

SUN Movement Reporting Template, 2017

Ghana

2017 Reporting template: Joint-Assessment by National Multi-Stakeholder Platforms in line with the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) System

April 2016 to April 2017

Process and details of the 2017 Joint-Assessment Exercise

Introduction

The 2016/2017 Ghana Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Joint assessment was held on Wednesday 3rd May 2017, at the National Development Planning Commission's Conference Room in Accra. This annual exercise brings together various stakeholders to assess progress being made by Ghana in its efforts to scale up nutrition (SUN) during April 2016 – March 2017. The assessment workshop was essentially held to identify the current state of institutional transformations for scaling up nutrition in Ghana. Ghana joined the Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in May 2011, so as to reduce the proportion of children who are malnourished through the scaling up of proven cost-effective nutrition specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions during the 1000 days from conception to the first two years of the child's life. Ghana has actively participated in these annual joint/self-assessments since 2014, with 2016 being the exception due to a number of challenges.

The workshop was opened by Ghana's SUN Focal Person Professor Akosa who in his opening remarks, acknowledged that Ghana was not doing too well in achieving the SUN Movement's objectives in comparison to other countries due to lack of financial resources. Development Partners, who it was hoped would support the SUN movement, were a little disorganised. It was however pleasing to note that USAID has initiated efforts to help realign Development Partner support to national priorities. The visit to Ghana of Ms Gerda Verburg, the global SUN Movement's Coordinator in October 2016 presented an opportunity to push forward and reignite the movement in Ghana, especially after the country was unable to hold a joint assessment in 2016. Prof Akosa informed participants that the four-year planning cycle for the next medium-term development period (2018-2021) which had begun presented an opportunity for mainstreaming nutrition into the development plans of districts and sectors. It would be beneficial for all stakeholders to therefore to support these processes, to ensure that nutrition was prioritised in the development agenda of sectors and districts.

In relation to the joint-assessment workshop, partners were reminded to not only report on individual but also on group achievements and map out challenges faced within the context of the multi-stakeholder platform. He added that Ghana could easily catch up with other countries in improving the nutritional status of its women and children if Ghana's SUN Movement was able to work coherently, and systems and structures that are already in place are supported and synergies harnessed properly to guarantee success.

Prof Akosa also reiterated the need to secure strong political will. In line with this, the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) has been engaged on a number of nutrition issues and wealthy Ghanaians encouraged to support nutrition interventions. He added that simple solutions are being proffered to eradicate child malnutrition. An example of this is the medically recommended meal of one ladle of beans, one egg and a spoon of peanut butter, which costs about 50 Ghana pesewas only (US\$0.11), which can provide the necessary nutrients to a child.

Participation

The table below shows the breakdown of representatives who participated in the meeting. A large number, eleven, came from various government agencies, with five coming from Development Partners. Other stakeholder platforms were a little under represented. It was however pleasing to note that unlike other years, every platform was represented. Of the 24 who participated, 14 were female, while ten were male.

Table 1

| Group | Yes (provide number)/No (= 0) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Government | 11 |
| Civil society | 2 |
| Science and academia | 2 |
| Donors | 5 |
| United Nations | 2 |
| Business | 1 |
| Other (please specify) | 1 (media) |

Process

Ghana's joint assessment was held using a face-to-face workshop. Provision was made for stakeholders who could not attend the meeting to share their comments via e-mail, based on the SUN Movements assessment methodology and any annual report for their institution/platform. Unfortunately, such information was not forthcoming, therefore the information in this report is based mainly on the joint-assessment workshop held on the 3rd of May 2017. The meeting began with an opening session where participants were introduced to the process, objectives and methodology to be used during the meeting. Two break-out group sessions were then undertaken to address the "progress markers". A final plenary session was then held to share and validate the results of the break-out sessions.

| Step | Format | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Collection | √ Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> | Email | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Review, validation | √ Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> | Email | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Utility/ General Findings/Challenges/Recommendations

The meeting was productive, candid and contributed to the honest appraisal of progress of implementation of SUN objectives in Ghana. Various stakeholders shared progress, challenges, gaps, recommendations and priorities of Ghana’s SUN movement. It was however noted that the recommended methodology was restrictive. Some bullet points within a progress marker, may not score well at all, whereas other bullet points would score highly. No guidance was provided on how to give a final score for the progress marker. It was also noted that the grading scheme could not easily apply to realities on the ground. It was therefore recommended that for future assessments, the grading scheme is reviewed, with various levels per grade possibly incorporated into the grading scheme. Each bullet point should also be scored to aid aggregating the score per marker.

The following matrices show detailed responses given by stakeholders at the assessment workshop to the various progress markers to assess progress made for each process indicator.

| N/A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|------------------|----------------|---|--|---|
| Not applicable | Not started | Started | On-going | Nearly completed | Completed |
| Progress Marker not applicable to current context | Nothing in place | Planning begun | Planning completed and implementation initiated | Implementation complete with gradual steps to processes becoming operational | Fully operational/Targets are achieved/On-going with continued monitoring/Validated/Evidence provided |

Process 1: Bringing people together in the same space for action

PROCESS 1: Bringing people together in the same space for action
 Strengthened coordinating mechanisms at national and sub-national level enable in-country stakeholders to better work for improved nutrition outcomes. Functioning multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms enable the delivery of joint results, through facilitated interactions on nutrition related issues, among sector relevant stakeholders. Functioning multi-stakeholder platforms (MSP) enable the mobilisation and engagement of relevant stakeholders, assist relevant national bodies in their decision making, enable consensus around joint interests and recommendations and foster dialogue at the local level.

Progress marker 1.1: Select/develop coordinating mechanisms at country level

| DEFINITION | POSSIBLE SIGNS | FINAL PLATFORM SCORE Please give one score per progress marker | PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR FINAL SCORE Refer to specific signs or provide your own examples. Please share relevant documentation as evidence |
|--|---|---|--|
| This progress marker looks at the extent to which coordination mechanisms are established at government level and are regularly convened by high-level officials. It indicates if non-state constituencies such as the UN Agencies, donors, civil society organisations and businesses have organised themselves | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordinating structures in place and functioning, such as a high-level convening body from the Government (political endorsement) ▪ Official nomination of a SUN Government Focal Point ▪ Appoint Focal Points/conveners for key stakeholder groups, i.e. a donor convenor, civil society coordinators, UN focal points, business liaison persons, academic representative ▪ Convene MSP members on a regular basis: please provide the number of meetings for each identified coordination structures ▪ Institutional analysis conducted of the design and/or performance of the high-level MSP, or relevant | 3 | There is a multi-stakeholder platform known as the Nutrition Cross-Sectoral Planning Group (CSPG) that operates at the national level under the auspices of National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), coordinator of SUN movement in Ghana and a focal person, Prof Akosa, who is a Commissioner of the NDPC. The three northern regions have regional nutrition multi-stakeholder platforms put together by UN REACH and Ghana Health Service (GHS). There are focal points/conveners for the academic, CSO, donor, government and UN networks. The business network is currently being put together. There is no media platform at present, but Ghana feels that this is an important stakeholder group that must be engaged. |

