



Photo: © ILO



Photo: © UNICEF Crouch India



Photo: © UNICEF/JUN1182,446/Schembrucker



THE SCALING UP NUTRITION (SUN) MOVEMENT MOVING FROM INSPIRATION TO INVESTMENT – FOR IMPACT ON PEOPLE, SOCIETIES & COUNTRIES



Key 2016-2017 highlights¹

- More and more, nutrition is seen as a maker and marker of development – essential to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The transformative 2030 Agenda is grounded in the ambition of leaving no one behind – an aspiration shared by the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. To this end, as per its 2016-2020 Strategy and Roadmap, all SUN Countries will, by 2020, be able to show to an equitable improvement in the nutritional status of all women, men and their families.
- In 2017, the SUN Movement marks its seventh year, driven by 59 countries and the Indian States of Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh. They are home to over 100 million girls and boys who are too short for their age (stunted) and face diminished mental development – with irreversible consequences for individuals, families, communities and countries. Led by nations and states – united with civil society, business, United Nations agencies, donors and academia – the SUN Movement is scaling up to make sure that the potential of everyone, everywhere is unleashed by making malnutrition an injustice of the past. Between late 2016 and early 2017, the SUN Movement welcomed Central African Republic and Gabon as its newest members.² By joining the SUN Movement, they are part of a community that is constantly sharing progress and challenges and learning how one another brings people together, puts the right policies and laws in place, strives toward common results and invests for impact. The SUN Movement is founded on the principle of country ownership and continuous improvement, and, together, members are shifting their focus from inspiration towards implementation and ensuring the results needed to end malnutrition, in all its forms, making sure no one is left behind.
- In the period April to August 2017, a record-breaking 52 countries³ – up from 45 in 2016 – examined their scaling up nutrition efforts, by bringing together their nutrition communities for the yearly SUN Movement Joint-Assessment Exercise. This exercise provides invaluable insight into country-level action and is one of the Movement’s most unique features and tools, to share progress and challenges, and set a course for the future. Results from these assessments show that almost 70 per cent of SUN Countries see the environment in which they work as more enabling for success in 2016-2017.

WELCOME TO THE SUN MOVEMENT, GABON AND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC!

SUN COUNTRIES LIKE ETHIOPIA HAVE SEEN UP TO A 20% DROP IN CHILD MALNUTRITION OVER THE PAST 16 YEARS⁴

• The SUN Movement is supporting the transformation of lives and futures, but faster results at scale are both possible and necessary to reach the six global targets for better nutrition by 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. SUN Countries are experiencing significant reductions in malnutrition, proving that its eradication is within reach. In 2016-2017, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Myanmar, and Nigeria reported a significant decline in the number of stunted children.⁵

1 The reporting period, for the purposes of this summary, covers April 2016 to August 2017.
 2 On 26 September 2017, the Government of Afghanistan issued a letter of intent to join the SUN Movement, marking the Movement’s 60th member country.
 3 In addition to the 52 SUN Countries who undertook the Joint-Assessment exercise in 2017, two SUN Movement newcomers (Papua New Guinea and Gabon) undertook baseline studies that paint a picture of the elements in place for ensuring a well-nourished future for families, societies and nations, from April to July 2017.
 4 UNICEF (2017). Child malnutrition in Ethiopia has dropped 20 percent in 16 years. Available at: <http://scalingupnutrition.org/news/malnutrition-in-ethiopia-has-dropped-20-in-16-years/> [accessed September 2017].
 5 Reported progress from SUN Countries, as per the above, has been validated by UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank Joint Malnutrition Estimates Group.



Photo: © UNHCR / Frederic Noy / CHAD

- The growing obesity and overweight challenge is being tackled across the SUN Movement, with 16 SUN Countries having included overweight and obesity in their national policy and strategy documents, while 3 SUN Countries are tracking diabetes and sodium intake.
- The SUN Movement is breaking down silos by bringing together multiple sectors and stakeholders centrally, regionally and locally. Governments are uniting their nutrition communities, with 50 SUN countries now having an active multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) at the national level. In 35 countries – nine more than in 2015-2016 – these platforms also work at the sub-national level, supporting local actions and implementation, across sectors such as women’s empowerment, agriculture, WASH, health, social protection and national development.
- Stakeholders are increasing and diversifying whilst joining networks, as SUN Countries determine the right group of people for lasting human impact.

Civil society organisations are coordinating and rallying behind national plans to scale up nutrition.

