



1

Nutrition today

1.1 WHAT DO WE MEAN BY MALNUTRITION?

Good nutrition is not just about how much food is available to consume, but, rather, about ensuring the right nutrients. Good nutrition is key at every point of life - from breastmilk received as a baby, to ensuring a diet where the right calories, protein, carbohydrates, vitamins or minerals, go into the body and stay in, as older women, and men, and at every point in between. Not consuming enough of the right nutrients results in undernutrition, while too much results in overnutrition.

Malnutrition is not just a consequence of a lack of sufficient and adequately nutritious and safe food, but it is intrinsically linked to a host of intertwined factors such as women's empowerment, health, care, education, sanitation and hygiene, access to food and resources, and more.

In 2017, it is estimated that the 59 countries and three Indian States that make up the Scaling Up (SUN) Movement are home to approximately 60 per cent of all stunted children under five; 45 per cent of wasted children, and; almost 30 per cent of overweight girls and boys under age five.

The scale of malnutrition in 2017

- Today, nearly **one in three people the world over suffers from at least one form of malnutrition**: wasting, stunting, vitamin and mineral deficiency, overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- **2 billion people** experience micronutrient malnutrition.
- **155 million girls and boys** under 5 are too short for their age (stunted), whilst 52 million do not weigh enough for their height (wasted), and 41 million are overweight - none of these children are growing healthily.
- **815 million** people go hungry.
- **1.9 billion adults** are overweight or obese.
- **422 adults** worldwide have type II diabetes.
- In 14 countries, **less than half of all children under 5 escape both stunting and wasting.**

Fighting malnutrition is not just smart, it's (a) right

Every woman, man and child has the right to adequate food and nutrition.¹¹ This right is recognised in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as part of the right to an adequate standard of living, and is enshrined – along with the fundamental right to be free from hunger – in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which 50th anniversary the world celebrated in December 2016. Additionally, the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child obligates states parties “to combat disease and malnutrition, including within the framework of primary health care, through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious food and clean drinking water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution”.¹²

As good nutrition is a gamechanger for development, wellbeing and success

An estimated 45 per cent of all under-5 mortalities are linked to malnutrition. For children who survive, the long-term effects of malnutrition are devastating if not addressed: diminished cognitive and physical development, reduced productive capacity and poor health. Stunted children have an increased risk of becoming overweight or obese later in life.

This is why the first 1,000 days – from a mother’s pregnancy until her child’s second birthday – are a critical and singular window of opportunity in determining a girl’s or boy’s destiny. With the right nutrition, strong immune systems are built – which, in turn boosts children’s chances of surviving and thriving. Nutrition is the key to also care for a girl’s or boy’s brain – the most important thing a child has.

“ WE CAN REPAIR A BRIDGE, WE KNOW HOW TO DO THAT, WE CAN FIX A PORT, WE KNOW HOW TO DO IT, WE CAN FIX A RAIL, WE KNOW HOW TO DO THAT, BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIX BRAIN CELLS ONCE THEY ARE GONE, THAT'S WHY WE NEED TO CHANGE OUR APPROACH... ”

*– Akinwumi Adesina,
President of the
African Development
Bank Group and SUN
Movement Lead Group
member*

¹¹ The Right to Food is realised when every woman, man and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement. The right to adequate food shall therefore not be interpreted in a narrow or restricted sense, which equates it with a minimum package of calories, proteins and other specific nutrients. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) (1999, p.2).

¹² UN General Assembly, Convention on the Rights of the Child, 20 November 1989, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1577, Article 24(2)(c).

And good nutrition is better business

The need to scale up nutrition is great, which means that so is the opportunity – for countries, and for other stakeholders such as business, donors, civil society and the UN system. Whereas poor nutrition is known to have devastating economic effects – for instance, studies estimate that stunting alone costs Africa USD 25 billion annually – investing in nutrition has the potential to help break the poverty cycle and stimulate economic development in tandem: every dollar invested can yield a return of USD 16 dollars,¹³ making good nutrition a basic building block of human capital.

“ RETURNS FROM PROGRAMMES FOR IMPROVING NUTRITION FAR OUTWEIGH THEIR COSTS.¹⁵

It is estimated that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) can increase by at least 10 per cent annually with better nutrition. Simply put, if people get the right food, based on individual needs – as women, men, girls and boys need different nutrients in their

lifespan – they are healthier, perform better at school, have more decent work opportunities and are better served to ensure that every member of their families are thriving.