| | | | |
|---|---|----------|--|
| <p>in networks with convening and coordinating functions.</p> | <p>structures, also in terms of ensuring gender equality, at all levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish or refine the terms of reference, work plans and other types of enabling arrangements <p>(Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Terms of Reference, work-plan or Supporting documents requested)</p> | | <p>Four technical working group meetings were held in 2016. Terms of reference are in place for all the various platforms and groups of the Nutrition CSPG.</p> |
| <p>Progress marker 1.2: Coordinate internally and expand membership/engage with other actors for broader influence</p> | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks at the extent to which coordinating mechanisms established by the government and by non-state constituencies are able to reach out to relevant members from various sectors, to broaden the collective influence on nutrition-relevant issues. It also analyses the extent to which local levels are involved in the multi-stakeholder-sector approach in nutrition (e.g. decentralisation of platforms).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand MSP to get key members on board, i.e. Development partners; diverse civil society groups; private sector partnerships; media; parliamentarians; scientists and academics ▪ Additional relevant line ministries, departments and agencies on board e.g. nutrition-sensitive sectors ▪ Actively engage executive-level political leadership ▪ Engage with actors or groups specialised on specific themes such as gender, equity and non-discrimination, WASH etc. ▪ Ensure that the MSP membership is expanded to – or better able to – support women’s leadership ▪ Establish decentralised structures and/or processes that support planning and action locally (please provide number of existing decentralised structures if applicable, and Terms of Reference if they exist) ▪ Involve representatives from local levels in the national mechanism or create feedback mechanisms between the central and local levels, including the community and vulnerable groups. (Provide examples, if available) | <p>3</p> | <p>Efforts continue to be made to expand and involve all relevant partners and stakeholders, such as parliamentarians, academics, and the private sector in the CSPG on Nutrition.</p> <p>Ten sectors are currently represented on the CSPG and its various working groups. These are, health, education, water and sanitation (WASH), social protection, environment, agriculture, communications, local government, finance, and employment.</p> <p>Discussions are on-going to engage the minister of MoGCSP to be a political champion for the SUN Movement. There is no gender specific gender policy or programme to ensure women’s participation since there are no serious gender biases to be overcome within the movement.</p> <p>There are a number of decentralised multi-stakeholder platforms at the regional and district levels organised around regional and district planning coordinating units spearheading dialogue on nutrition. Feedback mechanism exists, with national level institutions but not a centralised coordinated one in the area of nutrition.</p> |

| Progress marker 1.3: Engage within/contribute to the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>This progress marker looks at the actual functioning of the MSP to facilitate regular interactions among relevant stakeholders. It indicates the capacity within the multi-stakeholder platforms to actively engage all stakeholders, set significant agendas, reach consensus to influence decision-making processes and take mutual ownership and accountability of the results.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure MSP delivers effective results against agreed work plans ▪ Ensure regular contribution of all relevant MSP stakeholders in discussions on: policy and legal documents, CRF, plans, costing, financial tracking and reporting, annual reviews. ▪ Regularly use platform for interaction on nutrition-related issues among sector-relevant stakeholders ▪ Get platform to agree on agenda/prioritisation of issues, such as deciding which nutrition problems to emphasise, choosing between possible nutrition actions, or prioritising target regions or groups for actions, among others ▪ Use results to advocate/influence other decision-making bodies ▪ Key stakeholder groups linking with global support system and contributing to MSP/nutrition actions e.g. financial, advocacy, active involvement | 3 | <p>The systems exist but not a lot has been achieved on the roadmap because of divergent interests and bottlenecks in financing.</p> <p>The MSP is used regularly to interact on nutrition-related issues among stakeholders. All relevant stakeholders are engaged to contribute to discussions on policy and legal documents, CRF etc. CSPG has however not reached the stage where agreements are made on prioritisation of issues. Districts and sectors are currently preparing their medium term development plans. The nutrition components will then be harmonised into a National Nutrition Scale up Plan (NNSUP). Prioritisation will take place at the validation stage of the planning process.</p> <p>Government utilizes research results such as the Cost of Hunger Studies, and Profiles for advocacy. Ghana participates in the SUN conference call. Donors and CSO groups link up to international SUN groups.</p> |
| Progress marker 1.4: Track, report and critically reflect on own contributions and accomplishments | | | |
| <p>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</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitor and report on proceedings and results of MSP (including on relevant websites, other communication materials) on a regular basis) ▪ Existence of newsletters, activity and monitoring reports of the MSP or the nutrition coordination system (please share, if available) ▪ Key stakeholder groups tracking commitments and are able to report on an annual basis, at a minimum, such as financial commitments, Nutrition for Growth commitments, etc. | 2 | <p>Reviewing progress happens during the joint assessment. Monitoring exercises are not as regular as regular as Ghana desires. Ghana’s weakest point is communication. Reports are not yet available on websites and other communication platforms. Key stakeholders report on their progress during meeting but information on nutrition expenditures are not available.</p> |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| own contributions and achievements. | | | |
| Progress marker 1.5: Sustain the political impact of the multi-stakeholder platform | | | |
| This progress marker looks at how the multi-stakeholder approach to nutrition is institutionalised in national development planning mechanisms and in lasting political commitments, not only by the Government executive power but also by the leadership of agencies and organisations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Integrate MSP mechanism on nutrition into national development planning mechanisms ▪ Continuous involvement of the executive level of political leadership irrespective of turnover ▪ Institutional commitment, also toward gender equality, from key stakeholder groups | 3 | <p>The system is already in place. It is anchored on the national development planning system. Political change does not affect plans. There are transitional arrangements to enhance smooth political changes in political leadership.</p> <p>There are ongoing discussions to make new ministers nutrition champions to ensure continuity in the nutrition agenda, e.g. the minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection and the Chief of Staff in the Office of the President.</p> <p>There is institutional commitment towards gender equality. The Ministry of Gender is represented on the MSP and participates actively in its deliberations.</p> |

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Please give us your views on partnerships in EMERGENCY SETTINGS

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| If the country or part of country face certain types of emergency (i.e. natural, humanitarian, conflict situations) in the recent past or currently, elaborate about the types of partnerships you have in place. | 1) Please can you explain if you are engaging with the humanitarian partners? How? Do you face any challenges? | The Nutrition CSPG is not directly engaging any humanitarian organisation, but some partners, such as Ministry of Health (MOH) work with the emergency/humanitarians response organisations when emergencies arise. |
|---|--|---|

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Please give us your views on ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS you have in place:

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Compliance of partners with the SUN Movement Principles of Engagement</p> | <p>1) Do you assess or analyse how your MSP and/or its members abide by the SUN Principles of Engagement? If so, can you share the results of these assessments?</p> <p>2) Specifically, do you, within the MSP and with partners, act in accordance with a commitment to uphold the equity and rights of all women, men and children?</p> <p>3) Do you promote compliance of stakeholders – and sectors with which you engage – with the SUN Principles of Engagement?</p> <p>4) Are there cases of non-compliance? How do you deal with them (please describe any specific feedback or complain mechanism that are in place or envisaged by the MSP?)</p> | <p>Currently, this is not being done, but efforts are being put in place to develop a check list to measure compliance.</p> <p>Gender equality is a principle that is used in the country’s planning system.</p> <p>Yes. Stakeholders are often reminded of these principles.</p> <p>Meetings with heads of institutions of erring partners are convened to discuss the issues. Plans are also in place to develop a Conflict of Interest guidelines to deal with instances of non-compliance.</p> |
|--|---|--|