- The SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) encourages the formation of vibrant civil society alliances, with such alliances existing in 39 SUN Countries today. The network represents over 2,000 organisations locally, nationally and internationally, spanning multiple sectors and backgrounds, including four regional coordination groups – two of which (covering Asia and East and Southern Africa) were set up in 2016-2017. The network has, in 2016-2017, developed a theory of change to provide a shared framework, within which national alliances and the global network can work to inform the development of national and regional strategies and support implementation.

IN 2016-2017, THE SUN CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK ORGANISED 4 LEARNING EXCHANGES, BRINGING TOGETHER 6 ALLIANCES IN ASIA, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IN INDONESIA, 9 ALLIANCES IN NEPAL & 9 ALLIANCES IN RWANDA

Businesses are investing and innovating in responsible, sustainable actions and operations to improve nutrition, by partnering with countries

IN 2016-2017, TO BETTER MEET DEMAND, THE SUN BUSINESS NETWORK HAS PARTNERED WITH THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK & ASHOKA CHANGEMAKERS TO ADDRESS NUTRITION INVESTMENT HINDRANCES FOR BUSINESS, ESPECIALLY SMES, IN AFRICA.

- The SUN Business Network (SBN) is a truly unique global platform for business and nutrition, and counts more than 400 multi-national and national companies, including SMEs, committing to ending malnutrition as members. 30 MSPs now include private sector representatives, acknowledging their potentially game changing contributions to consumers, the food sector, the economy, and planet, alike. In the last year, the SBN has launched new national business networks in Nigeria and Niger, making the network present in 15 SUN Countries. 15 SUN Countries have set up their own private sector networks, and 7 more countries are developing theirs.

Development partners, including bilateral donors, foundations, development banks and other stakeholders, are calling for continued political will and the prioritisation of nutrition on all agendas

- The SUN Donor Network (SDN) seeks to ensure political commitment for nutrition and embrace the SUN Movement approach as an invaluable global movement. It advocates for country access to more and better financing for nutrition, at all levels. Further to increasing accountability and measuring progress in mobilising resources, the SDN is committed to tracking donor spending on nutrition. In a bid to increase, harmonise and align development partners’ support for government-led nutrition plans, 36 countries have an appointed donor convener – up from 28 in 2015-2016. There are SUN Donor Networks in 24 SUN Countries. Beyond this, the SDN has reviewed these structures and strives to increase learning and capacity strengthening – to promote multi-sectoral country efforts to end malnutrition.

United Nations agencies are harnessing their functional and technical expertise to help bring convergence to national multi-sectoral nutrition efforts

- 57 SUN Countries have established UN Networks, with nominated UN Network for SUN (UNN) Focal Points. 37 countries – or 65 per cent – have appointed UN Network Chairs. REACH (Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition) was engaged in 17 SUN countries in 2016-2017⁶ and continues to be a service, provided through the UN Network, in response to country demand to bring momentum to and build capacity for multi-sectoral nutrition governance implementation and results.

THE MULTI-PARTNERSHIP, MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACH IS WHAT IS NEEDED BECAUSE WE CAN'T PRETEND THAT WE ARE CAPABLE, WE KNOW AND WE CAN MANAGE TO DO EVERYTHING [AND] MANAGING [NUTRITION] PROJECTS.
– Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development and SUN Lead Group Member

⁶ As at 30 April 2017, REACH was operational in eleven countries, namely: Burkina Faso; Burundi; Chad; Haiti; Lesotho; Mali; Myanmar; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Tanzania; and Zimbabwe. It has provided support to other countries in the past, including: Bangladesh; Ethiopia; Ghana; Guinea; Lao PDR; Mauritania; Mozambique; Nepal; Niger; Rwanda and Uganda.



IN 2016-2017, THE UN NETWORK HAS ASSISTED SUN COUNTRIES LIKE BURKINA FASO, CAMBODIA & CHAD WITH THE DEVELOPEMENT OF THEIR NEW MULTI-SECTORAL NATIONAL NUTRITION PLANS.

