

Notes: 2020 Sun Movement Strategic Review Call and Consultation

*Structure of the call follows the questions raised in the Strategic Review Questionnaire

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Costa Rica - Cecilia Gamboa, SUN Focal Point in the government

1. *Question on Priorities*

- a. Technical assistance: especially taking into account that there are no donors in the country. Technical assistance from the Movement must respond to the needs of the countries
- b. Strengthening the Network of civil society organizations at global level: exchange is necessary, within the government, we want to hear how it has been for other countries (e.g. Peru). Help with advocacy because it allows laws to be passed.
- c. Improve MEAL System: The results do help to systematize information, but they do not necessarily reflect the countries' priorities, nor the challenges. Joint assessment, yes, it could be improved, there is progress in some areas, but in the platform, it is still weak.
- d. Focus of the first 1,000 days: Concentrating not only on the focus on mothers and children, this will continue to be a priority for all countries, especially the first 1,000 days. Could be extended to other sectors of the population, issues that are sensitive to nutrition (climate change, non-communicable diseases, food systems). Considering these issues, there is mistrust that it detracts from the issue, but it does not take away from other issues, the focus must be increased.
- e. Strengthen financing: not only obtaining money, but a) how to access these funds, visualization of the issues, mapping or survey of innovative funds, since there are no human or financial resources. b) Empower politicians, advocacy for these issues, present the case to Ministers through high-level advocacy. Example of student canteens, convince politicians. The minister of health travelled to Mexico and he convinced him of the importance of regulation. c) Cost study of obesity and overweight, for the productivity of the country

2. *Question about recommendations with which there is Disagreement*

- a. Establishing networks of private companies: it is not necessarily correct, nor does it apply to all countries. Companies (communication, sport) without any conflict of interest must be identified. There are partnerships, these are important. Important to identify companies that are not necessarily linked to nutrition

El Salvador - Elda Carolina, SUN Focal Point in the government

1. *Priorities*

- a. **Maintain achievements:** Significant advances in nutrition, reduction of chronic malnutrition, increase in breastfeeding, increasing regulations, for example, regulation in school cafeterias. It takes work to achieve and maintain these. Requires total government support, high level, the positioning is necessary at the country level and at the international level. The Movement positions the issue of nutrition at the highest level, so that it is politically viable, this is how the resulting state interventions and policies come about in all countries. We must move forward together, example of educational campaigns at the regional level would be very powerful.
- b. **Malnutrition in all its forms:** Addressing the issue of deficiency from malnutrition, but also addressing the issue of complete malnutrition. Actions to prevent overweight and obesity are fundamental. Recommendations to deal with interventions as a whole, with evidence.
- c. **Coordination Mechanisms:** Theme of the work that we must have coordinated as institutions, with all key actors united. Civil society networks, United Nations, Business (the latter is fundamental). Not only companies that are linked to nutrition, how can the most work be done. Coordination as a region, with more strength, for example the issue of nutrition labelling, it must inform the population, such as front labelling.

2. *Disagreement*

- a. **Mechanisms and structures:** The movement has already defined the structure under which it operates, together with its governance. There is still a need to introduce working with private companies; this is the weakest part at the global level, it needs to be strengthened in the region.

Costa Rica - Carmen Torres, Alliance of civil society, HIVOS

- **Representation of civil society:** How to integrate subnational organizations, lack of legitimacy, it is a job that takes time, not much. Limited as a result of technical issues, and human and economic resources. Especially, to work at the subnational level, bring group of women, for example, or indigenous communities. Part of the project funds from the pooled fund can be used for meetings with civil society organizations from the interior of the country. The organizations have been mapped, there is a need to take advantage of regional exchange in Peru, with civil society organizations.
- **Prioritize the regional reality:** Going beyond breastfeeding topics, first 1,000 days, updating priorities depending on the region, double or triple burden of malnutrition, for example in Latin America. Interventions are urgent and necessary, but not only in the short term. Other interventions such as FBDGs (food-based dietary guidelines), can give long-term results. Public policy projects, there is a need to shift the national agenda.
- **Private sector:** Organizing SBN in the country is not a priority, as such, no matter how much the Movement promotes it. Priorities are those of countries.

Costa Rica - Cecilia Gamboa, SUN Focal Point in the government

- Topic of governance: we are not going to focus on that from countries.
 - Take advantage of the Central American region, in shared points, for example the work with private enterprise and front labelling. Contributing to front labelling, as the goal is largest target (same challenges seen in CR and El Salvador).
4. *Question related to recommendations that require further analysis:*
- Middle-high income countries join/enter the SUN Movement, there are successful experiences. We want to learn from them, there should be no concern that importance is taken away from developing countries.

El Salvador - Elda Carolina, SUN Focal Point in the government

- 4.
- Regionalization: There must be progress in regional consolidation. It is not the same to do things alone as a country as it is to do them jointly, within Central and South America. Large and consolidated region. Contexts are different in Africa and Asia. Indicators and goals must be identified as a block so the region can progress more.
 - Importance of External Cooperation for boosting projects, although the national budget must be the main support, such as middle-low income countries, what is allocated is very little. There is a need for external cooperation and donors to support somehow, for example with technical support.
 - Consolidated civil society network for implementation and support for the implementation of government policies, must be solid and have representation.

Costa Rica - Cecilia Gamboa, SUN Focal Point in the government

- Pooled Fund: very important for national civil society, this requires clarification and further analysis for continuation. More information is required for the next phase.

El Salvador - Elda Carolina, SUN Focal Point in the government

- Value for Money: Essence of the Movement must be to help countries. This is the purpose, better place, number of people engaged. It is important to prioritize, in terms of resources, inputs.

Other points:

- International NGOs, important to build up the base at the national level. Help to create the international base
- Include more countries in Latin America, issues and private sector. Involves also having a clear agenda, regional priorities. Networks with accountability mechanisms, there may be more conflicts of interest, but progress must be made.