| Stakeholders | Description/Key contribution of each stakeholder to Process One |
|--------------------------|--|
| <p>Government</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WASH, education and social protection issues papers disseminated last year - Development of Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Strategy for the long term plan - Alignment of Food Safety, School Feeding and Social Protection and Education policies. The Agriculture sectors medium-term development plan (METASSIP) reviewed to strengthen nutrition component - Commitment statements by sector ministers at the launch of COHA. - Engagements with the parliamentary caucus on Hunger and malnutrition. - Efforts underway to get MoGCSP minister and chief of staff as political champions - COHA and national Annual Progress Reports (APR), Nutrition profiles (nutrition departments) |
| <p>UN</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See Donor below |
| <p>Donor</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SUN DP Group was revived (had been dormant) - Co-chaired by USAID and UNICEF. - Three meetings held in 2017 including close engagement with NPDC to align the SUN DP work plan with that of the government. - Documenting activities across donors to improve coordination. - At decentralized level - USAID has engaged a lot of civil society organizations in Northern and UE regions- WASH, Agricultural sector and appropriate Ministries involved in nutrition. - JICA provides support through IFNA- (Initiative for Food Nutrition Security in Africa). – this has just been launched |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JICA- In-country training in Japan- different sectors- Agricultural, gender, form a team with an action plan with regard to nutritional activities. - Joint mapping by UNICEF-USAID- to ascertain where projects are being implemented, gaps and overlaps; and synchronise targeting of programmes with LEAP, government’s flagship cash transfer programme. - World Bank- support through the MCHNP. - Engagement with the National Nutrition Partners Coordination Committee. - Stakeholder engagement at high level- Northern and Upper East- Multi-stakeholder team to plan and implement activities. - Built capacity and supported monitoring activities for a year. - Efforts by donors to share plans with the respective sector ministries. |
| Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nestle is engaging government, academia, industry and other stakeholders on its nutrition programmes. - Other industry players are working with GIZ and WFP on nutrition solutions in the area of fortified foods for women, adolescent girls and children - Preparations for the formation of a business platform are on-going |
| CSO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organising / planning and implementation of meetings for SUN movement |
| Science and academia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisation of platforms whereby research findings are shared with industries. An example of such was organised by College of Basic and Applied Sciences Programme. - Ghana Nutrition Association organised nutrition education for some selected food vendors in Accra. - Ghana Nutrition Association in collaboration with Starr FM organised health screening and nutrition education programme. - SUN Academic Platform works closely with the African Nutrition Society. - Academia has been actively involved in the SUN meetings organised by NDPC, and commissioned researches |
| Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are efforts to form a media platform |

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2016 to April 2017)

FOR PROCESS 1: Bringing people together in the same space (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in country)

Efforts to bring people together in the same space for action have definitely made considerable progress with more active involvement of stakeholders, expansion of the membership of the platform, efforts made to realign efforts around a common platform and set of priorities as well as collaborating more in national and sub-national activities. The Donor platform is being resuscitated whilst the business platform will be launched soon.

The Nutrition CSPG is fully functional at the national level, with continuous efforts being made to engage politicians. Plans are in place to roll out the nutrition MSP to the regional and district levels, especially during the current planning processes. Despite challenges in implementing the roadmap set out to fully implement the scale up nutrition agenda in Ghana, there have been collaborations at national, regional and district level between partners to carry out critical activities, such as the setting up of regional MSP, undertaking and launching research documents, preparation of long-term food and nutrition security strategy and sector nutrition linkage issues papers. More needs to be done to effectively communicate within the platform and report on its activities.

Overall this process indicator can be scored 3 for Ghana for the year under review as the multi-stakeholder platform has been active over the last year and progress has been made on many levels in engaging stakeholders and collaborating on many activities. The decentralisation of this platform continues to be made at the sub-national level.

Process 2: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

| N/A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|------------------|----------------|---|--|---|
| Not applicable | Not started | Started | On-going | Nearly completed | Completed |
| Progress Marker not applicable to current context | Nothing in place | Planning begun | Planning completed and implementation initiated | Implementation complete with gradual steps to processes becoming operational | Fully operational/Targets are achieved/On-going with continued monitoring/Validated/Evidence provided |

Process 2: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The existence of a coherent policy and legal framework should inform and guide how in-country stakeholders work together for improved nutrition outcomes. Updated policies, strategies and legislations are fundamental to prevent conflict of interest among the wide range of actors involved in a complex societal topic such as nutrition. This process focuses on the enabling policy and legal environment.

Progress marker 2.1: Continuously analyse existing nutrition-relevant policies and legislations

| DEFINITION | POSSIBLE SIGNS | FINAL PLATFORM SCORE Please give one score per progress marker | PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR FINAL SCORE Refer to specific signs or provide your own examples. Please share relevant documentation as evidence |
|---|--|---|---|
| This progress marker looks at the extent to which existing nutrition-relevant (specific and sensitive) policies and legislations are analysed using multi-sectoral consultative processes with representation from various stakeholders, especially civil society representatives. It indicates the availability of stock-taking documents and continuous context analysis that can inform and guide policy-making. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular multi-sectoral analysis and stock-take of existing policies and regulations ▪ Reflect on existing policies and legal framework ▪ Existence of review papers ▪ Indicate any nutrition-relevant (specific and sensitive) policies and legislations identified, analysed during the reporting period and specify the type of consultative process that was applied <p>Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of the policies and legislation analysed</p> | 3 | <p>A national nutrition policy (for the health sector), which was prepared through multi-sectoral participation was launched in 2016.</p> <p>A Food and Nutrition Security Strategy has been developed and validated for incorporation into Ghana's long term development plan which is currently under preparation. It has also been integrated into the next medium term plan (2018-2021). The strategy will be used to update the draft national nutrition policy.</p> <p>Alignment of Food Safety, School Feeding and Social Protection and Education policies to the nutrition agenda. The Agriculture sectors medium-term development plan (METASSIP) has reviewed to strengthen its nutrition component.</p> |

| | | | |
|---|--|----------|---|
| | | | <p>A government policy/ directive from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture- “Planting for food and jobs” has been initiated.</p> <p>WFP is conducting a strategic review of food and nutrition policies and strategies as well as the nutrition situation in Ghana as the basis for the preparation of a zero hunger strategy for Ghana.</p> |
| Progress marker 2.2: Continuously engage in advocacy to influence the development, updating and dissemination of relevant policy and legal frameworks | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders are able to contribute, influence and advocate for the development of updated or new policy and legal frameworks for improved nutrition and its dissemination (i.e. advocacy and communication strategies in place to support the dissemination of relevant policies).It focuses on how countries ascertain policy and legal coherence across different ministries and try to broaden political support by encouraging parliamentarian engagement. It also focuses on the efforts of in-country stakeholders to influence decision makers for legislations and</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existence of a national advocacy and communication strategy ▪ Existence of a national gender equality and women’s empowerment strategy ▪ Advocacy for reviewing or revising policies and legal frameworks with assistance from other MSP members to ascertain quality and whether they are fit-for-purpose to ensure gender-sensitive nutrition actions ▪ Develop a common narrative and joint statements to effectively influence policy-making that is pro-female ▪ Parliamentary attention and support (e.g. groups that deal specifically with nutrition; votes in support of MSP suggested changes) ▪ Influence of nutrition champions in advancing pro-nutrition policies ▪ Key stakeholder groups promote the gender-responsive integration of nutrition in national policies and other related development actions ▪ Publications, policy briefs, press engagement examples, social media outreach, workshops | <p>3</p> | <p>A planned Social Mobilisation, Advocacy and Communications Strategy has not been developed due to lack of funding.</p> <p>A National Gender Policy is available. The National Development Policy Framework, that is, Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA: 2014-2017) also addresses gender issues. Some gender-sensitive nutrition actions can be found in the Health Sector Gender Policy.</p> <p>GIZ’s Affordable Nutritious Foods for Women (ANF4W) project, has provided an opportunity to advocate for fortified foods.</p> <p>SUN focal person and other nutrition champions are actively championing nutrition. Some celebrities are also being engaged to undertake advocacy around nutrition.</p> <p>The COHA report is an example of a publication that advocates for prioritising nutrition.</p> <p>Policy briefs on sector – Nutrition linkages (social protection, education, WASH) have been prepared and are being used to engage relevant sectors to integrate nutrition into their plans.</p> |