1.2 THE GLOBAL PICTURE: MALNUTRITION AT A GLANCE

“ WITHOUT BETTER NUTRITION, YOU WILL NOT END POVERTY, WITHOUT BETTER NUTRITION YOU WILL NOT END GENDER INEQUALITY, WITHOUT BETTER NUTRITION YOU WILL NOT IMPROVE HEALTH, FIND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, OR PEACE AND STABILITY, BETTER NUTRITION IS THE CORE.

– Gerda Verburg, SUN Movement Coordinator

Between 1990 and 2015, undernourishment in developing countries plummeted, from 23.3 per cent to 12.9 per cent.¹⁵ Stunting has declined in many countries.

The visibility of nutrition as a political priority has climbed, and is now recognised as a crucial maker or breaker of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the lynchpin for achieving all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The 2030 Agenda places nutrition as an opportunity connecting “people, prosperity, planet, partnerships, and peace”.



¹³ 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].

¹⁴ World Bank Group (2016). An Investment Framework for Nutrition: Reaching the Global Targets for Stunting, Anaemia, Breastfeeding and Wasting. Available at: <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/26069;jsessionid=7BAB7658BC3085AF9F51D203ACBCEA84> [accessed July 2017].

¹⁵ WHO (2017). Global Targets 2025 Tracking Tool (version 3 - 05/2017): Indicator mapping - Anaemia. 2017 Internet: https://extranet.who.int/sree/Reports?op=vs&path=/WHO_HQ_Reports/G16/PROD/EXT/Targets_AnaemiaWorldMap&VSPARAM_varLanguage=E&VSPARAM_varISOCODE=ALB&VSPARAM_varPopulationType=Women&CountrySorted=Albania&principal=Principal%5BClient%5Banonymous%4010.28.26.74%40%5D%2C10.28.26.10%5DRoles%3A%5B%5D%2BGroups%3A%5B%5D&varCountry=Albania&&.USER_=anonymous&CountryChoice=ALB&varLanguage=E&varISOCODE=ALB&.ROLES_=Everyone&LanguageChoice=E&varTarget=Dev [accessed 30 June 2017].



People: Good nutrition during the first 1,000 days of a child's life is critical to achieving full physical, intellectual and human potential in adolescence and adulthood.



Prosperity: One dollar invested in nutrition gives a rate of return of \$16.



Planet: If average diets among adults in the UK conformed to WHO recommendations, the associated Green House Gas emissions would be reduced by 17%.



Partnerships: There is no single actor who can address all the underlying causes of malnutrition; the 2030 Agenda calls on actors to align themselves with the intergovernmental agreed nutrition targets and contribute from their respective mandates and comparative strengths.



Peace: Improved nutrition helps to break the intergenerational cycle of inequity and poverty and thus contributes to a more peaceful society.¹⁶

This global recognition of the importance of good nutrition is thanks to the commitment and motivation of countries who have all embraced that **good nutrition = brighter, sustainable futures**. Their action to cut stunting has been supported - in part - by the SUN Movement, the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) compact, new attention to reorienting food systems for nutrition following the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), and the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition.

However, political commitment and growing collaboration is not enough. Progress has been uneven across regions, population groups and sexes. Impact at scale is needed, faster. In 2015, the world agreed to eliminate all forms of malnutrition by 2030. To date, despite progress, the World Health Assembly targets on maternal and child nutrition remain unmet. Approximately 800 million people remain undernourished. Among children, the most vulnerable group, 155 million are too short for their age, 52 million are too thin, and 41 million are too heavy. Conversely, prevalence rates and absolute numbers for overweight and obesity have increased tremendously. Today, multiple forms of malnutrition are occurring in the same country, the same community, the same household and even the same person. If current trends continue, the absolute number of overweight people will have increased from almost 2 billion today, to 3.3 billion by 2030.

WORLD HUNGER IS ON THE RISE: THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDERNOURISHED PEOPLE INCREASED FROM 777 MILLION IN 2015 TO 815 MILLION IN 2016.¹⁸




¹⁶ UNSCN (2017). By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition and leave no one behind. Available at: <https://www.unscn.org/uploads/web/news/document/NutritionPaper-EN-may2017-WEB.pdf> / [accessed September 2017].