- **41 MSPs** are working with scientists and academia to better support evidence-based decision-making and improve the coordination amongst governments and research institutions.
- **42 SUN Countries** are now leveraging the budgetary, legislative and political powers of parliamentarians – helping to cement nutrition as a national priority.
- The media is spreading the nutrition word across **33 SUN Countries**. **19** countries work with the media on behaviour change communication, advocacy or to disseminate policies, with **3 SUN Countries** having established dedicated journalist networks.⁷ **5 SUN Countries** use their civil society networks to engage the media, and more and more SUN Countries have identified working with the media as key to put into force nutrition plans or policies.⁸
- **25 SUN Countries** have nominated one, or several, high-level political or social champions for nutrition – from First Ladies, Presidents, Prime Ministers to sports stars, traditional and religious leaders, and celebrities.
- **SUN Countries are demonstrating that planning, costing, financing and implementing a common set of nutrition results is still a work in progress. Monitoring impact and ensuring that a reliable and inclusive data system is in place remains a challenge.**

SUN Countries have, in 2016-2017, worked tirelessly towards ensuring gender-sensitive robust and coherent policy, legal and regulatory frameworks to redress the many causes of malnutrition.

- **45 SUN Countries** have in place some form of legal measure related to the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes. Out of which, **39 SUN Countries** have comprehensive legislation or regulations reflecting all or most provisions of the Code.⁹ **24** countries have a minimum of 14 weeks fully-paid maternity leave, with **5 SUN Countries** (Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Peru and Senegal) having ratified the International Labour Organization's Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183). Peru and Senegal signed on to this key Convention in 2016-2017. **18** countries have a high level of constitutional protection of the right to food. **56** countries have legislation on universal salt iodisation, whilst **46** countries have legislation on mandatory flour fortification, and **18 SUN Countries** have social mobilisation, advocacy and communication strategies in place, with a further **3** countries developing theirs. **49 SUN Countries**¹⁰ now have data on country policies to ensure a healthy diet.

SUN Countries are committed to ensuring that all nutrition actions across sectors are coordinated around a common results framework (CRF).

- **37 SUN Countries** now report that they have a national CRF in place. **14 more** are in the process of developing or updating theirs. **24** have a monitoring and evaluation framework with a **further 5** under development. **33** are fully costed. **47** countries are tracking public financial allocations for nutrition, with **25** countries acknowledging the funding gaps needing to be filled. **18** countries report that in-country donors have aligned behind the national reporting of this information.

Nutrition champions – at all levels – are making an increasingly effective case for investing in nutrition.

- The average estimated nutrition budget allocation across **37 SUN Countries** is at 5.9 per cent of general government expenditure, although nutrition-specific spending is at less than 0.05 per cent. The highest share of nutrition-relevant spending is found in social protection, followed by health, agriculture, water and sanitation, and education. The highest share of nutrition-relevant spending is found in social protection, followed by health, agriculture, water and sanitation, and education. SUN Government Focal Points and SUN Networks are working hard to use the evidence gathered through budget analysis exercises to advocate for more and better nutrition-focused spending.

A snapshot of global action in 2016-2017



- With the knowledge that partnering is key to solve the nutrition puzzle, the SUN Movement is building linkages with key partnerships and alliances recognising the crucial connections between good nutrition, women's empowerment, sustainable food systems, healthcare, water and sanitation and education. Official partnerships have been established with Sanitation and Water for All and Women Deliver – along with collaboration with Every Woman, Every Child, the Global Partnership for Education, the Global Panel for Agriculture and Food Systems on Nutrition, the NCD Alliance, the Early Childhood Development Action Network and EAT.

⁷ As reported in the 2017 Joint-Annual Assessment Exercise of the SUN Movement.

⁸ Please note that this overview dates back to analysis undertaken in August 2016.

⁹ MEAL Baseline (2017). Data source: WHO, UNICEF, IBFAN 2016. Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes: National Implementation of the International Code, Status Report 2016. Geneva: WHO.

¹⁰ IFPRI (2015). Global Nutrition Report 2015: Actions and accountability to advance nutrition and sustainable development. Available at: <http://www.ifpri.org/publication/global-nutrition-report-2015> [accessed August 2017].

IN DECEMBER 2016, THE PARTNERSHIPS PLAYBOOK – BASED ON THE SUN MOVEMENT’S PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT, SUPPORTED BY EVERY SOMAN, EVERY CHILD, THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION, THE ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE, AND SANITATION AND WATER FOR ALL – WAS ENDORSED AS A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE AND BLUEPRINT FOR SDG PARTNERING, BY GLOBAL LEADERS

- In December 2016, the first-ever checklist for developing ‘good’ quality nutrition plans was launched, with the UN Network for SUN. This product, supported by blogs and case studies on the use of the checklist, has already been used in the development of nutrition policies and plans in SUN Countries such as [Burkina Faso](#) and [Cambodia](#).