| | | | |
|---|---|----------|--|
| <p>evidence-based policies that empower women and girls through equity-based approaches.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dissemination and communication of policy/legal framework by key stakeholders among relevant audiences <p>Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of advocacy impact on policy and legal frameworks and supporting strategies</p> | | |
| <p>Progress marker 2.3: Develop or update coherent policies and legal frameworks through coordinated and harmonised in-country stakeholder efforts</p> | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders – the Government (i.e. line ministries) and non-state partners – coordinate their inputs to ensure the development of a coherent policy and legislation framework.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate nutrition policies and regulation between relevant line-ministries I.e. - Existence of national ministerial guidelines/ advice/support for mainstreaming nutrition into sectoral policies. ▪ Key stakeholder groups coordinate and harmonise inputs to national nutrition-related policies and legislation (specific and sensitive) ▪ Develop/update policies/legal frameworks, with assistance from other MSP members to ascertain quality, especially those that can be seen as harmful or in conflict with the rights of women and girls ▪ Existence of updated policies and strategies that are nutrition relevant (specific and sensitive) ▪ Existence of comprehensive legislation relevant to nutrition with focus on International Codes for Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, food fortification and maternal leave and policies that empower women ▪ Ascertain nutrition policy coherence with other, development-related policies such as trade, agriculture, etc. | <p>3</p> | <p>Guidelines on planning for nutrition incorporated into national development planning guidelines for preparing district and sector development plans. Nutrition will thus be prioritised as a cross-cutting issue that needs to be mainstreamed in the activities of sectors and districts.</p> <p>Terms of Reference have been developed to engage a consultant that will develop a planning manual to guide sectors and districts on how to plan for nutrition.</p> <p>NDPC certifies sector and district plans before they receive funding. One of the criteria to be checked before approval of these plans, is the mainstreaming of nutrition as a priority.</p> <p>Indicators from the FNS strategy will be used to update the draft CRF.</p> <p>MOFA advocating bio fortification- orange fleshed sweet potatoes. MOTI is overseeing the salt iodisation programme, but MOTI policy not very coherent with nutrition.</p> |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of the policies and legislations developed through coordinated efforts | | |
| Progress marker 2.4: Operationalise/enforce the legal frameworks | | | |
| This progress marker looks at the availability of mechanisms to operationalise and enforce legislations such as the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, maternity and parental leave laws, food fortification legislation, they right to food, among others. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Availability of national and sub-national guidelines to operationalise legislation ▪ Existence of national/sub-national mechanisms to operationalise and enforce legislation <p>Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence (relevant reports/documents) of law enforcement</p> | 2 | <p>Legal frameworks exist and are being enforced: Policy (L.I.) on marketing of breast milk substitutes available but enforcement is weak.</p> <p>There is no mandatory national fortification policy.</p> <p>Maternity Laws are being enforced;</p> <p>Advocacy for extension of maternal leave and parental leave are ongoing.</p> |
| Progress marker 2.5: Track and report for learning and sustaining the policy and legislation impact | | | |
| This progress marker looks at the extent to which existing policies and legislations have been reviewed and evaluated to document good practices and the extent to which available lessons are shared by different constituencies within the Multi-Stakeholder Platforms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existence and use of policy studies, research monitoring reports, impact evaluations, public disseminations etc. ▪ Individual stakeholder groups contribution to mutual learning <p>Minimum Requirements for Scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of lessons learned from reviews and evaluations, such as case studies and reports</p> | 2 | <p>Existing nutrition related policies, impact evaluation reports, surveys e.g. (On poverty, social protection), and commissioned reports are shared by sectors on the MSP but not for the purpose of sharing good practices.</p> <p>Some research studies available at academia level, but have not been shared with stakeholders and policy makers.</p> <p>Individual stakeholders have largely not contributed to mutual learning.</p> |
| ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Please give us your view on partnerships in EMERGENCY SETTINGS | | | |
| If the country or part of the country faces certain types of emergency (i.e. natural, | 1) Are mitigation measures clearly integrated in nutrition relevant policies and legal frameworks? | In the FNS strategy which is yet to be validated, this has been done | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>humanitarian, conflict situations) recently or at present, elaborate about the integration of mitigation measures into policies and legal frameworks</p> | | |
| <p>ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Please give us your view on HOW WE CAN MEASURE ADVOCACY EFFORTS AND SUCCESSES</p> | | |
| <p>Mobilisation of high-level advocates (including champions, parliamentarians, media)</p> | <p>1) Have you tracked “success” moments with the engagement of high-level advocates? Please consider their public statements, attendance at high-level events, mentions in Parliament of nutrition, etc. and share sources demonstrating their advocacy impact.</p> <p>2) Have you organised a high-level event on nutrition? If yes, please provide details</p> | <p>Discussions on NCDs, and alcoholism have taken place in Parliament.</p> <p>Kufuor foundation led by the former president H.E John A. Kufuor is championing zero hunger in Ghana. The JA Kufuor foundation and WFP zero hunger stakeholder workshop.</p> <p>Ghana signed the Abuja declaration to increase nutrition funding to 5/10 percent of the national budget.</p> <p>Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) held a policy dialogue on IV, in which nutrition was highlighted</p> <p>The launch of the Ghana Cost of Hunger Report Commitments was a high level event with the Ministers for Agriculture, Finance and health making commitment statements.</p> <p>Launch of the Global Panel on Food and Agriculture’s publication on “Food Systems and Diets: Facing the Challenges of the 21st Century” was launched in Accra.</p> <p>Ghana hosted the 7th Africa Day for food and Nutrition Security.</p> |
| <p>SMART-ness of nutrition commitments by high-level representatives of Governments and networks/alliances (CSOs, business, the</p> | <p>1) Do you have experience with tracking nutrition commitments made by high-level representatives of Governments and networks/alliances? If so, can you explain how</p> | <p>Commitments were made by Ministers under the last Government during the launch of the COHA Report. There are plans to re-engage with the relevant sector Ministers for renewed commitments</p> |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>UN system, donors) made since the beginning of 2016</p> | <p>you collect these commitments and how you report on them?</p> <p>2) Do you assess the <i>existing</i> commitments and analyse whether (a) they are still valid (e.g. aligned with an up-to-date action plan); (b) they are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound (SMART).</p> <p>Please share any available evidence of commitments made since the beginning of 2016. Kindly note that the evidence could be looking at new commitments made or changes to existing commitments, to make them more SMART.</p> | <p>There is currently no tracking commitments because they were statements of support for the nutrition agenda</p> |
|--|---|--|

| Stakeholders | Description/Key contribution of each stakeholder to Process Two |
|--------------------------|---|
| <p>Government</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Government of Ghana has a results framework for the current development agenda, GSGDA II, for the period 2014-2017, which has a number of nutrition relevant indicators that are monitored and reported on annually. A new results framework for 2018-2021 is currently being drafted. - In addition, there is a draft CRF for the draft national nutrition policy that was developed in association with nutrition partners, awaiting completion of the planning process for it to be updated. - Government agencies have been involved in developing the FNS strategy, reviewing the nutrition policy, school feeding policy and draft school feeding authority bill, social protection policy, and gender policy, all of which have an impact on nutrition. - Commitment statements have also been made by sector ministers. |
| <p>UN</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFPA provided support for Health Sector Gender policy. - World Food Programme supported drafting of Zero Hunger Plan - USAID supported Good Life - national level campaign. - WHO/ UNICEF supported the hosting of World Breastfeeding week. USAID assisted with communication as well. - WFP- launched Zero Hunger Review - WFP – Supported the development and launching of the Cost of Hunger in Africa Ghana Report, which involved bringing together a lot of stakeholders. - WHO facilitated the review of relevant nutritional policy and strategies as well monitoring implementation and progress - An Integrated Maternal Child Health handbook which is more nutrition focused is being developed with support from JICA/UNICEF provided support to GHS for its nutrition policy. - UNICEF/ WHO provided support to the Nutrition Strategic Plan for the health sector. - UNICEF undertaking national survey, to be done by November, on anaemia, Vitamin A, micronutrients. - UNICEF supported the review / update of the breastfeeding regulations that addresses marketing of breast milk substitutes – LI 1667. |