¹⁷ FAO (2017). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2017. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition/en/> [accessed September 2017].

THE BREADTH OF THE OBESITY AND OVERWEIGHT CHALLENGE¹⁸

- Obesity has **more than doubled since 1980** worldwide, and most of the world's population lives in countries where **overweight and obesity kills more people** than underweight. The study is based on the *Global Burden of Disease* data and methods and finds that in 2015, a total of 107.7 million children and 603.7 million adults were obese. Since 1980, the prevalence of obesity has doubled in more than 70 countries and has continuously increased in most other countries.
- There has been **no progress to stem the rate of overweight** in more than 15 years:¹⁹ In 2016, more than **1.9 billion adults** were overweight – 0.5 billion more than in 2008. Of these over **600 million were obese**.
- **Almost 41 million children under age 5** were overweight in 2016. In Northern and Southern Africa and Central Asia, at least one in every ten children under five is overweight.²⁰
- **Overweight and obesity disproportionately affects women:** Estimates suggest that, globally, 266 million men and 375 million women were obese in 2016. In SUN countries, these differences are even more stark with prevalence rates of 14 per cent for women and 5 per cent for men. SUN Countries also experience a large difference between the prevalence of overweight – with a prevalence rate of 37 per cent for women and 23 per cent for men.²¹

“**OBESITY IS A TICKING TIME BOMB – AND THERE IS HIGH RISK THAT THE POLITICAL COMMITMENT WE HAVE GARNERED TO DATE FALLS TO THE WAYSIDE IN LIGHT OF COMPETING PRIORITIES. THE SUN MOVEMENT MUST FOCUS ON THE NEED TO ELIMINATE UNDERNUTRITION, ALONGSIDE OTHER FORMS OF MALNUTRITION.**



– Tom Arnold, former CEO
Concern Worldwide, former
SUN Movement Coordinator

SUN Countries are stepping up to scale down obesity and overweight

16 SUN Countries have included overweight and obesity in their national policy and strategy documents, while **3 SUN Countries** are tracking diabetes and sodium intake.²²

Guinea-Bissau aims to reduce, by 15 per cent, the proportion of overweight people by promoting good eating habits and tracking and treating obesity cases seen in health centres. **Peru's** 2013 Law on the promotion of healthy food for girls, boys and adolescents includes nutrition education in schools, the development of a nutrition observatory that also studies overweight and obesity, healthy food served in school cafeterias, the promotion of more physical activities; a regulation on unhealthy food marketing. In **Pakistan**, a National Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases and Health Promotion has been developed. This Plan includes an Integrated Framework for Action (IFA) developed to address multidisciplinary issues across the broad range of NCDs, with obesity and overweight highlighted as particular areas for concern, considering their role in the prevalence of coronary diseases and hypertension. Furthermore, the Ministries of Health and Planning are developing a consolidated action plan for the attainment of SDGs 2 and 3, which will address undernutrition, obesity and overweight.

¹⁸ Unless indicated otherwise, figures come from the World Health Organization (June 2016). Factsheet: Obesity and overweight. Available at: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/> [accessed 12 January 2017].

¹⁹ UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates (2017). Joint child malnutrition estimates – Levels and trends (2017 edition). Available online, at: http://www.who.int/entity/nutgrowthdb/jme_brochure2017.pdf?ua=1 [accessed September 2017].

²⁰ *ibid.*

²¹ See Annex 1 for more information.

²² SUN Movement (2016). MEAL baseline report.



Turning multiple burdens into multiple returns

The past decades have seen a shift in the quantity and quality of people's diets and nutrition-related epidemiology – the medical branch that deals with the transmission and control of diseases. The multiple burden of malnutrition can be seen as the coexistence of undernutrition along with overweight, obesity or diet-related NCDs – and can occur within **individuals** (with the simultaneous presence of two or more types of malnutrition, or the development of multiple types over a lifetime), **households** (with multiple family members affected by different forms of malnutrition), and **populations** (fraught by both undernutrition and overweight prevalent in a community, region or nation) – across the life cycle.