- Under the normative framework of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations

Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) marks a framework for global nutrition action to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and reduce the burden of diet-related noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in all age groups, everywhere. In January 2017, its work programme was launched, following the proclamation of this Decade in April 2016. Since then, Norway has become the first country to establish an action network, whilst Ecuador and Brazil have been the first countries to pledge their ambitious commitments.

- SUN Country actors are making use of additional and valuable networks to inform country-level work. To ‘declutter’ the crowded nutrition space, in March 2017, the SUN Movement – in collaboration with Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN) – brought together representatives from Alive & Thrive, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition Programmes (MQSUN), Secure Nutrition, the Sackler Institute for Nutrition Sciences, World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and the World Bank, in its first-ever workshop on knowledge management. This gathering set an agreed working definition of knowledge management for the Movement and garnered agreement around the means of coordinating knowledge management efforts – in support of SUN country priorities, as per the Movement’s Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020).
- In May 2017, the SUN Movement showed its commitment to make change for girls and women everywhere, by putting the spotlight on improving maternal and new-born health and nutrition, the dedicated monthly theme for the Deliver for Good campaign. The SUN Movement is one of the founding partners of this important initiative.
- In July 2017, a total of 44 countries, including SUN Countries Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Tajikistan, Togo and Zimbabwe undertook their voluntary national reviews of country-level progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), during the 2017 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the theme ‘eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world. This Forum encompassed in-depth reviews of SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14.



Moving forward: Making sure a future with no malnutrition is within reach

- As of June 2017, 17 SUN Countries have an active humanitarian appeal. The SUN Movement is elaborating on the challenges faced by SUN Countries during urgent or recurring crises, to provide a set of long-term recommendations on how focusing on nutrition can help bridge the development-humanitarian divide and implement the ‘New Way of Working’ adopted at the World Humanitarian Summit. In pursuit of the objectives of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, these recommendations are driven by examples from SUN Countries. Agenda 2030, encompassing the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement, recognises the intrinsic links between peace and sustainable development and therefore, there is an emphasis on ensuring that no one is left behind and aims to reach the furthest behind first. This translates into inclusive growth for all people, whether in a stable, fragile or conflict context.
- As the SUN Movement charges on in its new phase, stakeholders are seeking to demonstrate how their human and financial resources have and are being translated into actions and results that deliver better nutrition for all. Achieving this ambition requires a strong Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system that reflects the underlying theory of change of the Movement. To this end, 2016 and 2017 has seen the development of a MEAL results framework that includes indicators of progress. The choice of indicators is aligned with globally agreed monitoring frameworks and initiatives, like the SDGs, and reflects already available data (i.e. secondary data). The MEAL system also includes indicators specific to the SUN Movement.
- Following the appointment of a new SUN Movement Lead Group by the United Nations Secretary-General in September 2016 – comprising Heads of State, public and private sector champions, academics and social changemakers – an Engagement Plan was created in 2017. This plan will help harness individual Lead Group members’ spheres of influence to encourage decision-makers and thought leaders at country and global levels; energise the nutrition discussion; highlight the Movement’s role and approach and support its cross-cutting objectives. The annual Lead Group meeting was held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2017, with the theme ‘Nourishing a Sustainable Future’, where each member took on new commitments to support SUN Countries.
- The SUN Movement takes a country-owned, driven and led approach, in line with the SDG promise to leave no one behind. Turning the focus on country-level action – a prerequisite for the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020 – will need the consolidated and coordinated effort of each and every stakeholder. For instance, one year into her role as the SUN Movement Coordinator, Gerda Verburg has pledged to travel to 20 or more SUN Countries in 2017, to learn more – first hand – about scaling up nutrition challenges and opportunities faced in this diverse group of nations and Indian States.

“WE CAN ALL BE, AND WE SHOULD ALL BE, NUTRITION CHAMPIONS IN OUR OWN RIGHT, AND, BY LEADING FROM WHERE WE ARE, WE CAN MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY. SO, LET’S ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND MAKE 2017 A WATERSHED YEAR FOR NUTRITION” – GERDA VERBURG



59 countries are leading a global movement to end malnutrition in all its forms

The SUN Movement Secretariat is supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. Human resource capacity has been made available by France and the World Food Programme. The activity plan and budget of the SUN Movement Secretariat supports the implementation of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020).