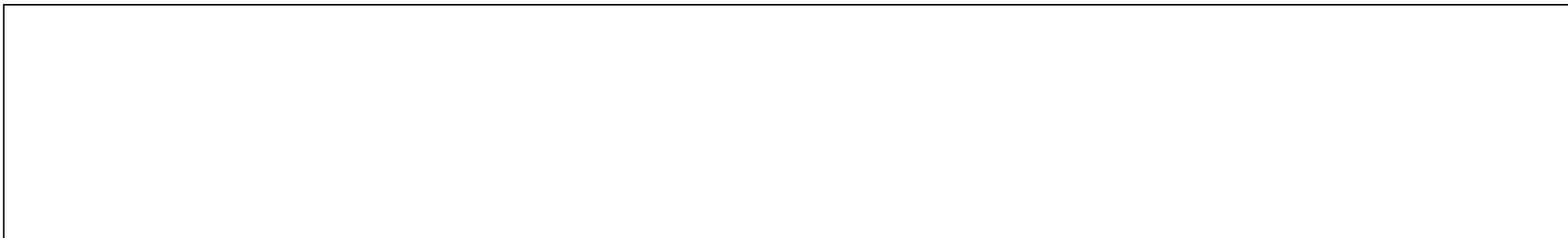
| | |
|----------------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF supported universal salt and iodisation strategy and action plan (2016-2020) with the ministry of Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development / Ministry of Trade and Industry - UNICEF supported the development of iron nutritional guidelines being developed to address anaemia in adolescent girls and WIFA program. |
| Donor | - See above UN Section |
| Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participated in the formulation of policy and legal framework through AGI - Engage regulatory agencies on policies (FDA, CODEX etc.) |
| CSO | - Participation in policy and legal framework development meetings |
| Science and academia | - Professionals (consultants) from academia are actively involved in the development of policies and legal framework. E.g. National Nutrition Policy and the Food and Nutrition Security Strategy (which is being developed) |
| Others | - |

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2016 to April 2017) FOR PROCESS 2: Coherent policy and legal framework (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in country)

A number of activities have been undertaken to ensure a coherent policy and legal framework. At the national level, national nutrition policy for the health sector was launched. A long-term Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Strategy has been developed and validated. This FNS strategy will be used to review the draft National Nutrition Policy. The next national medium-term development policy framework (2018-2021) will prioritise nutrition issues, whilst the planning guidelines sent to districts and sectors, emphasises the need to mainstream nutrition in their medium-term development plans. Efforts are underway to develop a nutrition planning manual that will assist the sectors and districts produce comprehensive costed nutrition plans.

Some partners are contributing to the review and formulation of nutrition relevant policies and legislation. The government has also introduced a new “food for jobs programme” that is anticipated to improve food and nutrition security, particularly at the household level whilst also increasing incomes. More needs to be done to convert commitment statements to concrete actions. Efforts are therefore being undertaken to make the Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection and the Chief of Staff at the Presidency, nutrition champions. More needs to be done to enforce legislation, especially at the sub-district level. The planned nutrition research agenda must be followed through. Stronger links between academia and policy makers will be pursued to improve the current level of collaboration.

All stakeholder platforms played a significant role in this process indicator, which overall, can be scored 3 as the necessary policy and legal frameworks being implemented and enforced. Efforts continue to be made to refine these and ensure coordinated and collaborative implementation.



Process 3: Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework

| N/A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|------------------|----------------|---|--|---|
| Not applicable | Not started | Started | On-going | Nearly completed | Completed |
| Progress Marker not applicable to current context | Nothing in place | Planning begun | Planning completed and implementation initiated | Implementation complete with gradual steps to processes becoming operational | Fully operational/Targets are achieved/On-going with continued monitoring/Validated/Evidence provided |

Process 3: Aligning actions around a Common Results Framework (CRF – please see ANNEX 4 for the definition)
 The alignment of actions across sectors that significantly contribute to improvements in nutrition demonstrates the extent to which multiple sectors and stakeholders are effectively working together, and the extent to which the policies and legislations are operationalised to ensure that all people, women and children in particular, benefit from improved nutrition. This process delves into the operational side of policy and legal frameworks and how they translate into actions¹. The term ‘Common Results Framework’ is used to describe a set of expected results agreed across different sectors of Governments and among key stakeholders through a negotiated process. The existence of agreed common results would enable stakeholders to make their actions more nutrition driven

¹ ‘Actions’ refer to interventions, programmes, services, campaigns and enacted legislation or specific policy. The 2013 Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Nutrition provides a set of evidence-based high-impact specific nutrition actions including the uptake of practices such as ‘exclusive breastfeeding for six months’.

through increased coordination or integration. In practice, a CRF may result in a **set of documents that are recognised as a reference point** for all sectors and stakeholders that work together for scaling up nutrition impact.

Progress marker 3.1: Align existing actions around national nutrition targets/policies

| DEFINITION | POSSIBLE SIGNS | FINAL PLATFORM SCORE Please give one score per progress marker | PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR FINAL SCORE Refer to specific signs or provide your own examples. Please share relevant documentation as evidence |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholder groups take stock of what exists and align their own plans and programming for nutrition to reflect the national policies and priorities. It focuses on the alignment of actions across sectors and relevant stakeholders that significantly contribute towards improved nutrition.</p> <p>Note: while Progress Marker 2.1 looks at the review of policies and legislations, Progress Marker 3.1 focuses on the review of programmes and implementation capacities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-sectoral nutrition situation analyses/overviews ▪ Analysis of sectoral Government programmes and implementation mechanisms ▪ Stakeholder and nutrition action mapping ▪ Multi-stakeholder consultations to align their actions ▪ Map existing gaps and agree on gender-sensitive core nutrition actions aligned with the policy and legal frameworks <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide documentation supporting the alignment</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Several: during the preparation of the national nutrition policy and inception meeting with MQSUN</p> <p>The analysis of sectoral programmes and implementation mechanisms will be undertaken during the planning process for the next medium term plan. The SUN donor platform has developed a mapping framework of its members’ programme and their locations</p> |

Progress marker 3.2: Translate policy and legal frameworks into an actionable Common Results Framework (CRF) for scaling up nutrition

| | | | |
|--|---|----------|---|
| <p>This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders are able to agree on a Common Results Framework to effectively align interventions for improved nutrition. The CRF is recognised as the guidance for medium-long term implementation of actions with clearly identified nutrition targets. Ideally, the CRF should have identified the coordination mechanism (and related capacity) and defined the roles and responsibilities for each stakeholder for implementation. It should encompass an implementation matrix, an M&E Framework and costed interventions, including costs estimates for advocacy, coordination and M&E.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defining the medium/long term implementation objectives ▪ Defining the implementation process with clear roles for individual stakeholder groups² ▪ Agree on CRF for scaling up nutrition. Elements of a CRF would include: Title of the CRF; implementation plans with defined roles of stakeholders in key sectors (e.g. health, agriculture, social protection, education, WASH, gender), cost estimates of included interventions, cost estimates for advocacy, coordination and M&E, capacity strengthening needs and priorities ▪ Assessment of coordination capacity to support CRF <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of a robust plan that has been technically and politically endorsed.</p> <p>Please let us know if you have used the checklist for quality national nutrition plans in a bid to review your plans</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>The policy objectives for nutrition in the GSGDA II, (Ghana’s National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework for 2014-2017) were translated into actionable indicators that in a broad sense, served as a CRF. Stakeholder’s roles and responsibilities are clearly defined. Annual Progress Reports are produced to monitor and evaluate progress.</p> <p>Nutrition stakeholders also developed a draft CRF specifically for the draft National Nutrition Policy. This will be revised after updating of the national FNS strategy/policy.</p> <p>The checklist for quality national nutrition plans has not yet been used to review nutrition plans. This will be done when NDPC reviews and audits sector and district plans, later in the year.</p> |
| <p>Progress marker 3.3: Organise and implement annual priorities as per the Common Results Framework</p> | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks specifically at the national and local capability to sequence and implement priority actions. This</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessments conducted of capacity for implementation, including workforce and other resources | <p>3</p> | <p>The development of a holistic capacity assessment and capacity development strategy has stalled due to financial constraints. Sectors and Districts have however been directed to undertake assessments of their</p> |