The multiple burdens represent an unmissable opportunity for action. Not only is fighting malnutrition essential to achieving the SDGs and critical to the development of humans and the economy, the focus on and investment in double or even triple-duty actions will help tackle different forms of malnutrition at the same time. With this, we can build a vital bridge between established and successful policies and initiatives, and emerging nutrition interventions, with the potential of truly yielding multiple returns, or a win-win-win.²³

²³ WHO (2016). Factsheet: Obesity and overweight. Available at: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/> [accessed 12 January 2017].



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In addition, famines are exacerbating malnutrition among millions of people throughout the world. Four SUN Countries (South Sudan, Nigeria, Yemen, and Somalia) – are experiencing famines, crises or emergency food insecurity situations.²⁴ An estimated 9.9 million people are facing significant food insecurity in these countries,²⁵ including 1.3 - 1.4 million severely acutely malnourished children under the age of five who are at high risk of dying.²⁶ Tens of millions of refugees from (civil) wars, terrorism, natural disasters, disease outbreaks, as well as human rights violations and inappropriate socio-economic policies are currently at increased risk of malnutrition. In addition, environmental problems such as climate change, pollution of air, water and soil, and decreasing biodiversity are creating conditions that threaten the health and nutrition of people. These conditions also pose a major challenge to sustainable development.

Time to step up!

The world needs to step up its efforts to eliminate malnutrition in all its forms. More sectors – beyond health and agriculture – more actors – beyond the traditional ones – and more countries need to be involved.

As people do not live in ‘sectors’, all stakeholders need to embrace the SDGs, and all work differently than they have to date. Nutrition must be seen as the foundation for building better lives and brighter futures. This means that all actors in the SUN Movement must be catalysers and bridge-builders to connect sectors and connect stakeholders. Rather than assuming others know nutrition, all nutrition stakeholders need learn the language that other sectors speak, and understand where they stand, both their measures of success and their accountability processes. All actors from the highest political levels, to civil society, business, donors, UN agencies and academia need to change their behaviours to make nutrition work for the attainment of the SDGs and for making other SDGs work for nutrition. At the core, good nutrition must be upheld as a human right and the foundation of wellbeing. Women and girls must be at the centre, with nobody left behind.

²⁴ The presence of famines, and precursors to the most severe forms of famine, is tracked by FEWS (Famine Early Warning Systems Network) using the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) system ranging from phase 1 to phase 5, defined by gaps in food consumption for at least 1 in 5 households. Crisis (IPC phase 3) refers to significant food consumption gaps with high or above usual acute malnutrition. Emergency (phase 4) indicates extreme food consumption gaps resulting in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality. Famine (phase 5) represents a near complete lack of food and/or other basic needs.

²⁵ ACAPS (2017). Famine Northeast Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen: Final Report. Geneva: Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS).

²⁶ UNHCR (2017). UNHCR says death risk from starvation in Horn of Africa, Yemen, Nigeria growing, displacement already rising. Available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/briefing/2017/4/58ec9d464/unhcr-says-death-risk-starvation-horn-africa-yemen-nigeria-growing-displacement.html> [accessed May 2017].

WOMEN AND GIRLS: DRIVERS OF THE ERADICATION OF ALL FORMS OF MALNUTRITION

Malnutrition, like poverty, is sexist. In virtually every country of the world, gender inequity and cultural norms hold women and girls back and render many unable to fulfil their rightful role as decision-makers – over their own mind and bodies, in their households, at work, and in their communities. Healthy women and girls, however, are the cornerstone of healthy societies. Provide girls and women access to good nutrition throughout their lives and they will deliver a healthier and wealthier world.

“ **SUCCESSFUL NUTRITION APPROACHES ARE THOSE THAT HAVE RECOGNISED AND ADDRESSED GENDER AND SOCIAL INEQUALITIES AND SOUGHT TO ADDRESS THEM.**²⁷ ”



- **Boosting girls' and women's nutritional status is critical to improving maternal and newborn health.** Poor nutrition – as women have high nutrient requirements during pregnancy and when breastfeeding – leads to poorly nourished children, who are at risk of being stunted, wasted and facing other health threats, such as infectious diseases. Anaemia contributes to 20% of all maternal deaths worldwide.
- **Empowered women lead to less hunger.** Studies show that as much as half of the reduction of hunger between 1970 and 1995 can be attributed to improvements in the status of women.²⁸
- **Over 820,000 children's lives could be saved every year, if all children between 0 and 23 months were optimally breastfed.** Breastfeeding improves IQ, school attendance, and is associated with higher income in adult life. Yet, around 830 million working women worldwide are being deprived of adequate maternity leave.
- **Girls who are married young experience higher rates of anaemia and malnutrition than those who marry and have children later in life.** Children born to adolescent mothers are more likely to have low birth weight, suffer from poor nutritional status, and experience stunting – making malnutrition and food insecurity both a cause and consequence of early marriage.
- **If girls and women lack access to education, they are less equipped to properly feed children and care for their health.** Access to family planning can also have a significant influence on achieving key nutrition outcomes.

