# **Summary Report SUN Movement Network Facilitators' (NFs) Call**07 May 2015



## 1. Introduction and welcome

## **Participants**

UN System Network	<b>Business Network</b>	SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS)
- Francesco BRANCA	- Jonathan TENCH	- Christine CAMPEAU (CC)
- Nancy WALTERS	- Kristina SPIEGEL	- Kwame AKOTO-DANSO
- Lina MAHY	- Pia JUNEJA	- Mat COUSINS
CSO Network	Donor Network	- Patrizia FRACASSI
- Claire BLANCHARD	- Erin McLEAN	
- Cara FLOWERS		
Country Network		
- NK SETHI		
- Emorn WASANTWISUT		

## 2. Update on the follow-up to the second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)

The World Health Assembly begins on 19 May with the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, as the principal speaker. The follow-up to the ICN2 is on the Agenda with the ICN2 Secretariat (jointly organised by FAO/WHO) presenting a report with a draft resolution calling for an endorsement of the ICN2 outcome documents and encouraging member states to implement the recommendations. The ICN2 Secretariat will offer support to countries particularly in clarifying the commitments to the recommendations of the Framework for Action. A side event will be organised by Brazil (18 May) together with other BRIC countries on the draft resolution.

In New York, member states held informal discussions on draft resolution A/69/L.50 entitled "Improving Nutrition" submitted to the UN General Assembly (UNGA) through an introductory statement presented by Ecuador on behalf of the G77. The resolution welcomes the Rome Declaration on Nutrition, as well as the Framework for Action, which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the ICN2, November 2014. The draft resolution has been agreed but not yet formally adopted by the UNGA.

The member states would like to postpone the follow-up discussion on the ICN2 to October 2015 to ensure that the negotiations for the Sustainable Development Goals proceed without the influence of other processes. It is envisaged that the ICN2 discussion in October will reconsider the proposal for having a Decade of Action (DoA) for nutrition. A roadmap for the DoA is expected to be developed which will allow for the General Assembly to understand and deal the issue systematically.

## Comments:

- There is an opportunity to engage countries in the development of the roadmap for the DoA. SUN Movement strategy discussions should consider how best to contribute to the first round of consultations, tentatively scheduled for June/July 2015. Consideration should also be given to how the Lead Group in SUN 2.0, as higher level champions, can help input into such global processes.
- From the perspective of the Joint Secretariat, a concrete process of consultation for the DoA need to be established.

# 3. Financial Tracking Workshops

The SUN Secretariat with the collaboration of key partners organised four workshops in April in Bangkok (15-16), Entebbe (21-22), Abidjan (27-28) and Guatemala City (28-30). About 180 people attended the workshops with representation mostly from Government, some from UN Agencies and few from CSOs and businesses. Additionally, parliamentarians and journalists were invited for the advocacy and dissemination sessions.

Evaluations from the workshops showed that over 90% of participants felt their objectives were achieved. Overall, countries embraced the ways of working in the SUN Movement with its participatory approach and focus on sharing and learning. The workshops provided information and a better understanding of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) involved in the budget analysis exercise and the overall nutrition-relevant on-budget allocations - which were categorized into nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive allocations. There were further information on the thematic sectors (public health, education, agriculture, social protection, WASH), source of funding (domestic, external and mixed), and of planned and actual spending on nutrition.

The budget analysis will be useful for engaging relevant MDAs from key sectors and conducting strategic planning, tracking of spending and implementation. Good examples of these were seen in with good examples from Asian and Latin American countries (Peru and Guatemala). The analysis further allows for developing the data into simple, audience focused, communication messages to strengthen the investment case, and the information can be used for capacity building with key champions. It will also help in the development of tools for analysis that will transcend its technical basis – with clear purpose for use by parliamentarians, civil society and the media.

Information from the workshops have been shared via the SUN communication channels and will feature in the SUN Monthly Newsletter for May. Further updates will be shared in the month of May which will be a collaboration of learnings obtained from the events. A budget analysis homepage is available on the SUN website.

On the way forward, feedback from participants point out the need for clarity, guidance and standardisation across three main areas. First, for nutrition specific with consensus on the Lancet high-impact interventions and recognized importance of the continuum of care targeted to the 1000-days and women in reproductive age, especially adolescent girls. There was also discussions that most high-impact interventions are likely to be located in reproductive health and M&CHC programmes. There were debates on around inclusion/exclusion of immunization, school feeding programmes, HIV/TB control programmes and emergency programmes (food aid) with a general consensus that these are nutrition sensitive types on investment.