² This assumes existence of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination and engagement under Process 1.

| | | | |
|---|--|----------|--|
| <p>requires, on the one hand, a clear understanding of gaps in terms of delivery capacity and, on the other hand, a willingness from in-country and global stakeholders to mobilise technical expertise to timely respond to the identified needs in a coordinated way.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sequencing of priorities to mobilise and develop capacity of implementing entities in line with assessments and agreed arrangements ▪ Existence of annual detailed work plans with measurable targets to guide implementation at national and sub-national levels ▪ Institutional reform implemented as needed to increase capacity of coordination mechanism <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of aligned actions around annual priorities such as an annual work-plans or implementation plan</p> | | <p>capacity needs – human, technical and logistical – and make recommendations for strengthening their capacities to ensure effective implementation of their plans. These capacity building assessments with interventions (or capacity building components) with indicators and targets for measuring progress of implementation will be consolidated into a national nutrition capacity building strategy. Sector and District capacity building components with indicators and targets, will be part of annual work plans and its implementation monitored and reported on in sector, district and national annual progress reports (APRs).</p> <p>A UNREACH sponsored capacity assessment and capacity building strategy for coordination which was developed in 2015 will be factored into the national capacity building strategy for implementation.</p> <p>At the sectoral level, some sectors have carried out capacity assessments (e.g. Health and Agriculture) The results framework in the Government of Ghana’s medium-term policy framework has been validated at the sector level with some institutions already implementing this.</p> |
| <p>Progress marker 3.4: Jointly monitor priority actions as per Common Results Framework</p> | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks specifically at how information systems are used to monitor the implementation of priority actions for improved nutrition. It looks specifically at the availability of joint progress reports that can meaningfully inform the adjustment of interventions and</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information systems (e.g. multi-sectoral platforms and portals) in place to regularly collect, analyse and communicate agreed upon indicators focusing on measuring implementation coverage and performance ▪ Existence of regular progress reports ▪ Conducting of joint annual/regular reviews and monitoring visits | <p>3</p> | <p>There is an annual progress report on nutrition indicators captured in NDPC’s Annual Progress Reports (APR). This monitoring exercise is done in participation with various stakeholders, with civil society being involved throughout the process.</p> <p>At sectoral level, we have DHS, MICS and DHIMS2 (GHS). At agricultural level they have a system but it is fiscally constrained.</p> |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|---|
| <p>contribute towards harmonised targeting and coordinated service delivery among in-country stakeholders.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjustments of annual plans, including budgets based on analysis of performance ▪ Existence of participatory monitoring by civil society <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of regular/annual joint review of implementation coverage and performance of prioritised actions</p> | | <p>At sector level- for example for health- a joint assessment was done. At agricultural level and health there are joint assessments.</p> |
| <p>Progress marker 3.5: Evaluate the implementation of actions to understand, achieve and sustain nutrition impact</p> | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks specifically at how results and success is being evaluated to inform implementation decision making and create evidence for public good.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports and dissemination of findings of population-based surveys, implementation studies, impact evaluation and operational research ▪ Capture and share lessons learned, good practices, case studies, stories of change – especially those that empower women and girls – and implementation progress ▪ Social auditing of results and analysis of impact by civil society ▪ Advocate for increased effective coverage of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programmes <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of evaluation of implementation at scale that demonstrates nutrition impact and are made available publicly</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>Periodic surveys are carried out and disseminated. The latest of these is the 2014 DHS. Work is currently underway to finalise the 2017 MICS</p> <p>Cost of Hunger in Africa Ghana study, undertaken by Ministry of Health, NDPC and supported by World Food Program, the AU and UNECA was an Impact Evaluation study released in 2016 and looking at 2012 data Project-specific surveys/ impact evaluations are also carried out, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USAID- Feed the Future- population based survey -World Bank: Performance-based financing (PBF) Impact Evaluation at the CHPS zone (8 districts) |

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Give you view on partnership in EMERGENCY SETTINGS

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>If the country or part of country face certain types of emergency (i.e. natural, humanitarian, conflict situations) in the recent past or at present, please elaborate on the alignment of mitigation/emergency measures</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Are mitigation/emergency measures implemented in a coordinated way? 2) Is there a minimum multi-sectoral package for emergency that is being implemented? If so, can you elaborate? | <p>Yes. The National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) is tasked with coordinating any emergency response. Although NADMO is not a part of the nutrition CSPG, this government agency collaborates with other sector agencies, CSOs and development partners, some of which provide nutrition relevant interventions in times of emergency.</p> |
|---|---|--|

| Stakeholders | Description/ Key contribution of each stakeholder to Process Three |
|----------------------|---|
| Government | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CSPG, led by government developed draft results framework based on draft nutrition policy. - The government has also set targets and indicators for nutrition in the countries medium-term development policy framework and results framework, which is tracked and reported on annually by NDPC - MOH, GHS, GSS and other government agencies support the data gathering process for many research exercises, such as for the COHA report. - Efforts are currently being made to finalise the MICS survey. - District assemblies and sector ministries also supported various impact evaluations carried out by development partners for specific projects. |
| UN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through SUN DP Group – there was mapping of all nutrition activities implemented by DPs. - DPs all have annual detailed work plans measured by targets - USAID through SIMAM- Sequencing of priorities to mobilise and develop capacity of implementing entities in line with assessments. through trainings conducted, birth monitoring - UNICEF- before trainings, assessments are conducted to identify the skill-sets - USAID support to NRCC- Northern Region Coordination Council to improve oversight and support to districts in implementation of nutrition interventions. - USAID- Feed the future- population based survey- baseline and end-line - Information systems: UNICEF- supported GHS to assess implementation of new nutrition forms in the DHIMS2 - UNICEF- lessons learnt- supported roll-out and a review of use of bottleneck analysis approach on nutrition- a paper was published in the British Medical Journal. |
| Donor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See UN section above |
| Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing alignment of Nestle to nutrition agenda, supporting Ghana’s nutrition policy and SUN nutrition objectives. |
| CSO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutrition actions align with SUN objectives |
| Science and academia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively involved in SUN meetings |
| Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - |

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2016 to April 2017) FOR PROCESS 3: Common Results Framework for National Nutrition Plan (aligned programming)
 (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in country)

The year under review saw relatively good progress being made by all stakeholders in aligning actions around a Common Results Framework. With the government's medium term development policy blueprint setting the basis for any development actions, nutrition was regarded as a key development issue that continued to see various interventions implemented to address the malnutrition challenges. National annual progress reports continued to track the implementation of various development indicators. A policy matrix of policy objectives, and strategies that assigns roles and responsibilities has been developed for the next medium-term period (2018-2021) with an accompanying results framework that will be used to track progress. These were based largely on the draft long-term FNS strategy and refined after stakeholder consultations., Districts and sectors will use these and the planning guidelines to develop their medium-term plans and set targets for themselves. This will support efforts to finalise the draft CRF produced for the draft National Nutrition Policy.

Studies, joint sector assessments and impact evaluations were carried out at national, sector and district levels, with the hope of providing evidence for decision making. Government, Development Partners and Academia were most active in achieving the progress made under this process indicator.

Overall, this Process Indicator can be scored 2 for Ghana during the year under review as planning is almost complete and implementation already being initiated in some areas.