Turning lip service into action for women and girls across the SUN Movement

Ministries of women's empowerment and equality are usually a part of SUN Countries' multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platforms. Over the past year, SUN Countries, including **Bangladesh, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire** and **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, have reported working with these ministries to supercharge nutrition progress for both women and men. UN Women formed part of the team that undertook the 2017 SUN Movement Joint-Assessment Exercise in **Cameroon**.

To make sure women and men get to a chance to thrive on equal footing, a gender-sensitive and enabling policy and legal environment is required. The revised **Bangladesh** Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) Programme of the Department of Women and Child Affairs now considers nutrition as a key component. In 2016-2017, **Ghana** has extended its parental leave. **Guinea** has set up a female parliamentarian group in the National Assembly, in addition to a women and media alliance to spread the nutrition word. SUN Countries are ensuring alignment across sectors and common results for women and girls, with, for instance, the New National Nutrition Programme II of **Ethiopia** which includes a specific section on 'gender-sensitive nutrition implementation'

²⁷ CSIS (2017). What can the United States learn from the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement? Examining country leadership in Zambia, Kenya, and Bangladesh. Available at: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/what-can-united-states-learn-scaling-nutrition-sun-movement/?block2> [accessed August 2017].

²⁸ IFRPI (2003). The Importance of Women's Status for Child Nutrition in Developing Countries. Available at: <http://www.ifpri.org/publication/importance-womens-status-child-nutrition-developing-countries> [accessed September 2017].

and the National Nutrition Strategy to 2025 and Plan of Action 2016-2020 of **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, which has a section on 'gender roles' as part of the guiding principles. **Nepal** has developed a framework "Costing of Gender Equality Instruments in Nepal 2016" which is being implemented. **El Salvador** is incorporating gender equality in WASH sector activities, as proposed in the Regional Plan for the CELAC countries. **Costa Rica, El Salvador** and **Nigeria**, have also committed to strengthen gender-responsive actions and the empowerment of women and girls, as their priorities for 2017-2018.

Table 1: Tracking indicators specific to women across SUN Countries

Indicator	Number of SUN countries with data	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Median for all countries with data
Female secondary school enrolment (%)	54	5	126	51	44	92 (178)
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	57	7	76	32	32	27 (124)*
Adolescent fertility rate (number of births per 1,000 women aged 15-19)	59	17	229	101	92	44 (219)*
Proportion of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) who have their needs for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%)	58	6	89	50	47	78 (131)*

* SDG Indicators Global Database, <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/> [accessed 29 August 2017]