Secondly, on nutrition sensitive, there were debates on which programmes to include with observable criteria on nutrition sensitivity (e.g. clarity on the targeted populations and on the expected nutrition-relevant outcomes). There was a general acknowledgement that many budget items are very broad (e.g. water supply and agriculture investments). In terms of weighting of included budget items, the initial proposal had two weights of 100% and 25% as per the donor methodology. This was later adjusted to four weights but participants still felt that this does not allow enough flexibility. Suggestions were made for a scale of 10% to 100% with a cap at 75% for nutrition-sensitive budget items using criteria as building blocks

To solve the challenges, a review process will be undertaken in consultation with countries to examine the country budget analyses with a view of ensuring greater harmonization of criteria/definitions. The Global Nutrition Report will feature these initial efforts to estimate nutrition-relevant budgets, reflecting nutrition-specific and sensitive. Around 20 countries will be able to present their data.

#### Comments:

- There are opportunities to cost some interventions that business could pursue
- Important to follow-up on the action points from the workshops

- On the investment round tables, networks are in collaborating to develop a concept note. The idea is for the UN to work together in countries to support round table investment discussions. It will come up with a set of prioritised multi-stakeholder actions to support governments

# 4. Outcomes and feedback from Lead Group meeting

The Lead Group meeting was held on the 5th of May primarily to receive the recommendations put forward by the Visioning Sub-Group for the future of the Movement. On the evaluation, the Lead Group concurred that the Movement should continue and recognised the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation (ICE) and wide consultative procedure for preparing the responses.

On stewardship of the Movement, the Lead Group agreed that a Transitional Stewardship Team be put in place to support the oversight of the Movement, manage the transition, and develop the strategy from 2016 to 2020. It further prioritised the recruitment of a new SUN Movement Coordinator. Moving forward, it also recommends that the UN Secretary General appoint a new Lead Group of Champions; and the establishment of a senior Executive Committee to oversee the functioning and accountability of the Movement.

In the development of the new strategy, the Lead Group endorsed that the Movement:

- i. Acknowledges the wider nutrition landscape (in particular the post 2015 agenda and the outcomes of the second International Conference on Nutrition ICN2);
- ii. Builds on the successes and preserve the Movement's unique qualities, so that it continues to be country led, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, and catalytic;
- iii. Prioritises: 1) Advocacy; 2) Better facilitation and coordination; 3) Strengthened accountability; 4) Improved support to strengthen country capacities; 5) More effective use of domestic funds and increased external investments; and that the strategy
- iv. Safeguards and emboldens the Movement's 'Principles of Engagement', and that these acknowledge the unique role of empowered women, a changing climate and the ongoing struggle for equity.

On operational modalities, the Lead Group endorsed that the Networks and the SUN Movement Secretariat are reinforced with adequate human and financial capacity; and the Communities of Practice - that are linking the requests for support from SUN countries with expertise throughout the networks, should be professionalised - again with resourcing implications.

For supporting the implementation of the renewed strategy it acknowledges that it will be key to mobilise adequate and predictable resources for funding the support structures of the movement (Coordinator, secretariat, Networks) and also for investing in SUN countries building on the domestic resources invested by the countries themselves.

The Lead Group recognized that conflict of interest was a complex issue that warranted additional attention by the Movement. It welcomes the report by GSO and acknowledge that the issue is integral to the broader work of building functioning multi-stakeholder platforms and developing approaches to prevent and manage conflicts of interest. It further encouraged that the lessons learned and recommendations following the process be considered in the development of the updated strategy. Thus, the SUN Movement Secretariat should continue to support countries as they engage with this issue, and seek opportunities for sharing and disseminating the learning across the Movement.

#### Comments:

- Important to have a clarity on the sequencing of events in developing the new strategy and roadmap and how Countries and Networks will be engaged
- For resource mobilisation for the Networks, additional capacities are needed thus all Networks need
  to consider options for mobilising resources. Further in-depth discussions will take place on the
  subject in the transition phase

## 5. 2015 Monitoring exercise

The Assessment template for the 2015 monitoring exercise were shared and responses are expected by 15 of May. The process is the same as previous years based on the 2013 M&E Framework. The main purpose is to capture institutional and behavioral changes over the year in relation to the eight progress markers responding to country needs; Aligning to programs and resources; Coordination of Network constituents among others. It also presents an opportunity for Networks to include some key milestones and activities undertaken over the past year. Responses will feed into the 2015 Annual Progress Report of the SUN Movement.

