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SUN Focal Point**

When we started in 2008 and after we engaged in SUN, we knew that in ten years' time, we would be losing like \$144 million USD only because of undernutrition in Ethiopia. And all our children who cannot attend school, who cannot perform in school and be productive later in life—[now it] means we will have a brighter future in the next 10-15 years.

*What is the main advantage of your engagement with SUN?*

The main advantage of engagement is mainly sharing experience with the different countries, learning from their best practices and contextualizing that and bringing it to Ethiopia, and actually scaling up both nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions. So, the experiences and lessons from other countries is quite useful and helpful.

*Since joining the SUN Movement, what progress has been made on Scaling Up Nutrition in Ethiopia?*

There are seven sector ministries, at the Ministerial level, working together and discussing nutrition policies and strategies. We are also being giving guidelines on raising resources and there has been a lot of donor/partner support, as well as the staff which is working now in harmony to scale up nutrition. We have reduced stunting by 14 percent, reduced anemia by 37 percent in mothers and 39 percent in children. So we think we are moving in the right direction, so this is a good move, but we need to increase that so we have revised our national plan because of the SUN engagement we hope we will accelerate our stunting reduction efforts which are planned.

*What would you say to the other countries seeking to Scale Up Nutrition?*

I think it's very important to share lessons and good practices or best practices so that it could be scaled up in your own country and the SUN Movement is something unique because it depends on country plans and country initiatives, led by your own government. It is a very good experience if you can learn from others and also reaffirm your commitments to improve the lives of children and pregnant and lactating mothers for the future.

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