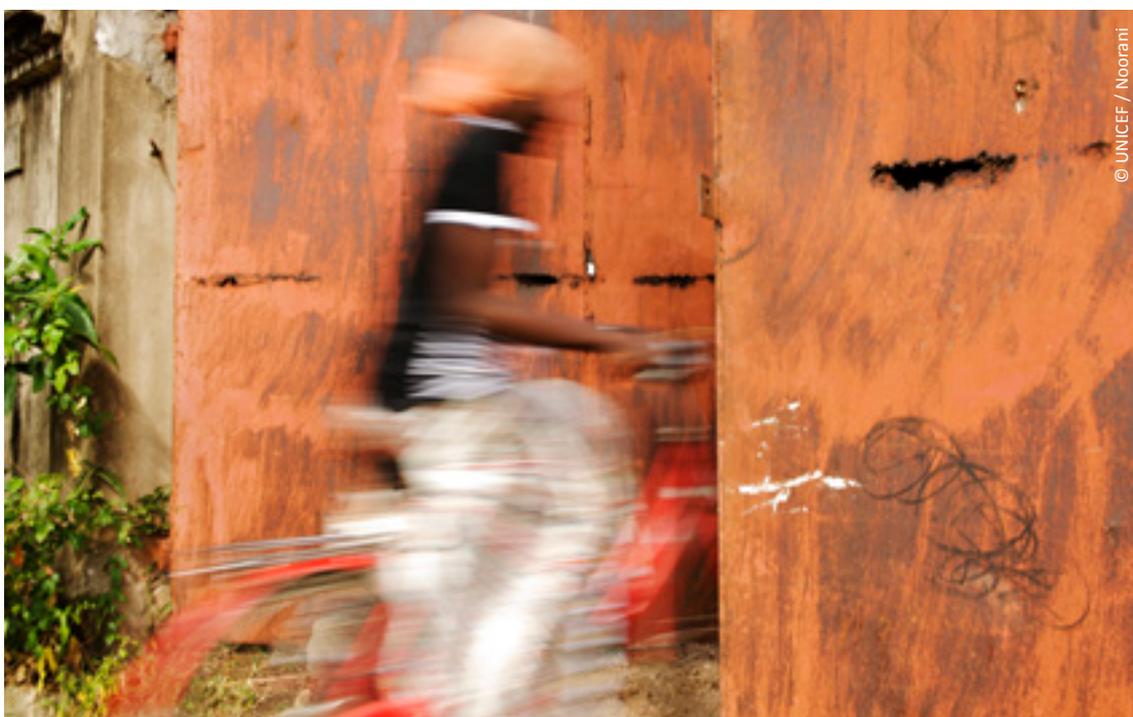


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And keep the momentum going

In 2016-2017, there has been a surge in momentum for nutrition. High level advocacy opportunities have illuminated the importance of nutrition for partnerships and human capital, kick-started by a high-level event in 2016 during the 71st Session of the UN General Assembly, entitled Together for the 2030 Agenda: Partnering for Women, Children and Adolescents to Thrive and Transform the World, where the SUN Movement's Principles of Engagement were endorsed by multiple SDG-focused initiatives.

The Human Capital Summit during the World Bank Annual Meeting took place shortly after, bringing together ministers of finance to share their commitment to improving nutrition. In January 2017, world leaders focused their sights on improving nutrition and sustainable food systems at the World Economic Forum, and in April and May, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) made nutrition a focus of its General Assembly in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The annual meetings of the World Bank and the African Development Bank followed shortly, where the importance of ratcheting up investment in nutrition was showcased. Later in May, the World Health Assembly proved a key space for showcasing SUN Country efforts in addressing undernutrition alongside overweight, obesity and non-communicable diseases. In July, the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development conducted a review of SDG2 and 30 SUN Countries undertook voluntary reviews of their SDG plans. In September, the meeting of the SUN Lead Group took place on the margins of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly and nutrition was put front and centre during key early childhood development moments and through side events. In October, the Committee for World Food Security (CFS), the foremost inclusive international and inter-governmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all, will focus a full day on nutrition. And in November, Italy will hold a high-level Global Nutrition Summit in Milan which will see the launch of the 2017 Global Nutrition Report – an authoritative overview and accountability report on the state of the world's nutrition. Following this, 59 SUN Movement member countries will descend upon Abidjan, Côte D'Ivoire, for the 2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering – a forum for sharing and learning and charting a bold course for the future for its member countries.²⁹



²⁹ For a comprehensive overview of the global nutrition situation and details on global nutrition governance, please visit: <https://www.unscn.org/en/resource-center/UNSCN-Publications>.

WORKING TOWARDS THE SDGs: INTEGRATING NUTRITION AND WASH

- **Poor sanitation is the second leading cause of stunting worldwide.**³⁰ The current scale of undernutrition is therefore unsurprising, when 844 million people live without clean water, and 2.3 billion don't have access to adequate sanitation.³¹
- **The WHO estimates that half of all undernutrition is linked to infections caused by poor WASH,** with evidence indicating multiple pathways.³²
- **Multi-sectoral action is fundamental to achieving all Sustainable Development Goals.** SDG 2 (end hunger and malnutrition) will not be achieved without inter-connected effort to achieve SDG 6 (universal access to WASH).

Multi-sectoral partnerships to fight poor WASH and malnutrition in SUN Countries

Recognising the close relationship between poor water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conditions and undernutrition, there has been growing collaboration in many SUN Countries, between government actors and partners developing WASH and nutrition national policies and plans, and among their partners.

