	Mali	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
22.	Mauritania	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
23.	Mozambique	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
24.	Myanmar	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
25.	Namibia	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
26.	Nepal	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
27.	Niger	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country

		2014 Self-Assessment Reporting	2015 Self-Assessment Reporting	2016 Joint-Assessment Reporting
28.	Nigeria	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
29.	Pakistan	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
30.	Peru	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
31.	Rwanda	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
32.	Senegal	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
33.	Sierra Leone	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
34.	Sri Lanka	Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
35.	Tanzania	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
36.	The Gambia	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
37.	Uganda	Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
38.	Yemen	Report submitted by country	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
39.	Zambia	Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
40.	Zimbabwe	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
41.	Comoros	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country
42.	Congo	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
43.	Costa Rica	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
44.	Guinea-Bissau	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
45.	Liberia	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report not submitted by country
46.	South Sudan	No baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
47.	Swaziland	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
48.	Tajikistan	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
49.	Togo	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
50.	Vietnam	Submitted Baseline /Assessed by SMS	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
51.	Botswana	Joined SUN IN 2014 - 2015	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
52.	Cambodia	Joined SUN IN 2014 - 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
53.	Somalia	Joined SUN IN 2014 - 2015	Report submitted by country	Report submitted by country
54.	Philippines	Joined SUN IN 2014 - 2015	Validated narrative of progress for 2015	Report submitted by country
55.	Lesotho	Joined SUN IN 2014 - 2015	Report submitted by country	Report not submitted by country
56.	Sudan	Joined SUN IN 2015 - 2016	Joined SUN IN 2015 -2016	Joined SUN IN 2015 - 2016
57.	Papua New Guinea	Joined SUN IN 2015 - 2016	Joined SUN IN 2015 -2016	Joined SUN IN 2015 - 2016

Table 2: Processes and Progress Markers for Country Joint-Assessment Reporting 2016

Process 1: Bringing people together into a shared space for action	
Progress Marker (PM) 1	Select/develop coordinating mechanisms at country level
Progress Marker (PM) 2	Coordinate internally and expand membership/engage with other actors for broader influence
Progress Marker (PM) 3	Engage within/contribute to the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)
Progress Marker (PM) 4	Track, report and critically reflect on own contributions and accomplishments
Progress Marker (PM) 5	Sustain political impact of the multi-stakeholder platform
Process 2: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework	
Progress Marker (PM) 1	Continuously analyse existing nutrition-relevant policies and legislation
Progress Marker (PM) 2	Continuously engage in advocacy to influence the development, update and dissemination of relevant policy and legal frameworks
Progress Marker (PM) 3	Develop or update coherent policies and legal frameworks through coordinated and harmonised in-country stakeholder efforts
Progress Marker (PM) 4	Operationalise/enforce the legal frameworks
Progress Marker (PM) 5	Track and report for learning and sustaining the policy and legislation impact
Process 3: Aligning actions around a common results framework	
Progress Marker (PM) 1	Align existing actions around national nutrition targets/policies
Progress Marker (PM) 2	Translate policy and legal frameworks into actionable Common Results Framework (CRF) for scaling up nutrition
Progress Marker (PM) 3	Organise and implement annual priorities as per the Common Results Framework
Progress Marker (PM) 4	Jointly monitor priority actions as per the Common Results Framework
Progress Marker (PM) 5	Evaluate implementation of actions to understand, achieve and sustain nutrition impact
Process 4: Financing tracking and resource mobilisation	
Progress Marker (PM) 1	Cost and assess financial feasibility
Progress Marker (PM) 2	Track and report on financing for nutrition
Progress Marker (PM) 3	Scale-up and align resources including addressing financial shortfalls
Progress Marker (PM) 4	Turn pledges into disbursements
Progress Marker (PM) 5	Ensure predictability of multi-year funding to sustain implementation results and nutrition impact

Table 3: Weights for Progress Markers in each process

	Weight PM1	Weight PM2	Weight PM3	Weight PM4	Weight PM5	Sum of weights (round up)
Process 1	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
Process 2	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
Process 3	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%
Process 4	4	4	5	6	6	
	16%	16%	20%	24%	24%	100%