Process 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilisation

| N/A | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|------------------|----------------|---|--|---|
| Not applicable | Not started | Started | On-going | Nearly completed | Completed |
| Progress Marker not applicable to current context | Nothing in place | Planning begun | Planning completed and implementation initiated | Implementation complete with gradual steps to processes becoming operational | Fully operational/Targets are achieved/On-going with continued monitoring/Validated/Evidence provided |

Process 4: Financial Tracking and Resource Mobilisation
 Assessing the financial feasibility of national plans to implement actions for improved nutrition is essential to determine funding requirements. The latter is based on the capability to track planned and actual spending on nutrition across relevant government ministries and from external partners. The existence of plans with clearly costed actions helps government authorities and key stakeholders (e.g. UN, donors, business, civil society) to align and contribute resources to national priorities, estimate the required budget for implementation and identify financial gaps.

| Progress marker 4.1: Cost and assess financial feasibility of the CRF | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DEFINITION | POSSIBLE SIGNS | FINAL PLATFORM SCORE Please give one score per progress marker | PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR FINAL SCORE Refer to specific signs or provide your own examples. Please share relevant documentation as evidence |
| This progress marker looks at the extent to which the Government and all other in-country stakeholders are able to provide inputs for costing of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions across relevant sectors (costing exercises can be performed in various ways including conducting a review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of costed estimations of nutrition related actions (please provide relevant documentation) | 2 | Costed estimations of nutrition related actions exist in nutrition relevant sectors in health, education, WASH, agriculture, social protection etc. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of costed plans for CRF implementation | 1 | No costed comprehensive/multi-sector plan for common results framework implementation. Ministries of Health and Agriculture have draft costed action plans which will be reviewed and updated after the current planning cycle. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder groups have an overview of their own allocations to nutrition related programmes/actions (please provide relevant documentation) | 2 | Donors, CSOs GHS have clear allocations. |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------|--|
| of current spending or an estimation of unit costs). | Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide documents outlining the costing method, and the costed programmes or plans | Average = 2.5 | |
| Progress marker 4.2: Track and report on financing for nutrition | | | |
| This progress marker looks at the extent to which governments and all other in-country stakeholders are able to track their allocations and expenditures (if available) for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions in relevant sectors. This progress marker also aims to determine whether the financial tracking for nutrition is reported and shared in a transparent manner with other partners of the MSP including the Government. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reporting of nutrition-sensitive and specific interventions, disaggregated by sector and sex, where relevant, and financial sources (domestic and external resources) including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planned spending ○ Current allocations ○ Recent expenditures (within 1-2 years of the identified allocation period) | 2 | NDPC has started developed a Budget Tracking Mechanism and initiated budget tracking process under the Resource Mobilisation Working Group for 5 key sectors. Expenditure tracking has not started. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Existence of reporting mechanisms including regular financial reports, independent audit reports, cost effectiveness studies, multi-sectoral consolidation of the sectoral nutrition spending (including off-budget), and others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Existence of transparent and publicly available financial related information | 2 | Multi-sectoral consolidation of sectoral nutrition spending is done through the annual budget tracking exercise. Structures for reporting not yet formalised. Limited cost effectiveness studies. Auditing carried out by Auditor-General's Department |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social audits, sharing financial information among MSP members, making financial information public. | 1 | Financial information is shared only with members of the Resource Mobilisation Working Group (of the MSP) which oversees the budget tracking exercise. |
| | Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of publicly available information on current allocations and recent actual spending. | Average = 2.5 | |
| Progress marker 4.3: Scale up and align resources including addressing financial shortfalls | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|-------------|---|
| This progress marker looks specifically at the capability by governments and other in-country stakeholder to identify financial gaps and mobilise additional funds through increased alignment and allocation of budgets, advocacy, setting-up of specific mechanisms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of a mechanism to identify current financial sources, coverage, and financial gaps | 1 | NDPC has started with budget tracking process (Resource Mobilisation Strategy) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and other in-country stakeholders assess additional funding needs; continuous investment in nutrition; continuous advocacy for resource allocation to nutrition related actions | 2 | SUN Donor Platform is operational. NDPC is providing leadership to start FNS sector working group, a body made up of government agencies, development partners and selected stakeholders from other platforms to ensure alignment and harmonisation of programmes, prioritisation of activities on an annual basis, and mobilisation of resources. This is a subsidiary group of the CSPG |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategically increasing government budget allocations, and mobilising additional domestic and external resources. | 2 | NDPC has started the process of budget tracking. Some initiatives are well allocated with funds (e.g. LEAP and School Feeding) A Resource Mobilisation Strategy will also be developed to ensure consistent and sustainable funding as well as better controlling how funds are allocated. |
| | Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of a mechanism for addressing financial gaps | Average = 2 | |
| Progress marker 4.4: Turn pledges into disbursements | | | |
| This progress marker looks at how governments and other in-country stakeholders are able to turn pledges into disbursements. It includes the ability of donors to look at how their disbursements are timely and in line with the fiscal year in which they were scheduled. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn pledges into proportional disbursements and pursue the realisation of external commitments | 1 | At the multi-stakeholder level, preliminary pledges by SUN donor platform for the country roadmap is a recent development with better donor coordination and alignment. This is yet to be evaluated. There are pledges from donors to specific nutrition-sensitive sector programmes such as the LEAP, School Feeding etc. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disbursements of pledges from domestic and external resources are realised through: Governmental budgetary allocations to nutrition related implementing entities | 1 | Disbursements of pledges have been done government budget allocations and through direct transfers from donors to sectors (off budget allocations). New Financial Regulations are streamlining mechanisms for disbursement of both domestic and external pledged through Governmental budget allocations. |

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------|--|
| | | | Annual Assessments of the Multi-Donor Budget Support Programme evaluated donor commitments and disbursement but has stalled for some time. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific programmes performed by government and/or another in-country stakeholder | | Exists predominantly in the donor space |
| | <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of disbursements against pledges (domestic or external)</p> | Average = 2 | |
| Progress marker 4.5: Ensure predictability of multi-year funding to sustain implementation results and nutrition impact | | | |
| <p>This progress marker looks specifically at how governments and in-country stakeholders collectively engage in long-term predictable funding to ensure results and impact. It looks at important changes such as the continuum between short-term humanitarian and long-term development funding, the establishment of flexible but predictable funding mechanisms and the sustainable addressing of funding gaps.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of a long-term and flexible resource mobilisation strategy | 1 | <p>A long-term FNS strategy are being developed as part of the national long term development plan.</p> <p>Medium term plans will provide indicative budgets/ resource requirements</p> <p>A resource mobilisations strategy based on projected cost of the national medium term nutrition plan and financing gaps was stalled due to lack of resources.</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated reduction of financial gaps through domestic and external contributions | 0 | No coordinated reduction of financial gaps |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable or increasing flexible domestic contributions | 1 | Yes, as per budget tracking exercise. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of long-term/multi-year financial resolutions/projections | 1 | Not yet at the multi-sectoral level but at some sector levels, e.g. WASH. Exists predominantly in the donor space |
| | <p>Minimum requirements for scoring 4: Countries are required to provide evidence of multi-year funding mechanisms</p> | Average = 1.5 | |

| ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS linked to the MEAL system. Please give us your views on partnerships in EMERGENCY SETTINGS | | |
|---|--|--|
| If the country or part of country face certain types of emergency (i.e. natural, humanitarian, conflict situations) in the recent past or ongoing, elaborate about the finance of mitigation measures | 1) Is there clearly identifiable funding for emergency situations? | Yes. From a national contingency fund. |
| | 2) Do emergency funds complement mainstream funding for nutrition? If so, how? | No |

| Stakeholders | Description/ Key contribution of each stakeholder to Process Four |
|----------------------|---|
| Government | NDPC in collaboration with Ministry of Finance, is leading efforts to include nutrition in the Multi-Donor Budget Support (MDBS) system, under the newly proposed nutrition Sector Working group (SWG) NDPC and MOF led the Budget Tracking exercise for 2016, which reviewed the 2014 and 2015 budgets |
| UN | USAID supported the development of costed nutrition plans for 17 districts under the RING initiative which is multi-sectoral. SUN Development Partner (DP) group is working to support the NDPC to strengthen financial and programmatic planning for nutrition across DPs. Many DPs get budgets annually so it is more difficult to get longer term commitments. DPs know allocations for nutrition programmes DPs also have well-defined planned spending, allocations, expenditures, as is the case for financial reports, audits. |
| Donor | - See UN section above |
| Business | - Plan – Budget – Execute – Monitor and evaluate projects executed in collaboration with stakeholders in nutrition space - Need to increase investment |
| CSO | - Regular conduct of operational and financial audits - Continue to engage donor agencies for more funding to address nutritional issues |
| Science and academia | - Supported the budget tracking allocation exercise in 2016 |
| Others | - |

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2016 to April 2017) FOR PROCESS 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilisation (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvement/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in country)

Progress on the Process indicator has been limited. Although efforts to undertake financial tracking, there are data gaps for some sectors, as well as off-budget expenditures for donors with inconclusive results and limited dissemination. Expenditure tracking has not yet been undertaken to assess the exact amounts spent on nutrition, and whether the investments were value for money investments. The lack of funds and limited resource mobilisation has been by far the greatest challenge to the SUN Movement in Ghana. It is expected that due to the current planning processes at district and sector levels, costed plans for scaling up nutrition will be produced. This should help to support resource mobilisation and advocate for and lobby politicians and parliamentarians for increased financial resources. Costed sector and district plans can also be used as a tool to mobilise resources or collaborate with other partners.