In Cambodia, the Government has prioritised improving WASH to advance the Government's multi-sectoral commitment to reducing stunting. Led by Cambodia's Council of Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (2014-2018) prioritises WASH as part of a comprehensive approach combining nutrition-specific with nutrition-sensitive interventions at all levels.³³ CARD has also established a WASH and nutrition sub-working group, linking the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Health along with core donors and development partners. The Group drives integrated actions forward, such as organising the first national workshop on WASH and nutrition in November 2016 which brought together decision-makers from national and sub-national levels, including four government ministries and vice-governors from 10 provinces, under the auspices of the Deputy Prime Minister.

In Madagascar, where almost half of children under five suffer from stunting and only 10 per cent of the population has access to basic sanitation, President Rajaonarimampianina recently launched the third National Nutrition Action Plan (PNAN III). This plan, developed with civil society and academia, takes on the recommendations of an evaluation undertaken following PNAN II. The PNAN III focuses on the first 1,000 days of a child's life, with interventions that aim

“ THE PROMOTION OF NUTRITION IS NOT AN EXCLUSIVE ROLE OF A MINISTRY OR INSTITUTION; RATHER THIS IS A CROSS-CUTTING THEME THAT REQUIRES JOINT EFFORTS FROM VARIOUS SECTORS, INCLUDING WATER SUPPLY AND HYGIENE, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND INFORMATION SECTORS, AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SUB-NATIONAL AUTHORITIES, DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PROMOTE NUTRITION.



– H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Yim Chhay Ly of Cambodia

³⁰ Danaei G. et al. (2016). Risk Factors for Childhood Stunting in 137 Developing Countries: A Comparative Risk Assessment Analysis at Global, Regional & Country Levels. PLoS Medicine 13(11): e1002164.doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1002164.

³¹ UNICEF/WHO (2017). Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: 2017 update and SDG Baselines. Available at: <https://washdata.org/report/imp-2017-report-final> [accessed August 2017].

³² WHO (2008). *Safer water, better health: Costs, benefits and sustainability of interventions to protect and promote health.* Available at: whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241596435_eng.pdf [accessed July 2017].

³³ Kingdom of Cambodia Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (2014). *National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN 2014-2018).* Available at: http://foodsecurity.gov.kh/assets/uploads/media/20160707_093107.pdf [accessed August 2017].

to build the human capital needed to guarantee the development of Madagascar, including an increased focus on multi-sectoral coordination, with WASH as a priority.

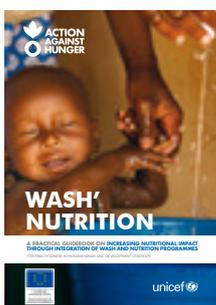
To reinforce and accelerate these national efforts, **SUN and Sanitation and Water for All (SWA)** have partnered on ensuring advocacy for integration, and identifying and sharing good practices. Several partners have supported this effort by launching new advocacy reports and practical guides to WASH-nutrition integration.



The Recipe for Success: How policy-makers can integrate WASH into actions to end malnutrition

This report, by Action Against Hunger, SHARE and WaterAid, asserts that the integration of action on nutrition and WASH is fundamental to the recipe for success. The report highlights some of the practical actions for integrating WASH and nutrition that are proposed in countries with well-integrated policies such as Cambodia, Niger and Zimbabwe.

See: www.wateraid.org/recipeforsuccess



WASH'Nutrition Practical Guidebook

Published by Action Against Hunger, the guidebook offers practical guidance to help practitioners design and implement programmes in both humanitarian and development contexts. The guidebook combines expertise from many individuals and organisations working in WASH, health, and nutrition, including UNICEF, WHO, Action Against Hunger, WaterAid, Concern Worldwide and more.

See: <https://www.actionagainsthunger.org.uk/publication/wash%E2%80%99nutrition-2017-guidebook>



2+6=17 - Linking WASH and Nutrition, a blueprint for living SDG 17

This report, producing by the German WASH Network, supports actors to identify their individual way to “live the WASH-Nutrition link” under the SDGs. It strengthens the understanding between the two thematic areas and different stakeholder groups, and it provides examples and recommendations to increase impact, sustainability and cost effectiveness.

See: http://www.washnet.de/wp-content/uploads/washnet17_linking-wash-nutrition_web_170721_jr.pdf