Table 4: Elements of the SUN Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework

Element	What is considered?	Who Undertakes this work?	Timing of assessment?
<b>Impact</b>	Targets have been established by the 2012 World Health Assembly. Data are needed to enable the assessment of progress in relation to the targets (such Average annual rates of reduction in stunting prevalence among children less than five years of age).	Data are collected, analysed and interpreted by authorities within countries using standard procedures (Demographic and Health Surveys, for example)	The intervals between assessments are agreed in countries: Stakeholders in SUN Movement seek to increase frequency of impact assessments through the planned National Information Platforms for Nutrition.
<b>Outcome</b>	Four specific processes are being advanced within SUN Movement Countries: these reflect the SUN Movement's four strategic objectives. Progress is assessed using a set of 'progress markers' for each process.	In 2012 and 2013 - undertaken by the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) using data on progress from government focal points in SUN Countries: validated by them before reporting.  By 2014, 37 <sup>33</sup> of the 41 countries who joined the Movement before September 2013 undertook their assessments. <sup>34</sup>  The SMS undertook baseline assessments for 10 <sup>35</sup> newly-joined SUN Countries.  Scores from the assessments are analysed by the SMS with support of MDF.	Annually
<b>Outputs</b>	Variables used to monitor the performance of the SUN Movement Secretariat are made explicit in its logical framework.	The SUN Movement Secretariat reporting on its activities.	Annually












<sup>33</sup> Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroun, Chad, Congo (DRC), Cote D'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, the Gambia, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

<sup>34</sup> The SMS undertook assessments for three countries that were not able to conduct the assessments themselves within the time-frame for reporting: Ethiopia, Zambia and Sri Lanka.

<sup>35</sup> Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Togo and Vietnam.



## Technical note on the statistics presented in the 2016 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report – Definition of data and indicators

Indicator	Definition	WHA Target
 Low Birth Weight	Percentage of live births that weighed less than 2,500 grams at birth.	30% reduction in low birth weight by 2025.
 0-5 Months Exclusive Breastfeeding	Percentage of infants 0-5 months who are exclusively breastfed.	Increase exclusive breastfeeding rate in the first 6 months up to at least 50% by 2025.
 Under Five Stunting	Percentage of children 0-59 months who are below minus two (moderate and severe) and below minus three (severe) standard deviations from median height for age of the WHO Child Growth Standards.	40% reduction in the number of children under 5 who are stunted by 2025.
 Under Five Wasting	Percentage of children 0-59 months who are below minus two (moderate and severe) and below minus three (severe) standard deviations from median weight for height of the WHO Child Growth Standards.	Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5% by 2025.
 Under Five Overweight	Percentage of children 0-59 months who are above two (moderate and severe) standard deviations from median weight for age of the WHO Child Growth Standards.	No increase in childhood overweight through 2025.
 Anaemia <sup>36</sup>	Proportion of non-pregnant women in reproductive age (age 15-49 years) with a Hb concentration of <120 g/L at sea level.	50% reduction of anaemia in women of reproductive age.
 Adult diabetes	Age-standardized prevalence of raised blood glucose/diabetes among persons aged 18+ years (defined as fasting plasma glucose concentration $\geq$ 7.0 mmol/l (126 mg/dl) or on medication for raised blood glucose).	NCD Target 7. Halt the rise in diabetes & obesity.
 Adolescent overweight and obesity	Prevalence of overweight and obesity in adolescents (defined according to the WHO growth reference for school-aged children and adolescents, overweight – one standard deviation body mass index for age and sex, and obese – two standard deviations body mass index for age and sex).	
 Adult overweight and obesity	Age-standardised prevalence of overweight and obesity in persons aged 18+ years (defined as body mass index $\geq$ 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup> for overweight and body mass index $\geq$ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> for obesity).	

### Notes:

1) Methodologies and underlying processes for the UNICEF-WHO- World Bank joint estimates are outlined in the 2012 Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, further updated with the 2013 release. Nationally representative anthropometry estimates, following the vetting process by each agency and once collectively agreed upon, are included in the regularly updated joint dataset.