#### Comments:

- Given the recommendations in the ICE report on the ensuring a robust monitoring system, the Monitoring mechanism will also evolve with the development of the strategy

## 6. Cross-fertilization between networks

- Consideration should be given to having brief bi-weekly meetings for cross-fertilisation while still maintaining the thematic approach to monthly calls. The proposal will be discussed within the SMS and the options for regular meetings will be shared with Network Facilitators.
- UN network: Discussions are ongoing on the UN Network for SUN and these have been integrated into a workplan which will be shared soon. Progress has also been made on the development of a compendium of action for nutrition. The compendium provides an inventory of nutrition action and supportive evidence. The Global Nutrition Agenda is complete and will be shared before the WHA meeting. The UN Regional Nutrition Meeting will take place from 29-30 June in Bangkok. Ten SUN countries in the region will participate in the meeting.
- Donor Senior Officials meeting: The Senior Official were supportive of the ICE and of the processes for mobilizing the Movements response. There were discussion on the long-term financing and vision for the Movement. On the Donor resource tracking exercise, there were differences in opinion in the methodology thus consideration were given to having a workable solution to ensuring that all donors are able to undertake a comparable process.

## 7. Update from SMS

## **OMPTF Evaluation:**

The Management Committee of the SUN Movement MPTF agreed to use funds (USD 200,000) available against Window III to commission an evaluation of the SUN Movement MPTF to take place in the second half of 2015. The evaluation will provide the Management Committee of the SUN Movement MPTF and the SUN Lead Group with findings, recommendations and fund design options that are expected to assist in identifying the best course of action for the future.

The evaluation will cover two distinct dimensions:

- i. <u>Assessing whether the current SUN Movement MPTF has met its objectives</u> in supporting the objectives of the SUN Movement. It will consider the value added of the SUN Movement MPTF and will capture its major achievements, challenges, institutional knowledge, experiences and lessons learned by the various stakeholders involved in the operation of the SUN Movement MPTF since its inception.
- ii. Considering future needs for a catalytic last resort fund to support national multi-stakeholder platforms during the next phase of the SUN Movement and determining whether a pooled financing mechanisms like the MPTF would be the most appropriate mechanism or whether alternative financing models could be better fit for the purpose.

The evaluation will have to reflect the aspirations and concerns of all stakeholders involved in the SUN Movement MPTF. The SUN Donor Network (through its facilitator) will be engaged in the whole evaluation

process. The SUN Secretariat is working on a draft TOR for the evaluation of the MPTF which will soon be shared with the whole Management Committee for review. The evaluation is expected to start in August 2015 to be able to submit the final report with findings and recommendations by December 2015.

# o Upcoming events

**FANUS Conference:** The SUN Movement Secretariat will participate in the Federation of Africa Nutrition Societies (FANUS), and is organizing two workshops, scheduled for 27-28 May. The expected contributions will be to increase awareness of stakeholders on existing, and successful, processes of integrating evidence into policy in Africa and to generate discussion among stakeholders on how best to align their agendas and facilitate the transfer of knowledge into policy decisions within their own given contexts.

**Functional capacity workshop:** UNICEF and the SUN Business Network, with the support of the SUN Movement Secretariat, are organizing a three day workshop in Nairobi (10-12 June 2015) on the role of functional capacities to scale up nutrition and engaging with business at the country level. The three-day workshop is intended to strengthen the participants' knowledge on the role of functional capacities in supporting effective multi-stakeholder, multi-sector and multi-level engagement.

**Webpages for Networks:** The new page development has been completed and all text currently under translation into French and Spanish. The new Network pages will be live by 15 May 2015 and Thuy is available to help update the core content of the page.

## 8. **AOB**

- The SUN Movement Country Network Calls are scheduled from 18-22 May. The theme is on *Strengthening a culture of effective partnering in the SUN Movement* as part of the on-going work on functional capacities under COP4. This will build on the findings in the In Practice Brief on *Effectively Engaging Multiple Stakeholders* (February 2014), the summary of the country calls on *Business Engagement in Nutrition* (March 2015) and the Reference Note and Toolkit on the Prevention and Management of Conflict of Interest in the SUN Movement. Further information will be shared next week.
- Consider having an agenda item on the process for the next UN Global Nutrition Agenda especially given that this will in the transition period
- SCN Secretariat is preparing the next edition of the SCN news on the theme "*Nutrition in the Post-2015*" Agenda. The bulletin will be available before the next World Health Assembly (18 May 2015)