The setting up of the Nutrition Sector Working Group will go a long way in streamlining spending in the nutrition sector and ensuring funded activities are in line with government priorities. Additionally, financial shortfalls can be better covered through interaction on this platform. There has been very low conversion of pledges and commitments to disbursements, both domestically and from foreign sources. Sustainable multi-year funding, is not available, even for the development partners. This makes it difficult to adequately plan and effectively implement nutrition interventions, as many activities are funded on an ad hoc basis or funding only being made available on predetermined conditions that are not always aligned to national priorities

Overall, this progress indicator can be scored 1.5, with all stakeholders generally making limited progress on this front. The soon to be launched business platform, will hopefully see an opportunity to mobilise resources from the private sector.

Annex 1: Common Priorities for 2017-2018

| 2015-2016 priorities | Please reflect on the completion of the work vis-a-vis your priorities: |
|---|---|
| <p>Were you able to respond to and address the identified priorities for the year ahead, as per your 2016 Joint-Assessment? Which ones were realised and which ones were not? What went well? What went wrong?</p> <p>Could the Multi-Stakeholder Platform coordinate the response of the actors to the identified annual priority action areas?</p> <p>If not, were you able to access external technical assistance as required? What went well? What went wrong?</p> | <p>No joint assessment was undertaken in 2006 due to several challenges</p> |
| <p>Please list your key priorities for 2017-2018, providing details, as required</p> | |
| <p>Please list your key priorities for the coming year, providing specific details, including if support from the SUN Movement support system (SUN Movement Secretariat, Executive Committee, Lead Group, Coordinator, Global Networks, experts) is foreseen to achieve the latter.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formation of inter-ministerial committee under the Office of the President to shore up political will for prioritising nutrition 2. Streamlining SUN coordination at all levels 3. Completion of a nationally costed nutrition scale-up plan 4. Completion of budget and expenditure tracking exercise with resource mobilisation strategy 5. Launching of the SUN Business Platform <p>Do you plan on organising a high-level event on nutrition in the upcoming period? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>A high level national nutrition event is planned to discuss nutrition under the chairmanship of the Minister for Gender and Social Protection, aimed at assessing progress and launching the Decade for Nutrition.</p> | |

Annex 2: Details of Joint-Assessment of National Multi-Stakeholder Platform participants

| No. | Title | Name | Organisation | Specific SUN Role (if applicable) | Email | Phone | Should contact be included in the SUN mailing list? |
|-----|-------|-------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|------------|---|
| 1. | Prof | Agyeman B. Akosa | Commissioner / National Development Planning Commission | SUN Focal Person | agyeman.akosa@gmail.com | 0244329569 | Yes |
| 2. | Mrs | Mary Mpereh | Deputy Director – Development Policy Division / National Development Planning Commission | SUN Technical Focal Point/ Coordinator | mmpereh@ndpc.gov.gh | 0543310669 | Yes |
| 3. | Mrs | Ama Amoah | Nestle Ghana | | ama.amoah@gh.nestle.com | 0244330913 | No |
| 4. | Mrs | Agartha Ohemeng | Lecturer/ Dept. of Nutrition, University of Ghana | | agacof@yahoo.com | 0244862606 | No |
| 5. | Mrs | Rebecca Fertziger | Deputy Director Health/ USAID | SUN DP Coordinator | Rfertziger@usaid.gov | 0544312060 | No |
| 6. | Mr | Enoch Oti Agyekum | Prog. Officer (Health) / JICA | | agyekumotienoch.gn@jica.go.jp | 0553033969 | No |
| 7. | Mr | Kosuke Nagino | Project Formulation Advisor / | | Nagino.kosuke@jica.go.jp | 0540103843 | No |
| 8. | Mrs | Aimee Miller | Field Coordinator PBF, MCHNP / World Bank | | amiller6@worldbank.org | 0545661440 | No |
| 9. | Mrs | Hannah Obeng | Research Scientist / Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research – Food Research Institute (CSIR-FRI) | | hanoduro@yahoo.com | 0543913229 | No |

| No. | Title | Name | Organisation | Specific SUN Role (if applicable) | Email | Phone | Should contact be included in the SUN mailing list? |
|-----|-------|------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|------------|---|
| 10. | Mr | Stephen Matey | Project Coordinator / World Vision | | Mateystephen2005@yahoo.com | 0242203583 | No |
| 11. | Mrs | Zuleiha Aminu | Assistant Programme Officer / Ministry of Health | | mazuleiha@gmail.com | 0244710156 | No |
| 12. | Mrs | Eugenia Awuah-Adjapong | Planning Analyst / NDPC | | eugenia.donkoh@ndpc.gov.gh | 0242773859 | Yes |
| 13. | Mr | Kwaku Botwe | Ghana Nutrition Association (GNUTA) | Coordinator, SUN Communications Working Group | kwekubotwe@execs.com | 0244998642 | No |
| 14. | Mrs | Florence Ayisi Quartey | Principal Planning Officer / Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection | | faquartey@gmail.com | 0244374480 | No |
| 15. | Mrs | Courage Dzikunu | Economic Officer / Ministry of Finance | | coudodzi@yahoo.com | 0265650311 | No |
| 16. | Mr | Abraham Mahama | Nutrition Officer / UNICEF | | amahama@unicef.org | 0504230042 | No |
| 17. | Mr | Nana Ayim | Coordinator / Hunger Alliance | SUN CSO Coordinator | nanaayim13@gmail.com | 0244570146 | No |
| 18. | Mr | Akosua Kwakye | World Health Organisation | | kwakyea@who.int | 0544316011 | No |
| 19. | Mrs | Juliana Pwamang | Nutrition Program Specialist / USAID Ghana | | jpwamang@usaid.gov | 0244311932 | No |

| No. | Title | Name | Organisation | Specific SUN Role (if applicable) | Email | Phone | Should contact be included in the SUN mailing list? |
|-----|-------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---|
| 20. | Mr | Patricia Buah | WASH Specialist / Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources | | patricia.buah@yahoo.co.uk | 0207992696 | No |
| 21. | Mrs | Tei Ogum | Assistant Director / Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation | | tei4ogum@yahoo.com | 0246769950 | No |
| 22. | Mrs | Yvonne Ampeh | Senior Programme Officer – Health Promotion Department / Ghana Health Service | | yvonneampeh@yahoo.co.uk | 0244236253 | No |
| 23. | Miss | Lila-Karen Amponsah | Planning Analyst – Development Policy Division / National Development Planning Commission | | Lilakaren.amponsah@ndpc.gov.gh | 0243955216 | Yes |
| 24. | Mr | Nii-Odoi Odotei | Planning Analyst – Development Policy Division / National Development Planning Commission | | niiodoi.odotei@ndpc.gov.gh | 0504228675 | Yes |