2) In an effort to maintain a consistent time series of internationally comparable anthropometric data, part of this harmonisation process for calculating regional and global averages and conducting trend analyses requires all anthropometric-related prevalence estimates to be re-calculated using a standard algorithm. This algorithm was programmed into the WHO Anthro software and macros, reviewed by MEASURE DHS13 and UNICEF. In addition, other institutions (e.g. US CDC) have incorporated the standard algorithm in their nutritional survey analytic process. In countries where the anthropometric data are collected as part of a Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) or Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), either the raw data are publicly available and/or the survey data processing programs already incorporate the WHO algorithm. In countries where anthropometric data are collected by a national nutrition survey (or another type of survey) that are analysed using a different algorithm, a re-calculation of anthropometry-related prevalence is often necessary in order to make estimates comparable across countries and over time.

### Data sources

The primary sources of nutrition indicators are the published national household surveys such as the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). In the absence of recently released DHS or MICS reports, national-level Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART) surveys and other national surveys are utilised if they are endorsed by the UNICEF, WHO, and the World Bank Joint Malnutrition Estimates group.

<sup>36</sup> Based on estimates on the Global Prevalence of Anaemia in 2011, WHO, 2015, Geneva, available at: [http://www.who.int/nutrition/events/2012\\_proposed\\_globaltargets\\_backgroundpaper.pdf](http://www.who.int/nutrition/events/2012_proposed_globaltargets_backgroundpaper.pdf).

## Reporting on nutrition-relevant allocations

In January 2016, SUN Countries embarked on the second round of the 3-step approach to report on nutrition-relevant allocations. The 3-step approach is based on a common methodology approved by the SUN Donor Network in 2013, which provides a robust framework for routinely and systematically collecting country budgetary data relevant to nutrition. The three phases of the approach include: (1) identification of relevant budget line items through a strategically created keyword search, (2) categorisation assessing whether the identified budget line items correspond to nutrition-specific or nutrition-sensitive programmes and excluding those that are found not to be relevant (after further consultations), and (3) weighting or applying an attributed percentage of the allocated budget line item to nutrition where the percentage is based on the step-two categorisation, as well as consultation with national experts. The method accommodates for the fact that each national budget is structured differently and captures a wide range of information that is presented in a non-standardised way. While the results do not directly allow for comparisons across countries, countries utilising the 3-step approach can monitor programme performance, appraise financial allocations against actual expenditures, and identify gaps between cost estimations for reaching World Health Assembly (WHA) nutrition global targets and future financing (SUN, 2015b).

After two years of data collection, the sectoral graphs presented in the progress report identify how public finances for nutrition are targeted across five sectors common to development: agriculture, education, health, social protection, and WASH. Grouping budget allocations into these five sectoral domains reflects those identified in the 2014 Global Nutrition Report. Below are examples of the types of budget-line items that are categorized into the respective sectors:

The health sector reflects budget line items for child immunisation programmes, infectious diseases, basic healthcare, reproductive health, and food safety.

The education sector reflects budget line items for school meals, health education in schools, early child development, and generic education related programmes aimed at enhancing educational attainment or improving gender inclusivity.

The agriculture sector reflects budget line items for livestock, fisheries, rural development, food security, and generic agricultural investments aimed at enhancing production capacities or providing related agro-services.

The social protection sector reflects budget line items for emergency relief, food aid, welfare services, and safety nets or cash transfers.

The WASH Sector reflects budget line items related to water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Generally, the sectoral graphs presented in this report reflect “upper-bound” financial figures. Upper-bound figures are the factual funding, meaning that it reflects, verbatim, the figure that is presented in the budget item. The majority of countries’ sectoral graphs reflect upper-bound estimates because not all SUN countries have progressed through the weighting process (step 3), however, some countries’ graphs, such as the case of Indonesia, reflects weighting estimates. Weighting involves applying a “percentage” of nutrition to an allocated budget line item, where the presented figure reflects the theoretical amount that a programme impacts nutrition.